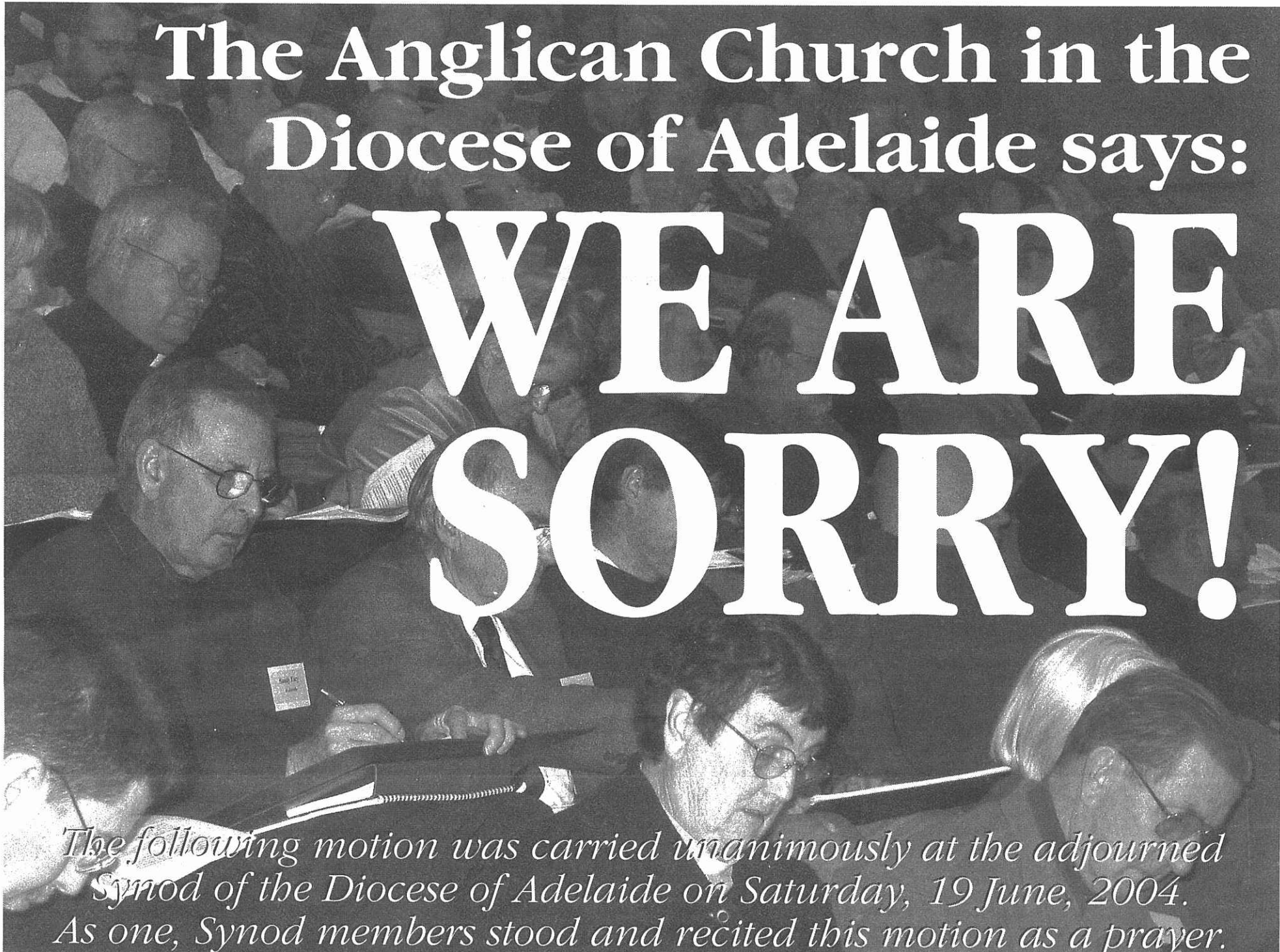


# CHURCH GUARDIAN

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The Anglican Church in the  
Diocese of Adelaide says:

# WE ARE SORRY!

*The following motion was carried unanimously at the adjourned  
Synod of the Diocese of Adelaide on Saturday, 19 June, 2004.  
As one, Synod members stood and recited this motion as a prayer.*

**That this Synod and we as members of it  
acknowledge with deep regret and repentance  
the past failings of the Church and its members.**

**On behalf of the whole Church in this diocese  
we apologise unreservedly to those who have been harmed by sexual abuse  
perpetrated by people holding positions of power and trust in the Church.**

**We apologise for the shameful way we actively worked against  
and discouraged those who came to us and reported abuse.**

**We are ashamed to have acknowledged that we only took notice  
when the survivors of abuse became a threat to us.**

**We apologise and ask forgiveness for the Church's failure at many levels  
to listen to and acknowledge the plight of those who have been abused,  
to take adequate steps to assist them,**

**and to prevent abuse from happening or recurring.**

**We commit the Church in this diocese to listen to survivors of abuse,  
to respond with compassion to all those who have been harmed,**

**both to those who have come forward and  
to those who may choose to do so in the future,  
and to deal appropriately, transparently and fairly  
with those accused of abuse and negligence.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**