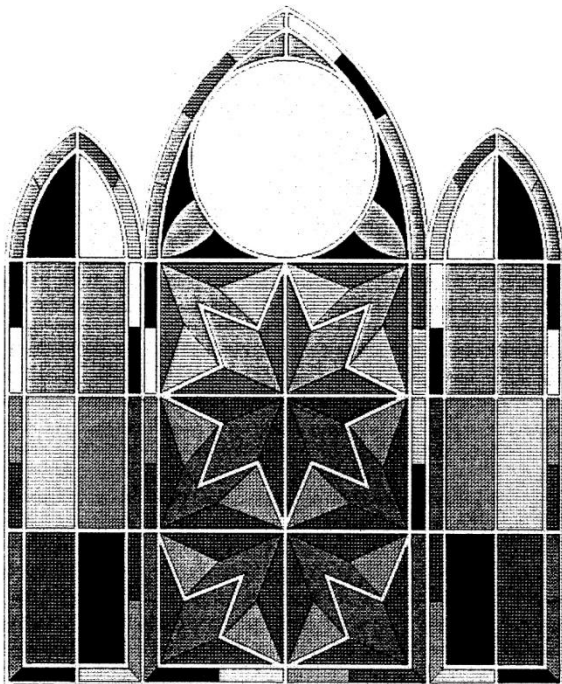


AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NSW UNIT 2000/2001 - OFFICE BEARERS & CONVENERS (Cont'd.)

PUBLICITY	Mrs Peg Blake 22 Parkview St MIRANDA	Tel: 9524 9397 2228
FUNCTIONS	Mrs Helen Richardson 33 Lynwood Ave DEE WHY	Tel: 9971 0278 2099
SOCIAL ISSUES CONVENER	Miss Heather Reid 33 Melville Ave STRATHFIELD	Tel: 9746 5656 2135
CHURCHES OF CHRIST REPRESENTATIVE	Miss Elsie Cox 9/282 Dunmore Street PENDLE HILL	Tel: 9688 2329 2145



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NO: 37

MAY 2000

**AUSTRALIAN

CHURCH

WOMEN**

**ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
NSW UNIT**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 1999/2000

It gives me very great pleasure to present the President's report for the year which has seen the turn of a century. It has been a momentous year for Australian Church Women NSW Unit and we give thanks to God for blessing and guiding us through the year.

In April last year we first met Mrs. Padma Ebenezer from Sri Lanka, a member of the Executive of the Asian Church Women's Conference. We were inspired by her story of life in Sri Lanka. Little did we know at the time that owing to a terrible accident for her daughter Niroosha, many of us would become personally involved with Padma and her family for the rest of the year. I would like to thank all members of ACW who have helped in any way to care for Padma. We ask Padma to convey our greetings to ACWC Executive and to the Christian community when she returns home.

In May we held our Annual Service of Dedication at Strathfield and were delighted that Mrs. Aileen Mortensen, our National President, was our guest speaker. At our Ecumenical Luncheon in July we celebrated the International Year of the Older Person and were blessed with Mrs. Marjorie Deasey as our speaker, Mrs. Edna Mayne our elocutionist and Ms Lesley Newton our soloist. It was my great pleasure also on that occasion to confer Life Membership on Mrs. Edith Ridge for long and faithful service to ACW in many capacities. Our immediate past National President, Mrs. Evonne Sullivan, current President of the ACT Unit, honoured us with her presence on that occasion. In September we once again contributed to the St. Mary's Cathedral Flower Festival. At the end of the month, twelve members of NSW Unit assembled in Brisbane for a very significant ACW National Conference with the theme 'Faith Works'. I believe we were able to make a worthwhile contribution, enjoy the fellowship, and strengthen our national ACW network.

In October our annual ACWC service took the form of a Pleasant Sunday Afternoon at Campsie. Many different nationalities took part and this attractive new format was well received.

In July, Fellowship Day services were held in 27 centres around the State, and again in October, World Community Day services were held in 32 centres. I know I am repeating myself when I say I believe that arranging these local services is one of the most important things we do. I believe it is worth repeating that our Special Days which support Fellowship of the Least Coin and Winifred Kiek Scholarship are the backbone of ACW's ecumenical activities. I offer my sincere thanks to all those who assist with these arrangements locally, at State Council, and nationally.

Several interesting issues have engaged us throughout the year. Mindful that 2000 is the Year of Jubilee we resolved to learn a little more about the inter-religious dialogue in which some of our denominations are involved. We had a very helpful talk about this from Sr. Tricia Madigan of the Catholic Ecumenical Commission. Our interest in the International Year of the Older Person, prompted by our Social Issues Convener, has brought us lots of interesting information about the Year and enabled us to contribute to the specially formed Coalition 99. Several members now find themselves with a continuing role making a contribution to government committees on aged care, health, and transport.

Throughout 1999 we maintained our interest in the Ozindo Project. We congratulate Fiona Collins on a very fine contribution to international understanding in a particularly difficult year in the relationship between Australia and Indonesia. We were proud and humbled to be associated with her magnificent effort in cycling 16500kms around Australia as a young ambassador.

In the 'housekeeping' department, the Executive have worked in great detail preparing amendments to our Constitution, which are now ready for Council's consideration. One unexpected and most fruitful activity this year has been the opportunity to support Lisa Jackson in going as a youth steward to the central committee meeting of the World Council of Churches in Geneva. Lisa is the first indigenous Australian to have this opportunity and she made an outstanding presentation in reporting back to the Council on her return.

To keep in touch at depth with one of our affiliated organisations we chose this year to hear from the Girls' Brigade. Mrs. Julie Brackenreg, International Vice-president, was one of our guest speakers at Council and gave a most comprehensive report.

During the year we were saddened by the death of our former president Mrs. Yvonne Davis, and of Mrs. Colonel Florence Peterson, who represented us for many years on the NSW Ecumenical Council. We give thanks to God for their lives and for their contribution to ACW.

We are delighted by the formation of a new branch of ACW in Camden and welcome their representation at Council. Throughout the year I have been welcomed at many functions and services held by branches, members and denominations and by our associated organisations. It has been a privilege to represent you and I would like to thank all those who have offered me this hospitality.

I would also like to thank the many people, – and I emphasise 'many', – who have willingly volunteered to do the myriad tasks which have enabled our unit to function smoothly throughout the year, and fostered the growth of our fellowship. Among these I emphasise the Executive, Conveners, and representatives to other organisations.

I am sorry that, owing to workload and distance, Major Eileen Holley is no longer a member of the Executive. I would like to record my appreciation of her contribution as Functions Convener. Mrs. Marie Major has been an efficient Treasurer and guided us through some changes in our fee structure – thank you Marie. I personally, and you as members, have been most ably served and supported by two wonderful Council Secretaries – Mrs. Jan Harrison and Major Glenys Holley. Both have great capacity as organisers and pay attention to every detail. Words are scarcely adequate to thank them.

Now we look forward to a new year. We have planned our fourth State Conference to conclude the year. It promises to be the best yet. Then in May we will install Mrs. Jan Harrison as our new President. As we welcome her, I thank you all for the support and encouragement you have given me during a busy and fulfilling year, and I know you will extend the same to her.

My love and best wishes remain with you all.

May the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you now and always.
(REV.) ELIZABETH WALKER, PRESIDENT

SECRETARY'S REPORT

1999, the International Year of Older Persons, opened up avenues of service and participation. Australian Church Women hosted a function with a most interesting and inspiring guest speaker, Mrs. Marjorie Deasey. Her theme 'Never too old to be of use' challenged all present that age or circumstance are not barriers in God's service. The function was highlighted when Edith Ridge was made a life member. Evonne Sullivan has travelled from Canberra for this special occasion. Evonne was responsible for getting Edith involved with Australian Church Women many years before. During the year, members attended several most informative seminars and forums on issues pertaining to the older person and were able to report back to Council.

We were pleased to have the National President, Mrs. Aileen Mortensen, from Brisbane at our Annual Dedication Service in May.

Fellowship Day Services were held in 27 centres throughout NSW in July. 'A People Reflecting God's Glory' was a most thought-provoking theme. The offerings from this service support the Winifred Kiek Scholarship. The Scholar for 2000 is Miss Susanna Nitra of Hughes in the ACT whose studies will be in Theology at St. Mark's College in Canberra.

In October, World Community Day Services were held in 32 centres, the theme being 'Faith in Action'. One-half of the offering is allocated to our NSW commitment to Asian Church Women's Conference and the other half to the special project nominated by National Executive from applications from all Units. This year's project was the 'Exodus Foundation' at Ashfield, who carry out a great service to the homeless and needy.

At our April Council meeting our guest speaker was Mrs. Padma Ebenezer from Sri Lanka (a member of the Asian Church Women's Conference Executive). Padma was in Sydney visiting her daughters. Padma is most involved in Christian work within her country and her special ministry is visiting and helping in homes and institutions for the extremely poor. She told us how God had given her the strength to go, and the love to show these people in a war-torn country. Padma concluded by saying that her involvement with all her Christian service had helped her spiritual growth and maturity. At the end of 1999 Padma's single daughter Niroosha was involved in a road accident from which she suffered extensive injuries. Niroosha spent 3 months in hospital. Throughout this time ACW members supported Padma and Niroosha in prayer, by visits and financially.

The National Conference was held in Brisbane. The special overseas guest speaker was Dr. Esther Byu, the Executive Secretary of the International Committee of the Fellowship of the Least Coin. The Australian Executive has now moved to South Australia for the next two years.

On 31st October a well-attended Asian Church Women's Conference Service was held at the Campsie Salvation Army. The musical programme and the participation by representatives from Asian Churches made this a happy occasion enjoyed by all who attended.

On a wet Sunday in November 1 (Jan) was quite moved to be at the First Fleet Park Circular Quay, to welcome back Fiona Collins after her 16,500kms Bike ride around Australia to raise funds to assist the desperately poor people in parts of Indonesia by way of

a food subsidisation programme. Some of these funds helped in East Timor as well. This young woman is a great inspiration, giving up nearly a year to help others – an outstanding commitment and achievement.

During the year we had some excellent speakers from all age-groups. Mrs. Julie Brackenreg, the International Vice President of The Girls' Brigade, gave us a most informative address on aspects of worldwide and Australian activities. Their theme for 2000 is 'Beyond Barriers'.

At our final Council Meeting for the year we had the great pleasure of hearing Miss Lisa Jackson speak. Lisa works with the Aboriginal & Islander Commission of the National Council of Churches. ACW assisted Lisa financially to attend, as a youth steward, the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches in Geneva. Lisa spoke with such conviction of the help this opportunity had been to her, being the first indigenous Australian to be chosen as a youth steward.

At our March Council Meeting Sister Tricia Madigan spoke of her involvement with the Interfaith Movement. Her address was most informative.

We were saddened earlier this year by the death of Elizabeth's father, but along with the family we praised God for his life of faithfulness and service to God and the community. In presenting this report I acknowledge that most of it has been prepared by Jan Harrison. What a great Secretary she has been – efficient and hard working, but also very supportive and caring. Many of us have been helped and encouraged by her words and actions. Thanks Jan for who you are and for what you have done. Be assured of our support and prayers as you take on the Presidency for the next two years.

On behalf of you all, I would like to thank Elizabeth for her fine leadership. She is one of God's 'special people' and we have been privileged to have her minister to us over the last two years. This has been done through devotional messages, prayers, chairing of meetings, personal words of encouragement and practical assistance. Thank you sincerely, and may God continue to bless you and your ministry.

And finally, thanks be to God for all He has done, and for all He is going to do in and through ACW in the year to come.

GLENYS HOLLEY AND JAN HARRISON

SPECIAL DAYS

Fellowship Day Service was held in twenty-seven places in July. The theme was: "A People Reflecting God's Glory". The Order of Service was prepared by the ACT Unit. The cover design was by Michael Farrell. Remarks on the Service were that it was pleasant, simple, ecumenical, inspiring and challenging. There was a genuine spirit of love and co-operation present. It was a wonderful day of fellowship where we felt "All one in Christ Jesus". All denominations participating willingly made the day a great success. Prayer times were much appreciated. The soloists and musical items were most uplifting. Some found numbers down because of extremely cold weather. Friendly, stimulating speakers told us we reflect God's glory as we continue to walk with him.

World Community Day Service was held in thirty-two places in October. The theme was "Faith in Action". Order of Service was prepared by the Victorian Unit. Cover design by Gemma Schoonvelt. People appreciated the simplicity and beauty of the service. A sense of friendliness and fellowship continued at the morning or afternoon teas. The excellent happy speakers were informative and helpful. With many participants, everything went smoothly. Storytelling and singing were among the highlights. Many choirs and soloists added to the joy. One group was enthralled by the beautiful singing of a Korean choir dressed in their National Dress. Some centres were able to have trading tables. A loving, gentle, prayerful spirit pervaded our time together.

The themes for year 2000 are Fellowship Day "Forward in Faith and Hope" and World Community Day "New Beginnings – Bright Hopes". Thanks to all who helped me during the year.

IRENE CARDER, CONVENER

FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN (FLC)

It is now 44 years since the Fellowship of the Least Coin began and we in Australia have been part of the Fellowship since 1963, i.e. for 37 years. What a long way and time we have travelled together, and as we look back on this past year, we must continue to praise and thank God for what FLC has been privileged to do in His name.

Our prayers and least coins – offered individually or in groups – have, through Christ brought faith, healing, hope, justice, peace and reconciliation to countless needy people and many have experienced the love and forgiveness of God in their lives. In this last financial year, we in NSW gave \$13,879 in least coins, and together with the other Australian States and world-wide countries, were able through the International Committee to offer 41 grants to various projects.

We were delighted to know that Australia was given four of these grants, one of which was for the application submitted by NSW. This grant of US\$3,000 will enable the Australian Indigenous Ministries (A.I.M.) Bible College in the Northern Territory to purchase a computer and accessories for a training program. A leadership development course with sound Bible teaching will be included as well as simple English lessons, Aboriginal Art and general college administration.

Tasmania received two grants of US\$2,000 each for the Cressy-Campbell Town School Chaplaincy and North West Hospitals Chaplaincy. Queensland received US\$3,000 for Leadership Training for the Girls' Friendly Society.

Community Day was again a time of Ecumenical Worship and Fellowship when many people gathered together to dedicate their Least Coins. The special offering from these services was divided between the Asian Church Women's Conference, and the Exodus Foundation at the Ashfield Uniting Church which ministers in many ways to the needy of our city. Exodus provides approximately 300 meals a day.

The National Conference in Brisbane in September was a time of blessing, encouragement and sharing and it gave us the opportunity of meeting and getting to know Esther Byu, the International Secretary of FLC. Esther was a guest speaker and her story and message greatly inspired us all.

Circle of Prayer has been widely used throughout the State, and the Devotional thoughts and prayers have drawn us closer to the struggles and needs of others.

Again, I would like to thank all who have worked so hard to promote FLC, and to all our praying supporters we say: "Thank you for your commitment". God is answering our prayers in a wonderful way and we begin this Millennium confident in His leading and enabling.

SHIRLEY WELLS, NSW FLC CONVENER

NEWSETTE

In submitting my eleventh annual report as Editor of Newsette I have many of the same things to say – appreciation of the other Executive and some Council members who provide their Reports faithfully and on time. I would very much like to get some reports from branches, of any special events or activities in their areas, so that these can be shared for others to read about, or of special happenings in any of your denominations which would also be of general interest.

I take this opportunity of expressing grateful thanks to Carmel Emmett, for the years she served as Newsette Distribution Manager, from which she resigned at the beginning of 1999, and great appreciation for Nola Dickson, who has undertaken this responsibility, which involves keeping the mailing list on computer, printing out the labels for each mailing, and assisting with the collating and preparation of each issue for posting. Thank you very much also to Heather Badgery, Heather Reid and Elizabeth Walker who also assist with the mailing task.

The appreciative and complimentary comments I receive from time to time from the readers of our little magazine are most encouraging and very much valued. If you don't receive "Newsette" but would like to, send your name and address and \$5.00 for annual subscription to Mrs. Nola Dickson, 1301/221 Ben Boyd Road, Cremorne 2090.

BERYL McLAUGHLIN, EDITOR

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP

As reported last year, the Scholar for 1999, Miss Mai Zin Zin Wah, of Burma (Myanmar) expected to do her course at the University of Singapore. In spite of assurances that there would be no trouble in permitting her to leave her country in order to study, there was great difficulty in obtaining an exit visa until September 1999.

She used the time between September and the end of December to have classes in English. She began her Master of Ministry course on 1st January 2000. The course will conclude in November. So we really have two scholars doing their courses during 2000. NSW Unit nominated three fine young women for consideration for the Scholarship in 2000. We were pleased to forward their names and resumes, but just as happy to accept the appointment by National Executive and the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Trustees, of the ACT Unit's nominee, Miss Suzanna Nitrai. Sue is currently working on the fourth year of study for a degree in Bachelor of Theology. Her course is at St. Mark's Theological Centre in Canberra.

We keep in touch with some of the scholars, particularly those who have studied in NSW.

Congratulations were sent to Rachael McMannus (Aust. 1997) on her wedding day in October 1999.

News has been shared of former Scholars, Rachel Sobana (now Kanley, South India 1991), Nighat Gulzar (Pakistan 1994), Milise Taipaleti (Tonga 1998) and Catherine Min (Korea 1983) – now Rev. Byong Ok Min.

We await the announcement of next year's Scholar and the field of her study and the place where this will happen.

We thank God for the lives of the young women who have been W.K. Scholars over the years since 1965. It is a privilege to be able to assist them in their studies and it is encouraging to hear how the Scholarship has helped them in their work for God and the people in their communities and countries.

Thank you to all the NSW people who have assisted us in this Scholarship, by their contributions to the offerings at Fellowship Day in July each year. Thank you also to the groups who have sent donations for W.K.S.

Please continue to pray for all the Scholars and their work. Use the leaflet given out on Fellowship Day – the current list begins at 1997. If you miss out on a leaflet, drop the Unit a note and we'll try to send you a copy.

EDITH RIDGE, WKS CONVENER

MEMBERSHIP/ PASTORAL CARE

There has been an average attendance of 40 at Council meetings during the year. Some long serving representatives have retired from Council and we have been glad to welcome new members.

Several members of Council attended the launch of the document 'Platform for Action on Issues of Concern to Older Persons in NSW'. There are now Working Parties meeting to rewrite the document so that it can be better used by community groups for lobbying and determining community action. I have attended the initial meeting of the group working on Aged Care. There was general discussion of the state of aged care in NSW and other issues of concern.

There are opportunities for members to join this or other groups working on various issues such as:

Health, transport, supportive neighbours, housing, employment, education, training, rights and legal issues.

I have made special contact with several members. We are always willing to share any concerns of members and support them in prayer.

HEATHER BADGERY, CONVENER

SOCIAL ISSUES

"The International Year of Older Persons" has been a busy one for many of us. Our Unit joined the Australian Coalition '99 NSW which meant a monthly meeting and attendance at many functions.

"A Platform for Action on Issues of Concern to Older Persons" was drawn up and presented. To this end, meetings have been called on the six areas of concern. Heather Badgery has attended meetings on Aged Care, and I have also attended the group formed to draw up a Year 2000 Action Plan on Transport.

We have again encouraged Council to write letters on areas of concern such as, transport; the concern at the international trade in women and children for the purposes of prostitution; the change in the domiciliary dental service from Westmead Hospital owing to funding cuts. Cela Cooper also drew our attention to genetic engineering of food, which we are monitoring.

Letters have also been written from the Unit to the Premier, and the Leader of the Opposition, backing their stand on a halt being made to the addition of poker machines in clubs. It was also suggested they include hotels as well.

Letters were also written to Westfield and the Minister for Gaming, on the application by tavern owners in refurbished Westfield Centres, to add poker machines. We expressed our opposition to this.

One of our Council members drew our attention to a packet of Christmas cards which she had bought, printed by the "Ink Group". As these were quite distasteful to the Executive we decided to take up this matter.

In June I attended the National Council of Women's forum: "Retirement: Rewards or Regrets". This was a most stimulating day where we heard speakers such as Prof. John McCallum addressing "The Changing Nature of Retirement", Lewis Kaplan, Chief Executive Officer, Alzheimer's Association speaking on "Preparations for a Successful Retirement". Then a panel of retirees who spoke of their experiences.

The Minister, the Hon. Fay Lo Po' M.P., opened the session, which was appropriate as her portfolio covers Minister for Community Services, Minister for Ageing; Minister for Disability Services and Minister for Women.

I represented the Unit at the Beijing+5 Conference held at the Women's College from the 8th-11th July. There were several speakers on the Friday morning and in the afternoon and the next day we broke into groups to discuss critical areas of concern. I attended Women in Power and Decision Making, Women in Education and Training, Women and the Media. It was wonderful to meet many Christian women from many countries and to hear of their experiences. Heather Badgery represented us at Parliament House in October when a forum was held to discuss issues of concern for Older People in NSW toward a society for all ages and cultural backgrounds. She also attended the Grey Margi Gras and reported back to us.

At our National Conference, a resolution was passed to support the "Fair Wear Campaign", and information has been passed on.

Sister Marie Craddock has also represented us at Coalition '99, taking concerns expressed by Council on many issues, some of which were included in the Platform for Action.

This has been a busy but rewarding time, as we all write and pray together, on many social issues affecting our families and community.

HEATHER REID, CONVENER

FUNCTIONS

Australian Church Women held two special functions other than Special Days services during the past year. They were as follows:

Annual Service of Dedication - 17th May 1999

This ecumenical event was held in the Strathfield Uniting Church and was well attended. The National president, Mrs. Aileen Mortensen, was our Guest Speaker and Mr. Peter Middleton blessed us with his vocal contributions. Following the service a lovely lunch was enjoyed.

Ecumenical Luncheon - 19th July 1999

The Salvation Army Function Centre in the city was the venue for this luncheon. Celebrating the International Year of the Older Person we were blessed and encouraged by those who participated - Mrs. Marjorie Deasey, speaker, Mrs. Edna Mayne, elocutionist, and Ms. Lesley Newton, vocalist. Life Membership was conferred on Mrs. Edith Ridge.

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN (N.S.W. STATE UNIT) **STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS FOR 12 MONTHS ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1999**

Balance b/forward			7888.66
Organisation A/c			
Affiliation Fees	420.00		
Associate Members Fees	230.00	650.00	
Donations		222.50	
Dedication Service - Offering	427.45		
Less expenses	306.76	120.69	
5% handling of FLC & 10% of WKS		742.81	
Interest - CBA	33.30		
Glebe Board	293.33	326.63	2062.63
			9951.29
Promotional Items - Sales	3211.00		
Less purchases	2008.43		
	1202.57		
Less tsfd to ACWC Endowment	450.00		
Tsfd to ACWC Partners	12.86		
Tsfd to Flower Festival	76.25	663.46	
Newslette - Subscriptions	825.00		
Less costs production & postage	495.18	329.82	
Special Events Days-IYOPLuncheon	1170.00		
Less expenses	1046.97	123.03	
	79.05		
Overseas Travel Fund	150.00	70.95	Dr
Less paid to Nat.Exec	127.00		
A.C.W.C. Partners - Donations	424.70		
A.C.W.C.Service	12.86		
Tsfd from Stock A/c	564.56		
Less paid to Nat.Exec & expenses	564.56	Nil	
Add received in December	5.00	5.00	
	135.00		
A.C.W.C. Bulletins Subscriptions	165.00	30.00	Dr
Less paid to Nat.Exec	50.00		
A.C.W.C. Endowment Fund - Donations	450.00		
Tsfd from Promotional Items	500.00		
	500.00	Nil	
Less paid to Nat. Exec.	76.25		
Flower Festival - Tsfd from Stock A/c	150.00	73.75	Dr
Less expenses		100.00	
Bursary Book - Donation			
Tsfd from Call a/c - Donation twds Lisa Jackson's Airfare		1000.00	
Special Funds			
Fellowship Least Coin	14230.50		
Winifred Kiek Scholarship	495.60		
Fellowship Day Service	4251.70		
World Community Day Service	4959.95	23937.75	25984.36
			35935.65
Deduct Payments			
Administration A/c			
Printing & Stationery	471.56		
Postage	333.66		
Special Days Convener	107.43		
Gift to Auditor	50.00		
Hospitality for Melise	120.00		
UC NSW Synod - Use of meeting rooms 1998	200.00		
" " " " " " 1999	200.00		
Sundry Expenses	32.90		
E Sullivan - Donation twds airfare to attend Ecumenical Luncheon	75.00	1590.55	

B/Forward	1590.55		
Love Offering for Padma - Daughter's accident	100.00		
National Conference Expenses - Airfares - President/Secretary	590.80		
National Executive - ACW			
1999 Travel Pool	111.00		
Registration 2 Delegates	180.00		
Accom. 2 Delegates	510.00		
Bursary Book - 3 entries	75.00		
Registration - Observer	60.00		
National Travel Fund	150.00		
Executive Badges	80.52		
Government Charges	62.04	3509.91	
Aboriginal & Islander Commission MNC - Donation twds airfare for L Jackson		1000.00	
Subscriptions & Functions			
Unifem Breakfast	40.00		
NSW Childrens' Film & TV - Ann sub	10.00		
Nat. Ccl W'mn	40.00		
" " " Jean Arnot Lcn	40.00		
" " " F'dation Day	40.00		
" " " Seminar IYOP	25.00		
PPSEAWA - Ann Sub	20.00		
" Winter Luncheon	20.00		
WCTU Luncheon	10.00		
Beijing + 5 Seminar	45.00	290.00	
Special Funds			
Fellowship of Least Coin	13091.00		
Winifred Kiek Scholarship	465.65		
Fellowship Day Service	3729.18		
World Community Day Service	4326.35		
1,000,000 women	32.00		
5%FLC/10%WKS entitlement & expenses	1781.28	23425.46	28225.37
Cz Balance-Current A/c 31/12/99			7710.28
Uniting Church Call A/c			
Balance b/forward 1/01/1999		1893.34	
Add - Tsfd from FLC	1500.00		
Interest received for 12 mths	122.97	1622.97	
		3516.31	
Less- Tsfd back to FLC	1500.00		
Tsfd to Administration A/c	1000.00	2500.00	
		1016.31	

SPECIAL FUNDS ACCOUNTS

Fellowship of the Least Coin			
b/fwd 1.1.99		627.30	
Receipts for year ended 30.11.1999		13299.50	
		13856.80	
Less payments - Postage/Stationery/Printing	76.80		
National Executive ACW	13091.00		
5% entitlement ACW NSW	689.00	13856.80	
		NIL	
Receipts for December 1999		1001.00	C/fwd
Fellowship Day Service			
Receipts for year ended 30.11.1999		4251.70	
Less payments - Printing/postage	522.52		
National Executive ACW	3729.18	4251.70	
		NIL	
World Community Day Service			
Receipts for year ended 30.11.1999		4765.50	
Less payments - Printing/postage	439.15		
National Exec. ACW	4326.35	4765.50	
		NIL	
Receipts for December 1999		194.45	C/fwd
Winifred Kiek Scholarship			
B/fwd 1.1.99		114.90	
Receipts for year ended 30.11.1999		423.15	
		538.05	
Less payments - National Exec. ACW	465.65		
10% entitlement ACW NSW	53.81	519.46	
		18.59	
Receipts for December 1999		72.45	
		91.04	C/fwd

CAPITAL FUNDS STATEMENT 31ST DECEMBER, 1999

Balances		Funds		
Commonwealth Bank		Organisation A/c		7280.74
Current A/c	7710.28	"Newslette"		
Glebe Administration		B/fwd 1.1.99	1484.33	
Board -		Subscriptions	<u>825.00</u>	
Call A/c	3000.00		2309.33	
Call A/c	3000.00	Less costs	<u>495.18</u>	1814.15
Un.Church Trust Assoc.		Overseas Travel		
Call A/c	1016.31	B/fwd 1.1.99	342.98	
		Add Receipts	<u>79.05</u>	
			422.03	
		Less payment	<u>150.00</u>	272.03
		Stock		
		B/fwd 1.1.99	2441.21	
		Sales	<u>3211.00</u>	
			5652.21	
		Less Costs	<u>2008.43</u>	
			3643.78	
		Tsfd to ACWC En-		
		dowment Fund	450.00	
		ACWC Partners	12.86	
		Flower Festival	<u>76.25</u>	3104.67
		Flower Festival		
		B/fwd 1.1.99	73.75	
		Trsd from StockA/c	<u>76.25</u>	
			150.00	
		Less costs	<u>150.00</u>	Nil
		State Conference		
		B/fwd 1.1.99		740.91
		ACWC Partners		
		Receipts	551.70	
		Tsfd. from StockA/c	<u>12.86</u>	
			564.56	
		Pd-Nat. Exec. ACW	500.00	
		Expenses ACWC Serv	<u>64.56</u>	
		Add rec'd December	5.00	5.00
		Special Functions		
		B/fwd 1.1.99	175.57	
		Receipts	<u>1170.00</u>	
			1345.57	
		Less costs	<u>1046.97</u>	298.60
		ACWC Bulletins		
		B/fwd 1.1.99	Dr46.00	
		Subscriptions	<u>135.00</u>	
			89.00	
		Less Pd.	<u>165.00</u>	Dr76.00
		F'ship L.Coin		1001.00
		W.K.S.		91.04
		Wild Community Day		194.45
	<u>\$14726.59</u>			<u>\$14726.59</u>

Auditors Report

I have examined the books and documents of the ACW (NSW State Unit) and find, in my opinion, the attached Statement of Receipts and Payments and Capital Funds Statements for the year ended 31st December 1999 give a true and fair view of the affairs of the ACW (NSW State Unit) as at that date, however, no documentation received for Glebe Administration Board Investment so I could not verify accuracy of figure.

F M.Fryirs ASA Honorary Auditor

4th February 2000

BRANCH REPORTS

BURWOOD-CONCORD

At the Annual Meeting in February the following office bearers were appointed:

President: Mrs Yvonne Coorey, St Andrew's Anglican Church, Strathfield

Secretary: Miss Bonnie Lyons, Concord Uniting Church

Treasurer: Mrs Hilda Miller, St Luke's Anglican Church, Concord

Vice Presidents: Major Yvonne Slade, Burwood Salvation Army

Mrs Elsie Pullar, North Croydon Uniting Church.

The Annual Fellowship Day Service was held on Thursday, 22nd July, 1999 at Concord Uniting Church. The Guest Speaker was Mrs. Janet Harrison, Secretary of the NSW Unit, who presented an inspiring message on the theme "A People Reflecting God's Glory". The Soloist was Mrs. Julia Hobbs, whose musical contribution was greatly appreciated. The organist was Miss Connie Secomb. A happy time of fellowship was enjoyed over a light luncheon.

The World Community Day Service was held on Friday, 29th October, at St. Ambrose Catholic Church, Concord West. The theme on this occasion was "Faith in Action" and the message of our Guest Speaker Mrs. Peg McEntee was challenging and thought provoking. Mrs. Leanne Green was soloist and Mr. Eugene Morris the organist. The attendance at this Service was excellent, thanks to a large degree to the enthusiastic support of the St. Ambrose ladies who then served a delicious lunch. We are grateful to the ladies for their hospitality.

Our sincere thanks go to the Burwood Uniting Church for allowing us to use their Fellowship Hall for our three business meetings each year.

As we attend these ACW Branch Meetings and Services we are conscious of a wonderful spirit of co-operation and deepening fellowship between members and a desire to develop lasting friendships. We praise God who has brought us together and given us a continuing sense of belonging to His universal family.

BONNIE LYONS, SECRETARY

KINCUMBER

Our Branch has enjoyed a happy year with both Fellowship Day and World Community Day Services being well attended. We were happy to welcome visitors to both services from a wide area covering Kincumber, Gosford, Green Point, Woy Woy, Umina, Ettalong and in July the ladies from Terrigal.

Fellowship Day was held in the historic Catholic Church of the Holy Cross at South Kincumber which was built in 1842. The Convent next door was originally the Orphanage of Mary McKillop and the Sisters of St. Joseph operate it now as a Retreat Centre. This was a wonderful setting for the theme "A People Reflecting God's Glory" and our Speaker Mrs. Peg Blake touched us all with her truly remarkable address on how we must always reflect God's Glory in our everyday Christian walk. Sixty ladies were made welcome at morning tea by the members of the Catholic Women's League and we held a successful bring and buy table to offset local expenses.

World Community Day in October was held at the Kincumber Uniting Church with 50 people present. Our Speaker on that occasion was retired Uniting Church Minister Rev. Janet Wade-Main who, as a polio victim in her youth, has overcome her disabilities with such determination and courage and has served the Lord faithfully in her vocation. She was a shining example of "Faith in Action". Ladies of Kincumber Fellowship provided refreshments. Offering for the Fellowship of the Least Coin amounted to \$219.15.

Members of the Executive have attended ecumenical functions throughout the year and have been warmly welcomed. We have distributed ACW leaflets wherever possible. We have good representation on State Council, and have participated fully in World Day of Prayer on the Central Coast.

We are grateful for the leadership of our President, Dorothy Woodhouse, who has worked so hard to establish this area branch and for the wonderful support she receives from her husband Les. We just couldn't do without him. We pray that our Lord will continue to bless us all in our efforts and we will continue to grow in His service.

BEV. ELLIOTT, SECRETARY

SEVEN HILLS/TOONGABBIE

Our numbers attending this year have been steady. We were thrilled to have a representative of St. Clement' Church, Lalor Park joining us and showing their willingness to contribute to our services.

Fellowship Day was held at St. Peter's Anglican Church. Mrs. Pamela King (wife of the Bishop of Parramatta) spoke on the theme and reminded us that as in a family there are likenesses, so it is among Christians. We too resemble each other and most of all we resemble Jesus, as we continue to walk with Him.

Community Day was held at Grantham Uniting Church, Seven Hills. Our Speaker was Rev. Elizabeth Walker, who spoke on the reading from Hebrews, and reminded us to always be grateful for those who have influenced and strengthened us in our faith along our Christian walk. All represented churches took part in these services.

Our Annual General Meeting and Christmas Concert was held in December. All officers remain unchanged, although we are praying that there might be others seriously considering taking on some of these responsibilities next year.

We are grateful for those who continue to support us and to each Church for the use of their premises. We pray that as we enter into a new year we will do so with renewed energy and desire to serve our Lord.

SYLVIA PETTIT

SUTHERLAND SHIRE

Our Branch continues its active support for Australian Church Women with good attendances (average 100) at Special Days and other functions. Planning meetings are held with the host Church prior to Fellowship Day and World Community Day.

Fellowship Day Service, at which great interest was shown in the Winifred Kiek Scholar, Mai Zin Zin Wah from Myanmar, was held at St. Philips Anglican Church, Caringbah, on 30th July when Mrs Martha Nixon of Outback Patrol gave a most challenging and thought-provoking address on "A People Reflecting God's Glory".

World Community Day was held at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, Miranda, on 29th October and we were delighted to welcome to our Branch our State President Rev. Elizabeth Walker who spoke to us in a very positive way on "Faith in Action".

We always commence our meetings with the Theme Song "We who are many are one in the Lord" – and at World Community Day a Newsletter was given to each person attending (we do have some gentlemen attending) giving up-to-date information on Australian Church Women activities.

It is always so special to see friends made through their involvement with Australian Church Women greeting each other warmly over luncheon following the Services – truly, we are "all one in Christ".

PEG BLAKE, PRESIDENT

MINA WHYBOURNE, SECRETARY.



REPORTS FROM OTHER ORGANISATIONS

GIRLS' BRIGADE

It is so nice meeting up with friends from the past, and we are able to do this, when we meet each year at Brigade House for our Friends of Brigade luncheon. This also gives me the opportunity to talk about Australian Church Women.

This is a busy time for Brigade with National Fonomarae (Girls' Camp) being held in Perth this year, and our National Conference in Adelaide.

For NSW Brigade it is a year to remember, as we celebrate our "Diamond" or 60th birthday. With hundreds of girls, I enjoyed a wonderful day of Praise, Prayer and Song at the Whitlam Centre in Liverpool and then a picnic in the afternoon.

To represent such a dynamic Christian youth organisation is indeed a privilege and I thank them for allowing me to.

HEATHER REID

WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION

WCTU last year adopted a new name "Winners Without Drugs" and our foremost concern has been to revitalise our work and seek out younger, active members. The Temperance ideal is a difficult one to promulgate – the days are long gone when abstinence was taken for granted among Christians. Many have accepted the myth of 'moderation', in spite of the well-documented evidence of the damage any intake of alcohol does to the brain and other organs, and the depredation it causes in loss of life, devastation of families, and enormous health costs to society.

WCTU does not only promote abstinence from alcohol, but seeks to educate about other harmful practices, e.g. smoking, drugs, gambling, etc., especially among young people. We believe that to make a commitment to a disciplined, drug-free lifestyle while young will give a strong foundation for a healthy and productive adult life.

Together with a network of organisations with similar aims, WCTU supports Alcohol Awareness Week each September; non-alcoholic wines and fruit-punch "tastings" were held in Wesley Mission foyer, and as part of a "Road Trauma Re-enactment" Day in Parramatta Mall. Many passers-by were interested, and much of our informative, up-to-date, factual literature and non-al recipe leaflets were accepted.

WCTU also supported the "Say NO to Drugs – Keep Our Kids Alive" forums and rallies sponsored by Angela Wood and Margaret Mackay, each of whom had lost a child to drugs. This included a Walk across the Harbour Bridge and large Rally in Hyde Park, on National Drug-Free Day. Similar rallies and walks were held in many countries.

Our most recent leaflet "Red Grape Juice – The Drink for the New Millenium" is designed to counteract current claims that to drink some wine will guard against stroke and heart attack. The leaflet sets out the evidence that grape juice actually contains more of the particular substance in question – resveratrol – than does wine.

A highlight of our Annual Thanksgiving Day was to meet and hear the Rev. Dr. Tom Frame, whom we had assisted financially for his study year in England researching Temperance issues. Tom spoke touchingly of being an adopted child of an alcoholic father, and the experiences, including years in the Navy – he was in the Voyager disaster – which led him to absolute rejection of alcohol in his life.

BERYL McLAUGHLIN, W.C.T.U. STATE SECRETARY

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NSW UNIT 2000/2001- OFFICE BEARERS & CONVENERS

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ASSIST/SEC.	Major Joan Tong 8 Metella Cr BELFIELD	2191	Tel: 9718 8640 92669 593 W. Fax: 92645 835 W.
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TREASURER	Mrs Marie Majoor 521 Mowbray Rd LANE COVE	2066	Tel./Fax: 9428 2384
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FLC CONVENER	Miss Shirley Wells Hayfield Village 125/3 Homeland Ave CARLINGFORD	2118	Tel: 9872 1719
WKS CONVENER	Mrs Edith Ridge 54 New Line Rd WEST PENNANT HILLS	2125	Tel./Fax: 9875 1200
SPECIAL DAYS CONVENER	Dss Irene Carder 6 Lawson Ave MARRICKVILLE	2204	Tel: 9569 8467