

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN - NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

MINUTES OF MEETING 19-3-2007

PRESENT: E. Johnson, E. Reidy, A. Murray, I. Bray, U. Birtchnell, L. Adam, B. Skilbeck, D. Bryan, M. Welford, J. Maher, J. Morley.

APOLOGIES: B. Lacy.

WELCOME: E. Johnson welcomed everyone to the meeting and expressed love and sympathy to Beth Skilbeck on the death of her sister Marjory Verco, National Life Member.

DEVOTIONS: I. Bray led devotions using a story from the book, "Picking up the Pieces" by Lt. Col. Don Woodland. Iris opened the meeting with prayer.

MINUTES: Correction to minutes of 12-2-2007. Line 5 of WKS Convener Report – change "Una has sent out forms for 2008 students" to "Forms for 2008 students have been sent out". With this correction U. Birtchnell moved, sec. L. Adam that the Minutes be confirmed. Carried.

BUSINESS ARISING: 1. "Who's Who of Australian Women." B. Lacy is not sending an entry.
2. **Winifred Keik Leaflet.** The leaflets will be sent out before the end of March.
3. **Fundraising Luncheon.** About 50 people are coming. B. Skilbeck will direct people to the room. E. Johnson has arranged for a soloist and pianist. J. Maher will bring publicity leaflets to distribute. E. Reidy will bring the gifts for the soloist and pianist.
4. **ACW Publicity Brochure.** These will be mailed out with the Registration Forms.
5. **NCCA Petition against Christmas Island Detention Centre.** Return by 31 May 2007.

CORRESPONDENCE: IN 1. ACW SA Unit – Minutes 09/02/07

2. ACW NSW Unit – Minutes 21/8/06, 20/11/06

3. Aust. Domestic & Family Violence Clearinghouse – Newsletter 27 & Issues paper 12 – to M. Welford.

4. Mrs Jean Hughes – appreciation.

5. ACW Tas Unit – entries HACW. To E. Reidy.

6. ACW Tas Unit – applications (2) for Special Project 2007. To B. Skilbeck

7. Women's Ministries Churches of Christ in Australia – details of executive now based in S. Australia.

8. Major G. Watson, NT – re National executive 2009/2011

9. I. Hewitt, ACW NSW – re Travel fund. B. Lacy to write to E. Holley for a copy of the suggested changes to the National Treasurer's Guidelines.

10. J. Miller, ACW Tas Unit – minutes of meeting 26/6/07

11. Major G. Watson, NT – not able to be National Executive 2009/2011

12. ACW WA Unit – Minutes 16/02/07

OUT 1. Mrs M. Dixon – sympathy on the passing of her husband, Fred.

2. I. Hewitt, ACW NSW – re Travel Fund

3. Captain K. Viney, Major G. Watson, NT – re National Executive 2009/2011

4. Mrs Beth Skilbeck and family on death of sister, Mrs Marjory Verco

5. National Executive and State Units – advice of the death of Marjory Verco, National Life Member, in Sydney 5/3/07.

6. Brenda Dickinson – re ACW web site

Thanks to E. Reidy for presenting the correspondence in the absence of B. Lacy.

E. Reidy moved, sec. M. Welford, that the correspondence be received. Carried.

REPORTS: 1. **President.** Elaine Johnson reported on her visit to ACT Unit. On 22 February she went with B. Lacy to a seminar, "Women Dreaming Together" organized by NCC Gender Commission. On 23 February she conducted the funeral of her cousin's husband. \$200 given for this service was donated to ACW National. Elaine reported on her visit to SA Unit. She received a letter from I. Hewitt re speaking at ACW NSW Unit Dedication Service on 21 May and another from A. Jell re visit to Qld on 28 May for State Unit meeting and 30 May for musical programme for the wider community. She sent letters to ACT

and SA units to thank them for the visits and to Qld and NSW Units to arrange visits. A Sympathy card was sent to Beth Skilbeck.

2. Vice President. Eunice Reidy reported that she attended the National Breast Cancer Foundation's Annual Research Breakfast held at the Hilton Hotel on 28 February. The morning was chaired by the Hon. Ros Kelly, a survivor of Breast Cancer. The speakers were Professor G. Giles, Director of the Cancer Epidemiology Centre of the Cancer Council of Victoria, K. Skelding, a researcher with the Dept. of Immunology and Microbiology at the University of Newcastle and K. Berry, a school principal who survived breast cancer.

3. Treasurer. Iris Bray presented the Financial Statement from 31-1-07 to 14-3-07. Iris reported that there is a correction to the Financial Statement presented at the last meeting. The entries reported for receipts from the Tas Unit and Qld Unit for WK books should have been for FLC Anniversary Books. Also the expense reported for Petty Cash for B. Lacy should have been an expense for the Prayer Breakfast. It was decided that money collected for the FLC Anniversary Books should be taken to E. Byu by D. Bryan when she attends the meeting in Bangkok in June. I. Bray moved, sec. B. Skilbeck, that the report be received. Carried.

4. Winifred Keik Scholarship Convener. Una Birtchnell reported that Pastor Leinamau Monrogoana, WK scholar for 2007, arrived in Sydney on Sunday 19 at 6.30pm. She was met at the airport and given flowers and an Australian bag with toiletries as a welcome gift. Rev Ian Stehens from the Alan Walker College of Evangelism took her back to the college. The new WKS Convener for SA is Mrs Cynthia Gifford, 1/432 Magill Road, Kensington Gardens, SA, 5068. Phone 088333 0302.

5. Fellowship of the Least Coin Convener. Lola Adam reported that she had a letter from M. Florence ordering 3 Anniversary Books and enclosing payment. Payment for F. Moss's copy was also received. Letters were written to all state conveners reminding them of payments for Anniversary Books, closing date for grant applications and foreshadowing requirement of annual reports in an April letter. A letter was received from J. Miller with information that the Rainbows Project had received \$US 2,000 grant from FLC. 2 copies of Circle of Prayer 18 were received from Esther. One copy was delivered to Frank Watson on Friday. A letter from Esther requested information from Anne Drummond so that the \$3,000 to the Timor Leste project can be paid into the bank. Lola will contact Anne Drummond. SA Unit needs 80 copies of Circle of Prayer by 14 May. As Lola will be overseas Lola's mail will be redirected to Elaine so that if the books arrive in time the 80 copies can be sent to SA Unit.

6. Social Justice Issues Convener. Marian Welford has sent the letters to the State units.

7. ACWC. Donna Bryan reported that she has submitted a report for the next edition of the ACWC newsletter. The office in Taiwan has recently moved from the 5th floor to the 4th in the building owned by the Presbyterian Church of Taiwan. The Presbyterian Church of Taiwan is hosting a mission for young people in 2007 and they are encouraging young people from ACWC member countries to attend. Our South Korean prayer partners are celebrating 40 years of Korean Church Women United. They have asked ACW to send a greeting to be read out at their celebrations. Please pray for all our Asian sisters. Send Signature cards to Donna before the beginning of May.

8. Publication Editor. Donna Bryan requested articles by 2 April.

9. Special Days. Beth Skilbeck reported that she has received 3 applications for the WCD Special Project. Project Rachel, submitted by the Tas Unit was chosen as the Special Project for 2007. It aims to bring healing and reconciliation to those who have been hurt by an abortion experience.

Beth will contact ACT Unit re their theme for their time as National Executive so that a theme can be chosen for FD 2008.

10. Australian Women's Coalition. Anne Murray reported that AWC is undertaking a women's leadership program project. The aim of the project is to investigate the recruitment, development and retention of women in leadership with a view to highlighting the essential elements or contributing features of successful women's leadership programs/initiatives, and showcasing leading practice examples. Anne has interviewed leaders in ACW and has completed the surveys as requested by AWC.

GENERAL BUSINESS: 1. **National Conference 2007.** Time was spent planning for Conference.

CLOSING PRAYER: E. Johnson closed the meeting with prayer.

NEXT MEETING: Monday 16 April 2007 at 10am at VCC rooms

Devotions – B. Lacy Morning tea – E. Reidy