

The Secretary's Annual Report 1988-1989

The Bicentennial Year will be long remembered by our members, because it was also the time of celebration of the golden jubilee of our Unit, which was formerly the Women's Inter Church Council.

Our first event was the Annual Service of Dedication and The Installation of our President, Mrs Marjory Baker, held at the Chatswood Churches of Christ. The day was spiritually rich; fellowship and hospitality were appreciated. Carrying on the idea of fellowship Marjory held our first meeting in June at the Botanic Gardens; it was enjoyed and worked well.

In July and October our Special Days were held at various centres in the city, suburbs and country - the themes being "Our Heritage" and "Sharing Our Harvest". The latter Order of Service was written by the NSW Unit.

Our speakers for the August and September meetings were Mrs Noeline Rose, who was a Missionary to Aborigines, and Mrs Peg Cameron, President of the Christian Television Association.

On November 18th, fifty years to the day and place of our first meeting, we celebrated our golden jubilee at our Bicentennial Service held at St Stephen's Uniting Church Macquarie Street. A congregation estimated at between eight to nine hundred, in the presence of Lady Rowland, participated in the service and luncheon. Mrs Margaret Knauerhase ~~was~~ the daughter of Unifed Keik, the first ordained woman in Australia, was the guest speaker. She inspired and challenged us to continue and grow in ecumenical service.

At our February meeting Miss Diana Catt spoke to us on work as a Christian teacher in PNG and in March Mrs Victoria Fotofili spoke on migrants' problems in Australia.

Our Conveners have kept busy with increasing FHC, a scholar to see to, extra publicity and the usual Special Days orders, ~~para~~ packaging etc.. It all takes much time and effort.

Newslette, our quarterly magazine has been particularly interesting due to our Editor Mrs Mina Whybourne and circulation has increased under Mrs Dorothy Woodhouse's care. This work is much appreciated.

Deaconess Mary Andrews has run a Trading Table and Mrs Marie Majoor has sold spoons & badges. Both help our necessary funds. Our meetings are made more cheerful by morning tea being supplied and served by the denominations in turn.

Our treasurer Mrs Dorothy Lumb has had an extraordinarily busy year, due to the extra demands of the Golden Jubilee celebration. Her expertise and service are much appreciated.

Mrs Mary Baker, our president, has been busy representing us and often being speaker at various functions. She is very dedicated to her work and has set a very friendly and caring atmosphere for us at our meetings.

I thank Our Lord for the opportunity to share in His work together with the responsible and capable women of Our NSW Unit.

Marie McCann

Honorary Secretary