

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN - N.S.W. STATE UNIT

MINUTES of COUNCIL MEETING held at 222 Pitt Street, Sydney on Monday 17th June 1996.

Major Joan Tong welcomed Mrs. Peg Blake to her first Council Meeting as the new President - members responded with acclamation

Mrs. Blake welcomed members and thanked them for their support. She welcomed Mrs. Norma Harris as a new Churches of Christ member and Sister Colleen O'Sullivan as Promotion and Publicity Convener, also Mrs. Shirley McLeod and Miss Clay as visitors.

She thanked Mrs. Lucelle King for her leadership and said she was "a good act to follow"!

Mrs. Blake then led devotions from 2 Acts - and the importance of the Day of Pentecost. We have a great story to tell - we must be ready at any time to witness to bring people to the Christian way. The meeting was committed to prayer especially remembering Edith Ridge.

PRESENT: 48 members, 2 visitors, 2 special visitors.

APOLOGIES: Ruth Callaghan, Edith Ridge and as recorded.

THE MINUTES of Meeting of April 15 were read and confirmed on motion of Beth Finlay and Margaret Andries.

BUSINESS ARISING:

1. STATE CONFERENCE: President congratulated Marie McCann on a very successful and informative Conference - excellent organisation.

Marie McCann said it was a very happy time of fellowship, learning and important recommendations - very worth while. A superb venue - Salvation Army personnel very helpful and co-operative.

Marie thanked Executive and Council members for their assistance and participation - singing, videoing, taping, etc. All the speakers were excellent;

Dr. Anne Pattel-Gray and her sister, Lyndel Robb, Dr. Thoroughgood, Rev. M. Roberts, Mrs. Joan Elliston and Rev. Jan Frost and Shirley Wells giving the history of the Fellowship of the Least Coin. Devotions conducted by Lucelle King very pertinent. Folders will be available at \$3 each with the text of the speakers for August meeting. Videos available for \$15 - to be ordered.

Tapes available \$2.50. (Marie was presented with a gift in appreciation.)

2. FELLOWSHIP OF LEAST COIN CELEBRATION - Friday October 11 - visit of Shirin Samuel, executive secretary ICFLC, Mary Klein Deitrich and Dorothea Dilschneider - special luncheon at Salvation Army Function Centre, 140 Elizabeth Street, at a cost of \$10 per person. Details to be finalised at next Council Meeting.

3. INSTALLATION - A wonderful day of rejoicing and fellowship. President Peg Blake thanked everyone for their attendance and their support.

Special mention was made of Marie Majoor's prayer as Treasurer and Deaconess Mary Andrews Prayer. Peg's address was very challenging and stimulating.

4. NCW CENTENARY PROGRAMME - Council members to attend Exhibition at Parliament House today - Lucelle King and Elsie Cox will take the group.

THANKSGIVING SERVICE DECEMBER 3 - ST. JAMES, King Street - Planning Committee to meet after Executive meeting in August.

5. FLOWER FESTIVAL - September 6-9 - St. Mary's Cathedral - suggested that Major Heather Merrick of Salvation Army be approached to do this - funds are available.

FROM EXECUTIVE: ACWC SERVICE - November 18 - the WCTU Korean Choir are happy to attend.

2. Friday September 27 - Special Council meeting to meet Iluminada Domingo, Woranut Pantupong and Rita Wong - to be finalised at August meeting. Fiona Collins will attend meeting.

3. PACKING DAY - May 27 - Edith Ridge, Special Days Convener not well and her husband, Rev. Barry Ridge organised on her behalf - very ably.
President thanked Committee members for assisting and expressed appreciation of Rev. Ridge's support.

From National Minutes;

1. Mrs. Evonne Sullivan, National President is to attend the second National Forum of National Council of Churches of Australia at University of Queensland on 12th July.
 2. Winifred Kiek Scholarship Leaflet - has been revised - very concise.
 3. ACWC News is to be \$15.00 as from 1997.
 4. 'Good News' Bible and Australian Hymn Book suitable for use at Services.
- Shirin Samuel is retiring from International Committee of Fellowship of Least Coin. It was agreed that we send a token of our gratitude for her dedication - with Joan Tong in October when she attends ACWC Meeting.

From June 17, Joan Tong will present information on Australian Church Women activities at 9.45 p.m. on 2CBA.

Heather Reid suggested that we make a presentation to the new Company of the Girls Brigade to assist with their setting-up equipment - an amount of \$100 was approved.

Joan Tong was congratulated on the excellent Annual Report - very well presented.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. National Council of Women: History Seminar, 31st August, 10 a.m. State Library, Centenary Foundation, 26th August, Parliament House Dining Room, 26 August (President will represent plus any interested members);
NCW Month - 26 August-26 September - volunteers required to distribute pamphlets, etc. from Stalls in Pitt Street Mall and other locations; donations of goods for sale - "unwanted treasures", etc.
2. National Secretary - will attend State Conference.
3. Circular 3 - National Executive.
4. Copy Shirin Samuel's letter re visit of ICFLC delegates.
5. Woranut Pantupong, Iluminada Domingo, Rita Wong - re visit prior to ICFLC meetings in Christchurch, New Zealand.
6. Halifax Portal Lectures.
7. Peg McEntee - thanks for message of congratulations on receipt of Award.
8. Austcare.
9. WKS Application from National WKS Convener.
10. PWA - Annual Conference - July 1 - Marie Majoor will attend.
11. Helen Danko - application for associate membership.
12. NSW Churches of Christ CWF - representatives 1996/97.
13. Ecumenical Decade, Churches in Solidarity with Women - workshop - July 6 10.00 a.m. Brigidine College, Randwick.
14. YWCA - Business Women of Today Breakfast - Wed. June 5.
15. Shalom - Newsletter.
16. New Life - magazine of the Diocese of Madras.
17. National Executive - acknowledgment of NSW Annual Report, WEL Conference Report.
Indication that National Executive may send representatives to our special meetings with ICFLC visitors. Appreciation of our State Conference.
(2) Lt.Col. Beth Webb awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia;
request to put forward names of ACW personnel for awards for honours list
(3) National Minutes - 27 May (a) Report of President's visit to S.A.
(b) Petition for tighter gun laws.
18. Kur-ngai Partners - Reflection Day - June 19. Our Lady of Mercy College, Parramatta
Maria Stevens from Arhem Land is facilitator.
19. World Day of Prayer, NSW - Request for copy of order of service - dates for 1997.
20. Bankstown Unit Church Fellowship - request for speaker on FLC - September 17 or October 15 - Shirley Wells will attend.

CORRESPONDENCE (Cont)

21 Parliament of NSW - Membership Lists.

22. Mothers' Union - Seminar - "Relationships and Conflict" - July 26 - 10.30 a.m.
St. Andrew's House, Sydney Square.

Correspondence received on motion of Deaconess Thomas and Beth Finlay.

REPORTS:

TREASURER: Finances very satisfactory - offering at Installation Service \$810.
very generous. Accounts were ratified for payment.

FELLOWSHIP OF LEAST COIN: Shirley Wells reminded members that 1996 is the 40th anniversary and suggested that we place a coin each day or week for 40 contributions - she had prepared special envelopes for this purpose.

SPECIAL DAYS - Edith Ridge not well but sent loving greetings to all.
She has surplus copies of Service and WKS leaflets - 60. She wished all a happy Fellowship Day in July.

SOCIAL ISSUES: Heather Reid had telephoned for List of Parliament Members; 230-2135 for State members, 247-8282 for Federal. (Lists had been received.)
She had a leaflet available with addresses to write to regarding unsuitable T.V. programmes.

She had written letters to Mr. Howard congratulating him on his decision not to remove his family to Canberra and commending him on his decision re gun-laws; to Mr. Carr commending him re his stand on gun control, to Mr. Downer re the Burmese problems, to Mr. Alston re violence in videos, etc.

NEWSETTE: Contributions required by July 8.

PUBLICITY: Hazel McIver said how very pleased she was that Sister Colleen O'Sullivan had accepted the Publicity Convenership and said she would assist her to become familiar with procedures, etc.

GENERAL BUSINESS: Barbara Grealey, National Liaison Officer of World Day of Prayer will be visiting Sydney on 2nd July, Bible House at 10.30 a.m. and at Miranda Congregational Church at 10.30 a.m. on 3rd July. Members invited to attend

Next Meeting;	August 19.	Morning Tea:	Anglican.
		Chairs:	Salvation Army.

President thanked the Salvation Army ladies for providing the morning tea and the Uniting Church ladies for setting up the meeting room.

She then welcomed Deaconess Barkat Dass and Deaconess Shirley Harris to our meeting and invited Barkat to speak.

Barkat was our 1978 WKS scholar and has had a remarkable career - occupying many positions in Pakistan in her Christian service.

She showed slides of the Dar-ul-Khushud Day Care Centre for Mentally Handicapped Children where children are given the opportunity to learn some skills. She asked that we remember her in prayer as she faces many

difficulties especially in a Muslim country. Barkat had brought gifts ~~was~~ for the members. A love offering was given to her from the members \$140 - for which she was very appreciative.

Deaconess Mary Andrews thanked Barkat on our behalf and said she was a woman of vision, venture and vitality - and prayed that her health would continue to be 100%.

President Peg Blake then closed with the Grace and invited Deaconess Barkat and Shirley Harris to have lunch with us.

Confirmed 

August 19. 1996.