



OUR CHOICE IS LOVE



Australian Church Women Inc.  
24<sup>th</sup> National Conference  
St John of God Retreat Centre  
Shoalwater  
Western Australia  
7-11 October 2013

WORKING PAPERS



## AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN INC. 24<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2013

### WORKING PAPERS

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# AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN INCORPORATED

## NATIONAL EXECUTIVE FOR 2011-2013

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>President</b>                                    | Major Laurel Pearce  |
| <b>Vice President</b>                               | Revd Lee Edwards   |
| <b>Vice President</b>                               | Mrs Marie Majoor   |
| <b>Secretary</b>                                    | Mrs Margaret Ker   |
| <b>Minutes Secretary</b>                            | Mrs Margaret Ker   |
| <b>Treasurer</b>                                    | Mrs Leeola Loughnan  |
| <b>Fellowship of the Least Coin</b>                 | Major Olive Dell   |
| <b>Special Days</b>                                 | Major Olive Dell   |
| <b>Winifred Kiek Scholarship</b>                    | Mrs Meryon Goode (leave of absence<br>from May 2013)   |
| <b>Social Justice</b>                               | Vacant<br><br><i>Committee     Major Laurel Pearce</i><br><i>                     Mrs Margaret Ker</i> |
| <b>Publications</b>                                 | Vacant<br><br><i>Committee     Revd Lee Edwards</i><br><i>                     Mrs Marie Majoor</i>    |
| <b><i>Ex officio</i></b>                            |  |
| <b>Asian Church Women's Conference<sup>56</sup></b> |  |
| <b>Australian Representative</b>                    | Major Donna Bryan  |
| <b>Australian Women's Coalition Representative</b>  | Major Laurel Pearce  |



## PARTICIPANTS LIST

### **Special Guests**

|                      |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Mrs Esther Kilagbian | WINIFRED KIEK FELLOWSHIP |
| Mrs Sonya Pell       | GUEST SPEAKER            |
| Dr Angela McCarthy   | BIBLE STUDIES            |

### **National Life Members**

|                   |                          |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Mrs Maureen Clark | OBSERVER SOUTH AUSTRALIA |
| Mrs Eunice Reidy  |                          |
| Mrs Janet Watts   |                          |

### **National Executive**

|                     |          |
|---------------------|----------|
| Major Laurel Pearce | OBSERVER |
| Revd. Lee Edwards   | DELEGATE |
| Mrs Marie Majoor    | DELEGATE |
| Mrs Margaret Ker    | OBSERVER |
| Mrs Leeola Loughnan | DELEGATE |
| Major Olive Dell    | DELEGATE |
| Mrs Meryon Goode    | DELEGATE |

### **Asian Church Women's Conference Australian Representative**

|                   |          |
|-------------------|----------|
| Major Donna Bryan | DELEGATE |
|-------------------|----------|

### **Incoming National Executive**

|                      |          |
|----------------------|----------|
| Major Lyn Middleton  | DELEGATE |
| Mrs Denise Secomb    | DELEGATE |
| Mrs Jennifer Pepper  | DELEGATE |
| Major Lillian Hodges | DELEGATE |
| Mrs Brenda Dickinson | DELEGATE |
| Mrs Tricia Graham    | OBSERVER |

### **Winifred Kiek Scholarship Trust**

|                   |          |
|-------------------|----------|
| Mrs Barbara Grear | DELEGATE |
|-------------------|----------|

### **ACT UNIT**

|                     |                |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Mrs Jean Thomson    | DELEGATE       |
| Mrs Jan Abrahamffy  | DELEGATE       |
| Mrs Margaret Lawton | OBSERVER       |
| Mrs Helen Lloyd     | OBSERVER       |
| Mrs Helen Raymond   | PUBLIC OFFICER |

### **NEW SOUTH WALES UNIT**

|                      |          |
|----------------------|----------|
| Mrs Isabel Hewitt    | DELEGATE |
| Mrs Pamela Freeman   | DELEGATE |
| Mrs Natalie McLeod   | OBSERVER |
| Mrs Helen Richardson | OBSERVER |
| Mrs Jan Harrison     | VISITOR  |
| Mrs Lorraine Hughes  | VISITOR  |

### **QUEENSLAND UNIT**

|                       |          |
|-----------------------|----------|
| Major Mel Stephens    | DELEGATE |
| Mrs Margaret Florence | DELEGATE |
| Mrs Fran Moss         | OBSERVER |

### **SOUTH AUSTRALIAN UNIT**

|                        |          |
|------------------------|----------|
| Mrs Marion McCall      | DELEGATE |
| Mrs Aileen Eldridge    | DELEGATE |
| Major Wanda McKeand    | OBSERVER |
| Captain Margaret Colls | VISITOR  |
| Captain Judith Dell    | VISITOR  |
| Rev. Nita West         | VISITOR  |

### **TASMANIAN UNIT**

|                   |          |
|-------------------|----------|
| Mrs Marie Byrne   | DELEGATE |
| Mrs Dulcie French | DELEGATE |

### **VICTORIAN UNIT**

|                       |          |
|-----------------------|----------|
| Lt.Col Lynette Green  | DELEGATE |
| Miss Loyola O'Donohue | DELEGATE |
| Mrs Lola Adam         | OBSERVER |
| Major Elaine Johnson  | OBSERVER |
| Mrs Lorna English     | VISITOR  |

### **WESTERN AUSTRALIAN UNIT**

|                            |          |
|----------------------------|----------|
| Mrs Gillian (Gill) Muir    | DELEGATE |
| Mrs Margaret (Peg) Sanders | DELEGATE |
| Mrs Anjali Abbot           | OBSERVER |
| Mrs Kaye Seeber            | OBSERVER |
| Mrs Phillis Dolling        | VISITOR  |

### **National Denominational Organisations**

|  |                       |          |
|--|-----------------------|----------|
| CWLA                                       | Mrs Karyn Kammann     | DELEGATE |
| Lutheran Women<br>of Australia             | Mrs Debbie Dreckow    | DELEGATE |
| MU   | To be advised         | OBSERVER |
| The Salvation Army<br>(Eastern Territory)  | Mrs Doreen Hall       | DELEGATE |
| The Salvation Army<br>(Southern Territory) | Major Beatrice Kay    | DELEGATE |
| UCAF                                       | To be advised         | OBSERVER |
|  | To be advised         | OBSERVER |
|  | Mrs Barbara Bennewith | DELEGATE |

### **Special Interest Groups**

|                     |                 |          |
|---------------------|-----------------|----------|
| World Day of Prayer | Mrs Marj Dredge | OBSERVER |
|---------------------|-----------------|----------|

### **Day Visitors**

Mrs Joan Mann



## HONOURS AWARDED TO AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN MEMBERS

|            |                     |  |
|------------|---------------------|--|
| <b>ACT</b> | Helen Raymond       | Life Member ACW ACT Unit   |
|            | Judith-Ann Sjostedt | Life Member ACW ACT Unit   |
|            | Gwynneth Rowe       | Life Member Country Women's Association                                    |
| <b>NSW</b> | Mina Whybourne      | Jean Arnot Memorial Award  |
|            | Peg Blake           | Jean Arnot Memorial Award  |
| <b>SA</b>  | Rev.Nita West       | Uniting World appreciation certificate for support of United Church in PNG |
| <b>WA</b>  | Major Olive Dell    | Life Member ACW WA Unit  |
|            | Revd. Lee Edwards   | Life Member ACW WA Unit<br>Long Service Badge Girl Guides Association      |
|            | Mrs Marie Majoor    | Life Member ACW WA Unit  |

## HONOURING AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

|                           |                |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| Barbara Bourhill          | WA Unit        |
| Deaconess Heather Badgery | NSW Unit       |
| Jean Crewther             | Victorian Unit |
| Lt.Col.Lynette Green      | Victorian Unit |
| Beryl Kirkwood            | NSW Unit       |
| Eunice Reidy              | Victorian Unit |

## IN REMEMBRANCE

|                          |                      |                               |
|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>ACT</b>               | Helen Christiansen   |                               |
|                          | Enid Rocher          |                               |
|                          | Major Averil Whybird |                               |
| <b>QUEENSLAND</b>        | Lorraine McKenna     |                               |
| <b>SOUTH AUSTRALIA</b>   | Shirley Birch        |                               |
|                          | Barbara Grealy OAM   |                               |
|                          | Dorothy Heard        |                               |
|                          | Lois Hoeper OAM      |                               |
|                          | Dorothy Wright       | Unit and National Life Member |
| <b>TASMANIA</b>          | Mary Williamson      |                               |
| <b>VICTORIA</b>          | Jean Crewther        |                               |
|                          | Rathi Selvaratnam    |                               |
| <b>WESTERN AUSTRALIA</b> | Barbara Bourhill     |                               |
|                          | Leila Wilson         | Unit and National Life Member |

## PROGRAMME

*Breakfast Daily 7.15 -8.30am*

### Monday 7 October

10am Arrivals and registration

12.30 -1.30pm Dinner

2.00 pm Opening prayers,

Greetings & Welcome

#### BUSINESS SESSION 1

Procedural Arrangements;

election of Reference

Committee, ACWC Selection

Panel and Scrutineers; Minutes

of 2011 Conference; Greetings

3.15pm Afternoon Tea

4.30 pm Devotions (*NE*)

Remembrance Session, Life

Members ,Honours

6.00 pm Tea

7.30 pm **BUSINESS SESSION 2**

8.45 pm Devotions *NSW*

9.00 pm Supper

### Tuesday 8 October

9 am Devotions in Chapel **ACT**

9.20 am News, Notices

9.30 am **Bible Study**

10.30 am Morning Tea

11.00 am **Guest Speaker**

**Esther Kilagblian**

12 noon **Official Photo**

12.30 pm Dinner

### Tuesday 8 October contd

2 pm **ECUMENICAL SERVICE**

3.15 pm Quick cuppa

3.30 pm **OPEN SESSION**

‘Showcasing our Ecumenical

Activities’

5.00 pm **HIGH TEA**

7.00 pm **ACW: the Future?**

8.45 pm Devotions in Chapel **QLD**

9.00 pm Supper

### Wednesday 9 October

9.00 am Devotions in Chapel **TAS**

9.20 am News, Notices

9.30 am **Bible Study**

10.30 am Morning Tea

11.00 am **BUSINESS SESSION 3**

12.30 pm Dinner

2.00 pm **BUSINESS SESSION 4**

2.45 pm **BUSINESS SESSION 5**

3.30 pm Afternoon Tea

4.00 pm Prayer Walk

6.00 pm Tea

7.00 pm **BUSINESS SESSION 6**

#### Annual General Meeting

8.45 pm Devotions in Chapel **VIC**

9.00 pm Supper

### Thursday 10 October

9 am. Devotions in Chapel **SA**

9.20 am News, Notices

9.30 am **Bible Study**

10.30 am Morning Tea

11.00 am **FORUM: Ecumenism:**

**What’s in it for me?**

12.00 noon **BUSINESS SESSION 7**

12.30 pm Dinner

2.00 pm **MEETING** between

Outgoing National Executive &

Incoming National Executive

2.30 pm **MEETING** between

National and Unit Conveners

3.00 pm ACWC Selection Panel

3.30 pm Afternoon Tea

4.00 pm **FREE TIME**

6.00 pm Tea

7.00 pm **BUSINESS SESSION 8**

*[election ACWC Assembly Voting*

*Delegates]*

8.00 pm **Induction Service**

8.45 pm Devotions *INE*

### Friday 11 October

8.30 am Photos available

9.00 am News, Notices

9.15 am **BUSINESS SESSION 9**

10.15 am Devotions **WA**

10.30 am Morning Tea

11.00 am **BUSINESS SESSION 10**

12.30 pm DINNER

## PROCEDURAL ARRANGEMENTS

The following procedures will be used by the President and Vice-Presidents during the National Conference 7-11 October 2013.

1. Agenda as set out in the Conference program will be adhered to unless the meeting determines otherwise.

Any business not included in the agenda must be presented in writing to the National Executive no later than 9.00 pm Monday 7 October for consideration and presented for debate if and when it is considered appropriate.

The President shall determine when introduced business genuinely arises from the current debate, and if so determined, it may become part of the conference Agenda regardless of the date introduced.

2. Motions must be presented in writing and signed by the mover and seconder, together with a preamble and/or rationale.
3. Recommendations and/or suggestions from Units, intended to become Motions, must be presented in writing as indicated above.
4. Reference committee of three (3) shall be appointed by Conference.
5. Tellers. Two (2) shall be appointed by Conference.
6. Members wishing to speak shall stand and wait until recognised by the President. Members shall address the President when speaking. All members are to state their name and Unit or Organisation represented, before beginning to speak. Observers have the right to speak but not to vote. Additionally any Conference participant may be invited to speak by the President.
7. All Conference papers to be taken as read, but the Presenter of the business may highlight certain aspects within limits as prescribed in Item 15.
8. A motion may be moved, the mover speaking to the motion. Any motion that is not seconded shall lapse and not be recorded in the conference Minutes.

The seconder of the motion may speak to the motion, or may reserve the right to speak later.

9. Motions may be debated once they have been moved and seconded. The President may inquire if there is anyone wishing to speak for or against the motion, and should alternate such speakers. If there are no speakers, against the motion, the President shall put the motion to the vote.

The mover of the motion has the right of reply to the debate immediately prior to the vote being taken.

10. Debating: Up to three (3) minutes will be allowed to each speaker unless permission is granted for an extension of time (for a maximum of two (2) minutes). This must be moved, seconded and agreed upon by the voting members.

No member may speak more than once on the same motion or amendment, except the mover, who shall have the right of reply. If debate exceeds twenty-five (25) minutes on one motion, it will be deferred to a later Business Session.

11. Amendments may arise from the debate, but the mover, seconder and speaker to the amendment shall not have spoken to the original motion. The proposed amendment must vary the subject matter of the motion, whilst maintaining the intent of the original motion. Any amendment not seconded must lapse and not be recorded in the Conference Minutes.

The President may choose to inquire if any amendment is likely to be seconded, before allowing the mover of the proposed amendment to speak to the amendment.

The mover of the amendment may not reserve the right to speak later.

One (1) amendment shall be dealt with at a time, with speakers limited to addressing the amendment subject. A speaker may foreshadow her intention (but not to speak to her proposal) to offer an alternate amendment following the resolution of the current amendment.

Any amendment must be taken in sequence of acceptance.

12. The debate is closed when the time limit of twenty-five (25) minutes is exceeded on the one motion, the President indicates she believes there has been sufficient debate there are no more speakers, or when someone, who has not taken part in the debate, moves the motion **‘that the question be now put’**. This must be seconded and carried.

**The vote must be taken immediately without further discussion** or the mover’s right of reply being granted.

If there is a motion and an amendment before the Conference, the amendment is put to the vote first. With the resolving of an amendment, the debate on the motion or the amended motion is closed. Any foreshadowed amendment is now proposed and the debate resumed.

The mover of the motion may use her right of reply, after which the President shall put the motion to the vote. A simple majority vote is necessary for the motion to be carried. The President shall declare the result of each vote.

13. Voting entitlements are:

Two (2) from each State/Territory Unit

One (1) from each Denominational Organisation

Five (5) from Incoming National Executive

One (1) from Winifred Kiek Scholarship Trust

One (1) ACW representative to ACWC

Five (5) National Executive members

14. Voting method shall be by the Delegates displaying their official Voting Card when the vote is called for, unless otherwise decided by vote at the Conference.

15. At all reporting Sessions, it shall be moved ‘that all reports be taken as read’. Speakers to the National Executive and Unit reports shall be allocated five (5) minutes, National Denominational groups, Winifred Kiek Scholarship Trust and National Representatives are allocated three (3) minutes. Questions and comments are not included in the time allocation, but at the discretion of the President.

**AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN INC.**  
**MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**Friday 9 November 2012**  
**Westmead Uniting Church, Westmead NSW**

**PRESENT** Brenda Dickinson, Nola Dickson, Lee Edwards, Margaret Florence, Pamela Freeman, Lynette Green Elaine Hales, Isabel Hewitt, Helen Hill, Margaret Ker, Helen Lloyd, Leeola Loughnan, Marie Majoor, Lyn Middleton, Laurel Pearce, Jennifer Peffer, Helen Raymond, Jean Thomson, Nita West.

**APOLOGIES AND GREETINGS** Apologies and greetings were received from Major Olive Dell (National Special Days and Fellowship of the Least Coin Convenor), Mrs Meryon Goode (National Winifred Kiek Scholarship Convenor), Mrs Carole Saxby and members of the Alice Springs Branch, Mrs Juanita Miller and members of the Tasmanian Unit, and Mrs Marion McCall, South Australian Unit, who noted that the Unit AGM was being held on this same day. Apologies were also received from Mrs Betty Farrell (ACT) and Major Lillian Hodges(NSW).

**WELCOME** The meeting began at 11.30 am, with National President Major Laurel Pearce extending a warm welcome to all present. She also extended our thanks to Westmead Uniting Church for their wonderful hospitality, and to the members of the NSW Unit for all the work they had done in relation to arrangements for the day.

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 11 October 2011 had been circulated.

**MOVED** Marie Majoor (WA) **SECONDED** Lee Edwards (WA) that the Minutes of the ACW Inc Annual General Meeting, held on Tuesday 11 October 2011, be accepted as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

**CARRIED.**

**PRESENTATION OF PRESIDENT'S REPORT** Laurel Pearce

***FULL REPORT ON FILE/CIRCULATED***

Major Laurel Pearce presented her Report, which had been circulated, and moved that it be accepted.

**MOVED** Laurel Pearce, seconded Helen Raymond

**CARRIED**

**PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL REPORT** Leeola Loughnan ***FULL REPORT ON FILE/CIRCULATED***

Leeola Loughnan presented her Audited Report, which had been circulated, and provided additional information regarding printing/postage costs for the Minutes of the 2011 National Conference, as well as an outline of comparison between 2011 and 2012 accounts..

**MOVED** Leeola Loughnan **SECONDED** Lynette Green (Victoria) that the Financial Report be accepted.**CARRIED**

**APPOINTMENT AND RATIFICATION OF AUDITOR FOR 2013** Leeola Loughnan informed the meeting that Mr Robert Burns ACA, Chartered Accountant, has signified that he is willing to continue as our Auditor and moved that his re appointment to the position be ratified.

**MOVED** Leeola Loughnan seconded Nita West (SA)

**CARRIED**

**ELECTION** The following members of the National Executive having been elected for a two year term no election was required.

**President**

Laurel Pearce

**Vice President**

Lee Edwards

**Vice President**

Marie Majoor

**Secretary /Minutes Secretary**

Margaret Ker

**Treasurer**

Leeola Loughnan

**Winifred Kiek Scholarship Convenor**

Meryon Goode

**Fellowship of the Least Coin Convenor /Special Days Convenor**

Olive Dell

All of the above nominations were

**ACCEPTED**

**MOTIONS**

**Motion 1 CONSTITUTION REVISION**

**MOVED Margaret Ker SECONDED Jean Thomson**

That this Annual General Meeting of Australian Church Women Inc held in Westmead NSW on Friday 9 November 2012 endorses the draft revised constitution circulated in October 2012 as a basis for further discussion, with a view to presenting a final draft to the 2013 Annual General Meeting and National Conference for adoption.

**CARRIED**

**Motion 2 PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE**

**MOVED Leeola Loughnan SECONDED Jennifer Pfeffer**

That Australian Church Women Inc at this Annual General Meeting held in Westmead NSW on 9 November 2012

- recognises that the present Public Liability Insurance policy held by Australian Church Women Inc may not adequately meet all our requirements and
- authorises the current National Executive, in consultation with members of the Incoming National Executive 2013-2015, to investigate a Public Liability Insurance policy that better addresses our needs, and
- after due consultation with Units to take out such a policy as from 1 October 2013.

**CARRIED**

**Motion 3 REVIEW OF GUIDELINES**

**MOVED Lee Edwards SECONDED Helen Raymond**

That Australian Church Women Inc at this Annual General Meeting held in Westmead NSW on 9 November 2012

- recognises that the **Guidelines** continue to be a vital element in the governance of Australian Church Women Inc
- acknowledges that some issues have arisen as a result of incorporation in March 2009
- authorises the National Executive to undertake a thorough review of the **Guidelines** with a view to presenting a comprehensively updated document to the 2013 National Conference for ratification.

**CARRIED**

**REGISTER OF MEMBERS**

National Secretary Margaret Ker tabled the updated Register of Members and moved that the Register be ratified, and signed by the National President.

**CARRIED**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 12.15 pm.

**WINIFRED KIEK FELLOWSHIP 2013**  
**PROFILE OF MRS ESTHER KILAGHBIAN**



Esther is Syrian by citizenship and Armenian Evangelical by church tradition.

Esther Kilaghbian is a past Chairperson (2009-2010) of the International Committee of the Fellowship of the Least Coin.

She has been the representative for the Middle Eastern Council of Churches on ICFLC since 2006, and served as vice-chairperson in 2008.

Currently she is recommended to be member of Personnel Committee and chairperson of the Circle of Prayer Vol. 22.

Esther is a pastor's wife living in Beirut, Lebanon and is mother of a son and a daughter. She is a youth and women's groups leader, a Bible teacher and serves in the church, the school and in the community with her God-given abilities.

Esther likes music, visitations, spending time with people of different ages and cooking.

Australian Church Women members who attended the ACWC Assemblies in 2006 and 2010 will have met Esther and will attest to her bright, vibrant, positive personality and to the way she reaches out in love to her community.

Esther has been brought to Australia under the Winifred Kiek Fellowship programme, and while she is here she will be visiting Australian Church Women Units across Australia.

We are delighted and privileged to have Esther with us at our National Conference.

## **NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Throughout our term of office, members of national executive have endeavoured to live by our theme. "Our Choice is Love". That theme has brought joy, encouragement, challenge and much learning.

It has been a busy two years and each member of national executive, in spite of illness and family concerns for some, has contributed very well to all we have tried to do to serve Australian Church Women. In some cases that has meant doubling up, even tripling up on roles and has definitely meant supporting each other. My heartfelt thanks is extended to each member of the team.

Work on the constitution has been a major task. My special thanks go to our excellent secretary, Margaret Ker, for all she has contributed to this process and to ACW units and members across Australia for your thoughtful contributions. They have been valued and appreciated.

We were delighted to have three excellent applications for the Australian delegate to the ACWC Young Women's Forum in Bangkok in 2012. Our chosen delegate, Sonya Pell represented Australia very effectively at the Forum.

A successful national AGM was held in Sydney in 2012. We appreciated the efforts made by units to send delegates and were grateful to NSW unit for all they did to facilitate our meeting.

The nine members of the ACWC Executive Committee came to Perth in June for their Annual meeting. Their meetings went well. We also arranged a number of functions for them to meet Perth people. The visit increased the goodwill between our organizations and spread the news of our work among Perth women.

It has been a privilege to respond to request for prayers from our Asian sisters and to pray for each other across Australia. Thank you all for your prayers.

I enjoyed visiting NSW.ACT, Queensland and South Australian Units. Thank you to Pamela Freeman, Jacqueline Hipwell, Mel Stephens and Marion McCall for their kind hospitality. Thanks also go to ACW Inc and The Salvation Army for contributing funding for these visits. Whilst in Adelaide I had the pleasure of attending the National Lutheran Women's Convention. In W.A I have represented ACW Inc at various events. Isabel Hewitt represented me at the National Council of Churches in Australia Forum and at the Presbyterian Women of Australia National Conference.

Thank you ACW members for all the support we have received during our term of office. We are praying for the Incoming National President and Executive that God's richest blessings will be theirs during their term of office.

**Laurel Pearce**



## **NATIONAL SECRETARY'S REPORT**

It has been a great privilege to serve as National Secretary of Australian Church Women Inc over the past two years.

I am deeply grateful for the opportunities I have been given to get to know so many members and to learn more about the work of Australian Church Women both across Australia in state and territory Units, and at the international level through our involvement in the Asian Church Women's Conference, the Fellowship of the Least Coin and the Winifred Kiek Scholarship.

Our monthly meetings were held in the very conveniently located premises of the Uniting Church in the City and we are very grateful indeed for their hospitality. I pay tribute to my colleagues on the National Executive, who learned to tolerate my slightly draconian regime of requesting written reports in advance of each of our meetings and asking that the draft minutes be read and checked for content and accuracy before despatch only a couple of days after each meeting.

This helped considerably in combining the roles of National Secretary and National Minutes Secretary, which I quickly discovered was not quite as easy as it looked on paper! It was not so much a matter of the total workload as of needing to do everything at once in the week after our monthly meetings. My family learned that there was a quarantined week in the month when there was not much chance of anything else getting done and phone calls from interstate daughters might have to be fairly short. I thank them too for their understanding.

As has been my experience in other organisations I cannot imagine how we managed before email. Phone calls are a delight, but sadly they are something of a luxury, being both expensive and (delightfully) time consuming. Letters are slow. We are very blessed to have been given a better way, in spite of the occasional dilemma of how to archive a conversation that mixes 'serious business' with the weather, our grandchildren, and the virtual coffee break. A special tribute to a couple of members with whom I have shared more than one virtual Tim Tam. You know who you are!!

My 'big tasks' for my term of office were ones I took on as labours of love because that was the only way I could think of that would enable me to complete them. I recall hiding in a distant corner of the Immanuel College campus on the last day of the 2011 Conference wondering how I could possibly accomplish them. God is good.

First and foremost the question of the revision of the national constitution, into which so much hard work had already been put by the two previous National Executives, seemed to me not so much a significant test of my very limited secretarial skills, including attention to detail, but also a big responsibility in terms of meeting the hopes which we all had of producing a document that honoured everyone's perceptions of the nature of our organisation and was at the same time workable and legally sound. I am very grateful for the thought and hard work that members have put into the task and hope that we are now close to achieving a result with which we are all happy.

My very best wishes and prayers to all members of the Incoming National Executive.

**Margaret Ker**

## **NATIONAL TREASURER'S REPORT for year ending 30 June 2013**

Dear Members,

I have pleasure in presenting for adoption the Financial Statement for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2013.

Income for the last year in some categories fell slightly in line with the current economic situation, however Fellowship Day Offerings increased by approximately \$1500.00.

Administration income was increased by transfer of 10% from Fellowship Day offerings, World Community Day offerings and Fellowship of the Least Coin.

Bank Drafts in American Dollars were forwarded to Asian Church Women Conference and the International Fellowship of the Least Coin.

Please note: The Commonwealth Bank in Perth would not provide Bank Drafts in American Dollars as requested but would only do so in the currency of the destination country.

An alternate bank 'ANZ' was willing to provide this service.

Once again the requirement for and extent of Public Liability Insurance has provided much discussion. The final outcome has been deferred until the incoming National Executive have had a chance to organise this issue and following recommendations from the National Conference. In the meantime in conferring with Luke Bettany at Butler and Butler Pty Ltd it has been decided that when receiving the next account for the year, only three months will be paid to December. This will then give the Incoming National Executive in New South Wales time to finalise their arrangements.

We were hosts to the Asian Church Women's Conference for their Annual General Meeting held in June. Due to the organising of the accommodation at The Salvation Army house and the loan of their bus, lunch provided by a member, and the donation of a cooked dinner each night provided by family and friends, the costs were kept to a minimum.

We have had a healthy response of registrations for the National Conference to be held in Perth this year.

In conclusion I wish to thank Christine Barber, the previous National Treasurer, for her help and guidance. Also to each and every member of the National Executive for their encouragement and support during the last two years.

**Leeola Loughnan  
Treasurer  
National Executive**

# ROBERT BURNS

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT  
BUSINESS CONSULTANT

## AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN INC INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2012

### Scope and Audit Approach

I have audited the financial report being a special purpose financial report for the year ended 30 June 2012.

The National Executive are responsible for the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies used are appropriate to meet their requirements.

I have conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the National Executive.

I disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the National Executive, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

My audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report and the evaluation of significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with the accounting policies so as present a view which is consistent with my understanding of the organizations financial position, and performance as represented by the results of its operations. These policies do not require the application of all Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

### Independence

In conducting my audit, I followed applicable independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

### Audit Opinion

In my opinion, the financial report presents fairly in accordance with the accounting policies the financial position of the Australian Church Women Inc as at 30 June 2012 and the results of its operations for the year then ended.



ROBERT W BURNS CA  
REGISTERED COMPANY AUDITOR

PERTH WA

DATE  
9/09/2012

ABN: 36 239 288 011

6 Bruce Road, Morley, WA 6062

T: (08) 9276 4330 F: (08) 9375 7039 M: 0421 550 602

E: burnsm@inet.net.au

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN INC**

**RECEIPTS 1<sup>st</sup> July 2011 – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2012**

|                                       |              |                    |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------|
| <b>Bank Balance B/f</b>               |              | <b>\$29252.50</b>  |
| Honouring Australian Church Women     | 110.00       |                    |
| Fellowship of the Least Coin          | 38033.14     |                    |
| Fellowship of the Least Coin Supplies | 179.65       |                    |
| Winifred Kiek Scholarship Donations   | 98.30        |                    |
| Asian Church Women's Conference       |              |                    |
| Newsletters                           | 675.00       |                    |
| 'Winifred' Books                      | 425.00       |                    |
| Circle of Prayer Books                | 890.00       |                    |
| National Travel Fund                  | 1083.25      |                    |
| National Conference Fund 2011         | 26375.50     |                    |
| National Conference Fund 2013         | 445.00       |                    |
| Term Deposits Redeemed                | 55000.00     |                    |
| Donation Flood Relief                 | 127.29       |                    |
| Bank and Investment Interest          | 992.68       |                    |
| Overseas Travel Fund                  | 495.00       |                    |
| Asian Church Women's Donations        | 800.00       |                    |
| Asian Church Women's Affiliation      | 570.00       |                    |
| Public Liability                      | 550.00       |                    |
| Special Project                       | 2275.88      |                    |
| Fellowship Day Donations              | 8745.42      |                    |
| World Community Day                   | 6379.56      |                    |
| Sundries                              | <u>15.00</u> |                    |
| <b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>                 |              | <b>\$144265.67</b> |

**C/fwd**

**\$173518.17**

# FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN INC

## EXPENDITURE 1 July 2011 - 30 June 2012

|   |               |                  |
|---|---------------|------------------|
| Winifred Kiek Scholarship                 |               |                  |
| Fellowship Day                            |               | 6682.96          |
| Brochures                                 |               | 1324.50          |
| Donations                                 |               | 98.30            |
| Expenses                                  |               | 117.00           |
| Honouring Australian Church Women         |               | 220.00           |
| Fellowship of the Least Coin              |               | 34775.81         |
| Special Project 2011                      |               | 3894.95          |
| Asian Church Women's Conference Donations |               | 5859.95          |
| National Conference 2011                  |               | 40424.55         |
| National Conference 2013                  |               | 397.50           |
| National Travel Fund                      |               | 860.00           |
| Courier Services                          |               | 544.84           |
| Administration                            |               | 41.75            |
| Sundries from NE South Australia          |               |                  |
| Registrar Lodgement                       | 35.00         |                  |
| Audit Fee                                 | 200.00        |                  |
| Web Site Costs                            | 495.00        |                  |
| Public Liability Insurance                | 554.70        |                  |
| Thailand Flood Appeal                     | <u>150.00</u> | 1434.70          |
| Investment Term Deposits                  |               | 55000.00         |
| Petty Cash                                |               | 576.76           |
| Bank Fees                                 |               | <u>124.12</u>    |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>                  |               | <b>152377.69</b> |

**Less** Cash on Hand NE South Australia - expended 111.95

**TOTAL EXPENDITURE FROM BANK** **\$152265.74**

### Reconciliation

|              |                  |
|--------------|------------------|
| Bank B/f     | 29252.50         |
| Receipts     | <u>144265.67</u> |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>173518.17</b> |
| Expenses     | 152265.74        |
| Bank C/f     | <u>21252.43</u>  |
|              | <b>173518.17</b> |

**Bank Statement 30 June 2012** **\$21252.43**

**Investment for 6 months**

**(Anglican Community Fund)** **\$20000.00**

**TOTAL** **\$41252.43**

**Balance of Funds at 30 June 2012**

|                                   |                   |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
|                                   | \$                |
| National Conference Fund          | 19159.19          |
| National Travel Fund              | 2983.77           |
| Overseas Travel Fund              | 3067.00           |
| Honouring Australian Church Women | 10.00             |
| Administration                    |                   |
| Less Petty Cash - \$464.51        |                   |
| Bank Fees - 89.67                 |                   |
| Stamp (inc ABN number) \$36.75    | 16002.47          |
| ACWC Donation                     | 15.00             |
| Sundries                          | 15.00             |
|                                   | <u>\$41252.43</u> |

Administration includes transfers from

|                               |                  |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Fellowship Day Donations      | 874.54           |
| World Community Day Donations | 865.54           |
| Fellowship of the Least Coin  | 3846.38          |
|                               | <u>\$5586.46</u> |

## ROBERT BURNS

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT  
BUSINESS CONSULTANT

### AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN INC INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

#### Scope and Audit Approach

I have audited the financial report being a special purpose financial report for the year ended 30 June 2013.

The National Executive are responsible for the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies used are appropriate to meet their requirements.

I have conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the National Executive.

I disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the National Executive, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

My audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report and the evaluation of significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with the accounting policies so as present a view which is consistent with my understanding of the organizations financial position, and performance as represented by the results of its operations. These policies do not require the application of all Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

#### Independence

In conducting my audit, I followed applicable independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

#### Audit Opinion

In my opinion, the financial report presents fairly in accordance with the accounting policies the financial position of the Australian Church Women Inc as at 30 June 2013 and the results of its operations for the year then ended.



ROBERT W BURNS CA  
REGISTERED COMPANY AUDITOR

PERTH WA

DATE  
05/08/2013

ABN: 36 239 288 011

6 Bruce Road, Morley, WA 6062

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*Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation*

**Australian Church Women Inc**  
**National Executive**  
**Statement of Income and Expenditure for year ended 30 June 2013**

**INCOME:**

|  |          |                          |
|--|----------|--------------------------|
| Fellowship Day Offerings                   | 10293.24 |                          |
| Winifred Kiek Scholarship Donations        | 1513.65  | 11806.89                 |
| Honouring Australian Church Women          |          | 111.00                   |
| Fellowship of the Least Coin               |          | 36397.51                 |
| World Community Day Offerings              | 6038.57  |                          |
| Special Projects                           | 1808.85  | 7847.42                  |
| Asian Church Women's Conference            |          |                          |
| ACWC Donations                             | 800.00   |                          |
| ACWC Affiliations                          | 570.00   |                          |
| ACWC Newsletters                           | 504.00   |                          |
| ACWC Gold Coin Donations                   | 53.00    | 1927.00                  |
| Donation Hire of Hall ACWC Conference      |          | 125.00                   |
| Donation - National Conference Fund        |          | 696.00                   |
| National Travel Fund                       |          | 470.00                   |
| Overseas Conference fund                   |          | 495.00                   |
| Contributions Public Liability             |          | 745.00                   |
| Sales – 'Winfred' Books                    |          | 62.50                    |
| National Conference 2013 Registration Fees |          | 17530.00                 |
| Sundries – National Newsletters            |          | 5.00                     |
| Interest Earned                            |          | 988.82                   |
|  |          | <hr/>                    |
|  |          | <b><u>\$79207.14</u></b> |



**Australian Church Women Inc**  
**National Executive**  
**Year ended 30 June 2013**

**EXPENDITURE**

|  |                |                          |
|--|----------------|--------------------------|
| Winifred Kiek Scholarship Trust                  |                |                          |
| Fellowship Day Offering                          | 10293.24       |                          |
| Less 10% Administration                          | <u>1029.32</u> |                          |
| Sub total  | 9263.92        |                          |
| Less Expenses, brochures and postage             | <u>1324.50</u> |                          |
| Sub total  | 7939.42        |                          |
| Plus WKS Donations                               | 1513.65        |                          |
| Honouring Australian Church Women                | <u>121.00</u>  | 9574.07                  |
| WKS Trust Expenses including 2010-2013 Bank Fees | 454.30         |                          |
| WKS Brochures                                    | <u>1429.86</u> | 1884.16                  |
| Fellowship of the Least Coin                     | 36397.51       |                          |
| Less 10% Administration                          | <u>3639.75</u> | 32757.76                 |
| World Community Day Offering                     | 6038.57        |                          |
| Special Project – Bear Cottage                   | 1808.85        |                          |
| Asian Church Women’s Conference Donations        | 815.00         |                          |
| Sub total  | <u>8662.42</u> |                          |
| Less 10% to Administration                       | 866.24         |                          |
| Total  | <u>7796.18</u> |                          |
| Less 50% to Asian Church Women’s Conference      | <u>3898.09</u> | 3898.09                  |
| Asian Church Women’s Conference                  |                |                          |
| Affiliation                                      | 570.00         |                          |
| ACWC Newsletter Subscriptions                    | 504.00         |                          |
| 50% World Community Day Offerings                | <u>3898.09</u> | 4972.09                  |
| Asian Church Women’s Conference Perth 2013       |                |                          |
| Bond for hire of hall                            | 500.00         |                          |
| Airport parking/fuel/meals/gifts                 | 507.37         | 1007.37                  |
| National Conference 2011                         |                |                          |
| Production of Minutes                            |                | 429.86                   |
| National Conference 2013                         |                |                          |
| Advance to Incoming National Executive           |                | 3205.00                  |
| Airfare for WKS Representative                   |                | 735.71                   |
| National Newsletters                             |                | 322.70                   |
| National Travel Fund Presidents’ Travel          |                | 1228.50                  |
| National Travel Pool                             |                | 534.00                   |
| Administration Expenses                          |                |                          |
| Petty Cash                                       | 1215.44        |                          |
| Bank Fees  | 122.50         |                          |
| Postage Annual Report (AWC)                      | 19.20          |                          |
| Web Site Hosting                                 | 52.00          |                          |
| Stamp with ABN Number (ACW Inc)                  | 38.80          |                          |
| Public Liability                                 | 1193.53        |                          |
| Donation – Annual General Meeting, Sydney, NSW   | <u>210.00</u>  | 2851.47                  |
| Sundries   |                |                          |
| Audit  | 330.00         |                          |
| Registration                                     | 36.00          |                          |
| Donation to CEO Canberra Sleepout (N.Tebbey)     | 250.00         | 616.00                   |
| Unexpended Petty Cash                            |                | <u>78.40</u>             |
|  |                | <b><u>\$64095.18</u></b> |

**Australian Church Women Inc  
National Executive  
Year ended 30 June 2013**

**FUNDS STATEMENT**

|  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| Balance at 1 July 2012                     | 41252.43          |
| Plus Income                                | <u>79207.14</u>   |
| Total                                      | 120459.57         |
| Less Expenditure                           | <u>64095.18</u>   |
| Balance                                    | \$56364.39        |
| Plus unexpended Petty Cash                 | 78.40             |
| Bond – Hire of Hall ACWC (to be refunded)  | <u>500.00</u>     |
| Total                                      | <u>\$56942.79</u> |
| Represented by                             |                   |
| CBA Account                                | 36282.97          |
| Less unrepresented cheque                  | <u>907.40</u>     |
| Balance                                    | \$35375.57        |
| Plus Term Deposit Anglican Community Fund  | 20988.82          |
| Cash on Hand                               | 78.40             |
| Bond Hire of Hall (receivable)             | <u>500.00</u>     |
| Total                                      | <u>\$56942.79</u> |
| <b>Balance of Funds at 30 June 2013</b>    |                   |
| Registrations for National Conference 2013 | 17530.00          |
| National Conference Fund                   | 15484.67          |
| National Travel Fund                       | 1691.27           |
| Overseas Conference Fund                   | 3562.00           |
| 'Winifred' Books                           | 62.50             |
| Administration (1) (2)                     | <u>18533.95</u>   |
|  | \$56864.39        |
| Add Cash on Hand                           | <u>78.40</u>      |
|  | <u>\$56942.79</u> |

Note 1: Administration includes transfers from...

|                               |         |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| Fellowship Day Offerings      | 1029.32 |
| World Community Day Offerings | 866.24  |
| Fellowship of the Least Coin  | 3639.75 |

Note 2: Includes \$500.00 Bond for Hall Hire

**ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FOR TRANSFER TO THE YEAR 2013-2014**

|  | Registrations<br>National<br>Conference<br>2013 | National<br>Conference<br>Fund | National<br>Travel<br>Fund | Overseas<br>Conference<br>Fund | Winifred<br>Books | Honouring<br>Aust Church<br>Women | Administration    |
|--|---|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Balance @ 1/7/2012</b>                        | -   | 19159.19                       | 2983.77                    | 3067.00                        |                   | 10.00                             | 16002.47          |
| <b>Plus Income</b>                               | 17530.00  | 696.00                         | 470.00                     | 495.00                         | 62.50             |                                   |                   |
| Transfer from<br>Fellowship Day<br>Offerings WKS |   |                                |                            |                                |                   |                                   | 1029.22           |
| Transfer from FLC                                |   |                                |                            |                                |                   |                                   | 3639.75           |
| Transfer WCD<br>Offerings                        |   |                                |                            |                                |                   |                                   | 866.24            |
| Honouring Aust<br>Church Women                   |   |                                |                            |                                |                   | 111.00                            |                   |
| Public Liability                                 |   |                                |                            |                                |                   |                                   | 745.00            |
| Sales/Interest/<br>Donation                      |   |                                |                            |                                |                   |                                   | 187.50            |
| <b>Total Revenue</b>                             | <b>17530.00</b>                                 | <b>19855.19</b>                | <b>3453.77</b>             | <b>3562.00</b>                 | <b>62.50</b>      | <b>121.00</b>                     | <b>22470.18</b>   |
| <b>Less Payments</b>                             |   |                                |                            |                                |                   |                                   |                   |
| National Travel<br>Fund                          |   |                                | 1762.50                    |                                |                   |                                   |                   |
| National Conference<br>Fund                      |   | 4370.52                        |                            |                                |                   |                                   |                   |
| Honouring Aust<br>Church Women                   |   |                                |                            |                                |                   | 121.00                            |                   |
| Administration &<br>Sundries                     |   |                                |                            |                                |                   |                                   | 4436.23           |
| <b>Balance as at 30/6/2013</b>                   | <b>17530.00</b>                                 | <b>15484.67</b>                | <b>1691.27</b>             | <b>3562.00</b>                 | <b>62.50</b>      | <b>Nil</b>                        | <b>\$18033.95</b> |

## **FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN**

It has been my privilege to be National Convenor for Fellowship of the Least Coin.

During the visit in 2013 of the Executive of the Asian Church Womens Conference for their committee meeting, being able to meet personally with Corazon Tabin-Reyes, the Executive Secretary of ICFLC, was a blessing. I only wish I had been able to hear of some of the activities connected with FLC earlier in my term of office.

My grateful thanks go to all State Convenors for all their enthusiastic support for FLC. Fulfilling speaking requests takes time and energy, but our Convenors do so happily and then look to do more. I am a little envious of Queensland with a trip to Bribie Island to speak to the Uniting Church Adult Fellowship planned. It is a miracle of God's provision that the small coins are multiplied to reach so many places where needed and used in God's name and for His Kingdom's increase.

In 2012 an ICFLC Grants application was received from Victoria for "Kidz Matter", sponsored by Prison Network Ministries Inc. This is to help with camps for children who have at least one parent in prison. "These camps make such a difference to these children's lives, many having had quite traumatic lives and the chance to get away and have fun is a rare thing". This application was successful with a grant of \$US 5000.

Another application was made by Anglicord – Anglican Overseas Aid, on behalf of a project in Gaza, in partnership with Janet Reid Centre, the breast clinic of Al Ahli Hospital. The name of the project "Women Die Waiting – Breast Cancer in Gaza." which received \$US 5000. We are still awaiting reports on these projects.

There were no applications for 2013.

The latest Circle of Prayer booklets have been distributed and there will be some more available at Conference together with other material.

May God continue to use the ministry of Prayer for Peace, Justice and Reconciliation through Fellowship of the Least Coin to further His Kingdom on this earth.

**Olive M Dell (Major)**  
**National Convenor FLC**

## **SPECIAL DAYS**

The inter-denominationalism of Australian Church Women is a unique feature of our fellowship. The way this is followed through by the holding of Fellowship Day and World Community Day services in diverse towns and many different churches adds to that uniqueness.

The services have been well received with appreciative comments coming from various states.

New South Wales held services at various centres throughout the state with 16 for World Community Day attended by 592 people, and Fellowship Day in 12 centres with 477 people attending.

ACT had about 50 at each service. Tasmania held services in 6 towns. Queensland held Fellowship Day in 9 centres and World Community Day in 8 centres. Although attendances seem to be decreasing slightly the offerings are still very good. Victoria had 12 Fellowship Day Services with 410 attending and 14 World Community Day Services attended by 430. A car load of Victorian Unit members travelled to Euroa for World Community Day as encouragement for faithful support over the years. Sadly a lot of our supporters are getting older and are finding it difficult to continue. Three Victorian centres will not be holding future services although still participating with financial support.

Western Australia held services in the metropolitan area, the Northern suburbs and in the South West areas of Bunbury, Busselton, Capel and Mandurah.

The Special Project for 2012 World Community Day was Bear Cottage, a Hospice for children located in Sydney. It is a place that's dedicated to caring for children with life limiting conditions and their families.

The Special Project for 2013 is Samaritan Accommodation which is a safe house for at least 10 victims of human trafficking/slavery who are ineligible for mainstream services. This is provided by The Salvation Army, Eastern Territory.

My grateful thanks to all who have been so diligent in promoting our Special Days. I trust you have been blessed as you have planned for people to be able to come and worship and fellowship together.

I want to personally thank National Executive members who assisted me whilst being "incapacitated". It was truly appreciated.

**Olive M Dell (Major)**

## **WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP**

National Executive pays tribute to the dedication shown by our colleague Meryon Goode in this portfolio during the first 18 months of our term of office. In recent months the responsibility has been shared by all of National Executive, and information circulated to our hard working Unit Convenors, on whose commitment the future of this part of our ACW work depends. We thank our Convenors for their positive reports on their activities at state/territory level.

The Winifred Kiek Scholarship has been a vital part of the work of Australian Church Women since its inception, and as we begin to look towards celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2015 it is worth reflecting on the developments that have taken place over time in the way the Scholarship is awarded.

In both students and courses the picture has changed very significantly, and over the past two years this has become very obvious.

In 2012 our three Scholars were from within Australia. Denise Champion, to the best of our knowledge our first indigenous Scholar, completed her courses in Leadership and Ministry to help her serve her own people and the wider Church as she had already done with great distinction over many years. Kyounghee Cho, a young mother of Korean extraction, worked on a topic (*Mary Mother of Jesus*) that 50 years ago would have been an unusual choice for a non-Catholic student. Sara Dingle, who had to withdraw from her studies early in the year because of work commitments, came from a Baptist background and planned to study at a Lutheran institution.

50 years ago it is most unlikely that we would have attracted similar applicants.

This year, 2013, the picture is again very different from in the past. Four Scholars were selected from the Pacific Islands region and all are studying within the region. Two (Lou Momoru and Verenaisi Toga) are studying at institutions in remote areas where facilities for students are very basic. All four women are studying at a high level, two of them for the degree of Bachelor of Divinity.

Our 2013 Scholars are pioneers in women's participation in their church communities, and it is especially fitting that they are being assisted by a Scholarship honouring a pioneer such as Winifred Kiek herself .

Applications for the 2014 awards again broke new ground, envisaging postgraduate study outside applicants' home countries and in two cases outside the region.

These changes pose significant challenges for our dedicated Trustees, and Cynthia Gifford as Chair of the Trustees has alluded to some of these in her report. National Executive looked at the broader picture and this is reflected in two motions and a recommendation to be found in these working papers.

We are very grateful to Trust Treasurer Barbara Grear for providing us with a copy of the current Deed of Trust, incorporating changes made to the original 1987 Deed in the period 1989-1995. This will serve as a point of reference in future discussion.

**Margaret Ker on behalf of National Executive**

### **WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP TRUST 2011 - 2013**

Sarah Dingle whom many of you would have met in Adelaide unfortunately for personal reasons withdrew at the beginning of the Academic year. Nor did she seek to take up the scholarship at a later date.

This opens up a dilemma for the Trustees. We understandably cannot access the Capital but money returned to us, as above, came from interest earned. We are of the firm understanding that we cannot use this for subsequent students. It is hoped that the Conference will address this issue.

The two other students completed their scholarship requirements

This year we were not able to grant scholarships to all the applicants for financial reasons however worthy they may have been.

However being able to help Berebere from Kiribati to study in Fiji for her Bachelor of Divinity Degree not only helps her enormously but also her family who struggle financially to support her.

Verenaisi from Fiji is also studying for a Bachelor of Divinity.

Christina from Vanuatu who was married late last year is now expecting twins and on the advice of her doctor has deferred until next year.

Lou from P.N.G. has had a fourth child and is studying and working along side her husband to help support their local community where there is much need.

Ruth from P.N.G. is studying now on line at a higher level than originally and we have been able to supply a computer.

Babies have added to our excitement lately.

Moving on to Asia next year, the Trustees have only received three applications. Interest rates are low and so our available finance is of course low. Two of the applicants have unrealistic expectations of the scholarship even under normal circumstances, which has opened up another dilemma never faced before in our experience.

We owe a debt of gratitude to our treasurer Barbara Gear who gives so freely of her accounting knowledge and skills and understanding of the regulations we have within and also dealing beyond our shores and her dedication to the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Trust.

**Cynthia Gifford**

## **WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP TRUST**

### **TREASURER'S REPORT 2011-2013**

I present the Financial Statements for the Trust for the years ended 30 June 2012 and 30 June 2013. These cover funds held in the Scholarship, Fellowship and Honouring Church Women Accounts.

Investments have continued to be held in Term Deposits, and we attempt to get the best rate available, which sometimes involves some negotiation. Earnings for the years 2011-2012 averaged 5.59%, but dropped to 4.5% for 2012-13. I believe that this was a reasonable return considering that we do not risk any loss in capital values as we use term deposits.

During this period we completed payment to the 2010 Scholar, Ruth Marsipal, who had returned to Papua New Guinea to have her baby. As Alan Walker College no longer takes residential scholars, we were able to provide Ruth with a computer and pay for her to complete her course online with the College.

Of the 2012 Scholars, Kyounghee Cho and Denise Champion each completed their planned programmes, but unfortunately Sarah Dingle did not proceed with her study and no funds were paid out for her Scholarship.

Each of the 2013 Scholars was fully paid and is proceeding with their studies. The amounts received were Berebere Katauea \$11,860, Lou Momoru \$2,700, Verenaisi Toga \$2,475 and Christina Taviti \$1,425.

A WKS Fellowship has been awarded to Esther Kilaghbian to attend the 2013 Conference, and part of the costs is included in these Financial Statements.

Over this period we closed some small accounts, and consolidated our funds.

It is appropriate to note that there is little call for funds from the Honouring Church Women Account to cover the cost of books, as most information is accessed via the computer. We may well need to look at the use of this fund in the future.

At 30 June 2013 the Trust holds funds of \$398,228.88, which includes Capital, Fellowship Account and allocated Scholarship Accounts. The Honouring Church Women Account has a balance of \$19,013.40.

I am grateful for the support of the Auditor, Mr Adrian Nicholls, and wish to record my thanks to him.

**Barbara J Grear ALPA**  
**Treasurer**



| AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN - WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP TRUST      |               |            |                 |                 |                 |                 |                |        |  |
|--|---------------|------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|--------|--|
| FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD 1 JULY 2011 TO 30 JUNE 2012 |               |            |                 |                 |                 |                 |                |        |  |
|  | TOTAL<br>WKST | CAPITAL    | 2010<br>SCHOLAR | 2011<br>SCHOLAR | 2012<br>SCHOLAR | 2013<br>SCHOLAR | FELLOW<br>SHIP | ADMIN  |  |
| Opening Balance  | 377,508.29    | 314,307.19 | 8,069.37        | 9,550.83        | 17,314.62       |                 | 28,135.42      | 130.86 |  |
| RECEIPTS   |               |            |                 |                 |                 |                 |                |        |  |
| Interest Received  | 17,937.59     |            | 383.42          | 453.81          | 822.72          | 14,934.54       | 1,336.88       | 6.22   |  |
| Reimburse unused allow   | 455.00        |            |                 | 455.00          |                 |                 |                |        |  |
| ACW National Executive   | 6,527.66      | 6,527.66   |                 |                 |                 |                 |                |        |  |
| Reimburse unused fees  | 1,098.00      |            |                 |                 | 1,098.00        |                 |                |        |  |
| <b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>  | 26,018.25     | 6,527.66   | 383.42          | 908.81          | 1,920.72        | 14,934.54       | 1,336.88       | 6.22   |  |
| ADD ACCRUALS   |               |            |                 |                 |                 |                 |                |        |  |
| Interest Accrued   | 3,140.80      |            | 67.14           | 79.46           | 144.05          | 2,614.98        | 234.08         | 1.09   |  |
| <b>FUNDS AVAILABLE</b>   | 406,667.34    | 320,834.85 | 8,519.93        | 10,539.10       | 19,379.39       | 17,549.52       | 29,706.38      | 138.17 |  |
| LESS PAYMENTS  |               |            |                 |                 |                 |                 |                |        |  |
| <b>WKS Fellowship</b>  |               |            |                 |                 |                 |                 |                |        |  |
| Lee Moon Sook  |               |            |                 |                 |                 |                 |                |        |  |
| Air Fares  | 2,369.73      |            |                 |                 |                 |                 | 2,369.73       |        |  |
| Conf Registration  | 600.00        |            |                 |                 |                 |                 | 600.00         |        |  |
| O/night accommodation  | 135.00        |            |                 |                 |                 |                 | 135.00         |        |  |
| Sundries   | 32.00         |            |                 |                 |                 |                 | 32.00          |        |  |
| <b>2012 Scholar</b>  |               |            |                 |                 |                 |                 |                |        |  |
| Sarah Dingle   | 1,098.00      |            |                 |                 | 1,098.00        |                 |                |        |  |
| Kyounghee Cho  | 4,296.98      |            |                 |                 | 4,296.98        |                 |                |        |  |
| <b>Bank Fees</b>   | 5.00          |            |                 |                 |                 |                 |                | 5.00   |  |
| <b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>  | 8,536.71      | -          | -               | -               | 5,394.98        | -               | 3,136.73       | 5.00   |  |
| <b>BALANCE IN HAND 30 JUNE</b>                                 | 398,130.63    | 320,834.85 | 8,519.93        | 10,539.10       | 13,984.41       | 17,549.52       | 26,569.65      | 133.17 |  |



| WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP TRUST     |                   |                    |               |                |          |          |                  |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------|----------------|----------|----------|------------------|
| SUMMARY OF INVESTMENTS 30 JUNE 2012 |                   |                    |               |                |          |          |                  |
|                                     | TOTAL FUNDS       | CERTIFICATE NUMBER | INTEREST RATE | DATE COMMENCED | TERM     | MATURES  | ACCRUED INTEREST |
| Winifred Kiek Scholarship           | 398,130.63        |                    |               |                |          |          |                  |
| Honouring Church Women              | 18,195.43         |                    |               |                |          |          |                  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                        | <b>416,326.06</b> |                    |               |                |          |          |                  |
| <b>REPRESENTED BY:</b>              |                   |                    |               |                |          |          |                  |
| Bank SA Term Deposit                | 110,000.00        | 142 4038544460     | 5.10%         | 17/05/12       | 210 days | 13/12/12 | 676.27           |
| Bank SA Term Deposit                | 30,000.00         | 142 4038638460     | 5.55%         | 29/03/12       | 181 days | 26/09/12 | 424.23           |
| Bendigo Bank Term Deposit           | 115,870.83        | 137498002          | 5.45%         | 8/04/12        | 181 days | 8/10/12  | 1,436.00         |
| Bendigo Bank Term Deposit           | 30,833.27         | 138158623          | 4.70%         | 18/06/12       | 6 mths   | 18/12/12 | 47.64            |
| Community CPS Term Deposit          | 45,000.00         | 123051391          | 5.40%         | 5/04/12        | 3 mths   | 5/07/12  | 572.55           |
| Community CPS Term Deposit          | 60,000.00         | 123017890          | 5.10%         | 15/06/12       | 3 mths   | 14/09/12 | 125.75           |
| Australian Executor Trustee         |                   |                    |               |                |          |          |                  |
| Cash Deposit Fund                   | 1,813.19          | 20740300           |               |                |          |          |                  |
| Lifepan Bonus Cash A/c              | 2,208.43          | 281621S30          |               |                |          |          |                  |
| CPS S3 Access Savings A/c           | 1,969.30          | 3141815            |               |                |          |          |                  |
| CPS Share                           | 2.00              |                    |               |                |          |          |                  |
| Bank SA Cheque A/c                  | 15,344.60         | 105 112 411272340  |               |                |          |          |                  |
| Aust Central Credit Union Share     | 2.00              |                    |               |                |          |          |                  |
| Petty Cash                          | -                 |                    |               |                |          |          |                  |
| <b>TOTAL INVESTED</b>               | <b>413,043.62</b> |                    |               |                |          |          | <b>3,282.44</b>  |
| Accrued Interest                    | 3,282.44          |                    |               |                |          |          |                  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                        | <b>416,326.06</b> |                    |               |                |          |          |                  |



| AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN WINIFRED SCHOLARSHIP TRUST             |                  |                  |               |               |               |               |               |  |  |
|--|------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--|--|
| HONOURING CHURCH WOMEN   |                  |                  |               |               |               |               |               |  |  |
| FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD 1 JULY 2012 TO 30 JUNE 2013 |                  |                  |               |               |               |               |               |  |  |
|  | TOTAL            | CAPITAL          | 2010 SCHOLAR  | 2011 SCHOLAR  | 2012 SCHOLAR  | 2013 SCHOLAR  | 2014 SCHOLAR  |  |  |
| Opening Balance  | 18,195.43        | 15,081.13        | 827.44        | 619.13        | 837.95        | 829.78        |               |  |  |
|  |                  |                  |               |               |               |               |               |  |  |
|  |                  |                  |               |               |               |               |               |  |  |
| <u>RECEIPTS</u>  |                  |                  |               |               |               |               |               |  |  |
| Interest earned  | 613.56           |                  | 27.90         | 20.88         | 28.26         | 27.98         | 508.54        |  |  |
|  |                  |                  |               |               |               |               |               |  |  |
|  |                  |                  |               |               |               |               |               |  |  |
| <u>TOTAL RECEIPTS</u>  | 613.56           | -                | 27.90         | 20.88         | 28.26         | 27.98         | 508.54        |  |  |
|  |                  |                  |               |               |               |               |               |  |  |
| <u>ADD ACCRUALS</u>  |                  |                  |               |               |               |               |               |  |  |
| Interest accrued   | 204.41           |                  | 9.30          | 6.96          | 9.41          | 9.32          | 169.42        |  |  |
|  |                  |                  |               |               |               |               |               |  |  |
| <u>FUNDS AVAILABLE</u>   | 19,013.40        | 15,081.13        | 864.64        | 646.97        | 875.62        | 867.08        | 677.96        |  |  |
|  |                  |                  |               |               |               |               |               |  |  |
| <u>PAYMENTS</u>  |                  |                  |               |               |               |               |               |  |  |
|  |                  |                  |               |               |               |               |               |  |  |
|  |                  |                  |               |               |               |               |               |  |  |
|  | -                |                  |               |               |               |               |               |  |  |
|  |                  |                  |               |               |               |               |               |  |  |
| <u>TOTAL PAYMENTS</u>  | -                | -                | -             | -             | -             |               |               |  |  |
|  |                  |                  |               |               |               |               |               |  |  |
| <b>BALANCE IN HAND 30 JUNE</b>                                 | <b>19,013.40</b> | <b>15,081.13</b> | <b>864.64</b> | <b>646.97</b> | <b>875.62</b> | <b>867.08</b> | <b>677.96</b> |  |  |



## **SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES**

Margaret Ker and myself are the two members of National Executive who have looked after Social Justice issues during our term of office.

Late 2011 an invitation to the NSW Immigrant Women's Speak Out AGM was forwarded to ACW, NSW Unit. Margaret sent a letter re refugee Ismail Mirza Jan to the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship and a letter on the Food Labelling Review to the Parliamentary Secretary for Health and Ageing.

A brief submission was made on the draft legislation on Slavery like conditions and People Trafficking Information was forwarded to all units on Human Trafficking Community Awareness training being held by the Red Cross in all states.

A mental health road map online survey was completed by Margaret. I attended a symposium on Sexualisation of Women and children.

We endorsed the NGO's Follow-up Report to the CEDAW Committee Interim Recommendations. We sent Victorian Unit the link to the Australian Women Against Violence Alliance Report on Domestic Violence.

Copies of the ACOSS Report, Poverty in Australia were sent to all units. And Margaret attended an information session on services provided by the Red Cross for Asylum seekers and refugees.

I have passed social justice information on to Units on seminars, events, research findings, campaigns and useful web sites. Topics covered included Fair Trade, Poverty, Homelessness, Affordable Housing, violence against women, refugees and asylum seekers, indigenous people's needs, human trafficking, sexual assault survivors, the sexualisation of children, mental health issues and deaths in custody.

Our Social Justice Convenors in all Units are to be commended for all the work they have done. They have attended rallies, seminars and events, provided information to their colleagues and encouraged them to be involved, accessed web sites, written to politicians, and signed petitions.

A wide range of social justice issues have been addressed including Asylum seekers, detention of children, refugees, stronger futures legislation, water management in the Murray-Darling Basin, uranium mining, job cuts in the Queensland Public Service, removal of protection for vulnerable out workers, pedestrian safety at level crossings, prevalence of betting and gambling ads on TV, banning of smoking in public places, abuse of women in the armed forces, child care, aged care, palliative care, protection of women and children at risk, reduction in single parent allowance, difficulty for renters to access low and high care, deaths in custody, sexualisation of children, people with disabilities, mental health, underage drinking, restorative justice, rights of indigenous people and human rights. We thank them for their passion and commitment to a fairer Australia.

**Laurel Pearce**

## **Asian Church Women's Conference (ACWC) National Report 2013**

I found the preparation of this report to be very difficult because I kept reflecting back over the privilege that has been mine for the last seven years. This is my last National Conference report as the Australian Representative to the ACWC, as my term will conclude in October 2014.

The last seven years have been full of blessings and challenges, especially since the beginning of 2011 as the ACWC President, and this term of office will also finish in October 2014 at the ACWC General Assembly. Trying to summarise my experiences is almost impossible; I'm sure I could write a book about my amazing journey with the ACWC.

Looking back over 2011-2013, I was blessed to chair ACWC meetings in Kuala Lumpur, Bangkok and Perth, and participate in the annual meetings of the ICFLC (International Committee for the Fellowship of the Least Coin) in Beirut and Nassau. I have learnt so much from these opportunities and my eyes have been opened wide to some of the difficulties that our Christian sisters and brothers face daily in other parts of the world.

In Bangkok, in May 2012, a Young Women's Forum was held between the Executive and General Committee meetings. This was an excellent programme that showcased some exceptional young women from ACWC's member countries, including Sonya Pell who represented Australia. Please pray that God will raise up more young women to be a part of Australian Church Women.

In September, 2012, I was invited to attend the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of Women's Ministry in the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan. It was an amazing experience of Christian women glorifying God in thanksgiving and praise for their history and the blessings of their ministry.

The ACWC Prayer Partners Programme continues to be a simple, but valuable way for members to support one another. Through this programme I met Munkhtuul Sodnomtseren, the ACWC National Representative from Mongolia. In 2012 Munkhtuul was awarded a two-year AusAid scholarship to study for her Masters in Development and Gender Studies at the University of Melbourne. Earlier this year, I was blessed to have Munkhtuul stay in my home for several weeks until she found suitable accommodation for her husband and two children to join her in Melbourne.

June 2013 was a particular highlight as the ACWC Executive Committee held their annual meeting in Perth. My sincere thanks to the ACW Inc. National Executive for hosting this meeting and encouraging the ACWC members, and raising the profile of both ACWC and ACW Inc.

Looking ahead to the next twelve months is almost overwhelming. In a few days' time I will be in Busan, South Korea, to attend the ICFLC Annual Meeting, followed by the Pre-Assembly of the World Council of Churches (WCC), followed by the WCC 10<sup>th</sup> General Assembly. The WCC Assembly is held every seven years and this year there is an opportunity to put women's and children's issues back on the agenda and the ICFLC and the ACWC will be promoting these issues.

Then I return to the ongoing preparations for the 15<sup>th</sup> Quadrennial General Assembly of ACWC. Much planning and discussion has already taken place for this event that will be held in the Philippines, but much more is yet to happen. Our sisters of the CWUP (Church Women United of the Philippines) have graciously agreed to be our hosts for the Assembly and I ask for your prayers for them and all the preparations.

I am grateful for the support of each ACW National Executive during my term and to the leaders of The Salvation Army in the Australia Southern Territory for allowing me to attend the ACWC meetings, and fulfill my commitments as ACWC President and Australian National Representative.

Please continue to pray for and support whoever has the privilege of the next term as the Australian National Representative to the ACWC.

**Donna Bryan (Major)**



## **AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S COALITION**

The Australian Women's Coalition seeks to work collaboratively to advance the status of women, to increase communication within the women's sector, clearly identify the needs of women represented by its members, to initiate policies, programmes and partnerships to address these needs, and to advocate on women's issues to government and the community. It has a membership of seventeen peak women's organizations from a range of diverse cultures, countries of origin and different belief systems working together.

During 2012-2013 a major focus has been the Shout Young Women with Voice Project carried out with a grant received from the Australian Government department of Immigration and Citizenship. The project was designed to assist young women from multicultural and Australian groups between the ages of 18-30 to have a voice in their own community as well as the wider community. It was a successful project operating in five centres in NSW and Canberra. Updates on the project were sent to ACW NSW and ACT Units.

The coalition continues to support the Hello Project. Pamela Freeman from NSW unit attended a seminar on osteoporosis at the Garvan Institute in August, 2012 and submitted a report.

Notification was sent to ACW units of Red Cross community awareness training on human trafficking.

The draft National Women's Alliances Position Paper for CSW 57 was received with only a short time for comment. Margaret Ker assisted me by making a short submission to AWC on this. We forwarded the link to the Position paper to ACW Victorian Unit.

I also endorsed the Australian NGO's follow up report to CEDAW Committee 2010 Interim Recommendations.

The Coalition is preparing a grant application to the Victorian Law Foundation to develop an app targeting youth living through family difficulties with a guide to resources.

I attended the March 2012 AWC meeting when in Sydney visiting the NSW Unit.

I attended the November 2012 AWC AGM with Jean Thomson (alternate ACW delegate to AWC) when in Sydney for the ACW National AGM. Jean represented me at the July 2013 meeting of AWC. The 2013 AWC AGM will be in November 2013.

Membership of AWC is very useful for the networking opportunities, the information on member organizations activities, the interesting speakers and topics covered, and the good information on social issues that the coalition provides.

**Laurel Pearce**

## **WEBSITE REPORT**

Unfortunately I have been unable to provide as satisfactory a service as I had hoped in requesting and passing on information from Units to our website administrator Ewan Arnolda. I pay tribute to Ewan for his inexhaustible patience and am delighted that Incoming National Executive will again have the benefit of Brenda Dickinson's experience and expertise.

**Margaret Ker**

## **REPORTS FROM UNITS**

### **AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY UNIT**

I have been President of ACT Unit since February 2011- not quite 2 years. Helen Raymond was President until then, covering the first few months of the period under review.

ACT Unit holds regular meetings every 2 months, where we listen to reports from all our conveners, who keep us in touch with what is happening both Nationally and in other State Units. We have heard some interesting guest speakers during the period also. At the AGM 2013 we bestowed Life Membership on two of our members, Helen Raymond and Judith-Ann Sjostedt.

We always arrange the 2 special services each year, as well as the World Day of Prayer service at the beginning of March. These services are always well organised by the host group and well attended by a variety of people from all churches. A light lunch is served at the conclusion of these services, which gives us all an opportunity to catch up with friends as well as raising some much needed money for our travel fund. The host group provides the tea and coffee as well as a fruit platter but most of the food is brought by other groups.

We were very pleased to see that our 'Special Project' the 'Safe House' run by the Salvation Army in Sydney for trafficked persons had been endorsed by all other State and Territory Units.

We receive the minutes of National Meetings and also hear about Asian Church Women's Conference. Recently we have had prayer requests for our sisters in many of these Asian countries where natural disasters have occurred. We were humbled to learn that our Asian sisters were praying for the people affected by bushfires in Tasmania and Victoria and floods in Queensland and NSW - we are truly part of a wonderful prayer fellowship. We are very proud that the President of ACWC is Major Donna Bryan from Victoria.

I have been pleased to be able to represent our National President Laurel Pearce, at Australian Women's Coalition meetings from time to time, as I think this is an important connection to keep up, and hope this continues in the future.

**Jean Thomson OAM**

July 2013

## NEW SOUTH WALES UNIT

During 2012 and 2013 Executive and Council meetings have been arranged 7 times a year. In April each year, the Annual General Meeting is convened and the Dedication Service for the incoming state executive is programmed for May. During 2012/13, the Uniting Church representative, Mrs Isabel Hewitt has been guiding the unit through her presidency. Mrs Nola Dickson [Presbyterian] is the Past President. In May 2013 Mrs Natalie McLeod was installed as the President Elect from the Anglican Church with her role as President to commence in May 2014 for 2 years.

The May Dedication Service for 2013 was held in Wesley Uniting Church in Hamilton, a suburb of Newcastle, more than 100 kms from Sydney. About 50 people travelled from Sydney by train for this special event. A challenging address was given by a Tongan woman, Katalina Tahaafe-Williams presently involved with multicultural ministry.

The 20 branches around the state are encouraged to join in the Fellowship Day and World Community Day by Major Lyn Middleton. Major Lillian Hodges faithfully broadcasts the story of the Fellowship of the Least Coin, while Mrs Judith Cayzer delights in her communications with past and present Winifred Kiek Scholars. Rae Goth has assumed responsibility for Social Issues and researches information and brings lists of the points of contact for members to follow through on the issues raised. Helen Hill faithfully administers the Pastoral Care, with Nola Dickson organizing publicity, Jennifer Pepper and Brenda Dickinson overseeing the publication and distribution of the *Newsette* quarterly magazine, and Martha Noël administering the members' record of attendance.

We were privileged to host the National President, Major Laurel Pearce, in March 2012, where the opportunity was taken to visit Bear Cottage and Allowah Presbyterian Children's Hospital, recipients of Special Days funding, and meet Sonya Pell. At our February 2013 Council meeting we were delighted to receive the presentation from Sonya Pell who had been the Australian delegate to the young Women's Forum under the auspices of the ACWC, held in Thailand in 2012.

In September 2012 the Day Conference featured speakers James Thomson from Act for Peace, and Jo Lee from the *House of Welcome*. Both spoke enthusiastically about their respective roles working with refugees. This fitted well with the theme: *The Kingdom of God is justice and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit*.

We have renewed contact with the Bible Society through Rhyllis Davey who brings reports of Bible Society activities around the world. From Girls' Brigade, Elizabeth Neale who is on GB staff brings encouraging reports of growth in this group. Edith Ridge continues to represent ACW at the Pan Pacific and South East Asia [PPSEAWA] meetings and these reports are most interesting.

At Council Meetings we hear from ACW delegates to NSW Ecumenical Council, National Council of Women and World Day of Prayer. In 2013 there will be no ACWC Multicultural concert. The prayer requests from ACWC and other sources are sent electronically to the Council members as many are faithful prayer warriors.

Lutheran women have agreed to join again with us and we look forward to welcoming Lutheran delegates in the near future.

In 2012 and 2013, NSW Unit sponsored Mina Whybourne and Peg Blake to attend the Jean Arnot Memorial Luncheon arranged by NCW, where women 90 years and over were honoured for their services to the community.

During 2013, NSW Unit celebrates 75 years of operation at the Spiritual Enrichment Day in September. The day includes a speaker from the Samaritan Project to be supported by offerings at World Community Day 2013. We thank God for His continuing grace that enables us to work together with Him and each other to show the world the true meaning of our faith.

**Pamela Freeman**  
**Secretary**

**Isabel Hewitt**  
**President**

## **QUEENSLAND UNIT**

The Queensland Unit continues to meet every month, although we are small in numbers our members are committed to attend and support the work of Australian Church Women whenever possible, for this we give thanks to God in enabling them to do so. We are only a small part of Australian Church Women Australia wide but we are encouraged by the bigger picture of Australian Church Women and its achievements.

The National Conference was held in Adelaide in October 2011. Five members for the Queensland Unit attended. The theme chosen by the National Executive 2011-2013 has been "Our choice is Love". This theme has been used for Fellowship Day Service – Winifred Kiek Scholarship and World Community Day Service – Fellowship of the Least Coin and Australian Church Women Special Project.

Our link with Asian Church Women's Conference and its nineteen countries is a very important one. There are many programs and projects that are part of Asian Church Women's Conference and their cooperation with the Fellowship of the Least Coin.

The Queensland Unit, Branches and members support the Fellowship of the Least Coin very well. Even though the numbers of groups supporting the Fellowship of the Least Coin is declining the amount contributed each year is almost the same.

Each year we try to run one fund raiser to help with our finances. In 2013 we held a Morning Tea at the Wynnum Churches of Christ with the "Brother James Singers" to entertain us.

The President or her representative has represented the Queensland Unit at the Annual Meeting of our affiliated churches and groups. The Queensland Unit is an observer to Queensland Churches Together. As the Queensland Unit does not arrange Fellowship Day and World Community Day Services, members endeavour to attend services held in the suburbs.

At our Annual General Meeting in February 2013 we welcomed Major Mel Stephens from The Salvation Army as our President for the years 2013 – 2014. Our thanks to Elaine Hales for leading the Unit in years 2011 -2012. In February 2013 Aileen Mortensen resigned as a member of the Queensland Unit because of health reasons. Aileen has been a faithful members of the Queensland Unit for many years being Unit President, Unit Secretary, Fellowship of the Least Coin Convenor and National President 1997 – 1999.

We will continue to serve our Lord and Saviour though our commitment to Australian Church Women and pray that through His guidance we will be able to keep Australian Church Women going in Queensland in the future.

**President      Major Mel Stephens**

**Secretary      Margaret Florence**

## **SOUTH AUSTRALIAN UNIT**

This report is written as we in South Australia prepare to join with Australian Church Women from all around our wide brown land in Perth, and those members of our Unit making the journey westwards are looking forward to renewing the special relationships we have formed over time in other places.

Once again, our largest local undertaking each year is the staging of Community Concern Events, with fifteen gatherings taking place in both 2012 and 2013. This is an excellent chance for suburban and indeed near-Adelaide country church members to meet women and men from other denominations and to support the chosen charity for the year.

In 2012 the chosen charity was RAHAB – an initiative of Youth with a Mission working to encourage those involved in the sex industry to move out of such work, for which we raised in the region of \$5,000. In 2013 we are supporting the CARA – Families for Families Kids' Club, providing respite support for families with a child with a disability. The Unit must choose a charity that receives no on-going government funding and is not church based. We sincerely acknowledge all church groups involved in hosting these outreach meetings and those from the Unit who prepare for and attend the various Morning and Afternoon Teas.

Through our Jubilee 150 Trust we provide one-off grants to women who seek some funding to help them further their careers. It was realised that we needed to raise additional capital funding for this Trust in order to support more women in the community, and President Marion McCall OAM most enthusiastically set about undertaking to do this. She entered the Dawn to Dusk International Flying Competition to raise funds, following the track of Edward John Eyre's 1840 Northern Expedition to Lake Eyre, and then down to Port Lincoln, and also held a most successful Pleasant Sunday Afternoon, greatly increasing the total funds from which the interest earned provides the funding required by this Trust.

Soon after the National Conference 2011, we were delighted to have Marion McCall OAM inducted as our President for the biennium, a leadership role which she has filled with great empathy and spiritual guidance. We have had National Life Member Maureen Clark agree to be our incoming President from November.

We have unfortunately had four good and faithful members of our Unit pass on to receive their greater rewards on high during the past year. We know from the responses received when the deaths of National Life Member Dorothy Wright, Shirley Birch and Barbara Grealy OAM were announced nation-wide that members from right across Australia will miss the presence of these wonderful women as much as we as a Unit do; and member Dorothy Heard, although not active for some time due to ill-health, is also missed.

Our Day of Reflection was a good opportunity for us to come together and redirect our individual thoughts on life as a Christian woman in modern society in a prayerful environment. Those who attended returned home冥冥中 refreshed from this time apart from the demands of the wider world.

We have kept up our close links with the World Day of Prayer, and the Fellowship of the Least Coin over the biennium. A number of members attended the WDP service in St Francis Xavier Cathedral, whilst others enjoyed the same service in their local church. Each year we appreciate the FLC World Community Day Service in the city, and the WKS Fellowship Day Service held in Pilgrim Hall as part of our July meeting.

In January 2012 and again in 2013, a number of members again met at the home of our Social Justice Convenor, Mrs Anne Parnis, and packed a number of bags of toiletries and other goodies for clients of a Domestic Violence Service in the southern suburbs of Adelaide. The items packed were funded by donations from members of the Unit, and those involved in the distribution of the bags have been very grateful in acknowledging these gifts for women in a real time of need in their lives.

We have welcomed five guest speakers to our Unit meetings over the past biennium. In 2012 we heard from Mike Ogden (representing CareWorks), Wendy Stockton (from CARA) and Frances Bedford MP (speaking about suffragette Muriel Matters). In 2013 we have enjoyed hearing messages from Gill McCrone (representing Southern Domestic Violence Service) and Sister Pat from the Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Order (on their work in Overseas Missions). All of these people have provided much food for thought for our members, and expanded our understanding of the needs in the wider community. In addition, speakers at our Fellowship Day and World Community Day services have been inspirational.

We remember to pray for our prayer partners in Mongolia, we were delighted to welcome two representatives to Adelaide on a work-related visit. Our ability to practice our faith seems so trouble free compared with that of many women throughout the world.

I would like to recognise, with sincere thanks, all members who have worked with unfailing generosity throughout the biennium. As a Unit, we look forward to even more warm and devoted teamwork in the future.

**Aileen Eldridge**

## TASMANIAN UNIT

It is quite encouraging to have over the past two years had every executive and convenorship position filled in the State Unit. Some positions are held for a numbers of years nevertheless we are encouraged by the full complement.

Meetings are held bi monthly on the premises of Uniting Churches in Launceston and Devonport.

It has been a practice for the past couple of years to gather at a member's home in Ulverstone to begin the year by way of meeting/luncheon and fund raiser. We are joined by husbands and local friends.

The two ACW Special Days "Fellowship Day and World Community Day" are days of fellowship learning and great opportunities to host friends and new members.

These encouraging days are made even more so by the support given by the Church Councils approached for use of their premises.

When at the meeting after the event reports are shared it is a great time of learning anew the advantage of mixing with folk of all denominations and walks of life.

The Services are held at 2 and 3 venues along the North West Coast, one venue in Hobart and one venue in Launceston. In recent years there have been a number of men present at our services and they are most appreciative of the presentations.

At Branch level there is only one group in Tasmania and that is the Launceston Branch. It is unfortunate that we have not been able to encourage more to open.

With passing years and the older age group we are aware of the down size of our Branch these days. This has not dampened the spirit of our meetings and we do set aside time for the annual prayer meeting for remembering the folk of designated countries.

In the past year one of our very faithful members went to the Lord. Mrs Mary Williamson who was approaching 92. Mary loved us all as we did her in return.

We at Branch level give thought to others outside our group such as Royal Flying Doctors and Bible Society. These have been two organisations we have chosen to raise funds for by holding luncheons. In each case we enjoy hosting speakers from the said organisations.

As the National Conference draws near there are plans for President Marie Byrne and Mrs. Dulcie French a past president to attend as our Tasmanian Delegates on this occasion.

We have submitted an entry for *Honouring Australian Church Women*: Lt.Colonel Lynette Green who served in Tasmania and is well remembered by many of us.

All our members put the love of God and Fellowship with each other high and steady on our "want to do " list.

We wish the W A ladies holding National Executive God's blessing and leadership in this the 2013 National Conference.

**Juanita Miller**    *Branch & Tas. State Unit Secretary*

## VICTORIAN UNIT

The streamlined format of Executive meetings has worked well. Convenors are not required to attend but are able to if there is a need to discuss certain issues with the Executive. Convenor portfolios are Special Days, FLC, Publicity, WKS, Social Justice, Newsletter plus representatives to WDP, NCW\_V and VCC. Lorraine Davies, President, travelled from Ballarat. Anne Kennedy commenced as Secretary. Executive meetings are held alternate months to the Council. Attendance continues to remain fairly constant with around twenty ladies. Both meetings are usually in the VCC rooms although in May Executive met at the home of Una Birtchnell as Una has difficulty travelling into Melbourne but continues to keep us abreast of WKS news.

In October 2011 the Victorian ladies welcomed a very special visitor, Lee Moon Sook General Secretary of ACWC, to a luncheon held at Bishops Court, a heritage dwelling of the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne. Mrs Joy Freier graciously opened her home and provided the Lunch. This was also a great opportunity to honour our own Donna Bryan as President of ACWC. We have felt a special bond with our Asian sisters through Donna.

2012-13 saw the Uniting Church innovation of a Presidential team of six. No one lady was able to commit to a 12 month term but each one was willing to chair meetings on a shared basis. Joy Morley chaired the Executive meetings and continues as Treasurer; Anne Murray was the team contact which included Lin Morison, Jean Murray, Mary Dunnachie and Margaret Peddler. Three of these ladies were from country areas.

Annual Quiet Days are held, organised by the incoming President, usually in May in the Uniting Church Centre Chapel.

Interesting speakers and a 5 minute focus feature at Council meetings. A speaker from Prison Network Ministries had a big impact. The Social Justice convenor wrote to the Minister for Corrections, with a copy also to the Premier. A reply was a long time coming and did not address all the issues we raised such as lack of support for women coming out of prison and their children during the difficult times of imprisonment and immediately on release, also lack of rehabilitation and training programmes. An application for an FLC grant for Prison Network Ministries for "Kids Matter" and also for "Women Die Waiting", an Anglican initiative in the Gaza Strip for treatment for women with cancer were successful as was a previous application in 2010 for Mission Aviation Fellowship PNG, for use for medical evacuations. Many of the local groups have diminished in number and some have closed but FLC prayer and offerings are well supported. Victorian ladies prepared the Fellowship Day service for 2013. World Community Day Services are also held. Five city ladies travelled to Euroa on 17/10/12 to attend the service there.

Honouring Australian Church Women entries have been completed for Jean Crewther, May 2012 and Eunice Reidy, July 2013.

Our Victorian Unit has been saddened by the deaths of Jean Crewther - 14/10/11 and Rathi Selvaratnam - 14/8/12.

Anne Kennedy, having completed her theological studies, is now participating in an Anglican course for Ordination making her unavailable for meetings. I took on the secretarial duties but need to thank both Anne Murray and Anne Kennedy for their help during my sick leave.

**Marion Rowe**  
**Secretary**

## **WESTERN AUSTRALIAN UNIT**

It is with pleasure that I present the biennial report for Western Australia.

At the Annual General Meeting in 2011 it was the turn of the Uniting Church to provide the President, and the lot fell to me! This is a privilege which I would have enjoyed even more without the responsibility as part of the National Executive. Poor health on the part of more than half of those members has made our life far from easy. In comparison the Unit has been much less problematical.

Like most or all other Units we have almost all of our members in the 'upper third' of the age spectrum, but it has been delightful during this year to have two younger women join us: this provides me with real hope for the future of the Unit. But all members have been faithful to their membership responsibilities, and especially ready to help the National Executive with tasks such as the creation of the Banner for Conference, the making of the bags for distribution, and the gathering of goodies for the bags. Sincere thanks to those members who worked on these tasks on behalf of the National Executive. They are also committed to assistance at the beginning of the Conference, with meeting and greeting Conference members, welcoming them at Shoalwater and other responsibilities. Together we are a Team.

Our March meeting was replaced with a Day of Reflection which we all appreciated. Circumstances were such that the May meeting had to be cancelled, but otherwise we have maintained regularity. Sickness on the part of our Secretary [Leeola Loughnan] has resulted in Minute Secretary duties being supplied by our General Secretary, Margaret Ker, for which many thanks.

The liturgy and fellowship of our Special Days were highly valued, as well as the hospitality of the host-Churches and contributions from speakers and others.

A National Life Membership will be presented at Conference, and State Life Memberships have been presented to Olive Dell, Marie Majoor and Lee Edwards.

**LEE EDWARDS**

**President**



## LUTHERAN WOMEN OF AUSTRALIA (LWA)

It is a privilege to be involved with the Lutheran Women of Australia. As I read through reports from the various districts, I repeatedly see the Lutheran women sharing the love of God that he so freely gives us.

### **Loving Service:-**

Sharing God's love is at the heart of all Lutheran women are and do. On a national level the support of our projects during these last 3 years has been outstanding. Over \$439,000.00 has been raised for LWA projects. These projects are:-

- Aboriginal Missions – Aboriginal Ministry South Australia, Far North Queensland Aboriginal Mission and Finke River Mission
- Australian Lutheran World Service
- Australian Lutheran College (ALC) – Pastoral Ministry Students Assistance Fund
- ALC Women's Auxiliary
- Deborah Orphanage, Indonesia
- Home of Praise in the slums of Bangkok, Thailand
- Scholarships for students from overseas to study through ALC
- Bethany Home for children/people with severe disabilities, Malaysia
- Papua New Guinea (PNG) Scholarship Fund
- Lutheran World Mission, Cambodia
- PNG Lutheran Health services Solar Panels

I highlight just two things: our special project to raise \$20,000 for solar panels for Papua New Guinea has received DOUBLE the target that we aimed to raise, and thousands of our birth kits continue to be sent to Papua New Guinea as well. Money is not the only thing (as you can see by the birth kits). The time and effort the women all have given in service to God and others is amazing. I thank God for their overwhelming care and generosity.

### **'Lutheran Women' Magazine:-**

Our national magazine *Lutheran Women* continues to be well supported with a large circulation. It publishes Bible Studies and Devotions for use as desired. Many parish pastors are thankful for, and make use of, these studies. They are also much appreciated by our remote ladies, as well as by our groups who do not have pastors to lead them. The magazine also consists of reports from various fellowships throughout Australia. It is always encouraging and uplifting to read what our fellow sisters in Christ are doing.

### **LWA Convention:-**

In April 2013, we held our Sixteenth General Convention in Adelaide. Our theme for this Convention was "*when the heart goes out...a deed follows*". Approximately 400 women attended the Convention each day. It was a time of meeting with old and new sisters in Christ. A time of sharing God's Word through Bible Studies, a time of hearing from the different missions that the LWA have supported, as well as a time of electing a new LWA Executive. The new committee comes from the New South Wales/Canberra region, as this will be the venue of our next Convention. One of the highlights of the Convention was the display of quilts and rugs that the Lutheran Women of Australia had made. One of the LWA's projects was to have the Lutheran Women from all the various fellowships make quilts that would be brought to this Convention for dedication, and then be handed to Lutheran Community Care, where they would be handed out as gifts to the people in Lutheran Community Care from the Lutheran women of Australia. The Committee were thinking they would receive approximately 400 (maybe averaging 1 per fellowship group) but it soon became apparent that there would be many more than that! At the Convention, the display of rugs continued to grow throughout the first morning and extra trestle tables to hold them all were needed to be brought in. There were at least 1200 quilts and rugs actually visible, but there were almost the same number stacked under the tables, and when added to those that remained in their home states, we estimate that the total was in the thousands – a truly fantastic effort! (The rugs remaining in the home states are to be handed to hospitals and Aged Care Facilities throughout their states.)

It is exciting to be part of the Lutheran Women of Australia, meeting around our Lord's Word, working for Him, and sharing with others the gifts and talents God has given our sisters in Christ.

**Lutheran Women of Australia Executive**

## MU AUSTRALIA

It is with great pleasure I submit this report on the work of MU Australia in the past three years. Please accept my apologies for not being able to attend this conference, and I am delighted that a member of our executive, Mrs Doreen Hall is present to represent me.

MU Australia, a mission agency of the Anglican Church of Australia, works on a three year cycle, with executive positions at all levels of the organisation changing every three years. All members have the opportunity to stand for a second term, this year marks the end of a triennium and about half the Australian Executive will be finishing their terms. Our Annual Meeting will be held in Melbourne in November.

MU Australia has approximately seven thousand members in over 400 branches throughout Australia. About 500 of these members are lone members, unable to attend regular meetings due to distance, employment or frailty.

Each of our members seek to uphold our aims

(i) To uphold Christ's teaching on the nature of marriage and to promote its wider understanding;

(ii) To encourage parents to bring up their children in the faith and life of the Church;

(iii) To maintain a worldwide fellowship of Christians united in prayer, worship and service;

(iv) To promote conditions in society favourable to stable family life and the protection of children;

(v) To help those whose family life has met with adversity.

Most of our work is carried out in branches and/or as dioceses. Much of the work that is done is often unheralded, but essential to those who benefit, and are usually tasks that no one else does. For example, branches make clothes for neo-natal intensive care units, provide a coffee and chat service at court, make thousands of red ribbon pins for world AIDS day, donate Bibles and other reading materials for schools, provide holidays for disadvantaged families. The list is endless.

As well as this MU Australia provides funds for Mothers' Union projects in developing countries. In this triennium we have funded a pre-school on the Thai-Burma border for Karen people who have been displaced, provided funding to the MU in Melanesia for the establishment of a parenting course, and begun a 2 year project to establish Literacy Training in Ethiopia.

In Australia MU assists the northern dioceses of North West Australia, Northern Territory and North Queensland in ways suggested by their bishops and has a training fund for indigenous women.

For the past 2 years the Australia theme for our work has been looking toward what we hope MU Australia will look like by 2020. It is an exciting vision and already some dioceses are working hard at looking at what we need to hang on to and what requires changing and/or renewing.

*Yours in Christ*

*Libbie Crossman*

## **REPORT ON WOMEN'S MINISTRIES IN THE AUSTRALIA EASTERN TERRITORY OF THE SALVATION ARMY (Queensland, NSW and ACT)**

On the occasion of your Conference, I bring greetings from the women in the Australia Eastern Territory of the Salvation Army. We pray that your time together will be rich in blessing and encouragement and helpful to the ministry of Australian church women.

Our territory is very pleased to support the work and ministry of Australian Church Women with a good number of representatives on the committee. We really appreciate the contribution of our women to the committee each year.

Women's Ministry in The Salvation Army continues to be a very effective part of our denomination. Many of our corps (churches) conduct a weekly meeting for women and for some this is their "church". So we always try to include some devotional message each week. Our meetings are based on our four fold program – worship, education, fellowship and service.

Besides this weekly meeting, there are many other Focus Groups organised by women, for women in our corps. These range from Bible study and prayer groups, to craft, aerobics, walking club, girl's night out, pre- school groups and Mainly Music – to name a few. One of the challenges with focus groups is how to link the women and children with the corps but some of our corps are having good success with this.

We are challenged by lack of local leaders and the decrease in attendance at our weekly home league meetings because of ageing members, however, our focus groups continue to be vibrant and provide needs based groups for women and pre-schoolers.

On a spiritual level, we continue to challenge women about their own relationship with Jesus and in 2012 there were recorded 47 women who accepted Jesus for the first time. 290 new families were linked to the Salvos and 490 new kids reached through our programs. The greatest joy of course is seeing women's lives transformed and ultimately families being impacted.

The women spend time each year raising money for local and global projects and in 2012 they raised a total of \$181,899 for these projects. The large project raised \$101,525 to provide Health flip charts for Africa so women who are illiterate can learn about health issues.

Our territory is divided into seven divisions and in each of these there are some very creative and innovative women's events organised each year. These include camps (week days or a weekend), Bible Conventions, regional rallies and mid- week retreats for our women officers.

Each year the territorial office organizes Captivated (by the Word) – formerly known as Bible Convention. There is an annual attendance ranging from 400 to 500 and attracts women of all ages and cultures. We have been encouraged in recent years to see younger women attending and also those from other cultures. Captivated by the Word continues to attract capacity numbers of women each year who enjoy the Bible teaching and fellowship of the weekend.

Women continue to show an interest in issues of justice and outreach and provide resources and personnel to be engaged in these ministries. Some training is undertaken but our goal is to increase the training, especially in relation to the new Hub strategy we are undertaking in the territory.

We are encouraging a heart for social justice issues in women's ministries and in recent years we were able to purchase Dorcas beads from Africa, bookmarks from Sri Lanka, silk purses from Bangladesh and Billums from PNG to give the women as gifts at Captivated.

Our women's department at territorial headquarters also prepares an annual resource manual for all our women leaders. This includes program ideas, Bible studies and creative ideas for women's groups to assist our leaders. The theme for our resource manual becomes our annual theme for women's ministry and also for Captivated.

This year we have taken a bold step to place our women's ministry in with our mission team so that we are ministering to the whole family. Seniors, men's, youth and children already were under the mission team and now having women added to the mix, it is providing a more integrated approach to mission with the family.

We have also changed our name to Salvos Women and launched a Facebook page to encourage women in their walk with the Lord. It is only early days but we see real value in this medium especially reaching out to younger women.

Praying for you as meet together in Perth. Grace and peace

Jan Condon  
Commissioner  
Territorial President of Women's Ministries

Janet Munn  
Colonel  
Territorial Secretary for Women's Ministries

## UNITING CHURCH ADULT FELLOWSHIP

The current National Committee for the Uniting Church Adult Fellowship (UCAF) is located in Western Australia. In May 2012 the role was transferred from New South Wales and the commissioning took place at Kincumber in NSW at the end of our triennial national consultation for a three year term. In May 2015, the role will move to Victoria and Tasmania Synod.

The Chairperson of the current National Committee is Robert Watson who is a Past Moderator of the Uniting Church in WA. All members of the Committee took on the role with a little trepidation but also with a willingness to learn. Approximately half the members came with little real knowledge of Adult Fellowship prior to their commissioning.

The National Committee's work began at least 12 months prior to their commissioning with decisions to be made regarding the national theme for their three year term and the national Celebration. The theme chosen was *Who is my Neighbour?* and the Celebration is being held in Perth to coincide with the spring wildflowers and the ACW Conference. Since we were expecting at least 100 people to attend, finding a venue which catered for the needs of those attending was difficult. After many visits and much time a decision was made to hold the Celebration at the Esplanade River Suites in Como. As many will understand, reasonable accommodation at economical rates is very limited in Perth and we struggled to 'sell' the Celebration to UCAF members. In April this year the Committee decided to go ahead in faith even though the numbers were low. Thankfully we have approx. 52 registered now and we look forward to a wonderful Celebration of Fun, Food and Fellowship. There will be visitors from the Uniting Church Assembly and we are delighted to have as our guest speaker for the Celebration Dinner Justice John McKechnie.

Our journey as a National Committee has been one of discovery. Recently we discovered, in relation to the World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women, that the Chairperson of UCAF National Committee was also the Australian Unit Leader especially for the Local Arrangements Committee (LAC) that is organizing South Pacific Area Seminar. So work has begun in earnest to fully understand our role and the part we take in the Area. A Local Arrangements Committee was formed in Queensland to organize the Area Seminar there in July 2014. There will be delegates from Pacific Countries, Fiji, New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Samoa, New Zealand and Australia as well as the world body. We are delighted that our Chaplain Rev Marion Millin will represent the UCAF National Committee.

The National Committee usually has a project during their triennium and we chose to launch *Neighbour Connect*, using our theme *Who is my Neighbour?* This includes a subtheme for each the three years – local, national and international. Each State Committee has been encouraged to promote this project asking for various groups to host a morning/afternoon tea. Any funds raised would be forwarded to their nominated charity or outreach activity. Hopefully closer to the time of our triennial Consultation we will have feedback of how this neighbourhood hospitality worked in each state.

Each State Synod UCAF produces a magazine on a regular basis and it is a thrill to see what is done in the name of the UCAF with those faithful people who serve the Church and God they love.

We wish God's richest blessings upon your Conference and the continuing ecumenical work of the ACW.

**Robert Watson**

**Chairperson UCAF National Committee**

## **NATIONAL EXECUTIVE 2013-15**

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| <b>President</b>        | Major Lyn Middleton<br>3/14-16 Tuffy Avenue<br>SANS SOUCI NSW 2219<br>Phone: 02 9529 674 Email <a href="mailto:middletonk@bigpond.com">middletonk@bigpond.com</a>   |
| <b>Vice President 1</b> | Mrs Denise Secomb<br>30 Isabella Close<br>ELERMORE VALE NSW 2287<br>Phone 02 4951 6885 Email <a href="mailto:allananddenisesecomb@gmail.com">allananddenisesecomb@gmail.com</a>   |
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| <b>Secretary</b>        | Mrs Isabel Hewitt<br>35 Veda Street<br>HAMILTON NSW 2303<br>Phone: 02 4969 6336 Email <a href="mailto:doug.isabel@gmail.com">doug.isabel@gmail.com</a>  |
| <b>Treasurer</b>        | Mrs Jennifer Pepper<br>3 Meadowbank Lane<br>WEST RYDE NSW 2114<br>Phone: 02 9874 4056 Email <a href="mailto:rjpeffer@optusnet.com.au">rjpeffer@optusnet.com.au</a>  |
| <b>Minute Secretary</b> | Mrs Elizabeth McEwen<br>18 Brussel Street<br>NORTH STRATHFIELD NSW 2137<br>Phone: 02 9743 6218 Email <a href="mailto:elizmcewen@hotmail.com">elizmcewen@hotmail.com</a>   |
| <b>WKS Convener</b>     | Major Nancy McLaren<br>28 McCarthy Crescent<br>ARMIDALE NSW 2350<br>Phone: 02 6771 2595 Email <a href="mailto:nancy.mclaren@aue.salvationarmy.org">nancy.mclaren@aue.salvationarmy.org</a><br>(work) PO Box 1180 ARMIDALE NSW 2350<br>Phone: 02 6771 1632 Fax. 02 6772 3444 |
| <b>FLC Convener</b>     | Major Lillian Hodges<br>56B Edgbaston Road<br>BEVERLY HILLS NSW 2209<br>Phone: 02 9533 6082 Email <a href="mailto:lillian.hodges@aue.salvationarmy.org">lillian.hodges@aue.salvationarmy.org</a>  |
| <b>Special Days</b>     | Mrs Pamela Freeman<br>52 Woodbury Street<br>NORTH ROCKS<br>NSW 2151<br>Phone: 02 9873 1701 Email <a href="mailto:freeowp@netspace.net.au">freeowp@netspace.net.au</a>   |

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**AWC Nominee**

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**Asian Church Women's Conference****Australian Representative (retires  
October 2014)**

Major Donna Bryan  
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## PROFILES OF INCOMING NATIONAL EXECUTIVE 2013-2015

### Major Lynette Middleton – President

Lynette (Lyn) is a lifelong member of The Salvation Army, her journey of faith beginning as a small child in the Sunday School, deepening and developing as she progressed through the structures of the church. She became a Sunday School teacher during her early teens and subsequently took on various roles and leadership positions in the church, particularly with the Youth Groups and Junior Soldiers.

Two years of study at Armidale Teachers' College followed High School and then came four years of teaching at Blacktown in Sydney's western suburbs before Lyn responded to the call of God to full time service as an officer in The Salvation Army.

After her commissioning as a Salvation Army Officer Lyn served on the Training College staff as a Training Officer, then as teacher in charge of the school within a Vocational Training [Detention] Centre for Girls in Brisbane.

Following her marriage in January 1972, Lyn served with Ken in a number of corps in Qld and NSW before being appointed to The Salvation Army's work in Pakistan where they served for four years. Subsequent overseas appointments included four years in Seoul, South Korea and three years at International Headquarters in London, plus short periods relieving in Chisinau, Moldova and in Taiwan.

While partnering Ken in corps work Lyn not only led worship and took her turn at preaching but she was also responsible for all the women's ministries associated with each corps.

While in Pakistan, Lyn ran a Transit Hostel for itinerants and backpackers, served as cashier in the Finance Department and was correspondent for the Indian sub-continent War Cry.

In Korea, Lyn was the Child Sponsorship Secretary, processing the overseas sponsorship of the children in the Salvation Army's children's homes throughout the country.

At International Headquarters in London, Lyn was the Missionary Literature and Translation Secretary, providing literature for developing countries *in a language they could understand at a price they could afford*.

Lyn also held a number of appointments at Territorial Headquarters in Sydney. These included Employee Training Co-ordinator, Community Services Consultant and Chairman of the Moral and Social Issues Council. Lyn also served as The Salvation Army's representative on National Council of Women NSW and ACT, and the NSW Council of Churches.

Her first involvement with Australian Church Women was with the Southport, Qld branch between 1973 and 1975. She was a member of ACT Unit 1979-1981.

Lyn has been on the Executive of NSW State Unit Inc since 2003 when she was President elect, then State President 2004-2006, immediate Past President 2006-2007,

Asian Church Women's Conference Convener 2008-2012 and is currently Special Days Convener.

Lyn and Ken have two married daughters and a pigeon pair of grandchildren.



## **Denise Secomb – Vice-President 1**

Born in Newcastle to Christian parents I have had a lifetime commitment to God and the Church. In my early years, I attended Lambton Methodist Church and my family life centred around being involved in schools, the church and community activities. I was a member of Rays, Comrades, Sunday School and Choir, eventually accepting leadership roles in these activities

On leaving school I was employed as a Stenographer /Bookkeeper with an Insurance Company, and worked there up to and following my marriage to Allan. I left work when our first child was born as Allan's employment involved regular travel interstate. I really loved being "a stay at home mum" to our three children. Some years later I worked part-time in the family business, and this enabled me to be involved in various charitable organizations, which continued for many years.

My great interest in Uniting Church Adult Fellowship and my experience as an Elder led to my leadership roles in the local and wider church.

My current involvement in the Uniting Church is:-

Deputy Chair National Adult Fellowship Committee 2009-2012,  
Immediate Past Chairperson NSW/ACT Synod Adult Fellowship Committee,  
National Corresponding Member NSW/ACT Synod Adult Fellowship,  
President Hunter Presbytery Adult Fellowship Committee,  
Member of Uniting Church Hunter Presbytery,  
Elder and Member of Church Council at New Lambton Uniting Church,  
Member of Australian Church Women.

I have been a member of Australian Church Women for 10 years and am blessed to be part of this wonderful organisation, and am humbled and privileged to have been nominated as Vice President of the National Committee elect. I have a deep passion for the mission of the church, and believe the "whole family of God" surpasses the boundaries of denominations and faiths.

According to the teaching of the Bible, in order to live the Christian life, one should give of oneself firstly to God and then in service to others. My faith journey continues every day as I give thanks to the God who provides for me, and for His wonderful creation. I know God is with me every step of the way as He has journeyed with me through the good and difficult times in my life. I also know he loves and never leaves me, and I live in the abundance of His grace.

My interests are many and varied, including reading murder mysteries, dining out, music, travelling and spending time with family and our seven grandchildren.

## **Joy Inglis – Vice-President 2**

I joined ACW in 2012. From an early age God has helped me to see that Jesus is head of his body the church which encompasses all denominations and I have close friends in churches other than the Salvation Army to which I have belonged from birth. I was always a committed Christian and believed but, at age 16, at a Salvation Army Youth Rally, I received what I believed to be a baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Besides gaining a Bachelor of Theology and a Certificate in Chaplaincy, I have trained in Welfare, Children's ministry, plus attended years of Bible Study Fellowship.

I worked in the Commonwealth Public Service, then spent 3 years on the Salvation Army Chikankata mission in Zambia with my husband, Ron, where I had 2 children, Philip and Carol. On returning to Sydney I had another child, Belinda. I now have 5 grandchildren.

Some of my ministries include Sunday School teacher, Bible Study leader, Guard [or Girl Guides] leader, Primary School Scripture teacher, conversation class leader for a Korean Corps, Salvation Army Community Welfare officer in a south-western Sydney Corps and Aged Care Chaplain.

### **Isabel Hewitt - Secretary**

Since last serving as Secretary on National Executive I have completed my 10 year tenure as State secretary, had two years as publicity convener, and I am now into the second year of my two year term as president. Ten years ago I was visiting Newcastle on a regular basis, but having moved to Newcastle seven years ago I now visit Sydney regularly. Part of my work for ACW NSW State Unit has been the compilation of a book of profiles of Past Presidents, prepared for the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Unit five years ago.

A Uniting Church representative to ACW NSW, I grew up in the Presbyterian Church, Sunday School, and youth fellowship, becoming a Presbyterian representative on the NSW Christian Youth Council. I attended two work camps building houses for Aboriginal people.

My interest in the Ecumenical Movement developed from 1960 when I worked in the office of the Australian Council of Churches, and I currently represent ACW on the NSW Ecumenical Council. When possible I attend services in the style of Taizé, and I am a member of Christians for Peace in Newcastle

I value greatly my interaction with immediate family in Newcastle and Sydney, as well as contact with more widespread extended family. Interests include travel and photography, book binding, family history and sewing.

### **Mrs Jennifer Peffer - Treasurer**

Jennifer has been attending ACW NSW Inc. as a Baptist Council Member for over 10 years and has served as State President and currently is the Editor of the quarterly magazine, Newsette and Secretary/Treasurer of the local ACW Epping Branch.

Jennifer feels very comfortable with the ecumenical ethos of ACW – her early years were spent in the Anglican Church with her family – then some years involved in the Congregational Church and Youth Department, finally settling into the Baptist denomination after living in New Zealand for a time.

Following on from High School she undertook secretarial training and accounting – skills which she has used continuously since in secular and church organisations. Immediately prior to studying at the NSW Baptist Theological College where she graduated as a Deaconess, she was responsible for the finances of the Billy Graham "Hour of Decision" Sydney office. Further experience was gained in Church situations and the Baptist Union Youth & Christian Education Department before she married Roger Peffer, a Baptist layman, very involved with denominational work.

Both have been active together in the local Church and wider community based agencies – Roger in an Administrative capacity and Jennifer usually with financial/secretarial responsibilities. She also worked for the State Education Department for 20 years as Senior Admin. Assistant In Primary Schools and then as a part time Library Assistant as she worked towards retirement.

In retirement their efforts are concentrated in their local Church. Jennifer currently is responsible for the Prayer Chain, is Secretary/Treasurer of the Ladies' Fellowship and manages property bookings, Prayer Chain and rosters.

Roger & Jennifer have two adult children, both married and actively involved in church life.....Roslyn married to a Baptist Pastor and they have 3 girls....and Stuart involved in the Anglican church with his wife, Louise, 2 sons and 1 daughter.

Jennifer's interests include all handcrafts, sewing, knitting etc., reading and seeking to keep updated with computer skills.

### **Elizabeth McEwen - Minute Secretary**

I've only recently joined the ACW NSW State Council as an Anglican representative, but have enjoyed taking part in the Fellowship and Community Days since my retirement six years ago. The faithful ladies I have met through ACW are an inspiration for me to serve God through this organisation.

My husband and I are both retired TAFE teachers; I taught Office Administration for 22 years and loved it. We have five adult children (aged between 35 and 45) and five grandchildren. Our youngest daughter, Kathryn, who has Down syndrome, lives with us. For a number of years I was a board member of an organisation that provides respite care for people with disabilities.

For around 23 years I've been an active member of St Andrews Anglican Church at Strathfield, and have been blessed to see it grow from a small older congregation to a vibrant multi-cultural church with lots of young families. We have recently combined with the Parish of Enfield, which has given me the opportunity to join their MU branch and meet more ladies in our area.

On Wednesday mornings I teach SRE (Scripture) at our local primary school to Years 1 and 3 and find this challenging and rewarding. I visit a local nursing home monthly with other church members, where we share the bible, prayer, and songs. For 4 years I represented our church at the Anglican Synod.

My mother brought us up as Christians (of the Presbyterian variety) and I made my commitment to Christ as a teenager. Throughout my life I've drawn comfort and strength from prayer and the bible. I look forward to serving God through the ACW and my time on the National Executive.

### **Major Nancy McLaren - Winifred Kiek Scholarship Convenor**

Commissioned and ordained as a Salvation Army Officer in 1975 I have served as a Corps Officer/Church leader for 23 years, also in administration at our Territorial Headquarters and for the last 3 and half years appointed with my husband Phillip to minister to the Corps/churches as the Divisional Director of Women's Ministries in the Northern New South Wales area which covers an extensive area from Port Macquarie to Byron Bay, from Tamworth to Tenterfield and out to Bourke.

Phillip and I have been married for 43 years and have 3 married sons with 7 grandchildren and in the very near future look forward to retiring and moving closer to most of them in Brisbane.

My first association with ACW was in Rockhampton whilst serving there at the church although since our first church appointment at Clermont QLD I have had involvement with World Day of Prayer.

When moving to Brisbane in the early 90's I was on the WDofP State committee and held office as State President for 3 years which gave me some wonderful contacts with many lovely dedicated Christian women.

In 2001 we moved to Sydney and The Salvation Army appointed me as a representative to the ACW NSW State Unit where I served as Fellowship of the Least Coin Convenor and Publicity Convenor. In 2003 this unit took over as National to which I was elected as President for the two years. What a great time we shared together and especially hosting the Conference at Collaroy. I look forward to

learning about the Winifred Kiek Scholars and making contact with them so that we can help them minister and study.

Throughout my service as a Salvation Army Officer God has certainly allowed me the opportunity for service with women and given me the privilege of meeting some truly wonderful, dedicated Christian women for which I am truly thankful and God willing will be able to still be of service to Him in coming years. Serving the Lord is a privilege and a responsibility to share the gospel and the message of love to men, women, boys and girls and I thank God He called me to be one of His children and a minister of His gospel.

### **Major Lillian Hodges - Fellowship of the Least Coin Convenor**

Lillian was born in the small NSW country town of Uralla. She attended school there and following school, she worked in the local supermarket. She has always felt very blessed in that she grew up in a Christian home, in a very loving and caring environment.

In her early twenties, Lillian left home and all that was familiar, and moved to Sydney to enter The Salvation Army Training College for officers, feeling that God had placed a calling on her life, to serve Him in full time ministry. Her roles have been in welfare and community services, Aged Care, Divisional Headquarters, Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation and Corps (Church) work. Her current appointment is Chaplain to Retired Salvation Army Officers in New South Wales and ACT. Her only sibling is also a Salvation Army officer.

Following the completion of her training, Lillian was a single officer for two years, before she married Bruce, who was already an officer. They have four (4) children, three of whom are married.

Lillian has been involved with ACW for six years. She has been FLC Convenor for about five years. She enjoys visiting Church groups to talk about the ministry of FLC, and is very well received by those groups.

### **Pamela Freeman – Special Days Convenor**

Adopted into the home of officers of The Salvation Army, Pamela has been aware of God's presence throughout her life. Pamela attended 10 schools in NSW and Queensland before attaining her Queensland Teaching Certificate. Whilst at High School Pamela was greatly blessed to have a large group of Crusader friends, [now ISCF]. At that school Christian choirs were formed in the boys and the girls sections, which participated in Crusader rallies around the city of Brisbane. This was the first taste of ecumenism in her life, and some of these friends remain today.

Pamela taught for a number of years eventually becoming a teacher /librarian in the days when computerisation was beginning in the 1990's.

In earlier years she studied for the Associate Diploma [Performance] in vocal, from Trinity College. This knowledge has been used in schools and with other groups to encourage music performance and the church to lead choirs. She was privileged to be a member of the Sydney Staff Songsters for 11 years and with this group toured USA, Canada, Russia, New Zealand and Great Britain as well as visiting many places in NSW and Qld.

Her ministry has been particularly with children and women in the church, in earlier years taking roles in the Sunday School and Women's Ministries. After completing the Advanced Diploma of Pastoral Counselling she was in the voluntary position as a Pastoral Visitor to the Westmead Private Hospital for four years.

Recently she has been walking through the dark experience of separation and divorce with women and men within the church and the community. Pastoral care is given to some of the refugees that attend The Salvation Army at Parramatta.

A daughter and a son blessed her first marriage and in her second marriage to Warren her role as mother embraced three more children. There are eight grandchildren.

Although there have been difficult circumstances at times, the under riding assurance has been that all is working together for her good.

At the Parramatta Branch of ACW she oversees the holding of the Special Days and the World Day of Prayer.

Pamela has been an ACW representative to the State Council from The Salvation Army since August 2004, with the responsibilities as Special Days Convenor in NSW from 2006 – 2012, and New South Wales State Secretary from 2012.

### **Jan Jeffrey - Social Justice Convenor**

Husband of 55 years (Colin) and two children, Merrita and Mark. My two granddaughters have been a source of great joy in my life.

For most of my working life I was a medical secretary and derived great pleasure in this field, retiring only when I became a grandmother! In retirement I have developed my skills as a cake decorator and floral artist. I enjoy reading and am an avid crossword puzzler.

Since aged 14, when I made my decision to become a Christian, I have constantly and prayerfully sought new and expanding ways to serve Him. Life presents many challenges and I pray that His presence will ever guide my endeavours.

I worshipped at Trinity Methodist Church at New Lambton, until the formation of the Uniting Church and for more than 60 years have served there as Sunday school teacher, Elder, Church Councillor, Church Council Secretary, member of Finance & Property committee and catering coordinator. I was secretary to the Adult Fellowship group within the church. I also represented the congregation at Hunter Presbytery. I have recently transferred my church membership to the congregation at The Willows, Warners Bay.

Since joining ACW as a Uniting Church representative, I have experienced the warmth and generosity of spirit of this truly ecumenical group and trust, with God's help, I will be able to grow and serve Him more fully, particularly within ACW.

### **Brenda Dickinson – Website manager**

Brenda has been a Salvation Army representative member of Australian Church Women NSW State Unit Inc. for a number of years, having served on the National Executive 2003-2005 and as National Website Manager 2007-2011. Also she has filled the role of Newsette Manager/Sub Editor since 2006 and NSW State Unit Website Manager. Brenda is currently the Sutherland Shire Branch representative on NSW State Council and has been Secretary of the Branch since 2002, enjoying very much the ecumenical aspect of Council activities and Special Days events.

Prior to retiring in 2007, Brenda worked in The Salvation Army Territorial Headquarters in Sydney for 18 years part-time and has been worshipping at Miranda Corps since 1988, filling a variety of ministry roles there, including League of Mercy Secretary and Corps Cadet Counsellor. She continues to engage with the community by doing street ministry every Saturday morning. Her Women's Ministry role at Miranda Corps has taken the form of leading a weekly women's fellowship group since 2005, which includes opportunity for Bible Study and worship.

Hobbies include reading, walking, seeing friends, film-going, listening to good music, visiting art galleries, and visiting other church events.

Brenda has three sons, is grandmother to their six children and loves being involved with them and their three extended families.

**Tricia Graham – Australian Women’s Coalition Nominee *To be elected unopposed***

I was invited to join the Australian Church Women as an Anglican representative.

I attend St James’ Church, King Street Sydney, and have since 1974. I am a Vice President of the MU (Mothers’ Union) Sydney Diocese, and have been a MU member since 1984. I am also the President of St James’ MU Branch.

I have been involved with ABM (Anglican Board of Mission) since 1992, when I became the Auxiliary’s National Secretary, and at present I am the Past President of the ABM National Auxiliary.

I have been married to my husband, Howard for 45 years. We have four adult children, three of whom are married and we are the proud grandparents of four.

Howard and I spent a short time in the Solomon Islands in 1998/1999 working with the United Church of the Solomon Islands on behalf of the NCCA (National Council of Churches).

In 1999 we went to Papua New Guinea where Howard was the General Secretary of the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea. We returned to Sydney in 2002.

**Malcolm North CPA – Auditor *Appointment to be ratified at Annual General Meeting***

Mr North is a Certified Practising Accountant and is currently working as the Financial Controller of the Bible Society. He is actively involved in his local Anglican Church and as his mother-in-law is a Council Member of the NSW branch of ACW is acquainted and sympathetic with our organisation.

**Helen Raymond – Nominee Asian Church Women’s Conference Australian Representative *To be elected unopposed, term to commence October 2014***

Helen has been a member of ACW ACT Unit for many years and has held positions as Minute Secretary, Vice-President and President over the time of her membership.

She has also been its delegate to the NCW and the alternate delegate to the Australian Women's Coalition when the then National President, Jean Thomson was unable to attend.

Helen is the Public Officer for the national body of ACW. Helen has been honoured by being made a Life Member of the ACT Unit.

Helen has attended two ACWC Conferences as an observer, one in Kuala Lumpur and the other in Bogor, Indonesia.

This has enabled her to renew friendships and meet new people from many other Asian countries. Helen feels that continuity is important and that she can contribute to the ACWC conference and nationally to ACW Australia.

## NOMINATIONS RECEIVED FOR NATIONAL LIFE MEMBERSHIP



The ACT Unit of Australian Church Women Inc nominates Mrs Helen Lloyd as one of the National Life Members. Helen is a highly respected member of the ACT Unit, having been treasurer for many years.

### Helen Lloyd

Helen was born in Geelong, Victoria and attended Morengo PGC for all her schooling. Then attended Melbourne University and graduated Bachelor of Commerce and also joined the Australian Society of Accountants (now CPA Australia). Helen worked with a Melbourne firm of Chartered Accountants, doing audit and accounting duties, as well as 18 months in London while on a working holiday.

Married in 1964 to Gordon and moved to Canberra in 1974 where Gordon worked for the Pharmacy Guild of Australia. She has always been a member of the local Anglican church wherever she was living at the time.

Helen has been a member of Mother's Union since 1967. In Canberra her branch became affiliated with ACW ACT Unit in the early 80's. She joined the executive in 1988 as Unit treasurer, a position she continued to hold until 2013. She is now assistant treasurer.

Helen was National Treasurer from 1995 - 1997 and again from 2007- 2009. She has attended every National Conference from 1991 to 2011 and attended the ACWC gathering in Kuala Lumpur in 2006.

In Canberra she has served as Branch, Diocesan and Australian Treasurer of Mothers' Union, Diocesan Treasurer of Anglican Women and also a period as MU representative on the Anglican Women Diocesan Committee.

She has always been interested in Girl Guides, served on parent committees while daughters were involved, as treasurer and President. Girl Guides ACT Treasurer for more than 10 years.

At present of All Souls, Anglican Church Chapman. Was auditor of Parish accounts for almost 30 years. Was also auditor of some school and preschool parent groups.

Helen and Gordon have four adult children and three grandchildren. Elder daughter living in London, 2 sons in Canberra and younger daughter in Melbourne.



### **NOMINATION FOR NATIONAL LIFE MEMBER - LEEOLA LOUGHNAN**

Leeola was born in Northam, Western Australia. Her schooling was undertaken at St Mary's Catholic Primary School in Leederville prior to completing her Junior Certificate at Girdlestone High School in Perth. Her initial employment was as a clerical assistant at the Western Australian Lotteries Commission.

Married to Terry in 1960 the family settled in Woodlands where she was involved for 30 years in the activities of Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic parish. She was Vice President of the Parish Council for three years.

She is now at Our Lady of the Mission Parish in Whitford but only on one roster!

Leeola was an active member of the Majellans, a women's Catholic group, where she served on the Central Committee and was State President for a three year term. She was also involved as a facilitator with the Balya Self Help Cancer group at many retreats.

She joined the Western Australian Unit of ACW in 1995 as a representative of Majellans. She has been an office bearer many times: as President and Secretary more than once each, as Winifred Kiek Scholarship Convener and Convener of Special Days.

Nationally she has served on two Western Australian-based National Committees: as Secretary in 2001-03 and Treasurer during the current tem, 2011-13. She has filled all offices with deep commitment and distinction.

Leeola also chaired the inaugural Wembley Downs Christian Council and was Chairperson on the Churchlands Senior High School Chaplaincy Committee. She was an off-air counsellor for Graham Mabury Nightline for over five years where her wise counsel helped many lonely and troubled callers.

Her ecumenical involvement therefore spreads beyond Australian Church Women.

Her leisure activities include patchwork and quilting where she has been actively involved for many years and being retired has been able to participate in the various committees of the West Australian Quilters' Association.

Leeola has a wide circle of friends, and a very close family (3 children and 7 grandchildren) of whom she is very proud.

It is an honour to commend her for receipt of a National Life Membership to fill the quota allowed within our Unit.



## **Nominations for ACWC Assembly voting delegate 2014**

**Pamela Freeman**

### **Nominated by NSW Unit**

Pamela has been a representative from The Salvation Army to the New South Wales State Unit Council of ACW since August 2004.

From 2005 – 2012 Pamela held the responsibility of linking with the branches in NSW to develop the Special Days locally. Since April 2012 her role has been as the State Secretary for New South Wales State Unit Inc.

Prior to 2004, Pamela has been involved in various branches of Australian Church Women Inc throughout NSW and Queensland wherever she was residing at that time. This meant liaising with various women's groups of the churches to encourage the participation in this ecumenical movement. A period of time from 1980 – 1998 saw her in full time employment which restricted her availability for these commitments.

In the late 1970's, Pamela attended a locally arranged course where she was living, entitled *Christian Womanhood*. She was appalled to learn that this course was not available to women who were single, divorced or widowed. As the course progressed, she discussed some of these matters with the leader of the group and finally submitted a paper to the organisers of the course, with a copy to the leaders of The Salvation Army who had been sending members to some other courses arranged by this same group. They were challenged about how this could be when such a course outlining the 'role' of women in the church was expounded and in The Salvation Army the division between male and female roles is not encouraged. Those who wrote the course did not respond.

Since High School days, Pamela has had the ability to link with women from other ethnic groups and endeavour to make them feel included. Some of her ecumenical friendships formed at High School in the 'Crusaders' group continue to this day.

At the Parramatta Branch of Australian Church Women Inc there is ongoing work in bringing together the Christian women of the area which is oversights by her.

In her local church there are women from various ethnic backgrounds and as required, Pamela supports them. Another group of particular interest to her is – women from broken homes, abusive situations and those travelling the path of separation and divorce. She has assisted in going with women to appointments to access the justice system in Australia and at times been a listening ear. Recently there has been a teenage mother who has been assisted by a group of older women in the church, including Pamela.

Pamela's name is being put forward for nomination to be a voting delegate from Australian Church Women Inc at the quadrennial Assembly of Asian Church Women's Conference, October 2014, the theme being "United in Christ, We Build a Life-giving Community".

**Fran Moss**

### **Nominated by Queensland Unit**

I have been in the Church all my life as I was the daughter of a Presbyterian Minister. I belonged to the Mission Band when young, Presbyterian Fellowship of Australia when a teenager. I was always involved with the Church Tennis Club as tennis was my favourite sport. I have been a member of Church Council and an Elder over many years.

After my divorce in 1982 I had to bring up my disabled daughter on my own. Only one of my sons was with me then as the eldest had left home and the middle son had gone with his father.

I started to get more involved in the church when Cheryl was able to go to University in 1991 and live on campus.

I was elected onto the Uniting Church Adult Fellowship Synod Council in Victoria as the Presbytery Representative for Maribyrnong Valley. I held that position for seven years. I was Victorian President in 1992 and 1993.

I was UCAF National Secretary in 2000 to 2003 when Victoria had the National Committee. Over the last two years I have been the Secretary of the UCAF Qld Synod Committee.

I have attended every National Conference/Celebration of the UCAF since

the first one held in Melbourne in 1983 , and three South Pacific Area Seminars- Samoa, New Zealand and Tonga. The next Area Seminar will be in Brisbane in July 2014 and I am part of the Local Arrangements Committee to organise this huge event which will have seven countries attending.

I have also been very fortunate to be at two World Assemblies of the World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women in England and South Africa.

I became a UCA Rep on Australian Church Women in Victoria in 1994 and was President in 1996-7

Since moving to Queensland at the end of 2004 I joined the ACW Qld Unit as a UCA rep. I was Unit President for 2009/10. I have attended a number of ACW National Conferences over the years.

I am into my second year as the Fellowship of the Least Coin convenor for ACW Qld and really enjoy telling the story of this amazing Prayer Movement where ever I am invited to go.

I have attended three ACWC Assemblies – Korea 2002, Malaysia 2006 and as one of the ACW Delegates in Indonesia in 2010. All wonderful experiences.

**Fran Moss**

**Rev. Nita West**

**Nominated by South Australian Unit**

Nita West attended the 2010 Assembly held in Bogor, Indonesia, as an observer. On her return from Assembly Nita made a detailed formal report to members of the SA Unit, clearly indicating that she had been able to actively consider all issues covered in official debate. Naturally, as an observer, she had been unable to cast a vote.

Nita has indicated to the SA Unit that she would be prepared to be nominated as a Voting Delegate to the coming Assembly. She has also informed us that she intends attending the Assembly whether or not she is elected to fill this role.

Rev Nita West is a retired Uniting Church minister. Since her official retirement she has spent time working in positions associated with her Christian ministry in both Asia and Papua New Guinea. During these times she developed a high level of understanding of the issues which face the women with whom she had been working, and she was able to cultivate and nurture a close relationship with many, maintaining them until today. We believe that this indicates that she would be able to transfer these skills into those required of a Voting Delegate.

We ask God's blessings on Conference delegates who will be asked to consider all nominations for this role, as well as on the elected nominees who officially represent us at the Assembly.

**Aileen Eldridge**

**Secretary**

### **NOTICE OF SPECIAL RESOLUTION**

That Australian Church Women Inc meeting in Conference at Shoalwater Western Australia adopt the draft revised Constitution as circulated to Units on 4 July 2013 in place of the current (2009) Rules, such adoption to be ratified at the Annual General Meeting to be held as part of this National Conference as required under the Associations Incorporation Act 1991 of the Australian Capital Territory.

### **NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **MOTION 1 REVIEW OF FINANCIAL STRUCTURE**

##### **National Executive moves**

That the Incoming National Executive undertakes a review of the financial management of Australian Church Women Inc with particular reference to

1. The funding of attendance at the biennial National Conference and the Annual General Meeting.
2. The payment of out of pocket expenses to all members of National Executive, both elected and ex officio.
3. The possible need for a subscription based membership of Australian Church Women Inc (including all categories of membership).
4. The need to ensure compliance with all relevant legislation applicable to Australian Church Women Inc as an association.

#### **RATIONALE**

- As National Executive we have had difficulty in finding detailed guidelines for several aspects of our work, particularly during this year in the lead up to National Conference. We have spent considerable time in for example checking records relating to past National Conferences for the timing and detailed implementation of the Travel Pool concept, and in clarifying exactly how subsidies and full payment of expenses in relation to attendance at Conference were to be calculated, and have done all of this against a background of recognising that the amount currently held in the National Conference Fund is considerable.
- At the same time we have sometimes needed clarification of what out of pocket expenses should be allowed for National Executive members, particularly in relation to the ex officio members such as the Australian Women's Coalition representative and the ACW Delegate to the Asian Church Women's Conference.
- Since both our current and proposed Rules/Constitution allow for a subscription and the latter allows for different categories of membership we believe that subscription based membership is worth considering as an alternative to the present system of requesting donations to various funds. A structure of subscriptions could be devised based on a series of levies (probably on a per capita basis). One advantage would be an assured income for National Executive to access, though it is also noted that currently a large amount of money is held in the Administration account.
- Incorporation has brought a new set of legal obligations relating to finance, and the current National Executive has faced a series of challenges in complying with these, especially in relation to the Australian Taxation Office and the Office of Regulatory Services in the ACT. These need to be clarified and documented.

## **MOTION 2 RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN INC AND WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP TRUST**

### **National Executive moves**

That the Incoming National Executive, together with the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Trustees, undertakes a review of the legal relationship between Australian Church Women Inc and the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Trust, with particular reference to

1. The requirements for annual reporting under the Associations Incorporation Act (1991) of the Australian Capital Territory.
2. The requirements of the Australian Taxation Office and other relevant government agencies.
3. Any possible issues arising from the fact that the WKS Trust operates under South Australian law whilst Australian Church Women Inc is incorporated in the Australian Capital Territory.
4. The capacity for further alterations to the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Deed of Trust to be made at future National Conferences and/or Annual General Meetings.

### **RATIONALE**

1. The Associations Incorporation Act (1991) of the Australian Capital Territory requires the submission of an Annual Return including audited financial statements. Advice received by our Public Officer Helen Raymond indicates that audited annual statements from the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Trust should be included as part of this return.
2. As part of the process of clarifying our status with the Australian Taxation Office undertaken in mid 2012 we had already become aware of possible anomalies relating to Trust funds and whether or not they should be considered as part of the assets of Australian Church Women Inc
3. Archival records relating to the setting up of the Winifred Kiek Trust in 1987 (1987 Working Papers p.25) suggest possible issues with the legality of the Winifred Kiek Trust under ACT law.
4. Archival records (1997 Working Papers p.28) also indicated legal advice being against further amendments to the Deed of Trust, suggesting that any adjustments to or clarification of the working of the Trust should be made only after careful research and discussion.

## **MOTION 3 WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP : CARRY OVER OF FUNDS**

### **National Executive moves**

That where the full amount available to fund Scholarships in a particular year is for any reason not expended the Trustees may, with the approval of National Executive, carry over the surplus into a subsequent year or return to the Capital Fund.

### **RATIONALE**

1. Nothing in the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Deed of Trust precludes this course of action, which does not involve any depreciation of capital. The Trust Deed provides that

The Trustees shall only have recourse to the use of accrued interest for the purposes of this Trust and shall not have recourse to capital.

2. Given the 3 year rotation of areas in which the Scholarship funds are to be expended and the wide variety of courses undertaken it is inevitable that the amounts requested by applicants will vary considerably from year to year. For example courses undertaken within the Pacific

Islands region are likely to be relatively inexpensive, whilst courses undertaken in Europe or America by suitably qualified students will be very expensive indeed.

3. Additionally the number of applicants in any given year varies greatly, and it is possible that there may be years in which little or none of the available money is expended.
4. There may also be occasions where through unforeseen circumstances successful applicants do not take up their Scholarships or complete their studies and surplus funds become available in consequence.
5. Since Trustees already have the authority to invest the capital, they should be recognised as competent to make decisions on carrying over surplus funds from year to year, since this money is earned interest not capital funds.

#### **MOTION 4 AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN INC ARCHIVES**

##### **National Executive moves**

That the Incoming National Executive undertakes the development of an overall policy for the archives of Australian Church Women Inc, such a policy to cover

1. Identification of materials to be collected and stored;
2. Methods of storage;
3. Location of storage;
4. Access to archives.

##### **RATIONALE**

The National Executive apologises for having made little practical progress in implementing of the resolution relating to the Archives of ACW Inc to be found on p.18 of the Minutes of the 2011 National Conference. Preparatory discussion was undertaken with the National Library and guidance on requirements obtained, and the matter was also discussed at some length with our Archivist Edith Ridge. However we felt it advisable to wait for the Minutes of the 2011 National Conference to clarify the wishes of Conference, and since there was some delay in the production of these we have not been able to make further progress.

We now believe that it is advisable to develop a cohesive Archives policy rather than simply considering location.

#### **MOTION 5 CONDUCT OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS**

##### **National Executive moves**

That the Incoming National Executive consult with members as soon as possible as to the most effective way of conducting Annual General Meetings of Australian Church Women Inc in the years when there is no meeting of National Conference, with particular reference to the choice between face to face meetings and meetings by teleconference.

##### **RATIONALE**

Given the critical importance of the 2012 Annual General Meeting , especially in relation to the constitution review, National Executive after much discussion decided that a face to face meeting was the most effective. Holding this in Sydney rather than in our home state of Western Australia was we believe very successful, but it involved considerable personal expense not only for members of National Executive but for interstate participants in particular, and the only contribution National Executive believed was appropriate was to provide lunch for the meeting. There was no source of finance available for other expenses of attendance, including travel and (in several cases) overnight accommodation.

Consequently we do not believe that it is feasible to mandate face to face meetings for every Annual General Meeting held in years in which there is no National Conference. We also believe that it is important to continue to hold Annual General Meetings as part of the National Conference programme rather than holding separate meetings perhaps months apart as some other organisations do. Both these two considerations reflect financial realities. We suggest that

- Each National Executive gives serious consideration to holding a face to face Annual General Meeting in years between National Conference but retains the right not to do so if there is believed to be insufficient business to justify this.
- Some provision should be made in the Guidelines for assistance with the costs of attendance for all voting participants at an Annual General Meeting in non Conference years.

We note that if the draft revised Constitution is accepted voting rights at an Annual General Meeting will change from the current (2009 Rules) provision of voting rights for individual members to voting rights for the designated representative of each member organisation (Unit) and that National Executive will have no voting rights. However we believe that financial provision for attendance by NE office bearers at least should probably be included.

#### **MOTION 6: DEDUCTIONS FROM MONIES COLLECTED**

##### **National Executive moves that**

For the years 2013 and 2014 National Executive and Units deduct an amount not exceeding 10% from World Community Day and Fellowship of the Least Coin monies and from Fellowship Day offerings to cover administrative expenses.

##### **RATIONALE**

The second sentence of the current (2012) Guidelines National Treasurer Clause 12 (p.9) needs to be deleted (as has been done in the draft presented to this Conference) as it was not intended as a permanent provision. Instead, as in the first sentence of this clause, the provision for any deduction(s) is to be decided at each National Conference

#### **MOTION 7: DUTIES OF PUBLIC OFFICER**

##### **The ACT Unit of Australian Church Women Inc. moves that**

- (a) The Public Officer should attend all Annual General Meetings and all National Conferences of Australian Church Women Inc wherever held.
- (b) Suitable remuneration should be paid to the Public Officer to enable that person to attend such meetings. This is a responsibility of the National ACW (not the State/Territory Unit where the Public Officer resides).
- (c) These provisions should be listed in the revised Guidelines, which should include a new section detailing the duties of the Public Officer.

##### **RATIONALE**

These arrangements will enable the Public Officer to ensure that the papers for the Registrar General are signed after each Annual General Meeting. If there is a change of National office bearers, then the new officers will be able to sign the papers. It is the job of the Public Officer to submit these papers, and any changes to office bearers. This is not a job that can be carried out by any other person in the organisation.

As the Public Officer is required to be present at the AGM and the Conference, some remuneration should be offered to that person. If no remuneration is offered, there may be a time when the most suitable person cannot perform the duties because of the cost, which would be a great pity.

## **RECOMMENDATION 1 SUPPORT OF FAIR TRADE**

### **National Executive recommends**

That members of Australian Church Women Inc consider a personal commitment to recognising the principles of fair trade in their everyday shopping and to encouraging others to do the same.

### **RATIONALE**

In addition to the many social justice focussed activities in which our own church organisations engage there may be a place for our members to make a personal commitment to the principles of social justice through informed support of fair trade in their everyday shopping.

This offers the possibility of common action by our members, enhancing our sense of common commitment to social justice in the world.

## **RECOMMENDATION 2 PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE**

### **National Executive recommends**

That Incoming National Executive terminates the current Public Liability Insurance policy at 31 December 2013, and takes out a new policy as from 1 January 2014 that better suits the current needs of Australian Church Women Inc.

### **RATIONALE**

As the current policy is a group policy it lacks flexibility, especially in the capacity to vary the term from the current 1 October to 30 September.

## **RECOMMENDATION 3 WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP**

### **National Executive recommends**

That incoming National Executive, together with Winifred Kiek Scholarship Trustees, undertakes a full review of the criteria for making awards under the Winifred Kiek Scholarship programme, with particular reference to

- the advantages and disadvantages of making a single award per year unless there are exceptional circumstances;
- making changes to the application form if necessary, so that applicants are made aware of the likely funding available;
- the need to establish clear and transparent criteria on which selection is to be made;
- the possible need to seek independent advice on overseas academic standards and programmes;
- the need to consider the likelihood that the awardee has a reasonable chance of completing her study programme;
- clarification of the role of National Executive in the selection process;
- the accountability of Scholars throughout the tenure of their Scholarship.

### **RATIONALE**

- Until the last decade it was usual for a single Scholarship to be awarded. This arguably made accountability and monitoring of progress much easier. If the amount required by the Scholar was less than the amount available that year the surplus could presumably be held in reserve.
- It is of concern that the current application form may be misleading, as it states that

**The scholarship entitles the recipient to undertake theological studies, Bible studies or religious leadership training within the 2014 academic**

year.

**Course costs, travel and accommodation, if necessary, are provided.**

**Additional funds are available for the purchase of resources to assist in study and future work.**

In reality what can be offered to most successful applicants is far less than this would suggest.

- Given the variety of applications that may be received in any one year or indeed triennium it would be helpful to draw up a list of criteria on which selection is to be based. It is recognised that the weighting given to any of these criteria may vary.
- Overseas academic standards and programmes vary enormously. Without some independent input it may often be very difficult to form an opinion on whether for example an undergraduate qualification in one country equips an applicant to undertake post graduate studies in another country.
- For the programme to retain ongoing viability it is important that most if not all Scholars are able to complete their studies successfully.
- As the body with final responsibility for the programme the National Executive must retain a defined and meaningful role in the selection process, though the role set out in the current Guidelines may well need to be revised.
- Awardees need to fulfil accountability requirements to the best of their ability. One reason for this is that traditionally members of ACW State and Territory Units, through their Convenors, have taken a keen interest in the progress of Scholars, something that we believe has been reflected in contributions to Trust funds. It is difficult to maintain this interest if no news of Scholars is received.

#### **RECOMMENDATION 4 REVISION OF GUIDELINES**

##### **National Executive recommends**

That the revised Guidelines as circulated to Units be adopted for use by the Incoming National Executive.

##### **RATIONALE**

- The Guidelines are an important part of our governance structure and provide a useful supplement to our national constitution. Whilst primarily intended for use by National Executive they provide a helpful point of reference for Units.
- National Executive believes that it is helpful for each National Executive, while in office, to identify areas of the Guidelines requiring updating.
- Whilst National Executive may be deemed to have the authority to update the Guidelines where necessary it is traditional for such updating to be approved by National Conference.
- The suggested revisions as circulated to Units are too numerous to list individually.
- The Guidelines are not intended as a binding document and it is recognised that Incoming National Executive in turn may find certain provisions inadequate.



## **MATTER FOR DISCUSSION**

### **The Victorian Unit requests discussion on the vision for the future direction of Australian Church Women nationally.**

Rationale: Two Units have declined to take their rotation as National Committee of ACW through lack of membership of their Unit. The membership in Victoria is diminishing and those who are faithful members are aged. We believe this is a picture of other units also. Younger women prefer short term projects and activities and are not open to long term commitments. Older women are taking on many roles in retirement and with travel, taking responsibility for rearing or minding grandchildren their disposable free time is limited. Added to this, the denominational women's organisations are disappearing and we find it difficult to receive names of their delegates as no one seems to be the authorising person or department.

If ACW is to exist into the future something has to drastically change. Our aims and objectives are commendable and are being upheld in units, but membership is declining. Where are we headed? What vision do we have? Nationally our strong points are Winifred Kiek Scholarship, Fellowship Day, World Community Day but even those days are diminishing in numbers of people attending and number of services held. Our association with ACWC which includes Fellowship of the Least Coin is also special. But apart from this, what do we do? What is the purpose of ACW? Where are we going?

**This item will form the basis of a discussion on Tuesday evening of National Conference.**

## IN APPRECIATION

The National President Major Laurel Pearce and all members of National Executive sincerely thank the following:

- The staff of the St John of God Retreat Centre Shoalwater
- The staff of Penola by the Sea Safety Bay
- The Salvation Army Divisional Headquarters for the printing of our Working Papers and Ecumenical Service programme
- The Salvation Army Perth Fortress Corps for the use of their bus.
- All those who have provided transport for our guests
- Revd.Toby Keva and parishioners for their assistance in welcoming our guests
- Our pianist/organist Captain Judith Dell
- Our photographer Mr Bill van der Pal
- The Uniting Church in the City for their hospitality over our term of office and their donations of stationery
- The Uniting Church Investment Fund for stationery and pens
- The staff of the Council of Churches of Western Australia for their generous assistance in the printing of National News.