

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NSW STATE UNIT

Minutes of the Council Meeting held at 222 Pitt Street, Sydney, on Monday, 16 September, 1991.

- OPENING: The meeting opened at 10 30 am, with the President, Mrs Major Joan Tong, in the Chair.
- WELCOME: A welcome was extended to visitors from Western Australia.
- DEVOTIONS: Mrs Nell Lewis (Baptist) brought devotions and spoke about "being afraid", particularly when one is alone in the hours of darkness, when loneliness is felt most. To those who find it difficult to sleep, Nell told of a saying she had heard: "when you can't sleep, don't count sheep - talk to the Shepherd". She spoke of the calm that comes after "a little talk with Jesus" and, quoting Proverbs 3:19,30 reminded us that the Lord knows about us and that we have no need to fear; speak His name and trust Him, remembering that perfect love casts out all fear (1 John 4:18).
- PRESENT: Those present, as recorded on the Attendance sheets, numbered 43, and the
- APOLOGIES: number of apologies recorded was 18.
- In the absence of the Secretary, Mrs Edith Ridge, Mrs Peg Blake agreed to take the minutes of the meeting. Members were sorry to hear that Edith is again suffering from an ulcerated leg.
- It was reported that Deaconess Mary Andrews is ill and also, due to the extensive flooding in China, her proposed trip to that country has had to be cancelled. It was noted that the money raised for celebrations was to be used for relief.
- Mrs Leah Pickering is still dangerously ill in Concord Hospital.
- Mrs Tong offered prayers for all of these members who were ill, as well as those who have suffered personal tragedy and/or family illness: Patricia Clough, Glad Camlin and Pat Morrissey.
- MINUTES: Minutes of the Meeting, 19 August, 1991, having been distributed, were taken as read and confirmed as being a correct record.
- BUSINESS ARISING: Flower Festival in St Andrew's Cathedral: Mrs Peg Blake reported on the beauty of the flowers and the special artistry employed in the many breath-taking arrangements. A personal letter had been received from the Dean of Sydney with thanks for the ACW contribution. Miss Jeanne Sutherland reported that \$20,000 had been received during the Festival at the Cathedral.
- A reminder was given re the Prayer on Wheels Core Group Day invitation to ACW, on 12 October in Waitara Uniting Church.
- Members were asked to sign the form indicating intention to attend Spiritual Enrichment Day from 10 am to 2 pm on 28 October at 140 Elizabeth Street.
- Conference Report: Mrs Lucelle King, with the help of those who had attended Conference, sang the Theme Chorus, "We Being Many..." Mrs Marie McCann spoke of the work done so willingly by members of the NSW State Unit in relation to transport, billets, secretarial work, floral arrangements, trading table (along with that of World Vision and CLC), photography and art and choral work. To all involved (including those members of the then National Executive), Mrs McCann extended sincere thanks.
- It was noted that tapes and photocopies of the addresses of Speakers and Bible Study Leaders were being prepared for orders, and a Video of the Opening Service was available. Mention was made of the attendance at the Opening

Service of Bishop Aboodi of the Syrian Orthodox Church, who had expressed great interest in ACW and asked that pressure be brought to bear wherever possible on the Australian Government concerning the plight of the people of Iraq. It was agreed that the Agape Meal which brought the Conference to a close, was a time of tremendous spirituality and that a close bond of love had been felt at all tables. Particular mention was made of the contribution given by the Forest Bell Ringers, of the success of the Concert items given by all State Units, of the Civic Reception at the Town Hall and of the outstanding success of Seminar Day.

Mrs King spoke of procedural arrangements regarding the Winifred Kiek Scholarship, quoting her recommendation "that because of rising costs, availability of courses and the economic situation, the whole concept of the Winifred Kiek Scholarship be reviewed with the possibility of restructuring the practicalities of the guidelines of the Scholarship". It was noted that as a result of the deliberations of the Reference Committee (which had been duly appointed), "the WKS Review Committee consist of the five trustees, the past National WKS Convener, the current National WKS Convener and current National President, with input from the States and Territories through their WKS Conveners". A meeting will be held in the second week of November, 1991, in Adelaide. Mrs King sought ideas (in writing) from members, to herself or Mrs Tong by 28 October, with particular emphasis given to selection of courses (should we only offer 5 or 6 courses in line with the Revd Winifred Kiek's own ministry of Christian service?) countries of study and costs in general.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Out: Letter to Ukrainian women.
Letter of sympathy to delegate Patricia Clough.
Letter for Deaconess Andrews to take to Phoebe Shi.
- In: An invitation from Church Women United, New York, on the occasion of their Jubilee Assembly in St Louis, Missouri, 9-12 November, 1991.
- Invitation to 110th AGM of the YWCA, 18 September at 12 45 pm. Brig. Mabel Ward and Miss Jeanne Sutherland to attend.
- Invitation to NCW Triennial Conference, 14 October at 10 30 am. Miss Phyl McKinnirey to attend.
- Notice re Spring Carnival, Nth Parramatta, 28 September, from UCA Board for Social Responsibility Support Group.

REPORTS:

The Treasurer, Mrs Dorothy Lumb, presented a Statement of Receipts and Payments for the month of August, 1991. This statement is attached to the official copy of the Minutes. Accounts to be passed for payment were ratified.

WKS CONVENER:

Mrs Mina Whybourne spoke of the time Rachel Sobana spent with her after Conference. On Saturday, 14 September, they had driven to Terrigal where Rachel spoke to about 30 people and answered their questions; many of the folk present had served in India and were able to share experiences. They had worshipped at the Anglican Church, Caringbah, on Sunday 15 September where Rachel again spoke to that congregation. A visit to Kurnell proved interesting for Rachel on the Sunday afternoon. At the airport at 8 30 am on Monday 16 September, Rachel said a sad farewell, expressing her sincere appreciation for all that had been done for her by Mrs King and Mrs Whybourne and many others; she then left for Adelaide, promising to send us a report as to how the knowledge she has gained will have been applied in practice.

FLC CONVENER:

Miss Shirley Wells told how interesting it had been for her to compare notes and share ideas with the five FLC Conveners from the other states at Conference. All had agreed on the importance of stressing the need for prayer first as the coins are offered. Miss Wells referred to the last Bible Study Leader's Theme: "On the Way" - and suggested we think along these lines as we start a new year on the way together - first with World Day of

Prayer - On the Journey Together - reminding us that before we can journey together we need to make provision for what will be needed for our journey in faith together - remembering there will be some similarities and many differences - but with faith and prayer we will support each other; and God asks us to see with greater clarity who is walking beside us - no one travels alone - we walk with one another as we journey together, caring and encouraging one another as He points us in the right direction.

MEMBERSHIP
SECRETARY:

Mrs Marie Majoor intimated that at the next meeting she would have copies of minutes of previous meetings available for those requiring them.

PUBLICITY
CONVENER:

Miss Jeanne Sutherland issued lists of city venues and times of Services on World Community Day and stressed the need for this information to be available to the Promotion Convener as early as possible for distribution to be of any value.

PROMOTION
CONVENER:

Mrs Blake read another letter from Mrs Olwen Lean announcing the formation of a Bellingen Branch of ACW which is ready to conduct WCD Service. Further news about the branch was promised. Mrs McCann thought this news worthy of acclamation! (Forty copies of the Order of Service have been requested).

NEWSETTE:

Mrs Beryl McLaughlin reminded members of the October deadline for Newsette, asking for reports re Conference wherever possible.

GENERAL
BUSINESS:

Mrs Tong gave details of new ACW products: tea towel \$5 (for distribution on WCD); spoon \$3 (also jam spoons and butter knives); lapel pin \$2; pens \$1; and some leftover NSW souvenir items from Conference: place mats \$2 and calendars and postcards. Mrs Tong intends taking some souvenirs to Bangkok, and to help in this regard a box for donations was passed around at the meeting.

Mrs Tong requested information regarding the place in ministry taken by women in every denomination, asking for one person to give a short but concise update on the matter. Several ladies agreed to do so for their own denomination: Mrs Whybourne - Anglican; Mrs King - Baptist; Mrs Baker - Churches of Christ; Mrs Judy Baker - Presbyterian (after consultation with PWA State Council); Sr Kent - Roman Catholic; Mrs Tong - Salvation Army; Mrs Rhoda Gates - Uniting.


Associate Members: In reply to a request for written alterations to the By-laws regarding Associate Membership of Council, it was noted that these are under consideration.

The Churches of Christ ladies were thanked for the morning tea, and the Baptist ladies reminded that they will serve morning tea on 18 November.

The President extended good wishes to all for the World Community Day Services.

CLOSING:

There being no further business, the President closed the meeting with the Prayer of St Richard of Chichester followed by the Benediction.

Confirmed ...
18 November 1991

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

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 1991

CR. BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD 1/8/1991

\$6,193.44

RECEIPTS

Affiliation Fees (Branches)	10.00	
Associate Membership Fees	120.00	
Donations - Festival of Flowers	<u>50.00</u>	50.00
Balance of Accommodation		
National Exec. Confnce.	<u>148.00</u>	148.00 (C)
Towards Natl. Confnce. Exes.	<u>50.00</u>	50.00
Sales - History Books		50.00
Pens		1,049.00
"Circle of Prayer"		2.50
Badges		14.10
"Newsette" Subscriptions		20.00
A.C.W.C. Bulletin Subscriptions		15.00
A.C.W.C. Partners		1.00
Tea Money (Overseas Travel)		8.00
Fellowship Day Offerings		2,387.53
F.L.C.		138.47
Spiritual Refreshment Day Costs (2)	<u>14.00</u>	<u>4,077.60</u>

10,271.04

LESS - PAYMENTS

Photostatting "Newsette" (C.M.S.) 235 copies	138.00	
"Newsette" Postage	66.80	
Stationery	3.30	
Photocopying	<u>2.90</u>	73.00
Badges for Stock		49.95
Treasurer's Imprest		30.00
F.L.C. Convenor's Imprest		20.00
A.C.W. Bi-ennial Conference		
Accommodation (3 by \$74.00) =	222.00 (C)	
Balance accommodation (4 by \$136.00) =	<u>544.00</u>	766.00
Subscription - National Council of Women		30.00
Promotion Expenses		19.94
World Community Day Postage		75.35
National Treasurer - A.C.W.C. Bulletin Sub.		7.50
N.S.W. State Unit share Travel Pool for Confnce.	<u>245.00</u>	<u>1,454.74</u>

CR. BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD 31ST AUGUST, 1991 \$8,816.30

A/CS TO BE PASSED FPR PAYMENT (RATIFIED)

Photostatting 235 copies "Newsette" (C.M.S.)	138.00	
"Newsette" Postage etc.	73.00	
Badges for Stock	49.95	
Accommodation - 3 Delegates, 1 Observer (Natnl. Conference)	544.00	
Treasurer's Imprest	30.00	
F.L.C. Convenor's Imprest	20.00	
Natnl. Conference Travel Pool Share	245.00	
Promotion Expenses	19.94	
World Community Day Postage	75.35	
A.C.W.C. Bulletin Sub. - National Treasurer	7.50	
Subscription - National Council of Women	<u>30.00</u>	
	<u>1,232.74</u>	
Balance of Accommodation - National Conference	<u>222.00 (C)</u>	
	<u>\$1,454.74</u>	

FUNDS FOR DISTRIBUTION HELD IN CURRENT A/C BAL.

F.L.C.	1,205.14	
Fellowship Day	5,079.09	
World Community Day	<u>50.00 =</u>	<u>\$6,334.23</u>
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PENS SOLD FROM 1/3/91 to 31/8/91 =		\$2,335.00
LESS PURCHASES	<u>952.25 =</u>	<u>\$1,382.75</u>