



# AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

## NSW STATE UNIT INC.

*Minutes of Council Meeting Monday 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2016  
10.30 am, 222 Pitt Street Sydney*

**OPENING:** President Pamela welcomed all to the meeting. Visitor Judy O'Hara was introduced by Yvonne Coorey.

**DEVOTIONS:** Pamela shared a Devotion based on Ephesians 3:17-19 'so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.' A children's book 'God loves me more than that' was used to illustrate this passage, and a song 'You can't stop God from Loving You'. Pamela quoted from Romans 8: 'Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Neither death, nor life, nor angels nor demons, nor things present nor the future, nothing in creation can separate us from the love of God'. The Devotions were closed with prayer.

**PRESENT:** 27 council members plus one visitor

**APOLOGIES:** There were 9 apologies.

**MINUTES:** The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2016 were confirmed as correct. *Moved by Tricia Graham and Seconded by Yvonne Coorey*

### **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

1) **Fellowship Day:** Representatives from Dee Why, Concord/Burwood/Strathfield, and New Lambton reported on the success of their Fellowship Day service.

2) **Concert of Praise 21<sup>st</sup> August:** Those present were asked to add their name to a list prepared if they could help with catering and serving. Pamela outlined some of the groups who will be performing at the concert. An offering will be taken up to support Asian Church Women's Conference of which ACW is a member.

3) **State Day Conference 19<sup>th</sup> September:** A map showing the location of Granville Salvation Army was distributed. The Conference will include ladies working with people who are homeless, bushfire survivors and prison ministry.. There will be a bible study by Colonel Geanette Seymour. The 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of FLC will be celebrated. Pamela moved that the expenses towards the State Conference Day be paid, Seconded by Jan Harrison.

4) **Spiritual Enrichment Day 2017:** This will be held on 17<sup>th</sup> July, at Woy Woy Presbyterian Church..

### **REPORTS:**

**Treasurer:** Pat Cory presented the Statement of Receipts and Payments for 1<sup>st</sup> June to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2016. Pat commented that every week a donation comes in for FLC from various groups, amounting to \$602 by the end of July and more since. The total Income for June and July was \$1087.44; and total payments for June & July: \$520.30, giving a Credit Balance at bank at 31<sup>st</sup> July 2016 - \$3266.63. Accounts to be paid: Salvation Army, Dulwich Hill WCD \$43.61; J Pepper – Stamps Newsette \$200; Eastwood Baptist Church, 50% Archive Rental July-Dec. \$150; Epping Baptist Church, Newsette printing \$150; J Pepper – Printer Cartridges \$50.65; Lyn Middleton – Postage WCD \$143.50; M. Noel, Postage \$20.

Pat moved that the Report be accepted and accounts be paid; Seconded by Elizabeth McEwen. Carried.

**Fellowship of the Least Coin** –Lillian has been advised by the National Convenor for FLC that copies of the FLC book for children 'Shanti Means Peace' may soon be available. In 2015 the book received an Award of Excellence from the Religion Communicator's Council. Lillian shared a devotion from Asinate Samate in Tonga based on 1 Timothy 4:12 'Be an example to all believers in what you teach, in the way you live, in your love, your faith and your purity. A group in Tonga the 'Tongan Women Doing Theology' has been carrying out seminars, bible studies, training sessions and retreats based on the theme 'Women as Peace Builders'.

**Special Days:** Lyn commented that it was good to hear the reports of Fellowship Day and it looked as though those who held those services had a good meeting. We do need to be concerned that if a group drops a day, it's Fellowship Day because it's July and cold. Community Day is the last Friday in October and there isn't another meeting before then. Parcels have been sent out – there are some on the table for those who can take them themselves. World Community Day is including the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Fellowship of the Least Coin, with a nice segment about Shanti Solomon prepared by WA. Scripture readings are Ezekial 36:26-28; 1 John 4:1-6 and John 14: 15-21.

**Winifred Kiek Scholarship:** There are further details in Newsette. Notice was received of the death of Margaret Knauerhase, daughter of Winifred Kiek in July, aged 102. Pamela sent a message of condolence to SA ACW. Earlier this year there were changes to be Board of WKS Trustees due to 3 members concluding their terms – a new Chair of Trustees, Secretary plus one member have been appointed. Yane (Humpty Doo/NT/2015) recently returned from Indonesia visiting family. Yane's brother is in Ministry there, with street kids. His son, Riel, aged 15, has a brain tumour and having radiotherapy. Yane would like prayer for them; for her studies continue with 2 subjects this Semester; for health and balance of time with family and ministry. Leinamau (Vanuatu, 2007) studies and assignments continue in Fiji. Christy (Melbourne 2009) on mission trip to SE Asia – will probably be returning soon. Esline (Vanuatu 2016) Remember Esline in her new role with her church National Executive and preparing for her attendance to World Convention, India, 2017.

**Social Issues::** Funding for mental health, the greyhound industry and the fashion industry were issues highlighted.

**Membership:** No report

**Pastoral Care:** June has been in touch with Helen Hill – both she and her husband have been unwell; also spoken to Jennifer Pepper regarding her husband Roger and asked that we keep Helen & David Hill, and Jennifer and Roger Pepper in our prayers.

**Newsette:** The August issue of Newsette was mailed out and should have been delivered by the beginning of the month; emailed copies went out at the commencement of the month. The number now being mailed has been considerably reduced as only those who have paid current subscriptions are receiving them. All council members are required to pay their annual subscription of \$10, which is due in November to cover the coming year. Copies are mailed out rather than brought to Council meetings because the February issue reminds people that Council and Executive meetings will recommence for the new year; the

May issue reminds people of the Annual Dedication Day service venue; August has details of the State Day Conference or Spiritual Enrichment Day, also the ACWC Concert if being held. November issue has the Renewal Notice for the Newsette subscription. Jennifer welcomes articles for Newsette, if appropriate and of suitable size. The next issue will be the November issue; the deadline being October 6.

**Publicity:** Dealt with in 'Business Arising'.

*It was moved by Pamela Freeman that the Reports be accepted; Seconded by Heather Reid.*

#### **CORRESPONDENCE Inwards**

ACW National Exec. May Minutes  
ACW Nat. Secretary – Address list State Units  
ACW Nat. Exec. June Minutes  
ACW Nat Exec. – dates for AGM  
ACW SA Unit Newsletter July  
Tas. Unit – Committee Members 2016-17  
PPSEAWA Minutes 22/6  
Helen Raymond – Prayer request Bangladesh  
WDP Elizabeth Clarke re ACW rep.  
National Council Women – Invitation Foundation Day lunch 8<sup>th</sup> August  
WDP – New President  
NCW July Newsletter & membership renewal  
PPSEAWA Minutes 27 July  
Girls' Brigade, August Report

#### **CORRESPONDENCE Outwards**

From President to SA Unit re death of Margaret Knauerhase  
To WDP President – re ACW Rep.  
Anne Kennedy – correction to address list  
Anne Kennedy re ACW National AGM  
Greta Howard, Uniting Church: dates for ACW meetings 2017  
Minister Woy Woy Pres. Church – thank you for use of church 17 July 2017.

#### **BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE:** Nil

**FUNCTIONS ATTENDED/TO ATTEND:** President Pamela Freeman attended PPSEAWA Winter Luncheon on 22<sup>nd</sup> June. The speaker at this lunch, Detective Superintendent Deborah Wallace, spoke about 'Grace's Place', a house which will cater for children and young people recovering from trauma. It is named in honour of Grace Lynch, the mother of Anita Cobby, a founding member of the Homicide Victims Support Group. Pamela also attended the PWA Annual Conference on 4<sup>th</sup> July, held at PLC. Pamela noted that they also had trouble filling some of the positions, the same as ACW does.

#### **OTHER ORGANIZATIONS:**

**Bible Society:** No report

**Girls' Brigade:** Elizabeth Neale shared interesting observations of her recent trip to the USA and The Bahamas, where her mother Renelle was attending the GB International President meeting. The Girls' Brigade State Council meeting was held on 6<sup>th</sup> August. They were taught to use Office 365, a new computer program that GB around Australia is using. GB Companies are planning for their Father's Day nights where Companies invite the girls' dads to come along. Pioneer Leadership Training will take place on 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> September giving training for camping and recreation.

**NSW Ecumenical Council:** Isabel reminded members about the Taize week in September. Prayer Services will be held on 22<sup>nd</sup> September at St Patricks, Church Hill; at 6.30 pm; 23<sup>rd</sup> September at St Albans Epping at 7.00 pm and at Mereweather on 24<sup>th</sup> September at 6.00 pm.

**National Council of Women (NCW):** Since the last meeting, the National Council of Women has held two functions to celebrate their 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. A Morning Tea was held on 28<sup>th</sup> June at Sydney Town Hall, the venue of the first meeting of the NCW. The group represented members of the organisations that make up the Council. The Foundation Day Luncheon was held at Parliament House, with 110 attending. Certificates of Appreciation were presented to six women by the Hon. Pru Goward, Minister for Women. The final function of the 120<sup>th</sup> year will be the presentation of the 7<sup>th</sup> Dame Marie Bashir Peace Awards to girls selected from the 70 applications received. The Members and Friends Morning Teas continue on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month in the Upper Room Café at the Wesley Centre from 10.15 am. to 11.30, to which you are all invited.

**Pan Pacific & South East Asia Women's Association (PPSEAWA):** Helen Richardson reported that the Speaker at the July meeting was from the Federal Police, Libby Bleakley, who recently took 12 months leave to be a Project Manager supervising the building of a Centre of Learning for Youth in Timor-Leste, similar to a Police Citizens Youth Club, supported by the Blackheath Rotary Club. Pamela reminded the meeting that we do not have an ACW representative to PPSEAWA, if anyone is available on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month, please see Pamela. Helen commented that they are lovely meetings!

**World Day of Prayer:** Tricia Graham attended the WDP Annual General Meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> July and was very warmly welcomed. They thanked Shirley Mitchell for the 10 years she travelled from Newcastle to attend their meetings. The Office Bearers for 2016/17 were formally elected. The new President is Elizabeth Clarke. The committee was happy with reports received from WDP services held this year. A donation of \$80,000 was presented to the Bible Society from the collections on that day. The material for 2017 from the Philippines was discussed. The next meeting will be on 28<sup>th</sup> November.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Allowah Presbyterian Children's Hospital – Heather Reid recently spoke to the Chaplain who commented on the how valuable the equipment is that was purchased with the ACW Special Project grant. June Kay reported that people from the Presbyterian Church at Epping go to Allowah to read to the children and that the Presbyterian Church is building another centre for older children.

PWA Market Day – this will be held at Ashfield Presbyterian Church on 12<sup>th</sup> October – the proceeds will go to Allowah.

**CLOSE OF MEETING:** The meeting closed at 12.00 with prayer and benediction from Pamela.

**NEXT MEETING** Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2016

**Morning tea:** Catholic

**Chairs:** The Salvation Army

**Trading Table:** The Salvation Army