

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NATIONAL EXECUTIVE



Minutes of Meeting held on November 15, 2004 at Piccadilly Court
222 Pitt Street, Sydney, at 1.00 p.m.

Chair:	Major Nancy McLaren	President
Present:	Mrs Cela Cooper	First Vice President
	Mrs Janet Harrison	Second Vice President
	Mrs Isabel Hewitt	Secretary
	Mrs Nola Dickson	Treasurer
	Mrs Brenda Dickinson	Minutes Secretary
	Sister Marie Craddock	Publicity Convenor
	Mrs Edith Ridge	Publications Editor
	Major Eileen Holley	Special Days Convenor
	Miss Shirley Wells	Fellowship of the Least Coin Convenor
	Mrs Jean Porteous	Social Issues Convenor
	Major Lyn Middleton	President, NSW State Unit

Apologies: Major Joan Tong, Winifred Kiek Scholarship Convenor

Devotions: Mrs Jean Porteous based devotions on Psalm 23, Isaiah 30:15, Psalm 46:10 and Psalm 37:7. As a little girl, Jean had learned Ps.23 from hearing her Scottish mother and to her ears "beside the *still* waters" sounded like "beside the *stool* waters". Jean pictured herself sitting on a stool beside the Lachlan River. This picture was not incorrect because the Bible exhorts us to be still before the Lord, to wait on him in quietness and in confidence. In doing this, we have received and will continue to receive strength and grace for whatever situation we are in.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Minutes of the Meeting held on October 11, 2004, were confirmed as a true record of proceedings.

1. BUSINESS ARISING:

- 1.1 **Incorporating National Executive:** Cela Cooper (First Vice-President) was requested to continue her research into this matter.

2. CORRESPONDENCE:

Inward Correspondence November 2004:

ACW SA Unit Inc- Minutes 8/10/2004
ACW VIC Unit - Minutes 27/8/2004; 22/10/04; News 8/9 2004 -
ACW QLD Unit - Minutes 27/9/2004;
ACW NSW Unit - Minutes 21/6/2004; 16/8/2004
ACW TAS Unit - Minutes 26/10/2004
Pat Walker - 2005 Executive Committee Cambodia May 2005;
Shu-Wen's October 2004 update
Mollie Jean Hunt - re *Photo for Honouring Australian Church Women*
Coralie Wright - Receipt for NCCA Forum; WKS Trustee

Outward Correspondence

Lady Wilson & Major Laurel Pearce - re Finances
Possibility Australia; Not for Profit Network - cancellations

3. REPORTS

President (Nancy McLaren)

- **The National Prayer Breakfast** has been postponed to 5-6 December, which date is not possible for Nancy to attend. Cheque in payment has been returned to us.
- **Visit to Tasmania Unit:** Wonderful time with very good hosts. Spoke at WCD on the Monday. Attended State Unit meeting on the Tuesday.
- Spoke at WCD Service at Dee Why.
- Invitation to Morning Tea with the General of The Salvation Army on December 4th, as National President.

Secretary (Isabel Hewitt)

- Winifred Keik Scholarship Trust resignation from Kate Clarke. National Executive suggests the Trust appoints a replacement person and the name goes through to National Conference for ratification.

Treasurer (Nola Dickson) Balance as at end of October, 2004 - \$21, 432.43. (See attached Report).

Fellowship of the Least Coin Convenor (Shirley Wells)

- FLC Reflections from Units have now been combined and are ready to be forwarded to ICFLC Secretary. Not all States contributed.
- Volume 17 Circle of Prayer not yet received so probably will not be available until next year.
- All Units have been reminded about Grant Applications for next year.

Inward Correspondence, etc.

1. Letter from Western Australia acknowledging parcel
2. 19/10/04 Letter from Victorian Unit enclosing FLC Song
3. Phone call from Qld. Unit re Volume 17 of Circle of Prayer
4. Phone call from Victorian Unit re list of grants.

Outward Correspondence, etc.

1. Phone call to Anne Kennedy re list of grants
2. Phone call to Pat Walker re list of grants
3. Letter to all FLC Convenors re Grant Applications 2005
4. Letter to South Australia Unit acknowledging FLC History and Reflections.

Publicity Officer (Sr Marie Craddock)

Marie has been following through with contacting people for 2005 National Conference.

Publications Editor (Edith Ridge)

- The November copy of ACW News was published and dispatched to all State Units and other recipients. 520 copies were printed and 505 distributed. Accounts for printing and postage have been sent to the National Treasurer.

Outward Correspondence:

Wrote to the Publicity Officers or Secretaries of five Units: - Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria and Western Australia, asking that the Publications Editor be placed on their mailing lists for copies of their newsletters. (I already receive NSW Newsette and ACT Newsletters).

Publicity Officer's Report (continued)

Inward Correspondence: Report of Queensland State Unit's Annual General Meeting.

February 2005 ACW News: The deadline for the next edition of ACW News is January 14th.

Special Days Convenor (Major Eileen Holley)

Inward Correspondence:

1. Captain Kaye Viney - Alice Springs - Copy of Order of Service (Draft) for Fellowship Day 2005 Theme: **"Forward Together In Love and Fellowship."**
Scripture: John 15:12.
 Received with thanks. Copies given to Executive for consideration and any comment at next meeting.
2. Two submissions had so far been received for WCD Projects 2005, one from NSW and the other from Queensland.

Outward Correspondence:

1. Captain Kaye Viney - email acknowledging receipt of Order of Service Material.
2. Mollie Jean Hunt - acknowledging receipt of submission for WCD 2005.

Social issues Convenor (Jean Porteous)

Outward Correspondence:

1. Letter to radio station, pointing out that swearing was unnecessary, resulting in the offending word being deleted.
2. Letter to company which had brought swearing into its advertising.
3. Letter to a magazine objecting to an advert, which showed too much bare skin.

Rang SBS for permission to videotape "Insight" program and pass on a copy to Social Issues Convenors of State Units, should they wish to have one. Permission granted.

Inward Correspondence:

1. Reply received from company with an apology for causing offence, resulting in the offending material being changed. Extract from reply: "sincerely regret and apologise for any offence the language may have caused and assure you it is not our intention to offend.. We will certainly be mindful of your concerns when next we renew our advertising campaign."

Jean feels that if, as Christians, we want a reasonable standard to be maintained in advertising and speech, then we must let our voices be heard when we see standards dropping. It is encouraging when companies take note of genuine concerns and if we see or hear something that offends, a personal letter will be taken seriously and can achieve good results.

Reports (continued)

Australian Women's Coalition (Jean Hambley)

October Report:

Following the teleconferencing on 6 October there are three new members of AWC:

1. Conflict Resolving Women's Network Australia
2. Muslim Women's National Network of Australia
3. Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement, SA.

Next Face to Face Meeting 28-29 November. AGM 29 November.

November Report:

- Following the Federal election, OSW is no longer part of Prime Minister's Department it is now with the Department of Family and Community Services (FACS).
- There is a meeting 28/29 November so it will be interesting to see what changes may emerge. FACS in Canberra has a reputation of being both a user friendly and a family orientated department.

Asian Church Women's Conference (Pat Walker)

Notice of the proposed ACWC Executive Committee meeting to be held in Cambodia in May 2005. Following the meeting there is to be a training program of leadership for micro-finance and gender issues (including violence against women).

Reports received.

4. NEXT MEETING:

December 13, 2004 at The Salvation Army 's Collaroy Conference Centre, 10.00 a.m.
Specifically to discuss the National Conference 2005. (Meet at 9.00 a.m. at 140 Elizabeth Street).

Devotions: Nancy McLaren.

Meeting closed at 4.00 p.m. with prayer by Nancy McLaren.

Minutes confirmed:

Date:

National President.

**AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NATIONAL EXECUTIVE
FINANCIAL STATEMENT AS AT 31 OCTOBER, 2004**

Balance 30 September, 2004 \$21,559.43

Receipts

President visit Tasmania \$107.00

Payments

President visit Tasmania \$214.00
Stamps \$20.00

\$234.00

Balance 31 October, 2004

\$21,432.43