

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN N.S.W. STATE UNIT

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING, held at 222 Pitt Street, Sydney  
on MONDAY, 15 FEBRUARY, 1993.

OPENING:- President, Miss Phyl McKinnirey in the Chair, welcomed Council members to the first meeting for 1993.

Mrs Rae Aldridge introduced her guest, Bev. Hincks from Belmont. We were pleased to welcome this visitor to our meeting. (At the close of the meeting, Bev. joined our Unit as an Associate Member.)

DEVOTIONS:- Phyl led in Prayer, remembering members who had suffered sadness over the vacation period. The prayer included thanks for our being together again and a prayer for the new year, especially as we look forward to preparations for World Day of Prayer gatherings on March 5. Olive Edmonstone was invited to conduct the devotional segment, which she did as she read to us Philippians 2, verses 2-11.

THOSE PRESENT numbered 51 and the apologies were 10, as recorded on the Attendance Sheets.

ABOUT PEOPLE. Congratulations were extended to four Council members; - Miss Doris Mitchell on being awarded an OAM; Marie McCann who had gained her Master's Degree in Theology; Helen Richardson, made an accredited Lay Preacher of the Uniting Church and recently appointed the Secretary of Sydney North Presbytery; and Vi Minty on attaining Diploma of Theology the culmination of 5 years' work in 14 subjects.

A letter of congratulation has also been sent to Mary Clifford, thanking her for 14 years as President of the Epping Branch. Mary has retired from this position.

Mrs Shirley Brooks, President of the Tasmanian Unit during 1992, has been appointed the National President of ACW on the resignation of Mrs Lorraine Davis, who has moved from Tasmania to Northern Territory.

Commiserations to two Executive members, Peg Blake suffering great pain in both hips, and facing surgery this year; and Shirley Wells who will enter hospital on March 1 for a hip replacement. We were sorry to hear of Glad West's continuing trouble with a bad foot. Sympathy has been extended to Mrs Lt.Col. Edna Baker on the sudden death of her husband after Christmas and to Joan Tong whose father died at the same time.

GUEST SPEAKER:- Beryl McLaughlin introduced to us Deaconess Shirley Harris who has recently retired from her work in Pakistan and come home to Sydney to live. Born in Sydney, Deaconess Harris went in 1958 ( 35 years ago in two weeks' time) to work in Pakistan with the women and girls of the Diocese of Karachi. She trained at Deaconess House under the guidance of Deaconess Mary Andrews at that time the Head Deaconess. Shirley told us that the work in Pakistan has been supported by monies raised on World Day of Prayer and supplemented by Fellowship of the Least Coin grants.

We were interested to see photos of Shirley with 1978 W.K.S. holder Barkat Dass at her ordination as a deaconess and of a Pakistani girl who is desirous of training as a deaconess.

The story of Barkat's life and call to the ministry she now pursues was very interesting to us. Since Shirley's retirement Barkat is doing both her work and Shirley's. She is cheerful about it and coping well, but needs our prayers for her strength. Prayer was also asked for Ulfat, who wants to train for the ministry, but will need to work for her living, as there are no funds for her training.

It is Barkat's ambition to finish her diploma begun in 1979 at Moore College where she passed with distinction in 6 units. She needs to pass in 12 more units.

Marjory Baker thanked Deaconess Harris for her address to us, especially mentioning the help she has been to Barkat. We promised to pray for Barkat and also for Shirley as she takes up her new life.

MINUTES of the NOVEMBER MEETING having been distributed, were CONFIRMED as a correct record.

BUSINESS FROM THE MINUTES.

FOR A SPEAKER

1. SHALOM CHRISTIAN COLLEGE. An invitation<sup>^</sup> has been sent to the College and a favourable reply is awaited.
2. FUNCTIONS where we were represented. Members reported enjoying these occasions, in particular the Ecumenical Service and Dinner at St. Scholastica's College. Phyl McKinnirey and Carmel Emmet attended and reported that the speaker, Miss Freda Whitlam stressed the importance of older women, with all their experience and potential.
3. LIVING UNDER THE SOUTHERN CROSS. Marie McCann, our representative at this gathering in January, briefly reported. We are pleased to announce that a fuller report will be given by Marie at the Annual Dedication Service in May.

Over 300 people attended this significant Ecumenical event. Speakers of note were Dr. Mary Hunt from U.S.A. Dr. 'Charles' from Pakistan and Suliana from the Pacific Islands. The biggest thing at the gathering was Ecumenical sharing. We were interested in looking at Marie's 'souvenirs' of the L.U.S.C. which she generously handed around.

Members of Council who helped at L.U.S.C. by attending for us and being there to distribute ACW literature were warmly thanked. We admired the beautiful poster of ACW badge, made for that occasion and for our future use by Lucelle King.

CORRESPONDENCE. Outwards correspondence was endorsed and the Inwards Correspondence was received and dealt with.

BUSINESS FROM THE CORRESPONDENCE:-

1. Reclaiming Easter 1993 Breakfast at Hornsby. Mollie Craig attended for us and her comprehensive and interesting report was read.
  2. ACW National Minutes, 23 November. We were pleased to note that 1980 Winifred Kiek Scholar, Mary Au will visit Australia in 1993.
  3. St. Mary's Cathedral Flower Festival, 1993. We are happy to be associated with this event again this year. 3-6 September. Later in the year Council members will be asked to contribute to a flower fund for the two Flower Festivals in which we take part.
  4. Asian Anthology. Members were invited to contribute articles for this proposed publication. Details from Joan Tong.
- Short devotional pieces are also invited for future issues of Circle of Prayer.
5. Invitations. Members were invited to the Salvation Army Women's Rally on March 20 and to the Uniting Church's Mission Get-together on March 29. Details from the Secretary.

REPORTS:-

1. Treasurer. The Financial Report to 31 January was adopted.
  2. F.L.C. The Convener, Shirley, distributed photo-copied extracts from the Quadrennial Report to 1991 of I.C.F.L.C. Each Denomination to have a copy.
- Shirley used the devotional page written by a Canadian woman for our segment. In Isaiah 40 we read how God strengthens those who are weak and tired. 'We shall rise up on wings, like eagles'. Empowerment is God's gift to all.
3. W.K.S. In the absence of the Convener Mina, the Secretary read her report. We were delighted to see the photo of Rachel taken on her wedding day and to have news of her. She is working at the Catherine Booth Hospital as Deputy Director of Nursing, while her husband is in Kuwait working out his contract as an engineer. They will be re-united later in the year.
- A letter from Ana Taumoepeau included Christmas greetings and the news that she is enjoying her work in the Wesley Church office.
- Doreen Tie is busy setting up the Toy Library and is looking forward

to receiving our financial support from the World Community Day collections, 1992.

Deaconess Mary had also received Christmas letters from former scholars and she shared with us loving greetings from Barkat Dass. Barkat has never forgotten that when her home was swept away in a flood at the time she was in Australia, A.C.W. members raised over \$1,000 to help her family.

Eunice Kim (Exec. Secr. Asian Church Women's Conference) has attended a conference in Thailand, where the theme was 'Violence Against Women'. Prayer is asked for Eunice in her search for a secretary who is good at English and can give one or two years on wages that are not high.

4. Membership Secretary. New membership lists were distributed. Two alterations/additions were noted. Lucelle's phone number is (046) 472-226 and Val Renn's is (02) 876-1940.

Programme for 1993 sheets were also available.

5. NEWSLETTE. Contributions for the next issue are required before Easter, please.

6. Promotion and Publicity. A team visited Leura on February 5 at the invitation of the Upper Blue Mountains Branch. A highly successful day, with over 50 attending was the result of good publicity. Letters were sent inviting the people of all the denominations in the area and the ministers of the churches were also informed by letter. Plans are in hand for the work to be re-juvenated in the Upper Mountain towns of Katocmba and Blackheath. Bathurst Branch members and Upper Blue Mntns. propose a visit to Lithgow for a day of education about ACW.

Spiritual Enrichment Day at Woy Woy, 23 March. All members are invited to join the team to visit Woy Woy. The day will commence at 10a.m. with morning tea. Please bring lunch.

Brochures. The new Brochures were greatly admired. A question was asked ... Is there a possibility of producing them in other languages than English? say Ukrainian, Cantonese/Mandarin, Spanish. Jeanne is to visit Balmain at the request of one of the minister's wives. Please remember to send Jeanne any paper cuttings where ACW activities are reported.

Some country branches would probably like to be represented on Council by a proxy member. Executive to discuss this.

REPORT from the Executive.

1. Executive asked for ratification of the proposal to produce a Council Member Badge. Members thought this a good idea and would buy and wear such a badge.

2. Burma Appeal. Members were asked to read about this appeal in Newsette and come prepared to discuss it in March.

3. World Day of Prayer packing day is October 18.

4. New souvenir stock is to be ordered. Interest was expressed in butter knives with the ACW crest as well as the usual spoons, cake forks, etc. A key ring will be available also.

5. A.C.W.C. Month is November. We will feature this in 1993 and use A.C.W.C. service material for devotions at that meeting.

6. A.G.M. April meeting. Written reports are requested at this meeting, to which Branch Presidents will be invited.

7. Annual Dedication Service, 17 May will be held at the Salvation Army Headquarters, Congress Hall at 11a.m. Lunch at \$7 per head will be available there from 1p.m. We are negotiating with a speaker.

8. Hostesses are advised that they are asked to provide tea, sugar, coffee and milk as well as food for morning tea at Council meetings.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT. Phyl reported that she had attended an area Conference of Catholic Women in New Zealand and had met New Zealand Church Women there.

Australia Day events. Phyl attended celebrations in her area, and it was reported that Council members attended some local church ones and some ecumenical ones.

A.C.W. was invited to attend the Prime Minister's Launching of the Agenda for Women to the year 2000 and Phyl attended for us.

National Council of Women. Our delegates reported that a week in June has been designated NCW Week and all affiliated organisations are invited to hold special events during that time and to publicise that they are being held to honour N.C.W. Details available from Shirley Wells, Jeanne Sutherland, Beth Finlay (N.C.W. Secretary) or the Secretary of ACW.

Thanks were expressed to the day's hostesses, the Presbyterian delegates for morning tea and the Baptist delegates for arranging the room.

NEXT MEETING will be 15 March when the speaker will be Maisie Cavanagh of Kuri-ngai.

Presbyterian delegates will prepare the room and the Catholic delegates will provide morning tea.

CLOSING. The meeting closed with prayer and the Benediction.

  
CONFIRMED.

15.3.93

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN (N.S.W. State UNIT)

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS

FOR THREE MONTHS ENDED 31ST JANUARY, 1993

CR. BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD 1/11/1992 12,609.50

ADD RECEIPTS FOR THREE MONTHS

Affiliation Fees		40.00	
"Newsette" Subscriptions & Donations		420.00	
Sales "Circle of Prayer"		14.00	
F.L.C.	5,990.87		
World Community Day	2,408.05		
W.K.S.	<u>219.93</u>	8,618.85	
<u>Overseas Travel</u>			
Tea Money	19.50		
Trading Table	<u>32.30</u>	51.80	
A.C.W. Partners		3.00	
A.C.W.C. Bulletins		75.00	
5% for handling F.L.C., W.C.D., & Fellowship Day contributions		879.65 (C)	
Expenses for Fellowship Day & World Community Day (1991)		517.50 (C)	
Interest on Glebe Board Investment		<u>91.08</u>	<u>10,710.88</u>

DEDUCT - PAYMENTS FOR 3 MONTHS

"Newsette" Printing		51.75	23,320.38
"Newsette" Postage	75.81		
" - Photocopy	<u>2.00</u>	77.81	
Imprest - Secretary	50.00		
Imprest - Treasurer	<u>30.00</u>	80.00	
Imprest - F.L.C. Convenor		40.00	
<u>National Treasurer</u>			
F.L.C.	8,176.57		
Fellowship Day	3,428.62		
World Community Day	3,390.50		
Overseas Travel	150.00		
W.K.S.	<u>125.00</u>	15,270.69	
Promotion Expenses		18.32	
Expenses re Strategenic Planning for our future		521.95	
M/s Jean Skuse - Deposit for Marie McCann's accommodation at Conference		50.00	
Mrs. Marie McCann - accommodation as our representative at "living under the Southern Cross" Conference		338.00	
Expenses Fellowship Day 1991	230.00		
Expenses World Community Day 1991	<u>287.50</u>	517.50 (C)	
Expenses World Community Day 1992		107.83	
5% handling F.L.C., Fellowship Day, World Community Day		879.65 (C)	
Bank Charges		<u>12.77</u>	<u>17,966.27</u>

CR. BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD - 31ST JANUARY 1993 ... .. \$5,354.11

A/Cs TO BE PASSED FOR PAYMENT (RATIFIED)

"Newsette" Postage etc.	77.81
" Printing	51.75
Imprests & F.L.C. Convenor	120.00
Promotion	18.32
National Treasurer	15,270.69
Marie McCann - Conference	388.00
Strategenic Planning	521.95
Expenses Fellowship Day '91	230.00
" W.C.D. '91	287.50
" W.C.D. 1992	107.83
5% handling F.L.C., F'ship Day, W.C.D.	879.65 (C)
Bank Charges	<u>12.77</u>
	<u>\$17,966.27</u>