

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN -  
VICTORIAN UNIT - OFFICE BEARERS  
for 1991 - 92

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LIFE MEMBERS:	Mrs. F. Downes Mrs. E. Warner Mrs. D. Strack	



AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

## ACW News

We seek: to unite Australian Women in their allegiance to their Lord & Saviour, Jesus Christ to help Christian women to take a more effective place in the total life & mission of the church.

September, 1991

Dear Friends,

*"Do not be afraid little flock, for it has pleased the Father to give you the Kingdom"*  
Luke 12:33

We are called especially to work for Christian Unity, to promote co-operation between men & women, to help women be more effective in the church, to provide ecumenical events and to encourage ecumenical service.

As Jesus tells us firstly "to seek the Kingdom of God" Luke 12:31, the more we implement our aims the more we seek the Kingdom. Let us promote ACW everywhere we are with Christians. Let us invite other church groups to a Special Days Service which we instigate through our own church group. Let us organize ecumenical luncheons, dinners and study groups, as part of our mission!

My final message to you is in the words of St. Paul "Mend your ways, heed my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace and the God of love and peace will be with you" 2 Cor. 13:12.

With love and prayer.



Marie McCann.

Reports on the Fellowship Day Service held in July have been most enthusiastic & encouraging. Congratulations, N.S.W. Unit. We are looking forward to the service prepared by the Tasmanian Unit for World Community Day this year. The Special Project which the offertories will support is the Women's Studies

- \* Course at Nungalinga College in Darwin. W.A. will be preparing the 1992 Fellowship Day service with "Christ our Example" the theme, & the Victorian Unit are preparing the 1992 World Community Day Service, on the theme "Forgive as we forgive."



Yvonne Davis,

Special Days.

- \* NUNGALINYA COLLEGE, DARWIN.

Nungalinga is a training & resource centre jointly operated by the Anglican & Uniting Churches, with recent interest from the Baptist churches in Darwin, & in 1991 with Roman Catholic students attending for the first time. It provides training for Aboriginal people & for government & community employees who work with Aborigines.

The College provides both short courses of 1 - 3 weeks duration, to full-time courses of 1 - 4 years. Courses are in Women's studies, Language studies, Community Development, & Bible & Theological Studies at Certificate & Diploma level. It also has outreach, workshops, extension studies, conferences etc. for aborigines in Queensland, Western Australia, Torres Strait Isls.

The staff consists of 17 full-time & 8 part-time teaching and administration personnel, of whom 13 are aboriginal people, 3 indigenous people from Asia and the Pacific, and the rest of European descent. One of the theology teachers, Rev. Dhalnganda Garrawarra, who is financially supported by World Vision, has been appointed Assistant to the Principal, which is an indication of the positive developmental policy of the College, for more Aboriginal leadership, wherever appropriate and whenever possible.

Nungalinga has a strategic ministry in developing Christian leaders to reach out in aboriginal communities.

"NEWSETTE".

WINIFRED KIEK REPORT

Rachel Sobana has travelled well and is enjoying immensely the experiences she is having both in her nursing administration opportunities and the hospitality and hostessing given by the members of the state units.



Queensland gave her a "warmth" which was both weatherwise & otherwise! She was even able to witness open heart surgery first hand and a new method of birthing. She returned from Queensland on Friday 2nd August and left by air for Melbourne on Monday 5th August for five weeks in Victoria. She is to return to Sydney to spend the week at National Conference 9th - 13th September.

The Scholar for 1992 is to be Miss Ana Maree Taumoepeau from Tonga. She is presently working in the office of the Women's Department of the Methodist Church in Tonga and hopes to do a Secretarial/office administration course. This will probably be in Tasmania where the new National Executive will be situated and the new W.K.S. Convenor, Betty Brown will be organising things for Ana.

This is my last report for A.C.W. news and I want to thank A.C.W. for giving me the joy and privilege of serving the Lord in this way. God has been good in enabling me to fulfill this task.

Lucelle King

W.K.S. Convenor

A.C.W. NEWS  
FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN

Dear friends,

Let this, my last word to you all, be thank you for all your messages of love and your upholding prayer which has helped me over a difficult period. Thank you also for your untiring efforts on behalf of F.L.C.



I'm going to leave you with this report on a Caribbean Project supported by an F.L.C. Grant...

**HAVE  
COMPASSION  
AS HE HAD**



The Project entitled "Dress them, Feed Them", engaged 25 women in an economically depressed area of Antigua, where women are unemployed & without work skills. The Project aimed to develop basic skills.

For the sewing programme, a Craft Instructor taught the women to cut cloth free hand, (patterns too expensive), operate machines (manual & electric) & design clothes for all ages, baby to adult. Also included was Home Economics, planning a budget, & nutritious menus, relying on the local produce. These women were becoming self supportive & a health survey was planned to follow ...

ALAS!! Hurricane Hugo called, devastating all in its path, & they must now begin from the beginning.

Remember these women, along with the women of Bangladesh, the Kurds of Iraq, the Volcano victims of the Philipines & the new threat of starvation in Africa.

Lord, with you nothing is impossible, undertake we pray, in Jesus name. Amen.

G. West. Convenor.

We are delighted to learn that Grants from a Fellowship of Least Coin Funds in 1991 amounted to \$137,500, distributed to 26 countries for projects of benefit to women.

(Editor)

CONSULTATION WITH DELEGATION OF  
SOVIET WOMEN



On Friday 9th June, 1991, I had the privilege of representing Australian Church Women at a round table discussion with a delegation of Soviet women at Parliament House, Canberra. The Soviet delegation comprised:-

- Alevtina Fedulova, President of the Soviet Women's Committee led the delegation
- Natalia Reshetova, a Member of Parliament, and the Deputy Chair of the Parliamentary Committee on Rights, Glasnost, and Citizens' Appeals.
- Galina Klimantova, also a Member of Parliament in the Udmurtian Autonomous Republic, and Chair of the Republican Women's Council
- Galina Negrusteva Ph.D. (Education), a senior staff member of the Soviet Women's Council, and interpreter for the delegation.

The Delegation, in Australia for only one week, was particularly interested to learn from Australian women the political and organisation skills that they have developed through non-governmental organisations.

Australian Church Women was one of approximately fifty womens' non-government organisations who accepted Senator Patricia Giles' invitation to attend. Organisations represented included ex-servicewomens' groups, professional women, womens' service clubs, hospital auxiliaries, community service groups, environmentally oriented organisations, trades unions groups, health education groups, nursing mothers association, womens networking groups, as well as better known groups such as RAAFWA, NCWA, CWA, AFUW, RSL, ACROD, WEL, War Widows Guild, Rostrum, Soroptomists, National Foundation of Australian Women and Zonta.

Aboriginal women were also represented. The only 'church' oriented organisations represented were

Anglican Women, Australian Church Women, and Catholic Womens' League, Australia.

The Representatives of the various organisations briefly described their aims and objects and activities. As each one spoke their words were translated by the interpreter. It was apparent that the Soviet women absorbed what was being said because several times the leader commented 'it is the same in our country'.

The leader of the delegation then spoke on "The position of women in society and family, and women's participation in social-economic life."

Questions were invited and a number of interesting points emerged. It would appear that the Soviet Womens Council is striving hard for equality and recognition of Soviet women.

They are also encouraging morality and spiritual values, and freedom of conscience.

Evonne Sullivan, A.M.  
J.P.

Snr. Vice President  
A.C.T. Unit/A.C.W.



15/6/91

Greetings from the South Australian Unit.

We now have a complete Executive! The new members are:-

Assistant Treasurer: Miss Dorothy Chapman  
8/22 Robert Ave.,  
BROADVIEW SA 5083  
Tel (08) 261 0616

Minute Secretary: Miss Marjorie Hicks  
C/- Mr. A. Hicks  
Range Road South  
HOUGHTON SA 5131  
Tel (08) 380 5115

Publicity Officer: Mrs. Kath Kernich,  
52 Alabama Avenue,  
PROSPECT SA 5082  
Tel (08) 269 3684

Dear Readers,

In this final issue from NSW I would like to say goodbye, & thank you for your company over the past two years. Thank you, State Units for reports sent regularly; the many activities of our members throughout Australia make impressive reading.

I undertook the task of Editor under the Lord's guidance, & I thank him that he has helped me complete it. I would like to thank also my team, Mrs. Rita Green & Mrs. Sue Watson for their willing service.

Let us each try to increase the circulation of our magazine, and so spread the message of Australian Church Women.

With best wishes to you each,

Mavis Burtenshaw  
Editor.

