

Australian Church Women National Executive

Minutes of meeting of National Executive held at Yarralumla Uniting Church Centre, Monday 16th December 1996 at 9.30am.

Present: Evonne Sullivan, President; Betty Farrell, Vice President; Olga Scott, Vice President; Jean Thomson, Hon. Secretary; Jan Abrahamffy, National Minute Secretary; Helen Lloyd, Treasurer; Eileen Holley, Fellowship of Least Coin Convenor; Beth Webb, Publications Editor; Ruth Burmester, National Life Member;

Apologies: Jenny Jarvis, Winifred Kiek Scholarship Convenor; Betty Laurie, Special Days Convener.

Announcements: National President welcomed everyone to the last National Executive meeting of 1996. Evonne thanked Janet Abrahamffy for the gift of a meeting bell which she said would be put to good use! It was agreed that Christmas cards be sent to the two members of National Executive absent from today's meeting - Betty Laurie in hospital and Jenny Jarvis settling into her new home.

Devotions: led by Jan Abrahamffy, using the Prayers & Hymns Book published for the Royal Australian Navy in 1927 with prayers. (This book had belonged to Jan's deceased brother)

Minutes of meeting of 25. 11. 96. Confirmed, moved by Betty Farrell, seconded Beth Webb.

Business Arising

1. The Treasurer reported that she is still pursuing the matter of ACW Crested ~~Spoons~~ ^{Badges} with Bartel Ltd, in Sydney, the firm holding the ACW block.

2. A letter from Deaconess Shirley Harris, Sydney, contained a comprehensive report of the service in Pakistan to give thanks for the life of Deaconess Barkat Dass. An edited version of the eulogy will be printed in the next ACW News.

Reports:

1. **National President - Evonne Sullivan** reported a telephone call with Deaconess Frances McKechnie in Alice Springs. A total of 23 people attended the World Community Day Service in Alice Springs on 29th November including three men. It was a great ecumenical occasion, and at the meeting held afterwards, the decision to form a Branch of ACW in Alice Springs was taken. The names of Office Bearers will be announced shortly. A seeding grant of \$75.00 and 10 ACW badges will be forwarded to assist in the setting up of the Branch.

A Minute of Appreciation to Frances McKechnie was recorded and passed with acclamation for all her efforts on behalf of Australian Church Women.

Evonne reported on a phone conversation with Fay McCormack, Tasmania Unit Secretary, and her report about Joanne Harries and the twins was very positive, the babies are making wonderful progress, and could be back in Launceston for Christmas.

After phone consultations with Janet Wood, Evonne is pleased to announce that Janet will be the Preacher at the National Conference Ecumenical Service on 23rd

September 1997. The Secretary has written to confirm this.

2. **Fellowship of the Least Coin - National Convenor Eileen Holley** reported she had written to all State Convenors and enclosed an Order Form for Circles of Prayer No 14; and copies of the new Grant Applications and Guidelines.

In a letter from Shirley Wells NSW Unit, there was a suggestion that we need two brochures, a comprehensive one for general use, as well as a short form for inclusion in the Orders of service. Eileen will work on these suggested new brochures.

Please continue to send all mail for
Fellowship of the Least Coin - National Convenor Eileen Holley to
PO Box 95, Yarralumla ACT 2600.

The National President expressed the thoughts of all members of National Executive when she wished Eileen well in her new appointment in Sydney, and said that National Executive meetings had been enriched by Eileen's presence, and that she would be sadly missed. However, it is pleasing that Eileen will continue as National Convenor FLC and still be able to attend some Executive meetings.

3. **Publications - Beth Webb** - There had been some enquiries about addresses for the mailing list, which she was following up. Directories are still needed from some State/Territory Units. Copy for next ACW News is needed by early January, please, and everybody is reminded that the correct address for same is still
PO Box 95, Yarralumla ACT 2600.

The National President wished Beth and her husband well in their new life of 'Retirement' and expressed the good wishes of all the National Executive to Beth as she moves from Canberra into a new house and new phase of her life. Thankfully, Beth will still be able to attend some Executive meetings and is able to continue as Publications Editor

4. **National Treasurer - Helen Lloyd** -

Financial report as attached was accepted on the motion of Helen Lloyd, seconded by Eileen Holley. The total to be sent to ICFLC exceeds A\$39,000.00 for 1996. All State/Territory Units are to be congratulated on this very pleasing result.

In correspondence received with the cheques, the Treasurer reported that a number of Units sent Christmas Wishes to the National Executive; that WA Unit reported an increase in both number and attendance at Special services; Tas Unit Executive had suffered a series of accidents, but all progressing quite well.

Accounts as below, were passed for payment on motion of Helen Lloyd, seconded by Jan Abrahamffy.

Seeding grant to Alice Springs Branch	\$ 75.00
Photocopying of November National Minutes	\$ 30.00
J. Thomson - Postage for November National Minutes	\$ 21.20

5. **Special Days** - National Convenor Betty Laurie was presently in respite care, following her time in Hospital, but has been kept fully informed of all developments

regarding the Order of Service for Fellowship Day 1997.

National Secretary wrote to the Secretary, Queensland Unit, Aileen Mortensen conveying the decision of National Executive, to request permission for the 'ailing woman' monologue to be made OPTIONAL. The alternative of another reading, and monologue, more suitable to public worship was also canvassed. A copy of the letter was also sent to the Qld Unit Special Days Convenor, Joan Trudgian.

The National Secretary subsequently received a telephone call from Margaret Florence, (Qld Unit) conveying the message that the author of the 1997 Fellowship Day order of service, Ms Sue Fairly, would not countenance any change to the order of service, and would not agree to National Executive's suggestion that the word, OPTIONAL, be inserted after the monologue on the ailing woman.

Margaret then made the offer that she and her husband (Rev Ian Florence) would be prepared to write a new order of service, if necessary, during January.

After long and careful consideration of the matter National Executive voted unanimously NOT TO APPROVE the Fellowship Day order of service, as written by Ms Sue Fairly, on the grounds that the graphic monologue on the ailing woman may offend. Ms Fairly to be thanked for her efforts, and regret expressed that National Executive had found it necessary not to approve the order of service as presented.

National Executive then decided to accept the offer of Margaret Florence and her husband to write another order of service for Fellowship day 1997.

Action: National Secretary to contact Margaret Florence accepting her offer and to write to Hon Secretary, Qld Unit informing executive members of the decision of National Executive. A letter of thanks to be sent to Sue Fairley.

Correspondence as listed - received/endorsed on motion of Olga Scott, Helen Lloyd.

B/A

1. Letter from SA Unit Executive accepting nomination as National Executive for period 1999 - 2001
2. The letter from Senator The Hon. Jocelyn Newman to National President gives ACW recognition as a National Non-Government Women's Organisation.
3. Letter from ACT Unit nominating Bimbadeen Aboriginal College as World Community Day project for 1997 - Left to General Business.
4. Hon Secretary to write to Major Wilga Morris Co-convenor, ACW Darwin Branch, wishing her well in her new appointment in Melbourne
5. Hon Secretary wrote to the two organisations in Kenya regretting no funds available, and also wrote to Dr Christine Sadia ICFLC representative from Africa, telling her of these requests.
6. Request from Integrity Music in Toowoomba. National Executive decided it would not be possible to place inserts into ACW News, as requested.

General Business:

1997 World Community Day Project Submissions.

- a) From NSW Unit:- National Council of Churches of Australia - Aboriginal

Islander Commission Women's Desk. - further funding.

Comment:- ACW had donated \$10,000.00 to help fund the First National Ecumenical Aboriginal Christian Women's Conference in December 1995, but apart from a receipt for the money, National Executive had received no follow up documentation after the Conference. Focus of the Women's Desk had changed somewhat following Dr Anne Pattel- Gray's departure overseas for further studies.

b) From Qld Unit:- New projector for the Travelling Bible Man who works for the Bible Society of Australia throughout Queensland.

Comment:- After looking at this project, National Executive decided that as the ' bible man' is in urgent need of this equipment, and the funds from WCD 1997 would not be available until the end of 1997, this small project would be better served at State level.

c) From ACT Unit:- Bimbadeen College, Cootamundra NSW. The College, which receives no Government funding, provides training in Theology and agricultural pursuits. Students of all denominations are accepted from all over Australia and although Bimbadeen is primarily set up for Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders, it's students have included South Pacific islanders, Indians and Europeans.

Comment:- Soundly established, Bimbadeen is presently undergoing extensions. Future projects particularly improvements to facilities of the College Library would benefit greatly from funding as the 1997 World Community Day Project.

After discussion on all three nominated projects National Executive voted unanimously that the 1997 World Community Project would be Bimbadeen College.

Decision to be ratified by State/Territory Units.

No further items of general business.

In closing the meeting National President wished all members a Happy and Holy Christmas and thanked them sincerely for their energetic and enthusiastic support throughout 1996.

Next Meetings:

Monday 20th January 1997 at Yarralumla Uniting Church Centre.

Devotions: Evonne Sullivan

Hostess: Jan Abrahamffy

Friday 10th January 1997 at 9.30am at the home of National President.- Planning meeting for National Conference.



Date

National President

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

Treasurer's Report 25 November 1996 to 16 Dece

<u>CHEQUE ACCOUNT</u>			
Balance at	25.11.96		\$189
<u>RECEIPTS</u>			
Acwc Bulletins - S.A.		90.00	
	W.A.	120.00	
	Vic.	120.00	
	ACT	15.00	
	Tas.	45.00	
	2'land	15.00	
Acwc Partners -	NSW	225.00	630.00
	S.A.	51.00	
	NSW	500.00	551.00
World Community	S.A.	416.25	
by offerings	WA	411.12	
	Vic	3198.10	
	ACT	240.00	
	Tas.	284.25	
	2'land	887.90	
	NSW	4372.76	9810.38
Wingred Kiek	S.A.	195.00	
Scholarship Donations	2'land	30.00	
	NSW	145.45	370.45
Fellowship Day offs	S.A.	1655.00	
Wingred Kiek Schot.	WA	584.33	
	Vic	3175.20	
	ACT	260.00	
	Tas.	360.80	
	2'land	1029.75	
	NSW	4123.05	11188.13
Fellowship of the	S.A.	5550.00	
Least Coin	W.A.	2686.46	
	Vic	7815.36	
	ACT	1636.36	
	Tas	1814.57	
	2'land	5975.85	
	NSW	13606.03	39085.13

National Conf Travel	Vic	326.58	
	2'land	<u>200.00</u>	526.58
Overseas Conf Travel	2'land	200.00	
	NSW	<u>150.00</u>	350.00
Circles of Prayer "40"	WA	100.00	
	Tas	<u>10.00</u>	110.00
Fluted Spoons (Acw)	ACT	24.00	
	WA	<u>40.00</u>	64.00
Postage	WA		3.00
Badges	Vic		<u>8.00</u>
			<u>62696.17</u>
			64594.57

PAYMENTS

Air fares Melb/Canberra Return	368.00
Sean Thomson - Stationery	23.45
Nth Woden Uniting Church - Photocopy	77.40
Shirley Harris - Telephone Exps (Winifred Kiek Fellow)	<u>52.00</u>
	520.85
Balance at 16.12.96	<u>\$ 64073.72</u>

CASH SUMMARY 16.12.96

Cheque A/c		64073.72
Term Deposits	2912 5004 4180 5000.00	
	2912 5004 2564 <u>5330.15</u>	10330.15
		<u>\$ 74403.87</u>

SUMMARY OF DESIGNATED FUNDS 16.12.96

Administration	5962.18
National Conference Travel	3774.45
Overseas Conference Travel	2138.40
Winifred Kiek Fellowship	624.60
Winifred Kiek Scholarship Donation	391.95
Fellowship Day Offerings	11339.68
Acwc Bulletin Subs '97	645.00
Fellowship of the Least Coin	39166.23
World Community Day Offerings	4810.38
Acwc Partners	<u>551.00</u>
	<u>\$ 74403.87</u>

*By 2 Days
16.12.96*

Correspondence for ACW National Executive Meeting on 16. 12 96

Inwards

26. 11. 96 1 Vic Unit ACW enc Cheque to Treasurer FWD
27. 11. 96 2. CWLA Newsletter November 96 - tabled
- 2, 12. 96 3 Eileen Holley from Thailand FWD
4. 12. 96 4 Integrity Music Toowoomba re inserts into ACW News.
6. 12. 96 5 Eileen Holley from Tasmania FWD
6... CAPOW! Newsletter Spring 96/97 Tabled
7. Action News December 96 Tabled
9. 12. 96 8 From Senator Jocelyn Newman to National President re Grants to
National Women's Organisations.
12. 12. 96 9 Correction to info re grants.
10 Qld Unit - Minutes mtg of 25. 1. 96 Filed
Christmas card
11. news from Tasmanian unit
Press release from Tas re Joanne Harries
12. SA Unit - Minutes of mtg 22. 11. 96 filed
13. 12. 96 13. Eileen Holley from WA - order for Circle of prayer
14 Eileen Holley from Qld order for Circle of prayer
15 Aust Religious Film Society Information Tabled
16. 12. 96 16. SA Unit reply to questions.
accepting responsibility of National executive 1999 - 2001
List of new Office bearers.
17. NCCA Official Minutes of Second National Forum to Evonne
18 Shalom newsletter Tabled
19 ACT Unit Minutes Filed
20 ACT Unit recommendation of Bimbadeen
21 CWLA Newsletter december 96 tabled
22 To Treasurer NCCA appeal for donation tabled

Outwards

26. 11. 96 Deaconess Frances McKechnie Greetings for meeting
7. 12. 96 Aileen Mortensen Secretary Qld Unit re Fellowship Day
9. 12. 96 Joan Trudgian copy of above letter
- 9.12. 96 Joanne Harries Congratulations on arrival of twins
10. 12. 96 Minutes to all on list, inc State Presidents
12. 12. 96 Carren Mwalo, Kenya
Carnes Achieng, Kenya
Dr Christine Sadia, (ICFLC) Kenya
Pregnancy Help Geelong
13. 12. 96 Shirin Samuel (NB not sent yet)
15. 12. 96 Janet Wood re Preaching at Conference Ecumenical Service.