

Please Note:

All A.C.W. Monies—Affiliation Fees, Fellowship of the Least Coin, Newsette Subscriptions, Offertories for Special Days and Donations to be sent to the **TREASURER:**

Lt. Pat Cory
P O Box 9078
Harris Park NSW 2150
Phone: 0408 440 127

However....

for safety reasons DO NOT include the word "Treasurer" when addressing envelopes

- ALL CHEQUES to be made payable to "Australian Church Women NSW Unit Inc." and NOT to any individual person.

FEES from AFFILIATED GROUPS

Denominational Groups: \$25 per annum
A.C.W. Local Branches: \$15 per annum
Organisations: \$15.00 per annum

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS' FEES \$15 per annum

(This includes subscription to Newsette)

For further details contact Jennifer Pepper (9874 4056)

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Changes of Address & Contributions to Newsette

Should be sent to the Editor:

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Newsette

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

NSW STATE UNIT INC.

ACW Website: www.acw.org.au



ACW Seeks:

To unite Australian churchwomen in their allegiance to their Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ;

To provide opportunities for Christian women of different denominations to worship, study and serve together.

Mission Statement:

Australian Church Women believe that there is one God-Father, Son and Holy Spirit; one God, Three-in-One. We believe that Scripture teaches that salvation is only through faith in the atoning death and resurrection of Jesus Christ

Issue No. 151

May 2017

PRESIDENT: Mrs Pamela Freeman

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Phone: 02 9873 1701

2017 IMPORTANT DATES:

Dedication Day—May 15 at Eastwood Baptist Church

Spiritual Enrichment Day—July 17 at Woy Woy Presbyterian Church

GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings to you as we continue to walk in the light of the gospel with the risen Christ whose resurrection we have so recently celebrated. Isn't it great to share this good news, and witness the transformation of lives when Christ is allowed to enter?

National Executive chose the theme 'Women Empowering Change' for the time in office, which concludes at the National Conference in Melbourne in early October. Many examples of women bringing change to the present situation are found in history and literature as well as the scriptures. At this time of the year we particularly consider those women who have had a godly influence on each of our lives. Perhaps it is time to renew our resolve to assist other women in finding Christ in their lives and learning to work under the power and direction of the Spirit.

On Monday 15th May, you are invited to join with us for the Annual Dedication Day for the NSW State Unit Inc Executive of Australian Church Women. The theme for the day is **"May the evidence of Christ be seen in our lives together"**. This is mentioned in The Message 1 Corinthians chapter 1, stating that 'The evidence of Christ has been clearly verified in your lives'. How the world needs to see our living and working together exemplifying the power of the gospel working in human lives. Those around us may only believe as the evidence of Christ is seen in us. May we be nourished by the Holy Spirit as we continue to live and work together in the many areas in which we serve locally, and through ACW, nationally and internationally.

I look forward to meeting with you at the Dedication Day and other gatherings throughout the year.

Pamela Freeman
President NSW State Unit Inc. 2016-2018.

REMEMBER - All cheques sent to our Treasurer must be made out to **"AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NSW UNIT INC."**

PASTORAL CARE



Easter seems to have arrived very shortly after Christmas this year. We pray for those members whose own health is worrying them.

Special prayers are needed for family members who have had surgery, for successful recoveries and strength for their loved ones as they watch the patients return to health.

We think of those who do not have their loved ones with them, separated by grief or the need for higher care for a family member, we pray for them.

May the Easter time have bought a renewal to us all as we have pondered the magnitude of the unselfishness of our Lord who gave up His son to atone for our sins. A time of reflection and a time of peace.

Helen Hill, Convenor

SOCIAL ISSUES

We have recently contacted politicians expressing our concerns re the devastating effects on communities where all children are not being vaccinated and applauded legislation which will exclude such children from preschools and childcare.

On another note we have backed efforts to encourage the growth of small businesses which are one of the largest of employer groups. We plan to continue to exercise our freedom of speech to let authorities at all levels know of our opinions on current events.

Rae Goth, Convenor

FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN

My report for this Newsette will include the information of project grants which were accepted by the ICFLC for the past year.



Latin America Region received \$20,000 which was given for an Arts Cooperative and three other projects which would encourage people in their daily living:

- ◇ For the value of life, peace and gender justice
- ◇ Dignity and Social Inclusion for socially vulnerable children and youth
- ◇ The kyriocentrica culture and the "touches" women receive.

In the Middle East, Lebanon and Jordan were granted \$15,000 for three projects:

- ◇ A teenage girls at risk program
- ◇ Women's work
- ◇ Empowered by God, a project of the Near East School of Theology.

Our support of FLC could be considered like a drop in the ocean, but when we realise that, by our giving, we are connecting with women right around the world, then it makes it all worthwhile.

Continue to pray for peace, justice and reconciliation.

Thank you for your ongoing prayers and continued financial support (through the collection of your least coins), of FLC.
Every blessing,

Lillian Hodges, retiring FLC Convenor

ACV NSW Council expresses their sincere thanks for the dedicated promotion of Fellowship of the Least Coin which Lillian has done for the past 6 years. She has encouraged and enthused about this ministry and taken advantage of opportunities to speak to many church groups. Please pray for someone to step up into this role for the coming year

SPECIAL DAYS

As I write this report material for Fellowship Day 2017 is being prepared and will soon be posted out to all our branches. If you haven't received your parcel by the end of the month don't hesitate to contact me on (02) 9529 6744 or middletonk@bigpond.com

Once your planning is complete you can advertise your service on our webpage by emailing the details of your service to:

brendad2@optusnet.com.au

or phone – 02 8521 7891.

[I warmly encourage you to take advantage of this facility](#)

The Order of Service for Fellowship Day has been prepared by the South Australian Unit of ACW. The theme is *Women Empowered to Lead* which is a continuation of the current National Executive's theme *Women Empowering Change*. I feel that it has been well prepared. A little different, perhaps, but good. It has capitalised on the theme in the readings by telling in a conversational paraphrase the stories of women who were empowered to lead, some from the bible, some from church history and also Winifred Kiek. This is particularly appropriate as it is the day when we especially remember in prayer our Winifred Kiek scholars for the year and have the opportunity to support these scholarships through our giving in the offering.

This year there are two scholarships being awarded:

The first one is to the All India Council of Christian Women, Women's Wing of National Council of Churches in India. The project for which funding is required is a Certificate Course in Gender Justice for 8 young women and 7 young men.

The Second Scholarship is awarded to Hina Burq of Pakistan to attend a conference on Women in Leadership.

If there is a Fellowship Day Service being held near you I would encourage you to attend. For a list of where services are to be held you can go to our website: www.acw.org.au, closer to the date, and click on State Units – NSW – Special Events.

Major Lyn Middleton, Convenor

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP.

As always, your continued prayer for past and present scholarship holders is highly valued. Your support of Fellowship Day in July is again encouraged.

.Sharing latest news of

Leinamau [Vanuatu /2007] is now in her last year at Fiji Bible College and has begun her Thesis on "Women and Ordination", concentrating on Vanuatu, thankful that Winifred Kiek is mentioned in her readings.

Esline [Vanuatu /2016] as National President of her denomination is preparing for their Annual Conference/AGM 14-19 May. They are expecting around 100 delegates to attend. If you would like to read her reports from the WKS funded conference that she attended in India please email or contact me.

Yane [2015 /NT] continues to try and balance life and research/travel for her Thesis..

Christy Ferguson [Melbourne/2009] gives thanks that her accommodation has worked out well and is now looking to change jobs but having difficulty in finding the right one. Prayer for guidance is appreciated. It is doubtful that she will go on Short Term Mission trip to S.E. Asia this year.

Information about the 2017 Scholarships:.

Hina Burq : Hina is a committed Christian and member of St Peters Church in Lahore, Pakistan. She is a Youth Counselor responsible for more than 35 families in the congregation. Due to the death of her grandfather, Hina's funds to attend a chosen Conference has now been transferred to one on Women in Leadership, further enhancing her skills. Hina has 3 sisters, her mother is a school teacher, and her father is a piano teacher also teaching Gospel singing at a school in Lahore.

All India Council of Christian Women: This is the women's wing of National Council of Churches, India. Gender based violence is a national problem but not addressed by Government nor civil society. Worst victims are girls, women, children and people from vulnerable backgrounds. It is the 4th most dangerous nation for a girl child to be born and a woman to live in.

Most Theological Colleges/churches do not have provision to educate leaders on gender justice policies, so are unable to respond to victims appropriately. The WKS funding will provide a Certificate Course for 8 young women and 7 young men for ecumenical formation for all stages of leadership from young church workers through to Eldership levels...equipping with skills to promote gender justice and build inclusive communities of peace.

WKS Trustees [Adelaide] will be deciding on 2018 Scholar/s after May—Multicultural Australia will be the recipient.

Judith Cayzer, Convenor



- ♦ The National Council of Women of NSW has drawn our attention to impending funding cuts to Community Legal Centres. An appeal for your attention and action concerning this proposal should be directed to the Attorney General; your Federal Member; and their counterparts in other parties. It appears all politicians are moved when confronted with a groundswell of public opinion.
- ♦ Congratulations to Carmel Keys, a NSW Past President of ACW who will be co-sponsored by ACW and the Catholic Women's League at the special NCW luncheon at Parliament House for special ladies attaining the significant "0" birthday.
- ♦ Don't forget to RSVP for the ACW NSW 2017 Dedication Day to be held on May 15 at Eastwood Baptist Church, commencing at 11am. Pamela Freeman (9873 1701 or Elizabeth McEwen 9980 2653).
- ♦ Office Bearers of the NSW ACW Unit for the coming year are:
President: Pamela Freeman **Past President:** Tricia Graham
President Elect: Mrs. Peg McEntee (Catholic Representative)
Secretary: Elizabeth McEwen **Treasurer:** Lt. Pat Cory
Convenors: WKS-Judith Cayzer **Fellowship of Least Coin**—vacant
Membership: Martha Noel **Pastoral Care:** Helen Hill
Newslette: Isabel Hewitt **Publicity:** Jennifer Pepper
Special Days: Major Lyn Middleton **Social Issues:** Rae Goth
Asian Church Women's Conference—vacant
There are representatives to other organisations still needed—please prayerfully consider these vacancies and if interested contact the President.
National Council of Women; World Day of Prayer; NSW Ecumenical Council and Pan Pacific & SE Asia Women's Association.

God has given each of you some special abilities; be sure to use them to help each other, passing on to others God's many kinds of blessings. 1 Peter 4:10 TLB

HAVE YOU REMEMBERED TO RENEW YOUR NEWSLETTE SUBSCRIPTION? If not, contact the Treasurer to ensure that you don't miss out on your next copy. Remember you can receive it by email if you prefer.