

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NSW STATE UNIT

Minutes of the Council Meeting, held at 222 Pitt St. Sydney
on Monday 18 November, 1991.

OPENING. The meeting opened at 10.30 am with the President, Mrs Major Joan Tong in the chair. All members were welcomed to this final meeting for 1991, and special mention was made of the presence of three visitors from the Ukrainian Orthodox Sisterhood:- Mrs Helen Danko, Mrs Natalie Clark and Mrs Nina Barlick.

A warm welcome was also extended to Mrs Gwen Sprott, President of the Strathfield-Homebush Branch of ACW. and to the speaker for the day, Mrs Sadie Simmons.

THOSE PRESENT are recorded on the attendance sheets and numbered 54

APOLOGIES are also recorded and the members were sorry to hear of the serious illness of member Mrs Beth Finlay. Apologies recorded were 17.

DEVOTIONS were brought by Mrs Judith Baker, who read the well-known Christmas story in Luke 1 verses 26-38. We have often heard this story, which gives us a warm, secure feeling. Have we ever looked at it from another angle? We were invited to look at the happening through Mary's eyes as we listened to a soliloquy.

As we considered the meaning of Bethlehem, 'House of Bread' we were urged to think of it as a hospitable name. But at that first Christmas, the important thing was not gifts for Him, for He gave us the gift. At His death, He gave up the burdens of our life and they formed into a Cross. His gifts to us are Peace, Grace, Rest and Love. The Devotions were concluded with Prayer.

SPEAKER Mrs Sadie Simmons was introduced to the meeting by her long-time friend, Dorothy Lumb. They have been friends since Sunday School days. Sadie is a lady of many talents, which she brought to her life as a Rector's wife, abandoning her profession as a Child Psychologist for many years, until she returned to it in her late 60's, filling the position of District Officer for Education Dept. at the University of Western Sydney. Now in her husband's retirement, she accompanies him each year as they work for some months in the Anglican Diocese of Singapore. From Singapore they travel to the Diocese of Kuching and her recent visit to this area was the subject of her address. Our special interest in this area is in the work being undertaken by 1990 WKS Scholar, Doreen Tie at Kuching. A report of Mrs Simmons' address is attached to these minutes.

We were interested in ways of helping Doreen in her work. Donations of money for the Toy Library have been very welcome, but these books cater only for the children with a low age reading level. Doreen was interested to hear about graded reading schemes. Is there any way ACW can help her to acquire this system?

We were asked to continue to pray for Doreen and her work. It is better for us to send photos of toys for the people to copy than to spend the money on buying and sending toys.

The meeting wished to send a love-gift of money to Doreen for Christmas to enable her to buy books for the Library. \$110 was collected and by resolution of the meeting, the amount of \$150 was moved to be sent. The speaker was thanked by the Secretary, Edith Ridge, who presented her with the gift of flowers and an ACW tea towel.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING, September 16 having been distributed, were taken as read and confirmed.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

1. Deaconess Mary Andrews has gone to China to the post-poned YWCA celebrations.
2. Leah Pickering is now recovering from her serious illness.
3. Spiritual Enrichment Day. This was a great success. 54 people were counted in the hall. Appreciation was expressed of the special

speakers on the day. A report of the day is attached to the minutes.
4. Report of the Bangkok Conference (ACWC) has been distributed.

BUSINESS FROM THE EXECUTIVE MEETINGS.

1. Report of the meeting with Senator Joycelyn Newman. 30 September. This meeting is reported in "Newsette". Submissions to Senator Newman on what we want for our country as women and families, are welcomed at any time.
2. Branch Affiliation Fees. Representatives were reminded that the fees are due from 1 January, 1992 and are now \$10.
3. Meeting dates for 1992. Because of public holidays in April, the Executive and Council dates will be a week early in that month, only. Members are asked to note the dates of all meetings in their diaries/calendars when they receive the Programme in February.

CORRESPONDENCE. The Inwards and Outwards Correspondence as listed was received and dealt with.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE CORRESPONDENCE.

1. Congratulations have been sent to member Beth Finlay on her election to the position of Hon. Secretary of National Council of Women.
2. Invitations were extended to all members to attend the CMS Annual Rally on Nov. 22 and the Service of Endings and Beginnings on Nov. 24
3. Media Awareness Project Australia. The three ACW delegates are Heather Reid, Marie McCann and Joan Tong. The meeting is at Mothers' Union office on 20 Nov.
4. Invitation to YWCA Christmas lunch 20 Nov. and book launch. Phyl McKinnerey will attend.
5. NCW invitation, 28 Nov. Christmas evening. The President will attend accompanied by the delegates and Jeanne Sutherland.
6. WCTU Invitation, Christmas lunch. 29 Nov. Beryl McLaughlin reported this function, as we did not receive an invitation.
7. Letter from Sally Tidey was read and our response to it. Members are encouraged to get their organisations to follow up Miss Tidey's concerns for moral welfare.
8. "Living Under the Southern Cross". We have sent \$20 to enable us to receive mailing.
9. National Committee Minutes. 7 October. Special Project collection, World Community Day, 1992. Suggestions are invited. Exec. to reply. 1993 Conference. A preliminary booking has been made on a site in the NW Coast of Tasmania, for September, 1993.

REPORTS. Branch Representatives tabled their reports to be printed in the 1992 ACW Newsletter.

Mrs Colonel Florence Peterson read her report of the Ecumenical Council.

TREASURER. A two months statement was presented and adopted.

Members are asked to send in the money from the sale of ACW Souvenirs as soon as possible.

FLC The convenor had a few items for sale and distribution.

The order for Circle of Prayer number 12 has been sent and we hope to have delivery in the New Year.

WKS The convenor reported on the end of Rachel's time in Australia. She attended 2 World Community Day services and saw the work of the Flying Doctor. She left Perth on Nov. 15 to return home to Madras. She sent her regards to her friends in ACW and requests our prayers. The Review Committee for WKS has met and minutes will be available soon. A programme for the 1992 scholar has been set up, with private tuition on computers and work experience with the Uniting Church in Tasmania.

PROMOTIONS. We were pleased at the report of 50 attending the new service at Bellingen in October.

Reports and money coming in tell us that numbers are down in the majority of the WCD services. The order forms in 1992 will request information re. the VENUE, TIME, NAME OF SPEAKER and NUMBER OF SERVICES REQUIRED.

WAGGA. We were pleased to note that Mrs Yvonne Davis has called a meeting of interested women on December 6, with the object of forming an ACW group in that city. We wish her well.

PUBLICITY. 135 press notices were sent out for WCD through radio and newspapers. The convenor keeps a scrap book of notices and reports of our meetings (services) and requests that members cut out any they see and forward to her.

Areas are now divided into regions for purposes of publicity.

We are grateful to the YWCA for the use of its computer at weekends.

We are able to store our publicity records in their computer.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY. There will be no new membership list in February, but one will be prepared later in the year. Members are asked to again check the current list for possible errors or alterations.

NEWSETTE. The Editor and Manager were again congratulated on an excellent issue.

The closing date for the February issue is 6 or 7 January, and please send the copy to the Editor at CMS, 93 Bathurst St. Sydney, not to her home address.

Parramatta Branch reported that the Ex.Moderator of the Uniting Church had given an excellent address at their World Community Day service.

Marie McCann reported on the Ecumenical Service and Dinner held at St. Scholastica's. The emphasis was on 'getting together and praying and working together.'

GENERAL BUSINESS There was no General Business.

Speaker for February or March meeting will be Mrs Jenny Johnston. Her subject will be Refugees.

Thanks were expressed to the Baptist ladies and Executive members for the special morning tea. And to the Churches of Christ ladies for preparing the room.

At the February 17 meeting, the Presbyterian ladies will serve morning tea and the Baptist ladies will arrange the chairs.

Programmes for 1992 meetings will be available at the Feb. meeting.

CLOSING The President closed the meeting with the Benediction.

CONFIRMED.

Frank M. Irving
February, 17, 1992.

Jan 22, 1992

Dear Council Members,

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

I do pray that 1992 will be a year in which you will be aware of the presence and power of our God and Father. I cannot promise you a year free from the 'usual' ills, dissappointments, failure, the unexpected tragedies, but I can affirm God's promise to be with us all in all circumstances. (Isaiah 43:2)

The purpose of the letter is to get us into the work mode - not the mood. There are a few matters for our immediate attention:

1. MAPA. MEDIA AWARENESS PROJECT AUSTRALIA. Information is enclosed. Please read, publicise at your local church through your own communication channels, and personally register as you are able.
2. DENOMINATIONAL TASKFORCE. It is proposed that every council member is a working member. To this end we are now setting in place the denominational taskforce!

Each denominational representative and each branch representative to state council will join their own denominational group. The immediate task is to communicate to as many of our own churches as we can, the news and activities of ACW. Proposed guidelines will be distributed at the February meeting.

Following the March council meeting, we will adjourn to denominational groups, and under the guidance of a chairperson, tasks will be distributed. We then propose meeting three times a year on council day. (12.00 p.m. - 1.00 p.m. over the cup of tea. Remember to bring your own sandwich.)

3. A.G.M. All positions of the executive (excepting president) will be open for nomination from our March meeting onwards. Please give your prayerful support to this important matter..

4. Minutes of the November meeting are enclosed.

5. Council meeting, Feb 18, 10.30, preceded by a cup of tea.

Looking forward to seeing you.

God bless ...

Yours sincerely,



Joan

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN (N.S.W. STATE UNIT)

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS FOR 2 MONTHS ENDED 31/10/1991

CR. BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD 1/9/1991 \$ 8,816.30

RECEIPTS (2 months)

Affiliation Fees	35.00	
"Newsette" Subscriptions and Donations	73.00	
Sales - History Books	27.00	
Pens	39.00	
Badges	22.00	
Spoons	14.00	
Refund Registration Fee (Natnl. Treasurer)	30.00	
Donation - Printing	2.00	
<u>Spiritual Refreshment Day</u>	14.00 (c)	
Cash received on this day	300.00 (e)	
Overseas Travel - Tea Money	11.50	
Trading		
Table.	5.00	16.50
A.C.W.C. Partner		1.00
Sales - Souvenirs (Sept. Council Meeting and Sales W.C.D. Services)	435.35	
A.C.W.C. Bulletin Subscription	7.50	
F.L.C.	3,489.10	
W.C.D.	2,474.75	
From Natnl. Treasurer from Trading Table at Bi-ennial Conference	277.40	
<u>Interest Westpac Current A/c</u>	42.26	
Glebe Board	120.56	162.82
		<u>7,420.42</u>

16,236.72

DEDUCT - PAYMENTS (2 Months)

Promotion Expenses	20.38	
"Living under the Southern Cross"	20.00	
Publicity Expenses	76.00	
<u>Spiritual Refreshment Day</u>		
Gift - speaker - Gal. Ruth Calvert	10.00	
" " Mrs. Clara Clarke	20.00	
Salvation Army	28.00	
Salvation Army	272.00	300.00 (c)
"Newsette" - Labels for wrappers	32.95	
Printing wrappers	110.78	143.73
Treasurer's Imprest	30.00	
Collectors World (Souvenirs)	478.60	
Cost of flowers for "Festival of Flowers"	41.30	
Photograph of Conference members (for archives)	10.00	
Video of Service in the Chapel at Collaroy Centre	20.00	
Purchase of Pens for stock	100.00	
"Newsette" Postage	11.05	1,281.06

CR. BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD 31ST OCTOBER, 1991 \$14,955.66

A/CS TO BE PASSED FOR PAYMENT (RATIFIED)

AS LISTED ABOVE

AS LISTED ABOVE		\$1,281.06	
		=====	<u>SPIRITUAL REFRESHMENT DAY</u>
F.L.C.	\$ 4,694.24		Paid Salvation Army 28.00
FELLOWSHIP DAY	5,079.09		" " " 272.00
WORLD COMMUNITY DAY	<u>2,524.75</u>	\$12,298.08	<u>300.00</u>
		=====	Banked from cash rcd. 300.00
<u>SALES SOUVENIRS</u>	435.35		Paid 2 speakers \$30.00
" " (Natnl. Confnce.)	<u>277.40</u>		
	712.75		
Paid Collectors World	<u>478.60</u>		
BALANCE	\$234.15		