



AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

NSW State Unit

MINUTES of COUNCIL MEETING held at 222 Pitt Street, Sydney on Monday, 19th June, 2000 at 10.30 a.m.

Past-President Rev. Elizabeth Walker welcomed Jan Harrison to her first Council Meeting as President of the Unit. For Devotions, President Jan read from Acts 1, v15 to 26 - the time between the Ascension and Pentecost when Matthias was chosen as an Apostle to replace Judas. Matthias was not mentioned again but many who work for Christ are not known. Jan quoted Oswald Chambers - "It is one thing to go through a crisis grandly but another thing to go through every day, glorifying God when there is no witness, no limelight or no-one paying the remotest attention to us". Jan then prayed that the Lord would guide and direct our discussions and decisions and all would be to His glory and by His grace.

PRESENT: 39 as recorded.

APOLOGIES: 15 " " including Glenys Holley in Canberra

Joan Tong

Peg Blake - not well after surgery

Marie McCann - not well

President Jan welcomed members to her first Council Meeting as President and congratulated Past-President Rev. Elizabeth Walker on the birth of her grandson. She welcomed Helen Richardson to her first Council Meeting as Functions Convener; Helen Stutchbury who had recently moved to a Retirement Village and would be able to attend future ACW meetings; Thora Thomas returned from her overseas trip and Padma Ebenezer (Niroosha's mother) who said she was shortly to return home to Sri Lanka. Padma thanked members for their prayers, love and kindness.

The MINUTES of Council Meeting of 17th April, 2000 were read and confirmed (after correction of the name "Niroosha") on the motion of Elizabeth Walker seconded by Lily Hanlon. Carried

The MINUTES of the Annual General Meeting of 17th April, 2000 were read and initialled on motion of Ruth Moore seconded by Jean Porteous. Carried.

BUSINESS ARISING:

1. STATE CONFERENCE - 11-12 May: Jean Porteous commented that the Conference programme was very good - the speakers very informative and challenging. Juliana Nkrumah distributed cards for forwarding to Federal Government re the exploitation of women in East Timor and Indonesia - rape and torture. Norma Dumbrell shared news of Zin Zin - WKS Scholar 1999 - studying at Trinity Theological College, Singapore where Norma and her husband were living - Dr. Drumbrell lecturing. Doug Hewitt told us of his involvement in the "Pilgrimage to the Heart" The Resolutions formulated will be discussed at Executive and will come to Council in due course.
2. ANNUAL SERVICE OF DEDICATION & INSTALLATION OF PRESIDENT: 15 May; Bev Elliott said that the Service and Installation conducted by Rev. Elizabeth Walker and Archdeacon Nicolios was very impressive and moving; the prayers very special; Jan's address very thoughtful. The luncheon provided by St. Thomas' Enfield ladies was most appetising and served with efficiency and love. Jan had been Rector's wife for some years and as Beryl McLaughlin commented, her friends from St. Thomas' were delighted to be involved in her Installation and to have the opportunity of showing their affection for her, in the preparation and serving of the luncheon.

3. SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT DAY - 17 JULY -

A special letter of invitation has been prepared together with flyer for distribution to Branches and members.

Helen Richardson (Functions Convener) circulated a clip-board asking members to volunteer for duties as hostesses, preparation of room, food, etc. Mrs. Marj Dredge, National President, ACT, is to speak on 'Journey to Wholeness' - (Woman at the Well - John 4: 1-26.)

4. CONSTITUTION - All Council members have been given a copy of the revised Constitution which had been prepared by Peg Blake and discussed at length at Executive. Proposed Thora Thomas seconded Beryl McLaughlin that the revised Constitution be discussed.

One letter had been received from Catholic Women's League commending the Constitution.

After some discussion, it was moved Thora Thomas seconded Ruth Moore that the revised Constitution be accepted as the new Constitution of Australian Church Women (NSW Unit) (with the correction of "s" being added to "Convener of Committees" 6.6.5). Carried.

Bev Elliott moved seconded Helen Hill a Motion of thanks to Peg Blake for the work she had done in connection with the re-typing, re-arranging, etc. of the Constitution and to Elizabeth Walker as she chaired and guided the revision and to Edith Ridge and Joan Tong for their input as past Presidents. Carried.

5. ANNUAL REPORT - ready for distribution. Thanks to Brenda Dickinson of Salvation Army for typing it so professionally. Moved Beryl Kirkwood seconded Bev Elliott that the Annual Report be received. Carried.REPORTS:

TREASURER: Marie Majoor reported that financial affairs were satisfactory - for the two months ended 31.5.00. The State Conference expenses had been covered by participants. Statement appended.

Marie moved that her statement be accepted and the cheques due for payment ratified, seconded Shirley Wells. Carried.

Marie presented a Love gift to Padma for Niroosha who will be able to have physiotherapy at Merrylands instead of travelling to the City.

PUBLICITY: Peg Blake had sent reports of Installation Service to relevant Church newspapers.

NEWSETTE: Items for August issue due 10th July.

ACWC: Joan Tong will attend to arrangements for "Pleasant Sunday Afternoon" on her return.

SPECIAL DAYS: Irene Carder reported that all orders for Fellowship Day have been posted. The Master copy for World Community Day is to hand.

FELLOWSHIP OF LEAST COIN: Shirley Wells had visited Gunnedah to speak to the Uniting Church Adult Friendship Club. She had also visited Wyoming Interchurch Fellowship (which had been meeting since 1966), and Carlingford Baptist Ladies Fellowship. Shirley read from Circle of Prayer, Vol. 14, Voice from Africa, Grace Wanguasa - "Jesus understands the poor" - Psalm 140:12-13. and prayed.

MEMBERSHIP/PASTORAL CARE: Heather Badgery had written to Peg Blake, Robyn Phillis, (reply received from Robyn), Doris Haberfield (husband not well), Judith Cayzer, Rhoda Gates, Vi Minty - they need our prayers.

Platform for Action: A working document to be launched on July 20.

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP: Edith Ridge had received request from Dorothy Ferrier, National WKS Convener, who also has the responsibility of the Bursary Book, for photographs of several women from NSW Unit we had commended. She had circulated Information sheet to members in meeting asking for assistance, nine missing. Edith reported the death of Sister Norma Mackay who had joined our Executive during our Golden Jubilee celebration year 1988. She contributed much to the organisation of the Service held at St. Stephens, Macquarie Street. A letter had been received from Rachel McManus McArthur enclosing her wedding photograph and telling us of the expected birth of her baby on 16th September. Rachel was our 1997 scholar.

President Jan Harrison interviewed Ds. Thora Thomas, who had just returned from overseas and had a few days in Singapore where she visited Trinity Theological College and met our 1999 WKS Scholar, Zin Zin Wah and also Rita Wong from IFLC. Thora was able to have a special sharing time of prayer with Zin Zin - she was very impressed with her Christian witness.

SOCIAL ISSUES: Heather Reid reported on several matters: Platform for Action: Government is buying a fleet of community sized buses for the Para-Olympics and plans to sell these to councils to replace buses which are not appropriate for older people.

Letter had been written to Mr. Lowy, Westfield Holdings objecting to poker machines being installed in shopping centres.

She had received a reply from Mr. Face, Minister for Racing, in answer to her letter of March 14, setting out the whys and wherefores re poker machines, gambling, etc.

Heather emphasised that we must write letters to Members of Parliament, business houses regarding disturbing issues.

Ruth Moore moved, seconded Pat Sutton that reports be received. Carried.

FUNCTIONS ATTENDED/TO ATTEND:

NSW Churches of Christ Christian Women's Fellowship Annual Conference, 5th May, Heather Badgery attended. Very enjoyable.

PPSEAWA Autumn Luncheon, 24th May - President Jan attended - very interesting
Sydney Day Mission Support Group Annual Mission Get-Together, 29th May -

President Jan and Mina Whybourne attended - excellent speakers.

Baptist Women's Session of Annual Assembly, 31st July - President Jan and Helen Richardson to attend.

NCW Foundation Day Luncheon 11th August - President Jan to attend.

Sydney Day Mission Support Group Annual Thank Offering Service, 14th August - Roseville Uniting Church.

PRESIDENT'S BUSINESS:

Elizabeth Walker on behalf of National Committee, ACW, had attended a special meeting of NCC.

President Jan thanked all members for their support at the Installation and Dedication Service. She had greatly appreciated the flowers.

She has several engagements - at Catholic Women's League in Wollongong, Uniting Church in Wollongong and several Fellowship Day meetings. She had written to the Congregational ladies saying we had missed them from our Meetings.

Barbara Lacy, ACWC representative, is being installed as President of ACW Victoria.

REPORTS FROM OTHER ORGANISATIONS:

ECUMENICAL COUNCIL & WORLD DAY OF PRAYER COMMITTEE: Marie McCann would like to be replaced on these Committees.

CHILDREN'S FILM & TELEVISION - meeting next month - Dorothy Kenning and Lily Hanlon will attend.

PAN PACIFIC & SOUTH EAST ASIA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION: Sr Marie Craddock said last meeting was 24 May - President Jan was special guest. Special Service at St. Mary's Cathedral on Pentecost Sunday. Their President, Jeanette Smith is to visit Cook Islands for Conference.

CORRESPONDENCE; (Inward)

1. National Executive Circular 2000/4
2. Minutes of National Executive - 16 May
3. The Salvation Army - representatives
4. NSW Churches of Christ - representatives - Margery Baker has resigned from Council after 21 years. Jean Porteous has been appointed by the Churches of Christ to take up the position of President of NSW Unit in 2002. Congratulations extended to Jean, who will join Executive.
5. Craddock Murray Neumann - New Specialist Women's Legal Service
6. Postcard - Joan & David Tong
7. Catholic Women's League Australia, NSW - congratulations on Constitution
8. NSW Council for Children's Films & Television
9. Newsletters and Magazines - Partners NCW News
Corroboree 2000 Womens Calendar June-July
Awakening 2000 News

CORRESPONDENCE: (Outward)

1. National Secretary - Council Minutes 20 March
1. National Secretary - World Community Day Large Print Service
3. Mr. Frank Fryirs, Auditor - thanks for services rendered
4. State Conference Thank You letters - Mrs Dumbrell, Ms Nkrumah, Mr. Hewitt, SFLT
5. Annual Service Thank you letters - Archdeacon Nicolios, Adrian Jackson, Mrs. Deck, Rev. Goodman-Jones
6. Churches of Christ CWF - re President Jean Porteous 2002-2004
7. Mrs. Marj Dredge - Spiritual Enrichment Day
8. Helen Richardson - welcome to Executive
9. Letters to other groups advising our representatives for coming year
NCW, PPSEAWA (NSW), World Day of Prayer, Ecumenical Council,
NSW Council of Children's Film and Television
10. Mr. Lowy, Westfield Holdings re poker machine licenses in Shopping Malls
11. Mr. Anthony Brown, Cota (NSW) Inc. Thanks for work done on behalf of older people of NSW
12. Rev. Trevor Goodman Jones - donation to Church funds.
13. NCW - information on 'Violence in the Family' for Barbara Lacy
14. Mr. Doug Hewitt - invitation to speak at August Council meeting
15. Baptist Annual Assembly - reply to invitation
16. PWA - reply to invitation

Correspondence inwards received and outwards endorsed on motion of Olive Beverley and Joyce Liddell. Carried.

GENERAL BUSINESS: September Council Meeting to be transferred to 16th October because of Olympics.

Olive Beverley enquired as to whether ACW needed an ABN number and Marie Majoor said it was not necessary for us.

Heather Reid said she had received Women's News and a Grant is available to Community Groups urged to help preserve Aussie Heritage. Apply to Womens News, 51 Magnolia Road, Gardensvale, Vic. 3185.

NEXT MEETING : 21st August. Morning Tea - Anglican

President Jan thanked the Churches of Christ ladies for a delicious morning te and the Baptist ladies for preparing the room. Jan then prayed for those members not well and closed the meeting at 12.15 p.m. - "Let us go carrying with us the peace of Christ, the love of God and the encouragement of the Holy Spirit".

Date: 21. 8. 2000

Confirmed: *J R Hansen*