

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NEW SOUTH WALES STATE UNIT

MINUTES of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and ELECTION of OFFICERS
held at 222 Pitt Street, Sydney on MONDAY, 19 APRIL, 1993.

OPENING. With the President Miss Phyl McKinnirey, in the Chair, the meeting opened following the Monthly Council Meeting.

DEVOTIONS were the first order of the day when the President read from Marilyn Norquist's book "Thy Kingdom Come" the chapter on "Your Status in the Kingdom". From the bible readings in Matthew 20 about the ambition of James and John to be people of power in the Kingdom, we learnt that greatness comes from service, not from importance. Status was unimportant to Jesus in his view of the Kingdom; He set the example that service to others is the important thing. We were again reminded that according to the record in Luke's gospel, it was at the Last Supper that this argument took place, so we must be always aware that temptation to think we are important can come at times of most privilege and even when we are close to the Lord.

The President declared that this was the Annual General Meeting. The Secretary was asked to present the MINUTES of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of 1992 for CONFIRMATION. This was done.

REPORTS.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

In her report, Miss McKinnirey referred to the 'wonderful fellowship that exists in A.C.W. - that sharing of faith which is a special joy.' The Report will be printed in the Annual Report and a copy is attached to these Minutes, but for the sake of brevity here, a precis follows. Reference was made to our 'reaching out' in A.C.W. Spiritual Enrichment Days were mentioned; attendance as President to the functions of many sister organisations was appreciated; the association with two W.K.S. scholars and the loving care given them by Convener, Mina Whybourne acknowledged; F.L.C. and Partners With A.C.W.C. were both commended; Council members were encouraged to feel proud of these projects of A.C.W. and asked to give them their whole-hearted support. An appeal was made for each member to give \$1 to the Partners with A.C.W.C. scheme. Phyl paid tribute to the members of her Executive, particularly mentioning the Treasurer, Mrs Dorothy Lumb, at present ill in hospital, as she comes to the end of her time of office. Phyl's theme during this first year of her Presidency has been 'COME'. She invited us to bring others to our Dedication Day and to extend that invitation to bring others to "Come" -- 'to join with us and add many more patches to the great tapestry of Faith which we hope to spread all over our State'.

After the acceptance of the President's Report, Past President Major Joan Tong took the Chair, enabling Phyl to attend a luncheon at Parliament House Dining Room, to honour the ninetieth birthday of Miss Jean Annot. Some members also left the meeting to attend the luncheon.

SECRETARY'S REPORT (attached). The Secretary read highlights of the Unit's activities from the Report to be printed in the Annual Report. Reference was made to the many activities of the Unit during the year, with particular emphasis on Spiritual Enrichment Days, the Installation of the President, the new Information Kits produced by the Promotion and Publicity Conveners, the excellent and interesting speakers at Council meetings, attendances at Ecumenical functions, and tribute was paid to the members of Executive for all their work through the year. Special mention was made of the Leadership of the President, the work of the Conveners, and thanks was expressed to those two members leaving the Executive at this time, Mrs Marjory Baker and Mrs Dorothy Lumb. Tributes are printed at the end of these Minutes.

TREASURER'S REPORT. A simple Balance Statement had been prepared by Miss McKinnirey, working with Rev. Barry Ridge from the Treasurer's cash books and ledgers. Appreciation was expressed to these two people for their efforts. It is hoped that a proper Financial Statement will be prepared for the Annual Report and that the books can be audited in time for that publication, also.

CONVENER'S REPORTS, NEWSLETTE, MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY etc. were tabled and will be printed in the Annual Report, as will the BRANCH REPORTS.

APPRECIATION. ALL Officers and Conveners were thanked for their year's work. The Council requested that the following minutes of appreciation be recorded in the Minutes.

President, Miss P. McKinnirey. 'Here is a lady who loves our Lord and serves His church with all her being. A testimony to the regard in which Phyl is held in her community was the attendance of civic leaders at her Installation Service. Thank you, Phyl, for a wonderful year of leadership. It has been a pleasure to work with you and we are looking forward to great things in the coming year.

FORMER PRESIDENT Mrs Marjory Baker. Marjory has been a member of the Unit's Executive for a number of years and has served with distinction all the varied positions she has filled, not least by any means of these being her term as State President. For all her loving concern for us and for all those years, thank you, Marjory. We all love you, for what you are and for what you have done.

MRS DOROTHY LUMB retiring Treasurer. New South Wales Unit has been blessed since 1986 with an outstanding Treasurer in Dorothy Lumb. To this mammoth task Dorothy has brought her not inconsiderable skill with book-keeping, coupled with her very real concern for the financial health of A.C.W. Each month her meticulous balance sheets have been presented and every year the Auditor has congratulated her on the excellence of her work. We appreciate the many hours of work that Dorothy has freely given each week of the years of her time as Treasurer of the Unit. Her gracious demeanour and courteous attention to people have endeared her to us all. And her scrupulous attention to detail has given the members of Executive nights of easy sleep, knowing that our finances have been in the very best of hands. We are all sorry that it has been ill health that has made Dorothy reluctantly decide not to stand for re-election as Treasurer and we all pray that soon she will be completely well again. Thank you, Dorothy for seven years of outstanding service to our Lord, through Australian Church Women.

SECRETARY. This addendum to the Secretary's report was requested by members of Council.

Appreciation is recorded to the Secretary, Edith Ridge, for the magnificent manner in which she has carried out her responsibilities for yet another year. Extremely efficient and meticulous, Edith's innate graciousness has contributed in no small way to the spirit which pervades all our activities. Edith, we salute you!

ELECTION OF OFFICERS for the year 1993-1994.

Nominations were received for all positions and as there were no multiple nominations for any positions, the members were asked to endorse the appointment of the following people to the offices listed. The ballot was declared as follows:-

PRESIDENT.	Miss Phyl McKinnirey.	Catholic.
PAST PRESIDENT.	Mrs Major Joan Tong.	Salvation Army.
PRESIDENT-ELECT.	Mrs Lucelle King.	Baptist.
SECRETARY.	Mrs Edith Ridge.	Uniting Church.
TREASURER.	Mrs Marie Majoer.	Catholic.
MEMBERSHIP SECR.	Miss Heather Reid. Girls' Brigade.	Baptist.
NEWSLETTE EDITOR.	Mrs Beryl McLaughlin.	Anglican.
CONVENERS.		
WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP.	Mrs. Mina Whybourne.	Anglican.

FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN. Miss Shirley Wells. Baptist.
 PROMOTION. Mrs Peg Blake. Presbyterian.
 PUBLICITY. Miss Jeanne Sutherland. Anglican.

Denominations not represented. Churches of Christ and Ukrainian Orthodox Sisterhood. The Executive will follow these up.

AUDITOR. The meeting approved the appointment of Mr Frank Fryirs.

NEWSETTE MANAGER. Mrs Carmel Emmett was nominated and elected to this position. Mrs Marie Majoor was thanked for her work in this position.

STOCK SECRETARY. Mrs Rae Aldridge was thanked for her year's work. It is with regret that we note that uncertain health has meant that Rae cannot stand for re-election this year. It was decided after consultation with the Publicity Convener, that the position be not filled this year and that Publicity look after Stock for the time being.

COMMITTEES. The following people accepted appointment to committees.

W.K.S. Convener, plus Y. Davis, J. Tong, L. King, Deac. M. Andrews, Brig. M. Ward.

F.L.C. Convener and J. Tong, with special concern for A.C.W.C.

PROMOTION. Convener plus P. Cameron, M. Hawkins, M. Jessup, M. Baker, V. Minty, M. Andries, M. Craig, L. Maze.

PUBLICITY. Convener plus M. Jessup, ~~V. Minty~~, M. Craig. Power to co-opt. for special jobs. *MR*

TO OTHER ORGANISATIONS.

NATIONAL COUNCIL of WOMEN. J. Sutherland, S. Wells.

WORLD DAY of PRAYER COMMITTEE. C. Groat, R. Smith, O. Edmonstone, V. Clements, M. Jessup.

N.S.W. Ecumenical Council. Mrs Col. F. Peterson, Fraternal member.

N.S.W. COUNCIL for CHILDREN'S FILMS & TELEVISION. M. McCann, M. Craig.

CLOSING. There being no further business for the Annual Meeting of 1993, the meeting was closed with prayer. Chairman Joan Tong gave thanks for the year we have reviewed and for the people who have served in many ways. Blessings were asked for those members taking up work for the Unit, a special prayer of blessing was asked for incoming President, Lucelle as she prepares herself during the next twelve months for this position. Blessings were asked for all our members and for the work of Australian Church Women.

CONFIRMED.

18 April, 1994.

J. M. Sutherland
 21 June '93
 (initials)

P. M. Sutherland

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN -NSW STATE UNIT

CASH STATEMENT as at 28. 2. 93

CREDIT BALANCE at 1. 3. 92	3449.91
RECEIPTS for year ending 28. 2. 93	25884.62
	29334.53
PAYMENTS for year ending 28. 2. 93	23702.91
BALANCE as per Cash Book 28. 2. 93)	5631.62
BALANCE as per Bank Statement 28. 2. 93)	-----

Deposit at 6% -Glebe Administration Board- 6000.00

Monies owing to National Council -
(received since 2 .12.92)

Fellowship of the Least Coin	- 1773.89less 5%	1685.20
World Community Day	- 182.20less 5%	174.04
Winifred Kiek Scholarship	- 94.93	94.93

Monies owing from National Council -

Fellowship Day Expenses(May'92)	374.00
Winifred Kiek Scholarship(May'92)	143.75

Working Balance 28. 2. 93 4195.20

Overseas Travel Fund

Credit Balance B/Fwd	73.53
Receipts to 28.2.93	217.40
Payments to 28.2.93	<u>150.00</u>
Credit Balance 28.2.93	<u>140.93</u>

"NEWSETTE"

Receipts to 28.2.93	868.50
Payments to 28.2.93	682.60
Credit Balance at 28.2.93	<u>185.90</u>

Due to illness of the Treasurer this Statement has been prepared by the President & Secreary, and is presented subject to Audit.

President

Secretary

16/4/93 *S. M. ...*

E. Ridge.

President's Report-1992/3

During this last year I have really experienced that wonderful fellowship that exists in Australian Church Women -that sharing of faith which is a special joy!

We are now reaching out to many more women, and with constant prayer and trust in the Lord, I'm sure we will keep the numbers growing.

We began the Spiritual Enrichment days in Joan's term of office and since then have had three more wonderful days - at Polding House, the Mountains, and Woy Woy. We thank particularly those who organised the days-Peg, Jeanne, Helen and Elaine. And of course the Speakers and all the members who attended. Next month I will be speaking at Port Macquarrie and South West Rocks - so we really are moving out.

Since my installation we have welcomed two scholars -Ana and now Malai - and it is a delight to be associated with and be able to assist these girls. We are indebted to Mina for her loving care of the girls - so much so that they don't want to leave her. Thank you Mina!

As President I have had many invitations and it is a great privilege to attend these meetings and partake in service with other denominations. I was unable to attend the Salvation Army Rally to hear ^{General} Colonel Burroughs but was delighted to find she was also the Speaker at the Governor's Prayer Breakfast- so I met her and heard her excellent address after all. It is encouraging when visiting other denominations to find that we are all working against the same social issues, and for the development of people.

In February I attended the Asia-Pacific Conference of the World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations in New Zealand, and I became very aware of the gratitude of women of other countries of help such as our Winifred Kiek Scholarship. The women at the Conference were all agreed that personal development assistance is the most valuable. Help with village projects such as Wells, Cow and Pig Banks etc do help the village but they do not lead to personal development. The work is still menial. So be very supportive and proud of the Scholarship.

So, we should be supportive and proud of the Fellowship of the Least Coin, and Asian Church Womens Partnership. These are all excellent ways of walking in solidarity with our Asian sisters. What a difference it would make if every member became a Partner (only \$1.00) with Asian Church Womens; Conference. Please consider!

My first year has been a time of joy and growth and as I look forward to the coming year, I thank each of you for your love and acceptance, especially the Executive who have guided and supported me. What would I do without any one of them! Each has a special gift which they share generously.

When I became President, I adopted the Theme - "Come!" - such a wonderful word - so now again I say "Come!:" to our Dedication Day, and please also ask others to "Come" join with us and add many more patches to the great tapestry of faith which we hope to spread all over our State!

Our love and prayers are with Dorothy during her time in hospital, and our very sincere thanks for her years of such meticulous stewardship of our finances. Many, many thanks Dorothy! And to Peg awaiting surgery, and Shirley who is recuperating, we also ask God's blessing. Peace be with you!

Phyl McKinnirey
Phyl McKinnirey
President

18. 4. 93

Addition: In cello.

A.C.W. SECRETARY'S REPORT April, 1993.

The year began with the Installation of a new President. Saint Patrick's Cathedral at Parramatta was crowded for this wonderful service. Bishop Bede Heather made us feel most welcome as he introduced us to the Cathedral and spoke of his personal experience of ecumenism. In her address to us, President Phyl McKinnirey gave us an insight into the kind of leader she would be for Australian Church Women during her term of office. Here is a lady who loves our Lord and serves His church with all her being. A testimony to the regard in which Phyl is held in her community was the attendance of civic leaders at the service and the words they spoke at the luncheon following. The women of the Diocesan Catholic Women's League and Parramatta Branch of A.C.W. hosted the luncheon and in spite of the great crowd, no one went away hungry.

During this year there have been many highlights, but the main emphasis has been on Spiritual Enrichment Days and in Promoting and Publicising Australian Church Women. The Spiritual Enrichment Day held at Polding House in the city in September, was a day of rich feasting on God's word and the sharing of spiritual experiences, brought to us by our invited speakers. We were comfortably crowded in the C.W.L. rooms where again we were made to feel very much at home. The success of this day has sparked interest from women in areas out of Sydney to ask us to bring such days to their areas. A team of Executive members took part in a day of sharing with the Upper Blue Mountains Branch early in 1993 and we expect good follow-up from this day. The Spiritual Enrichment Day held at Woy Woy was attended by people from as far away as Maitland, Caves Beach, Katoomba and a carriage full of Council members who enjoyed the day prepared by the Woy Woy and Council teams as we meditated on the theme 'Living Water', so appropriate to the area surrounded by the waters of the Hawkesbury River.

Good publicity has resulted from a lot of hard work. We took advantage of the gathering 'Living Under the Southern Cross' a follow-on from the World Council of Churches Assembly in 1991, to have a display there of the projects of A.C.W. and much of our promotional material was distributed over the week of the assembly. On display for the first time was the poster designed and produced for ACW by Lucelle King, whose other talent in music was remembered at the commencement of Council meetings, as we sang together her song written for the National Conference of 1991. Promotion and Publicity Conveners, Peg Blake and Jeanne Sutherland are congratulated on the production of a set of wonderful Information Kits, the result of many hours' thinking, planning and working together. These kits are available on request and are already producing results.

Attendances at Council meetings have remained good, in spite of the spate of illnesses we seem to have suffered as a group. Our devotional life has been beautifully cared for by a variety of Council members over this year and we appreciate this. The speakers at Council meetings have reflected the diverse interests of A.C.W. In November, we were privileged to hear Rob and Leanna Haynes tell us about their life and work at Nungalinya College, Northern Territory. Our interest in this college was through the World Community Day offering a few years ago. Winifred Kiek Scholarship is central to our work, and it was exciting to hear Deaconess Shirley Harris tell us about former scholar, Barkat Dass of Pakistan. We rejoiced as we saw photos of Barkat at her ordination as a Deaconess and were interested to learn her family story and the challenge of the work she has been appointed to do. In keeping with the United Nations Year of Indigenous People, we were happy to invite Maisie Cavanagh of Kuri-Ngai Partners to address us in March. We were privileged indeed to sit at the feet of this lady, and happily endorsed the recommendation of the Executive that on behalf

of Kuri-Ngai Partners we would apply for a Fellowship of the Least Coin Grant for this work.

Ecumenically we have been active again this year. Members have attended functions organised by all the denominations and we were proud to participate again in the Flower Festival at St. Andrew's Cathedral. Two highlights of the Ecumenical year were the attendance at the opening service of the State Conference of Catholic Women's League, where we were back again at Parramatta. This Conference was the second one to which we were invited to send an official representative and Jeanne Sutherland took full advantage of this opportunity to tell people about A.C.W. Members enjoyed the Ecumenical Service and Dinner, now an annual event eagerly looked forward to at St. Scholastica's School, Glebe. Marie McCann was our official delegate at 'Living Under the Southern Cross' and has briefly reported on her wonderful week. We look forward to hearing more as she shares with us at the Annual Dedication Service in May.

All the officers and Conveners have had a busy year. NEWSLETTE Editor, Beryl McLaughlin continues to delight us with the quality of this production with its interesting and informative articles, not all of them supplied by our members. It's a big job, well done. Thank you Beryl and Marie Major for bringing it to us. Fellowship and World Community Day services have been faithfully held during the year in forty centres. We thank Conventer Peg Blake, working under great difficulties this year as she battles a painful condition, for her work in getting the services to us. Thank you, also to her team for all their work.

Interest and support for Fellowship of the Least Coin continues to grow under the direction of Shirley Wells, who with Joan Tong assisting her and working with Asian Church Women's Conference news, has brought the idea of F.L.C. into the forefront of people's thinking and giving.

Mina Whybourne and her team have lovingly looked after the scholars we have been privileged to know. Ana from Tonga enjoyed her time here in N.S.W. and like other scholars has continued to write to Mina on her return home. We have especially been pleased to have news of two recent scholars this year, Doreen Tie and Rachel Sobana. Now with the 1993 scholar living and studying in Sydney, we look forward to making another friend in Malai from Thailand.

Membership Secretary Marie Major has made new delegates welcome as they have attended their first meetings and has again performed miracles as she has up-dated the Membership List and kept tabs on people absent from meetings.

Past Presidents soon learn that theirs is not a passive job, and Joan Tong has found herself this year filling in at many points. I was grateful for her offer to be Acting Secretary while I was out-of-action and I thank her for the wonderful job Joan did then. As well as her position as ACWC representative, Joan has taken the initiative in finding ways of raising money for the Unit. New supplies of souvenir items and badges are to be available soon and for this we say thank you to Joan.

Marjory Baker has been a member of the Unit's Executive for a number of years and has served with distinction all the varied positions she has filled, not least by any means of these being her term as State President. For all her loving concern for us and for all those years, thank you Marjory. We all love you, for what you are and for what you have done.

N.S.W. Unit has been blessed since 1986 with an outstanding Treasurer in Dorothy Lamb. To this mammoth task, Dorothy has brought her not inconsiderable skill with book-keeping, coupled with her very real concern for the financial health of A.C.W.

cc. Council

Our representatives to other organisations have again faithfully attended for us and have enriched us with the knowledge gained by their associations with such groups as National Council of Women, Woman's Christian Temperance Union, Pan Pacific and South East Asia Women's Association, World Day of Prayer Committee and N.S.W. Council for Children's Films and Television. Delegates who have come to us from W.C.T.U., Young Women's Christian Association and Girls' Brigade as well as those Branch reps. and the Denominational Delegates have all contributed to the healthy life of our Council. Thank you and God bless you all.

demeanour + 3. Courteous

Each month her meticulous balance sheets have been presented and every year the auditor has congratulated her on the excellence of her work. We appreciate the many hours of work that Dorothy has freely given each week of the years of her time as Treasurer of our Unit. Her gracious demeanour and courteous attention to people have endeared her to us all. And her scrupulous attention to detail has given the members of Executive nights of easy sleep, knowing that our finances have been in the very best of hands. We are all sorry that it has been ill health that has made Dorothy reluctantly decide not to stand for re-election as Treasurer and we all pray that soon she will be completely well again. Thank you, Dorothy for seven years of outstanding service to our Lord, through Australian Church Women.

As we come to the end of another year, we look forward to a new year. Welcome to Lucelle King as she joins the Executive as President Elect.

Thank you, Phyl for a wonderful year of leadership. It has been a pleasure to work with you and we are looking forward to great things in the coming year.

In presenting this Annual Report, I thank God for all His leading and the knowledge of His Presence in all my doings and goings. And I say thank you on behalf of the Executive for all the support and love given to us by you, our members and friends.

John Newton's words commend themselves to me and I leave them with you.

" May the grace of Christ our Saviour, and the Father's boundless love, with the Holy Spirit's favour, rest upon us from above.

Thus may we abide in union with each other and the Lord, and possess in sweet communion joys which earth cannot afford."

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