

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN - N.S.W. STATE UNIT

MINUTES of COUNCIL MEETING held at 222 Pitt Street, Sydney, on Monday 18th August 1997 at 10.30 a.m.

OPENING: President Peg Blake welcomed members and read John 1:14 - "and the Word became flesh and dwelt among us". She spoke of the wonders of the Space Age, the rocket to Mars, the little robot which emerged to do incredible work travelling around Mars taking pictures and samples of the terrain. It reminded her that after the Apollo XV Mission, Colonel James Irwin related some of the high points of his experience. He told of weightless bodies floating free in the capsule, the rising crescent of the earth as seen from the moon and the triumphal splashdown before a watching world. Irwin spoke of the impact the experience had on his spiritual life. He said that from the lunar surface he sensed both the glory of God and the plight of earthbound mankind. As he came back to earth, he realised that he could not content himself with being merely a celebrity. He would have to be a servant telling his fellowman of a better way to live. Irwin concluded by saying that if we think it a great event to go to the moon, how much greater is the wonder that God came to earth in the person of Jesus Christ. HOW TRUE! Because man walked on the moon, science and technology have made tremendous advances. But because God walked on earth, we know both our origin and our destiny. We can know our Creator personally (as we read in John 1) and we can live in His light. Through Jesus' sinless life and sacrificial death we have the joy of sins forgiven and an abundant life ...all because God walked ON EARTH.

She then opened the meeting with prayer especially remembering those recently bereaved in the Thredbo tragedy.

PRESENT: 51 members present as per attendance records.

APOLOGIES: Margaret Jessup and 10 others recorded.

MINUTES: The Minutes of meeting on 16th June 1997 as circulated were confirmed on motion of Glad Camlin and Deaconess Thomas.

Norma Harrop expressed thanks for the prayers of the Council in her recent illness.

BUSINESS ARISING/BUSINESS FROM EXECUTIVE:

1. ECUMENICAL LUNCHEON - very happy occasion - fellowship enjoyed. Margaret Collier congratulated on organisation; Speaker excellent. Luncheon provided by Salvation Army very delectable.
2. FLORAL FESTIVAL - 12-15 September - brochures available. Cec Warry from Salvation Army is doing our floral arrangement. He requires some assistance. Helen Hill and Val Renn offered to help and Joan Tong will co-ordinate - re time, etc.
3. NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN - Foundation Day Luncheon, 26th August. Joan Tong is our nominee.
4. N.S.W. STATE CONFERENCE: 13-14-15 MAY 1998 - Salvation Army Centre, Stanmore. Suggested theme - "Towards 2000AD-Walking Together". Ruth Myors and Kath Donovan have been approached and would be able to attend on Thursday 14th May for a "spiritual enrichment day".
5. QUEENSLAND STATE UNIT - 50th anniversary in September - Lucelle King had prepared a special card of Congratulations.
6. NATIONAL CONFERENCE -
7. NATIONAL EXECUTIVE - Carried forward to Correspondence.

CORRESPONDENCE/BUSINESS ARISING -(Inward)

1. National Executive : (a) May/June/July Minutes  
(b) Conference motions, etc. and general information  
Delegates: President Peg Blake, Secretary Jan Harrison  
Observers: Joan Tong, Heather Reid.  
Others attending:  
Marie Majoor - C.W.L.  
Beryl McLaughlin - W.C.T.U.  
Mina Whybourne - Mothers Union  
Heather Badgery, Beth Finlay, Edith Ridge, Shirley Wells,  
Rhoda Gates, Dss. Thora Thomas Brig. Mabel Ward  
and Marie McCann.  
(c) ACWC Representative - Bangkok 1998 - noted.  
(d) Alterations to constitution.  
Information on Awards - noted.  
(e) Badge Order form given to Averil Whybird.
2. Salvation Army (2 letters) re State Conference dates, etc.
3. Margaret Knauerhause - sincere thanks, for our letter of condolence.
4. Uniting Church Support <sup>Mission</sup> Group - Annual Thanksgiving Service. (President and Mina Whybourne attended).
5. The Rev. Elizabeth Walker - apologies (previous meetings) confirming information.
6. Judith Ryan, Secretary World Day of Prayer, N.S.W. - information for 1998 Service booklet.
7. Aileen Mortensen, commending Annual Report. (Queensland Secretary - (Joan Tong had prepared Report.)
8. Evonne Sullivan to President, re Senator Jocelyn Newman speaking at Conference.
9. Women for Wik Meeting 12/7 - Phyl Mckinnirey and Elaine Giddey to attend.
10. Anglican Board of Mission - list of office bearers.
11. Edith Ridge - Signatory campaign - various matters to be clarified.
12. BCA Annual Rally & Luncheon (\$5), Chapter House 28th August 11 am to 1 pm. Lucele King will attend.
13. PWA - Rae Moore - Presbyterian representation on Council - 9 members.
14. National Treasurer - receipts.
15. Baptist Annual Assembly Women's Fellowship Day - 22 September - 10.30 a.m. Elsie Cox will attend.
16. Tabled: Women's Calendar (2) Reclaim the Night.  
Newsletter Shalom  
YWCA Business Women's Breakfast  
CEP Biblical Christian Ministry Resources  
NCWA Quarterly Bulletin  
SVP The Record - Annual Report  
Matthew Park Books -Bible Studies  
Anglicare - Prayer Bulletin  
Austcare - appeal  
Footsteps - Australians for Reconciliation

CORRESPONDENCE: (Outoing)

1. Elizabeth Walker (2)
2. Judith Cayzer - Council meeting information sheet
3. NCW Women on Technology - Acceptance to Seminar.
4. Eileen Whittaker - Salvation Army Functions Supervisor - thank you for luncheon
5. Averil Whybird -order form ACW badges.
6. Judith Ryan - World Day of Prayer information.
7. Joan Curtin - thank you re Ecumenical luncheon.
9. National Executive and Conference - several letters including Marie McCann's letter re Aboriginal Conference and sending \$25 each to the Memorial Bursary Book for the late Deaconess Mary Andrews and Dr. Juliet Backhouse.

REPORTS:

TREASURER: Marie Majoor presented a full and comprehensive report - Fellowship Day offerings were very good and finances in very favourable condition There would be a Trading Table next month.

FELLOWSHIP OF LEAST COIN: Shirley Wells said that we are still waiting for a new Circle of Prayer. She has a number of No.13 books left which she will sell at half price. She read from "The Voice of Papua New Guinea" - John 17 20=23 "that they may all be one" - and prayed.

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP - Rachel McManus and Joanne Harries will be present at the National Conference.

SPECIAL DAYS: Edith Ridge reported that the World Community Day Service was ready for printing prepared by the new Branch of Alice Springs. We require 2250 copies of the Service for 38 centres - some orders still not to hand. Packing Day will be Monday 26th August - and volunteers are required to pack.

SOCIAL ISSUES: Heather Reid said she had received a letter from Marion Dodds Victorian Unit - she was very grateful for our letter. In the S.M.H. of 8 July, it was reported that an amount of \$50,000 was to be granted to the National Council of Women = and there was also a paragraph in Column 8 commending Fiona Collins (the lass we had sponsored for a Centenary Award from NCW) for her kindness in helping a foreign student who had been robbed. Brig. Mabel Ward had sent her a letter with a survey containing information re alcohol consumption - "People against Drink Driving" - the organisation is seeking new members - People against Drink Driving, P.O.Box 131, Modbury North 5092, S.A. Tel. 08-8264 3879 - membership now 165.

Pam McCormack from Religious Freedom Institute is concerned about the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and the inquiry being held by the Federal Government which closes on 30th October 1997. We intend to write to National Executive asking that they submit an objection and prevent the implementation of this Convention. Suggest that we write to our local Federal Members. Heather distributed relevant literature for members to consider.

NEWSETTE : Very good edition - particularly Marie Majoor's report on the Australian Reconciliation Convention.

PUBLICITY: Colleen O'Sullivan tendered her resignation with regret - she will be leaving at the end of the year as she will be working for her Doctorate. President Peg expressed our regret, thanked Colleen for her expert contribution to our Publicity and extended our good wishes for her studies.

ACWC - 17TH NOVEMBER: LAKEMBA UNITING CHURCH - members to contact all their denomination in the area - especially Korean, Vietnamese, etc. Necessary to make a personal appeal. To support Illuminada Domingo's Endowment Fund for ACWC we will contribute \$500 a year for the next 10 years - we intend to sell calendars - each denomination to take responsibility to sell calendars - 50 per denomination - available next month - to sell at \$8 each.

PRESIDENT'S BUSINESS/FUNCTIONS ATTENDED:

President Peg had been speaker at Fellowship Day, Lakemba Branch held at the Presbyterian Church, Lakemba. Very happy day - good attendance.

Attended Uniting Church, Roseville - wonderful day - Pastor Helen Crabb the speaker. Mission Day.

PRESIDENT'S BUSINESS/FUNCTIONS ATTENDED:

Was speaker at the Church Women of the Hunter's Meeting at Newcastle Presbyterian Church on 17th August - spoke on "Unity".

Will be attending PWMA Rally next week.  
Will be speaking at Woonona next week.

Doris Haberfield had represented President at the opening of the Girls and Boys Brigade Headquarters at Toongabbie - very good set-up - very enjoyable occasion.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Molly Gilchrist reported that she will take over the responsibility for Gladesville Branch as the present convener is not well.

A new Branch has been formed at Kincumber by Dorothy Woodhouse.

NEXT MEETING : 15th September, 1997.

President Peg thanked the Baptist ladies for providing the morning tea and the Salvation Army ladies for preparing the room.  
She closed the meeting with the Benediction at 12.10 p.m.

Confirmed



DATE

15th September, 1997.