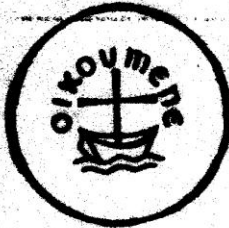


Australian Church Women

WOMEN AT WORK



SEEK: To unite Australian women in their allegiance to their Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

To help Christian women to take more effective place in the total life and mission of the Church.

June 1983

One of these days, when you have time, read Psalm 118, and lift up your heart in praise to God with the Psalmist.

If I have a favourite verse, I think it must be "This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it". It gets me off to a good start and most of my days are happy ones. If the sun is shining - that is good - and if it is raining, well, that's necessary, too!

But there have been times when another favourite is necessary for my peace of mind and that is "Be still, and know that I am God".

Be still! Stocktaking is essential for a well-run business, and it is just as essential for a well-run life. We have so much to be thankful for, and it is good to be able to sit quietly and think of this, and acknowledge the Goodness of God to us. Amongst His gifts are good health, a pleasant home, a loving family and friends, and the chance to be useful.

When things are not going quite so smoothly, it might be wise to be still, to look inwards, and do a little personal stocktaking. So often the disagreeable things are not part of God's Plan, but our own mismanagement of our opportunities.

Jesus Christ has given us so many promises of help, so much good advice for living our lives. He says "Lo I am with you always". But we have to take time off, be still and listen to Him. In modern jargon it is called "Giving God a Go".

Jean Hughes

Winifred Keik Scholar Committee
Convenor

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INTRODUCING AN ECUMENICAL COALITION ON TOURISM IN
THE THIRD WORLD

IN ASIA: Christian Conference of Asia, Federation of
Asian Bishop's Conference

IN THE PACIFIC: Pacific Conference of Churches

IN THE CARIBBEAN: Caribbean Conference of Churches

These are partners in the Coalition and other similar bodies will be invited to join. For several years churches and other groups of people have become aware of the profound effects tourism is having on their economy, their culture and life style. If the negative consequences are to be changed to opportunities for people's development urgent action is required.

Some of its aims are to provide opportunity for people affected by tourism to express their views, to focus on the effects of tourism on the Third World, to denounce unfair practices and to create and encourage models of

tourism which are just and enable people to exchange.

An office, resource centre and Library will be set up and networks of communication and solidarity between groups wishing to take action will be built up. It plans to publish a newsletter, to do research and plan education programs for both tourist affected areas and for tourists. It hopes to liaise with decision makers and publish case studies and resources.

Further information is available from :-

P.O. BOX 10 - 1014
PETCHABURITADMAI POST OFFICE
BANGKOK 10311
THAILAND

The Rev Peter Holden has been appointed Executive Secretary and the newsletter is "CONTOURS" (Quarterly)

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ACTION ON THIS ISSUE

Find out what your Church has produced on tourism - help to distribute this among Church members.

World Christian Action has produced an excellent pamphlet - help to make this known and see that they are displayed in your Church office.

Have you made the effort to read tourist brochures put out by Tourist organisations - National Committee has decided not to use one particular brochure for National Committee Meeting because of ADs promoting Escort Agencies - a small action but small things can snowball - We have written to the publishers explaining why we are not using it.

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BADGES

The new Australian Church Women Badges have arrived and we have to thank South Australia Unit for looking after the production of these. They are lovely and are available for \$2.00 each. Orders to be brought to National Committee Meeting.

JOTTINGS FROM THE S.A. UNIT

Our exciting news this month is the recent arrival in Adelaide of our 1983 Winifred Keik Scholar, Catherine Min, from Korea. Unfortunately, Catherine's passport hold-up caused her to miss the first term of her course at St. Barnabas Theological College. However, Catherine is spending the first term holidays with the family of our Vice-President, Margaret Chittleborough, during which time she is working extremely hard to perfect her command of English. Catherine attended the May Unit Meeting at which Rev. Norah Norris conducted an interesting bible study on "Images of Life."

At another recent Unit Meeting, our President, Dorothy Haensel, read a letter which I had received from Elizabeth Lovatt-Dolan (World President General of the World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations) extending sympathy to the S.A. and Victorian victims of the recent tragic bushfires and enclosing an Order of Service of an "Ecumenical Service of Prayer for the Victims of the Australian Fire Disaster."

The service was held in St. Mary's Catholic Church, Haddington Road, Dublin, soon after the fires and was led by clerical representatives of the Anglican, Methodist, Presbyterian and Catholic Churches of Dublin. During the Service, the Readers were Australia's Ambassador to Ireland, the President of the Ireland-Australia Association and members of the Australian Embassy staff in Dublin. The Homily was delivered by Mons. John Moloney. Elizabeth also mentioned that prayers for the victims had been included in many of the World Day of Prayer Services held throughout Ireland on March 4th - a hopeful indication that the work towards Christian Unity is alive in Dublin.

A letter from A.C.W.C. President, Boonmee Julkiree, about another matter, also included a message of sympathy to the S.A. fire victims.

Both these letters helped to deepen our awareness of the fellowship which obviously exists throughout the world among churchwomen and served as an encouragement to us in our work for Australian Church Women - S.A. Unit.

Barbara Grealy
Publicity Officer - S.A. Unit

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PERSONAL

RACHAEL COCKS - Since the last issue of Women at Work, Mr. Cocks asked for prayer for Rachael who had to undergo brain surgery. We are now delighted to report that Rachael is out of Hospital and now doing well. She has made a miraculous recovery.

MRS. STANHOPE - The New South Wales Secretary tells us that Mrs. Stanhope met with an accident on the way to Adelaide. The car was a write-off but fortunately Mr. and Mrs. Stanhope escaped serious injury.

FRAN BAILEY - Those who know Fran Bailey of South Australia, will be sorry to learn that she lost her husband recently. Fran and her husband had gone to Ireland for the Wedding of their daughter and Mr. Bailey died there. A Memorial Service was held in Adelaide on Fran's return.

DEACONESS MARY ANDREWS left early in June to attend Diakonia Conference in Warwick University from 8th. to 14th. July. On the way she will visit the Irish Women's World Day of Prayer Committee, the Scottish Women's World Day of Prayer Leaders, Deaconesses in Northumberland and Lincolnshire and the South American Missionary Society Headquarters in Tunbridge Wells. She asks for prayers for the Women's World Day of Prayer and Deaconess contacts she hopes to make.

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THE WINIFRED KEIK SCHOLAR HAS ARRIVED

Miss Catherine MIN arrived safely in Adelaide on Tuesday 10th May and as St. Barnabas College is in recess for three weeks she is staying with Mrs. Margaret Chittleborough and her family.

Catherine is Catachist for the Mothers' Union in the Diocese of Busan in Korea. She has worked as a High School Teacher, as a Counsellor and Teacher in Hospitals.

At "Holy Labours House" which is a dormitory attached to her Church, there are twelve factory girls living. Catherine organises their activities and is their Counsellor. (When she returns to Korea, Catherine would like to be a Minister in her own Church. She says that Women's Education influences not only the children but also the future of her country).

Please pray for Catherine that she might have a very happy and rewarding time with us in Australia.

Jean Hughes
Convenor for Winifred Kiek Scholar.

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LT. COLONEL AND MRS. JOHN MACINTYRE RETIRES

On Thursday evening, May 26th., 1983, a large attendance of friends and relatives gathered at The Salvation Army City Temple in Melbourne to celebrate the retirement of this well loved and respected couple.

Items were presented by the Moreland Band, Box Hill Songsters and others. The meeting was led by Commissioner Eva Burrows. Tributes to both were paid by Lt. Colonel Garnet Clee, Major Gwen Rust, Mrs. Brigadier Mavis Stewart and supported by all present.

Lt.Colonel Isabel Macintyre is well known to Australian Church Women having served as Representative of The Salvation Army over many years. She has been Victorian President and also National Vice President and Acting President in Western Australia. She also attended Tokyo Conference of Asian Church Women representing Australia there most ably.

At present she is Vice President of National Working Committee in Victoria and most enthusiastic Convenor of Burma Prayer Partner and Promotion Officer.

A most capable and well loved member of the Committee.

We pray that she and her husband will enjoy many well earned happy years of retirement together.

Doreen Strack
Vice President

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NEW OFFICE BEARERS FOR TASMANIAN UNIT

President - Mrs. Gwenda Burt - Nominated by Church of Christ CWF Executive
1st. Vice Pres. - Mrs. Rosemary Edwards - Nominated by Tamar-Esk Uniting Church Fellowship
2nd. Vice Pres. - Mrs. Shirley Brooks - Nominated by L. Birtwhistle
Secretary - Mrs. Jan. Easter - Nominated by G. Burt
Minute Secretary - Mrs. Bev. Bryan - Nominated by D. Hartam
Treasurer - Mrs. Janet Stevenson - Nominated by S. Brooks
TCC Representative - Mrs. Dawn Nibbs - Nominated by G. Burt
Resource Person - Mrs. Lynette Green - Nominated by J. Easter
FLC State Convenor - Mrs. M. Price - Nominated by J. Davis

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Mrs. Myra Dixon, delegate from the Australian Church Women, reported that their Working Committee had received a letter from the Asian Church Women, re the Australian women's concern regarding tourism and prostitution in Australia. The Australian Church Women wished to draw attention to this situation, especially the involvement of Asian women, both in Australia and in East Asia, and they recommended that each woman in her organisation commit herself to initiate action against prostitution which degraded women. The Australian Church Women refused to promote a brochure "Discover Melbourne" at their Conference in August - they did not condone the 'Escort' advertisements.

Dame Phyllis Frost said it was time for a general onslaught against this dehumanising degradation of women, and she would draft a suitable resolution.

Mrs. Horne suggested that N.C.W.V's statement on prostitution be reviewed and the matter referred to the Social Welfare Committee.

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BURMA/PRAYER PARTNERSHIP

It is most encouraging to learn from reports from various State Units of the emphasis being placed on the Burma/Australia Prayer Partnership through Guest Speakers, Films, etc., - we are learning more of the customs and culture of the Burmese people. Individual members have made contact by correspondence with Christian women in Burma. Prayer Groups have met in Unit Meetings and in homes.

It is pleasing to learn also that the Women's Committee of the Burma Council of Churches have been praying and promoting the Burma/Australia Prayer Partnership and that a regular newsletter is being sent to Christian women throughout Burma with the Prayer Partnership being a theme in the newsletter.

A letter has been received from Bundaberg, Queensland, seeking guidance as what should be the proposed manner of implementing our prayer partnership with Burma.

A specific reply has been forwarded giving guidelines, however, a prayer partnership sample Order of Service has been prepared and will be forwarded with this month's copy of Women at Work. This can be used as a guideline using your own initiative in implementing and preparing service.

From the Queensland Unit now comes the report that part of their last meetings was handed over to the Guest Speaker, Brigadier Rose Flood, who had spent many years as a Missionary in Burma who related some experiences of her work in Children's Homes there.

We trust that this good work will continue.

Isabel Macintyre
Convenor Prayer Partnership

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