

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NSW STATE UNIT INC



Report on 2011 Conference, held at Immanuel College, Adelaide. Helen Hill Secretary

I felt privileged to have attended the Conference and thoroughly enjoyed the 5 days. Having never attended an ACW Conference before I will probably remark on things which happen at every conference, so just excuse me, but to my eyes it was a very well – run function, with Margaret Flint fulfilling the role of Moderator capably, it was evident that in her former life she had been a school teacher, but she kept us all in order, made an effort to keep the proceedings harmonious. She was well prepared for questions but consulted widely when necessary. Nola and I were guided in our voting by Isabel and Lyn, with Pamela 's opinion valued also.

There were many different opinions of course as the various points were considered, but no unpleasantness thankfully.

We were accommodated in boarder's rooms and cottages, all comfortable (not a horse hair mattress in sight thank goodness), the meals were plentiful and tasty with a selection of Graces on each table which was a nice touch. The morning and afternoon teas were quite bad for anyone trying to diet, being very rich and generous.

Each morning the proceedings began with Maureen Clark giving an overnight news update followed by an amusing item received on email, a good way to begin the day.

Each unit gave a devotion, all different but all using the theme of "Light"

We were enthralled by the three Bible Studies presented by Rev. Joan Riley on Colossians.

The Ecumenical Service held on the Tuesday night was a beautiful hour spent in the very fine College Chapel. It was a special time of worship with each part thoughtfully put together.

During one break in conference business, Jerry McCarthy, a teacher from Rostrevor College spoke to us about his involvement with their Indigenous Scholarship Students.

We were addressed by Rev. Lee Moon Sook who took us through the history of ACWC accompanied by photos. Such a lot accomplished in a few short years and so many young faces.

One night after dinner we heard about an organization called Tutti, which provides teaching, training and encouragement to young people with disabilities helping to realize their potential. We were entertained by a couple of students which was most heart warming.

Another night was given over to a few rounds of Trivial Pursuit, won't boast about which table won once! Also our President won a chocolate or two in a True or False competition!

On the last night during the formal dinner we were entertained by a family group of Christian singers who presented a varied selection of songs.

A bus trip to Hahndorf was offered to us on Wednesday afternoon, two of the S.A. ladies accompanied us and gave a commentary on points of interest.

Fortunately no one was affected by airline disputes, all travelled safely and the conference was over without mishap.

Thanks to the NSW Unit for giving me this opportunity to attend the 23rd National Conference