



Australian Church Women Inc

22nd NATIONAL CONFERENCE

21-25 September 2009

**HOTEL HERITAGE
CANBERRA ACT**

MINUTES

"Faith in the Future"

ACW Inc – 22nd National Conference

2009/1	Confirmation of 2007 Conference Minutes	1
2009/2	Corrections to Working Papers	1
	Address by Corazon Tabing-Reyes, ICFLC	2
2009/3	Appointment of Scrutineers & Reference Committee	2
2009/4	Censure Motion	3
2009/5	Apology from National Executive	3
2009/6	Ratification of Incorporation	3
2009/7	Public Officer	3
2009/8	World Day of Prayer Report	4
	Ecumenical Service	4
2009/9	Winifred Kiek Scholarship Trust Report	5
2009/10	Winifred Kiek Scholarship Trust Treasurer's Report	5
2009/11	National President's Report	13
2009/12	Australian Women's Coalition Report	13
2009/13	National Secretary's Report	13
2009/14	National Treasurer's Report	13
2009/15	Motion 4: Treasurer's Deductions	13
2009/16	Items for Discussion 1 & 2	13
	Young Ambassadors for Peace	14
2009/17	State Unit Reports	14
2009/18	Asian Church Women's Conference Report	15
2009/19	Motion: Federal Govt urged to lift overseas aid	16
2009/20	Motion 2: Amendments to the Rules	17
2009/21	National Website Manager's Report	17
2009/22	Motion: National Executive to reorganise the Website	18
2009/23	Winifred Kiek Scholarship Convenor's Report	18
2009/24	Fellowship of the Least Coin Convenor's Report	18
2009/25	Social Justice Convenor's Report	18
2009/26	National Publication Editor's Report	18
2009/27	Special Days Convenor's Report	19
2009/28	Archivist's Report	19
2009/29	Reports from National Denominational Organisations	19
2009/30	Motion 2: pt 2.7: Rules – Fees and Subscriptions – rescinded	19
	General Eva Burrows AO BA MEd	20
2009/31	Motion: Exploration of suitable Archives	20
	Morning Tea with the Governor-General	21
2009/32	Motion 7: Funding for indigenous Australians	21
2009/33	Motion 8: Safe Surrender laws	22
2009/34	Motion 9: Excessive alcohol content	22
2009/35	Motion 2: pt 2.7: Rules – Fees and Subscriptions	23
2009/36	Motion 3: Withdrawn	23
2009/37	Motion 2: Amendments to Rules pt.3.12 & 15; pt.5.19; pt.12.6	23
2009/38	Motion 5: That Conference follow 2007 Constitution – withdrawn	24
2009/39	Motion 6: National Executive to consider amendments to Rules	24
2009/40	Incoming National Executive nominations ratified	24
2009/41	Appointment of ACWC Delegates	24
2009/42	Nomination for WKS Trustee ratified	25
	Irene's Place	25
	Installation of Incoming National Executive	25
2009/43	Items for Discussion 3 & 4	26
2009/44	Motion re Public Liability Insurance lapsed	27
2009/45	Motion re Public Liability Insurance	27

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN INC

22nd NATIONAL CONFERENCE

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21–25 September 2009

MINUTES

MONDAY 21 SEPTEMBER 2009

CONFERENCE SESSION 1 Chair: Mrs Jean Thomson OAM

1.30pm

WELCOME President Jean welcomed all to the 22nd Biennial National Conference of Australian Church Women (ACW) and in particular Corazon (Cora) Tabing-Reyes, Executive Secretary of the International Committee of the Fellowship of the Least Coin (ICFLC).

Apologies from Brenda Dickinson (ACW Website Manager) and Shirley Birch (SA).

Greetings from: Archbishop Mark Coleridge, Archdiocese Canberra & Goulburn;
Auxiliary Bishop Patrick Power, Archdiocese Canberra & Goulburn;
General Secretary National Council of Churches in Australia;
Rev Colin Bradford, Chairperson, Uniting Church Presbytery of Canberra Region;
CWLA Inc National President, Karyn Kammann;
Central Region CWL;
Evonne Sullivan AM (NLM ACT);
Janet Watts (NLM WA).

2009/1 CONFIRMATION OF 2007 CONFERENCE MINUTES

That the minutes of the last National Conference, held at Geelong, Victoria, in 2007, be confirmed with one amendment, i.e. the addition on page 15 (2007/31) of the following:
"5. be an ex-officio member of the National Executive."

Margaret Florence, QLD, moved, seconded Cela Cooper, ACT. Carried.

2009/2 CORRECTIONS TO WORKING PAPERS 2009

- p. 3 Mrs Barbara Grear's name to be included under "Incoming WKS Trust"
Eileen Holley is Major Eileen Holley;
- p. 4 Major Laurel Pearce is a delegate and
Mrs Marie Majoor an observer;
- p. 5 Nancy McLaren is Major Nancy McLaren;
- p. 6 Patricia May Smeeton OBE OAM (not Smeaton);
Aileen Mortensen (not Mortenson);
- p. 23 Delete last sentence in fourth paragraph ("They are ... lessons.");
- p. 48 Motion 7, last line should read "... within a generation" (not decade);
- p. 49 Motion 8, first line, third paragraph ... Hungary (not Hungry).

Margaret Lawton, N/E, moved, seconded Fran Moss, QLD, that corrections be received. Carried.

HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE

Jean Thomson led a Service of Holy Communion. The celebrants were Rev Lee Edwards, Rev Nita West and Rev Alistair Christie. The order of service was adapted from a service prepared by the Iona community.

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

Jacqueline Hipwell led a Remembrance Service for all those members who have passed into eternal life since the last Conference, remembering their lives and work and especially their work for ACW over the years. As each name was read out a representative from the corresponding State or Territory Unit was invited to come forward and place a lighted candle into a bowl of water. The service concluded with a prayer of thanksgiving to God our Father.

ADDRESS BY CORAZON TABING-REYES, ICFLC

President Jean introduced Cora, the name by which she prefers to be known, and thanked her for coming. Cora began her address with greetings of joy and peace from the International Committee of the Fellowship of the Least Coin (ICFLC), of which she is Executive Secretary. She then gave a brief history of the FLC, which she described as a global ecumenical prayer movement for peace, justice and reconciliation, which was founded by Shanti Solomon in India in 1956 and has now grown into a worldwide prayer movement in 87 countries, the latest country to join being Mongolia. Every woman, no matter her economic position, can participate and each time a woman prays she is encouraged to set aside a "least coin" of her currency to demonstrate solidarity with suffering humanity and women of every nation.

Cora said that some 30 Project Grants have already been funded this year, in countries including Bangladesh, Sierra Leone, Tonga, and Kenya. Also, Emergency Grants supplied medicines for women and children in refugee camps in Sri Lanka and funded relief work in Taiwan after the Morakot typhoon. In addition to Project and Emergency Grants, there are Block Grants, which go to participating regional and global ecumenical organisations, e.g. World Council of Churches Women's Program and World Day of Prayer International Committee. Cora invited all to promote FLC, emphasising that it is a Prayer Movement charged with bringing peace, justice and reconciliation to the world.

Cora's address was acknowledged with acclamation and Jan Abrahamffy proposed a vote of thanks and presented Cora with a gift in appreciation.

CONFERENCE SESSION 2 Chair: Mrs Jean Thomson OAM

7.30pm

2009/3 APPOINTMENT OF SCRUTINEERS AND REFERENCE COMMITTEE

That Denise Secomb, UCAF and Pauline Smit, WDP, be appointed as Scrutineers;

and

that Eunice Reidy, NLM, Edith Ridge, NLM, and Shirley Wells, NLM, be appointed as the Reference Committee.

Constance Aronsen, N/E, moved, seconded Helen Lloyd, N/E. Carried.

ACW INCORPORATION

Jean introduced Mr Nicholas Tebbey, Solicitor from Sneddon, Hall and Gallop, who came to the meeting to answer questions re Incorporation legislation in the ACT.

Much discussion was entered into in relation to the incorporation of ACW and the concerns that certain member groups had in relation to the action taken by the National Executive in March 2009. Nicholas was able to advise the members that different regulations to Incorporation applied in different States. The following Motions were put to the Conference:

2009/4 CENSURE MOTION

That the National Executive 2007–09 be censured for acting as they did with regard to Incorporation without due consultation with State and Territory Units.

Jennifer Pepper, NSW, moved, seconded Cela Cooper, ACT. Carried.

2009/5 APOLOGY FROM NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

That an apology be accepted from the National Executive, that the incorporation of Australian Church Women Inc which occurred in March 2009 was contrary to section 16 of the *Associations Incorporation Act 1991 (ACT)* and clause 8 of the 2007 constitution of Australian Church Women.

That the apology be accepted –

Margaret Flint, Inc Nat Pres, moved, seconded Barbara Mondon, VIC. Carried.

2009/6 RATIFICATION OF INCORPORATION

ACW National Executive proposes that:

- ACW incorporation be ratified for the purposes of section 16 of the *Associations Incorporation Act 1991 (ACT)*; and
- the amendments made to the ACW 2007 constitution to ~~the~~ effect incorporation in March 2009 be ratified for the purposes of clause 9 of the 2007 Constitution; and
- all actions taken by the National Executive following March 2009, purported to have been taken under the ACW Inc 2009 Rules, be ratified as valid.

Jennifer Pepper, NSW, moved, seconded Lyn Middleton, SA(E) –

“That Australian Church Women meeting in National Conference in Canberra in September 2009 ratify the Incorporation of Australian Church Women nationally.”

Aileen Eldridge, SA, proposed, seconded Elaine Johnson, VIC, that the vote be conducted by secret ballot. This was agreed and the motion above was carried.

2009/07 PUBLIC OFFICER

That Helen Raymond, a resident of the ACT, be endorsed as Public Officer for ACW Inc.

Jennifer Pepper, NSW, moved, seconded Jacqueline Hipwell, CWLA Inc. Carried.

Nicholas Tebbey reminded members of Conference that, following the ratification of Incorporation, the creation of a Member Register should be seen to by the Incoming National Executive, and he wished everyone well.

Jean thanked Nicholas Tebbey for his attendance at the meeting.

EVENING DEVOTIONS South Australian Unit led the devotions following the theme *Faith in the Future*, with hymns and prayers asking that we never give up our faith in God, and never let go of the faith that God has placed in our hearts.

TUESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2009**CONFERENCE SESSION 3 Chair: Mrs Jean Thomson OAM**
9.00am

NEWS Jan Abrahamffy shared 'news of the day', anecdotes and notices. Greetings were received from Mrs Rathie Selvaratnam, a past President of ACWC.

HONOURING AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN Pages with profiles honouring 12 women were distributed to each Unit, together with longer bolts to accommodate the additional insertions in the covers. Cela Cooper ACT was thanked for preparing these.

MORNING DEVOTIONS Queensland Unit led devotions with the theme "*Faith Brings Blessings*", beginning with psalm 126 from *Psalms Now* by Brandt and a reading from Matthew 5:3-12. May the blessing of strength, gentleness, wonder, compassion, patience, peace, joy, love and friendship be on us and may the blessing of community arise from within us, radiate around us and remain.

2009/08 WORLD DAY OF PRAYER AUSTRALIA REPORT p. 45

National Liaison Officer of WDPA, Pauline Smit, presented the report. Pauline drew attention to the upcoming Quadrennial National Meeting which will be held from 13-15 November at the Holy Cross Centre at Templestowe in Melbourne. Pauline's term as National Liaison Officer will terminate at that meeting and Mrs Barbara Arnold from Adelaide will be elected to replace her. In the meantime if anyone has any concerns or comments they wish Pauline to take to the meeting, she will be happy to do so.

10.30am

ECUMENICAL SERVICE with the theme "*Faith in the Future*" was held at St Benedict's Church, Narrabundah, with the homily given by Rev Professor James Haire, AM, Executive Director of the Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture. Guests included Rev Father Ben Roberts, Parish Priest of St Benedict's, Monsignor John Woods, Rev Joy Bartholomew from St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, and Rev Gregor Henderson representing NCCA. The Service commenced with a procession of banners and President Jean gave a *Welcome to Country* and extended greetings to all in attendance. Pam Wright accompanied the singing on the piano. Readings were taken from Mark 1:21-28, Roman 12:1-5 and Psalm 46:1-7. Professor Haire said most eloquently and with conviction "that Jesus Christ is the Saviour of the world, and therefore that, individually, and communally, we must seek to live his way." He went on to say that "We are called to a life of praise, the praise of God, which embraces all of our personal and social life, in all its practical, ethical, religious, political and intellectual aspects. It is a praise which stands counter-culture, over against the idolatrous self-worship of individuals and even nations in our time. In our time especially we are called to stand against that self-worship, and to stand for the true praise of God, the praise of all our life, in public and in private. This is the heart of the Christian faith. God in Christ has created us to share in this new humanity. God has given us a new identity, a new harmony with God's very self, and thus a new human community one with another." Professor Haire left us with two challenging questions we should ask ourselves each night – "Am I at peace with God?" and, "What this day have I done to advance the peace, the harmony of this region, of the world?" He closed by asking God to richly bless each one of us. His address was truly inspiring.

CONFERENCE SESSION 4 Chair: Mrs Jean Thomson OAM

1.30pm

2009/9 WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP TRUST REPORT FOR 2008–2009 p. 21

Maureen Clark, on behalf of Trustees Jean Roberts OAM, Christine Barber, Cynthia Gifford and Lois Denholm, presented the Winifred Kiek Scholarship (WKS) Trust Report for 2008–2009.

Maureen was pleased to announce that the WK Scholars for 2010 will be Ruth Marsipal from Papua New Guinea and Tonu Fakraufon from Fiji. Both would undertake studies at the Alan Walker College of Evangelism next year. Maureen also said how delighted the WKS Trust was to be able to fund Cora's attendance at this Conference and even more delighted that she was able to accept the invitation to attend.

Maureen Clark, WKS Trust, moved, seconded Constance Aronsen, N/E, that the report be received. Carried.

2009/ 10 WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP TRUST TREASURER'S REPORT 1.7.07 – 30.6.09

Christine Barber, Treasurer, presented the following report:

Attached are the Financial Statements for the Trust for the years ended 30 June 2008 and 30 June 2009. The balances cover all funds for the Scholarship and Fellowship accounts and the Honouring Church Women account.

Investments continued to be placed in Term Deposits with guaranteed interest rates. For the year to June 2008 interest rates rose to over 8%, and encouraged longer investment periods which gave us a working sum of \$19,411.03 for Scholarship and \$917.11 for books and material from the HCW account. These funds are being used for the 2009 Scholars. The Fellowship account stood at \$17,548.98.

As you will be aware over the past two years there has been fluctuating earnings due to the "global financial crisis". Regretfully with the continued downturn in the economic market over 08/09 earning rates fell back to 4% but are now starting to rise. Although with the term deposit investments, there is no capital growth, we have not lost any capital, and you will see from the Financial statements that the Total Funds now accumulated stand at:-

Winifred Kiek Scholarship: \$345,030.71 (including the Fellowship account of \$19,228.89 and \$20,583 for the 2010 Scholarships), and
Honouring Church Women: \$17, 206.76

Scholarships were paid in 2008 for Leinamu Manrogoana (balance of 2007) and Imelda Aquino totalling \$12,546.

In 2009 we have paid \$18,848 for Inise Foiakau and Christine Ferguson with a balance of \$2,245 in the current year 09/10. This leaves an estimated shortfall of \$1,600 which will be paid from the excess in 2008.

I again record my thanks to my fellow Trustees for their assistance and support in considering recommendations. Also I wish to acknowledge the assistance of our Auditor Mr Adrian Nicholls, and recommend a gift be made in appreciation of his service for the past term.

Christine Barber
Treasurer 7/09/09

Christine Barber then moved the following Motions:

Motion 1: That the balance of the 2007 Scholars account and 2008 (after transfer of the 2009 shortfall) be transferred to WKS Fellowship A/c.

Moved Christine Barber, seconded Constance Aronsen, N/E . Carried.

Motion 2: That the balance of the 2007 and 2008 Honouring Church Women funds be transferred to WKS Scholarship A/c with the intent of accumulating additional scholarship funds.

Moved Christine Barber, seconded Fran Moss, QLD. Carried.

Motion 3: Recommend that a gift of \$200 be made to the Auditor for this past term and that \$135 be reimbursed for the 2006–07 gift.

Moved Christine Barber, seconded Anne Parnis, SA. Carried.

Motion 4: That Mr Adrian Nicholls be appointed Auditor for the ensuing 2 years.

Moved Christine Barber, seconded Helen Raymond, ACT. Carried.

Constance Aronsen moved a vote of thanks to Christine for looking after the Finances so carefully for the last two years.

Carried with acclamation.

**AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN
FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP ACCOUNTS 1/7/07 TO 30/06/08**

	Balance	Capital	2007 Scholar	2008 Scholar	2009 Scholar	Fellow Ship	Admin.
BALANCE B/F 1/7/07	\$315,760.83	273,129.18	7,138.94	16,281.42		18,891.19	320.10
RECEIPTS							
Interest	21,114.56			(2.56)	19,411.03	1,706.09	
Nat. ACW	11,081.15	11,081.15					
Transfers - Lifeplan to Bank SA	8,000.00		1,769.61	5,230.39		1,000.00	
CBFC Deb.	63,698.87	63,016.87				682.00	
Redeemed							
Esanda New T/D	77,563.77	74,098.02		2,783.75		682.00	
TOTAL REVENUE	\$497,219.18	421,325.22	8,908.55	24,293.00	19,411.03	22,961.28	320.10
PAYMENTS							
Esanda T/D	77,563.77	74,098.02		2,783.75		682.00	
Scholarship Leianamu	6,200.00		6,200.00				30.00
- I. Aquino	6,346.00			6,316.00		3,048.30	30.00
Fellowship Shu-Wen	3,078.30						29.59
Petty Cash	29.59						
Transfers - Lifeplan	8,000.00		1,769.61	5,230.39		1,000.00	
CBFC- Redeemed	63,698.87	63,016.87				682.00	
TOTAL PAYMENTS	164,916.53	137,114.89	7,969.61	14,330.14	9,962.86	5,412.30	89.59
BALANCE AT 30/06/08	\$332,302.65	284,210.33	938.94	9,962.86	19,411.03	17,548.98	230.51
BANK A/C & INVESTMENTS	BALANCES	CAPITAL	2007 SCHOL.	2008 SCHOL.	2009 SCHOL.	FELLOW-SHIP	ADMIN.
Bank SA	1,472.66		588.76	5,149.21	4,104.13	(8,581.95)	212.51
Esanda	173,889.67	163,430.58		2,783.75	6,669.57	1,005.77	
Aust. Executor Trustee	837.33	135.06	57.41	31.04	13.68	600.14	
CBFC	Nil						
Community CPS	4.75						4.75
Lifeplan	156,078.24	120,642.69	292.77	1,998.86	8,623.65	23,122.84	
Aust. Central Credit Union.	2.00	2.00					18.00
Cash on Hand	18.00						
TOTAL at 30/06/08	\$332,302.65	284,210.33	938.94	9,962.86	19,411.03	17,548.98	230.51

WinKiekmst300608

**WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP TRUST
FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE HONOURING CHURCH WOMEN A/C FOR PERIOD 1/7/07 - 30/06/08**

	BALANCES	CAPITAL	2007 SCHOL.	2008 SCHOL.	2009 SCHOL.
BALANCE B/F 1/7/07	\$14,433.62	12,519.63	637.58	1,276.41	
RECEIPTS					
Interest	917.11			(0.01)	917.12
Nat. ACW	1,097.80	1,097.80			
Transfers - CBFC Redeemed	1,301.13	1,301.13			
Esanda Nil	2,436.23	2,436.23			
TOTAL REVENUE	\$20,185.89	17,354.79	637.58	1,276.40	917.12
PAYMENTS					
Scholarship Aquino	500.00			500.00	
Esanda Nil	2,436.23	2,436.23			
Transfers - CBFC Redeemed	1,301.13	1,301.13			
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	4,237.36	3,737.36		500.00	
BALANCE as at 30/06/08	\$15,948.53	13,617.43	637.58	776.40	917.12

SUMMARY OF INVESTMENTS, CAPITAL AND INTEREST AS AT 30/06/08

BANK A/C & INVESTMENTS	BALANCES	CAPITAL	2007 SCHOL.	2008 SCHOL.	2009 SCHOL.
Bank SA	993.44		549.44	294.92	149.08
Esanda	5,440.73	5,268.73			172.00
	616.40	504.42	24.56	51.90	35.52
Australian Executor Trustee Community CPS	96.10	95.67	0.14	0.14	0.15
Lifeplan	8,801.86	7441.70	63.44	429.44	560.37
TOTAL FUNDS 30/06/08	\$15,948.53	13,617.43	637.58	776.40	917.12

WinKiekfinst300608

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP TRUST AND FELLOWSHIP ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD 1/7/08 - 30/6/09									
	Balance	Capital	2007 Scholar	2008 Scholar	2009 Scholar	2010 Scholar	Fellow Ship	Admin.	
BALANCE B/F 1/7/08	\$332,302.65	284,210.33	938.94	9,962.86	19,411.03		17,548.98	230.51	
RECEIPTS									
Interest	22,262.92					20,583.01	1,679.91		
Receipt credits as per listing	386,232.90	339,986.88	1,174.30	12,715.57	925.93	559.00	30,871.22		
Transfers	195,610.02	178,349.84		1,998.86	3,869.71		11,391.61		
National ACW - 2008 conts	9,441.00	9,441.00							
TOTAL REVENUE	\$945,849.49	811,988.05	2,113.24	24,677.29	24,206.67	21,142.01	61,481.72	230.51	
PAYMENTS									
Debits as per listing	386,232.90	339,986.88	1,174.30	12,715.57	925.93	559.00	30,871.22		
Transfers	195,610.02	178,349.84		1,998.86	3,869.71		11,391.61		
Scholarship - I. Foiakau	5,248.00								
Scholarship - C. Ferguson	13,640.00								
Petty Cash	87.86								87.86
TOTAL PAYMENTS	600,818.78	518,336.72	1,174.30	14,714.43	23,683.64	559.00	42,262.83	87.86	
BALANCE AT 30/06/09	\$345,030.71	293,651.33	938.94	9,962.86	523.03	20,583.01	19,228.89	142.65	
WKS SUMMARY OF INVESTMENTS, CAPITAL AND INTEREST AS AT 30/6/09									
BALANCES	CAPITAL	2007	SCHOL.	2008	SCHOL.	2009	SCHOL.	2010	Fellowship Admin.
BANK A/C & INVESTMENTS	7,219.72	15,000.00				(5,170.52)	5,129.84	(7,865.25)	125.65
Bank SA - A/c	96,967.57	87,174.92				421.07	9,371.58		
Bank SA Term Deposit	94,946.40	89,332.56				5,309.89	303.95		
Esanda	984.85	135.06				13.68	121.79		
Australian Executor Trustee	119,188.47	93,039.02	881.53	9,931.82	925.93	3,968.75	10,442.42		(1.00)
Community CPS	14,013.35	8,967.77				419.58	4,626.00		
Lifeplan - Term Deposits	11,690.35					4,753.94	5,212.09		
Lifeplan - Bonus Cash A/c	2.00	2.00							
Aust. Central Credit Union -Share	18.00								18.00
TOTAL FUNDS 30/06/09	\$345,030.71	293,651.33	938.94	9,962.86	523.03	20,583.01	19,228.89	142.65	

WinKiekfnst30/06/092ndsbal

**AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP TRUST
FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE HONOURING CHURCH WOMEN A/C FOR PERIOD 1/7/08 – 30/06/09**

	BALANCES	CAPITAL	2007 SCHOL.	2008 SCHOL.	2009 SCHOL.	2010 SCHOLAR
BALANCE B/F 1/7/08	\$15,948.53	13,617.43	637.58	776.40	917.12	1,048.23
RECEIPTS						
Interest	1,048.23					1,048.23
Credits as per listing	15,267.10	13,929.86	612.88	724.36		
Transfers	7,889.98	7,397.10	63.44	429.44		
Nat. A.C.W. Conts.	210.00	210.00				
TOTAL REVENUE	\$40,363.84	35,154.39	1,313.90	1,930.20	917.12	1,048.23
PAYMENTS						
Debits as per listing	15,267.10	13,929.86	612.88	724.36		
Transfers	7,889.98	7,397.10	63.44	429.44		
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	\$23,157.08	21,326.96	676.32	1,153.80		
BALANCE AS AT 30/06/09	17,206.76	13,827.43	637.58	776.40	917.12	1,048.23

**HONOURING CHURCH WOMEN
SUMMARY OF INVESTMENTS, CAPITAL AND INTEREST AS AT 30/06/09**

	BALANCES	CAPITAL	2007 SCHOL.	2008 SCHOL.	2009 SCHOL.	2010 Scholar
A/C & INVESTMENTS						
Bank SA A/c	743.22	210.00				212.14
Bank SA Term Deposit	5,022.69	4,998.55				24.14
Esanda	2,960.61	2,832.50				128.11
Australian Executor Trustee Community CPS	642.82	504.42	24.56	51.90	35.52	26.42
- Share	4,913.49	3,360.05	613.02	724.50	0.15	215.77
	2.00	2.00				
Lifeplan – Term Deposit	1,688.47	1,613.00				75.47
Lifeplan – Bonus Cash A/c	1,233.46	306.91				366.18
TOTAL FUNDS 30/06/09	\$17,206.76	13,827.43	637.58	776.40	917.12	1,048.23

WinKiekfnst30/06/092ndsbal

WKS RECEIPTS	Balance	Capital	2007 Scholar	2008 Scholar	2009 Scholar	2010 Scholar	Fellow Ship	Admin.
CPS	8,662.76		588.76	7,148.07	925.93		9,377.08	
CPS	19,169.85	9,500.00	292.77				1,426.53	
CPS	62,601.45	61,174.92		2,783.75		559.00	682.00	
CPS	87,563.77	83,539.02					9,326.53	
Bank SA T/D	96,501.45	87,174.92		2,783.75			682.00	
Esandia	77,563.77	74,098.02	292.77				9,377.08	
Bank A/c (LJP)	34,169.85	24,500.00	1,174.30	12,715.57	925.93	559.00	30,871.22	
CREDIT TRANSFERS								
AET	15,000.00	15,000.00						
Bank SA - LJP	6,507.12			1,998.86	3,869.71		638.55	
Bank SA LJP	62,601.45	61,174.92					1,426.53	
Bank SA LJP	33,900.00	26,000.00					7,900.00	
Bank SA CPS	62,601.45	61,174.92					1,426.53	
Bank SA AET	15,000.00	15,000.00						
TOTAL	\$195,610.02	178,349.84		1,998.86	3,869.71		11,391.61	
PAYMENTS								
Esandia Red.	77,563.77	74,098.02		2,783.75			682.00	
Lifeplan	34,169.85	24,500.00	292.77				9,377.08	
Lifeplan	62,601.45	61,174.92					1,426.53	
Lifeplan	33,900.00	26,000.00					7,900.00	
CPS	62,601.45	61,174.92					1,426.53	
Bank SA A/c CPS	8,662.76		588.76	7,148.07	925.93		9,377.08	
Bank SA A/c CPS	19,169.85	9,500.00	292.77				682.00	
Bank SA A/c CPS	87,563.77	83,539.02		2,783.75		550.00		
TOTAL	\$386,232.90	339,986.88	1,174.30	12,715.57	925.93	559.00	30,871.22	
DEBIT TRANSFERS								
AET	15,000.00	15,000.00						
Bank SA - CPS	62,601.45	61,174.92					1,426.53	
Bank SA - Term Dep.	96,501.45	87,174.92					9,326.53	
Lifeplan	6,507.12			1,998.86	3,869.71		638.55	
Bank SA - AET	15,000.00	15,000.00						
TOTAL	\$195,610.02	178,349.84		1,998.86	3,869.71		11,391.61	

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Honouring Church Women A/c		Balance	Capital	2007 Scholar	2008 Scholar	2009 Scholar	2010 Scholar
RECEIPTS							
CPS	\$1,337.24			612.88	724.36		
CPS	830.15		830.15				
CPS	2,398.55		2,398.55				
CPS	2,436.23		2,436.23				
Bank SA Term Dep.	4,998.55		4,998.55				
Bank A/c - Lifeplan	830.15		830.15				
Esanda	2,436.23		2,436.23				
TOTAL	\$15,267.10		13,929.86	612.88	724.36		
CREDIT TRANSFERS							
Bank A/c - Lifeplan	492.88			63.44	429.44		
Bank A/c - Lifeplan	2,398.55		2,398.55				
Bank A/c - Lifeplan	2,600.00		2,600.00				
BANK NK A/C CPS	2,398.55		2,398.55				
TOTAL	7,889.98		7,397.10	63.44	429.44		
PAYMENTS							
Esanda	2,436.23		2,436.23				
Lifeplan	830.15		830.15				
Lifeplan	2,398.55		2,398.55				
Lifeplan	2,600.00		2,600.00				
CPS	2,398.55		2,398.55				
Bank SA A/c - CPS	1,337.24			612.88	724.36		
Bank SA A/c - CPS	830.15		830.15				
Bank SA C/- CPS	2,436.23		2,436.23				
TOTAL	15,267.10		13,929.86	612.88	724.36		
DEBIT TRANSFERS							
AET	2,398.55		2,398.55				
Bank SA - CPS	4,998.55		4,998.55				
Lifeplan	492.88			63.44	429.44		
TOTAL	\$7,889.98		7,397.10	63.44	429.44		

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2009/11 NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S REPORT p. 10

Jean Thomson OAM presented her report for 2007–09, paying tribute to a “truly extraordinary team of women” who had been members of the National Executive and a wonderful support. It had been a team effort over the past two years and Jean thanked those who had prayed for her during her term of office as these prayers had “upheld me through the period”.

2009/12 AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S COALITION REPORT p. 26

Jean also reported on her role over the past two years as a delegate to Australian Women's Coalition (AWC). During that time she endeavoured to bring a Christian viewpoint, compatible with the aims of ACW, to the discussions and decisions made by AWC.

Jean Thomson, Nat Pres, moved, seconded Barbara Mondon, VIC, that the reports be received. Carried.

2009/13 NATIONAL SECRETARY'S REPORT p. 11

Margaret Lawton presented her report for 2007–09, reiterating the first sentence of her report that “The last two years have been a time of much learning for me, and I have gained an appreciation of the wider picture of the ACW movement around Australia, and its relationship with ACWC and the world-wide organisation of the FLC movement”. Margaret wished the incoming National Executive well for their term of office.

Margaret Lawton, N/E moved, seconded Elaine Johnson, VIC, that her report be received. Carried.

2009/14 NATIONAL TREASURER'S REPORT p. 12

Helen Lloyd presented her report, beginning with the financial statement from the 2007 Conference (p. 13). Income and expenditure for year ending 30 June 2008 had been audited on 3 October 2008 (p. 15), and income and expenditure for year ending 30 June 2009 had been audited on 8 August 2009 (p. 17). Helen advised that the donation from ACWC for Victorian Bushfire Support, amounting to \$760.57, had since been passed to the VIC Unit.

Helen Lloyd, N/E, moved, seconded Margaret Florence, QLD, that the report be received. Carried.

Barbara Grear, SA, followed this with a vote of thanks to Helen for providing clear, concise statements. The gathering showed appreciation by acclamation.

2009/15 MOTION 4 p. 46

National Executive moves that: (*See Guidelines, Page 9 National Treasurer item 12*)

National Treasurer may deduct ... an amount not exceeding 10% ... for Administration costs for the next 2 years, i.e. 2009–2011.

Helen Lloyd, N/E, moved, seconded Helen Raymond, ACT. Carried.

2009/16 ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION p. 50

NSW Unit asks

ITEM 1. Whether Orders of Service for Special Days can be varied to suit the needs, age and culture of the community where they are being used.

Isabel Hewitt, NSW, and Lyn Middleton, SA(E) advised that while it was not necessary to be ‘slaves’ to the texts provided for Special Day Services, it was important to remain faithful to the order of service. There can be flexibility in the style of worship, but by and large texts should be followed. Changes can be made when it came to suitable hymns.

ITEM 2. Whether an ideas page should be submitted with each Order of Service for Special Days prepared, giving suggestions for alternative worship styles to which the service may lend itself.

Shirley Brooks, TAS, Donna Bryan, ACWC, Judith Brown, INE, Nancy McLaren, SA(E), Marie Majoor, WA, Jennifer Peffer, NSW, Helen Raymond, ACT, Pauline Smit, WDP, and Pat Walker, INE, all offered suggestions and generally felt an 'ideas page' would be useful. Alternative venues, such as a coffee shop meeting, a formal dinner, or an art and craft show interspersed with 'worship', were some of the ideas explored. Other considerations such as larger print order of services for those in nursing homes, *PowerPoint* presentations and the issue of copyright were canvassed. With regard to copyright it was noted that most, if not all, Churches, regardless of denomination, have a Copyright Licence Number and if reproducing hymns for a printed order of service, the number should be quoted.

3.30pm

YOUNG AMBASSADORS FOR PEACE – REV RON and MRS MARGARET REESON

Jean welcomed Rev Ron and Mrs Margaret Reeson to speak about "Young Ambassadors For Peace", otherwise known as YAP. Both expressed pleasure at being given the opportunity to address the Conference and began with quotes from Matthew 5:9 and James 3:18 – those who work for peace. YAP, an outreach of the Uniting Church, was founded in 2001 by Joy Balazo, a former nun, who grew up in the Philippines and moved to Australia to further her human rights work. YAP is a global network of young leaders representing the religious, racial, and ethnic diversity of the human family. Sharing the ethical principles of the world's spiritual traditions, they are committed to promoting reconciliation, overcoming barriers, encouraging equitable distribution of resources, and building peace through nonviolent engagement. The movement seeks to help young people who want to find peaceful solutions to conflict; to facilitate meeting of young people from opposite sides of conflict; to develop a culture of peace based on justice; to identify sources of conflict and to build trust between enemy communities. Since its inception in 2001 YAP has assisted many communities in need of conflict resolution to build a culture of peace.

Jean thanked Ron and Margaret for giving their time to present information about YAP.

CONFERENCE SESSION 5 Chair: Mrs Jean Thomson OAM

7.30pm

2009/17 STATE UNIT REPORTS

WA Unit p. 35 Laurel Pearce presented the WA Unit report, together with good wishes from all members of the Unit.

VIC Unit p. 34 Pat Burchell presented the VIC Unit report, noting that new President, formerly Barbara Lacy OAM, had married Alex Mondon last July.

TAS Unit p. 33 Juanita Miller presented the TAS Unit report, bringing greetings and good wishes from all members.

SA Unit p. 31 Anne Parnis presented the SA Unit report and brought greetings from Jean Roberts, Coralie Wright and Shirley Birch. The Unit would offer prayers for the incoming Executive.

QLD Unit p. 30 Fran Moss presented the QLD Unit report and advised that the recent highlight for members was Cora's visit and attendance at a special morning tea in her honour.

NSW Unit p. 29 Isabel Hewitt presented the NSW Unit report and was pleased to have met with WKS Inise Fojakau, saying it was encouraging to have that personal contact.

ACT Unit p. 28 Judith-Ann Sjostedt presented the ACT Unit report and brought greetings from NLMs Ruth Burmester OAM and Evonne Sullivan AM.

NT Unit Kaye Viney, who is based in Alice Springs, brought greetings from Northern Territory. Jean asked that it be noted here that an application for a grant to bring more members from the Northern Territory had unfortunately been unsuccessful.

Kaye Viney, NT, moved, seconded Barbara Mondon, VIC, that reports be received. Carried.

2009/18 ASIAN CHURCH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE (ACWC) REPORT p. 25

Donna Bryan, ACWC representative, presented her report. Since writing the report, Donna had been asked, at very short notice, to be the ACWC representative together with Christian Conference of Asia (CCA) as an evaluation team to look at the Church Women's Mission in East Timor. The CCA had previously asked the ACWC to work with it to develop the Church Women's Mission in East Timor (Sister Dominica's WEAVE program), but because of the chaos in East Timor in 2005 an evaluation at that time had been cancelled. However the issue of East Timor had been raised again when the CCA had a Round Table Meeting in July 2009. Donna advised that it had been a great privilege to have been invited to be part of a re-evaluation team and visited East Timor last month. She said that nothing had prepared her for the utter devastation of the region, with infrastructure in an awful state and rubbish everywhere. There is extreme poverty, but the people were lovely and very hospitable and the economy is growing fast. Donna requested prayers for all those who are trying so very hard to improve the quality of life in East Timor and the good news is that it has been relatively peaceful over the past 18 months and the crime rate is very low.

At present ACWC is seeking an Executive Secretary, with very high standards. Applications close in November and interviews are expected to be conducted in February next year. Meanwhile preparations are well under way for the 14th Quadrennial General Assembly to be held in Indonesia from 7-12 October 2010, with the theme *Asian Women Moving Forward: Non Violent World – New Earth – Life in its Fullness*.

Donna Bryan, ACWC, moved, seconded Judith-Ann Sjostedt, N/E, that report be received. Carried.

Jean congratulated Donna on her work and her report.

2009/19 MOTION Edith Ridge, NLM, spoke from the floor about the Millennium Goals and asked that a motion be put to the Conference.

“That the National Executive of ACW write to the Australian Government applauding its pledge to increase aid spending to 0.5% of gross national income by 2015, but requesting that consideration be given to raising the percentage to 0.7% by 2015, to bring it up to the recommended goal of the UN”.

RATIONALE: The Millennium Development Goals have received wide publicity and some attention by women’s organisations in Australia. While they have sometimes ‘studied’ these goals, I know of no positive action resulting from such ‘studies’ or discussion. Carolyn Hardy, Chief Executive of UNICEF in Australia, writing in the *Sydney Morning Herald* on 9 September 2009, focussed on the *Millennium Goal to Combat Poverty*, to which she linked the goal of reducing maternal deaths. She wrote that some half a million women die in childbirth each year around the world, almost entirely in poor nations. If we are going to achieve the Millennium Goal to halve poverty by 2015, we must include the goal of cutting the maternal mortality ratio by three quarters. While the Australian Government has boosted aid significantly in pledging to raise aid spending to 0.5% of gross national income by 2015, that target is still short of the UN goal of 0.7%. Therefore, I propose that ACW meeting in National Conference should write to the Australian Government, drawing attention to this situation and our commitment to the Millennium Goals, with the accompanying recommendation.

Anne Parnis, SA moved, seconded Kaye Viney, NT. Carried.

EVENING DEVOTIONS NSW Unit led the devotions adopting the Conference theme *Faith in the Future*, with readings from Matthew 4:10; Mark 6:36; Psalm 33; 2 Cor 9:8; Rev 4:1; Joshua 1:5; Ephesians 2:5; Ecclesiastes 3:1-8. A time for everything under heaven, with faith in the future.

WEDNESDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2009**CONFERENCE SESSION 6 Chair: Mrs Jean Thomson OAM**
9.00am

NEWS Jan Abrahamffy shared 'news of the day', anecdotes and notices.

Due to the inclement weather, instead of having the official photograph in the grounds of the Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture at Barton, the photograph would be taken on the staircase at the Hotel Heritage. Also, instead of visiting *Floriade* there would be an excursion to the National Museum.

NOMINATIONS for Asian Church Women's Conference (ACWC) – Jean asked that a committee comprising one representative from each State and Territory Unit be formed to consider the nominations for ACWC delegates and report back on their decision before the end of the Conference.

MORNING DEVOTIONS were led by the VIC Unit, based on Luke 8:4-15, the parable of the sower—"Sowing the Seeds". A rug was spread on the floor and each participant took a turn at scattering seeds ... the seed representing the word of God and having potential, power and persistence.

BIBLE STUDY 1 Rev Vicky Cullen led the first of three *Bible Studies* and chose Luke's Gospel to ask "Who is Jesus?" and "What does he mean to us as women?" in particular. This first study began with the prologue and the announcement of the birth of Jesus in Lk 1:1-4, Lk 1:5—2:52, through to the preparation for the Ministry of Jesus in Luke 3:1—4:13.

2009/20 MOTION 2 AMENDMENT TO THE RULES p. 46

ACW National Executive proposes that the following amendments to "The Rules" be made:

Part 1. 1. Definitions. That in the second line of Ordinary Committee Member it should read 12(2)(a);

and the following be added, to include the word 'Inc':

IC Objects (5) Website: the National Executive of Australian Church Women Inc shall be responsible for the operation of the Website.

Helen Raymond, ACT, moved, seconded Barbara Mondon, VIC. Carried.

2009/21 NATIONAL WEBSITE MANAGER'S REPORT p. 27

Angela Devlin presented this report on behalf of Brenda Dickinson. Although there had been difficulties in recent months regarding lack of communication with the creators and administrators of the ACW website, the site had been updated and the word 'Incorporated' or 'Inc' had been added to the web page and to the logo. Just days before the Conference the website administrators advised that due to a change in family circumstances it was unsustainable for them to continue to maintain the ACW site. They made a recommendation regarding a replacement website administrator and the National Executive also made some inquiries regarding a replacement and, in particular, costs that would occur in relation to a change. However, it was decided that the decision would be the responsibility of the incoming National Executive and to this end a motion would be put from the floor to address this matter.

Angela Devlin, N/E, moved, Kaye Viney, NT, seconded that the report be received. Carried.

2009/22 MOTION Moved from the floor by Angela Devlin, N/E, seconded Constance Aronsen, N/E - "That the incoming National Executive of Australian Church Women Inc take responsibility to reorganise the website, with help from those with expertise in these matters".

Elaine Johnson, VIC, moved, seconded Margaret Florence, QLD. Carried.

2009/23 WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP REPORT p. 20

Constance Aronsen presented her report for 2007–09, having found the experience of being Convenor of the Winifred Kiek Scholarship over the past two years a most rewarding and enlightening time. Constance had diligently kept in touch with scholars past and present and was heartened to hear how their lives had been changed as a result of their scholarships – so much work for God. She wished the incoming Convenor well and hoped that "through faith in God ... she will receive guidance in her new role".

Constance Aronsen, N/E moved, seconded Leeola Loughnan, WA, that the report be received. Carried.

2009/24 FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN p. 18

Jan Abrahamffy presented her report for 2007–09 and began by thanking all those Convenors who sent in reports from their respective Units. She quoted from one recent report – "At the present time of financial crises across the world, powerful contrasts can be drawn between the mighty dollar and the least coin. The latter continues to support much needed projects in every region as well as all manner of ecumenical contacts – support built out of prayer and concern of nameless people, a world family."

Jan Abrahamffy asked that her report be received.

2009/25 SOCIAL JUSTICE REPORT p. 23

Judith-Ann Sjostedt presented her report for 2007–09 having had both the pleasure and honour to serve ACW on the National Executive over the past two years. During that time there have been a number of significant events, which have widespread implications for social justice throughout the world. All Units have been concerned about human trafficking, with particular emphasis on women and children, and all are urged to offer prayers and give support wherever possible. Judith-Ann advised that as Christian women we must continue to speak out against all forms of injustice. As our Lord said "Whatever you do for the least of my people you do for me."

Judith-Ann asked that her report be received.

2009/26 NATIONAL PUBLICATION EDITOR'S REPORT p. 22

Eileen Holley presented her report for 2007–09 and said what a pleasure it had been for her to serve as Publication Editor. As expected producing a Newsletter had its challenges, but Eileen successfully produced a Newsletter each quarter over the past two years. She expressed thanks and appreciation to all those who had contributed articles and regular reports and especially thanked the staff at The Salvation Army Divisional Headquarters (ACT) who assisted with photocopying and postage preparation and had showed considerable patience in the process.

Eileen asked that her report be received.

2009/27 SPECIAL DAYS REPORT p. 19

Fran Moss presented her report for 2007–09 and expressed her thanks and appreciation to all the Units and their Special Day Convenors. It had been both a privilege and a pleasure and Fran was grateful to God for the experience. She continues to pray that ACW will continue to serve God by reaching out to many through the Services that are produced each year and for giving so many the opportunity to hear about FLC, WKS and World Community Day Projects.

Fran asked that her report be received.

Fran Moss, QLD, moved, seconded Elaine Johnson, VIC, that these four reports be received. Carried.

2009/28 ARCHIVIST REPORT p. 24

Edith Ridge was pleased to report “that nothing untoward has happened to the Archives in the last two years!” Everything seems to be in its place and there are no moths or silverfish having a free meal. However, the time had now come to consider longer term storage arrangements and Edith had already spoken to the former Archivist of the Uniting Church, who is interested in helping ACW and has offered space at the Eunice Hunter Library and Research Centre. She asked that we trust her with the task over the next two years.

Edith Ridge moved, seconded Donna Byran, ACWC, that the report be received. Carried.

As a result of this report the Reference Committee would examine a motion on how best to store the archives.

2009/29 REPORTS FROM DENOMINATIONS p. 36-43

Reports from denominations, Catholic Women’s League Australia Inc, Mothers’ Union Australia, Presbyterian Women’s Association of Australia, The Salvation Army Eastern Division, The Salvation Army Southern Division, Uniting Church Adult Fellowship, were taken as read.

Barbara Gear reported that the Churches of Christ Women’s Ministries had not received an invitation to submit a report or send a delegate to Conference.

Wanda McKeand, INE, moved, seconded Elaine Johnson, VIC, that the reports be received. Carried.

President Jean thanked the National Denominational Representatives for their presence at the Conference and congratulated them on the sterling work that each and every one of their respective organisations do to achieve a sincere *Faith in the Future*.

2009/30 MOTION 2 p. 46

National Executive moved that the following addition be made to the 2009 Rules:

Part 2. 7 Fee – Subscriptions

- (1) That each State and Territory Unit annually contributes to the National Conference Fund, National Travel Fund and Overseas Conference and Travel Fund and
- (2) All interest received on money held by the National Executive be transferred to Administration.

Motion rescinded by Helen Raymond, ACT, seconded Constance Aronsen N/E, and referred to the Reference Committee for reconsideration of wording.

CONFERENCE SESSION 7 Chair: Mrs Jean Thomson OAM
7.30pm

GENERAL EVA BURROWS AO BA MEd “Miracles on Bourke Street”

Jean expressed great pleasure in welcoming General Eva Burrows to address the Conference. General Burrows was born in Newcastle in NSW, the daughter of Salvation Army parents. She committed her life to God for service as a Salvation Army officer while studying at Queensland University and after completing a Bachelor of Arts degree she entered the William Booth Memorial Training College in London and became a commissioned Salvation Army officer in 1951. The General is warm and witty and passionate about people of all ages and from all backgrounds. Her life has been an extraordinary journey of faith, living and working in at least 50 countries over the years and even in retirement her energy and commitment to helping and communicating with those less fortunate has not abated. She is only the second Australian to be elected as General and is known to many as “the people’s General” – a title she did not seek, but one which she cherishes. At present she is serving with the Salvation Army Mission *Melbourne 614*, located in Bourke Street, Melbourne, hence the title of her address. General Burrows explained that *614* comes from Isaiah 61:4 “*They will rebuild the ancient ruins and restore the places long devastated; they will renew the ruined cities that have been devastated by generations*” and she spoke about the work there, the core values of human dignity, justice, hope, compassion and commitment to serving those living on the fringes of society and reaching out to many each day, from the very young to the very old. She gave various personal examples of those who have reached out and have been helped and how God works miracles every day and in the strangest of circumstances. Young people, in particular, are passionate about social justice and when asked “Do you want to be like Jesus Christ?” the answer is always a resounding “Yes”. General Burrows has been honoured in many ways and in many countries over the past fifty years and has received a number of honorary degrees. We, however, felt most honoured to have her spend time with us at our National Conference and were all enriched by the experience.

A vote of thanks was moved by Marie McCann, NSW, and the gathering showed appreciation by acclamation.

REFERENCE COMMITTEE – Regarding preservation of Archives from Session 6 – in order to ensure the preservation and secure a future home for the Archives.

2009/31 MOTION ARCHIVES

That the 22nd ACW National Conference requests the incoming National Executive to make a detailed exploration of the matter of storing archives, in an appropriate form, so that a decision can be made at the next National Conference of ACW Inc in 2011, or sooner, in consultation with the Archivist and State and Territory Units.

Judith-Ann Sjostedt, N/E, moved, seconded Elaine Johnson, VIC. Carried.

EVENING DEVOTIONS Tasmanian Unit led devotions, with a reflection on *Our Faithful God*, hymns 537 and 451 from the *Australian Hymn Book* and a reading from Hebrews 11:1-6 – faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we cannot see.

THURSDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 2009

CONFERENCE SESSION 8 Chair: Mrs Jean Thomson OAM
8.45am

NEWS Jan Abrahamffy shared 'news of the day', anecdotes and notices.

MORNING DEVOTIONS ACT Unit led the devotions with a prayer welcoming the new day as a gift from God, his gift to us, a new creation, a promise of resurrection and a thankyou for refreshing sleep. The hymns were songs of thanks and praise, followed by a reading from James 2:14-18.

BIBLE STUDY 2 Rev Vicky Cullen led the second session of *Bible Studies*, covering parts of Luke's sections 4 and 5 focussing on Jesus' Ministry in Galilee (4–9) and his journey to Jerusalem (10–19). Several special Lukan themes were explored.

11.00am

MORNING TEA WITH THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Spring blossoms were bursting with life as we were bussed from the Hotel Heritage to the Governor-General's residence in Yarralumla, by the shores of Lake Burley Griffin. The Governor-General, Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC, warmly welcomed participants of the National Conference to Government House, and said how delighted she was to host a morning tea for Australian Church Women. As Her Majesty's representative in the Commonwealth, she said her role is both complex and demanding. As the first woman to take up the office of Governor-General in Australia, she has become a role model and mentor to many women from all walks of life and supports women's roles within the family, the workplace and society in general. We, therefore, felt privileged and honoured that she should take the time, not only to share her beautiful residence and magnificent gardens with us, but also to give words of encouragement and support. Everyone enjoyed a luscious morning tea together. The visit was certainly a highlight of the 22nd National Conference.

CONFERENCE SESSION 9 Chair: Mrs Jean Thomson OAM
1.30pm

2009/32 MOTION 7 p. 48

SA Unit moves:

(A) That Australian Church Women meeting in Conference in Canberra requests the National Executive of ACW to approach the Minister for Indigenous Affairs for a detailed plan of how the Government intends to close the gap on Indigenous disadvantage within a generation.

(B) To ensure that funding is guaranteed for the stated targets, i.e.:

- to halve the literacy, numeracy and employment gaps within a decade
- to halve the gap in infant mortality within a decade
- to close the approximate 17 year gap in overall life expectancy within a generation.

RATIONALE:

- It is a sad fact that the life expectancy of Indigenous Australians is around 17 years lower than that of the Australian population.
- In 2006 the unemployment rate for Indigenous people was 16% compared with only 5% for the non Indigenous population.
- In 2004-2005, 27% of Indigenous people were living in overcrowded conditions.
- Indigenous people are more likely to experience homelessness than other Australians.
- Indigenous people are more likely to experience domestic violence than non-Indigenous people.
- Finally Indigenous people have also suffered from limited recognition and protection of their cultures, languages and rights and ownership of land and resources.

Regarding health alone, although in November 2008 the Council of Australian Governments committed \$1.6 billion in new health funding – the largest increase ever for Indigenous health – the statistics are compelling: around twice as many Indigenous infants died before their first birthday compared with non-Indigenous infants

Cardiovascular disease is around 2.5 times higher for Indigenous Australians, respiratory disease is almost four times higher and pneumonia three times higher. (*NACCHO CEO Mr Mick Adams in Oxfam media release March 09.*)

Moved Anne Parnis, SA, seconded Aileen Eldridge, SA. Carried.

2009/33 MOTION 8 p. 49

That Australian Church Women meeting in Conference in Canberra write to both the Federal and State Attorneys-General requesting them to consider adopting “safe surrender” legislation ensuring the protection of newborns.

RATIONALE: Ten infants are abandoned in Australia each year. The figures could be much higher as the numbers reflect only the babies that are discovered and reported in the media.

Safe surrender laws operate in Germany, Italy, Japan, Hungary, Austria and the US where a mother can leave her baby at a hospital or other safe place without legal penalty. Child abandonment is a deeply saddening response to what must be a very traumatic event for a mother who feels she is left with no other option but to relinquish her infant.

Presently in Australia abandoning a child is a criminal offence and therefore, a mother or a father who abandons a child can face criminal prosecution. As long as the mother is treated like a criminal we will continue to see many more babies left at rubbish tips, public toilet blocks etc to perish from exposure to the elements.

Last September, Senator Helen Polley proposed that Safe Haven laws be introduced in Australia to offer a mother/father a safe means of relinquishing a baby under tightly controlled guidelines.

Judith-Ann Sjostedt, N/E, moved, seconded Kaye Viney, NT. Carried.

2009/34 MOTION 9 p. 49

Members of National Executive of ACW meeting in Conference respectfully bring to the attention of the Minister for Health and Ageing, Nicola Roxon, our concern regarding the excessive alcoholic content of drinks such as *Bacardi Cruise, Lemon Ruski, Pineapple and Coconut Rum, and Vodka Raspberry*. They have the appearance of a harmless soft drink but, in reality, these drinks contain between 5–7% alcohol.

RATIONALE: Young girls are being particularly targeted by the liquor industry in its presentation of these drinks. The bottles appear to contain soft drink and the colouring suggests that they are soft drinks. The contents taste like soft drink. Most young women would be oblivious to the strong alcoholic content of these supposedly harmless drinks presented to them as an alternative to stronger alcoholic beverages. It has been established that females have a much lower tolerance to alcohol than males.

Alcohol is a very addictive drug. In the past few years calls to the Family Drug Support hotline by concerned parents worried about alcoholism have increased by 11%. Fifteen per cent of the 25,000 calls to the hotline last year were alcohol related with the overwhelming majority concerned about their teenagers binge drinking.

Consuming only two of these “lolly drinks” by young women could cause drunkenness, changes in consciousness, mood and emotions. These intoxicating and psychoactive effects lead to many accidents, injuries, diseases and disruptions to family life.

With one amendment, i.e. that Nicola Roxon’s name be removed.

Judith-Ann Sjostedt, N/E, moved, seconded Leeola Loughnan, WA, with this amendment. Carried.

2009/35 MOTION 2 p. 46

Part 2. 7 Fee - Subscriptions (Referred from 2009/27)

Amended by the Reference Committee that Part 2.7, headed Fee – Subscriptions, etc., Section (1) and (2) be deleted and replaced with the following:

Part 2. 7 Fees – Subscriptions

- (1) The members of Australian Church Women Inc in each State and Territory shall contribute to the National Conference Fund, National Travel Fund and Overseas Conference and Travel Fund.
- (2) All interest received on money held by the National Executive will be transferred to Administration.

Reference committee – Eunice Reidy, NLM, moved, seconded Shirley Brooks, NLM. Carried.

2009/36 MOTION 3 p. 46

Following Motion 2 being carried, this Motion was withdrawn.

2009/37 MOTION 2 p. 46

National Executive moves that corrections be made to the 2009 Rules as follows:

Part 3. 12 National Conference

(2) **Membership (a) (i)** to read paragraph 13(2)

(2) **Membership (b) (ii) & (vi)** *Sate* should read *State*.

15 Funds – Source amendment

The funds of the Association be derived from annual donations, and, subject to any resolution passed by the National Conference ... (delete *subscription of members*)

Part 5. Miscellaneous

19 (2) In first line. *forward* should read *forwarded*

Part 12 6 (a) line 1 *Sate* should read *State*

Helen Raymond, ACT, moved, seconded Barbara Mondon, VIC. Carried.

2009/38 MOTION 5 p. 47

That all Business Sessions at Australian Church Women 22nd National Conference 21-25 September 2009 be conducted according to "Australian Church Women Constitution 2007."

As the reported recent incorporation of Australian Church Women by 2007-9 National Executive was not done in accordance with this clause any business at the forthcoming 22nd National Conference should be conducted under the Australian Church Women Constitution 2007 in order to be valid.

Following the ratification of Incorporation (2009/5 Motion 1) Anne Parnis, SA, moved, seconded Aileen Eldridge, SA, that MOTION 5 be withdrawn. Carried.

2009/39 MOTION 6 p. 47

That Australian Church Women meeting at its 2009 National Conference authorises 2009-11 National Executive to review and consider Australian Church Women's National Constitution, and propose any appropriate amendments to the next National Conference, or to a Special/ Extraordinary Meeting after due consultation with State and Territory Units.

The following amendments to the wording were agreed on and the motion read as follows:

"That Australian Church Women Inc meeting at its 2009 National Conference authorises 2009-11 National Executive to review and consider the Australian Church Women Inc National Rules, and propose any appropriate amendments to the next Annual Meeting or the next National Conference, after due consultation with State and Territory Units."

Aileen Eldridge, SA, moved, seconded Anne Parnis, SA. Carried.

2009/40 p. 51**AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN INC, INCOMING NATIONAL EXECUTIVE**

Margaret Lawton requested that those people whose profiles are outlined on page 51 of the 'Working Papers', be ratified as forming the 2009-20011 National Executive.

Margaret Lawton, N/E, moved, seconded Judith-Ann Sjostedt, N/E. Carried.

2009/41 p. 60-61**NOMINATIONS FOR DELEGATES TO ASIAN CHURCH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE (ACWC)**

Nominations for Delegates to the next Asian Church Women's Conference (ACWC) had been considered and the Committee, comprising one representative from each State and Territory Unit, recommended that:

Laurel Pearce, WA, and Fran Moss, QLD, be appointed as delegates to 2010 ACWC meeting.

Elaine Johnson, VIC, moved, seconded Constance Aronsen, N/E. Carried.

2009/42 – WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP TRUSTEE NOMINATION p. 59

Margaret Lawton requested that the nomination of Barbara Gear as a WKS Trustee be ratified.

Maureen Clark, WKS Trust, moved, Aileen Eldridge, SA, seconded. Carried.

IRENE'S PLACE – A HOUSE OF DISCIPLESHIP, SERVICE AND PEACE

Jean welcomed Rev Moriah Hurst, the Community Coordinator for young adults in the House. Moriah works with youth and young adults at Canberra Baptist Church and has recently completed studies in theology and youth ministry. The name "Irene" comes from the Greek word for "peace" and Irene's Place is a space for peace in ordinary lives. The House is located in Forrest, on part of the property of the Wesley Uniting Church, and houses up to five young Christian between the ages of 18–25, a mix of internationals and Australians.

Moriah introduced the latest arrivals at the House, who were all from the USA and, in this instance, all female. The young women had just recently arrived and have committed themselves to give 6 to 12 months to living in this community. With other young adults they will explore discipleship, practise faith together through prayer, and look at alternatives to violence in all forms. They hope to learn more about the complexities of peace, living simply without the pressure of a job or having to attend classes in service and discipleship.

Moriah was warmly thanked for giving her time to explain the mission of *Irene's Place* and all wished her well in her Mission. All showed appreciation by acclamation.

6.30pm

CONFERENCE DINNER

The Conference Dinner was held to celebrate the 22nd National Conference, with special table decorations, made by Eileen Holley and holding 'grace' prayer cards and entertainment by *Lady's Mantle*, a joyous group of a *cappella* singers led by Maia Harrison.

INSTALLATION AND DEDICATION OF INCOMING NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

Outgoing National President, Jean Thomson, led this service with the words from the Conference song "*We have Faith in the Future*". The Incoming National Executive was introduced and affirmed their commitment to faithfully serve and carry out the tasks to which they had been called – "trusting in God for his guidance and strength and relying on his grace". All members of ACW present affirmed their commitment to prayerfully support the National Executive, and Badges of Office were presented.

New National President, Margaret Flint, thanked the outgoing National Executive and members present for their prayers and support and announced their theme for the next two years – *Turning Darkness into Light*.

EVENING DEVOTIONS

Incoming National Executive led the devotions with the theme *Turning Darkness into Light* – The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has never put it out – John 1:1-5. Each Unit was given a candle embossed with the theme and each candle was lit from the candle held by the National Executive.

FRIDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 2009

CONFERENCE SESSION 10 Chair: Mrs Jean Thomson OAM
9.00am

NEWS Jan Abrahamffy shared 'news of the day', anecdotes and notices.

MORNING DEVOTIONS Western Australian Unit led devotions, based on meditations from the Benedictine Monastery at New Norcia, which included Psalm 8, a morning prayer taken from 'Proclaim Praise' and an affirmation of faith committing ourselves to show what we believe by the way we take care of God's creation and live together in community.

BIBLE STUDY 3 Rev Vicky Cullen led the last of three sessions of *Bible Studies* with the completion of Jesus' ministry in Jerusalem, his passion, death and resurrection and finishing with the beautiful revelation on the road to Emmaus. Some of the best loved stories told by Luke are told nowhere else, and Jesus, Man of God, Man of Prayer, was revealed in the Gospel according to Luke.

2009/43 ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION p. 50 (A continuation of Conference Session 4 2009/16)

NSW Unit asks

ITEM 3. That consideration be given to the venues, costs and types of accommodation for future National Conferences. What are the expectations of those likely to attend?

Lively discussion followed. Although Members attending this Conference felt they had received "value for money", it was considered that some ACW members were precluded from attending because of the cost. Comments were made about the length of the Conference, whether a weekend would be cheaper than during the week, whether 'optional' extras could be added at the end of the Conference, the need for three hot meals a day, asking if billeting should be on offer and exploration of other 'types' of accommodation. As the venue for the 23rd National Conference is, as yet, undecided, the Incoming National Executive may consider sending out a questionnaire before making any firm decision on when, where and costs.

ITEM 4. Concerning Public Liability Insurance for Australian Church Women Inc. Can there be cover on a national basis with States contributing?

Jennifer Pepper, NSW, addressed the issue of Public Liability and suggested that as State and Territory regulations differ with regard to this type of insurance it would be less expensive to take out a National policy so that every member of ACW throughout Australia would be covered. Jennifer Pepper proposed a motion, as follows:

2009/44 MOTION

“That Australian Church Women Inc National Executive be authorised to investigate and implement immediately after consultation with State and Territory Units the obtaining of a Public Liability Insurance policy to the value of \$20 million to cover members Australia wide. The cost of the premium would be shared pro rata between states and territories.”

Helen Raymond, ACT, moved, seconded Aileen Eldridge, SA. Not supported, and an amendment was proposed to omit the last sentence.

2009/45 MOTION

“That Australian Church Women Inc National Executive be authorised to investigate and implement immediately after consultation with State and Territory Units the obtaining of a Public Liability Insurance policy to the value of \$20 million to cover members Australia wide.”

Jennifer Pepper, NSW, moved, seconded Cela Cooper, ACT. Carried.

CLOSING SERVICE

This was led by members of the outgoing National Executive and included portions taken from some of the Devotions presented by Units during Conference, and the singing of the Conference Song *Faith in the Future*.

Jean Thomson expressed thanks to Judith-Ann Sjostedt for composing the Conference Song and also to Captain Judith Brown for playing the keyboard so beautifully over the past week.

Incoming National President, Margaret Flint, made a statement reiterating the theme *Turning Darkness into Light* and urging all to move outside their comfort zones, cross boundaries, take risks, all for the good of Australian Church Women Inc nationwide.

PARTICIPANTS

Guests

Ms Corazon Tabing-Reyes	ICFLC, c/- Union Theological Seminary DASMARINAS, CAVITE, 4114, The Philippines
General Eva Burrows	Salvation Army, Bourke Street, Melbourne VIC
Rev Vicky Cullen	142 Drake Brockman Drive, Holt ACT 2615
Rev Moriah Hurst	Irene's Place, PO Box 4055, Kingston ACT 2604
Rev Ron & Mrs Margaret Reeson	20 Dooland Circt, Nicholls ACT 2913

National Life Members

Mrs Olive Ackland	PO Box 497, Craigieburn VIC 3064	
Mrs Shirley Brooks	20 Riseley Street, Kings Meadows TAS 7249	Delegate TAS
Mrs Juanita Miller	8 Floreat Crescent, Trevallyn, Launceston TAS 7250	Delegate TAS
Mrs Eunice Reidy	50 Hewish Road, Croydon VIC 3136	
Mrs Edith Ridge	54 New Line Road, West Pennant Hills NSW 2125	
Miss Shirley Wells	125/3 Homelands Avenue, Carlingford NSW 2118	
Mrs Dorothy Wright	16 b Cadell Street, Seaview Downs SA 5049	Observer SA

Retiring National Executive

President	Mrs Jean Thomson OAM, 36 Musgrave Street, Yarralumla ACT 2600	Delegate
Vice President	Mrs Jacqueline Hipwell, 56 Sturt Avenue, Narrabundah ACT 2604	Delegate CWLA
Vice President	Mrs Helen Raymond, 91 Jansz Crescent, Griffith ACT 2603	Delegate ACT
Secretary	Mrs Margaret Lawton, 10 Pope Street, Hughes ACT 2605	Delegate
Treasurer	Mrs Helen Lloyd, 7 Mokoan Place, Duffy ACT 2611	Delegate
Minute Secretary	Mrs Angela Devlin, 10 Crafer Place, Kambah ACT 2902	Observer
WKS Convenor	Mrs Constance Aronsen, 137 Gouger Street, Torrens ACT 2607	Delegate
FLC Convenor	Mrs Janet Abrahamffy, 13 Altair Place, Giralang ACT 2617	Observer
Social Justice Conv	Mrs Judith-Ann Sjöstedt, 3 Dethridge Street, Higgins ACT 2615	Delegate
Special Days Conv	Mrs Fran Moss, 4/7A Copernicus Street, Wynnum West QLD 4178	Delegate QLD
Publication Editor	Major Eileen Holley, 6 Bottlebrush Place, Jerrabomberra NSW 2619	Observer

Asian Church Women's Conference Australian Representative

Captain Donna Bryan	1/38 Aberdeen Road, Blackburn South VIC, 3130	Delegate
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National Website Manager

Mrs Brenda Dickinson	3/53 Kurrajong Street, Sutherland NSW 2232	Apology
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Incoming National Executive

President	Ms Margaret Flint OAM, 56 Fisher Street, Norwood SA 5067	Delegate
Vice President	Mrs Dorothy Ferrier, 5B Windsor Road, Glenside SA 5065	Apology
Vice President	Major Wanda McKeand, 2/4 Martin Street, Glynde SA 5070	Delegate
Secretary	Mrs Judy Burge, 4 Hale Avenue, Hawthorn SA 5062	Delegate
Treasurer	Miss Christine Barber, 26 Whitney Street, Cheltenham SA 5014	Delegate
Minute Secretary	Mrs Pat Walker, U 6/31 Royal Avenue, Pooraka SA 5095	Delegate
WKS Convenor	Mrs Maureen Clark, 572 States Road, Onkaparinga Hills SA 5163	
FLC Convenor	Mrs Margaret Greenslade, 18 Acorn Parade, Oakden SA 5086	Apology
Social Justice Conv	Mrs Kath Smith, 18 Walton Avenue, Clearview SA 5085	Observer
Special Days Conv	Captain Judith Brown, 2/103 Galway Ave, Broadview SA 5083	Observer
Publication Editor	Team	

Winifred Kiek Scholarship Trust Representative

Mrs Maureen Clark 572 States Road, Onkaparinga Hills SA 5163 Delegate

Incoming Winifred Kiek Trustee

Mrs Barbara Grear 6 Koonunga Avenue, Rostrevor SA 5073

STATE UNITS**Australian Capital Territory**

Mrs Cela Cooper 13/7 Bindel Street, Aranda ACT 2614 Delegate
 Mrs Betty Farrell 48/27 Cockcroft Avenue, Monash ACT 2904 Observer
 Dr Vimala Isaac Unit 97, 13-15 Sturt Ave, Griffith ACT 2603 Observer
 Mrs Helen Raymond 91 Jansz Crescent, Griffith ACT 2603 Delegate
 Mrs Olga Scott 11 Wootten Street, West Wyalong NSW 2671

New South Wales

DSS Heather Badgery 5 Amaroo Ave, Strathfield NSW 2135
 Mrs Nola Dickson 1/14 Forest Grove (PO Box 213), Epping NSW 2121 Observer
 Mrs Pamela Freeman 52 Woodbury Street, North Rocks NSW 2151
 Mrs Jan Harrison 2/8 Morwick St, Strathfield NSW 2135
 Mrs Isabel Hewitt 35 Veda Street, Hamilton NSW 2303 Delegate
 Major Lillian Hodges 56 b Edgbaston Street, Beverly Hills NSW 2209
 Major Beatrice Kay 4/76-78 Brighton Ave, Croydon Park NSW 2133
 Mrs Carmel Keys 1/64 Francis Street, Manly NSW 2095
 Mrs Marie McCann OAM 10/51 Upper Pitt St, Kirribilli NSW 2061
 Major Nancy McLaren 6/13A Thames Street, Balmain NSW 2041 Observer SA(E)
 Major Lyn Middleton 3/14-16 Tuff Avenue, Sans Souci Nsw 2219 Delegate SA(E)
 Mrs Jennifer Peffer "Homecroft", 3 Meadowbank Lane, West Ryde NSW 2114 Delegate
 Mrs Helen Richardson 33 Lynwood Ave, Dee Why NSW 2099 Observer

Northern Territory

Major Kaye Viney 17 Terry Ct, Alice Springs NT 0870 Delegate

Queensland

Mrs Beverley Currie 126 Craig Road, Koumala QLD 4738
 Mrs Margaret Florence 55 Jagora Drive, Albany Creek QLD 4035 Delegate
 Mrs Fran Moss 4/7A Copernicus Street, Wynnum West QLD 4178 Delegate

South Australia

Mrs Aileen Eldridge 6 Kennett Street, Para Hills SA 5096 Delegate
 Mrs Anne Parnis 8 Cowper Street, Glenelg SA 5045 Delegate
 Rev Nita West 5/589 Greenhill Road, Burnside SA 5066 Observer

Victoria

Mrs Lola Adam 27 Bryon Street, Box Hill South VIC 3128
 Mrs Iris Bray 234/220 Middleborough Road, Blackburn South VIC 3130 Observer SA(S)
 Mrs Una Birtchnell 10 Lyrebird Court, Boronia VIC 3155
 Mrs Pat Burchell Unit 1, 23 Avondale Grove, Mt Waverley VIC 3149 Observer
 Mrs Lorraine Davis 586 Lacys Road, Ross Creek VIC 3351
 Major Elaine Johnson 26/300 Elgar Road, Box Hill South VIC 3128 Delegate
 Mrs Anne Kennedy 29 Abercromby Road, Blackburn South VIC 3130 Observer
 Mrs Barbara Mondon OAM 1/39 Garfield Street, Cheltenham VIC 3192 Delegate
 Miss Lyn Morison 9 Kinkora Road, Blackburn VIC 3130

Western Australia

Rev Lee Edwards	9/115 Epsom Ave, Redcliffe WA 6104	
Mrs Margaret Ker	92 Vincent St, Mt Lawley WA 6050	Observer
Mrs Leeola Loughnan	4 Heatherton Mews, Hillarys WA 6025	Delegate
Mrs Marie Majoor	22/27 Pearson Drive, Success WA 6164	Observer
Major Laurel Pearce	Unit 4, 242 Lawrence Street, Bedford WA 6052	Delegate

Tasmania

Mrs Shirley Brooks	20 Riseley Street, Kings Meadows TAS 7249	Delegate
Mrs Juanita Miller	8 Floreat Crescent, Trevallyn, Launceston TAS 7250	Delegate

NATIONAL DENOMINATIONAL ORGANISATIONS:-**Catholic Women's League Australia Inc**

Mrs Jacqueline Hipwell	56 Sturt Avenue, Narrabundah ACT 2604	Delegate
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Mothers' Union Australia

Mrs Anne Downing	34 Sherbrooke Street, Ainslie ACT 2602	Delegate
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The Salvation Army Eastern Territory Division

Major Lyn Middleton	3/14-16 Tuffy Avenue, Sans Souci NSW 2219	Delegate
Major Nancy McLaren	6/13a Thames Street, Balmain NSW 2041	Observer

The Salvation Army Southern Territory Division

Mrs Iris Bray	234/220 Middleborough Road, Blackburn South VIC 3130	Observer
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Uniting Church Adult Fellowship

Rev Alistair Christie	89 Fremantle Drive, Stirling ACT 2611	Delegate
Mrs Denise Secomb	30 Isabella Close, Elmore Vale NSW 2287	Observer

World Day of Prayer

Mrs Pauline Smit	2 Sharne Circuit, East Doncaster VIC, 3109	Observer
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Day Visitors

Mrs Joan Egan	66/8 Birtley Place, Elizabeth Bay NSW 2011
Mrs Marie Gallagher	67 Banfield Street, Downer ACT 2602
Mrs Janet Graham	85 Stuart Street, Narrabundah ACT 2604
Mrs Dorothy McMaster	1/13 Steffanonie Crescent, Monash ACT 2904
Miss Valda McCabe	15 Lumeah Street, Narrabundah ACT 2604
Mrs Catherine O'Sullivan	36 Cartwright Street, Charnwood ACT 2615
Mrs Evonne Sullivan AM	35 MacGillivray Street, Yarralumla ACT 2600
Mrs Doreen Thomson	19/61-63 Hercules Street, Chatswood NSW 2067