

## ACW NSW STATE UNIT INC—EXECUTIVE 2008-2009

PRESIDENT	Mrs Jennifer Peffer	9874 4056
PAST PRESIDENT	Mrs Carmel Keys	9977 5156
TREASURER	Mrs Helen Richardson	9971 0278
SECRETARY	Mrs Isabel Hewitt	4969 6336
MEMBERSHIP	Mrs Martha Noel	9642 0493
PASTORAL CARE	Mrs Olive Edmondstone	9887 1846
FLC CONVENER	Mrs Janet Lang	4975 5740
WKS CONVENER	Mrs Judith Cayzer	9896 3758
SPECIAL DAYS	Mrs Pamela Freeman	9873 1701
NEWSETTE EDITOR	Mrs Beryl McLaughlin	9744 8609
SOCIAL ISSUES		
PUBLICITY	Major Nancy McLaren	9555 2628
		(w) 9266 9880
ACWC CONVENER	Major Lyn Middleton	9529 6744
NATIONAL WEBSITE: <a href="http://www.acwnational.org.au">www.acwnational.org.au</a>		



# *AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN*

## *NSW STATE UNIT INC*

# *Celebrating 70 Years*

## 45<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL REPORT

### April 2008

### **Service of Installation & Dedication**

will be held at  
Eastwood Baptist Church  
**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May at 11.00 am**

### **Fellowship Day in July** theme: ***Growing in Faith***

Offerings go to the Winifred Kiek Scholarship enabling a young woman from Asia, the Pacific or multi-cultural Australia to further her studies

### **World Community Day in October** theme: ***Great is Your Faithfulness***

dedicates Fellowship of the Least Coin Offerings and supports a Special Project

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

### Carmel Keys

It is a great pleasure to present the 45th Annual Report of ACW NSW State Unit Inc 2008. It is with some regret however that my term has come to an end, but I look forward to Mrs Jennifer Peffer's stewardship from May.

I thank you most sincerely for your friendship, love and support during my term of office. Your prayers were and are always appreciated as we work together in the Lord's service. You are the human face of our Lord, Jesus, in an increasingly secular world and it is our responsibility to uphold the Christian ideals of ACW.

Thank you to secretary, Isabel Hewitt who keeps me on track and Helen Richardson for watching the finances. Thank you to the State Executive and all members for their commitment and dedication. Your faithful attendance is inspiring. I have appreciated your many invitations to attend or speak at functions and at services and thank those who have represented me when necessary. It is very uplifting to share in denominational and organisational conferences and services.

A.C.W. is represented on N.C.W., PPSEAWA, World Day of Prayer and NSW Ecumenical Council.

On 2nd April I will attend the liturgy of the signing of a covenant at Christ Church Anglican Cathedral Newcastle binding the Anglican Diocese of Newcastle and the Catholic Dioceses of Maitland/Newcastle and Broken Bay, an historic liturgy that the ecumenical commissions have been working hard to implement.

As usual, most of us have shared the World Day of Prayer Service with our local denominations, a chance to affirm our faith and friendship.

The Special Days held in July and October have enabled me to share the blessings of the services with many members. September saw a large group from Sydney attend the National Conference in Geelong which was spiritually uplifting and socially successful, providing the opportunity to catch up with friends from other States. We wish the new National Executive in ACT every blessing as they take the reins for the next two years. Thank you to our ladies who hosted Shu-Wen on her visit to Sydney after the conference.

Our Dedication Service was held at the very historic Catholic Church of St Brigid at Milson's Point and we were blessed to have National President, Major Elaine Johnson address us and spend some time in fellowship in Sydney. The Spiritual Enrichment Day was held at Scots Church, Margaret Street city, a very convenient venue. Once again a different format engaged the attention of all. Each group excelled themselves in their preparation.



## PRESIDENTS BY DENOMINATION

### Anglican

Brucinda Montgomerie	1963-64
Mary Andrews	1969-70
Doris M Mitchell	1974-75
June Graham	1986-88
Jan Harrison	2000-02

### Baptist

Effie H Baldwin	1960-61
Joyce O Gilbert	1968-69
Gladys West	1980-82
Lucelle King	1994-96

### Catholic

Marie McCann	1978-80
Phyl McKinnirey	1992-94
Carmel Keys	2006-08

### Churches of Christ

Ruby W McCallum	1941-42, 1946-47
May Greenhalgh	1954-55
Marjory Verco	1962-63
Marjorie A Stanhope	1970-71
Gladys Bent	1975-76
Marjory Baker	1988-90
Jean Porteous	2002-04

### Congregational

May Renwick	1939-40
Gertrude A Roseby	1939-40, 1944-45
Annie B Deans	1950-52
Reta E Farr	1959-60
Olga G Badger	1966-67

### Lutheran

Regina Stolz	1948-49,
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### Methodist

Amy Gertrude Bowden	1940-41
Elsie E Deane	1945-46
Sylvia J Lew	1952-54
Edris M Manefield	1961-62
Grace Cowled	1967-68
Winifred Dougherty	1973-74

### Presbyterian

Hannah Jennings	1938-39
Mary Eliza Clouston	1943-44
Mary Millar	1949-50
Marianne Vines	1958-59
Thelma M Adam	1965-66
Nancy M Pfeiffer	1972-73
Yvonne Davis	1982-84
Peg Blake	1996-98

### Salvation Army

Kathleen B Garlick	1956-57
Hazel V Cross	1964-65
Olive Carpenter	1971-72
Edna Baker	1976-78
Joan Tong	1990-92
Lyn Middleton	2004-06

### Society of Friends

Rebecca Swann	1942-43, 1947-48
Kathleen Lowry	1955-56

### Uniting

Edith Ridge	1984-86
Elizabeth Walker	1998-2000



President 1994-1996  
**Lucelle King**  
Baptist

President 1996-1998  
**Margaret (Peg) Blake**  
Presbyterian



President 1998-2000  
**Elizabeth Walker**  
Uniting

President 2000-2002  
**Jan Harrison**  
Anglican



President 2002-2004  
**Jean Porteous**  
Church of Christ

President 2004-2006  
**Lyn Middleton**  
Salvation Army



President 2006-2008  
**Carmel Keys**  
Catholic

The successful Sunday afternoon concert for ACWC held at Salvation Army Hall at Hurstville delighted us with great variety of artists and their music. Our WKS scholar, Pastor Leinamau Manrogoana from Vanuatu was a delight and though very busy with her courses kept in touch. We appreciate Judith Cayzer and her husband who gave such support to her and made her welcome. She is now back home.

Our prayers and thoughts have gone to many members who have been ill during the year and our sympathy to the families who have suffered death of loved ones.

Congratulations to Edith Ridge who became a National Life Member, and to Nancy McLaren, Joan Tong and Shirley Wells for inclusion in the book "Honouring Australian Church Women".

Let me conclude with my thanks for the opportunity to serve as your president. I hope the Lord will continue to bless your work for him and I wish every blessing to Jennifer Peffer and her Executive for their term of office.

**MEMBERSHIP**

**Heather Reid**

Attendances during 2007/8 have averaged 42 with a big dip in August when only 31 were at Council.

Efforts have been made to streamline signing in, both for ACW records and for insurance purposes. We have been grateful for the help given by Martha Noel at the sign in table.

**PASTORAL CARE**

**Olive Edmondstone**

Again this year we have been privileged to offer prayerful love and support to a number of our members and their families in times of loss and serious illness.

We were saddened by the sudden Home Call of Olive Beverley and Rosalyn Bemrose as well as Marjory Baker, one of our past Presidents after a long illness.

Expressions of sincere appreciation have been received. It is important that we continue to support each other in times of joy as well as difficulty.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT**

**Isabel Hewitt**

Between Ascension and Pentecost 2008 the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity will celebrate its 100<sup>th</sup> year. Not all that far behind, Australian Church Women NSW State Unit Inc celebrates our 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, and stands as testament to people working together across denominational boundaries in response to Christ's call to be one.

We are again in the midst of plans to thank our current President, Carmel Keys, and to welcome her successor, Jennifer Peffer at the service of Installation and Dedication in May. Carmel has represented us at many functions, has presided at meetings of Executive and Council and encouraged us in our ecumenical journey.

The task of finding information and photos of past Presidents has almost run its course. Since last annual report we have found all but one of the outstanding photos, and at least some information has been compiled on each person. Some of the results have been unexpected—e.g. one past President came with her husband from England to be a missionary in the colonies and worked in most Australian States. Others depict women whose work within their denominations and local communities would seem to have left little time for inter church activities, yet they found the time, and families testify to the loving care they received. We keep in mind that these women represent all who have gone before us in NSW Women's Inter Church Council and ACW NSW State Unit, and are thankful for their faithfulness. We also thank all who have delved into church archives and/or contacted families in order to gather the information now recorded.

My thanks to all who have assisted me in my tasks as secretary, especially Executive members who have responded willingly when called on to do things, and have 'gone the second mile'.



President 1980-1982  
**Gladys West**  
1919-2001  
Baptist



President 1984-1986  
**Edith B Ridge**  
Uniting



President 1988-1990  
**Marjory Baker**  
1930-2007  
Churches of Christ



President 1992-1994  
**Phyl McKinnirey**  
Catholic



President 1982-1984  
**Yvonne A Davis**  
1922-1999  
Presbyterian



President 1986-1988  
**June Graham**  
Anglican



President 1990-1992  
**Joan M Tong**  
Salvation Army



President 1971-1972  
**Olive Carpenter**  
 1915-  
 Salvation Army

President 1972-1973  
**Nancy M Pfeiffer**  
 1911-1992  
 Presbyterian



President 1973-1974  
**Winifred Dougherty**  
 1919-1994  
 Methodist

President 1974-1975  
**Doris M Mitchell**  
 1908-1997  
 Anglican



President 1975-1976  
**Gladys M Bent**  
 1918-  
 Church of Christ

President 1976-1978  
**Edna H Baker**  
 1911-1998  
 Salvation Army



President 1978-1980  
**Marie J McCann**  
 Catholic

## WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP

**Judith Cayzer**, Convener

The scholar for 2007 was from Vanuatu, LEINAMAU MANROGOANA, and we were blessed to have her in NSW attending the Alan Walker College of Evangelism. She returned to Vanuatu in December 2007.

Her year was made up of various courses, field work, trips around, new friends and a wealth of new ideas and spiritual growth to enable her in her ministry back in Vanuatu.

My husband and I were privileged to have been a part of her life and Leinamau continually gave thanks for ACW support and prayers which God answered in abundance. I have her 16 page report which has been covered in Council reports and Newsette, over the year.

Letters and Christmas cards sent to past scholars have been appreciated mostly, but some have been returned unclaimed, particularly our Australian past scholars. All would be busy serving no doubt. Replies have been received from Mary Au [1980], Doreen Tan [1990], Siok Chong [2005], Nighat Gulzar [1994] plus a gift of 2 placemats which incoming President, Jennifer, will use at our 70th Anniversary Day in September.

With the change of National Executive from Victoria to the ACT, we thanked and farewelled Una Birtchnell as National WKS Convener and welcomed Constance Aronsen. It is good to exchange news and encourage one another.

Application forms are available for the 2009 scholar from Multicultural Australia. Remember the Trustees in South Australia as they receive applications and make decisions .

Please pray for news to come on this years scholar [2008] so the pamphlets can be done. IMELDA AQUINO from the Philippines will study for her Master of Divinity [Missions] at Asia Pacific Theological Seminary in the Philippines. She has a calling to work with Muslim women and has been doing field work in Dubai.

Since 1962, the scholarship has assisted 48 students from 25 different countries and now we can add one more student and country for 2008, Constance [National WKS] tells us in her latest correspondence.

Copies of the book "Winifred" are still for sale and a copy is given to each new scholar.

Thank you for your continuing partnership in this ministry .

**FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN Janet Lang, Convener**



Janet Lang is currently in the Shetland Islands, Scotland.

In December \$14,560 was sent to National Executive as the NSW contribution to the Fellowship of the Least Coin. This represents many prayers for justice, peace and reconciliation, and in expressing thanks to all who have contributed, we encourage your continuing support. The projects selected by the International Committee of Fellowship of the Least Coin bring hope and practical assistance to many throughout the world, and we are privileged to be part of this great movement.

Circle of Prayer, volume 18, "Living the Jubilee" is available, a resource that enables us to share with women around the world in devotions. In the Foreword, Esther Byu emphasises that jubilee is not only for a time of celebration, but for all parts of life as we strive as Christians for wholeness for all people.

**SPECIAL DAYS Pamela Freeman, Convener**

During the past twelve months, three Branches have requested that they close. A couple of other Branches are needing much support and encouragement. On the other hand, many of the Branches report great gatherings and endeavour to adopt the theme presented for each of the Special Days to invite others to participate.

The need to continue to enlighten others about ACW, and bring them into this interdenominational fellowship is ever before us. It cannot be assumed that everyone knows that ACW exists, nor what wonderful projects are supported by ACW.

How encouraging it is to note that some Branches are increasing in attendances and experiencing new life flowing through the fellowship. During the past year, Fellowship Day was acknowledged with the theme *Heaven's Bread* [God provides for our needs past, present and future], and was prepared by the Western Australia Unit.

Our NSW Unit was responsible for the World Community Day with the theme, *Enough for Each Day*. Half of the special offering was directed to support the work of ACWC, and the remaining funds to the operation of *Project Rachel*, as submitted by the Tasmanian Unit. Through this project, healing and reconciliation are experienced by people affected by an abortion experience.

Thank you for every effort made to make the aims of ACW known and for accepting responsibility in your area to maintain the Special Days through which money is given to the various projects, and scholarships.



President 1964-1965  
**Hazel V Cross**  
1904-1969  
Salvation Army



President 1966-1967  
**Olga Badger**  
1918-2006  
Congregational



President 1968-1969  
**Joyce O Gilbert**  
1918-1983  
Baptist



President 1970-1971  
**Marjorie A Stanhope**  
1903-1984  
Churches of Christ

President 1965-1966  
**Thelma M Adam**  
1909-1992  
Presbyterian



President 1967-1968  
**Grace Cowled**  
1899-1982  
Methodist



President 1969-1970  
**Mary M Andrews**  
1915-1996  
Anglican





President 1956-1957  
**Kathleen B Garlick**  
 1898-1984  
 Salvation Army

President 1958-1959  
**Marianne Vines**  
 1899-1988  
 Presbyterian



President 1959-1960  
**Reta E Farr**  
 1919-  
 Congregational

President 1960-1961  
**Effie H Baldwin**  
 1896-1987  
 Baptist



President 1961-1962  
**Edris M Manefield**  
 1896-1981  
 Methodist

President 1962-1963  
**Marjory I Verco**  
 1914-2007  
 Churches of Christ



President 1963-1964  
**Brucinda Montgomerie**  
 1893-1986  
 Anglican

## SOCIAL ISSUES

**Sr Joan Bird fmm**, Convener

Much of the work undertaken this past year has been more in the area of awareness raising of the members by the Social Issues Convener rather than taking specific actions in any one area. Issues about which we have raised awareness and in some cases suggested members could take personal or group action have focussed on the following:

**Climate Change**—In May 2007 members were alerted to the material published in the Catholic Earthcare Booklet entitled “Climate Change-Our Responsibility To Sustain God’s Earth”. The booklet was available for sale to members. An article summarising some of its main points was published in *Newsette*.

**Anti-Slavery Project**—A Human Trafficking Meeting organised by the Anti-Slavery Project of the Law School of UTS together with the organisation Immigrant Women Speak Out was attended by Sr Joan and made known to the members. They were also informed concerning cards issued by World Vision protesting human trafficking. As it was the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the abolition of slavery which is featured in the movie “Amazing Grace” telling of the struggle of Wilberforce this issue was sadly relevant. Members were reminded that today there are even more people enslaved than 200 years ago. An article in *Newsette* of November 2007 treated this topic.

**Make Poverty History**—Members were given the opportunity to take and sign a card relating to the campaign to Make Poverty History by the year 2015—asking Governments to take the necessary action to achieve this goal.

**United Nations Millennium Goals**—Members were alerted to these goals as a relevant background to the many actions for Social Justice we can pursue at a local level networking with other organisations acting for the same purpose.

**Spirituality Day input on Social Issues**—Input was given on the spirituality of social justice and members were invited to bring to awareness the Gospel text which inspired them to action for Social; Issues. Sr Joan shared how she had grown from childhood through a variety of experiences in family, and Church and religious congregation to an awareness of social issues and a motivation to undertake action for the poor and marginalised.

**Motion at National Conference**—The motion put forward by our representatives was defeated. It asked that we use the term “Social Issues” rather than the term “Social Justice Issues” as the latter seems to carry political undertones for some members.

### Questions for the future

What is the most efficient /satisfactory way for a Social Issues Convener to work with a committee?

Have the issues dealt with at State level impacted on ACW local group action and networking with other groups at local level?

Do we have clear priorities for action which accord with the nature of our being a women’s group?

## ACWC REPORT

**Lyn Middleton**

Reports from our ACWC National Representative and the Asian Church Women Newsletter indicate that ACWC is continuing to fulfill its founding purpose of ecumenical fellowship among Asian Church Women. In addition to this ACWC's extension into practical projects and programs provides ongoing emotional, spiritual and financial support to individuals and in response to situations within the member countries.

Of special interest during the past year was the attendance of the ACWC Executive Secretary, Shu-Wen Chiang, at our National Conference in Geelong. In her report to Conference Shu-Wen spoke of recent and current projects undertaken by ACWC, such as training programs for:- leadership; women's economical independence; educating and empowering young women, promoting attention to gender issues and violence against women. She also shared some of the concerns of ACWC, in particular: the sensitive political situation in some member countries which often leads to persecution; awareness of HIV/AIDS; and the multiplicity of denominations and freelance missionaries with its attendant aggressive evangelism and threat to ecumenism. During her report Shu-Wen spoke of Rev Dominica, a Filipino missionary who has gone to East Timor on a 2 year mission to the destitute of that land. From 2009, pending a positive evaluation of the mission, ACWC will take care of the program. A love offering of \$960 was received at Conference for Rev. Dominica.

January 2008 Shu-Wen Chiang visited Nepal to renew ACWC's association and to discuss mission and projects for women and children in Asia. Celebration of ACWC Jubilee will take place during the coming ACWC Executive & General Committee meeting in May 2008 in Taiwan.

A detailed report of our ACWC Annual Service for NSW was printed in the February 2008 *Newsette* but our thanks and commendation should go to Beryl Kirkwood and her committee for all their enthusiasm and hard work in putting this afternoon together so successfully. 200 people gathered at The Salvation Army Hurstville and were treated to a smorgasbord of musical talent and the current WKS scholar Pastor Leinamau Manrogoana brought a greeting. A thank offering of \$500 will be forwarded to ACWC. I would like to personally thank Beryl for her selfless devotion to the work of ACWC, NSW for the past two years.

Let us continue to remember South Korea, our prayer partner, taking a prayerful interest in this land and its people.



President 1945-1946  
**Elsie E Deane**  
1883-1977  
Methodist



President 1949-1950  
**Mary Millar**  
1892-1979  
Presbyterian



President 1952-1954  
**Sylvia J Lew**  
1902-1985  
Methodist



President 1955-1956  
**Kathleen E Lowry**  
1903-1994  
Society of Friends

President 1948-1949;  
President 1957-1958  
**Regina Stolz**  
1904-1989  
Lutheran



President 1950-1952  
**Annie Deans**  
1875-1958  
Congregational



President 1954-1955  
**May Greenhalgh**  
1903-1978  
Churches of Christ





President 1938-1939  
**Hannah Jennings**  
 1871-1951  
 Presbyterian

President 1939-1940  
**May Renwick**  
 1877-1940  
 Congregational



President 1939-1940  
 President 1944-1945  
**Gertrude Amy Roseby**  
 1872-1971  
 Congregational

President 1940-1941  
**Amy Gertrude Bowden**  
 1871-1955  
 Methodist



President 1941-1942  
 President 1946-1947  
**Ruby McCallum**  
 1892-1965  
 Churches of Christ

President 1942-1943  
 President 1947-1948  
**Rebecca Swann**  
 1873-1959  
 Society of Friends



President 1943-1944  
**Mary Eliza Clouston**  
 -1951  
 Presbyterian

**NEWSETTE**

**Beryl McLaughlin**, *Newsette* Editor

In my twentieth year as Editor of our little news magazine the regular four issues have gone out to some 200 readers in February, May, August and November, with notice of forthcoming events and reports of the various activities and projects in which we are involved and support. I trust they are read with interest, and appreciate comments of appreciation received from time to time. I do thank the conveners who provide their reports for each issue. Also Brenda Dickinson who maintains the mailing list, prints out the labels, and prepares the envelopes, and Heather Badgery who assists with the folding and enveloping each mailing.

**WEBSITE MANAGER'S ANNUAL REPORT**

**Brenda Dickinson**

National and NSW State Unit Inc. Website Manager

**Launch of Australian Church Women Website**

After more than two years of information gathering, it was very exciting to see our website officially launched at the 21<sup>st</sup> National Conference of Australian Church Women in Geelong, Victoria, on September 27, 2007. The address is [www.acwnational.org.au](http://www.acwnational.org.au)

National and State Unit Website Managers were appointed. They receive direction from and report to their National/State Executive. The National Website Manager was appointed as an ex-officio member of the National Executive. Both the National and the State Website Managers enthusiastically embraced their new roles.

The **Home** page of the ACW Website is the **National** page. Information on the Winifred Kiek Scholarship and The Fellowship of the Least Coin may be accessed from this page and there are links to other organisations. Each State has its own **Contacts** page and an **Events** page where any reports or forthcoming events may be posted.

Publicity for NSW State Unit events may be posted on the NSW Events page. If you have anything you would like to contribute to the website in the way of news, events, reports, etc., please send it to me via Mrs Isabel Hewitt, State Unit Secretary, for ratification and subsequent forwarding on to me for inclusion on the website. Thank you very much.

## PUBLICITY REPORT

**Nancy McLaren**, Convener

What a great year 2007 was for ACW with all our Special Days bringing real blessings for those who were able to attend in the different areas around our State. I pray that you were really blessed as you mixed with fellow Christians to celebrate the many aspects that ACW is involved in.

**PAST YEAR NEWS**—The theme from the past National Executive was “Sharing the Loaf” and this theme was used by all who planned and prepared our special National days like Fellowship Day and World Community Day

**May:** 2007 seems so long ago but our Dedication Service with the then National President Major Elaine Johnson as the speaker at Saint Brigid’s Catholic Church was a wonderful day. The setting was lovely, the service and fellowship very challenging and enjoyable. Thank you to President Carmel and now Past National President Elaine for your hard work and ministry in God’s name.

**June:** Fellowship Day, “Heaven’s Bread” prepared by the Western Australian Unit brought to our minds the many people and places where we need to continually pray for in asking God’s care and protection and blessing on them. We continue to ask God to bless those who hunger, not only for physical food but for spiritual food as well. For grace and love, for someone else to love and care for, for trust and meaning in life, these are also areas we can continue to bring before the Lord.

**July:** Spiritual Enrichment Day held in Scots Presbyterian Church in Sydney City was a great time of learning and understanding as some of our NSW Council members shared with us their own stories and experiences of the Lord and how they have been very blessed by meeting and helping others in their spiritual walk. “How have you been spiritually enriched by Scripture and Mission” & “How have you enriched others as well as yourself by Social Issues and your Neighbour”.

**September:** As mentioned in the November Newsette 19 members of NSW ACW Unit Inc took the opportunity to join with 70+ other members of ACW to travel to The Salvation Army Conference Centre in Geelong Victoria to join in fellowship and study at the ACW National Conference. A wonderful blessing was shared by all who attended. Sharing in one of the Conferences is a great experience, and if you would like to consider attending the next one will be held in the **ACT 2009**. More news for this will come as the time draws closer. After Conference we hosted Shu-Wen Chiang, Executive Secretary of ACWC in Sydney. It was great to catch up with her on a casual basis.

**October:** Asian Church Women’s Conference held at The Salvation Army Hurstville brought a great blessing as we shared with Christian friends. Thank you again to those who organised this afternoon for us.

World Community Day with the theme of Enough for Each Day organised by our own Unit ladies challenged us to remember our utter dependence on God.

## PRESIDENTS 1938-2008

### NSW WOMEN’S INTER CHURCH COUNCIL/ACW NSW STATE UNIT

1938-1939	Hannah Jennings	1965-1966	Thelma M Adam
1939-1940	May Renwick	1966-1967	Olga Badger
1939-1940	Gertrude Amy Roseby	1967-1968	Grace Cowled
1940-1941	Amy Gertrude Bowden	1968-1969	Joyce O Gilbert
1941-1942	Ruby McCallum	1969-1970	Mary M Andrews
1942-1943	Rebecca Swann	1970-1971	Marjorie A Stanhope
1943-1944	Mary Eliza Clouston	1971-1972	Olive Carpenter
1944-1945	Gertrude Amy Roseby	1972-1973	Nancy M Pfeiffer
1945-1946	Elsie E Deane	1973-1974	Winifred Dougherty
1946-1947	Ruby W McCallum	1974-1975	Doris M Mitchell
1947-1948	Rebecca Swann	1975-1976	Gladys M Bent
1948-1949	Regina Stolz	1976-1978	Edna H Baker
1949-1950	Mary Millar	1978-1980	Marie J McCann
1950-1952	Annie Deans	1980-1982	Gladys West
1952-1954	Sylvia J Lew	1982-1984	Yvonne A Davis
1954-1955	May Greenhalgh	1984-1986	Edith B Ridge
1955-1956	Kathleen E Lowry	1986-1988	June Graham
1956-1957	Kathleen B Garlick	1988-1990	Marjory Baker
1957-1958	Regina Stolz	1990-1992	Joan M Tong
1958-1959	Marianne Vines	1992-1994	Phyl McKinnirey
1959-1960	Reta E Farr	1994-1996	Lucelle King
1960-1961	Effie H Baldwin	1996-1998	Margaret (Peg) Blake
1961-1962	Edris M Manefield	1998-2000	Elizabeth Walker
1962-1963	Marjory I Verco	2000-2002	Jan Harrison
1963-1964	Brucinda Montgomerie	2002-2004	Jean Porteous
1964-1965	Hazel V Cross	2004-2006	Lyn Middleton
		2006-2008	Carmel Keys

## BIBLE SOCIETY NSW

Due to Julie Bryant's illness this report has been put together from previous reports and from information available on the Bible Society website.

The Bible Society is a non-profit interdenominational organisation, a member of the United Bible Societies, a world wide fellowship of 142 organisations working in more than 200 countries. It is worth restating that the mission of the Bible Society is to achieve the widest possible, effective and meaningful distribution of the Holy Scriptures, by providing the Word of God to people in a language they can understand, in a format they can use, and at a price they can afford, and helping people to interact with the Word of God.

Bible Society NSW works in China, Egypt, PNG, Sri Lanka, Philippines, Iraq, Kenya, Uganda, Zambia, Rwanda, Ivory Coast, South Africa, India, Bangladesh, South Pacific, South East Asia, Vietnam, Laos, Thailand Burma, and Cambodia.

In July, Julie visited Cambodia where a solar powered, digital audio player which holds 500 hours of information was launched as a trial for other countries. The device, called the ZVox holds the full Bible in Khmer, discipleship & evangelism helps, as well as subjects such as HIV/AIDS awareness, health and sanitation lessons. The Bible Society NSW is also partnering with local churches to provide literacy training to disadvantaged (generally women and children), with particular focus in rural areas. The classes are held every day for one hour each day over three months. At the completion of the course the adult students receive a New Testament and the children, a Bible Story book, which they are then able to read! The ZVox Project costs \$100 per digital device and \$1,000 for the full program per village. The Literacy, Train the Trainer program costs about \$1,000 to train and pay the trainer for their services plus all the equipment.

November 2007 saw the launch of two books aimed at bringing the gospel to women. The launch took place at Parliament House in Macquarie Street, and the press release issued to mark that occasion tells us: '*The New Testament for Women (including Psalms and Proverbs)*' features the Good News Translation printed in a compact format. Throughout the text are three personal stories of women coming to faith plus three Help and Guidance sections that look at issues such as 'Finding Your Way' and 'God's Unfolding Plan'.

'*He loves me, He loves me not, He loves me*' is subtitled, 'Jesus, the extraordinary man' and includes Luke's Gospel. Written by Lesley Ramsay, 'He Loves me' is designed to help women come to a greater understanding of who Jesus was, looks at some of 'the slices of his life' through a woman's eyes, 'and can be used as an evangelistic tool for churches and women's ministries.

The Bible Society website can be accessed at [biblesocietynsw.com.au](http://biblesocietynsw.com.au) Information on projects and literature, and press releases about recent events are available, and it is definitely a site worth visiting.

**And so to this year and what is ahead for us so you can plan your year -**

**April 21** Annual General Meeting/Election of Officers

**May 19** Service of Dedication & Installation of President-  
President Elect Mrs Jennifer Peffer has organised a great event for her Dedication Service and I am sure that you will join with us all and continue to pray for Jennifer as she takes the chair.

**EASTWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH**

**MONDAY 19 MAY 2008 11am**

**ALL WELCOME - BRING YOUR FRIENDS**

We will say thank you to President Carmel as she steps into the Past President role and continues to serve the Unit in this capacity.

**July** Fellowship Day "Growing in Faith" written by ACT Unit

**September 15** This is our 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of NSW ACW Inc.

**LOOK FOR NEWS IN THE COMING NEWSLETTERS**

**September 21** ACWC Pleasant Sunday Afternoon

The Salvation Army Parramatta

**October** World Community Day

**Read the story of the woman behind the  
Winifred Kiek Scholarship**



*Winifred*

By Margaret Knauerhase

available at a cost of \$15

Order your copy from:  
Mrs Helen Richardson  
33 Lynwood Avenue  
DEE WHY NSW 2099  
Phone 02 9971 0278

**AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN - NSW STATE UNIT INC.  
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR TWELVE MONTHS  
ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2007**

RECEIPTS		PAYMENTS	
Administration	1386.70	Administration	4054.62
Interest	327.73	Newsette	768.00
ACWC Bulletins	72.00	Travel Fund	300.00
Newsette	605.00	Fellowship of the Least Coin	14560.76
Travel Fund	160.45	Winifred Kiek Scholarship	512.63
Fellowship of the Least Coin	14392.05	Fellowship Day	4181.41
Winifred Kiek Scholarship	372.00	World Community Day	4019.61
Fellowship Day	4370.20	Asian Church Womens Conference	573.75
World Community Day	4325.15	Winifred Kiek - Pocket Money	800.00
Asian Church Womens Confer.	910.40	Overseas Travel Fund	150.00
'Winifred'	60.00	ACWC Bulletins	84.00
Winifred Kiek - Pocket Money	800.00		
Balance 1/1/2007	<u>3074.89</u>	Balance 31/12/2007	<u>851.79</u>
	30856.57		30856.57

**AUDITORS REPORT:**

I have examined the Books, Documents and Accounts of Australian Church Women NSW State Unit Inc. for the year ended 31 December 2007 and find that, in my opinion, the attached Statements of Receipts and Payments and Capital Funds give a fair view of the affairs of Australian Church Women NSW Inc. as at the 31 December, 2007.

Signature:

*M. Higgins FCPA*

Date:

*31 January 2008*

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN**

Shirley Wells

Helen Richardson and I have again represented ACW on the Council of National Council of Women and have been privileged to attend interesting, challenging and productive meetings. As I write this report, we are saddened at the death of our past president, Mrs Beverley Pavey, and our prayers and thoughts go out to her family at this time.

The highlights of the past year have included the following:

The successful luncheons held at Parliament House when we 'Celebrated Being an Australian', and presented awards of \$1,000 each to nine tertiary students to further their chosen studies.

At the Jean Arnot Memorial Luncheon, Her Excellency, the Governor of NSW proposed the toast to the many ladies 90 years and over who were being recognised for their work and service to the community.

The setting up and sponsoring of youth awards with Randwick Rotary Club who has agreed to fund this project.

'Project Five 0' with its current focus on Violence Against Women, has been one of the final initiatives of 2007.

NCW was fortunate to receive a Government grant which has allowed the upgrade of computers and the purchase of a data projector.

Your prayers would be appreciated as we attend the meetings on the last Thursday evening each month.

**WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION OF NSW**

Beryl McLaughlin, WCTU State Secretary

This will be the final report from WCTU to ACW, as with very much reduced numbers and aging of members, we are winding up as an organisation in NSW, and becoming a 'Foundation'. Our resources, which are considerable because of the efforts of so many in the past, will continue to be used in the cause of temperance on into the future. This only applies, at present, in NSW—WCTU will continue nationally, and world-wide in many countries.

A luncheon on 7 April at Parliament House in Sydney will mark the closure of WCTU NSW after 126 years, and the WCTU Foundation will be launched. The ACW President and a number of members have accepted the invitation to be present.

One happy outcome is that Jean Drysdale who has been the WCTU representative on Council has been appointed as a Churches of Christ delegate, and so will continue in the friendship, fellowship and activities of ACW NSW.

## GIRLS' BRIGADE

Ruth Dickenson



During 2007 we have experienced a few changes within the day to day working in our headquarters, firstly our lovely young Field Worker was offered a full time position with the CDP political party. She still captains a GB company but is no longer on the staff at Toongabbie and is greatly missed. Also in December our Office secretary resigned leaving quite a hole in the office. Thankfully, a very kind deputy commissioner offered to man the office one day a week and was able to attend to all the administrative details for the companies use in 2008. We are currently advertising these positions which hopefully will be filled very soon.

In the October school holidays a camp was held for our senior girls. During this same camp several older girls were also attending and part of their training was to run sessions for the senior camp. Our usual combined BB/GB activity to Jamberoo was held in early March with many camping for the weekend in tents at Gerringong Caravan Park and spending the Saturday at Jamberoo. This as usual was a good time of fun and sharing together.

Our Brigade week fundraising this year was used to purchase a wooden table and bench for Ronald McDonald House. One of our divisions has been running a program each year at the house including the meal and activities for those in residence. This night is usually a highlight for the girls and leaders who run it.

During November/December four of our NSW girls joined another four girls from other States on a mission trip to Tanzania where their main reason for going was to run a camp for the girls and to encourage the leaders. Many lessons were learned during this time, one being the fact that the container (which had been sent much earlier) only arrived the day before camp began and left very little time to unpack (in the hot sun) and sort out the craft materials required for the camp. At the conclusion of the camp the girls went on a safari trip, enjoying the lovely native animals of Africa.

During the year a new program was completed (thanks to lots of hard work by leaders from every State) and is being introduced this year. It offers more resources and subjects of interest to the girls. We are very conscious of the need to keep up to date with programs that are relevant to today's girls and young women.

## AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN - NSW STATE UNIT INC. SPECIAL FUNDS ACCOUNTS 31 DECEMBER 2007

### FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN

Brought forward 1/1/07		1431.65	
Received to year ended 30 November 2007		<u>13852.15</u>	
		15283.80	
Less expenses: Postage, etc.	194.00		
5% to ACW NSW	754.49		
Paid to ACW National	14335.31	<u>15283.80</u>	
Receipts to 31 December 2007 carried forward			539.90

### FELLOWSHIP DAY SERVICE

Receipts for year ended 30 November 2007		4370.00	
Less expenses: Printing and postage	598.27		
5% to ACW NSW	188.59		
Paid to ACW National	3583.14	<u>4370.00</u>	

### WORLD COMMUNITY DAY SERVICE.

Receipts to 30 November 2007		4325.15	
Less expenses: Printing and postage	532.30		
5% to ACW NSW	189.64		
Paid to ACW National	3487.31	<u>4209.25</u>	115.90

### WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP

Brought forward 1/1/97		207.50	
Receipts to 30 November 2007		<u>322.00</u>	
		529.50	
% to ACW NSW	16.87		
Paid to ACW National	512.63	<u>529.50</u>	
Receipts to 31 December 2006			50.00

**AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN - NSW STATE UNIT INC.  
CAPITAL FUNDS STATEMENT 31 DECEMBER 2007**

<b>BALANCES</b>		<b>FUNDS</b>	
Commonwealth Bank Account 06 2146 1000 7297	851.79	<b>ORGANISATION A/c</b>	15293.86
Glebe Administration Board At Call Account 100024S1 100024S1.1	1500.00 <del>3000.00</del> 4500.00	<b>NEWSETTE</b> B/fwd 1/1/2007 Subscriptions	1070.01 <del>605.00</del> 1675.01
Uniting Financial Services At Call Account 2201520S10	389.55	Less Costs	<del>768.00</del> 907.01
Churches of Christ At Call Account 106940	<del>12688.05</del> <u>18429.39</u>	<b>TRAVEL FUND</b> B/fwd 1/1/2007 Add receipts	226.68 <del>160.45</del> 387.13
		Paid to ACW National	<del>300.00</del> 87.13
		<b>STATE CONFERENCE</b> B/fwd 1/1/2007	276.99
		<b>ACWC PARTNERS</b> B/fwd 1/1/2007 Receipts	748.20 <del>910.40</del> 1658.60
		Paid to ACW National	<del>500.00</del> 1158.60
		<b>WORLD COMMUNITY DAY</b>	115.90
		<b>WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP</b>	50.00
		<b>R/SHIP OF THE LEAST COIN</b>	<del>539.90</del> <u>18429.39</u>

**PAN PACIFIC & SOUTH EAST ASIA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION (NSW)**

Edith Ridge, ACW Representative to PPSEAWA

Sr Joan Bird and I have been pleased to represent ACW at the meetings of PPSEAWA for another year. The meetings provide good fellowship with women of like interests, while stimulating our minds with interesting and challenging speakers. We are pleased to report activities of the year under review as follows:

\* Margo Wagner told of "Friends of Farm Families" and the shops where good used clothing is made available to country people in remote areas.

\* Luncheons for International Women's Day in 2007 and 2008 and were great successes. Hind Karouche of the Muslim Women's National Committee spoke at the 2007 Luncheon. Money collected on that day was given to two PPSEAWA projects; United Nations Trust Fund in support of the Actions to Eliminate Violence Against Women and the work of PPSEAWA in promoting Peace and Understanding in the Asia Pacific Region.

\* The International Conference of PPSEAWA was held in Auckland NZ on the theme "Women Making a Difference Through Peace". There were 100 delegates, 15 from Australia, and we received a full report.

\* Harmony Day was celebrated by 88 women attending a function at the Great Synagogue. PPSEAWA members were pleased to be part of this.

\* Mahboba Rawi, Australian citizen from Afghanistan, told the story of the work being done with homeless children in Pakistan. Her book "Mahboba's Promise" is recommended, available from PO Box 6234 North Ryde 2113

\* Monica Duckworth JP spoke at the Winter Luncheon. Her subject was 'Women Justices Association'.

\* "A Decade of Lessons Learned" a project for Peace Education in School in Developing Countries" was the subject of Pamela Baxter's address. The projects began in Kenya in 1997.

\* Quota International and the Country Women's Association provided speakers on their organisations and Rev Heather McClelland spoke about the Women's Space, Hope Street, Waterloo.

\* Corporate Members gave reports of their organisations in November.

\* Beginning the new year in February, PPSEAWA member Margaret Groenewegen inspired her hearers with her story of "Working with Women and Children." She spoke at length about the Happy Hours Project/ Programme initiated by the Australian/Korean Welfare Association in 2004. Margaret is very involved in this work.

Your representatives report PPSEAWA meetings to ACW through Council meetings and in "Newsette".

## NSW ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

**Pamela Freeman**

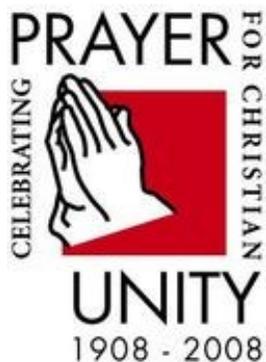
The Council continues to echo the call to ecumenism which needs to be faced as a higher priority in this 21<sup>st</sup> Century. The church is urgently facing the challenge of making itself relevant to our world of this generation.

Many of the clergy and leaders of various faiths attempt many methods to aid the congregations to confront the issues of the world and to identify where the church has its meaningful place in the local community. People from various church backgrounds are centring their combined energies to address the imbalances of empowerment within the church, and the way that churches work together with the theme "Called to be the One Church"

Addressing the issues of social justice in the community, appears to be a more pressing problem, especially with the seeming disadvantages of many groups in Australia. To this end The NSW Ecumenical Council persists in its efforts to support those working with refugees, both at the House of Welcome and through the Churches Community Housing Ltd.

At the June Annual General meeting, Rev Tara Lewis from the Uniting Church was inducted as the President of the NSW Ecumenical Council. The other meeting for the year was held at Canberra. A seminar was held examining women's empowerment and transformation through action. Questions for consideration at the gathering challenged thinking about where we as Christians are headed, what challenges we face, and how we can move forward together with a common voice.

This year will be the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity to be held in May. Please continue to pray for all those engaged in this Council, as they work towards peace and unity.



## Kincumber Area Branch

**Bev Elliott**

We continue to enjoy wonderful support and fellowship from all denominations in the area of Kincumber and the Woy Woy Peninsula. Our Fellowship Day Service was held at St David's Presbyterian Church Woy Woy with Mrs Isabel Hewitt our guest speaker. It was a service of celebration and thanksgiving being our 10<sup>th</sup> birthday. On 24 July 1997 Mrs Dorothy Woodhouse held the first ever ACW service at Kincumber Uniting Church with the theme "Jesus Christ – the Way Ahead" and what a way He has paved for us. We were glad to welcome Dorothy, now a life member, to our 2007 service and also to hear the encouraging words of Mrs Hewitt speaking to the theme "Heaven's Bread". We had 60 happy participants and \$330 offering.

World Community Day in October, held at St Paul's Anglican Church, Kincumber was an outstanding success as we celebrated the Fellowship of the Least Coin with our President Elect Mrs Jennifer Peffer as guest speaker. Jennifer kept us enthralled with great examples of "Enough for Each Day" as she recalled difficult times experienced by her family and God's wonderful provision for herself and her husband Roger when they were called upon to travel abroad to offer help. We had 77 folk in attendance and our offering amounted to \$852.30 - \$336.50 for ACWC and project Rachael, and the balance of \$515.80 for FLC. We give grateful thanks to all who supported us so wonderfully.

At the conclusion of the service we said goodbye to our dear, much loved and respected past President Dorothy. She had already taken up residence in her new home at Marsfield, but her son Ken brought her back to be with us. We were able to give Dorothy a lovely flower arrangement and a card of good wishes, signed by all her friends from Kincumber Branch. We rejoiced when we learned that her new home comes under the watchful eye of Jennifer and Roger Peffer in their work with the Baptist Church Aged Care. The Lord certainly works in wondrous ways and we give praise for His great faithfulness to us all.

## **SUTHERLAND SHIRE BRANCH ANNUAL REPORT – 2007**

Brenda Dickinson (Hon. Secretary, ACW Sutherland Shire Branch).

I am pleased to report that the spirit of ecumenism continues to flourish in the Shire. It is a delight to share in fellowship and worship with the different churches all taking part.

The Fellowship Day Service (Theme: “Heaven’s Bread”), was held at St. John’s Anglican Church, Sutherland where the Guest Speaker Lynn Pickersgill reminded us that we need to use our gifts from God every day. Just like the manna in the desert, they will not keep until another day. We can witness to others, encouraging them to read the Word and pray. God will do the rest. He will provide for our every need, every day.

The Asian Church Women’s Conference Sunday Afternoon Concert held on 21<sup>st</sup> October at Hurstville Salvation Army was attended by many of our members. The organisation and musical content was outstanding and very enjoyable.

World Community Day Service was held at Miranda Uniting Church, with the theme being “Enough for Each Day”. The Guest Speaker, Norma Dumbrell, showed a very interesting DVD of her mission team visits to Myanmar (Burma) and reflected on God’s provision being “enough for each day”.

Sadly (for us) Norma has found it necessary to retire from her role of President of ACW Sutherland Shire Branch. We thank Norma for all her work (and ministry) on our behalf. We’re very glad that she will still be part of ACW in the Shire.

Pat Sutton, our representative on the NSW State Unit has attended all meetings and events. Thank you Pat.

Once again, the attendances and offerings this year have been very good. We give thanks to God for the opportunity of supporting projects financially and being able to share in fellowship this way.

## **BURWOOD-CONCORD BRANCH** Bonnie Lyons, Secretary

At the Annual Meeting in February 2007 the 2006 office bearers were re-elected unopposed. The annual Fellowship Day Service was held on Thursday 19 July at St Ambrose Catholic Church, Concord West. Our guest speaker was Mrs Jan Harrison who presented a challenging and encouraging message on the theme ‘Heaven’s Bread’ which was greatly appreciated. The musical contribution by St Ambrose School Choir was enjoyed by all. Following the service the St Ambrose ladies served a delicious luncheon, which, along with the fellowship shared by the large number attending, was thoroughly enjoyed.

The World Community Day Service was held on Thursday 25 October at Concord Uniting Church. On this occasion the guest speaker was Mrs Pamela Freeman, whose message on the theme “Enough for Each Day” was inspiring and thought-provoking. A delightful solo by Mrs Leanne Green added greatly to the spirit of love and fellowship which was evident. A happy time of sharing over luncheon served by the local ladies was much enjoyed.

We are grateful to the Parish Priest at St Joseph’s Catholic Church, Enfield, for allowing us to use their small meeting room for our meetings. Although the number attending meetings is small, a great spirit of co-operation and fellowship is enjoyed, and warm and lasting friendships continue. Attendances at Special Services have been quite satisfactory, indicating support from member churches. We give thanks and praise to God who brings us together and gives us a continuing sense of belonging to His universal family.

## **STRATHFIELD/HOMEBUSH BRANCH** Beryl McLaughlin

The small committee made up of representatives of six local churches has persevered and kept the Special Days Services going, with some difficulty because of age and illness and reduced attendances. We have been encouraged by very good financial support for ACW projects such as the Winifred Kiek Scholarship and FLC. The services are always inspiring and challenging to those who attend, with fellowship with folk from the various churches enjoyed over lunch or afternoon tea. A suggestion has been made that the Branch could combine with Burwood/Concord Branch, and so maybe strengthen both groups and widen interest and support.