



***AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN
NSW STATE UNIT INC***

53rd ANNUAL REPORT

APRIL 2016

IN CHRIST WE ARE ONE

Words and music – Lucelle King
Arranged by Helen Scott 1991

We, being many are one in the Lord;
Each one is different, but we're trusting in his Word
For we are part of God's family thru' Jesus Christ His Son
Tho' we are many, yet in Christ we are one,
We, being many, in Christ we are one

(This song is sung at many of the gatherings of Australian Church Women Inc.)

ACW seeks

TO unite Australian Church Women in their allegiance to
Their Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ

TO provide opportunities for Christian women of different
Denominations to worship, study and serve together.

MISSION STATEMENT:

Australian Church Women believe that 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, God's only Son

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

This is a very different and difficult Report to write. I appreciate the honour that I was given in being asked to be the President of the NSW Unit of Australian Church Women, but very much regret the circumstance under which it arose.

Natalie McLeod was a very warm and compassionate person, who calmly led us with great charm and humility. She is greatly missed.

I am honoured to have been your President for the last five (5) months and have enjoyed getting to know the Executive and Unit members on a much deeper and more personal level.

I have enjoyed representing you at functions organised by your various organisations and when I have attended other community functions, it has been lovely to meet members there, and be greeted as a friend.

As the baton passes to Pamela Freeman, I know you will uphold her during her Presidency with prayer and support, as she leads us over the next two years.

Tricia Graham

Email: howardtricia@optusnet.com.au

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NSW STATE UNIT INC.
INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 December 2015

Report on the Financial Report

I have audited the financial report, being a special purpose financial report of Australian Church Women NSW State Unit Inc. for the year ended 31 December 2015.

NSW State Unit Executive Responsibility for the Financial Report

The NSW State Unit Executive are responsible for the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies used are appropriate for their requirements.

Auditor's Responsibility

I have conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the NSW State Unit Executive.

I disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the NSW State Unit Executive, or for any purpose other than for which it was prepared.

My audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My procedures included examination, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report and the evaluation of significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with the accounting policies so as to present a view which is consistent with my understanding of the organisations financial position, and performance as represented by the results of operations. These policies do not require the application of all Accounting Standards and other mandatory reporting requirements.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

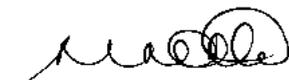
Independence

In conducting the audit, I have followed applicable independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

Audit Opinion

In my opinion the financial report presents fairly in accordance with the accounting policies the financial position of the Australian Church Women NSW State Unit Inc. as at 31 December 2015 and the result of its operations for the year then ended.

Yours Faithfully,



Malcolm North CPA
26 February 2016

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN - NSW STATE UNIT INC.

Income Expenditure Statement for Year ended 31 December 2015

	INCOME	EXPENDITURE	
Administration Fees	660.00	Administration Expenses (includes Honouring Aust.	1,711.50
Administration - Donations	30.00	Church Women	178.38
Dedication Day	375.90	Postage & Stationery	2,300.00
Bank Interest	0.92	National Conference	48.00
ACWC Newsletters	12.00	ACWC Newsletters	984.60
Fellowship of the Least Coin	12,650.65	Newssette	768.00
		Travel Fund	168.00
Fellowship Day Offerings	3,355.60	Circle of Prayer Booklets	3,243.40
Travel Fund	443.15	Fellowship Day Offerings (+ WKS donations)	12,633.65
		Fellowship of the Least Coin	
Newssette	950.00	ACWC Community Day Offerings & Specific	
Community Day Offerings (Special Project)	4,080.95	Donations	1,987.15
Contra (Jean Arnot Lunch)	690.00	Community Day Offerings (Special Project)	1,987.20
Winifred Kiek Scholarship Donations	50.00	Contra (Jean Arnot Lunch)	690.00
	23,299.17	Dedication Day	50.00
		Community Day Of	213.19
		Bank Discrepancy Cheque 001474	26,963.07
Bank Balance 1st January 2015	5,513.54	Bank Balance 31 December 2015	0.80
TOTAL	\$ 28,812.71	TOTAL	\$ 28,812.71

**AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN - NSW STATE UNIT INC.
FUNDS STATEMENT YEAR EMDDED 31 DECEMBER 2015**

Balance as at 1 January 2015	23,070.84
Plus Income	23,299.17
(* Interest income from Investment	519.19
Less Expenditure	-
	26,963.07
Balance as at 31 December 2015	19,926.13
Represented by	
	1,850.44
	-
Bank Discrepancy Cheque 001474	0.80
Churches of Christ at call Account 106940 -	
1st January 2015	17,557.30
Interest 30 June 2015	\$272.02
Interest 31 December 2015	<u>\$247.17</u>
	(*) Interest Income
	Total
	519.19
Total Funds	19,926.13
Balance of Designated Funds at 31 December 2015	
Newsette	3,475.55
Travel Fund	1,671.88
State Conference	530.51
Asian Church Women Conference	1,343.10
Fellowship of the Least Coin	135.70
Dedication Day	325.90
Administration (includes %withheld from Special Days; Fees, Donations, Bank Interest)	12,443.49
Total Funds	\$19,926.13

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN - NSW STATE UNIT INC.

ALLOCATION OF FUNDS STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

	Newsette	Travel Fund	State Conf.	Asian Church Women Conference	Fellowship of Least Coin	Circle of Prayer	Dedication Day	World Community Day	Fellowship Day
Balance as at 1 January 2015	3,209.35	1,996.73	530.51	1,343.10	717.20				
Plus Income									
New sette(includes Journal from Fees of \$300 + .80 Bank Discrepancy	1,250.80								
Travel Fund		443.15							
State Conference(not held)									
Asian Church Women Conference (Concert not held)									
Fellowship of the Least Coin					12,482.65				
Circle of Prayer						168.00			
Dedication Day							375.90		
World Community Day								4,080.95	
Fellowship Day (includes WKS donation)									3,405.60
Total Income	4,460.15	2,439.88	530.51	1,343.10	13,199.85	168.00	375.90		
Less: Expenditure									
New sette	984.60								
Travel Fund		318.00							
State Conference (not held)									
Asian Church Women Conference (Concert not held)									
Fellowship of the Least Coin					106.60				
World Community Day								106.60	
Fellowship Day									161.55
ACW Submissions		450.00			12,633.65	168.00		3,974.35	3,081.85
Dedication Day							50.00		
% for Administration for Special Days					323.90				162.20
Total Expenditure	984.60	768.00			13,064.15	168.00	50.00	4,080.95	3,405.60
Balance as at 31st December 2015	3,475.55	1,671.88	530.51	1,343.10	135.70	0.00	325.90	0.00	0.00

SECRETARY'S REPORT

My first year as Secretary has gone very quickly, and has been a time of learning for me. I'm grateful to the NSW Executive for their help during this time, especially my predecessor, Pamela Freeman for her advice and assistance.

The death of our President, Natalie McLeod, was a shock to us all. We were fortunate to have our Past President, Isabel Hewitt, to guide us until the appointment of Tricia Graham as President in November.

The highlight of 2015 for me was the ACW Conference at Collaroy in September. This was the first ACW Conference that I had attended and I found it both uplifting and enjoyable. One of the speakers at Open Day on the Thursday was Sister Helen-Anne Johnson RSJ, who received a Fellowship of the Least Coin grant for her project 'Mums' Cottage' in Holmesville, near Newcastle. Sister Helen-Anne started Mums' Cottage to help mothers with their children. It's her belief that if you help the mother, then the child will be OK.

Representatives from Cana Communities, who were our Special Project at World Community Day, also spoke at Open Day, describing the work they do to help people who are homeless or have other life problems to manage their life again.

I look forward to the Special Days planned for the coming year and especially to the ACWC Multicultural Concert of Praise at Epping Baptist Church in August.

Elizabeth McEwen

Email: elizmcewen@hotmail.com

FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN

It has been my privilege to serve this year again as State Convenor for Fellowship of the Least Coin.

I was invited to speak at the World Community Day service which was held at the Anglican Church at Bateau Bay. It was a well organised service followed by afternoon tea, where the fellowship continued around tables.

The theme was Building for Peace and Reconciliation. This theme fitted well in speaking about FLC because the programme is all about justice, peace and reconciliation.

I want to thank you for all that you are doing to promote FLC in your area. When we consider how blessed we are in Australia, this then should spur us on to keep FLC alive and well.

FLC brings people together in a fellowship of prayer without any discrimination of race, nationality, culture or denomination. We connect, not compete, with others. Our least coins become a large amount in the same way individual prayers offered by many members throughout the world become a strong force in bringing about justice peace and reconciliation.

I refer you to the Treasurer's report elsewhere in this Annual report, where you will see the amount that New South Wales has sent to National Executive this year for FLC. Thank you again and may God bless us as we pray and give our least coins.

Lillian Hodges

Email: brucelillian@gmail.com

SPECIAL DAYS

Our Special Days services continue to provide opportunity for ecumenical fellowship, worship and study of the Word for Australian Church Women throughout our State and indeed throughout our Nation. The reports I receive from these days repeatedly give testimony to the blessings received through coming together as the community of Christ.

The Special Days during 2015 expanded the theme of the NSW National Executive which took office in October 2013, namely, *Building in Harmony*. The topic for Fellowship Day was *Building In Line With God's Design*. This service had been prepared by the Tasmanian Unit of ACW. Thirteen services were held throughout the state with a total attendance of 493. The topic for World Community Day was *Building For Peace and Reconciliation*. This service had been prepared by the Queensland Unit of ACW. Twenty services were held across the state and there was a total attendance of 663.

The Special Project supported at World Community Day in 2015 was submitted by the NSW Mosman/Neutral Bay Branch. This submission was for **Cana Communities** based in Sydney. This group builds relationships, and companions people who are lonely, homeless, suffering from mental ill health, addiction or other factors marginalising them from mainstream society. It has operated for 40 years with no Government funding. The project funds will be directed to their Nagle House, in Redfern Sydney, for marginalised women.

The NSW Unit was very pleased that their submission of the application to National Executive was successful. A group from Cana Communities attended an afternoon session at the National Conference held at Collaroy NSW in September 2015 and gave a presentation of their ministries. Everyone was most impressed with the work being done and justifiably pleased that this group would be the recipients of our Special Projects funding.

Sincere appreciation is expressed to the members of all branches for their diligence and faithfulness in organising each Special Day. It is my prayer that these times of ecumenical fellowship will always be a source of spiritual refreshment.

Lyn Middleton

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MEMBERSHIP

The attendance at the Council meeting for 2015/16 averaged 31.5%. Absentees who send their apologies averaged 9.7%.

We had four delegates resign during the last year - Joan Bird, Marie Craddock, Roslyn Abbey and Bev Elliot. There were also two ladies who left us to be with the Lord - Beryl McLaughlin and Mina Whybourne.

We welcome two new delegates to our unit; June Kay in March 2015, for the Presbyterians and Tax Quirk Feb.2016 for the Roman Catholics

Thank you ladies for your effort of coming and participating in the meetings. The committee appreciates your presence.

Martha Noel

Email: marthanoel@hotmail.com

SOCIAL ISSUES ANNUAL REPORT 2016

During the last 12 months our members have been challenged to lobby on a variety of issues at both Federal and State level. Some of the areas focused on were domestic violence, the treatment of those seeking asylum and the consequent assessment of their refugee status and the radicalisation of young people in the Muslim community.

Our concerns have included the proposals being promulgated in the push for same-sex marriage in a community such as ours where the constitution is patently based on Christian ethos and on issues which involve a belief of the sanctity of human life.

More particular lobbying has been targeted at the drug-taking uncovered in the transport industry and the failure of some parents to immunise their children.

We have also written to congratulate Governments and individuals on their proposals and planning in certain areas. Thus we contacted the Victorian Government to applaud them for abolishing time limits on the reporting incidents of childhood sexual abuse and the subsequent legal proceedings against the perpetrators.

We will continue to exercise our democratic right to express our desire to see justice reign in our land.

Rae Goth, Social Issues Convener

Email: rgoth@optusnet.com.au

Newsette Report

Newsette is slowly approaching 'middle age', having just celebrated its 36th birthday of publication. We continue to have 4 issues produced each year and this will continue in spite of rising postage and production costs. As from February the option for people to receive Newsette by email has been offered and it is encouraging that a number of recipients have indicated their willingness to embrace the new technology. All others on our mailing list will continue to look for a visit from the Postie in May, August and November.

Congratulations to those Convenors who, with little prompting, submit their reports for publication on time. This makes the job of Editor a lot less stressful. Thanks must also go to Elizabeth McEwen who proof reads also our new State Treasurer, Lt. Pat Cory, has been actively helping me in ensuring our subscription records are up to date and this then reflects in the accuracy of our Mailing List. ALL renewals are due in November of each year.

I also make mention that there are a number of our readers who have faithfully supported ACW and looked forward to receiving Newsette are now finding that issues of ill health and ageing are beginning to take a toll. With eyesight problems and moving into care and so family members are now requesting that no future correspondence and materials be sent. This is disappointing but understandable and we give thanks for the support and interest of these women now in their "twilight years".

I would encourage all those who attending our Special Days and regular Council meetings to actively promote not just ACW but also Newsette. If you need materials to assist with this do not hesitate to make contact.

Articles and items of ecumenical interest are always welcome to both inform our readers as well as "fill in" small spaces". My contact details are on the back cover of the magazine.

Jennifer Peffer, Editor

Email: rjpeffer@optusnet.com.au

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP (WKS)

In the past 12 months I have re-visited the book "Winifred" – and again found it inspiring. Copies are always available at \$15.

Winifred Kiek Scholars, past and present, journey on, balancing family, work, ministry and studies. We seem to hear fewer progress reports these days but enjoy hearing what we can. We give thanks for our previous National WKS Convener, Nancy, and look forward to connections with new Convener, Loyola, in the Victorian National Executive.

With Nancy's emailing, we heard from Tonu (Fiji 2010) now married and in church ministry, Rachel Otto (McManus, QLD 1997), Imelda Aquino (Philippines 2008), Inise (Australia 2009) and Lou Momorou (PNG 2013). All are doing well. Leinamau (Vanuatu 2007) enjoys regular email contact. She continues further studies at Fiji Theological College. Christy Ferguson (Melbourne 2009) also gives regular email newsletters and is to do annual short term trips to her previous mission area overseas with her Mission Agent. Last June, Denise Champion (SA 2012), was ordained as a Deacon in the Uniting Church, the first Aboriginal woman to do so in any denomination in SA. Denise is an Adnyamathanha Flinders Ranges woman. WKS Trustees gave us this news saying ACW/WKS played a small part in Denise's long journey.

Our 2015 Scholars were in Australia: Hendriyane (Yane) Anthony (N.T./Humpty Doo) is married with two children. She continues to be busy with studies and ministry, and contributing to a Christian Counselling Institute's Guidelines. Caryn Rogers (SA) is continuing studies and research for her PhD in Linguistics helping with the revival of an Indigenous language on the Eyre Peninsular; also balancing studies, work and ministry.

Regular reports have been given for Newsette. Some encouragement with Christmas cards and emails were sent when contact details were known. Replies were received from past scholars Doreen Tie (1990) Mary Au (1980) Nighat Gulzar (1994). Many past girls were saddened by the passing of Mina Whybourne, a past NSW WKS Convener. The NSW Unit supports the Honouring Australian Church Women Fund. We look forward to news on the 2016 scholar in Vanuatu, Mrs. Esline Toamavute. She intends to study at Taulua Ministry Training Centre to develop leadership skills to pass on to women she ministers with around her local islands. Esline has been very involved in areas of women's ministry including networking ecumenically. Past scholars often give thanks for our partnership, feeling the prayer support and encouragement.

Judith Cayzer

Email: tootoot@tpg.com.au

EPPING BRANCH – ANNUAL REPORT 2016

The Epping Branch of ACW has continued to function during the past year although slightly lower attendances at Special Days is indicative of an area where age and mobility are beginning to be issues with those who have regularly supported ACW.

Helen Hill is the current President, Jennifer Peffer continues as the Secretary/Treasurer and our Branch Representative at Council is Dr Val Hazelwood. There are 14 affiliated churches in our branch – Anglican (3), Baptist, Presbyterian (2), Lutheran, Uniting (6) and Catholic. The Churches of Christ no longer have anyone who can represent them.

2015 saw both Special Days being hosted by Uniting Churches, Fellowship Day by West Epping Uniting and Community Day by Beecroft Uniting. In both services the speakers were their local ministers who gave excellent messages continuing on the ACW National theme of “Building in Harmony” using the Orders of Service prepared. Offerings for both the Winifred Kiek Scholarship and the Fellowship of the Least Coin were generous.

After discussion at the planning meetings held for preparation of both services it was decided that for 2016 we would not hold a Fellowship Day Service but get as many of the ladies in the area to support the World Day of Prayer in March and then make a great effort for Community Day in October. West Epping Uniting Church has again offered to be the host church and already has booked a speaker!!

It would be remiss not to mention the many ladies, no longer able to participate in services, who regularly support the Fellowship of the Least Coin with their donations throughout the year. This meant our contribution to FLC for the year totalled \$1206.75.

Jennifer Peffer, Secretary/Treasurer

Email: rjpeffer@optusnet.com.au

KINCUMBER AREA BRANCH

Because of extenuating circumstances we were not able to organize the Fellowship Day Service for 2015. We were extremely sorry and the committee sent an apology to all our dear friends who have been so supportive of the Winifred Kiek Scholarship. We pray for a better outcome in 2016.

We made amends in October with a very happy and successful World Community day Service on 30th October which was held at St. David's Presbyterian Church in Woy Woy. Sixty enthusiastic supporters were in attendance to hear the Minister's wife, Mrs. Sylvia Siu, give a wonderful message based on the theme "Building for Peace and Reconciliation". Sylvia is studying to be a Deaconess and is passionately involved with Women's Ministry. She has a wonderful knowledge of God's Word and its implication on our lives. She is the mother of two little girls who are a great delight to all.

During the Service Bev sang the meaningful solo "Make me a Channel of your Peace" in keeping with the theme, accompanied by Mrs. Consuelo Baxter, the talented church pianist. They were warmly received.

The Fellowship of the Least Coin was celebrated with all joining in the Pray for F.L.C. after which the ladies of St. David's served a beautiful morning tea during a happy time of sharing friendship and laughter. A total of \$1170 was forwarded to our Treasurer as our offering from the day.

Finally, this year I have resigned as Secretary of the Kincumber Area Branch after 18 years in this position. It has been a time of greatly blessing and rich friendship for me since taking office in the days of our dear friend Dorothy Woodhouse. With God's help, it has been a privilege to serve the community of the Central Coast Peninsula and beyond and I pray that His grace and mercy will be with all those who support Australian Church Women in order for it to continue to grow in the days ahead. Our new Secretary will be Mrs. Margaret Gregory of the Umina/Woy Woy Uniting Church and I know she will receive great support.

With love and blessings,
Bev. Elliott
(Retiring Secretary)

SUTHERLAND SHIRE BRANCH ANNUAL REPORT – 2015

St. John's Anglican Church, Sutherland very kindly hosted **Fellowship Day on 31 July**, the theme being **"Building in line with God's design"**. The Rev. Andy Clark welcomed everyone and opened with prayer. Past ACW members The Late Glad Bent, Phyllis Lind and NSW State President Natalie McLeod were remembered and acknowledged. The congregation then joined together to sing the ACW Theme song "We being many are one in the Lord". A lovely Service followed with very meaningful hymns. Soloist Nicole Ford gave a contemporary version of "Take my life and let it be" which became even more pertinent after hearing the Message given by Mrs Faye Hillier, Assistant Chaplain, Donald Robinson Village. Going on the theme of "building", Faye challenged us to examine ourselves and see if we needed any re-alignment to bring us in line with God's design. The Winifred Keik Scholarship segment was led by Mina Whybourne, who was able to tell us about past and current scholars and how much the Winifred Kiek Scholarship is appreciated by these women in furthering their training in the work they are aiming to do for God. The offering came to \$300.00. Six denominations took part.

World Community Day set down for 30th October, did not go ahead this year due to not being able to secure a venue in time. As it happened, our dear friend Mina Whybourne went peacefully and suddenly to heaven on Friday 23rd and her celebration of life Service took place at St. Philips' Caringbah on the 30th. We mourned the loss of our dear Mina and thanked God for her life and the legacy she has left for her family, friends and community. Mina joined the ACW NSW State Council in 1978 and served as Sutherland Branch Secretary, together with Peg Blake as President, for 20 years from 1982 – 2002. Although we could not hold World Community Day, our faithful supporters sent in \$672.45 in Fellowship of the Least Coin donations. A truly humbling thing to see.

We would like to acknowledge Mrs Pat Sutton who has left the Branch and moved into a care facility. Pat represented the Catholic Church on NSW State Council and was the Sutherland Branch representative for many years. Thank you Pat. My grateful thanks also to Norma Dumbrell (Past President) and Ineke Nieuwland (Catholic Representative to State Council) for all their help during the year.

Brenda Dickinson, Branch Secretary.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN OF NEW SOUTH WALES INC.

As your representative to the National Council of Women of New South Wales (NCW), it gives me great pleasure to present the Annual Report for 2015.

NCW commenced the year with their “Celebrate Being an Australian” Luncheon in the Strangers’ Dining Room at Parliament House on January 22nd. Our Guest Speaker, Nancy Serg OAM, spoke of her experiences in assimilating into post war Australia, whilst helping other migrants from Malta.

As part of the celebration, NCW awarded fourteen meritorious women, nominated by their University Faculties, with a Certificate and a cheque for \$1,000 donated by sponsors to support them in their further studies.

On Saturday, March 28th, our President Nola Barkl hosted an Afternoon Tea at her home, attended by Presidents of affiliated organisations. At this function, the new NCW logo was launched and displayed on a roll-up banner.

The Jean Arnot Memorial Luncheon was the next major function, held in May in the Strangers’ Dining Room at Parliament House. The Jean Arnot Memorial Luncheon honours women in their nineties who have worked for their communities over many years. Our Patron, Mrs Linda Hurley, wife of the Governor of NSW, presented Certificates of Appreciation to 16 nonagenarians, one of whom was our member, Marie McCann OAM. The Guest Speaker was Hon. Susan Ryan AO, Age and Disability Commissioner.

In August, the National Council of Women of NSW celebrated its 119th Anniversary with the Foundation Day Luncheon at “Cellos Restaurant”, at Castlereagh Boutique Hotel. The Guest Speaker was Virginia Howard, chair of Taldumande Youth Services Inc. Recognition Awards were presented to five women nominated for their untiring contribution to the community and who had not received official recognition.

Dame Professor Marie Bashir, AC CVO, the former Governor of NSW, presented the 6th Marie Bashir Peace Awards in September to five senior high school students from both metropolitan and country schools. The recipients received a Certificate and a cheque for \$250 for promoting peace

and harmony in their community. Their schools also received a Certificate. Three other students were presented with Highly Commended Certificates.

In October, five NCW members attended the NCWA Conference "Celebrate Cultural Collaboration" in Melbourne. It was a very interesting and informative time, and good to meet with members of other state councils.

NCW continues to hold a Morning Tea for members and friends on the third Wednesday of each month in The Upper Room Café at the Wesley Centre, Pitt Street, Sydney at 10.15 - 11.30am.

In 2016, the Council meetings held on the last Thursday of the month at the Sydney Mechanics Institute, 280 Pitt Street, Sydney will commence at 4.30pm, with a Business meeting, followed by a short break for refreshments, then with a Guest Speaker at 6.00pm.

Tricia Graham
NCW Representative

Girls' Brigade NSW - Annual Report 2015

Over the last 12 months, a lot has happened in Girls' Brigade NSW.

In February, GB NSW was part of the Kidsreach Conference. On Easter Monday 6th April, Girls' Brigade NSW participated in the Sydney Easter Parade. The theme was 'Choose Hope Sydney' and we wore special shirts promoting the theme.

Also in April, we had girls attend KYCK (youth conference) at Katoomba. The conference is where all youth organisations, Church Youth Groups come together and worship in God's name and create friendships.

On Saturday 2nd May, GB NSW had our Annual State Conference where we celebrated 75 years of Girls' Brigade NSW. The theme for the conference was 'Built on a Strong Foundation'.

On Saturday 13th June 400 girls, leaders and their families celebrated the birthday of GB NSW with the animals of Taronga Zoo. GB NSW has also adopted a Pygmy Hippo from the zoo for 12 months.

In August, Girls' Brigade NSW was invited to attend a morning tea at Government House for International Youth Day. On the day, we met

the Governor of NSW His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC and his wife Mrs Linda Hurley, who is GB NSW State Patron.

In October we had our National Conference, which was held in Newcastle NSW. It was a 3 ½ day conference and everyone who attended was refreshed and strengthened. At the Conference we voted on major changes to governance structure and begin the process on writing a new constitution. Also we had elections for the positions of National Commissioner and Deputy National Commissioner and Deputy National Commissioner.

In November two girls received an invitation to be part of a reception at Government House to meet Prince Charles. The girls were very excited and felt honoured to represent Girls' Brigade NSW. Throughout the year, we had Pioneer Leadership Training, where girls learn leadership skills that they can use for GB and in the community. Also we had Leader Training for ladies; this was great to see women called to serve as new leaders in GB.

GB NSW are had a fundraiser called the TWO CAN project. This is where all GB NSW Companies are collecting money (5 cents, 10 cents or \$2.00 or notes) in cans. The money raised goes towards GB NSW Company support fund (ONE CAN) and the money raised in the other can will go towards our sisters in PNG Girls' Brigade.

Four times a year we have our State Councils meeting (one of them is our State Conference). At these meetings we have time to grow our spiritual walk, fellowship with others and we have business sessions.

Also this year we had a new Company in Bel Air. They were affiliated in March. It was a great day had by all who attended. During the year the 'Brigade Affect' newsletter were sent to GB Churches. In the newsletter we have articles about how GB has impacted and transformed the lives of girls, leaders, families and churches.

It has been great being able to come and let everyone know how Girls' Brigade NSW is going.

Elizabeth Neale – Girls; Brigade NSW Representative

www.gbnsw.org.au

NEWSLETTE

is the journal of the NSW State Unit Inc. of ACW Inc. and is published in February, May, August, and November

The Annual Subscription is \$10.00

Associate Membership of ACW NSW is available for \$15.00 per year.

For further enquiries contact the editor

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Abbreviations:

ACW	Australian Church Women
ACWC	Asian Church Women's Conference
FLC	Fellowship of the Least Coin
NCW	National Council of Women
WKS	Winifred Kiek Scholarship

WEBSITE for ACW www.acw.org.au

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY IN NSW 2016

Monday, 16th May DEDICATION DAY

11.00 am Parramatta Salvation Army,
Smith Street, Parramatta

FELLOWSHIP DAY held at the end of July
in local areas.

Supports Winifred Kiek Scholars

Sunday 21st August

ACWC Multicultural Concert of Praise

Baptist Church, Epping

Monday 19 September State Conference

Granville Salvation Army

WORLD COMMUNITY DAY

Held at the end of October in local areas.

Features the giving of money for FLC;

Special offering for the work of ACWC and the Special Project

WEBSITE FOR ACW: www.acw.org.au

Read the story of the woman behind the

Winifred Kiek Scholarship

Winifred

By Margaret Knauerhase

Order your copy from Lieut. Pat Cory

Email: patc15172optusnet.com.au

Cost \$15