

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

MINUTES OF NATIONAL EXECUTIVE MEETING, 10am 18th JULY 2000,
held in Koorong Bookstore Staff Room, 198 Waymouth Street, Adelaide



WELCOME President Mrs Marj Dredge welcomed all present at 10.05 am.

DEVOTIONS Marj Dredge read the prayer poem 'Faithful Love' from "May I have This Dance" by Joyce Rupp - fidelity is aligned to deep trust. We acknowledge and trust God's guidance as we seek to lead others.

PRESENT Marj Dredge in Chair, Maureen Clark, Shirley Birch, Dorothy Chapman, Dorothy Ferrier, Margaret Greenslade, Barbara Grealy, and Marj Crawford.

APOLOGIES Laurice Smith, Mavis Ellis and Shirley Sampson.

MINUTES of the meeting of 20/6/2000 were signed as correct (note 'closure' should read 'holding hands').

BUSINESS ARISING from the Minutes

- 1 **Web Site** - m.B Grealy, s.S Birch that as little or no cost will be involved we will put our 'Home Page' on an existing web site. All Units will be asked to publicise where our home page is located, details of which will be forwarded when it is up and running. This will test whether our own web site would be viable and the expense warranted - to be decided by National Conference. **Agreed.**
- 2 **Preparation of Fellowship Day Service 2001** - Our listed contact, Rev Annette Bailey is no longer replying and no correspondence etc has been returned.
- 3 **Fax Machine** - purchased 29/6/00, cost \$327 - Dorothy Ferrier finds it wonderful.
- 4 **WCD 2001 Theme** - 'Living in Hope'.

CORRESPONDENCE - on Page 4. Inwards received, Outwards endorsed m.M Clark, s.D Ferrier

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE CORRESPONDENCE

- 1 (5) Apology for Qld Unit's ACW News item going astray (should not happen in future).
- 2 (7) Tas Unit elections - names, addresses, ph. nos. are needed.
- 3 (9) Report from Barbara Lacy on OSW Capacity Building Workshop 3/7/00.
'45 participants from NGOs included women from church, legal, business, city and rural sectors and international UN group. It was pleasing to have younger women involved in the discussions.
Presenter, Dr Tricia Szirom, a former national president of YWCA, commenced with a brainstorm of what changes had been influenced by women. We owe much to the 'mothers' of our organisations. We need to have passion and persistence with our VISION. People join and support us if they can see we make a difference. Publicise how many women of our organisation are involved nationally and in collaboration with like-minded groups. Use these figures when we lobby, eg Fairwear. Lobby more than one govt dept as well as the Opposition and backbenchers. Best time to lobby for funding, May-Nov. Politicians like to hear solutions, eg "ACW can help you with etc."
Rosemary Calder, Director OSW joined us at/after morning tea and gave us (her words) "A palette of colours". "You have kicked the goals for others. Women can now be equal but today they lack passion and do not have the same goals. Consolidate resources rather than operate in smaller groups." Asked about the Round Table Conference, Rosemary said 20 years ago there were 20 women's groups, now there are 80. The workshops seem to be a good way to reach NGOs locally.
OSW can influence policy. There is no office for women's health. Areas of concern - breast cancer, incontinence, also rural issues for women.
Share our information - we are not in competition, eg 16 kindergartens in a region joined in partnership in the best interests of the children/families and lobbied for equal funding for all. In lobbying the media, it was suggested that letter writing could be shared with coalitions. The tips for using the media on page 9 are excellent.
Conclusion - we can do anything. We underestimate our resources and capacity.
"...It was a most enjoyable day and a great opportunity to let OSW know church women are here, as well as network with other NGOs".
- 4 (11) Victorian Unit Exec. Committee List included with these minutes.
- 5 (13) Barbara Lacy to be asked to attend on our behalf on 11/8/00
- 6 (14) As reported in last month's minutes
- 7 (16) See B Lacy's ACWC Report, Correspondence In No.3

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I had the privilege of leading the NSW Unit's 'Reflection Day'. 50 women were there and it was a wonderful time.

Glenys Holly and her husband are moving as he has been appointed as Divisional Commander to North Queensland.

TREASURER - Financial Report for TWO months ending 30th June 2000 - accepted. (P. 4)

Account passed for payment, \$218 to President, part air fare to NSW for 'Reflection Day'.

Both the above m. D.Chapman & s. S.Birch.

ABN has been received; Exemption from tax as a Charity applied for

REPORTS

1 WKS Convener - Dorothy Ferrier

Received ACT Newsletter.

At the Trustees' meeting on 20 June it was agreed that owing to the political unrest in the Pacific Area we would defer our final decision until later in the year. The applications received were discussed. Some applications were incomplete and therefore ineligible for consideration. Because of the delay with our final decision letters have been written to these applicants' sponsoring bodies.

There are several complete applications for consideration and the applicants' sponsoring bodies have been advised that we are delaying our final decision.

The FAX machine has been purchased and has been well and truly, and gratefully used.

Thank you all! The number whilst it is with me is (08) 8379 1804.

We hope and pray that the situation in the South Pacific will ease soon.

2 FLC Convener - Margaret Greenslade

At last most of the copies of the various publications we have been awaiting have arrived. "Circle of Prayer" - copies have been readdressed from Qld by Margaret Florence and my thanks go to her - one consignment received, the second in post. As yet no account from Canada, although I have requested same from Jean Instance.

From Esther Byu I received the 25 copies of "Many Prayer One Prayer" - the FLC history - no account to hand at present. On Dorothy Chapman's advice I have not despatched "A Legend and a Legacy" - a 'tax hitch' has caused this.

I am following up a suggestion of possibly sending the books, and a letter advising that the books **be held until I can send the accounts**, to the various units by way of ACW delegates at present attending a conference in Adelaide.

Esther also sent copies of FLC Reports & Messages 2000: each unit will receive a copy, National Executive members have also received a copy.

A further application for a FLC grant was received from Juanita Miller, Tas. Convener.

Unfortunately this arrived too late to even reach Esther Byu by the closing date. The application has been returned - they may wish to reapply in 2001. Juanita also sent a copy of her annual report of FLC activities in Tas.

A letter from Joan Instance received with 5 copies of Circle of Prayer - orders seem to have been very confused.

WA Convener - Patricia Smeeton resigned earlier this year because of ill health; Margaret Napier (Unit President) was acting as Convener but Olive Dell has now accepted the position (news per phone from Margaret Napier 17/7/00).

3 Social Justice Convener - Mavis Ellis

I attended one of the two Asylum Seeker Workshops arranged by the Coalition for Justice for Refugees, a coalition of church and community groups. Two of the contact people are Tony Roach, Caritas Australia and Christine Ostle, UCA Social Justice consultant.

Media reports do not say that doctors are escaping from Iraq because they cannot continue to do what the government requires of them - ie cut off people's ears as punishment nor that many are illiterate because the education system has broken down as women teachers are forced back into their homes by militant Islamic groups. If refugees are illiterate in their own language it is so much more difficult to learn English and it is not taught in the Detention Centres anyway. Indonesia has turned a blind eye to people smugglers bringing the boat people here because of Australia's assistance to East Timor.

Most refugees have sold up homes, jewellery etc and borrowed money to get here believing they would be able to bring families. They cannot get genuine passports so buy false ones which they are told to destroy as soon as they get here.

Those being released from Womera are given a 3 year temporary visa brought to Adelaide on a Friday evening & no govt services available till Monday.

REPORTS - cont

Social Justice Report - cont

Islamic students in Adelaide have given their time during holidays to help them settle.
 Donations of bedding, household goods and furniture are needed
 Port Adelaide UC is helping 15 people from Ambon to try to make the world aware of what is happening to Christians in Indonesia - they seek asylum until conditions improve enough to return home.
 During the UCA National Assembly held in Adelaide 18-24 July a delegation waited on the Aust. Foreign Minister. The newly-elected UCA President spent 13 years as a missionary in the Maluccas and many of those recently killed were people he had baptised and confirmed and ministers he had ordained.

ACWC REPORT - Barbara Lacy

Many thanks for the ace card on my appointment as Vic Unit President (you are clever). Our Installation Service went well, and Life Membership was conferred on Lt. Col. Isabel Macintyre. You will read more in our next Newsletter.
 Still on Vic Unit business...I enclose report on OSW Workshop I attended on July 3 together with extra copy of papers. It was very worthwhile for me, both for ACW and ACWC, and good that Church Women were represented.

Now to ACWC report,,,Please pray for Lynette Green. I have been advised by one of her colleagues who met up with her at the S/Army International Congress in Atlanta, that she has lost approx. 7 kilos and looks unwell. It could be change of diet. I will send her another email on Monday.

I have been busy getting quotes for my trip to Bangladesh, a visa is needed of course. (Leave 5th, return 16th/10).

My correspondence: plus Monday emails -
 Out

1. P Ebenezer (Cheque.thanks)
2. NSW Unit (Thanks, Violence info)
3. SA Unit (Thanks, Violence info)
4. M Brown (Donation thanks - friend of mine)
5. P Ebenezer - typed & edited article for "News"
6. S Sampson (Article for "News")
7. Niroosha Ebenezer (Best wishes for Uni)

In

1. Unifem Aust. Inc -(this and next the result of networking at OSW
2. Aust. Federation of University Women Victoria)
3. Internation Conference: Religion & Culture in Asia Pacific: Violence or Healing? 22-25/10/00 - sent to me from Uniting Ch. **Papers/invitation attached. Should ACW be involved?** I will attend the Public Meeting 22/10 if I have recovered from Bangladesh.

Rereading this - I have been busy. (Like everyone else!) Keep well

Barbara.

Closure - Marj led in prayer.

Date of next meeting - Tuesday 15 August 2000 at 10 am

National President..... Date

Following the meeting Leila, Lady Wilson (WA Unit) shared lunch with us.

PUBLICATIONS:

Working Together Issue 2/2000
 CCA News
 FLC Messages and Reports 2000
 International Treaties Seminar
 Footsteps July2000

Inwards:

- 18/6/00 1. Emails(2)B. Lacy re Conference estimates; request for info. on ALL forms of Dom. Violence
- 27/6/00 2. ACW (SA Unit) minutes meeting 9/6/00
- 27/6/00 3. Leila Lady Wilson (WA Unit) thank you and advising visit to Adelaide 14-22 July 2000
- 28/6/00 4. ACW (ACT Unit) Newsletter July/August/ September 2000
- 29/6/00 5. ACW (Qld Unit) minutes meeting 22/5/00
- 29/6/00 6. Lord Mayor reply to my letter
- 29/6/00 7. ACW (Tas Unit) minutes meeting 10/4/00, minutes AGM 22/5/00, Annual Report 1999/00
- 3/7/00 8. Email new format for NEWS – now to be issues monthly
- 7/7/00 9. ACW (ACT Unit) re Dept. PM & Cabinet workshops held in Canberra
- 7/7/00 10. OSW re Significant Women
- 10/7/00 11. ACW (Vic Unit) list of Office bearers for 2000/2001
- 12/7/00 12. Lord Mayor re Civic Reception
- 12/7/00 13. Unifem invit. to An. Gen. Meeting 11/8/00 Melbourne; newsletter
- 13/7/00 14. Elizabeth Walker report on NCCA Network on Women & Gender Relationships meeting
- 14/7/00 15. WKS Trust minutes meeting 20/6/00 and financial statement
- 14/7/00 16. B. Lacy report on 'Capacity Building' workshop 3/7/00; ACWC report; advice of
International Conference: Religion & Culture in Asia Pacific: Violence or Healing? 22-25/10
- 17/7/00 17. ACW (WA Unit) minutes meeting 16/6/00

Outwards:

- 20/5/00 1. WCD orders of services posted to all Units
- 21/6/00 2. Card to B. Lacy on induction as Pres. Vic Unit and Domestic Violence info.
- 21/6/00 3. ACW(QLD Unit) answering queries re website & GST
- 21/6/00 4. Circular 2000/5 to all Units
- 23/6/00 5. Lord Mayor, Mr Alfred Huang re Civic Reception
- 24/6/00 6. Aust. Baptist Women Nat. Sec. Re affiliation
- 28/6/00 7. Leila Lady Wilson invit. To SA Unit meeting 14/7/00 and lunch 18/7/00
- 10/7/00 8. ACW(ACT Unit) reply re Dept. PM & Cabinet workshops held in Canberra

FINANCIAL REPORT for TWO months ending 30th June 2000

Balance 1-5-00			4,711.85
Receipts			
Donation	10.00		
Interest on cheque account	<u>82.89</u>		<u>92.89</u>
			4,804.74
Payments			
Open Book Publishers - ACW Newsletters	158.00		
Recycled Office Shop Pty. Ltd - Fax Machine	327.00		
ISPCK Publishers & Distributors-"Legend and Legacy"	340.00		
Winnifred Kiek Scholarship Trust - Petty Cash	236.92		
Petty Cash -			
Secretary, M Clark	61.75		
Minute Secretary, M Crawford	122.10		
FLC Convenor, M Greenslade	43.90		
Publications Editor, S Sampson	<u>58.48</u>	<u>286.23</u>	<u>1,348.15</u>
Balance 30-6-00			<u>3,456.59</u>
Balance cheque account as per bank statement	3,456.59		
Term Deposit for \$5,000 matured 30-6-00,			
Reinvested plus interest, matures 31-1-01	5,151.29		
Term Deposit matures 23-8-00	<u>6,000.00</u>		
Total Balance 30-6-00			<u>14,607.88</u>
DESIGNATED FUNDS SUMMARY			
Administration	2,488.86		
Fellowship of the Least Coin	33.00		
National Conference Fund	9,283.92		
Overseas Conference Fund	<u>2,802.10</u>		