

Please Note:

All A.C.W. Monies—Affiliation Fees, Fellowship of the Least Coin, Newsette Subscriptions, Offertories for Special Days and Donations to be sent to the **TREASURER:**

Lt. Pat Cory
P O Box 9078
Harris Park NSW 2150
Phone: 0408 440 127

However....

for safety reasons **DO NOT** include the word "Treasurer" when addressing envelopes.

- **ALL CHEQUES** to be made payable to "Australian Church Women NSW Unit Inc." and NOT to any individual person.

FEES from AFFILIATED GROUPS

Denominational Groups: \$25 per annum
A.C.W. Local Branches: \$15 per annum
Organisations: \$15.00 per annum

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS' FEES \$15 per annum
(this includes subscription to Newsette)

For further details contact Jennifer Peffer (9874 4056)

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Changes of Address & Contributions to Newsette should be sent to the Editor:

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**AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN
NSW STATE UNIT INC.**
ACW Website: www.acw.org.au

A C W seeks:

To unite Australian churchwomen in their allegiance to their Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ;
To provide opportunities for Christian women of different denominations to worship, study and serve together.

Mission Statement:

Australian Church Women believe that there is one God—Father, Son and Holy Spirit; one God, Three-in-One. We believe that Scripture teaches that salvation is only through faith in the atoning death and resurrection of Jesus Christ

Number 148

August 2016

PRESIDENT: Mrs Pamela Freeman

Email: freeowp@netspace.net.au

Phone: 02 9873 1707

A Message from the President

Dear friends,

I am happy to be able to send you greetings as the State President of Australian Church Women in NSW. At the installation in May we were privileged to have the Chamber Ensemble and Mercy Chorale from OLMC in Parramatta join with us to present music as well as accompany some of the congregational singing with the brass band. How lovely to share this occasion with these young ladies.

We have been reflecting on the fact that God's love initially draws us to himself. Without God's love we are not able to share love with others. God, as the triune God, works in unity and enables us to live together in harmony and empower one another to bring change within our own lives and the lives of those near us, as well as those who are not personally known to us through our giving of time and resources to fund many projects.

At the time of printing we have been anticipating the fellowship to be shared with each other at the gatherings for Fellowship Day. The Website is available for sharing the details of your services.

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In August, we look forward to the 'Concert of Praise', which is brought by members from various Asian congregations around Sydney. What a wonderful afternoon of praise in music song and dance this is. It is our main fundraising effort to support Asian Church Women's Conference. [ACWC]

In recent times I have been reading these words: "We face today a world torn and divided. So widespread is the distress of nations, so complex the problems which face every thinking Christian, that I think we may be forgiven if our hearts fail us. There is no need to elaborate here the problems and distresses which confront us on every hand. Probably we are only too well aware of them". But for our comfort we may fairly remind ourselves that the world-wide tensions and sufferings only seem to be more overwhelming than they did to our forefathers, because we are much better informed about them through modern means of news transmission than they could ever be. Today, with vastly improved communications of all kinds, we are aware of what is happening in distant places..... As first I read this I thought how it resonates with our present world. But these words were penned by J.B. Phillips and first published in 1952! God's creation continues to groan as we live and work in our world.

Let us remind ourselves that there is no need for our hearts to fail us. One of the most used commands in scripture is, "Do not be afraid" or, "Fear not". How encouraging for us today! The world that we know today may change rapidly. There is no need for fear, as we trust our God who is in control.

Take these words to your heart: Psalm 23 v 4(b) I will fear no evil, for you are with me. And again in Psalm 27 v 1. With him on my side I'm fearless, afraid of no one and nothing. [The Message] And again- Psalm 56 v 3 [The Message] When I get really afraid I come to you in trust. Let us continue to support each other with words reminding us of our great God and his presence with us in all situations.

May you know God's blessing in your hearts as you show the world how Christians can come together to praise and worship. Let us continue to be beacons of his light to the world so that others are encouraged to seek him with all their hearts.

With Christian greetings

Daniela Freeman

President NSW State Unit Inc of ACW 2016-2018



Fellowship of the Least Coin

Don't forget to keep putting aside your least coins and taking them along to your local Community Day Service in October. Refer to our Website for venues.

Every little, no matter how small, can make a big difference in the lives of those in need in so many unsettled places in our world. OR you may prefer to send donations direct to our Treasurer, Lt. Pat Cory. Make sure that you indicate that the funds are for Fellowship of the Least Coin.

Social Issues

ACW members continue to lobby on a wide range of issues, expressing our concerns as Christians about what we observe happening in our local, national and international communities.

We have contacted appropriate authorities on issues such as more appropriate child-care allowances, the ongoing occurrence of female genital mutilation in Australia, and the recent slashing again of foreign aid in our national budget.

Please contact us for information on these issues if you would like to add your voice to ours.

Rae Goth, Convenor

THE PERFECT CHURCH

I think that I shall never see
A church that's all it ought to be;
A church whose members never stray
Beyond the strait and narrow way;
A church that has no empty pews,
Whose pastor never has the blues,
A church whose deacons always deak,
And is proud, and all are meek;
Where gossips never peddle lies,
Or make complaints or criticise;
Where all are always sweet and kind,
And all to other's faults are blind.
Such perfect churches there may be,
But none of them are known to me,
But still, we'll work, and pray and plan,
To make our own the best we can.
Author Unknown

Special Days

As you read this article Fellowship Day for 2016 will have been celebrated. The service prepared by the Victorian Unit of ACW with the theme **Change Starts from Within** and was the first in the new overarching theme of **Women Empowering Change**. I hope you were able to share in a service in your area and that it was a time of rich ecumenical fellowship and ministry of the Word. We look forward to the celebration of World Community Day in October. The material for this service will be mailed out early August to all branches. The theme is **Empowered By The Spirit** and has been prepared by the Western Australian Unit of ACW. This is a specially prepared service to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of **Fellowship of The Least Coin**.

The Special Project that 50% of the general offering will be going to support is **Seeds of Affinity**. Based in Adelaide, Seeds of Affinity, started in 2006 by a group of South Australian women with lived prison experience, works to challenge the stigma faced by women leaving prison, by supporting women and their children during the difficult transition from prison. *Seeds of Affinity* raises the funds for day-to-day expenses by producing a range of natural health and beauty products.

If you are aware of a project that is worthy of consideration for a Special Project grant please contact either the editor of *Newsette* or myself – Lyn Middleton middletonk@bigpond.com and we will forward an application form to you.

The other 50% of the general offering goes of course to support the international scholarship projects of Asian Church Women's Conference (ACWC).

World Community Day is usually held the last Friday in October. For a list of where services are to be held you can go to our website: www.acw.org.au, closer to the date, and click on State Units – NSW – Special Events. If you are organising a service and are able, please send details of your service to brendad2@optusnet.com.au for inclusion on this website.

World Community Day is also the ingathering for Fellowship of the Least Coin offerings. *Major Lyn Middleton*, Convenor



Winifred Kiek Scholarship

With Fellowship Day Services upon us as this issue goes to print, thank you for your continued partnership with the Winifred Kiek Scholars both past and present. The WKS Trustees would also appreciate your prayers for God's continued guidance and wisdom.

News of Scholars.....

Christy Ferguson (Melbourne 2009) is now in SE Asia on a Short Term Mission Trip. On arrival Christy was straight into a creative event with many villages attending. Events ranged from percussion through Development Organisation "good to see the young ones involved."

Christy has done training sessions on TB immunisation and also been involved in bike-riding, tropical storms, a wedding and catching up with old friends. She values continued prayer that she will be used by God for his Glory.

Leinamau (Vanuatu 2007) has been on 3 weeks break at the Fiji Bible College. She has been busy catching up on Hebrew studies "so I remember it all". She sends her love to all and says to report that she is well and happy.....and putting on weight due to more study and less work and play.

OUR 2016 Scholar – MRS ESLINE TOAMAVUTE (Vanuatu). Her studies had not begun but the Trustees were working with her to progress the opportunity that the Scholarship offered. The outcome is that Esline will now be using the Funds, having accepted an invitation, to attend the World Churches of Christ Convention in January 2017 which is to be held in New Delhi, India. This will be a wonderful time for Esline – of Spiritual growth, fellowship and networking and her local Women's Fellowship Ministry involvement will be enhanced under the world gathering of Global Women Connecting.

She values prayer as she prepares for this new experience, also as she has recently taken up the role to be the first female General Secretary of the Churches of Christ Conference, Vanuatu *Judith Kayzer*, Convenor

Pastoral Care

June Kay, Convenor

Being new to the role of Pastoral Care Convenor I feel I still have "training wheels" on.

Some of our Council members attended the Service following the passing of PAT SUTTON and our sympathy has been conveyed to the family. Pat represented the Catholic Women Association as a Council Member and had also been vitally involved in the Sutherland Branch of ACW for many years.

Contact has also been made with those known to have had bereavement, surgery, the stress of moving/relocating or celebrated special events.

Winter brings its challenges so I urge you to remember in prayer those who are experiencing health issues and restrictions of advancing years and decreased mobility.



ANNUAL SERVICE OF DEDICATION
and
INSTALLATION OF STATE PRESIDENT
Held
May 2016 at The Salvation Army, Parramatta

"We love as God first loved us"



Commissioner Jan Condon introduces the incoming President, Pamela Freeman



Retiring President, Tricia Graham presents the President's Bible to the new President, Pamela Freeman

Great message from the new President.....her skill in preparing the whole service was superb... a very talented lady.



Presentation to retiring President by Isabel Hewitt

Food was abundant and delicious.



Dedication of new Executive



State Life Membership given to Major Lyn Middleton and Jennifer Peffer



Nola Dickson led in prayer

Great to have young girls involved in the service—enjoyed the choir and music from the OLMC College



Dedication Day was a happy time spent in fellowship. Especially enjoyed the music and the girls' choir performances.

And

Nothing can beat the sound of a Salvation Army Band to make the music experience even more enjoyable.



Leaflet advertising Concert of Praise and Conference Day
Always a great afternoon.....why not plan to attend?
Put it in your diary, tell your friends and advertise in your Church Bulletin.

Conference Day is held every second year and is a time of fellowship as we learn together. Our President has been planning to make this a special day for us all. All are most welcome.

The venue is accessible by Public Transport.