

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN N.S.W. UNIT

MINUTES of the COUNCIL MEETING, held at 222 Pitt Street, Sydney on Monday, 16 August, 1993.

OPENING:- The President Miss Phyl McKinnirey in the Chair welcomed all members to the meeting. New Presbyterian delegate, Mrs Elaine Brandes was welcomed as was Mrs Edith Frazer Branch representative from the Upper Blue Mountains.

A number of members were welcomed back after being absent for some months. They were Helen Stutchbury, recovered from her eye operation, Val Clements, Juliet Backhouse, Marjory Baker and Glad West, looking very well after her long illness.

DEVOTIONS:- Sister Pat de Coek conducted the devotions, her theme coming from Ephesians 1 verses 1-12. A copy of her work is attached to these minutes.

THOSE PRESENT^{ek} are recorded, with the APOLOGIES on the Attendance sheets. There were ~~48~~ present and ~~12~~ apologies.

NEWS of MEMBERS:- Peg Blake. Her se cond operation has been successful, but we are sorry to relate that she has had an accident at the hospital and has broken her femur. Dorothy Lumb has had more surgery but hopes to be back with us soon. Deaconess Mary Andrews has a very bad back and has had to withdraw from attending the National Conference. Rae Aldridge has four more weeks of therapy to go, she is still 'batling on'. We continue to pray for the healing and comfort of these loved friends. We regret to record the death of Baptist Delegate, Mrs Vera Thorpe. A period of silent prayer was observed as we remembered the life of this good woman and prayed for her family.

MINUTES of the Meeting, June 21 having been distributed were taken as read and confirmed as a correct record, after the deletion of one sentence on page 3 Promotion & Publicity Report. 'This is a matter of some concern etc.' to the end of the sentence.

BUSINESS FROM THE MINUTES:-

1. Visit of World Day of Prayer National Liaison Person to Newcastle, City of Sydney and Sutherland Shire. It was reported that all these meetings were well-attended and that Mrs Cheshire was well received. 50 attended in the Hunter, 60 on a very wet day at Sutherland and there was a very representative attendance in Bible House, Sydney. Meetings of the World Committee of World Day of Prayer will be held in Melbourne in 1994.

2. Spiritual Enrichment Day. Publicity Convener Jeanne Sutherland reported an excellent day. About 70 attended and it was agreed that it was a good idea to make this an all-day event. We enjoyed a beautiful lunch, with no rush, in surroundings that were quiet and peaceful. The speakers, Pat Burke, Lucelle King and Edith Flateau were all very good. The time of reflection to music, with Jeanne and her flautist friend, was much appreciated by all. The song 'Sing As One' used by Jeanne is available at the Catholic Book Shops, Liturgy Centre or St. Paul's.

CORRESPONDENCE. The Outwards Correspondence was ratified and the Inwards was read and received, then delt with.

BUSINESS FROM THE CORRESPONDENCE:-

1. Invitations. Members were invited to attend some of the functions we have received notice of.
2. St. Mary's Cathedral Flower Festival. Members are invited to attend the opening on Friday 3 September and urged to visit the Festival from 3-6 September.
3. St. Andrew's Cathedral Flower Festival, 10-13 September. Members were invited to attend the opening of this festival and to attend when able.

4. Shalom College. A letter of thanks for our interest in this Christian College in Townsville was received, along with the information that Stage 2 was opened on 8 July, with much rejoicing.
5. Slum Ministry leaflets were distributed to denominational delegates for their organisations to take appropriate action.
6. 'Difrnt Colours-One People' stickers were distributed to members, who were asked to wear them this month.
7. Visit of Violet Sampa-Bredt. Violet was the 6th. W.K.Scholar, coming for theological training in Queensland, in 1972. Now working as an ordained minister, she is the President of her country's Council of Churches. During October/November she will be travelling in N.S.W. for the Christmas Bowl Appeal. Negotiations are under way with N.S.W. Ecumenical Council and the W.K.S. Trustees to enable Violet to be awarded a Winifred Kiek Fellowship, enabling her to stay on for a week after her Christmas Bowl work is done. It is hoped that Queensland will be one of the states she can visit.

REPORTS:-

1. PRESIDENT:- President Phyl attended a meeting organised by the State C.W.L. on the subject of Child Abuse. She was pleased to see two representatives from the Uniting Church Synod Fellowship Committee at this meeting, as there were no other A.C.W. members there. There were good speakers at the meeting. As a result of discussion following the speakers, a letter to Mr Hannaford regarding 'unsworn Statements' will be written. Denominations through their organisations will be asked to provide support for this letter.
Phyl attended the launching of a video 'Walking Together' organised by the Council for Reconcilliation with Aborigines. A copy of the video has been ordered and Phyl will gladly share it with interested members.
2. TREASURER. The Statement of Accounts for the months June and July was received and adopted. Accounts were presented and their payment was ratified. There are a number of Branches unfinancial. The Treasurer hopes to collect this money soon. Please check that your Branch is paid-up.
3. WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP. Convener Mina Whybourne shared the glad news of the arrival of Rachel Sobana's little son on June 28. Her husband is still in Kuwait with his work and Rachel is in Madras, where her mother has had more treatment for her illness. Rachel hopes to return soon to Nagacoil.
Our present scholar, Malai continues to charm all who meet her. She has coped very well with the intensive Grief and Bereavement Courses that have been her subjects here. Her visits around the state units have begun in Adelaide and she will visit Melbourne, Burnie and attend the National Conference. On 21 September she will return to Bangkok with our love and prayers for her future work. A copy of Mina's report is attached to the file copy of these minutes.
4. FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN. We are pleased to report that our written application for an I.C.F.L.C. Grant on behalf of the Kuri-ngai Partners scheme has been sent by the National Convener to the International Committee of F.L.C. Convener Shirley Wells has copies of the 1992 Grants available for interested people and goods for sale are F.L.C. teaspoons and copies of Circle of Prayer.
Before reading from Circle of Prayer, the portion 'Faith and Action are Partners' written by an Indian woman, Shirley gave us some information about one of the grants, one for India.
The recipients of the grant are landless labourers, they work for land owners and are segregated outcasts. The women walk long distances for water and are considered 'untouchables'. The grant will enable the village community organisation to dig deep bores or wells and to erect an overhead tank in which to store the water.
5. PROMOTIONAL ITEMS. Joan Tong thanked members for their support in

promoting these items. All items are selling well. New items are a reprint of our popular 'We Being Many' pens and new supplies of a white pen for Partners With A.C.W.C. Attractive calendars for 1994 were on sale. The profit will assist our ACW funds.

Blue crochet cotton is available to members who are interested in 'decorating' our ACW teatowels.

It was resolved that 40 pens be given to Marie McCann to take as gifts to the A.C.W.C. Seminar in Sri Lanka. A quantity to be given also to President Phyl when she visits Pakistan at the end of September. Members were invited to donate \$1 towards these gifts.

6. A.C.W.C. Joan Tong announced that our copies of A.C.W.C. Bulletins were unfortunately reduced, but every effort is being made to procure back copies and to have our order restored.

Ecumenical Decade for Churches Solidarity With Women. A leaflet about activities for this committee was available from Joan.

A.C.W.C. Meetings in Sri Lanka at the end of August. The theme of the seminar is 'Cry of the Children -- the Responsibility of the Family'. Marie McCann is to deliver a paper at these meetings. Prayers are asked for her and for all who attend.

International Committee of Fellowship of the Least Coin. I.C.F.L.C. is writing its first Constitution after being a part of A.C.W.C. for 36 years. As these two organisations part company, we are asked to pray for them and for their future.

7. GIRLS' BRIGADE delegate, Heather Reid reported that she was asked to speak at the State Council meetings of Girls' Brigade, where she addressed State Representatives. There she spoke about being their delegate to ACW and explained about W.K.S., F.L.C. and ACW Branches. She was well-received and people asked her how they could find out more about ACW. At a meeting in Concord she spoke about M.A.P.A. (Media Awareness Project Australia) and was able to give ACW publicity there too.

8. PROMOTION and PUBLICITY. Fellowship Day reports are coming in. An apology for the poor copies and badly compiled copies in some parcels. We hope this will not happen again.

26 sets of leaflets have been sent out.

Fellowship Day offerings are way up on 1992 offerings. Praise God.

We expect to hold 36 World Community Day services in October.

Organisers are reminded that they are free to alter the hymns in our services and to cut some out if there are too many.

There will be a Promotion Day on September 1 at Beverly Hills.

A poster for promotion of W.K.S. has been prepared and was displayed. It has a beautiful reproduced photo of Winifred Kiek as its focal point. Two other posters are planned, using former Winifred Kiek scholars.

9. FROM THE EXECUTIVE.

a. Two new Conveners were introduced and wished well as they take up their responsibilities. They are Beth Finlay, Convener for Branches and Marie McCann, Convener for Special Days.

b. STATE CONFERENCE. We hope to have advance publicity at the next Council meeting about this proposed conference. It will probably be held at the Healing Ministry Centre in Newtown on 29 and 30 April, 1994.

c. Working Day during January. Ideas are invited for a Working Day for any Council members able to attend on the 3rd, Monday of January.

d. Copywrite Motion at National Conference. One of our Branches had some difficulty with the host church over the Fellowship Day service. A re-written service was presented at the planning meeting and rejected by the committee. It is the intention of Executive to move a motion from the floor of Conference that in future all our services should have a written instruction that because the service is copywrite, it may not be altered or re-written, except to substitute hymns if the hymns chosen are not available or not familiar to the congregation.

The meeting approved this intention.

GENERAL BUSINESS.

1. Fifteen members of Council will attend National Conference.

They are P.McKinnirey and E.Ridge delegates.

M.Majoor and L.King observers.

M.Baker, G.West, J.Sutherland, M.McCann, M.Ward, H.Reid,

M.Whybourne, B.McLaughlin, J.Tong, and S.Wells, visitors.
Rhoda Gates will represent the National Committee for Adult Fellowship Groups of the Uniting Church.

Five of our 'visitors' will have delegate status for their denomination or organisation.

They are J.Sutherland, Y.W.C.A.

J.Tong, Eastern Command Salvation Army.

L.King, Baptist Women's Fellowship.

M.McCann, Australian Council of Churches.

M.Whybourne, Mothers' Union.

Council members wish them a happy and productive conference.

2. Deaconess Val Clements has copies of 'Caught for Life' for interested members.

3. Marjory Baker was thanked for her assistance today at the trading table. Members were reminded that 'Council member' badges are available for them to buy and wear.

4. Margaret Jessup reported on a meeting she attended at Penrith. As a result of meeting Pearl Wymarra Bond at our Dedication Service, Margaret was invited to a re-enactment of the coming of the missionaries to the Torres Islands. This service on 3 July commemorated 120 years of the gift Gospel to the Torres Island people. About 500 people attended at the Nepean River where the arrival of the missionaries was acted out. The joy of the people was expressed in a feast with speeches, dancing etc. People attended from Sydney, Townsville and Cairns and many had worked hard to earn the money for their fares. Margaret, who was born on Thursday Island met many people and has a graphic collection of photos to remind her of the celebration. There will be a similar celebration next July, and we were invited to attend if we are able.

The Anglican delegates were thanked for Morning Tea. At the September meeting the Churches of Christ delegates will be the hosts.

NEXT MEETING. Council will meet on Monday, 20 September at 10a.m.

CLOSING. The President closed the meeting with Prayer and the Benediction.

CONFIRMED

P. McKinnirey
20.9.93

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN (NEW STATE UNIT)

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS
for two months ending 31-07-1993

<u>CR BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD 1-06-1993</u>		3444-85	
<u>ADD RECEIPTS FOR THREE MONTHS</u>			
Affiliation fees		105-00	
"Newsette" Subs & donations		40-00	
F.L.C.		36-95	
Associate Members		10-00	
Sale of Souvenirs		442-50	
<u>Overseas travel</u>			
Tea Money	5-10		
Trading Table	<u>18-00</u>	23-10	
Interest received from Glebe Board		93-79	
Bank Interest		136-04	
A.C.W.C. Partners		5-00	
Donation		10-00	
Flower Festival Donations		48-55	
Enrichment Day		522-60	
Fellowship Day Services		678-1	5596-48
<u>DEDUCT - PAYMENTS FOR THREE MONTHS</u>			
Imprest A/c - Treassurer		50-00	
Publicity Expenses		184-25	
Purchase of souvenirs/Promotion		134-95	
Printing		255-25	
" - Fellowship Day Service		296-60	
Government Charges		13-95	
ACW - National Executive - Travel Pool		8-00	
" " " - ACWC Bulletins		60-00	
Enrichment Day - Expenses		490-00	
Accomodation M Jessup - Sth West Rocks		56-00	
NSW Children's TV - Affiliation fee 1993		10-00	
ACW City Branch - Refund Affil. fee		5-00	
Aust.Ccl Churches - Burma Appeal - Dedication Day		<u>200-00</u>	<u>1764-00</u>
<u>CR. BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD - 31ST JULY 1993</u>			<u>\$3832-48</u>

*Add Imprest
Sec. + \$52
a/c. \$50 +
\$26-61*

P.T.O.

A/cs to be passed for payment (ratified)

\$

ACW National Council - Travel Pool	8-00
" " " - C of Prayer/FLC Spoons	114-20
P McKinnierey - Printing	191-25
Mollie Craig - Refund Affil fee for NSW Child TV	10-00
P McKinnierey - Printing	120-00
ACW City Branch - Refund Affil fee	5-00
J Sutherland - Publicity	125-10
J Tong - Souvenirs/Postage	20-75
ACC - Burma Appeal	200-00
Marie Majoor - Treasurer's Imprest A/c	50-00
ACW National Council - 17 copies ACWC Bulletins	60-00
Uniting Ch- Dept of Accounting & Office Services	
- Printing - Publicity & F'ship Day Service	355-75
Linda Kennedy Florist - Enrichment Day	20-00
Edith Plateau - Speaker - " "	20-00
The Healing Ministry - Use of Facilities/Lunch	450-00
Marie Majoor - Rubber Stamp/Gift Voucher D Lumb	66-70
National Council of Women - Affiliation fee	40-00
Helen Richardson - Postage F'ship Day Service	4-30
Joan Tong - Postage Promotional Items	18-05
Jack Flash - Photos for Publicity Poster	87-55
Uniting Ch- Dept of Accounting & Office Services	
- Community Day Service/Publicity Promotions	289-15
Mina Whybourne - Postage Community Day	85-80
ACW Nat. Ccl - Accom. P McKinnirey & E Ridge	
- Registration B McLaughlin	248-00
CBA FM - 4 Announcements for Services	80-00
Marie Majoor - Balance Accom. McKinnirey/Ridge	100-00
Carmel Emmett - Printing & Postage - Newsette	411-60
Edith Ridge - Imprest 4.11 Phon calls	76-51
Meggie Whybourne - Refund of the money paid to the group 50.00	Sept

Ephesians 1:1-12

Dear Christian friends at Ephesus, ever loyal to the Lord:
This is Paul writing to you, chosen by God to be Jesus Christ's messenger. May his blessings and peace be yours, sent to you from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord. How we praise God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every blessing in heaven because we belong to Christ.

Long ago, even before he made the world, God chose us to be his very own, through what Christ would do for us; he decided then to make us holy in his eyes, without a single fault - we who stand before him covered with his love. His unchanging plan has always been to adopt us into his own family by sending Jesus Christ to die for us. And he did this because he wanted to!

Now all praise to God for his wonderful kindness to us and his favour that he has poured out upon us, because we belong to his dearly loved Son. So overflowing is his kindness towards us that he took away all our sins through the blood of his Son, by whom we are saved; and he has showered down upon us the riches of his grace - for how well he understands us and knows what is best for us at all times.

God has told us his secret reason for sending Christ, a plan he decided on in mercy long ago; and this was his purpose: that when the time is ripe he will gather us all together from wherever we are - in heaven or on earth - to be with him in Christ, forever. Moreover, because of what Christ has done we have become gifts to God that he delights in, for as part of God's sovereign plan we were chosen from the beginning to be his, and all things happen just as he decided long ago. God's purpose in this was that we should praise God and give glory to him for doing these mighty things for us, who were the first to trust in Christ.

Reflection

Prayer: Heavenly Father, we praise and thank you for your tremendous love of us. We are grateful too that you sent your beloved Son to redeem and save us. Help us to realise and accept our dignity as your children, and respect this grace in one another. Make us sensitive to the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit within us, so that we may be true witnesses to your way of living. In Jesus' name. AMEN.

