

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN N.S.W. STATE UNIT

Minutes of the Council meeting, held at 224 Pitt St. Sydney  
on Monday, 19 February, 1990.

The meeting opened at 10.45 a.m., after morning tea, with the President, Mrs Marjory Baker in the chair.

There were 49 present and apologies from 11 people.

New people welcomed were Valeska Tracey, Janet Flower from the Lane Cove branch and Vi Minty, President of the Sydney City branch, who replaces Glynn Robinson as their delegate.

The President read from Psalm 43, reminding us of the promise of God, 'I have ransomed you.....you are mine.'

The speaker for the day, President-elect, Major Joan Tong was introduced and welcomed. Joan told the meeting the story of her call to full time service. She spoke about the words in Isaiah 61 'filled me with His spirit'. These were her ordination verses when she was commissioned as a Salvation Army officer in January, 1965. Joan has always felt that she has been called to a world ministry. Coming from a Salvation Army family, she trained as a primary school teacher in New Zealand, where she taught Chinese, Maori and New Zealand children. Obeying the call to full-time service, she trained as an officer. When her husband, David received an appointment to Army Headquarters here in Sydney, Joan chose to work in Women's Ministry, and Youth work. They have enjoyed 11 years in their Dulwich Hill Corp. When her church appointed her to be the Salvation Army's nomination for A.C.W. President in 1990-1991 Joan accepted this as a call from God. She believes that our commitment to God includes all people, the unsaved as well as those who know & serve the Lord. Her commitment to A.C.W. she sees as a call to serve all women.

Mrs Mavis Burtenshaw in a fitting speech of appreciation to Joan expressed the feelings of the gathering. A gift was presented to Joan.

The Minutes of the November 20, 1989 meeting were read and confirmed.

Business arising from the Minutes.

1. National Council of Women end of year meeting. Both the delegates Miss Shirley Wells and her friend Miss Gwen Morris attended this meeting and reported a very interesting time.
2. 'How to make a complaint about videos and T.V. programmes'. Thanks were expressed to the representative to N.S.W. Children's Films and T.V. for the copies of this paper, which had been distributed at the start of the meeting.
3. Problems caused by easy credit. The Council accepted the suggestion of the Executive that we contact National Council of Women for some assistance with this subject. Also that members make their own enquiries and that the matter be dealt with at a later date.

\* Correspondence. The correspondence as listed and attached was read received and dealt with.

Business arising from the Correspondence.

1. The National Secretary's Newsletter.
  - a. Winston Churchill Fellowship and Order of Australia nominations. Members were invited to publicise both these matters.
  - b. National Constitution and Guidelines. It was noted that alterations arising from the National Conference needed to be made in these books. Former members of the State executive were asked to check that any copies they had were given to present members of the Executive.

2. Request from the City of Sydney Branch of ACW. The Council agreed that the branch had acted correctly in writing letters of concern and protest regarding the Christmas Parade held in the city streets on Sunday morning, November 12, 1989. The Secretary was asked to write letters supporting the stand of the City branch and also protesting, to Grace Brothers, Michael Edgely and the City Council of Sydney. It was suggested that these letters should be on a positive theme, listing the affiliated churches of ACW, mentioning the involvement of organisations such as Y.W.C.A. and suggesting that the Parade might be more acceptable if the time could be changed so that worshippers would not be prevented from going to their places of worship. Delegates were asked to alert their churches to this Parade.
3. Reclaiming Easter, 1990. The activities of this campaign

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announced. A letter to be written telling the committee of our interest & support.

4. President's Installation service. To be held on Monday, 21 May at the Salvation Army building, Chatswood, at 10.30 a.m. The full details to be printed in the next copy of Newsette. Invitations will be ready for distribution at the April meeting.

### Reports.

Treasurer's Report. The report as attached to these minutes was read and adopted. The Treasurer reminded those people who subscribe to A.C.W.C. Bulletin that subs. were due at the end of 1989. \$7.50 Partners with A.C.W.C. It has come to our attention that there are new members who do not know about 'Partners.' It is proposed that we should re-activate the brochure about this and try to find new people who will promise \$1 per year for 'Partners'. The N.S.W. State Unit is responsible for finding \$500 annually. Usually the collection at the Annual Dedication service is given to help with this amount, but in 1989 the collection was given to a fund to assist National Executive members to attend the Conference in Perth. The Money raised through Partners with A.C.W.C. In several counties besides Australia helps the members of A.C.W.C. with their travelling to conferences, etc. It is proposed to feature 'Partners' in the next copy of Newsette.

W.K.S. The Convenor gave news of former students Tapita Das from Bangladesh, Rev. Mary Au, Malini Devananda. We were reminded that the 1990 Special Project collection on World Community Day will be allocated to publishing a book of children's stories, written to help Malini in her work. Malini is to have a period of study time in Leeds, U.K. where her husband is observing work amongst the poor.

W.K.S. scholar, 1990, Doreen Tai. It is expected that Doreen will arrive in Australia in the 2nd. week of July. Courses lined up at Lidcombe may be transferred to Parramatta. If this happens, accommodation for 6 months will be required in the Parramatta area.

The President of Y.W.C.A. in China is at present visiting Sydney. Those wishing to meet Phoebe Shi were given the appropriate information.

F.L.C. The Circle of Prayer was used to direct our thoughts and prayers while we gave our 'Least Coins'. The page on the "Garden of God" was used by the Convenor. In our prayers, we thanked God for clean water and in remembering those who lack this, we prayed that these people will be able to have clean water.

Receipts. The Convenor moved that because of the rising costs of postage etc. receipts for F.L.C. Monies be sent only when requested and that those so requesting be asked to enclose a self-addressed envelope. The motion was carried. This information to be printed in Newsette.

Promotions. The Convenor reported that 4 information kits had been sent to groups requesting them. We await their response. Information forms and orders for Special Days services are still not to hand from many centres. But those that have been returned indicate an increased interest in the service. To accommodate the increase in orders, it is proposed to print 2,500 orders of service for Fellowship Day. Packing Day will be at 222 Pitt St. Room F on Monday 26 March, from 1.30 p.m. Helpers are sought. Newcastle Earthquake Appeal. A collection was taken towards the Lord Mayor of Newcastle's Appeal. It was proposed that the Newcastle Branches of ACW be notified of this act of solidarity with their suffering.

General Business. The speaker at the March meeting was announced as Hermine Partamian from the A.C.C. Refugee and Migrant Services. The Catholic ladies will provide morning tea and the Presbyterians will arrange the meeting room. Representatives to other bodies and Branch delegates were reminded that Annual Reports are to be written for the Annual Newsletter. Newsette subs are over-due, please see the Treasurer. In March nomination forms will be distributed for positions on the Executive. The Annual Meeting and Election will take place in April..... 23rd. April, a week later because of Easter.

### 3.

Those people who require posted invitations to the President's Installation are asked to provide names and addresses at the March meeting.

State Filing Cabinet. A permanent home is sought for our cabinet containing ACW records. Delegates were asked to enquire around their churches for a home for the cabinet, preferably in the city, near to where we meet.

Hostesses for April. The Baptist ladies offered to host the meeting in April to relieve the Salvation Army ladies who will be busy in May for the luncheon following the President's Installation. The Salvation Army ladies will host the meeting in November for this year.

Copies of the year's programme were distributed. The members were reminded to shop at Deaconess Andrew's trading table for the Overseas Travel Fund, the Baptist and Presbyterian ladies were thanked and the meeting closed with the Benediction.

Confirmed.  
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