



# AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

## NSW STATE UNIT INC.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING held at 222 Pitt Street, Sydney on Monday 14 April 2003 at 11.15 a.m following the Annual General Meeting.

DEVOTIONS: President Jean Porteous opened with prayer asking that God's hand be on us. In keeping with the approach of Easter Jean read from Isaiah 53, the Suffering Servant, and from John 20, Mary Magdalene's discovery of the Resurrection and her encounter with the risen Christ.

PRESENT: 38 as recorded

APOLOGIES: 16 as recorded

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES of 17 February 2003 were confirmed with the correction on page 2 under Special Days to read "Empowered by Love". Moved Robyn Collins, Seconded Nancy McLaren. Carried

### BUSINESS ARISING:

1. NATIONAL CONFERENCE PERTH 6-10 October 2003 with the theme *Towards Community*. Leaflets publicising the conference - to be held at Swanleigh, a residential college on the outskirts of Midland and Guildford, 15 minutes from the city centre - were distributed. Attention was drawn to the extra tours being offered following the conference - Phyllis Dolling would like to know as soon as possible of people wishing to avail themselves of the opportunity.
  2. DEDICATION SERVICE is to be held at 10.30 am 19 May 2003 at Church of Christ, 31 Bridge Street, Epping and the Speaker is Mrs Martha Nixon of Outback Patrol. Jean indicated that the walk from Epping station takes only a few minutes, and is slightly uphill on the return.
  3. SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT DAY: 21 July 2003 in our normal meeting room - a time of prayer "In Quietness and Confidence". Robyn Collins had prepared a very attractive leaflet which was available to advertise this event.
  4. WORLD COMMUNITY DAY PROJECT: The NSW application on behalf of PLC Sydney seeking support for their *East Timor Kindergarten Project* has been selected, along with *Cross Roads Community* ... assisting people suffering from addiction, which was proposed by the Western Australian Unit. Comments are to be forwarded to National by 30 April.
  6. LIST OF SPEAKERS: In order to have available an updated list of people who are available to speak about Australian Church Women and its activities to church women's groups, and to have the names of pianists, organists, soloists who might be called on at functions, members of Council were invited to fill in their details on the sheet provided.
  7. FUNDRAISING: The Trading Table had brought in \$100 before the meeting, and by the end of the day the takings had amounted to \$145. It is proposed that Trading Tables will be held at June and August meetings as well.
- The suggestion was made that for those who are able to do so a donation of a 'gold coin' for morning tea could be an easy way of helping to build up funds.
9. CITY WORLD COMMUNITY DAY SERVICE: There was some discussion about whether this should be pursued this year. Robyn Collins told of a Wednesday women's meeting in Congress Hall which could possibly incorporate WCD and invite others to attend. This would enable people working in the city to attend a service.

Irene Carder is to let us have a list of venues so that people can find if there is a service they could attend if they are unable to attend in their local area.

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**CORRESPONDENCE: (Inward)**

1. National Executive: Minutes 17/2/2003; 17/3/2003; Circular 2003/10; letter from The Little Kings' Movement for the Handicapped; ACWC Secretariat
  2. ACW ACT - Unit Directory, 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Report
  3. Jim Mein, UCA Board of Finance & Property - Apology
  4. St Alban's Anglican Womens Fellowship Leura - FLC Speaker
  5. Comm. Ecumenical & Interfaith Relations - invitations/information
  6. ACW Victoria - News Sheet Feb/Mar 2003
  7. Nat. Exec. Special Days: NSW to prepare order of service for Fellowship Day 2004
  8. Mr I Komaravalli - William Carey Christian Guest House
  9. ACW ACT - Newsletter April-June 2003
- Publications: Womenspace 3/2003; Span 3/2003; NCW Forward Together 3/2003;

**CORRESPONDENCE: (Outward)**

1. Invitations to Dedication Service
2. Affiliation accounts
3. National Executive: Council Minutes 18/11/2002

**PRESIDENT'S BUSINESS:** Jean Porteous reported on the National President, Rev Lee Edwards. Lee injured her back in a fall and detailed the circumstances in a letter in the hope that this would preclude the necessity to keep explaining to people. Lee thanked people for their concern and their prayers.

**FUNCTIONS TO ATTEND:**

1. NCW NSW - Jean Arnot Memorial Luncheon - Friday 2 May 2003 - Macquarie Street

**REPORTS:**

**TREASURER:** Elaine Wilson presented her report showing a balance at 31 March 2003 of \$8496.63. This includes a very generous gift of \$1000 from the Churches of Christ Christian Womens Fellowship. Elaine moved that the report be received, seconded Nancy McLaren, and carried. Elaine moved that accounts be passed for payment, seconded by Thora Thomas and passed.

In thanking Elaine for her report and wishing her well, Jean Porteous stressed the need for a new treasurer.

**PUBLICITY:** Robyn Collins had prepared brochures advertising

- 1 - a time of prayer 21 July 2003 "In quietness and confidence" to be held in our usual meeting place, and
- 2 - National Conference in Perth 6-10 October 2003.

**MEMBERSHIP & PASTORAL CARE:** In the absence of Heather Badgery who was not well, Jan Harrison gave the report. Pat Sutton, Norma Dumbrell, Noelene Roose were also on the sick list; Olive Beverley had suffered a heart attack; sympathy had been extended to Doug & Isabel Hewitt on the death of Doug's mother, and to Doris Haberfield whose husband Arthur had died; support given to Jean Porteous whose brother had undergone major surgery; Sandra Wise had injured her back.

**WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP:** Judith Cayzer reported that an Easter card had been received from Nighat Gulzar. Sue Nitrai had also sent greetings. She has completed her Bachelor of Theology from St Marks in Canberra but is not to be ordained. She attends her local Anglican church and does some work there and at St Andrews Presbyterian. She is still employed with the Commonwealth Bank.

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Leaflets for 2003 have now arrived. The three scholars for this year are:  
Gaye Inall (Qld) - born profoundly deaf, she is studying to further assist in ministry with deaf people.

Susan Liersch (NSW) will study to support her skills in working with soldiers and their families at the Army Recruiting Training Centre at Wagga Wagga.

Monique Crabtree (WA) who is studying to broaden her skills to minister to her church and wider Christian community of Northam.

Judith is still trying to locate the book "Winifred" by Margaret Knauerhase, a biography of Winifred Kiek.

SOCIAL ISSUES: Cela Cooper drew attention to the following:

- Action being taken by Fr Chris Riley from Youth off the Streets in his effort to have a group called Tatu led by Ivan Shapovalov banned, not given visas to enter Australia, and asking for support in petitioning the Minister for Immigration.
- RHEMA Sydney Christian Media Limited have applied for a licence
- Decade to Overcome Violence - *Cultivating a Culture of Peace* - see report in Newsette and follow up, kits available for use by church groups
- Prison Fellowship monthly prayer calendar - copies available from Cela
- Opposition to genetically modified crops
- Opposition to the use of antibiotics as growth promoters in livestock

FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN: Nancy McLaren led a short devotional. People are empowered by Christ. We are challenged to keep our eyes open, see the need and bring help to those who need hope.

SPECIAL DAYS: It was agreed that Branches should receive a copy of the Annual Report - to be included when Fellowship Day orders of service are sent on packing day which is 12 May 2003.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Requests from National Executive:

- Any proposed amendments to ACW Constitution required by 6/6/2003
- Motions for discussion at Conference by 1/8/2003
- Names of members who have received awards since last National Conference
- Names of members who have died since last National Conference
- Biennial Unit Report
- Names and addresses of 2 voting delegates and 2 observers

NEXT MEETING: 16 June 2003

CHAIRS: Salvation Army  
MORNING TEA: Uniting Church

Confirmed: Jan Paterson

Date: 16.6.03