

**AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN**  
**MINUTES OF NATIONAL EXECUTIVE MEETING, 10am 15th AUGUST 2000,**  
**held in Koorong Bookstore Staff Room, 198 Waymouth Street, Adelaide**



**WELCOME** President Mrs Marj Dredge welcomed all present.

**DEVOTIONS** Marj Dredge who had just returned from the Churches of Christ World Gathering said that women across the world are the bearers of hope in Christ and illustrated this with 2 stories. Christian women in the Philippines when preparing the family meal take a handful of rice and offer prayer for women then place the rice in a special sack which when full is given to the poorest of the poor. A woman from Zimbabwe said there are now 350 burials per week in her area due to AIDS. They run a farm where orphans (from AIDS) are cared for. Many Africans have an animist philosophy and say the ancestors are bringing AIDS upon them so are deaf to all facts re the spread of AIDS. The only hope to stop this epidemic is living in the Christian way - our prayers are needed as these women show their Christian faith.

Marj and husband Colin had a few days' respite following the Gathering and in the Queensland rain forest saw the strangler fig which begins from a tiny seed lodged in the tree and sends its roots down the tree and eventually kills it. The seed of hope and faith planted in people can so envelop the natural self that they can be absorbed into Christ.

Our prayers were for Christians to act this way. Then Barbara Grealy prayed for the World Day of Prayer National Liaison officer for Sth Africa, Emily, as she grieves over the tragic death of her son.

**PRESENT** Marj Dredge in Chair, Maureen Clark, Shirley Birch, Laurice Smith, Dorothy Chapman, Margaret Greenslade, Barbara Grealy, Shirley Sampson, Marj Crawford and Mavis Ellis.

**APOLOGY** Dorothy Ferrier.

**MINUTES** of the meeting of 18/7/2000 were signed as correct (noting the name is 'Joan' Instance p2 FLC Report).

**BUSINESS ARISING** from the Minutes

- 1 **Web Site** - enquiries are continuing.
- 2 **Preparation of Fellowship Day Service 2001** - Rev Annette Bailey has been contacted and an excellent 2000 Fellowship Day service had been held. Darwin will prepare the 2001 service (information now forwarded to Annette).
- 3 **WCD 2001 Theme** - 'Living in Hope' - Queensland to prepare.

**CORRESPONDENCE** - on Page 3. Inwards received, Outwards endorsed.

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE CORRESPONDENCE**

- 1 (3) The decision on this has been deferred to next meeting.
- 2 (6) Lyn Green's World Day of Prayer report will be printed in the Aug/September ACW News.
- 3 (7) National Prayer Breakfast invitation - m B Grealy s L Smith Evonne Sullivan or a representative from ACT unit be asked to attend to represent the National Executive. **Agreed**
- 4 (8) Card to be sent to Evonne Sullivan: card sent to Sue Nitrai (see WKS Report)
- 5 (11) m S Birch s L Smith \$100 from the Overseas Travel Fund be sent to cover insurance and gifts. **Agreed**

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT** - see Devotions

**TREASURER** - No statement this month. The Annual Report has been prepared but has not been audited and will be presented next month. As a Charity we have been exempt from Income Tax. One Term Deposit is due - re-invest at the Treasurer's discretion. Accounts passed for payment - \$54.15 Min. Secretary; \$46.35 Publications Convener; \$173.80 (incl GST) ACW News - m D Chapman s M. Clark. **Agreed**  
Imprest for Publications Convener to be \$100 - m B Grealy s S Birch **Agreed**

**REPORTS**

- 1 **WKS Convener** - Dorothy Ferrier  
On behalf of ACW and the Trustees I wrote to Sue Nitrai on the death of her father.
- 2 **FLC Convener** - Margaret Greenslade  
Thanks to Dorothy Haensel's efforts, delegates from UC National Assembly from most Australian States returned home taking the FLC publications thus saving postage. A/cs for "A Legend and A Legacy" have been sent as required. Nothing further to hand at present re accounts for 'Circle of Prayer' Vol15 & 'Many Prayer One Prayer'.

**3 Social Justice Convener - Mavis Ellis**

I have received an invitation to a Fairwear Breakfast on Friday 8 September. Community Aid Abroad and Fairwear have organised a National tour for an Indonesian ex-NIKE worker and he will speak on his experiences trying to deal with NIKE. There will also be Australian speakers on how the issue is being addressed here in Australia. This breakfast will be held during the Royal Show so I will not be able to attend but as the SA Unit took this issue to the National Conference I think it is important that we should be represented. I have not yet contacted Lyn Smith (SA Unit Social Justice Con) but she should be home by then.

**4 Publications Convener - Shirley Sampson**

ACW News June/July issue - if your number was incomplete by about 20 copies please let me know as some (without an envelope) were discovered at the Mail Exchange.

**PLEASE NOTE - for the August/September issue the closing date will be 10th September.**

**ACWC REPORT - Barbara Lacy**

We have all been very disappointed with the last ACWC Newsletter. As someone (unnamed) said to me it is not worth the money we pay. It is on the agenda for Bangladesh, and no doubt national reps will have to be made more responsible. I did submit an entry/reflection. Our report of National Conference was sent immediately, but look how long it took to be printed. Oh well, I only do my best.

Correspondence - Out

In

20/7 Yasuko, Treasurer - travel a/c.

\*\*Padma Ebenezer - thanks for assistance & prayer support.

1/8 Unifem - acceptance to AGM.

1/8 H Smith, ACW Q'ld - thanks for violence info.

8/8 Shunila Ruth, Pakistan, Airltetter (Aust's prayer partner)

8/8 Padma Ebenezer - "ACW News"

**\*\* Padma has returned home to Sri Lanka.** NSW Unit President Jan Harrison took Padma to the airport and Padma asked Joan to emphasise to the Units her appreciation for the love and support of ACW. (Every Unit contributed to the support).

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

- 1 ACW Leaflets - to be updated
- 2 Conference details discussed.

Closure - Prayer.

**Date of next meeting - Tuesday 19 September 2000 at 10 am**

National President..... Date .....

**PLEASE NOTE. ALL UNITS (except those who have already done so) please forward to the National Secretary the names, positions within the Unit, addresses and telephone numbers as soon as possible.**

Inwards:

- 3/7/00 1. WomensNEWS – to be issued monthly instead of fortnightly
- 27/7/00 2. ACW (QLD Unit) re website information
- 31/7/00 3. National Women's Justice Coalition Inc. re membership renewal
- 31/7/00 4. ACW (SA Unit) minutes meeting 14/7/00
- 2/8/00 5. ACW (QLD Unit) minutes meeting 26/6/00
- 8/8/00 6. ACW(Vic Unit) minutes meeting 23/6/00; Newsletters April & June
- 9/8/00 7. 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Prayer Breakfast Invitation (Canberra) (2)
- 10/8/00 8. ACW (ACT Unit) (3)ack. receipt Nat.exec. mins & Cir. No.6; advising ABN number; advising the passing of E. Sullivan's brother & Sue Nitrai's father.
- 11/8/00 9. D. Ferrier, WKS Trust report & bookmark
- 14/8/00 10. E.Sullivan, ACT Unit, newspaper cutting, model of building for Aust. Centre for Christianity and Culture
- 14/8/00 11. B. Lacy ACWC report & request for payment of trav. ins. for ACWC meeting Bangladesh
- Phone call
- 7/8/00 E. Sullivan – concern about Darwin Branch

PUBLICATIONS:

- ABC Radio National "The Sacred Site" abc.net.au/religion and radio programs
- Partnerships Against Domestic Violence June
- OSW 'women 2000'
- ACWC Newsletter April/May/June
- CWLA Newsletter July
- NEWS#13, NEWS#14
- National Women's Justice Coalition Inc. An. Report
- Aust. Virtual Centre for Women & the Law update 15/7/00
- Aust. Dom. & Family Violence Newsletter

Outwards:

- 21/7/00 1. B.Lacy (Vic Unit) re attending UNIFEM AGM 11/8/00
- 21/7/00 2. Circular 2000/6 all Units