

Shirley Brooks

Born	1932 at Scottsdale, North Eastern Tasmania
Died	15 March 2015
Education	Attended school until the age of 14 years. Shirley trained as a corsetiere in the retail trade.
Family	Married to Don in 1954, mother of a son and a daughter. Very proud grandmother of all her grandchildren, ranging in age from young adults to an adventurous 6 year old granddaughter.



Shirley is 4th generation Salvation Army member. She works tirelessly in the city Corps in Launceston. Among the many positions she has held over the years is Assistant Home League Secretary for 15 years (women's ministries). She is at present Home League Secretary, a position she has held for past 13 years.

Shirley became a member of the Launceston Branch of ACW in 1975 and shortly afterwards represented the Branch at the State Unit where she has since held many executive positions. At State level she has been convener for FLC for some years, State President, National President 1993, and for many years convener for Winifred Kiek Scholar, a position she still enjoys caring for.

Shirley has attended every National Conference since her first in 1981 which was held in Hobart. Of great joy to Shirley were her attendances at ACWC Assemblies. She attended in both Djakarta and Taiwan.

Shirley has brought fine representation from World Day of Prayer to ACW. Her 7 year presence on the Tasmanian State Executive includes two years as President and two years as Vice-President.

Shirley excels in the area of catering for fund raising luncheons and entertaining her League members as well as groups of visiting league members. Her specialty extends to entertaining on the holiday 'house boat' she and husband Don enjoy at picturesque West Arm, Beauty Point near the mouth of the Tamar River.

She enjoyed her catering skills as a partner in the catering business for 22 years.

Shirley regularly encourages a small group of friends to accompany her weekly for the enjoyment of painting. The art form also extends to china painting, her love of some years.

State Life Member

National Life Member

Tasmanian State Unit ACW

Ina Morris Collard

Born	3 March, 1915 at Blackstone, Ipswich. Qld.
Died	20 June, 2007
Education	Primary School at Blackstone and Silkstone State Schools. Secondary at the Ipswich Girls Grammar School
Family	Married to Jack Collard in 1946. Ina's whole life was devoted to her church



She attended the Blackstone Congregational Church from the age of 3 until her marriage in 1946. At the Blackstone Congregational Church, Ina taught Sunday School and was a member of the Junior and Senior Christian Endeavour. After moving to Brisbane, Ina and Jack attended the City Congregational Church in Ann Street where her good friend the Rev. Rees Thomas was minister. At that church, Ina became secretary of the Women's Guild. This position she held for 25 years. She was a Deacon of the church and a member of the choir. Ina was also on the executive of the Congregational Women's Fellowship and was also minute secretary of the committee for the Marsden Home for Boys, and on the committee that built Nursing Homes at Wynnum and Alderley. She also held the position of Vice President of the Brisbane Youth Auxiliary, a member of the World Day of Prayer Committee, Foundation member of the Women's Service, Adult Fellowship in the Uniting Church, a member of Friendly Fridays and over 60's. She became an Elder Emeritus in Saint Andrew's Uniting Church in 1996.

Ina joined the Queensland unit as a representative of the congregational Church in 1971, and then after the amalgamation, represented the Uniting Church. She held the position of Vice President in 1981, 1982, 1984, 1985, 1990, 1992, 1993, 1995, 1997 and 1998. She was the unit's liaison officer to World Day of Prayer in 1982. She served on the National Executive in 1983-1985 as F.L.C.C. Convenor, and as Vice President of National Executive in 1997-1999. Ina was made a Life Member of the Queensland Unit in 1996. For many years Ina was the hostess at the monthly meetings, until in 1997 a roster was set up to share this task. Ina loved to make Jams and Pickles to sell on the trading table, and she could always be depended upon to set up the tables, etc., for the annual Musical Morning Teas at Saint Andrew's Uniting Church Hall.

In her own district of Yeronga, Ina became a Life Member of Meals on Wheels and very seldom missed attending the Ecumenical Interest Group at Yeronga, which met for prayer and bible study. Ina enjoyed good health up until she suffered a stroke in 2004. She loved to travel both in Australia and overseas. She died peacefully in her sleep at the Ipswich Hospital on 20th May, 2007. Ina's life has been summed up by the Secretary of Saint Andrew's Uniting Church: *"Ina's life is an example of true Christian service, based on her strong faith and belief in prayer. She contributes much to the life of the congregation and her love of the Lord has always been the motivation for the use of her many talents."*

Queensland State Unit

Joan Lynette Davis

Born 1st December, 1919 at Lisle, Tasmania.
Died 12 April 2011
Education Bishopsbourne, State School
Family Joan was married to Reg for 62 years until his passing.
Three children, Graham (Dec), Pauline and Colleen.
8 Grand-children.
9 great-grand-children.



Joan, as a member in the Anglican Church, has always had a deep and lively interest in all aspects of her church and the missional activities it has to offer. Mothers Union has been one of Joan's deep loves which she attended for many years. This included her term as President of her church group. The Bush Church Aid organized by the Anglican Church was also a favourite of Joan's, where it saw her an active member for forty years. Another representative group opportunity from her church has seen her interested in the Church Missionary Society where money raised and shop profits are channeled into the work on the mission field. Joan has been a strong supporter and believer in this organization for many years. Attending church has always been high on the priority list for Joan, both in many country areas where she and Reg lived, and more recently as a member of the main Anglican Church (St. Johns) in the city of Launceston.

Joan remembers joining ACW in Launceston in 1974 and having an immediate comfortable feeling and love for the group. The opportunity was opened to her by way of an invitation from her minister's wife. For some 10 years Joan was privileged to hold convenership of FLC in northern Tasmania. She and her husband travelled many miles to local and country areas to allow Joan to share the good news about the Fellowship of the Least Coin with ladies groups. About ten years ago Launceston Branch developed a Love Box position, whereby someone from the Branch would be in touch with sick, sad or lapsed members to offer a written word or card of encouragement. Joan has that convenership and we think God made her for that special task. Members value the encouraging messages they receive from Joan.

CWA has long been on Joan's agenda and to prove it she holds the longest serving membership of the Riverside group. The 51 years membership honour bestowed on Joan from CWA for her loyalty and her interest in its many areas was recognition well deserved.

For many years Joan has been an active member of the Fred French Aged Care Home's auxiliary. Recently Joan held membership with the City Mission, now unable to attend meetings she is a willing attendee at any fund raising functions.

The Tasmanian Unit and especially the Launceston Branch members value Joan's friendship and the Christian thoughtfulness she has for all she knows and those she is yet to meet.

Tasmania State Unit

Patricia Dodd

Born	1932
Died	9 th September, 2004
Education	Chudleigh State School and Devonport High School
Family	Married Peter Dodd and had a daughter and a son.



Pat was a stalwart member of the Anglican Church in Devonport. She was a long serving member of the Anglican Women's Fellowship and Mothers' Union, both on a State and Diocesan level, holding many executive positions in each organization. Pat was a committed Christian visiting the sick and the lonely because of her concern for people. She was very supportive of the Youth Ministry and the church based Scout Group. After suffering a debilitating stroke, she continued her work for her Church via the telephone. She was a member of the Mothers' Union Telephone Prayer Chain. It was consistent with her commitment to her church that at the time of her stroke she was in the process of laundering the Church linen. Pat was awarded the title of Tasmanian Anglican of the Year in 1995.

Pat's Christian witness reached into ecumenical relationships with women of other churches and so became a member of the Tasmanian Unit of Australian Church Women, resulting in Pat starting a branch in her home town of Devonport, becoming secretary and remaining in the position for 20 years. Pat was instrumental in gaining many members for ACW and after her stroke she continued to encourage us all via the telephone. Members took turns to drive Pat the 300 kilometers to Launceston to attend State meetings. One couldn't say 'no' to Pat, she was such an inspiration to everyone. For her dedication to ACW Pat was awarded Life Membership in 1996.

Pat began the world Day of Prayer movement in Devonport in the mid 1970s and remained its secretary until her death. She was a member of the Mothers' Club and Parents and Friends of her children's Primary School and later the High School where she was elected as a delegate to the Council of State School Parents and Friends Association. Having been hampered by a stroke didn't stop Pat from enthusiastically joining in activities of the Stroke Support Group and then becoming a member of the North West Health Forum.

Tasmania State Unit

Bernadette (Berna) Foster

Born	11 th June, 1913
Died	14 th February, 2005
Education	St. John's Catholic Primary School (Melb) Zercho's Business College (Melb)
Family	Married Archie, June 1943. Mother of 4 children. 13 Grand-children and 11 Great-grandchildren.



Berna spent most of her life in the Holy Name Parish, East Preston, where she became involved in all aspects of parish life and became a Minister of the Eucharist in 1973. She was a founding member of Catholic Young Ladies' Club and became the first Melbourne President of National Catholic Girls Movement. Berna was a Life Member of Catholic Women's League and held many executive positions. She spent time as a Probation Officer, and was Co-ordinator of the Home Tutor Scheme in its early years, helping migrants. She was a member of Local Inter-Church Council, always an enthusiastic ecumenist!

Berna was appointed a Roman Catholic delegate to Australian Church Women, Victorian Unit, in 1974. She held office as both State and National Minute Secretary, and ably represented the Unit on the National Council of Women for a number of years. She was a co-writer of the update of Victorian Unit's History. Berna was well known for her enthusiasm for ACW, and appreciated for her great sense of humour.

In December 2000, Berna was awarded the Papal Award of "Croce pro Ecclesia et Pontifice" – presented for her long and tireless service to the Church.

Victorian State Unit.

Dorothy Alice Fry

Born	10 th October, 1914
Died	9 th January, 2006
Education	Melbourne Girls High School. Melbourne Teachers' College.
Family	Dorothy was the Great-grand-daughter of Elizabeth Fry.



Dorothy was a member of Syndal Baptist Church from 1963. During that time she was Secretary of Syndal Baptist Women's Fellowship, Prime Time and Secretary of the Eastern Suburban BWF from 1976 to 1992 then both Secretary and Treasurer from 1995 until her death.

Dorothy's ecumenical involvement was widespread and she held many secretarial positions over that time: Victorian Council of Churches, Waverley Interchurch Council, Interlink (which began as Baptist Business and Professional Women's Group) Bible Society, Leprosy Mission, Professional Women in Traralgon and Ringwood, and Probus Women's Housing Association (of which she was a life governor). Her association with Australian Church Women was over a long period. She was President of the Victorian Unit from 1977 to 1978 and Secretary 1978/79 until 1984. She was appointed an Associate Member and remained so until her death.

Dorothy Fry belonged to a long line of dedicated Christian women. She was the great-grand-daughter of Elizabeth Fry, the famous prison reformer and she certainly followed in her footsteps.

She was a great Educationalist and taught in many schools around Victoria until her retirement. At times she had up to 60 children in her class. As well as her regular teaching she did extra-curricular work such as working in soup kitchens during the miners' strike in 1936 and organizing a correspondence course in 1937 during the polio epidemic. During the war years she was teaching at Frankston High School and she also found time out of school and in school holidays to participate in special government assignments as her war effort. She was among the first group of women in Victoria to become principal of a State School. On her retirement she was No. 20 on the seniority roll in Victoria. Always a champion of Women's Rights she was the Victorian Teachers' Union Secretary at Traralgon and Dandenong when teaching in those areas. On retirement she became President of the Victorian Retired State Teachers' Association in 1978 and was Secretary from 1979 to 1996 during which time the membership was about 2000.

She was actively involved in IOR (Independent Order of Rechabites) and in 1989 became Secretary of IOR Blackburn Ten No. 496 and in 1999 was elected Secretary of Region 1. In 1991 she moved to the IOR retirement village at Salford Park where she became very involved, including becoming Secretary of the Christian Activities Committee.

In 1999 Dorothy was awarded a rightly deserved "Commonwealth Seniors Award".

In James 2:26 is the well-known text "Faith without works is dead". Dorothy's strong faith in God was clearly illustrated by 'good works'.

Victorian State Unit

Major Nancy McLaren

Born 27 August 1949 Taree NSW

Education Newcastle
Salvation Army Training College Marrickville

Family Married Phillip 1969
Three sons
Grandchildren



January 1975 after Ordination as a Minister of the Gospel and appointment as a Salvation Army Officer Nancy and Phillip were appointed to Clermont, western Queensland as the Commanding Officers. Following two years at Clermont, a further two years at Aitkenvale, Townsville and then three years at Gladstone, the family moved to Sydney. A three year appointment as Divisional League of Mercy Secretary (Chaplain Ministry to Hospitals and Homes) was followed by further Church work in Lismore (NSW), Rockhampton, Albion and Carina (Qld). A short appointment in Community Care Ministries and three years as Silver Star Secretary (coordination of the care of parents of Officers), since 2002 Nancy has coordinated the work (NSW, Qld, ACT) of the Salvation Army's Child Sponsorship Program, an appointment which gives a lot of satisfaction and joy. During the years as a Corps Officer Nancy has been heavily involved in Women's Ministries and children's work.

In 2001 after moving to Sydney Nancy was appointed to the ACW NSW Inc. Council and became the Fellowship of the Least Coin Convener, and for the last few years Publicity Convener. Involvement in ACW has meant meeting and joining with lovely Christian women from different denominations and has brought much joy and fulfillment.

After endorsement from the Executive and ratification by Council Nancy became National President at the 19th National Conference held in Perth, WA, and held office from 2003 -2005. This was a very rewarding, although sometimes frustrating time. Nancy was able to travel and meet with the Units in ACT, South Australia, Victoria, Tasmania, and Queensland, as well as in an official capacity NSW. This term culminated with the 20th National Conference held in Sydney 2005.

Whilst serving in the two churches in Brisbane Nancy was involved for 9 years with the Queensland State Committee for World Day of Prayer and was President 1992-1994.

Nancy: There is much to give thanks to God for during these last 32 years of ministry where the opportunity to meet and work with dedicated Christian women within the area of the different denominations, Women's Ministries, and community work has been a wonderful joy. God is good.

As National President Nancy took a group of women with different abilities and inclinations and made of us a cohesive working committee, open to each other's ideas, willing to accept discussion on important issues, always ready to laugh, determined to do a good job. Under Nancy's leadership we grew closer to each other in friendship and closer to our Lord through the spiritual feeding we received.

NSW State Unit Inc.

Lena Meadows

Born 3rd March, 1910
Died 26th March, 2004
Education Somerville House
Business College
Family Husband: William Meadows (dec.)
2 sons and 4 grand-children.



Lena was a member of the Coorparoo Presbyterian Church. She was a member of the P.W.M.U. (Presbyterian Women's Missionary Union) and P.W.A. (Presbyterian Women's Association). Lena was also a member of a National Committee of P.W.A. Lena spent time traveling Queensland country areas, speaking at Rally and Conferences and leading Bible Study Groups.

Lena was very involved in Aged Care within the Presbyterian Church, especially the Hopetoun Aged Care Centre in Corinda, Qld. She was also chairperson of the Aged Care Committee, Queensland Assembly, Presbyterian Church. Lena was also involved in the building and maintaining of the Presbyterian Camp Property at North Tamborine, Qld.

Lena joined Australian Church Women in 1973.

She was FLC Convenor 1974-1990.

National President ACW 1983-1985.

Observer to Queensland Council of Churches for several years.

Lena had a great love for her family, for her church, for the Fellowship of the Least Coin Movement and wearing large hats, especially large black hats. Lena had a very strong faith, she was a leader, excellent Chairperson and was greatly respected by all with whom she worked. She and her husband would take their holidays when the bi-annual Australian Church Women's Conferences were held, and share time together as they travelled.

Queensland State Unit

Major Miriam Pratt

Born	20 th May, 1928, in Coburg, Victoria
Died	14 th December, 2005
Education	Various Primary Schools and Business College.
Family	Married Kingsley Pratt on 12 th April, 1952. Four children – Miriam Joy, Rhonda Alice, Kenneth Lyndon, and Walter Edward. Nine grand-children, and one great-grand-child.



Miriam was involved with Sunbeams, a girls group of the Salvation Army, for the better part of her life. Starting as a leader at the age of sixteen. She offered herself for service in China in 1943 and entered the Training College from Bexley Corp in March 1948 and was commissioned on 4th January, 1949. Her first appointments were: Merewether Maternity Hospital, Samaritan Corps Sydney, Arncliffe Girls Home. After her marriage she joined Kingsley at the Balmain Men's Home and then to Griffith. From there to Walker Street, Singleton and Gunnedah Corps. Their final field appointment was Queanbeyan Corps. Then due to Kingsley's health, shifted to William Booth Working Men's Hostel, and then to St. Peter's Industrial Home, followed by Red Hill Men's Home, then to Riverview Men's Eventide Home and then back to St. Peter's Industrial Home and to Foster House. The next few years saw them go from Stanley Street Men's Home where Kingsley was manager, to St. Peters, Riverview, Pindari Homeless Hostel, Montrose, Elizabeth Jenkins Place and Foster House. At the end of March 1991 Kingsley and Miriam entered retirement. Miriam cared for Kingsley and said her final earthly goodbye to him in March 2003.

Miriam joined the Queensland Unit in February 1994 and served in that unit until June 2005.

She held the position of Treasurer from 1996 – 1998. Special Days Convenor; 1994 – 1996. Vice President, 2000 – 2002 and 2005.

On the National Executive 1997-1999 she held the position of Newsletter Editor.

Major Miriam Pratt was dearly loved by all members of the Queensland Unit. She was one of those quiet dependable people who you came to rely on at every turn. Nothing was ever too much trouble for her to do. We miss her greatly.

Queensland State Unit

Major Joan Tong

Born 14 November 1941 Melbourne

Education Primary Schools Victoria & Western Australia
Perth Girls, Bendigo & Ballarat High Schools
Leaving Certificate – Victoria 1958
Trained Teacher's Certificate 1960 Palmerston
North Teacher's College, NZ

Family Married to David 1967
Children: Michelle & Andrew, Grandchildren



Commissioned as a Salvation Army Officer in New Zealand in 1965 and following 2½ years of 'single' ministry as a Corps officer, married David in 1967 and continued in Officership in Corps, as well as Divisional and Territorial appointments. The first 10 years of Officership were spent in New Zealand. Moved with the Salvation Army to NSW Australia in 1975 and served the next 30 years in this country. During these years Women's Ministry always played an important role in Joan's appointments. The last ten years of active service was a more established time of ministry specifically with the Salvation Army's Over 50's programs. The 'pair of Tongs' retired from active service 1 February 2004 having served for 40 years as Salvation Army Officers.

President ACW NSW 1990-92

1990-91 National Executive (NSW) - as president of NSW at that time

Fellowship of the Least Coin Convener (NSW Unit Inc.)

ACW Representative to NSW Ecumenical Council - President NSW Ecumenical Council
Asian Church Women's Conference – General Committee, was nominated and elected from the 'floor' of the Assembly.

Asian Church Women's Conference – Executive Committee, 4 year term

ACWC Convener NSW State Unit

National Executive (NSW) 2003/2005 Winifred Kiek Scholarship Convener

During all the years since becoming involved with ACW Joan has spoken at Special Day Services, and promoted ACW at every opportunity. In the early days of her Presidency when it became apparent that there was a need for financial support for the Unit, a small annual project of selling calendars began, providing a moderate income to support and give stability to the financial needs of the Unit. To assist with the Unit's financial commitment for ACWC the annual Pleasant Sunday Afternoon was instituted, the offering becoming the Unit's main source of income for that purpose.

Joan: I have treasured the opportunity to work and serve with Christian women of all the represented denominations and bodies. My understanding of ecumenism is far broader than when I began the journey, and I stand humbly among the throng of wonderful women, all seeking and serving the same Saviour.

No profile of Joan would be complete without mention of her contribution to the music element of many ACW functions, her wonderful sense of humour, and her incredible capacity to remember and tell jokes. Commitment, dedication and hard work have been the hallmarks of Joan's valued membership of Australian Church Women and ACWC.

NSW State Unit Inc.

Margaret Eileen Watson AM

Born 30th November, 1927 in Launceston, Tas.
Died 29th September, 2006.
Education Methodist Ladies College, Launceston
Pharmacy College, Melbourne
Family Married Frank, June 1951
2 children, 3 grand-children.



On Australia Day 2006 the Commonwealth Government of Australia appointed Margaret as a Member of the Order of Australia 'for service to the Uniting Church of Australia, through a range of executive and representative roles both nationally and internationally and to the ecumenical movement.

A strong leader and exceptional organizer with unswerving faith, she had the interests of church women at heart for many years. Her leadership role commenced at a young age when after school she was a Girl Guide Patrol Leader, played netball and the piano, and took many church services as a lay preacher. At 17 Margaret left home in Tasmania to study pharmacy in Melbourne. In time she was made a Fellow of the Pharmaceutical Society and later a life member. She involved herself in community service, initially working for Meals on Wheels, driving for the Red Cross and involving herself more with the church.

She was Chairperson of the Uniting Church Fellowship Victoria, and subsequently organized the South Pacific Area Seminar held in Melbourne. Chairman of her Presbytery, a Member of the Executive of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches (1982-1989) representing Pacific member churches, President of World Day of Prayer Victoria (1989-1991), Member of the World Day of Prayer International Committee (1991-1995) – representing all Pacific countries, and in her role visited 21 countries and organized the World Day of Prayer International meetings held in Melbourne in 1995. The world Day of Prayer's International Committee made her a life member in 2006.

Margaret represented the Uniting Church for 16 years on the Victorian Unit of Australian Church Women, five of them as treasurer. In October 2005 she was entrusted with the position of National Treasurer for Australian Church Women National Executive, a position she held until a few days before her passing.

March 2006 Margaret prepared an article for the Circle of Prayer booklet entitled "Live the Jubilee" based on Leviticus 25:8-25.

Margaret was a tireless worker, ever reliable, a perfectionist, with physical and mental stamina, who lived a full life in service to God and others.

"Truly I tell you, wherever this good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her." (Matthew 26:1-13)

Victorian State Unit.

Shirley Wells

Born 22 March 1927 Eastwood NSW
Died 2 May 2014
Education Eastwood Public School
Hornsby Home Science School – Intermediate Certificate
Family Shirley has a sister and two brothers, and plays an active role in her extended family.



Shirley is a member of Eastwood Baptist Church where she has taught Sunday School, and was General Superintendent for 29 years. She has been a Deacon since 2000. She has also been involved with the Kid's Club and with the Women's Fellowship. Baptist Community Services is another area where Shirley has been engaged in voluntary work.

In 1983 Shirley became a Baptist representative to NSW State Unit of ACW
From 1985 she has been on the Planning Committee of ACW Branch at Epping
1988-2002 Fellowship of the Least Coin Convener on NSW Executive
1988 attended ACWC Quadrennial Assembly in Thailand
1990-91 served as National Executive Minute Secretary
2003-2005 National Executive FLC Convener– has attended 9 National Conferences
From 1989 ACW NSW delegate to National Council of Women

Shirley worked for a leading life assurance company for 42 years, the last 12 as Personnel officer.

Shirley Comments: I am so thankful to God that early retirement made it possible for me to become part of Australian Church Women, and especially for the privilege of promoting Fellowship of the Least Coin across our State. For the warm fellowship I have enjoyed and the many new friendships formed, I feel blessed indeed.

As FLC Convener, Shirley fulfilled the role with great commitment and passion. Beneath a quiet exterior there is a deep love and concern for all, kindness, generosity and a sharing of wisdom. Her demonstration of a life of faith in Christ has been a great source of encouragement and joy, for which we are thankful.

National Life Member 2005

NSW State Unit Inc.