

11 September 2009

The Chief Executive
Heritage Branch
Natural Resources & Environment Division
Department of Environment & Resource Management
PO Box 155
CITY EAST QLD 4002

Dear Sir/Madam,

**RE JIMBOUR CHAPEL (PLACE ID 600941)
 NOTICE OF LITURGICAL DEVELOPMENT**

I write to you in my position as Rector of St. John's Anglican Parish, Dalby in relation to development work proposed to be carried out for liturgical purposes pursuant to ss.77-79 of the Queensland Heritage Act 1992.

The Jimbour Chapel is a place of public worship and is open to anyone who wishes to attend regular services. I note, with interest, John Steele's recent entry about the chapel in *The Brisbane Anglican Companion: A Dictionary of the Diocese of Brisbane 1859 – 2009* as set out below:

This wooden chapel was built in 1868 under the auspices of the Bell family, Irish Anglicans who had held the property since 1843. During the 1870s the massive stone house was also built. The chapel was used by residents of Jimbour and surrounding properties as a church and schoolhouse.

Wilfred Adams Russell, also Anglican, acquired the property in 1923 and revived it as a social centre, gradually restoring Jimbour House. For many years the chapel has doubled as a picture theatre. Monthly Anglican services held in the chapel were followed by lunch, tennis and swimming. The wine marketing business 'Friends of Jimbour' is in partnership with the Cathedral Completion Fund. The chapel is now undergoing restoration to remove the projection box and beautify the interior. In May 2008 four stained-glass windows in St. John's Dalby were dedicated, in memory of Wilfred and Millicent Russell and Charles and Hilary Russell, strengthening the bonds between Jimbour and the parish.

It is the aforementioned removal of the projection box and beautification of the interior to which this notice relates.

One of the glories of the Church of England is its worship and we use the word "liturgy" to describe the patterns, forms and words through which public worship is conducted. More particularly, liturgy is the set of particular structural actions in which worship is expressed and by which worship is released. Liturgy is more than just text. Movement, silence and music are also important and the way in which movement is articulated in space is an important part of Anglican liturgy.

The pre-eminence of the south porch in Anglican churches as a micro-space connecting two larger worlds has been diminished by the current prominence and vertical extension of the projection room addition to Jimbour's south porch. The church porch is the preparatory step before entering the nave or the church proper. Such spaces and architectural forms should be humble and low-brow, not lofty and vertically-elongated as is the current, altered form of the porch.

Both the awakening of aesthetic sensibility and the exercise of artistic creativity are necessary in Anglican liturgy. The awakening of an aesthetic sensibility within the church which is able to appreciate form, colour and texture (amongst other senses) is a gift of God and an expression of God's beauty. For these reasons, I propose to beautify the Jimbour chapel by repainting the interior and exterior; removing the existing CANEITE interior lining and relining with timber boarding to match that which currently exists elsewhere in the chapel; and replacing the window glass behind the altar with new patterned coloured glass.

It is for the liturgical purposes set out above that I therefore propose having the projection box removed and the interiors beautified.

Yours faithfully

Rev. Peter Daugaard