



AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

NSW STATE UNIT INC.

*Minutes of Council Meeting Monday 21st November, 2016
10.30 am, 222 Pitt Street Sydney*

OPENING: President Pamela welcomed all to the meeting, especially visitors Margo Nancarrow, Lorraine Murphy, Jo De Groot and new Anglican representative, Glenda McSorley. Greetings were sent from Edith Ridge to her ACW friends.

DEVOTIONS:

Pamela reflected on the fact that she is here because other people had input into her life – going back through generations of the Christian faith, handed down faithfully. Jesus was brought by his parents to the temple as a baby – Simeon blessed him. Anna also was there – an 84 year old widow, following seven years of marriage. She stayed in the temple night and day, worshipping the Lord. She also thanked God and told everyone in Jerusalem that the Messiah had finally arrived. Anna was faithful in her commitment, and in her devotion to God. We should recognise the heritage in our own lives. We can pass on a heritage of faithfulness through our Godly lives – we can set an example for the ones who come behind so that Christ is as precious to them as he is to us. Pamela ministered with a song 'May all who come behind us find us faithful' and closed the Devotions with prayer.

PRESENT: 30 members present, and 5 visitors

APOLOGIES: There were 10 apologies. .

PRESENTATION: Retirement from Council: Nola Dickson

Pamela presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Nola Dickson on her retirement from ACW NSW Unit Council. Nola joined ACW in 1988, later becoming a Presbyterian Representative. She served on NSW State Unit Executive as Newsette Manager, NSW Ecumenical Council Representative, and President from 2010-2012. She was National Treasurer 2003-2005. Pamela gave Nola the Council's very best wishes and assured her of our prayers.

Tribute to Enid Uther – Heather Reid paid tribute to Enid's service to ACW. She was a long-time member of the ACW Strathfield branch and an active associate member. She was the branch President for a number of years and encouraged many women, including Martha Noel, to become part of ACW. In her younger days, Enid was the captain of the NSW Junior Women's cricket team and also captained the Australian Women's cricket team. Enid belonged to Concord Baptist Church, where her funeral was held on 31st October 2016.

MINUTES: The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 15th August 2016 were confirmed as correct.

Moved by Yvonne Coorey and Seconded by Lyn Middleton

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

1) **Concert of Praise 21st August:** Isabel Hewitt moved a vote of thanks to Pamela for bringing together such an enjoyable program. Thanks also to Jan Harrison and Helen Hill who co-ordinated the catering for afternoon tea. November Newsette has a report of the concert by Isabel with photos of the performers.

2) **State Day Conference 19th September:** Jan Harrison commented that this had been one of the most inspiring conferences that she had attended. She was touched by all the speakers, people from difficult backgrounds and the theme of 'God's Grace Within'. Nola commented that the catering was fantastic.

3) **ACW National AGM 14/11/16** - this meeting was a teleconference held on 14th November at 3.00 pm. Pamela was the nominated delegate for NSW and Elizabeth was an observer. Tricia Graham also took part as the AWC representative to ACW. The meeting was over very quickly, with the usual AGM business being completed.

REPORTS:

Treasurer: Pat Cory presented the Treasurer's report covering 1st August to 31st October 2016. The total income was \$6581.15; Total payments \$1431.06. Pat commented that World Community Day and Fellowship Day offerings are down considerably so NSW is sending less to National than last year
Accounts to be paid: Epping Baptist Church – Printing Newsette \$120; Petty Cash Reimbursement \$50; ACW Tamworth Branch – refund \$28.00; Epping Baptist Church – Donation ACWC Concert hall use \$100; E. McEwen - Reimburse printing \$28.73.

Pat moved that the report be accepted and the accounts be paid. Seconded by Carmel Keys. Carried

Fellowship of the Least Coin – Isabel commented that she met Sister Marie Craddock who advised that there will be a new Mums' Cottage opening in WA. This is a result of Sister Helen Anne speaking at our National Conference. Marie sent her best wishes to Council members. Pamela outlined the objectives of FLC and talked about Mums' Cottage which received an FLC grant.

Special Days: Lyn Middleton advised that reports are coming in from World Community Day. It seems that a good day was had by all. WCD is a day that is being kept up. There were only 9 Fellowship Day services held this year – this was in July and many of the groups are getting older. Representatives from Burwood/Concord/ Strathfield, Bathurst, Newcastle, Dee Why, Sutherland and Epping all reported on the WCD service in their areas.

Lyn spoke about applications for the Special Project for next year. These need to reach Lyn before 13 February 2017. The Special Project receives half of the offering on World Community Day. Anyone can put forward a project – preferably a non-government funded project and church based. The amount is usually between two and three thousand dollars.

Winifred Kiek Scholarship: Judith reported that Christmas cards and emails will be sent to those scholars contactable. An email encouraging this year's scholar, Esline in Vanuatu, has been sent. She is preparing to attend the World Convention in India, in January 2017 and will speak at the Women's Sessions.

Yane (2015) Humpty Doo – they are still waiting for a result/report on her nephew, Riel. Leinamau (2007) – studies continue in Fiji. Christy Ferguson (Melb. 2009) working, praying and seeking God for her way forward in Missions. WE continue to remember WK Scholars past, present and future.

Social Issues:: Three issues highlighted by Rae are: 1) Harvesting body organs – letter to Julie Bishop asking her to raise concern at the United Nations. 2) Letter to Prime Minister expressing concern about the Safe Schools Coalition Australia program and 3) letter to the Minister for Immigration, Peter Dutton, regarding asylum seekers who remain on Nauru.

Membership: Roslyn Abbey advised her number in Stewart Street, Bathurst is 6/51.

Pastoral Care: With the resignation of June Kay, Helen Hill will be Pastoral Care convener until the AGM in April.

Newsette: Jennifer reported that Newsette numbers are down because some people have passed on and others cannot read any longer. A number of people have chosen to receive their Newsette by email. Jennifer thanked Isabel for preparing a reports about the Concert of Praise and the State Day Conference at Granville. Articles for the February Newsette need to be with Jennifer by 6th January. November is the month to renew the subscription of \$10 to Pat Cory. The mailing list is now up to date. Elizabeth Neale, Girls Brigade, has been asked to put in an article for the next issue. Anyone is welcome to put in an article of interest to the wider readership.

ACWC Isabel has received emails coming in from the Asian countries expressing their solidarity for people affected by the recent earthquake in New Zealand. We in Australia should also be mindful of our sisters in New Zealand. FLC and Asian Church Women's Conference expressed their feelings for and prayers for people in New Zealand. Isabel shared a prayer written after the earthquake in 2010 by a New Zealand lady and sent on by the Secretary for Asian Church Women's Conference.

Publicity: Nothing to report..

It was moved by Tricia Graham that the Reports be accepted; Seconded by Valerie Hazlewood.

CORRESPONDENCE Inwards

Greta Howard – Confirm reservations 2017
ACW NE – July Minutes
ACW NE – Essay competition
ACW NE – Essay Competition Judging
ACW NE – Minutes for August
ACW NE – ACT Office Bearers
ACW NE – Expression of Interest – 2017 Conference
ACW NE – Results Essay Competition
ACW NE – Financial papers for AGM
ACW NE – AGM Documents
Julie Campbell Salvation Army – Joy Inglis Resignation
Olive Edmondstone – re acknowledgment of Enid Utber
June Kay– resignation from Council
PPSEAWA Minutes 24/8
PPSEAWA Minutes 28/9 and 26/10
Span – September 2016
GB – Brigade Effect Newsletter
Betty Pearson – Armidale Interchurch Fellowship
Sheila Brown – Bellingen CWL & ACW
Heather Connell – Report Bellingen World Comm. Day
Heather Connell – letter re Nell Lee
Tricia Graham – Report on AGM of AWC
Edith Ridge – Apology & Greetings
Girls Brigade – November Report
June Kay – Response to letter

CORRESPONDENCE Outwards

ACW NE – Essay judging decision
Julie Campbell, SA, re Joy Inglis
Joy Inglis – letter re resignation from Council
Council members – Exp. Of Int. Conf. 2017
Card & message of condolence to Norma Dumbrell, (husband Bill) Dr W Utber, (wife Enid)
Judy O'Hara – welcome to Council (Anglican rep.)
Betty Pearson, Armidale Interchurch F'ship
Sheila Brown – Bellingen – contact details and condolences for Nell Lee.
Heather Connell – response re Nell Lee
June Kay – letter re resignation from Council
Edith Ridge – response to email, Seasons greetings

BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE: Nil

FUNCTIONS ATTENDED/TO ATTEND: Pamela attended the ABM Auxiliary on 24th August.

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS:

Bible Society: No report

Girls' Brigade: Elizabeth Neale notified the meeting that she won't be able to come to all the meetings next year, but will send a report and newsletters. In September, the last Pioneer Leadership Training courses were held for 2016, and Elizabeth visited a number of companies where she shared devotions with the girls and leaders. On 26th November the Queen's Award and Pioneer Pin presentation at Government House will be held, where one girl will receive the Queens Award. Renelle Neale will be visiting Vanuatu and will be taking 200 bibles to help the girls in Vanuatu, still recovering from Cyclone Pam. The purpose of their visit is to revive the Girls' Brigade there and also do some training.

NSW Ecumenical Council: Taize Services were held in September and all went well. Isabel attended a dinner at City Tattersalls Club. The speaker was from the World Council of Churches who gave encouragement for stronger co-operation between churches, working for a just peace in Israel and Palestine. NSW Ecumenical Council has set up a new commission to help overcome family violence, compiling a list of community services. ACW might be able to help disseminate this information.

National Council of Women (NCW): This Thursday will be the last Council meeting for 2016 of the National Council of Women and the completion of the celebrations for the 120th year. The final function was the presentation of the 7th Dame Marie Bashir Peace Awards to 12 girls selected from the 70 applications received. The Members and Friends Morning Teas held on the 3rd Wednesday of December, 21st, in the Upper Room Café here at the Wesley Centre from 10.15 to 11.30. This year has been a very busy, but very enjoyable year as we have celebrated 120 years. The first function for 2017 will be the 'Celebrate Being an Australian' Luncheon on Friday, 27th January in the Strangers' Dining Room at Parliament House, at 12 for 12.30. Tricia has a booking form for anyone interested in attending.

Pan Pacific & South East Asia Women's Association (PPSEAWA): Helen Richardson attended the last PPSEAWA meeting on 26th October, where the guest speaker was Judy Rainsford author of a book 'High Flyers' – Pilots with Perfume - Celebrating Australian Aviatrix Heroines of the early 20th Century'.

World Day of Prayer: Tricia reported that the proposed meeting of the World Day of Prayer Committee for November 28th was brought forward to today. It is being held at present in another room in these offices, so Tricia gave an apology for that meeting. On the Agenda is a review of material for the 2017 WDP prepared by the Philippines and a discussion on the form this Service will take. Also is a list of dates for the meetings in 2017, two of which clash with our meetings. Tricia has pointed this out and hopefully the dates will be changed so they do not clash.

OTHER BUSINESS:

1) Archives – Relocation. Lyn and Isabel have been sorting and digitising of material for National and NSW and are working to complete this by end of the year. On Friday 25th November, they will meet at Eastwood and work out the volume of material to be housed somewhere. Thanks to Lyn, Jennifer and Pamela all who have made excellent contributions to get the material to be of use for anyone wanting to research ACW. Hopefully this will be finished. Permission is needed to move the material once it has been established how much and a home found for it.

MOTION: Isabel proposed that permission for the archival material that is retained be located in an appropriate facility. Seconded by Tricia Graham, Carried.

2) ACW Calendar 2017 – AGM in April – some Executive positions will need to be scrutinised. With regard to Dedication Day at Eastwood, this will have an ecumenical flavour. The Spiritual Enrichment Day at Woy Woy will be a Day of Prayer.

The ACW National Conference will be held in Melbourne in early October. Expressions of interest have been requested and some names have been forwarded. The cost is \$750 plus fares.

Pamela requested that names of people from the various denominations who should be invited to attend Dedication Day, be sent to her by the February Meeting.

CLOSE OF MEETING: There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.55 am, with a prayer from Pamela.

NEXT MEETING Monday 20th February 2017

Morning tea: The Salvation Army

Chairs: Churches of Christ

Trading Table: Catholic