



# From the President...



I have chosen the Theme:

*“Bearers of Christ’s Love”* for my tenure of Office. This is the theme also for the Mission of the Church in the Wollongong Diocese.

There are a number of definitions for the word ‘bearer’, and the one which I think pertains particularly to us as Christian women is:

*a person that carries - that upholds - who brings a message*

Through our Baptism and confirmation we also WITNESS to the Gospel teachings and message of Jesus Christ.

We use the word often evangelise - what does it mean?

A quote from Pope Francis says: “It is to give witness with joy and simplicity to what we are and what we believe in”.

He also said, “In the church and in the journey of faith women have had and still have a special role in opening doors to the Lord”.

Saint Pope John Paul II in his letter to women spoke of the ‘Genius of Women’.

Three meaningful words to think about and perhaps take away with us today are WITNESS, JOY and LOVE

Witness we have spoken of. JOY: The apostle Paul writes of that complete joy when Christ’s followers are in full accord with each other - I think that definition is pertinent to our presence here today.

LOVE: God’s love has no limits; it is unbounded, and his commandment is to ‘love one another as I love you’.

If we could just follow that command what a great world this would be. I believe that as Bearers of Christ’s love working in unity through ACW and with Faith, we can - we could - and dare I say we will make a difference.

**Peg McEntee**

[margaret.mcentee@bigpond.com](mailto:margaret.mcentee@bigpond.com)

Phone: 0418 651 822

# INSTALLATION & DEDICATION DAY 2018



ACW NSW State Unit Inc. now has Mrs Margaret McEntee OAM as its President. Retiring President, Mrs Pamela Freeman, handed on the Bible symbolising the dependence of ACW on the Scriptures as our basis of faith. We thanked Pamela for her work over the past two years, faithfully carrying out her role while balancing a number of challenges in her personal life.

St Francis Xavier Cathedral Wollongong proved to be an ideal venue, and the adjoining facilities provided a good space for sharing food and fellowship. Blessed with sunny weather, there was a good representation from ACW NSW State Unit, CWLA, Peg's family, and many friends from the Parish.

You can read the text of Peg's message at her Installation on the previous page. It is now up to us to take up her challenge to carry and uphold the message of Jesus Christ.

In addition to the installation of Peg as ACW President she was presented with the Papal Award of the Order of St Gregory the Great by Bishop Brian Mascord.

Representatives from other churches in the Wollongong area attended the service, and Peg suggested that this could be followed up with the formation of an ACW Branch. Many already enjoy the fellowship afforded by World Day of Prayer, and meeting together for ACW services for Fellowship Day and World Community Day could extend the blessings of coming together.

Peg expressed thanks to a long list of people who had contributed to the smooth running of the day – and to those who have supported her along the way.

We wish her well in her time as President, offering our support and encouragement.



# JEAN ARNOT MEMORIAL LUNCHEON

The 2018 Jean Arnot Luncheon was a happy event, and 20 women were honoured for achievements during their 90 year lives.



ACW NSW nominated Mrs Edith Ridge, National and NSW Life Member, who has served at local, state and national levels during her 40 years with ACW. Certificates were presented by Mrs Linda Hurley, wife of the Governor of NSW.

The National Council of Women NSW and Australian Federation of Business and Professional Women host the function at Strangers' Dining Room Parliament House Macquarie Street.

The speaker this year was wheelchair and paralympic athlete Liesl Tesch AM, the Member for Gosford.



Photos courtesy Michael Mannington, Volunteer Photography



In her entertaining speech we heard how injury and requiring a wheelchair had led to finding sports that could be enjoyed despite her restricted mobility. Liesl's accomplishments would be a delight to any sportsperson, and demonstrate something of her determination to overcome the limits of her disability.



Her sense of community has meant that she works hard to improve the lot of people who depend on wheelchairs. As an MP she is able to draw attention to the need for ramps, lifts, doorways of adequate width - and many other irritations that make it hard or impossible for people like her. She is a great advocate.

The prize for an essay by a librarian went to Anna Shelmerdine who works at the Australian Institute of Music. Her topic addressed the problem of librarians who instil discomfort or fear, turning people off using library facilities. Talking from personal experience, she gave hope that awareness on the part of librarians might address the problem to make libraries happier places for would be users.

## **WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP**

- WKS Trustees in Adelaide would appreciate our prayers as they decide on the scholars for 2019. They will be from the Pacific Islands. Wisdom and guidance needed.
- National WKS Convenor has advised that funding will be available for a WKS Fellowship for ACW National Conference in 2019.
- Yane [Aust 2015] She has come to NSW on 12 months leave with husband. The children have settled in their new school and Yane has some part time work there. Late June Yane was in Launceston Tasmania for a Worldview Symposium [WEC]. She would like to take up a position and do some self funded lecturing there as she used to do in Indonesia.

### **Remembering our 2018 Scholars:**

- **Lauren England** [Toowoomba] Reply received by letter card. Lauren is looking forward to her studies in America and being further equipped for the church in Australia. She has been organizing her visas and accommodation. She will update WKS Trustees as her journey with Fuller Seminary progresses. Meanwhile, Lauren continues her busy ministry with youth. They are very connected with the Sudanese Community in Toowoomba.

- **Elise Ruthenbeck** [Adelaide] While her ministry and studies continue, Elise would also be organizing for her trip to London for a month of Research.

Thank you for your continued partnership of support and prayer for the Winifred Kiek Scholarship as these women past, present and future journey on in their lives and ministries.

**Judith Cayzer**  
WKS Convener

## **FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN**

I have received a few invitations to speak at church groups beginning next month at Taree.

I also have the new Circle of Prayer booklets so they will be available at our next meeting.

Keep on keeping on with prayer & may our Gracious God bless you all.

**Judy O'Hara**  
FLC Convener

## SPECIAL DAYS

Lyn Middleton

Convener

Hopefully many of you reading this magazine would have had the opportunity to attend a *Fellowship Day Service* in your area. I trust that the theme of the service *Women of Encouragement*, which was prepared by our own NSW State Unit members, was a source of inspiration as you reflected on women from Bible and church history who were empowered by the Spirit of God for ministry.

We look forward to the celebration of World Community Day in October. The material for this service will be mailed out early August to all branches. The theme is: *Women Sharing Open Heartedly (Listen, Care, Love, Assist)* and was prepared by the women of the Tasmanian Unit of Australian Church Women Inc. This is an important day for The Fellowship of the Least Coin as it is the ingathering of the least coins you and your groups have been collected over the past year.

The Special Project that 50% of the general offering will be going to support is **Asylum Circle Communitify Qld**. Asylum Circle is an initiative of Communitify Qld, which is managing transitional accommodation on lease from State government. The accommodation is for people seeking asylum without access to income support and without employment, who are destitute. As Asylum Circle has no grants to support the 12 residents who have been referred by Red Cross and Romero Centre, Asylum Circle depends on donations and fundraising that is conducted by Asylum Circle and its supporters (including church groups and neighbourhood networks).

**Aim:** The aim of Asylum Circle is to assist vulnerable asylum seekers in the community to link with local social supports, employment and housing so they can move out of destitution and become connected contributing members of the community.

If you are aware of a project that is worthy of consideration for a Special Project grant please contact either the editor of *Newsette* or myself – Lyn Middleton [middletonk@bigpond.com](mailto:middletonk@bigpond.com) and we will forward an application form to you.

The other 50% of the general offering goes of course to support the international scholarship projects of Asian Church Women's Conference (ACWC).

World Community Day is usually held the last Friday in October. For a list of where services are to be held you can go to our website: [www.acw.org.au](http://www.acw.org.au), closer to the date, and click on State Units – NSW – Special Events. If you are organising a service and if you are able, please send details of your service to [brendad2@optusnet.com.au](mailto:brendad2@optusnet.com.au) for inclusion on this website.



*Come and Enjoy*

**A MULTICULTURAL CONCERT OF PRAISE**

Hosted by Australian Church Women NSW Inc.

In support of  
Asian Church Women's Conference



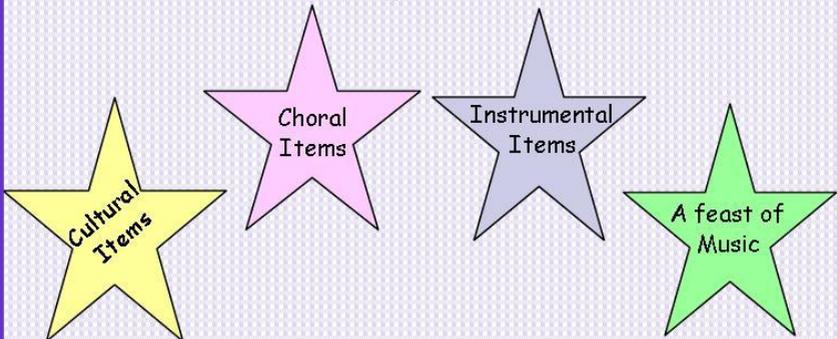
To be held at **EPPING BAPTIST CHURCH**

Corner of Carlingford Road & Rawson Streets, Epping

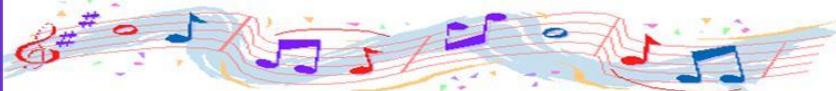
On **SUNDAY, 26TH AUGUST 2018**

Commencing at 2.00pm

Light refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the programme.



The church is located a short walk from the railway station /bus transport at the traffic lights corner of Carlingford Road and Rawson Street. 2 hour Parking in nearby Coles Car Park



## SOCIAL ISSUES

**Because of her, we can!** This was the theme of NAIDOC week 2018. Perhaps you were able to attend one of the gatherings that celebrated the contributions of women who have given leadership in the indigenous community.

At Christ Church Cathedral in Newcastle Aunty Brenda Mathews told a moving story of being stolen from her home as a three year old, along with her four siblings, because her mother and father, an Aboriginal pastor, were alleged to have neglected them. This was as recently as the early 1970's, and an act of absolute racist cruelty with no factual foundation!

We are reminded that there is a long way to go in recognising our Aboriginal people, and acknowledging the hurts and indignities they have suffered – and continue to suffer – in our community. Most churches have programs that give support, but are there possibilities for us as women to do more in support of the indigenous women being celebrated this year?



### **ACW NSW INC. STATE CONFERENCE**

Celebrating 80 years — 1938 to 2018

**Monday 17th September 2018**

at Concord Baptist Church,  
1-3 Carrington Street, North Strathfield  
*Commencing at 10am with Morning Tea*

*Our theme: Bearers of Christ's Love*

- ❖ We will *Contemplate* on God's Word  
Bible Study led by Lt Colonel Pamela Hodge
- ❖ We'll be *Challenged*  
by Rev. Cameron Eccleston (Baptist World Aid)
- ❖ We will *Celebrate* our 80th Birthday and enjoy a day of  
Praise, Inspiration and Warm Fellowship

*Programme will conclude by 2.30 sharp.*

Please bring a sandwich for lunch -  
Tea, Coffee and Cake provided

Registration Cost \$10

(to Lt Pat Cory, P O Box 248, Dapto NSW 2530)

Cheques made payable to Australian Church Women NSW Unit Inc.

Australian Church Women seeks to unite Australian church women in their allegiance to their Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; and to provide opportunities for Christian women of different denominations to worship, study and serve together.

Mission Statement: Australian Church Women believe there is one God—Father, Son and Holy Spirit; one God, Three-in-One. We believe that Scripture teaches that salvation is only through faith in the atoning death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

**Please Note:** All ACW Monies: Affiliation Fees, Fellowship of the Least Coin, *Newsette* Subscriptions, Offertories for Special Days and Donations to be sent to:

Lt. Pat Cory  
P O Box 248  
Dapto NSW 2530  
Phone: 0408 440 127

Please **DO NOT** include the word “Treasurer” when addressing envelopes

- ALL CHEQUES to be made payable to  
“Australian Church Women NSW Unit Inc.” - NOT to any individual person

FEES from AFFILIATED GROUPS

Denominational Groups: \$25 per annum  
ACW Local Branches: \$15 per annum  
Organisations: \$15.00 per annum

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS' FEES \$15 per annum

(This includes subscription to *Newsette*)

**ACW Website:** [www.acw.org.au](http://www.acw.org.au)

*Newsette* is the journal of  
NSW State Unit of Australian Church Women Inc.  
and is published four times a year—February, May, August and  
November

**Annual Subscription is \$10 due in November**

**Changes of Address & Contributions to *Newsette* should be  
sent to the Editor:**

35 Veda Street Hamilton NSW 2303  
Phone 02 4969 6336 Email: [doug.isabel35@gmail.com](mailto:doug.isabel35@gmail.com)