



AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NSW STATE UNIT INC.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING held at 222 Pitt Street, Sydney on Monday 17 November 2003 at 10.00 a.m.

Jean Porteous welcomed everyone to the meeting, especially those returning after surgery.

DEVOTIONS: Rev. Meredith Williams led devotions, reading from John 1 about John the Baptist sent as God's messenger. God has a plan for each life, a commission for each one of us. Hannah grieved at having no children, but became the mother of Samuel and she dedicated him to God. All are called - and sent - with a purpose.

PRESENT: 48

APOLOGIES: 12

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES of 15 September 2003: The Minutes were confirmed on the motion of Lily Hanlon and Janet Lang.

BUSINESS ARISING:

1. The Secretary's report on the National Conference in Perth had been printed in Newsette, and a copy was circulated during the meeting. Some orders of service were available from daily devotions for those who were interested to have them. The Conference was a good experience for all, a learning one for 'first timers'. The induction of the new Executive was very moving.

2. ACWC Service was well done, and was an extremely friendly gathering where all felt welcome. The Salvation Army Band and choirs were excellent, and Joan and David Tong's contribution very well received.

2. City World Community Day held in Pitt Street Uniting Church was a really good service but had not attracted many beyond ACW members, though Fiona Collins attended. Heather Reid noted that the service had been advertised in the PLC Old Girls' Newsletter. It is proposed that Executive does not continue with arranging a city World Community Day Service, this matter to be discussed early in 2004.

3. Fundraising: Trading Table continues to do well and is raising money each meeting, as do the donations for morning tea. Jan Harrison reported that she has folders which will have notebook inserts and it was agreed that these can be sold at Council meeting.

4. Constitution: Copies of the updated Constitution, to take in Incorporation, were available for each denomination.

REPORTS:

TREASURER: Helen Richardson reported that the balance at 31 October 2003 was \$6274.92. Money is coming in from World Community Day offerings and FLC, and payments will need to be made to National before the end of the year.

Moved Helen Richardson, seconded Judy Baker that the Treasurer's report be received, and accounts ratified for payment.

NEWSLETTE: Beryl McLaughlin reported that the regulations for Print Post had been changed and that copies will now be sent by ordinary mail which has fewer restrictions.

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SPECIAL DAYS: Irene Carder reported that services had gone well though all report forms are not in yet. Members commented that Sutherland Branch thought the service was well put together, the Kincumber Branch Service at Umina was very good.

MEMBERSHIP & PASTORAL CARE: Heather Badgery welcomed back Joyce Liddell, Alison Todd and Dora Quarmby after surgery. Peg Blake sent her love.

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP: The Scholar for 2004 is Deaconess Mereani Dinaeika Raque from Fiji who will study at "Project Respect" in Melbourne. Judith Cayzer was thrilled that Monique Crabtree was Speaker at the Churches of Christ Women's Gathering. Monique was very well received and ACW promoted through her presence. Judith was pleased to see that the ACW Conference in Perth had changed the name of the bursary book to "Honouring Australian Church Women".

SOCIAL ISSUES: Osteoporosis - Cela Cooper told of the need for members to write to their local members, the Minister for Health and the Minister for Women asking that they do all they can to enable sufficient funding to be made available for the prevention and management of osteoporosis. It is important to take action before the first fracture - at present nothing is done until a fracture has occurred. NSW Alcohol Summit - standing committees are looking at submissions.

FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN: Nancy McLaren thanked members for their support for World Community Day. Some older FLC booklets were available. Nancy led a devotional based on 'The Race of Life' in 2 Timothy 4: 7. Unlike other kinds of races we are all in it, and everyone can win if we 'keep our eyes fixed on Jesus'.

CORRESPONDENCE: (Inward)

1. ACW ACT - Newsletter October-December 2003
2. Judith Cayzer - report and apology for Executive
3. Baptist Women NSW - Advising Virginia Fitzpatrick no longer a delegate
4. St Stephen's UC - Christmas Luncheon 3/12/2003 - 2 reps
5. Glebe Trust Statements
6. Uniting Church - meeting room bookings
7. St Mary's Cathedral Flower Festival Committee: thanks for participation
8. Ruth Bouckley - apology

Publications: PWA Span 10/2003; Womenspace 9/2003;

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: Judith Baker reported that the method of packing has been improved greatly by using post packs rather than wrapping.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN: Shirley Wells reported that Marion Smith was re-elected at President, but there are vacancies on NCW Executive if anyone present would be interested in this as an area of service.

NSW ECUMENICAL COUNCIL: Nola Dickson reported on the AGM held 15 November. Bishop Richard Hurford from Bathurst retired as President, and Bishop Kevin Manning from Parramatta was installed in his place. The House of Welcome reported on the complexity of its task. Rev. Dr Ray Williamson spoke of his visits to Turkey, Armenia and Torres Strait and his contacts with church people there. The Christmas Bowl 2003 was launched by Ms Emele Duituturaga from Fiji.

PAN PACIFIC & SOUTH EAST ASIAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION: Sr Marie Craddock reported that at their September meeting they had heard a speaker who told of work against the abuse of, and for the protection of children. There had also been a report of the Mary McKillop Centre in East Timor where new buildings are planned. The AGM will be held early in 2004.

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GIRLS BRIGADE: Ruth Dickinson reported on the conference hosted by NSW. She found the opening ceremony moving as colours were carried in, and enjoyed the friendship and sharing of ideas. Activities for Brigade companies were promoted. A very encouraging point is that one third of the conference members were under thirty years of age. A brainstorming session sought to get ideas on how to remain relevant.

WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION: Beryl McLaughlin invited interested people to attend the WCTU Christmas luncheon where Ian Minns of Prison Fellowship will speak about Camp Breakaway, a holiday camp for children of prisoners.

Jean Porteous thanked all who represent us, and all conveners for the work they have done.

PRESIDENT'S BUSINESS:

1. Affiliation Fees: After discussion it was agreed that annual affiliation fees for denominations be increased to \$35.

Moved Nancy McLaren, seconded Mina Whybourne that Associate Members receive accounts which include the option to make a donation. Carried

2. Publicity Convener: Need for prayer for finding a person, preferably with computer skills, to fill this position.

3. Need to start thinking and praying now about nominations for positions for 2004 AGM which will need to be in by 15 March. Social Issues will need a new person, and Jean thanked Cela Cooper for keeping us informed, and for attending meetings on our behalf.

4. List of Meeting dates for 2004 were available to members. The group on chairs are to set up the microphone. There was discussion as to how the meeting room furniture is to be left, and clarification will be sought from Uniting Church.

5. Women's Ministries in the Bible Society are looking for avenues of promotion, and denominational groups might see this as something their members could do.

6. Book Aid Australia, 11a Watkin Street, Rockdale collects Bibles and religious books for shipment overseas.

National Executive 2003-2005 was introduced again, and Lyn Middleton prayed for those who had taken office and for their work.

NEXT MEETING: 16 February 2004

CLOSE & BENEDICTION: Jean Porteous expressed Christmas greeting before she closed the meeting with prayer.

Confirmed: J.R. Harrison

Date: 16.2.04

**AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NSW STATE UNIT INC.
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
FOR TWO MONTHS SEPTEMBER and OCTOBER 2003**

CREDIT BALANCE AT 31 AUGUST 2003 8947.96

Receipts -	Membership Fees	55.00	
	Donations	20.00	
	Interest	58.88	
	Travel Fund	88.10	
	Sale of Fudge	467.00	
	Newssette	70.00	
	Fellowship of the Least Coin	3360.75	
	Winifred Kiek Scholarship	50.00	
	World Community Day	1210.20	
	Asian Church Womens Conf.	346.75	
	Suspense	<u>270.30</u>	<u>5996.98</u>
			14,944.94
Payments -	Postage and Phone	121.53	
	Fellowship Day Printing	354.49	
	National Conference	3194.00	
	Churches of Christ Invest.	<u>5000.00</u>	<u>8,670.02</u>
Balance at Bank			6,274.92

Amounts for Ratification/Payment

UC NSW Synod Printing Newssette	68.90	
Postage Newssette	102.05	
Nola Dickson Fee NSW Ecumenical Council	25.00	
Payments to National ACW WKS, FLC, WCD, ACWC, etc.		
Uniting Church donation for use of rooms		
<i>President's Expenses</i>	<i>17.67</i>	