

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN - NSW UNIT

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 16TH JUNE 1997.

OPENING: President Mrs Peg Blake welcomed all present and read from 1 Corinthians 5: 18-20 "If you are in Christ ... you are a new creation ... Christ the Reconciler gave us the ministry of reconciliation ... be reconciled. Peg then prayed, especially for Norma Harrop, who is to undergo surgery tomorrow.

Secretary Jan Harrison then spoke of the serious illness of Peg's husband Arthur, and expressed the thoughts and concern of us all in a prayer for him and for Peg.

ATTENDANCE: 40 members present as per attendance records.

APOLOGIES: M Whybourne, J Tong, M Craig, and 11 others recorded.

MINUTES: The minutes of meeting on 21st April 1997 as circulated were confirmed. The minutes of Annual General Meeting on 21st April 1997 were read and initialled.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES / BUSINESS FROM EXECUTIVE:

1. DEDICATION SERVICE. President Peg expressed her sincere thanks to all who helped. All agreed that it was a lovely warm Service. Thanks were expressed to Margaret Jessup for doing the photography - members may order photos as desired. A letter of thanks was read from Marie McCann for the "undreamed of honour" of being made a NSW Unit Life Member. Peg asked for any members to give a brief remark about the Dedication, and these were as follows:

Dss Thora Thomas: A wonderful day - "warmth" was what seemed to come through everything.

Helen Stutchbury: An extra highlight and blessing for her was re-union with some friends of many years past.

2. ECUMENICAL LUNCHEON. (Functions Convener Margaret Collier) Reminder to all to complete booking form and pay their \$10.00 today or very shortly. There will be a trading table. Shelley Reys is looking forward to coming to speak. Some difficulty is being experienced in finding an aboriginal person to sing.

3. ASIAN CHURCH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE ENDOWMENT FUND: The suggestion from Executive was ratified that \$500.00 per year be contributed to this fund by NSW Unit for ten years, to share in the establishment of a Capital Fund for ACWC. This to be done by sale of calendars, percentage donated by Lucelle King from sale of her cards and craft, and by donations or fund-raising by ACW Branches e.g. 'Bring & Buys'.

4. NSW UNIT ANNUAL REPORT. Copies available at meeting. Appreciation to Joan Tong for all her work in completing these.

5. ST ANDREW'S CATHEDRAL FLOWER FESTIVAL. September 12th-15th. Official Opening to be on Friday 14th. ACW arrangement is to be done by Mr Cec Warry. Donations were received during meeting towards costs of this.

6. AUSTRALIANS FOR RECONCILIATION CONVENTION. Marie Majoor who was present gave an excellent report and expressed her thanks to ACW & CWL for joint sponsorship which enabled her to go to Melbourne. She said she was fortunate enough to be among the 5000 people in the main auditorium, not outside with the many hundreds of 'overflow.' She spoke of the lighting of the opening Candle, the Dancing by Aboriginal groups, Spanish Flamenco, Irish Dance Group; two young people, a boy and a girl, represented "young Australia"; a video message from Bishop Desmond Tutu was presented, in which he said "All colours are needed to make a rainbow. A full report will be included in next issue of Newsette.

7. NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN SEMINAR - "A Century Of Australian Women" at the State

Library was attended by Heather Reid, who presented her report, mentioning Margaret Windeyer (founder of NCW) who was the first woman librarian in 1901, and was paid \$130 per annum - men librarians received \$200! Also Pat O'Shane, the first Aboriginal barrister. A more detailed report will be printed in next Newsette.

An Invitation and Registration Form was tabled for forthcoming NCW Seminar "Women Taking On Technology" to be held on Thursday 3rd July. President will attend. Others invited if interested. Cost \$15 which includes M Tea and Lunch.

Other National Council of Women matters:

- a. Nomination of Phyl McKinnirey to NCW Executive - letter of welcome received.
- b. NCW Woman of the Year Award - A nomination has been sent for Joan Tong for this award.
- c. NCW Foundation Day Luncheon - Tuesday 26th August. Cost \$35. President Peg will attend. Others wishing to go see Marie Major. The Woman of the Year Award is presented at this function. Guest Speaker Dr Diana Horvath AO, Chief Executive Officer, Central Sydney Area Health Service. Held in Parl House Dining Room.

8. ACW NATIONAL CONFERENCE. in Canberra, 22nd-26th September. Registration Forms now available. All encouraged to attend if possible. Special guest in residence will be Illuminada Domingo, Executive Secretary of Asian Church Women's Conference.

Motions sent by NSW Executive were read to Council; several concerning suggestion that Australia should become a member of the International Committee of the Fellowship of the Least Coin, now that it is autonomous and independent of ACWC; another again suggesting change of name of our organisation to "Church Women United - Australia" in line with other countries, e.g. USA, NZ and others. These motions were ratified by Council.

9. NATIONAL EXECUTIVE MATTERS:

- a. Senator Jocelyn Newman's consultation with women's organisations re women's concerns for the future. Copy of the Senator's reply was circulated with minutes, also list of issues submitted by ACW.
- b. ICFLC Grants. Three of the four applications for grants submitted by NSW Unit have been approved as follows: Life After Prison Ministries; Young Aboriginal Women Self-Esteem Program; Somali Refugee Sewing Group.
- c. National Executive will be based in Queensland in 1997-1999 and in South Australia in 1999-2001.

10. NSW UNIT PRESIDENT-ELECT. Rev. Elizabeth Walker has been nominated by the Uniting Church as our president-elect for 1998-2000. Elizabeth was warmly welcomed to the Council. Her address is 170 Beaumont Street, Hamilton 2303 Phone (049) 61 4040, Phone and Fax (049) 69 2540.

Mrs Edith Ridge had suggested by letter the "during the period of a Presidency, Past Presidency and Presidency Elect, the number of denominational delegates should continue to be eight. This was moved as a motion by Helen Stutchbury, seconded Beth Finlay and carried.

FUNCTIONS ATTENDED:

By President Peg Blake: Uniting Church Mission Support Get-Together at Turrumurra; Churches of Christ CWF 103rd Annual Conference at Auburn;

By Brigadier Ruth Smith: Women's Christian Temperance Union National Convention at Collaroy.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. National Executive - as dealt with under Business Arising above.
2. Helen Stutchbury - Thanks and acceptance of invitation to become an Associate member of NSW Unit.
3. Edith Ridge (Uniting Church Adult Fellowships) - re Nomination of President-Elect.
4. Edith Ridge - re denominational representation - dealt with in Business Arising.
5. Catholic Women's League - apology for Dedication Service - previous commitment.
6. Joan Curtis - apology for Dedication Service.
7. Evonne Sullivan, ACW National President - thanks for invitation and appreciation of Dedication Service.
8. Presbyterian Women's Association. Invitation to Conference June 30. President to go.
9. Pan Pacific & S.E.A. Women's Association. Invitation to Winter Luncheon 25th June. Marie Majoor and Heather Reid to attend.
10. Yvonne Davis - appreciation of Dedication Service.
11. NSW Churches of Christ CWF. Beverley Beaman. Update of denominational representatives - addition of Judith Cayzer - a warm welcome Judith.
12. NCW - Reply to nomination of Phyl McKinnirey to their Executive.
13. NCW - Invitation to "Women Taking on Technology" Seminar July 3. President to go.
14. Habitat For Humanity News.
15. Anglican HMS Volunteer Division Prayer Bulletin.
16. NCW of Australia Quarterly Bulletin.
17. Women's Reconciliation Network - reported by Marie Majoor.
18. Church of South India Newsletter.
19. Australians for Reconciliation - Footsteps NSW Newsletter.
20. Marie McCann - thanks for Life Membership.
21. Olive Edmonstone - thanks for our prayers and good wishes following her fall.
22. Beryl Burke - appreciation of Dedication Service.
23. Bev. Elliott - long letter of her holiday experiences, especially in Alice Springs; has contacted Alice Springs Unit of ACW and visited some members.
24. Cela Cooper of Woonona - President Peg to speak at Fellowship Day to Women's Inter-Church Council, a group of many years standing - hopes to encourage ACW interest.
25. Nighat Pulsar WK Scholar 1995 - re desire to do Theology Course - enquiring re possibilities, costs etc.

REPORTS:

TREASURER: Finance Report as circulated was received - moved Marie Majoor seconded Linelle Smith.

FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN: Convener Shirley Wells mentioned material available and read the meditation of Margaret Arnold of Scotland on 1 Corinthians 4:2 - "Those who have been given a trust must prove faithful." Box for coins was circulated.

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP: Convener Beth Finlay tabled the new WKS Leaflet and read letter from Nighat.

SPECIAL DAYS: Convener Edith Ridge reported a successful packing day and all bundles of Fellowship Day Services distributed.

SOCIAL ISSUES: Convener Heather Reid read letters written from ACW to Robert Harrison, MP for Kiama commending him for stand re "Push & Pull" Disabled Games being refused funding of \$25,000, whilst the "Gay Games" have been given \$75,000. Also letter to Marion Dodds, previous National Social Issues Convener, commending her for valuable work and helpfulness in that office.

Heather also spoke about the World Development Tea Co-op Ltd. - 'Trade Winds' Brand Tea - and recommended a speaker from this organisation to any groups - they market the tea for Sri Lanka tea/coffee growers, saving them huge local costs to landlords etc. Tea can be bought at David Jones, Grace Bros, The Church in the Market Place etc. Contact address is 8th Floor, 3-24 Kippax St Surry Hills 2010 Phone (02) 9281 8421, Fax (02) 9281.9631.

PUBLICITY: Convener Colleen O'Sullivan was not present, but had reported that all Church Papers had been sent a report of the Dedication Service. She requests that cuttings of any reports members may see be sent to her.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. NSW UNIT STATE CONFERENCE.

Advance notice was given of next State Conference - to be held at the Salvation Army Training Centre at Stanmore, which was so much appreciated last time - dates **MAY 13 - 16 1998**. Actual conference days will be:

THURSDAY MAY 14, AND FRIDAY MAY 15.

2. Marie McCann spoke as ACW representative to the 1st National Ecumenical Aboriginal Women's Conference, which ACW supported with funding last December. She advised that the projected Network has never happened, nor the printed booklet and report. Anne Patel Gray is no longer the president. Marie has sought information from the NSW Ecumenical Council and from ATSIC. It was moved Heather Reid seconded Phyl McKinnirey that this matter be passed over to National Executive. carried.

3. Marie Majoor spoke of Chisholm Cottage run by Catholic Women's League being in need of a "caretaker" to live-in free of cost. The cottage provides cheap accommodation for relatives of patients at Westmead Hospital and Westmead Children's Hospital.

Next Council Meeting: Monday 18th August.
Morning Tea - Baptist. Chairs - Salvation Army.

President Peg Blake thanked the Salvation Army for hostess duties and closed the meeting with the Benediction at 12.45p.m.

Confirmed

Peg Blake

Date

18 August 1997

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN (NSW STATE UNIT)

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS

for two months ended 31.07.97

CR BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD 1.06.97 7785.96

ADD RECEIPTS FOR TWO MONTHS

Associated Members		40.00	
Affiliation fees		40.00	
ACWC Endowment Fund - C'mssion L King for sale of craft		119.40	
Sale of promotional items		105.50	
Glebe Board - Interest on Term Deposits		94.39	
C'with Bank Interest		159.79	
1,000,000 women - Mexican Uni		10.00	
Newsette		45.00	
O/seas Travel Fund - Morning Tea	16.25		
Trading Table	<u>4.00</u>	20.25	
F.L.C.		434.55	
ACWC Partners		12.00	
Special Functions - Ecumenical Luncheon		770.00	
NC's' Luncheon - Contra		70.00	
Donation		5.00	
Flower Festival		257.70	
Fellowship Day Service		<u>2359.65</u>	<u>4543.23</u>
			12329.19

DEDUCT - PAYMENTS FOR TWO MONTHS

ACW Nat. Esec. - Travel Pool		150.00	
Board of Property & Finance—Printing - Newsette	52.80		
" F'ship Day	<u>288.00</u>	340.80	
Ecumenical Luncheon—G Speaker	25.00		
Function Centre	640.00		
Refund B McLaughlin	<u>10.00</u>	675.00	
Nat. Ccl Women - Seminar - P Blake		15.00	
" " " - Luncheon - J Tong		35.00	
U. Ch - Publicity		22.50	
J Tong - Annual Reports - Stationery	25.99		
Postage	<u>38.10</u>	64.09	
ACW Nat Exec - Rego. 2 Delegates Nat. Conf		630.00	
" " " - Bursary Book - Dc'ness M Andrews		25.00	
Government Charges		<u>9.25</u>	<u>1966.64</u>
			10362.55

CHEQUES FOR RATIFICATION/PAYMENT

Nat. Ccl Women - Seminar - P Blake		15.00	
" Luncheon - J Tong		35.00	
U.Ch in Aust. - Advertising		22.50	
Elaine Telford - Guest Speaker - Ecum. Luncheon		25.00	
J Tong - Annual Reports- Printing	25.99		
Postage	<u>38.10</u>	64.09	
The Functions Centre - Ecum. Luncheon		640.00	
A.C.W. Nat. Exec. - Registration P Blake/J Harrison		630.00	
" Dc'ess Mary Andrews-Bursary Book		25.00	
" Juliet Backhouse " "		25.00	
Brd. Finance & Property - Printing Newsette	58.40		
" Posting F'ship Day Services	<u>104.20</u>	160.60	
Bush Church Aid - Lunch - L King		5.00	
Marie Majoor - Stationery	16.10		
Postage	<u>32.35</u>	48.45	
Jan Harrison - Postage	25.20		
Photocopying/Stationery/Phone	<u>37.10</u>	62.30	
Cec Warry - Advance for flowers for Flower Festival		150.00	
M Majoor - Postage - Treasurer			
" - FLC Convenor	27.00	45.00	
Carmel Emmett - Postage Newsette	<u>18.00</u>	71.22	

Edith Ridge
Special Days Luncheon
\$53.23