

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NSW STATE UNIT

MINUTES of the COUNCIL MEETING, held at 222 Pitt Street, Sydney  
on Monday, 16 November, 1992.

OPENING:- The President, Miss Phyl McKinnirey in the Chair, opened the meeting with Prayer.

Members were welcomed to this last meeting for 1993 and a special welcome back was expressed to Brigadier Mabel Ward whose absence from Council meetings has been prolonged because of a broken ankle. Rev. Rob and Mrs Leanna Haynes, guest speakers at the meeting were also warmly welcomed.

THOSE PRESENT are recorded in the attendance sheets and numbered

APOLOGIES were also recorded and numbered

We were especially sorry to note that Rae Aldrich and Glad West were absent because of illness. We wish them a speedy recovery.

DEVOTIONS on the theme 'A Nosegay of Violets' were brought to us by Deaconess Mary Andrews. The three 'violets' were Vision, Venture, Vitality. In the reading from Romans 1, verses 14-16 we saw that St. Paul was a man with these attributes. This Christmas we are encouraged to be like St. Paul.

Mary then gave us a most interesting 'potted' history of the beginnings of A.C.W.C. The women who realised in 1958 that there was a need for a co-ordinating body in Asia, were women of Vision. Using their Vitality, women like Felicia from India, Raina Ma, Shanti Solomon, Dr. Shannon and Dorothy Wagner (all personally known to Deaconess) were the first leaders of a new Venture, Asian Church Women's Conference. We were reminded that ACW's first project was Fellowship of the Least Coin and it was followed by the Winifred Kiek Scholarship. Mary remembers how excited ACWC members were when ACW began the W.K.S. project. Our links with the Australian Council of Churches are important ones. ACC asked four women (of whom Mary Andrews was one) to represent Aust. women at an ACC gathering and to consider starting a co-ordinating group. The result of this new Venture, was Australian Church Women. We are grateful to these 'mothers' of ACW for our organisation, today. Mary spoke to us about the promotion of Deaconess Barkat Dass, a former Winifred Kiek Scholar who has gone back to full-time service in Pakistan. She replaces Deaconess Shirley Harris, our speaker in February, 1993. Mary showed us photos of Barkat and asked us to pray for Barkat.

In a time of prayer, we joined in praise to our Lord, promised our surrender to His will for us and prayed for strength as we serve. As always, we remembered our Scholars and offered prayers for them.

SPEAKERS. Mrs Beryl McLaughlan introduced to the meeting, Rev. Rob and Mrs Leanna Haynes on leave from Nungalinga College, Northern Territory. Rob works from Darwin with aboriginal people, Leanna works with their Parish people. Their work is as different as the aboriginal and white Australians are different. Nungalinga College began in 1973 and is the only Theological College available to Aboriginal and Islander people. In a most interesting address, Rob outlined the varied curriculum offered at Nungalinga. We were interested also in the pictures brought to us. A full report of this visit from the Haynes is attached to the official copy of these minutes.

Mrs Edith Ridge thanked Rob and Leanna for their inspiring and educational addresses and presented them with a small gift.

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER COUNCIL MEETING were confirmed as a correct record.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

Three projects of current interest are in hand, the Executive members

working on them. They are 1. Spiritual Enrichment Day, July 19, 1993. The venue, Golden Grove, has been booked for this.

ii. F.L.C. Grant for an aboriginal project. Handbills about Shalom Christian College were distributed. We are to consider whether we might invite a speaker from Shalom to a meeting.

iii. Our submission for the Year of the Family. In hand.

Report of the recent C.W.L. Conference. Our invited delegate Jeanne Sutherland reported a wonderful conference and was pleased at the response she received to her publicity for ACW at this conference.

REPORTS. Mrs Florence Peterson, our Fraternal Delegate to the NSW Ecumenical Council was pleased to give her annual report. She was able to tell us the new name of the Council, 'Churches Acting Together'. It is hoped that the new organisation will be constituted by 1994.

PUBLICITY. The convenor asked for the names of people able to attend 'Living Under the Southern Cross' in January to give out brochures at our stand at the assembly. Marie McCann will attend the assembly as our official delegate and we hope that other members will attend as day visitors.

Jeanne presented a Document on Outward Strategy, planning for 1993. New coloured brochures are being prepared and will be available soon.

TREASURER. The Treasurer presented her two monthly report which was received and adopted. All payments were ratified. A profit of \$191-82 at the Spiritual Enrichment Day was announced.

FELLOWSHIP of the LEAST COIN. The convenor had some Prayer cards for distribution. Recent reports from World Community Day indicate that FLC is growing. Shirley read from a letter from Shirin Samuel. There were 50 applications for FLC Grants received, reflecting a variety of needs. Prayer was asked for the people represented in the list of places in need because of disasters, war and other crisis. Devotions were taken from Circle of Prayer, number 7, the story of a Cambodian refugee, who found in her travels to Thailand a man whose kindness reminded her of a picture she had seen of Jesus. Prayer was offered for those suffering in Cambodia.

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP. The convenor reported that Ana returned to Tonga in September and has sent greetings to us all. The 1993 scholar, Malai from Bangkok will arrive in Australia in April and her study base will be in Sydney.

Former convenor, Yvonne Davis read from a letter received from Doreen Tie, in which we heard about the opening of the Toy Library at her school. Through Yvonne Doreen sent us Christmas greetings. A request for prayer has come from Malini in Sri Lanka.

PROMOTION. World Community Day services feed-back has been good. For some unknown reason, attendances at W.C. Day were down this year. The committee will pack Fellowship Day services on 3rd. May, 1993.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY. Members are asked to correct their list of names and addresses for Baptist delegate, Miss Shirley Wells. Her street number is 16 Albion St. Pennant Hills. 2120 (Look carefully at street numbers and telephone numbers, the sixes can look like eights, if you look quickly.)

NEWSETTE. Members are reminded that subs. are due at the end of the year. Deadline for the next copy, 4 January.

A.C.W.C. Subs. are due for A.C.W.C. Bulletin. Copies of the report of the recent meetings were distributed. Mary Andrews read from a letter from ACWC Secretary, Eunice Kim, who is having difficulty at present because she has no secretary. It was decided that in 1993 we would make available a Partners With A.C.W.C. Box in which members may leave their contributions for Partners. Annual donation is \$1 per member.

BRANCH REPORTS. Many reports were tabled. Terrigal Branch reported an interesting meeting when Dorothy Woodhouse was the speaker and showed the videos of the history of ACW and of FLC.

CORRESPONDENCE. The Inwards Correspondence was received and dealt with and the Outwards Correspondence noted.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE CORRESPONDENCE.

1. INVITATIONS. Four invitations were shared.

i. C.M.S. Meet the Missionaries, 20 Nov.

ii. Annual Ecumenical Gathering, 27 Nov.

iii. Ecumenical Decade Service, 22 Nov.

iv. St. Steven's Christmas Party, 2 Dec.

Members expressed their availability to attend these functions.

2. A.C.W. National Minutes. The Girls' Brigade has expressed an interest in learning more about F.L.C. and W.K.S.

GENERAL BUSINESS.

1. Programme for 1993. Dates for Council Meetings.

All Council Meetings will be held on the 3rd. Mondays, as usual.

Executive members need to note that some of their meetings are altered from the 2nd. Mondays because of public holidays.

A printed programme will be available for all members at the Feb. Council meeting.

Special dates to note are the A.G.M. and Election of Officers on 19 April, Annual Dedication Service on 17 May, Spiritual Refreshment Day, 19 July and the National Conference in Tasmania, 13-17 Sept.

NEXT MEETING. The Council will meet at 222 Pitt Street, 5th. Floor meeting rooms on Monday, 15 February.

Morning Tea will be provided by the Presbyterian ladies and be ready at 10a.m. The Baptist ladies will prepare the room.

THANKS to the Baptist ladies and the Executive members for the special morning Tea were expressed and the President wished everyone a Blessed and Happy Christmas. Over a cup of tea at the close of the meeting, members joined in singing 'Happy Christmas' with Brigadier Ruth Smith leading the singing. Thanks, Ruth!

The Meeting CLOSED with the BENEDICTION.

  
CONFIRMED.

15.2.93



WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP REPORT.

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Ana Taumoepeau returned safely to Tonga in September and has resumed her work in the Wesleyan Church Office, Nukualofa. She sends her greetings to all A.C.W. members.

Doreen Tye wrote very enthusiastically from Kuching, Sarawak that the Toy Library at the Handicapped Children's School was opened by His Excellency the Canadian High Commissioner to Malaysia on 15 September. Donations had been received from the Canada Fund and the State Government which has been a wonderful encouragement. She sends her regards to all A.C.W. members whom she remembers with affection.

The W.K.S. Scholar for 1993 has been chosen, Miss Malai Mahamaneerat of St. Louis Hospital in Bangkok. Malai was nominated by the Hospital Board and will arrive early April. She is our first Catholic scholar and after a two months crash English Course will be involved in a Bereavement Counselling Course with work experience, at St. Vincent's Hospital. We will have the opportunity of meeting her and making her feel welcome in Sydney.

We were also pleased to hear news of Deaconess Barkat Doss the W.K.S. Scholar for 1978 (a dear friend of Deaconess Mary Andrews). Barkat has been working with Deaconess Shirley Harris from C.M.S. in Karachi. Deaconess Harris is now retired and Barkat is now involved in full time women's ministry in Karachi Diocese. We are hoping to hear first hand of Barkat's ministry from Deaconess Harris at some time in the future.

Mina Whybourne.

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN N.S.W. STATE UNIT

CORRESPONDENCE FOR THE EXECUTIVE MEETING, 9.11.92  
and the COUNCIL MEETING, 16.11.92

INWARDS CORRESPONDENCE

1. Newsette, Nov.1992 - *D. good issue.*
  2. ACW News, Sept.Oct.
  3. Invitation, Annual Ecumenical Gathering, 27 Nov. 6.30pm.
  4. Invitation, Ec.Decade Church Service, 22 Nov. 3.00pm.
  5. Letter,Joan Tong, Report of ACWC Consultation,Oct.1992.
  6. Letter, National Secretary, re Aruna.
  7. Confirmation of booking, Golden Grove, 19 July,1993.
  8. National Minutes, 28 Sept.1992.
  9. Corporate Health Services, Stress-Management Skills Workshop papers.
  10. National Social Justice Report, Senator Meg Lees.
  11. CMS 'Meet the Missionaries' Rally, 20 Nov. (from Oct. Exec.)
- Received after Exec. meeting.
12. Invitation to St. Steven's (city) Christmas morning.(Rep. City Br.)
  13. Senator Shirley Walters, re Regulation of Video Material Bill.
  14. ACWC papers, from Joan Tong, to be reproduced for members.
  15. Thank you from Rev. Shirley Maddox.
  16. Apology Nov. meeting, Lois Maze.

OUTWARDS CORRESPONDENCE

1. Invitation to Aruna to be W.K.Fellowship holder.
2. Audrey Sherwin, ACT BEst wishes to Unit, re. 1995-1997
3. Congrats. to Avis Stretton.
4. Exec. Minutes to Phyl.
5. Congrats to CWL for Conference, etc. through Margaret Bartley.
6. Letter to National Exec. re placing of collections at the W.C.Day order of service.
7. Booking of meeting dates, 222 Pitt St. (1993)
8. Request for use of Wesley Chapel, lunch room, 17 May.

