

## OUR BISHOP RETURNS "HOME" TO GOULBURN



**Thu 28 February 2013**

After 65 years based in Canberra, the Anglican Bishop of Canberra & Goulburn, the Right Reverend Stuart Robinson is returning to his "See" city of Goulburn with the reopening of the Bishop's office in March.

"I am restructuring my working week to make the most of the 150<sup>th</sup> celebrations in Goulburn", Bishop Stuart said. "This means Goulburn will become one of my key areas of ministry. This restructure is made easier because we have regional assistant bishops based in Canberra, Wagga Wagga and the South Coast. New technology also makes it possible for me to operate remotely from the Diocese's registry offices in Canberra – where I will also have a workspace, staff and meeting facilities."

Bishop Stuart and his wife Jane are currently in the process of buying a house in Goulburn.

"We may be living in Goulburn for up to four days each week. The rest of the time will comprise travel across the diocese or living in the Canberra residence", he said.

The move has been warmly welcomed by the Very Reverend Phillip Saunders, Dean of the Cathedral, with the old Bishop's office next door to St Saviours Cathedral being renovated to accommodate the Bishop and his colleagues. The work is expected to be ready by Easter.

"I very much enjoy being a part of the Cathedral 'family'. Across the Anglican world, it is an unusual thing for a Bishop not to be involved almost daily with the life and ministry of the Cathedral," Bishop Stuart said.

The fact that members of the bishop's family already live in Goulburn is certainly part of the personal pull, but Bishop Stuart said the key reason for the move is the strategic importance of the city for ministry in a growing part of regional NSW.

“Goulburn is a beautiful city and the wider Southern Tablelands region has some of the fastest growing local government areas in NSW”, he said. “This city is big enough to have influence across the State and small enough to get to know people and community leaders.”

“We’ve started some ‘small group’ ministries and are planning to expand outreach to the business and professional community too”, he said. “In August last year Jane and I – with three others – started a more contemporary flavoured ‘Fellowship at 5’ ministry at St Saviour’s. There are now around 50 people attending each week.”