

Australian Church Women Inc



22nd NATIONAL CONFERENCE

21-25 September 2009

**HOTEL HERITAGE
NARRABUNDAH, ACT**

WORKING PAPERS

"Faith in the Future"

Australian Church Women, 22nd National Conference, 2009

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AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE 2007–2009

President	Mrs Jean Thomson OAM
Vice President	Mrs Jacqueline Hipwell
Vice President	Mrs Helen Raymond
Secretary	Mrs Margaret Lawton
Treasurer	Mrs Helen Lloyd
Minute Secretary	Mrs Angela Devlin
Fellowship of the Least Coin Convenor	Mrs Janet Abrahamffy
Social Justice Convenor	Mrs Judith-Ann Sjostedt
Special Days Convenor	Mrs Fran Moss
Winifred Kiek Scholarship Convenor	Mrs Constance Aronsen
Publications Editor	Captain Eileen Holley
Publicity Officer	vacant
<i>Ex officio</i>	
ACWC Representative	Captain Donna Bryan
Website Manager	Mrs Brenda Dickinson

PARTICIPANTS LIST

Special Guests

Ms Corazon Tabing-Reyes	International Committee, Fellowship of the Least Coin
Rev Vicki Cullen	Bible Studies
Rev Ron Reeson	Young Ambassadors for Peace
Mrs Margaret Reeson	Young Ambassadors for Peace
Rev Moriah Hurst	Irene's Place
General Eva Burrows	

National Life Members

Mrs Olive Ackland	
Mrs Shirley Brooks	Delegate TAS
Mrs Juanita Miller	Delegate TAS
Mrs Eunice Reidy	
Mrs Edith Ridge	
Miss Shirley Wells	
Mrs Dorothy Wright	Observer SA

National Executive

President	Mrs Jean Thomson OAM	Delegate
Vice President	Mrs Jacqueline Hipwell	Delegate CWLA
Vice President	Mrs Helen Raymond	Delegate ACT
Secretary	Mrs Margaret Lawton	Delegate
Treasurer	Mrs Helen Lloyd	Delegate
Minute Secretary	Mrs Angela Devlin	Min Sec
F/ship of the Least Coin Convenor	Mrs Janet Abrahamffy	Observer
Social Justice Convenor	Mrs Judith-Ann Sjostedt	Delegate
Special Days Convenor	Mrs Fran Moss	Delegate QLD
Winifred Kiek Convenor	Mrs Constance Aronsen	Delegate
Publications Editor	Capt Eileen Holley	Observer
ACW Website	Mrs Brenda Dickinson	Observer

Asian Church Women's Conference Aust Rep

Captain Donna Bryan	Delegate
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Incoming National Executive

President	Miss Margaret Flint OAM	Delegate
Vice President	Major Wanda McKeand	Delegate
Secretary	Mrs Judy Burge	Delegate
Treasurer	Miss Christine Barber	Delegate
Minute Secretary	Mrs Pat Walker	Delegate
Special Days Convenor	Captain Judith Brown	Observer
Social Justice Convenor	Mrs Kath Smith	Observer

WKS Trust Representative

Mrs Maureen Clark	Delegate
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ACT UNIT

Mrs Cela Cooper	Delegate
Mrs Betty Farrell	Observer
Dr Vimala Isaac	Observer

NEW SOUTH WALES UNIT

DSS Heather Badgery	
Mrs Bronde Dickinson	
Mrs Nola Dickson	Observer
Mrs Pamela Freeman	
Mrs Jan Harrison	
Mrs Isabel Hewitt	Delegate
Major Lillian Hodges	
Major Beatrice Kay	
Mrs Marie McCann OAM	
Mrs Jennifer Peffer	Delegate
Mrs Helen Richardson	Observer

QUEENSLAND UNIT

Mrs Beverley Currie	
Mrs Margaret Florence	Delegate

SOUTH AUSTRALIA UNIT

Mrs Aileen Eldridge	Delegate
Mrs Anne Parnis	Delegate
Rev Nita West	Observer

TASMANIA UNIT**VICTORIA UNIT**

Mrs Lola Adam	
Mrs Una Birtchnell	
Mrs Iris Bray	
Mrs Pat Burchell	Observer
Mrs Lorraine Davis	
Major Elaine Johnson	Delegate
Mrs Anne Kennedy	Observer
Mrs Barbara Mondon	Delegate

NORTHERN TERRITORY UNIT

Major Kaye Viney	Delegate
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WESTERN AUSTRALIA UNIT

Rev Lee Edwards	
Mrs Margaret Ker	Observer
Mrs Leeola Loughnan	Delegate
Mrs Marie Majoor	Delegate
Major Laurel Pearce	Observer

National Denominational Representatives

CWLA	Mrs Jacqueline Hipwell	Delegate
MU Australia	Mrs Anne Downing	Delegate
Salvation Army (S)	Mrs Iris Bray	Observer
(E)	Major Lyn Middleton	Delegate
(E) M _{jr}	Nancy McLaren	Observer
UCAF	Rev Alistair Christie	Delegate
	Mrs Denise Secomb	Observer

Special Interest group

World Day of Prayer	Mrs Pauline Smit	Observer
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Day Visitors

Mrs Marie Gallagher
Mrs Janet Grahame
Mrs Carmel Keys
Mrs Dorothy McMaster
Miss Lyn Morison
Mrs Catherine O'Sullivan
Mrs Olga Scott
Mrs Evonne Sullivan AM (NLM)

Honours awarded to Australian Church Women Members

ACT	Mrs Jean Thomson Mrs Kathy Grin	OAM Life Member ACT Unit
NSW	Mrs Patricia Burke	Honorary Doctorate from Australian Catholic University
SA	Mrs Dorothy Ferrier	Life Vice Presidency of Diocesan Mothers' Union
WA	Mrs Kay Lockley Mrs Margaret Ker Mrs Margaret (Peg) Sanders	Commendation for 40 years as foster carer Life Member of CWL Certificate for 50 years membership of Mother's Union

In Remembrance

ACT	Mollie McMahon Enid Rochow
NSW	Marjorie Baker Joan Curtin Keasi Kupu
QLD	Norah Thomson
SA	Vi Bache Jess Horton OAM
WA	Patricia May Smeaton OBE OAM

Honouring Australian Church Women

ACT	Helen <u>Ruth</u> Burmester Betty Jean Farrell Catherine <u>May</u> Goudie Betty Marjorie Laurie Mollie Ongley Elizabeth Saint Evonne Rita Sullivan Stella Mary Taber
QLD	Aileen Mortensen
SA	Jessie Horton
TAS	Rev Deidrie Hunter
WA	Lady Wilson (Leila)

PROGRAM, 2009

Date	Time	Content
Monday 21 September	9.30am	Registrations/Morning Tea
	12.30	Lunch
	1.30pm	Welcome. 2.00pm Access to rooms
	3.00pm	A/Tea
	3.30pm	FLC Corazon Tabing-Reyes
	5.00pm	Worship and Remembrance service
	6.30pm	Dinner
	7.30pm	Session 1 8.40 Devotions, SA Unit
Tuesday 22 September	From 6.30am	Breakfast
	9.00am	News, Notices, Devotions, QLD Unit
	10.00am	M/tea, Walk/ drive to St Benedicts
	10.30am	Ecumenical Service
	12.30pm	Lunch
	1.30pm	WKS Trustees, Financial statement.
	3.00	A/Tea
	3.30pm	Ron & Margaret Reeson (Young Ambassadors for Peace)
	6.30pm	Dinner
	7.30—9.00pm	Session 2 8.40 Devotions, NSW Unit
Wednesday 23 September	From 6.30am	Breakfast
	9.00am	News, Notices Devotions, VIC Unit
	9.30am	Bible Study 1
	10.30am	M/Tea
	11.00am	Session 3. Reports, Concerns etc
	12.30pm	Lunch
	1.30pm	Board bus for ACCC, Group photos, Floriade
	6.30m	Dinner
	7.30—9.00pm	General Eva Burrows. Session 4 8.40 Devotions, TAS Unit
Thursday 24 September	From 6.30am	Breakfast
	8.45am	News, Notices Devotions, ACT Unit
	9.15 –10.15am	Bible Study 2
	10.30am	Bus to Govt House
	11.00am	MORNING TEA at GOVT HOUSE, Yarralumla
	12.30pm	Lunch
	1.30pm	Session 5
	3.00 –4.00pm	Cuppa, "Irene's Place"
	4.00pm	Free time
	6.30pm	FORMAL DINNER – Installation of Incoming Nat Exec Devotions, Inc Nat Exec
Friday 25 September	From 6.30am	Breakfast
	9.00am	News, Notices Devotions, WA Unit
	9.30am	Bible study 3
	10.30am	M/Tea
	11.00am	Session 6
	12.00 noon	Closing service. Lunch. Depart Outgoing Nat Exec

PROCEDURAL ARRANGEMENTS

The following procedures will be used by the President and Vice Presidents during the National Conference 21–25 September 2009.

1. Agenda as set out in the Conference program will be adhered to unless the meeting determines otherwise.

Any business not included in the agenda must be presented in writing to the National Executive no later than 9.00pm Monday 21 September 2009 for consideration and presented for debate if and when it is considered appropriate.

The President shall determine when introduced business genuinely arises from the current debate, and is so determined, it may become part of the conference Agenda regardless of the date introduced.

2. Motions must be presented in writing and signed by the mover and seconder, together with a preamble and/or rationale.
3. Recommendations and/or suggestions from Units, intended to become Motions, must be presented in writing as indicated above.
4. Reference Committee of three (3) shall be appointed by Conference.
5. Tellers. Two (2) shall be appointed by conference.
6. Members wishing to speak shall stand and wait until recognised by the President. Members shall address the President when speaking. All members are to state their name and Unit or Organisation represented, before beginning to speak,. Observers have the right to speak but not to vote.
7. All Conference papers to be taken as read, but the Presenter of the business may highlight certain aspects within limits as prescribed in Item 15.
8. A motion may be moved, the mover speaking to the motion. Any motion that is not seconded shall lapse and not be recorded in the conference Minutes.

The seconder of the motion may speak to the motion, or may reserve the right to speak later.

9. Motions may be debated once they have been moved and seconded. The President may inquire if there is anyone wishing to speak for or against the motion, and should alternate such speakers. If there are no speakers against the motion, the President shall put the motion to the vote.

The mover of the motion has the right of reply to the debate immediately prior to the vote being taken.

10. Debating: Up to three (3) minutes will be allowed to each speaker unless permission is granted for an extension of time (for a maximum of two (2) minutes). This must be moved, seconded and agreed upon by the voting members.

No member may speak more than once on the same motion or amendment, except the mover, who shall have the right of reply. If debate exceeds twenty-five (25) minutes on one motion, it will be deferred to a later Business Session.

11. Amendments may arise from the debate, but the mover, seconder and speaker to the amendment shall not have spoken to the original motion. The proposed amendment must vary the subject matter of the motion, whilst maintaining the intent of the original motion. Any amendment not seconded must lapse and not be recorded in the Conference Minutes.

The President may choose to inquire if any amendment is likely to be seconded, before allowing the mover of the proposed amendment to speak to the amendment.

The mover of the amendment may not reserve the right to speak later.

One (1) amendment shall be dealt with at a time, with speakers limited to addressing the amendment subject. A speaker may foreshadow her intention (but not to speak to her proposal) to offer an alternate amendment following the resolution of the current amendment.

Any amendment must be taken in sequence of acceptance.

12. The debate is closed when the time limit of twenty-five (25) minutes is exceeded on the one motion, the President indicates she believes there has been sufficient debate there are no more speakers, or when someone, who has not taken part on the debate, moves the motion **“that the question be now put”**. This must be seconded and carried.

The vote must be taken immediately without further discussion or the mover’s right of reply being granted.

If there is a motion and an amendment before the Conference, the amendment is put to the vote first. With the resolving of an amendment, the debate on the motion, or the amended motion is closed. Any foreshadowed amendment is now proposed and the debate resumed.

The mover of the motion may use her right of reply, after which the President shall put the motion to the vote. A simple majority vote is necessary for the motion to be carried. The President shall declare the result of each vote.

13. Voting entitlements are:
- Two (2) from each State/Territory Unit
 - One (1) from each Denominational Organisation
 - Five (5) from Incoming National Executive
 - One (1) from Winifred Kiek Scholarship Trust
 - One (1) ACW representative to ACWC
 - Five (5) National Executive members

14. Voting method shall be by the Delegates displaying their official Voting Card when the vote is called for, unless otherwise decided by vote at the Conference.

15. At all reporting Sessions, it shall be moved “that all reports be taken as read”. Speakers to the National Executive and Unit reports are allocated five (5) minutes, National Denominational groups, Special Interest Groups, Winifred Kiek Scholarship Trust and National Representatives are allocated three (3) minutes. Questions and comments are not included in the time allocation, but at the discretion of the President.

NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

These last two years have passed very quickly. Over that time I have been much encouraged by the ecumenical work of all Units of ACW, wherever they are, whether large or small.

I have been privileged to represent ACW at a number of functions, including the National Prayer Breakfasts, International Women's Day breakfasts and celebrations for St Patrick's Day. These have been opportunities to make our organisation more widely known in the community.

It has been a very enriching experience to be able to visit some of the Units, NSW for their anniversary celebrations, and South Australia, Western Australia and Queensland more recently. I wish to thank most gratefully the members of the Units for extending their hospitality and giving their time to look after me so well when I was with them.

My thanks also go to all those who represented National Executive on my behalf at various functions in their States.

The work of the truly extraordinary team of women who have been members of the national executive has been a wonderful support to me. We have been a team with different experiences and different skills, each giving their best to the overall work of ACW. I especially wish to commend Helen Raymond who with the support of her husband Oliver, worked tirelessly to ensure that ACW National finally became incorporated after many years of talk. This was envisaged at both the 2005 and 2007 conferences and it is most satisfying to now have ACW National as a properly incorporated non-government body.

During this time I have been the delegate to Australian Women's Coalition, and have tried to bring a Christian viewpoint, compatible with the aims of ACW, to the discussions and so to the decisions made by that body.

It has been a privilege to serve ACW and you all in this way and I thank you for enabling me to hold this position. I am very conscious of the prayers of many different people which have upheld me throughout the period.

I wish that God's richest blessings may be on the incoming President, Miss Margaret Flint OAM, and the incoming National Executive in South Australia as they go about the work in the coming years.

Jean Thomson OAM

President

NATIONAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

The last two years have been a time of much learning for me, and I have gained an appreciation of the wider picture of the ACW movement around Australia, and its relationship with ACWC and the world-wide organisation of the FLC movement. However, if I am really honest, I will say that I am looking forward to the handing over of ACW responsibilities to my successor! It has been a busy time for me. At the same time I will miss very much the fellowship and care that members of the National Executive have had for each other. National President Jean Thomson and National Treasurer Helen Lloyd in particular have always been very helpful in their guiding and assistance, and I thank them especially. Judith-Ann Sjostedt composed the words and tune for our Conference song. I think she has skilfully included all of ACW's activities in the words – enjoy it. I also want to pay tribute to ACT's two National Life Members, Ruth and Evonne, who have been present at most of our meetings and been a tower of knowledge and support to everyone.

I have been told that when National responsibilities were last held by ACT (in 1995–97) the matter of Incorporation was a keen topic of discussion. It seems to have been on the Agenda ever since, but no decision was able to be made by other executives. However, during our current term the matter was raised again, and members agreed that Helen Raymond carry out another investigation. With help and guidance from her husband Oliver, Helen was able to gather the information necessary, and carried it through to conclusion earlier this year. Our Life Members in particular were rejoicing. Perhaps it has been easier doing this in the ACT because “officialdom” is comparatively accessible here. The Executive realises that Incorporation affects ensuing Executives, but feels that the benefits are worthwhile.

During the year we have been saddened by devastating natural disasters across Australia – floods and bushfires. God's love and concern for his people was shown by fellow Australians and also by members of ACWC as shown by their prayers, and their donation to the bushfire victims. We were humbled by their generosity.

The ACW Website was launched at the last Conference, and I know that members of the general public have looked for information from it. Some members of Executive do not regard themselves as “computer literate”, and we have had difficulty understanding everything that is required to maintain the Website as a useful tool. Brenda Dickinson, Website manager, has had frustrations too. I hope that the Incoming National Executive will be able to investigate the whole Website situation.

I want to thank all the Unit Secretaries for sending in minutes and reports regularly. It has been so interesting to read of the different emphases that our Units have. Our numbers are getting smaller, and we pray that the Lord will show us a way to broaden support for our movement.

My good wishes to go to the incoming National Executive, and the secretary in particular. I know you already have many plans in hand for the coming two years.

Margaret Lawton
National Secretary

NATIONAL TREASURER'S REPORT

I have pleasure in presenting the financial statements for the years ended 30.6.08 and 30.6.09. The separate statements for the periods 1.07.07 to 14.11.07, and 15.11.07 to 30.06.08 have been used in preparing the ones for the year to 30.06.08.

National Executive has used a cheque account facility at Westpac through the Anglican Development Fund in Canberra. We have also opened an "at call" account with the Anglican Development Fund which has earned a higher rate of interest. The \$22,000 deposited in this account has increased to \$23,486.86 at 30.06.09.

The Guidelines were amended at the 2007 National Conference to clarify the titles and purposes of the Conference & Travel Funds. Details of the activity in these funds since the transfer to the ACT are shown below:

	National Conference Fund	National Travel Fund	O/seas Conference & Travel Fund
November 2007	12,517.86	3,233.95	1,860.00
Donations	1,200.00	1,662.70	1,150.00
Total	13,717.86	4,896.65	3,010.00
Expenses	550.00	1,185.83	—
Balance 30.06.09	13,167.86	3,710.82	3,010.00

Most Units have supported these funds annually, as per the Guidelines.

Interest rates have fallen during our term of office, so the amount of interest earned has been reduced. Approximately 10% was deducted each year from both the Fellowship and World Community Day Service offerings for administration prior to transfer to Winifred Kiek Scholarship Trust from Fellowship Day and 50% each to ACWC and the Special Project for the year from World Community Day. Only a small amount was deducted from the Fellowship of the Least Coin money prior to transfer to Switzerland.

It was felt that all WKS leaflets should be uniform for distribution by Units. This resulted in expenses of \$3348.09 for the printing and postage over the two years and is in excess of any money retained from the Fellowship Day Service collections.

The cost of the reprint of "Winifred" books has not been covered to date through sales. There are still 112 copies on hand.

ACWC responded to the Victorian Bushfire Emergency in February 2009 by sending a donation of \$US 500 (\$A 760.57). This remains in the National Executive account pending advice on its disposal.

All Registration and Conference Fees received for the 22nd National Conference have been shown as a separate figure at 30.6.09. The \$550 expenses incurred earlier were deducted from the National Conference Fund.

I would like to express our appreciation to the Auditors: Mr Ron Mellody of Collins Mellody for the period 1.07.07 to 14.11.07, and to Pauline Hore JP(ACT), BEc, Dipl in Admin, CPA for the period 15.11.07 to 30.6.08, the year ended 30.6.09, and also the combined accounts to 30.6.08.

I would also like to thank all Unit Treasurers for their support during my term of office and to wish my successor a happy and rewarding time as she moves from WKS Treasurer to National Treasurer.

Helen Lloyd, National Treasurer

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

2007 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

23 – 28 September 2007

RECEIPTS

Accommodation	40,475.65	
Donations/States/Fundraising	7,244.70	
Reimbursement WKS	1,205.30	
Conference Travel Pool	450.00	
	<hr/>	\$49,375.65

EXPENSES

Postage	364.28	
Print/Stationery	486.50	
Accommodation	37,753.95	
Travel & Fares	4,553.49	
Gifts/speakers/Entertainment	1,101.58	
Reimbursement	1,090.00	
	<hr/>	\$ 45,349.80

Excess Receipts over Expenditure \$ 4,025.85

\$ 49,375.65

Iris Bray
Treasurer

**Australian Church Women National Executive
Income & Expenditure for the Year ended 30 June 2008**

INCOME

Fellowship Day Offerings	9,553.11
Winifred Kiek Scholarship Donations	2,482.63
Honouring Australian Church Women	932.30
National Conference	14,300.30
National Conference Travel Pool	450.00
Fellowship of the Least Coin	37,904.65
World Community Day Offerings	8,024.33
Donations – National Conference Fund	650.00
National Travel Fund	625.00
Overseas Conference & Travel Fund	575.00
Petty Cash Float Refund	25.65
Postage Refunded	28.05
Sales – Circle of Prayer	652.50
FLC badges	24.00
“Winifred” Books	465.00
Sundry publications	103.00
Asian Church Women’s Conference	
ACWC Donations	1,114.00
ACWC Affiliation	550.00
ACWC Newsletter Subscriptions 2008	828.00
Reverend Dominica – Love Offering	965.00
Interest	<u>1,981.42</u>
	\$82,233.94

EXPENDITURE

Winifred Kiek Scholarship Trust	
Fellowship Day Offerings	8,598.52
WKS Donations	2,482.63
Honouring Australian Church Women	872.30
Asian Church Women’s Conference	
Affiliation	550.00
50% World Community Day Offerings	3,610.00
Donations	1,014.00
ACWC Newsletter Subscriptions 2008	828.00
Reverend Dominica – Love Offering	965.00
Fellowship of the Least Coin	37,500.00
National Conference 2007	42,125.30
National Conference Travel Pool	450.00
2007 Special Project – Project Rachel	3,610.00
Administration Expenses	
Petty Cash Floats	450.00
Petty Cash Expenses	371.10
WKS Leaflet Postage	1,074.60
Circle of Prayer	515.00
Hire of Halls	200.00
Web Site	220.00
PO Box Rental	112.00
Meeting – Travel Expense	100.00
Dinner	75.00
Photocopy	25.80
ACW National News	933.98
Bank Fees	55.00
National Travel Fund – Fares to AWC AGM	273.00
Deposit for 2009 National Conference	<u>500.00</u>
	\$107,511.23

FUNDS STATEMENT

Balance at 1 July 2007			54,313.44
Income			<u>82,233.94</u>
			136,547.38
Expenditure			<u>107,511.23</u>
Balance at 30 June 2008	Cheque a/c	6,708.70	
	At Call a/c	<u>22,237.45</u>	<u>\$29,036.15</u>
<u>Balance of Funds at 30 June 2008</u>			
National Conference Fund			12,667.86
National Travel Fund			3,585.95
Overseas Conference & Travel Fund			2,435.00
Honouring Australian Church Women			60.00
FLC			104.46
Asian Church Women's Conference			100.00
Administration			
includes transfers from Fellowship Day Offerings		995.39	
	WCD Offerings	804.33	
	FLC	<u>301.15</u>	
		<u>2,060.87</u>	
			<u>10,082.88</u>
			<u>\$29,036.15</u>

Audit Opinion

In my opinion the financial report presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Australian Church Women – National Executive as at 30 June 2008 and the income received and expenditure paid for the year then ended in accordance with the applicable Accounting Standards.

Pauline Hore JP(ACT), BEc, Dipl in Admin, CPA
3 October 2008

**Australian Church Women National Executive
Income and Expenditure for the Year ended 30 June 2009**

INCOME	2009
Fellowship Day Offerings	10,285.94
Winifred Kiek Scholarship Donations	183.64
Honouring Australian Church women	210.00
National Conference	34,151.00
Fellowship of the Least Coin	41,702.48
World Community Day Offerings	8,462.29
Donations – National Conference Fund	550.00
National Travel Fund	977.70
Overseas Conference & Travel Fund	575.00
Postage Refunded	11.45
Sales – Circle of Prayer	9.00
FLC Badges	72.50
ACW Badges	15.00
“Winifred” Books	112.50
Sundry publications	35.00
Asian Church Women’s Conference	
ACWC Donations	1480.00
ACWC Affiliation	550.00
ACWC Newsletter Subscriptions 2009	828.00
ACWC – Victorian Bushfire Support	760.57
Interest	<u>1,569.79</u>
	<u>\$102,540.96</u>
EXPENDITURE	
Winifred Kiek Scholarship Trust	
Fellowship Day Offerings	9257.36
WKS Donations	183.64
Honouring Australian Church Women	210.00
Asian Church Women’s Conference	
Affiliation	550.00
50% World Community Day Offerings	3810.00
Donations	1,580.00
ACWC Newsletter Subscriptions 2009	828.00
Fellowship of the Least Coin	41,000.00
National Conference 2009	50.00
2008 Special Project – Girls’ Brigade Queensland	3,810.00
Administration Expenses	
Petty Cash Floats Returned	(100.00)
Petty Cash Expenses	523.99
WKS Leaflet Printing & Postage	2,273.49
Web Site	315.00
PO Box Rental	75.00
Meeting – Travel Expense	100.00
ACW National News	1,902.88
Bank Fees	55.00
National Travel Fund – President’s Travel	912.83
AWC Meeting Expenses	190.47
Incorporation	138.00
Common Seal	30.00
Gift	<u>50.00</u>
	<u>\$67,745.66</u>

FUNDS STATEMENT

Balance at 1 July 2008			29,036.15
Income			<u>102,540.96</u>
			131,577.11
Expenditure			<u>67,745.66</u>
Balance at 30 June 2009	Cheque a/c	40,344.59	
	At Call a/c	<u>23,486.86</u>	<u>\$63,831.45</u>
<u>Balance of funds at 30 June 2009</u>			
National Conference Fund			13,167.86
National Travel Fund			3,710.82
Overseas Conference & Travel Fund			3,010.00
National conference 2009 Registration & Fees			34,151.00
ACWC – Victorian Bushfire Support			760.57
Administration			
includes transfers from Fellowship Day Offerings	1,027.68		
WCD Offerings	842.29		
FLC (1.93%)	<u>806.94</u>		
	2,676.91		
Petty Cash Floats	<u>50.00</u>		
	3,026.91		<u>9,031.20</u>
			<u>\$63,831.45</u>

Helen Lloyd
Honorary Treasurer

Audit Opinion

In my opinion the financial report presents fairly in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards, other mandatory professional reporting requirements and the requirements of Australian Church Women – National Executive the financial position of the organisation as at 30 June 2009 and the results for the year ended.

Pauline Hore JP(ACT); BEc; CPA
20 Ross Smith Cresc
Scullin ACT 2614
8 August 2009

NATIONAL CONVENOR – FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN

First of all thank you to those convenors who have sent in reports from their Units. Even after all the years I have known about FLC, the simplicity of belonging in this Fellowship still excites me, and on reading your reports I find that you also feel the same way.

I am taking the liberty of quoting from a couple of reports as those convenors are far more eloquent than I. One writes: "Over the last year (or years for that matter), the FLC story and Circle of Prayer books have been highly esteemed and respected. A book such as *Circle of Prayer* is never an intrusive way of giving a token gift of Christianity. Recipients of strong faith, or otherwise, are always interested and drawn to the heartfelt contributions inside its covers. One need never hesitate to give such a gift to either close friends or just acquaintances." From another report I quote again. "At the present time of financial crises across the world, powerful contrasts can be drawn between the mighty dollar and the least coin. The latter continues to support much needed projects in every region as well as all manner of ecumenical contacts – support built out of prayer and concern of nameless people, a world family."

Only one request for an FLC grant went forward from Australia this year, and it was proposed by our Victorian Unit. We must keep hoping that it will be successful.

From the reports it seems that face-to-face meetings are the most satisfactory way of spreading our message. Another good thing is that people can observe FLC by themselves, and do not have to be in a group.

I know all our coins should be put aside with prayers for peace. In these days of our throw-away society a lot of people just throw their least coins away. It never worries me that they were throwaways because they are all dedicated on World Community Day. I call them "my Jesus Coins" because where would Jesus be found? With the throwaways of our society.

It comes through the reports that our new Circle of Prayer no. 19 is being eagerly awaited. It is in print at time of writing and I hope we will have them in time for Conference.

I borrow from you again: "The simplicity of participation and the sense of equal status world-wide is appealing, but it is harder to bring home Shanti Solomon's emphasis on reconciliation (forgiveness) justice and peace in our private lives as well as in public affairs!"

Our hymn should be
"Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me."

May God bless us all.

Janet Abrahamffy
National Convenor, FLC

SPECIAL DAYS REPORT

The two years I have been Special Days Convenor has been a real privilege for me. I would like to thank the National Executive based in the ACT for giving me this opportunity to help them by accepting their offer of the position of Special Days Convenor while they have been in office. I know this is the first time that someone from another Unit has helped the National Executive when it has had difficulty in getting the people to fill the positions. I am very grateful to God for the experience.

Firstly my sincere thanks must go to the Units of ACT, Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia, who have so willingly prepared the Services over the past two years. The National Theme for the two years, 'Faith in the Future', has been a theme whereby we have been able to use the word 'faith' in its many aspects.

From reading the reports that have been sent to me from each Unit I am pleased to say that all Services were received well and many good comments were made. Attendances were up in some areas and down in others and it's good to see that different denominations are the hosts for every service in a lot of places. Mostly those who provided the address for the services kept to the theme. It was very encouraging to hear that school children attended one of the Services in Tasmania. In some places branches have 'folded' but in other places new ones have come about.

The World Community Day Project for 2007 was *Project Rachael*, a ministry of compassion in Tasmania. In 2008 the Girls Brigade of Queensland.

One question arises from a report:-

1. It has been suggested that the services be put onto a format such as Power Point, along with information about the World Community Day Project. I think this idea has merit and maybe could be looked at in the future.

My sincere thanks must go to all the Units and their Special Day Convenors. It has been a pleasure to work with you over the last two years. I pray that ACW will continue to serve God in this way, by reaching out to many through the two Services we produce each year and giving people the opportunity to hear about the Fellowship of the Least Coin, the Winifred Kiek Scholars and the World Community Day Projects.

Fran Moss
National Executive Special Days Convenor

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

The last two years have been a most rewarding and enlightening time for me as the Winifred Kiek Scholarship National Convenor. At first I felt daunted with the prospect of having to keep in touch with past and present scholarship holders as well as being responsible for passing on news to the State and Territory Unit WKS convenors. The support and encouragement I have received from all convenors has been most welcome and I thank them most sincerely. Also I soon learnt that to follow the ACW Guidelines was the only way to go. The love of God has been flowing freely.

I attended the 70th birthday of the NSW Unit in September 2008 and it was a joy to share in the cutting of the beautifully decorated cake which was standing on a gold embroidered cloth sent as a gift from the 1994 student Nighat Gulzar. In June this year I shared with the WKS Trustees in selecting the 2010 WK Scholar/s. Our thanks go to the WKS Trustees for their dedication in making these selections. The application forms are carefully scrutinised, taking into consideration the financial assistance required as well as the planned study program. This task is not an easy one as most applicants seem worthy of support. We thank the Trustees for their excellent work over the years as they have maintained and upheld the path set before them by the Rev. Winifred Kiek. This scholarship, now in its 44th year, has enabled the WKS Trustees to assist 53 students from 26 countries of the Pacific Islands, Asia and Australia.

The 2008 and 2009 students have been given copies of "Winifred", the biography of Winifred Kiek, and they have appreciated reading about this remarkable lady.

Fellowship Day services were held in many venues around the country. Last year the Service was prepared by the ACT Unit with the theme "Growing in Faith" and this year SA Unit chose "Our God is ever faithful" for the theme to tie in with the National theme. Pamphlets about the students were sent for all convenors to distribute.

Receiving letters from former students has been interesting. I have had contact with: Mary Au (Hong Kong 1980), Doreen Tie Chin (Sarawak 1990), Nighat Gulzar (Pakistan 1994), Rachel McManus (Australia 1997), Gaye Inall and Susan Liersch (Australia 2003), Anju Borgoary (Assam, India 2005), Siok Cheng Chew (Malaysia 2005), and Tania Eichler (Australia 2005).

Pastor Leinamau Manrogoana returned to Vanuatu in December 2007 after completing her studies at Alan Walker College in Sydney. She has since attended a Scripture Union Conference in PNG, where she found the knowledge gained during her studies was of great value.

In 2008 Imelda Aquino in Manila completed her Masters Degree in Divinity, and is now fulfilling her calling ministering to Christian and Muslim women in Dubai.

2009 students Christine Ferguson and Inise Foiakau are both deeply engrossed in studies and finishing assignments on time. They are both most appreciative of our continuing prayers. Christine is studying for her Graduate Diploma in Divinity at the Bible College of Victoria as she is preparing for cross-cultural mission overseas. Inise is living in Sydney with her husband and two daughters. She is studying for a Graduate Diploma of Theology at Charles Sturt University. This will equip her to assist her husband who is a senior elder in a Fijian congregation of the Uniting Church in Parramatta.

God has blessed and guided me and now it is time for me to pass on my National Convenor's badge to the incoming Convenor. It is through faith in God that she will receive guidance in her new position.

Constance Aronsen

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP TRUST REPORT FOR 2008–2009

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Trust report for the period 2008–2009.

Scholarship: Imelda Aquino was the 2008 scholar. She successfully completed her Master of Divinity (Missions) at Asia Pacific Theological Seminary in the Philippines. Imelda has furthered her studies in the Middle East and has a calling to work with Muslim women.

2009 Scholarship: Five applications were received from Multicultural Australia. Two scholarships were awarded to:

Christine Ferguson, a trained nurse, is studying for a Graduate Diploma in Divinity at Bible College of Victoria. She is looking towards sharing the Gospel in developing countries.

Inise Foiakau is currently working for AMP Capital Investors and is highly qualified in computer skills. She is studying part-time for a Graduate Diploma in Theology at Charles Sturt University in partnership with United Theological College (Vic) Parramatta so that she can assist her husband with his work as a Senior Elder in the Parramatta Fijian Parish.

2010 Scholarship: We received applications from Samoa, Tonga, Papua New Guinea, Kiribati, and two from Fiji. Some of the applications were incomplete or very vague, which made our decisions difficult because we needed to make further enquiries. At the time of writing this report no final decisions were made because our enquiries had not been answered.

Fellowship: We are delighted that Corazon Tabing-Reyes is able to be present at our National Conference as a Winifred Kiek Fellowship awardee. Cora is Executive Secretary of the International Committee for the Fellowship of the Least Coin. The Trust is happy to assist with her travel expenses.

General: Our Treasurer, Christine Barber, continues to pester financial institutions for the best interest rates when our investments mature. This has created a few headaches lately owing to the current economic climate so we have opted to go for the short-term fixed deposits with the best rates.

Unfortunately Christine's term expires at the 2009 National Conference and a new Treasurer will be hard to find. We thank her for her hard work and wish her well in the future.

Jean Roberts continues as Minute Secretary and operates the fax machine. Cynthia Gifford and Lois Denholm provide knowledgeable input. Yours truly sends out application forms, receives emails and answers the hard questions.

Our thanks to National Convenor, Constance Aronsen for keeping us informed and passing on emails from Imelda.

Maureen Clark on behalf of
Jean Roberts OAM, Christine Barber, Cynthia Gifford and Lois Denholm, Trustees

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP TRUST
TREASURER'S REPORT FOR PERIOD 1/7/07 TO 30/6/09

Attached are the Financial Statements for the Trust for the years ended 30th June, 2008 and 30th June, 2009. The balances cover all funds for the Scholarship and Fellowship accounts and the Honouring Church Women account.

Investments continued to be placed in Term Deposits with guaranteed interest rates. For the year to June 2008 Interest rates rose to over 8%, and encouraged longer investment periods which gave us a working sum of \$19,411.03 for Scholarship and \$917.11 for books and materials from the HCW account. These funds being used for the 2009 Scholars. The Fellowship account stood at \$17,548.98.

As you will be aware over the past two years there has been fluctuating earnings due to the "global financial crisis." Regretfully with the continued downturn in the economic market over 08/09 earning rates fell back to 4% but are now starting to rise. Although with the term deposit investments, there is no capital growth, we have not lost any capital, and you will see from the Financial Statements that the Total Funds now accumulated stand at :

Winifred Kiek Scholarship \$345,030.71 (including the Fellowship account of \$19,228.89 and \$20,583 for the 2010 Scholarships), and Honouring Church Women \$17,206.76

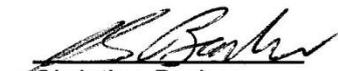
Scholarships were paid in 2008 for Leianamu Manrogoana (balance of 2007) and Imelda Aquino totalling \$12,546.

In 2009 we have paid \$18,848 for Inise Foiakau and Christine Ferguson, with a balance of \$2,245 in the current year 09/10. This leaves an estimated shortfall of \$1,600 which will be paid from the excess in 2008.

I again record my thanks to my fellow Trustees for their assistance and support in considering recommendations. Also I wish to acknowledge the assistance of our Auditor Mr. Adrian Nicholls, and recommend a gift be made in appreciation of his service for the past term.

It gives me much pleasure to table this report, and move the following Motions :

1. That the balance of the 2007 Scholars account and 2008 (after transfer of the 2009 shortfall) be transferred to WKS Fellowship A/c.
2. That the balance of the 2007 and 2008 Honouring Church Women funds be transferred to WKS Scholarship A/c with the intent of accumulating additional scholarship funds.
3. Recommend that a gift of \$200 be made to the Auditor for this past term and that \$125 be reimbursed for the 2006/2007 gift.
4. That Mr. Adrian Nicholls be appointed Auditor for the ensuing 2 years.



Christine Barber
Treasurer
7/09/09

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**AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN
FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP TRUST AND FELLOWSHIP ACCOUNTS
FOR THE PERIOD 1/7/08 – 30/6/09**

	Balance	Capital	2007 Scholar	2008 Scholar	2009 Scholar	2010 Scholar	Fellow Ship	Admin.
BALANCE B/F 1/7/08	\$332,302.65	284,210.33	938.94	9,962.86	19,411.03		17,548.98	230.51
RECEIPTS								
Interest	22,262.92					20,583.01	1,679.91	
Receipt credits as per listing	386,232.90	339,986.88	1,174.30	12,715.57	925.93	559.00	30,871.22	
Transfers	195,610.02	178,349.84		1,998.86	3,869.71		11,391.61	
National ACW – 2008 conts	9,441.00	9,441.00						
TOTAL REVENUE	\$945,849.49	811,988.05	2,113.24	24,677.29	24,206.67	21,142.01	61,491.72	230.51
PAYMENTS								
Debits as per listing	386,232.90	339,986.88	1,174.30	12,715.57	925.93	559.00	30,871.22	
Transfers	195,610.02	178,349.84		1,998.86	3,869.71		11,391.61	
Scholarship – I. Foiakau	5,248.00				5,248.00			
Scholarship - C. Ferguson	13,640.00				13,640.00			
Petty Cash	87.86							87.86
TOTAL PAYMENTS	600,818.78	518,336.72	1,174.30	14,714.43	23,683.64	559.00	42,262.83	87.86
BALANCE AT 30/06/09	\$345,030.71	293,651.33	938.94	9,962.86	523.03	20,583.01	19,228.89	142.65
WKS SUMMARY OF INVESTMENTS, CAPITAL AND INTEREST AS AT 30/6/09								
BANK A/C & INVESTMENTS		BALANCES CAPITAL	2007 SCHOL.	2008 SCHOL.	2009 SCHOL.	2010 SCHOLAR	Fellowship	Admin.
Bank SA – A/c	7,219.72	15,000.00		(5,170.52)	5,129.84	(7,865.25)	125.65	
Bank SA Term Deposit	96,967.57	87,174.92			421.07	9,371.58		
Esanda	94,946.40	89,332.56			5,309.89	303.95		
Australian Executor Trustee	984.85	135.06	57.41	31.04	13.68	121.79	625.87	
Community CPS	119,188.47	93,039.02	881.53	9,931.82	925.93	3,968.75	10,442.42	(1.00)
Lifeplan – Term Deposits	14,013.35	8,967.77				419.58	4,626.00	
Lifeplan - Bonus Cash A/c	11,690.35				4,753.94	5,212.09	1,724.32	
Aust. Central Credit UNION	2.00	2.00						
-Share								18.00
Cash in Hand	18.00							
TOTAL FUNDS 30/06/09	\$345,030.71	293,651.33	938.94	9,962.86	523.03	20,583.01	19,228.89	142.65

WKS RECEIPTS	Balance	Capital	2007 Scholar	2008 Scholar	2009 Scholar	2010 Scholar	Fellow Ship	Admin.
CPS	8,662.76	9,500.00	588.76	7,148.07	925.93		9,377.08	
CPS	19,169.85		292.77				1,426.53	
CPS	62,601.45	61,174.92		2,783.75		559.00	682.00	
CPS	87,563.77	83,539.02					9,326.53	
CPS	96,501.45	87,174.92		2,783.75			682.00	
Bank SA T/D	77,563.77	74,098.02	292.77				9,377.08	
Esanda	34,169.85	24,500.00						
Bank A/c (L/P)	\$386,232.90	339,986.88	1,174.30	12,715.57	925.93	559.00	30,871.22	
CREDIT TRANSFERS								
AET	15,000.00	15,000.00					638.55	
Bank SA - L/P	6,507.12			1,998.86			1,426.53	
Bank SA L/P	62,601.45	61,174.92					7,900.00	
Bank SA L/P	33,900.00	26,000.00					1,426.53	
Bank SA CPS	62,601.45	61,174.92						
Bank SA CPS	15,000.00	15,000.00						
Bank SA AET	\$195,610.02	178,349.84		1,998.86	3,869.71		11,391.61	
PAYMENTS								
Esanda Red.	77,563.77	74,098.02		2,783.75			682.00	
Lifeplan	34,169.85	24,500.00	292.77				9,377.08	
Lifeplan	62,601.45	61,174.92					1,426.53	
Lifeplan	33,900.00	26,000.00					7,900.00	
Lifeplan	62,601.45	61,174.92					1,426.53	
CPS	8,662.76		588.76	7,148.07	925.93		9,377.08	
Bank SA A/c CPS	19,169.85	9,500.00	292.77			550.00	682.00	
Bank SA A/c CPS	87,563.77	83,539.02		2,783.75				
Bank SA A/c CPS	\$386,232.90	339,986.88	1,174.30	12,715.57	925.93	559.00	30,871.22	
DEBIT TRANSFERS								
AET	15,000.00	15,000.00					1,426.53	
Bank SA - CPS	62,601.45	61,174.92					9,326.53	
Bank SA - Term Dep.	96,501.45	87,174.92		1,998.86			638.55	
Lifeplan	6,507.12							
Bank SA - AET	15,000.00	15,000.00						
TOTAL	\$195,610.02	178,349.84		1,998.86	3,869.71		11,391.61	

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AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP TRUST
FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE HONOURING CHURCH WOMEN A/C FOR PERIOD 1/7/08 -- 30/06/09

	BALANCES	CAPITAL	2007 SCHOL.	2008 SCHOL.	2009 SCHOL.	2010 SCHOLAR
BALANCE B/F 1/7/08	\$15,948.53	13,617.43	637.58	776.40	917.12	
RECEIPTS						1,048.23
Interest	1,048.23					
Credits as per listing	15,267.10	13,929.86	612.88	724.36		
Transfers	7,889.98	7,397.10	63.44	429.44		
Nat. A.C.W. Conts.	210.00	210.00				
TOTAL REVENUE	\$40,363.84	35,154.39	1,313.90	1,930.20	917.12	1,048.23
PAYMENTS						
Debits as per listing	15,267.10	13,929.86	612.88	724.36		
Transfers	7,889.98	7,397.10	63.44	429.44		
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	\$23,157.08	21,326.96	676.32	1,153.80		
BALANCE AS AT 30/06/09	17,206.76	13,827.43	637.58	776.40	917.12	1,048.23

HONOURING CURCH WOMEN
SUMMARY OF INVESTMENTS, CAPITAL AND INTEREST AS AT 30/06/09

A/C & INVESTMENTS	BALANCES	CAPITAL	2007 SCHOL.	2008 SCHOL.	2009 SCHOL.	2010 Scholar
Bank SA A/c	743.22	210.00			321.08	212.14
Bank SA Term Deposit	5,022.69	4,998.55				24.14
Esanda	2,960.61	2,832.50				128.11
Australian Executor Trustee Community CPS	642.82	504.42	24.56	51.90	35.52	26.42
- Share	4,913.49	3,360.05	613.02	724.50	0.15	215.77
	2.00	2.00				
Lifepan - Term Deposit	1,688.47	1,613.00				75.47
Lifepan - Bonus Cash A/c	1,233.46	306.91			560.37	366.18
TOTAL FUNDS 30/06/09	\$17,206.76	13,827.43	637.58	776.40	917.12	1,048.23

Honouring Church Women

A/c RECEIPTS	Balance	Capital	2007 Scholar	2008 Scholar	2009 Scholar	2010 Scholar
CPS	\$1,337.24	830.15	612.88	724.36		
CPS	830.15	2,398.55				
CPS	2,398.55	2,436.23				
CPS	2,436.23	4,998.55				
Bank SA Term Dep.	4,998.55	830.15				
Bank A/c - Lifeplan	830.15	2,436.23				
Esanda	2,436.23	13,929.86	612.88	724.36		
TOTAL	\$15,267.10					
CREDIT TRANSFERS						
Bank A/c - Lifeplan	492.88	2,398.55	63.44	429.44		
Bank A/c - Lifeplan	2,398.55	2,600.00				
Bank A/c - Lifeplan	2,600.00	2,398.55				
BANK A/C CPS	2,398.55	7,397.10	63.44	429.44		
TOTAL	7,889.98					
PAYMENTS						
Esanda	2,436.23	2,436.23				
Lifeplan	830.15	830.15				
Lifeplan	2,398.55	2,398.55				
Lifeplan	2,600.00	2,600.00				
Lifeplan	2,398.55	2,398.55				
CPS	1,337.24		612.88	724.36		
Bank SA A/c - CPS	830.15	830.15				
Bank SA A/c - CPS	2,436.23	2,436.23				
Bank SA C/- CPS	15,267.10	13,929.86	612.88	724.36		
TOTAL	15,267.10					
DEBIT TRANSFERS						
AET	2,398.55	2,398.55				
Bank SA - CPS	4,998.55	4,998.55	63.44	429.44		
Lifeplan	492.88		63.44	429.44		
TOTAL	\$7,889.98	7,397.10				

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP ACCOUNTS 1/7/07 TO 30/06/08
AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

	Balance	Capital	2007 Scholar	2008 Scholar	2009 Scholar	Fellow Ship	Admin.
BALANCE B/F 1/7/07	\$315,760.83	273,129.18	7,138.94	16,281.42		18,891.19	320.10
RECEIPTS							
Interest	21,114.56			(2.56)	19,411.03	1,706.09	
Nat. ACW	11,081.15	11,081.15					
Transfers - Lifeplan to Bank SA	8,000.00		1,769.61	5,230.39		1,000.00	
CBFC Deb.	63,698.87	63,016.87				682.00	
Redeemed							
Esanda New T/D	77,563.77	74,098.02		2,783.75		682.00	
TOTAL REVENUE	\$497,219.18	421,325.22	8,908.55	24,293.00	19,411.03	22,961.28	320.10
PAYMENTS							
Esanda T/D	77,563.77	74,098.02		2,783.75		682.00	
Scholarship Leianamu	6,200.00		6,200.00				30.00
- I. Aquino	6,346.00			6,316.00			30.00
Fellowship Shu-Wen	3,078.30					3,048.30	29.59
Petty Cash	29.59						
Transfers - Lifeplan	8,000.00		1,769.61	5,230.39		1,000.00	
CBFC- Redeemed	63,698.87	63,016.87				682.00	
TOTAL PAYMENTS	164,916.53	137,114.89	7,969.61	14,330.14	19,411.03	5,412.30	89.59
BALANCE AT 30/06/08	\$332,302.65	284,210.33	938.94	9,962.86	19,411.03	17,548.98	230.51
BANK A/C & INVESTMENTS	BALANCES	CAPITAL	2007 SCHOL.	2008 SCHOL.	2009 SCHOL.	2009 FELLOW-SHIP	ADMIN.
Bank SA	1,472.66		588.76	5,149.21	4,104.13	(8,581.95)	212.51
Esanda	173,889.67	163,430.58		2,783.75	6,669.57	1,005.77	
Aust. Executor Trustee	837.33	135.06	57.41	31.04	13.68	600.14	
CBFC	Nil						
Community CPS	4.75					4.75	
Lifeplan	156,078.24	120,642.69	292.77	1,998.86	8,623.65	23,122.84	
Aust. Central Credit Union.	2.00	2.00				1,397.43	
Cash on Hand	18.00						18.00
TOTAL at 30/06/08	\$332,302.65	284,210.33	938.94	9,962.86	19,411.03	17,548.98	230.51

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WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP TRUST
 FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE HONOURING CHURCH WOMEN A/C FOR PERIOD 1/7/07 - 30/06/08

	BALANCES	CAPITAL	2007 SCHOL.	2008 SCHOL.	2009 SCHOL.
BALANCE B/F 1/7/07	\$14,433.62	12,519.63	637.58	1,276.41	
RECEIPTS				(0.01)	917.12
Interest	917.11				
Nat. ACW	1,097.80	1,097.80			
Transfers - CBFC Redeemed	1,301.13	1,301.13			
Esanda N/I	2,436.23	2,436.23			
TOTAL REVENUE	\$20,185.89	17,354.79	637.58	1,276.40	917.12
PAYMENTS					
Scholarship Aquino	500.00			500.00	
Esanda N I	2,436.23	2,436.23			
Transfers - CBFC Redeemed	1,301.13	1,301.13		500.00	
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	4,237.36	3,737.36	637.58	776.40	917.12
BALANCE as at 30/06/08	\$15,948.53	13,617.43			

SUMMARY OF INVESTMENTS, CAPITAL AND INTEREST AS AT 30/06/08

BANK A/C & INVESTMENTS	BALANCES	CAPITAL	2007 SCHOL.	2008 SCHOL.	2009 SCHOL.
Bank SA	993.44		549.44	294.92	149.08
Esanda	5,440.73	5,288.73			172.00
Australian Executor Trustee	616.40	504.42	24.56	51.90	35.52
Community CPS	96.10	95.67	0.14	0.14	0.15
Lifeplan	8,801.86	7,441.70	63.44	429.44	560.37
	306.91	306.91			
TOTAL FUNDS 30/06/08	\$15,948.53	13,617.43	637.58	776.40	917.12

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NATIONAL PUBLICATION EDITOR'S REPORT

It has been my pleasure to serve as **Publication Officer** for the duration of the current ACW National Executive (2007 – 2009).

Producing a newsletter has had its challenges but I am pleased to say that from January 2007 National Executive successfully produced a Newsletter each quarter.

I am most grateful to everyone who contributed articles. I especially want to express thanks to the following:

- Captain Donna Bryan ACWC Representative for regular reports
- Corazon Tabing-Reyes (Executive Secretary ICFLC) for encouragement and news from ICFLC
- National Executive for their regular contributions
- State Units who sent me copies of their Newsletters from which I gleaned items of interest

I also wish to express thanks to staff at The Salvation Army Divisional Headquarters (ACT) who assisted with photocopying and postage preparation. Everyone in the office showed considerable patience with this process.

I thank also those recipients of the newsletter who from time to time sent me emails expressing appreciation.

I wish the incoming National Executive every success during the next 2 years. I would like to encourage all Units to be supportive by providing articles and news of events etc so that they can produce a Newsletter that continues to keep us all informed and linked to each other.

Major Eileen Holley
Publications Convenor

SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES REPORT

It has been both a pleasure and honour to serve Australian Church Women as the National Social Justice Convenor for the past two years. During this time we have witnessed a number of significant events having widespread implications for social justice throughout the world. The election of the first Afro-American President of the USA; the return of a Labor Government in Australia after 11 years; the collapse of many global financial institutions; on-going wars in many countries and the devastating Victorian bushfires.

All ACW Units have been concerned about human trafficking with particular emphasis on women and children. These desperate people need our prayers and support.

The Tasmanian Unit have been concerned about the plight of children living in drug-affected households and of the rising incidence of babies born suffering from drug withdrawal symptoms. Safe Surrender Laws envisaged by Senator Helen Polley and changes to the Alcopops legislation remains a concern, as do Fair Trade issues.

The South Australian Unit participated in "Uplift Fiji", a project commenced by Rotary International. Hundreds of pre-loved bras were sent to disadvantaged indigenous Fijians who purchase their clothing from second-hand Australian clothes shops. The Unit provides gift baskets for women leaving the prison system. ~~They are currently considering providing funds to enable inmates to take swimming lessons.~~

Members from the Western Australian Unit have attended rallies to protest against deaths in custody. Recently a highly respected elder literally roasted to death in the back of a non-air-conditioned van. This issue has been contested vigorously and notice brought to the attention of the relevant Government department. The work going on at Acacia Prison under the name of the Sycamore Tree project – a restorative justice program bringing perpetrators of crime face-to-face with their victims. Advocates have stressed that money being spent on bigger goals should be directed to programs to help offenders.

Members from the ACT Unit have been concerned about food coming into Australia with little or no labelling. This can have dire consequences for people who suffer from asthma, diabetes and multiple allergies. Binge drinking and youth suicide are also issues of grave concern.

The Victorian Unit continues to be most concerned with the number of people deemed homeless. The government must provide more dwellings for low-income earners. Letters have been written to the State Minister for Education requesting that provision be made for more Breakfast Clubs in both Primary and Secondary schools. Letters were also written to the Melbourne City Council asking that new By-Laws be drafted to compel brothel operators to display signs in several languages informing workers that sexual slavery is a criminal offence in Australia and that victims can get help.

NSW Unit were concerned about the global financial crisis and its effects on the marginalised. Members have attended numerous "Days" including Sorry Day, Social Justice Day, Harmony Day, and Innocent Child Victims of Aggression. Death Penalty, Abandoned Babies and Bullying were also on their Agenda.

On your behalf I have written to many Federal politicians in relation to Alcopops, to funding for children suffering from Epidermolysis Bullosa as well as asking for an increase to the Carer's allowance; asking that pornographic material involving little children be no longer displayed in publications funded by the Australian taxpayer. I also wrote to Senator Steven Conroy congratulating him on his stance re Internet filtering.

As Christian women we must continue to speak out against all forms of injustice. A society is judged on the way it treats its most vulnerable citizens.

As our Lord said, "Whatever you do for the least of my people you do for me".

I wish the incoming National Executive every blessing for their term of office.

Judith-Ann Sjostedt

ARCHIVIST REPORT

I am pleased to report that nothing untoward has happened to the Archives in the last two years! Everything is in its place and there are no moths or silver fish having a free meal. We finally got all the papers from Geelong home, thanks to Jean and her vehicle and the good nature of her husband who allowed them space in their house until they came to Sydney to me.

I did speak to the former Archivist of the Uniting Church, Darryl Lightfoot, about our Archives, knowing that there was no room at the UCA Archives. (These archives are about to be moved from North Parramatta to an unknown new site, so there may be room there, but not in the near future. Unfortunately, Darryl Lightfoot is no longer the UCA Archivist.) He was interested to help us and offered space at the Eunice Hunter Library and Research Centre, on the basis of a "long term loan". Such an arrangement exists for World Day of Prayer whose records are held at the Ferguson Memorial Library and Archives of the Presbyterian Church.

I have a letter from Darryl Lightfoot, dated 6 October 2008 and I will bring it to Conference with me. If the offer is still viable, this is something I feel we should consider. The Eunice Hunter Library and Research Centre is an outreach ministry of the Epping (Oxford Street) Uniting Church, NSW and Darryl is a Director of this centre.

Edith Ridge
Archivist

ASIAN CHURCH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE (ACWC) REPORT

Australian Church Women is very blessed to be represented at the Asian Church Women's Conference. Our Asian sisters are incredible women and their faith is a powerful witness from women who often live daily with adversity in impoverished communities that are hostile to Christian beliefs. Their desire to live as Jesus' disciples in their neighbourhoods and beyond demonstrates the depth and strength of their faith.

Australia has been privileged to be a recipient of their reaching out to others and particularly so earlier this year after the tragic bushfires that swept across the south-eastern corner of our country. The ACWC released \$500US from their Emergency Fund and forwarded it to National Executive for distribution. This precious gift will be used to replace church property in the worst affected area.

Since our last National Conference I have travelled to Taiwan, Thailand, Hong Kong and Korea. Last year I attended the Executive and General Committee meetings of ACWC in Taiwan. Between the two meetings, a joint celebration seminar was held with Bridgebuilders International to celebrate their 5th international consultation as well as ACWC's Jubilee Anniversary. The theme of the seminar was: 'The Role of Women in Upholding the Dignity and Integrity of All God's Creation'.

On my way home from Taiwan I travelled to Chiang Mai in Northern Thailand and met up again with Oranat Katue, the national Thai representative of ACWC. I was able to see the progress of the ambitious building programme at the Baptist Church property and spend a day with several Karen women who were meeting in Chiang Mai for leadership training.

This year, on my way to the Executive Committee meeting in Korea, I stopped off in Hong Kong and shared Easter with the English speaking corps of The Salvation Army. This church has a lovely ministry that reaches out to the many Filipino people living and working in Hong Kong.

Korea was a busy time and yet we experienced spiritual renewal there as we stayed in a quiet retreat adjacent to a national park. It was also spring and the trees surrounding the hotel were full of blossom that would gently rain down whenever a breeze was blowing. There was opportunity to fellowship with our Korean prayer partners and spend time getting to know the ladies of the Korea Church Women United (KCWU).

Further details of these meetings and other ACWC activities can be found both online and in print. There are now at least five sources to find information on ACWC. For those of you who have access to the Internet, <http://www.acwc.blogspot.com/>, the ACWC website that was launched in June last year should be your first port of call. Then there is the ACWC newsletter, which I commend to you for its varied and informative reports; the ACW National newsletter; my reports (which have been trimmed back to brief notes to the National Executive whilst serving as President to the Victorian Unit); and the ACW National minutes should have reports of ACWC activities.

Presently, there is a lot of activity behind the scenes for the ACWC Executive Committee as we prepare for the next quadrennial General Assembly to be held in Indonesia from 7-12 October 2010. Your prayers would be appreciated for this Assembly and for those who will attend. Each country has been limited to a maximum of eleven (11) participants at the Assembly.

Thank you again for your support and encouragement of both myself and our Asian sisters, and we value your prayers as the Gospel of Christ is preached across the Asian region.

Donna Bryan (Captain)

AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S COALITION REPORT

Since I took over from Anne Murray as delegate to Australian Women's Coalition in September 2007 I have been very interested in the activities of the group. Mrs Helen Raymond, National Vice President has been the alternate delegate for this period and has accompanied me to most meetings.

The Coalition consists of 19 women's groups including Aboriginal Legal Services, CWLA, Muslim women's organisation, Aust Bosnian Women's organisation, COTA, UNIFEM, PPSEAWA, Soroptomists, NCWA, NCWJA, Girl Guides, Mothers Union, Hindu Women of Australia, View clubs and Zonta. So you can see there is a wide variety of women represented as well as a variety of views expressed. It is an interesting group to be a part of.

I have attended 7 meetings of the group, usually held in Sydney, and taken part in several Teleconferences as well as receiving numerous emails and other communications. I helped to organise 2 seminars in the ACT during 2008 which related to questions of 'Women's well being' as part of a nationwide survey undertaken by the AWC. These activities are paid for by the Government grant received by AWC as one of the Women's Alliances working with the Federal Government Office for Women under Minister the Honourable Tanya Plibersek.

I have forwarded requests on to State Units where appropriate and have been pleased at the response and support I have received. I have also forwarded copies of the Annual Reports for both 2007 and 2008 to each State Unit for your interest.

I think it is important for ACW to continue to be part of this valuable network of different non-government organisations. We were one of the original members of the precursor to AWC and have continued ever since. I hope that the new National Executive will be actively part of this group for the next 2 years, and I am willing to be the alternate delegate to help with continuity of membership.

Jean Thomson OAM

NATIONAL WEBSITE MANAGER'S REPORT

It has been two years since the launch of the Australian Church Women Website. Information has been updated as it has come to hand.

In addition to information updates, National Executive expressed the desire to add the word "Incorporated" to our title on the web pages and to add the abbreviation "Inc." to our logo. At the time of writing this report, the word "Incorporated" has been added to our title but we are still waiting to hear from our Website Administrators with regard to receiving a "mock-up" of the new logo before agreeing to the final change.

Comments from outsiders have been favourable and I've been able to help people with enquiries about Australian Church women and have even sent an Order of Service for a Special Days Service to someone interstate who contacted me via the website as they couldn't contact the person they were trying to reach. When booking churches for Special Days Services I've been able to refer the minister to our website for information.

It is to be noted that some State Units have not had any activity on their web pages. I have conveyed to them that I am happy to update information on their web pages if they would like to send me the changes. Some have still not responded but at least their "main page" is fine for people who log on to our website looking for State Unit information.

The creators and administrators of our website are a company called Marmalade Soul which is based in Queensland. It has been very difficult to communicate with them and have our requests for changes to the integral design of the website attended to. This has given rise to our thinking that perhaps we should change our administrators. If we were to do this, we would need to ensure that the new administrators would suit our needs.

At present, costs to run our website have been very low, e.g. \$220 per annum hosting costs and \$95 per annum for 4 x 15 minutes technical support sessions. If we were to engage new Administrators we might need to pay more than this.

Brenda Dickinson
National Website Manager

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY UNIT

It is with much pleasure that I present the Biennial Report from the Australian Capital Territory Unit.

At the AGM held in February '09 Helen Raymond was elected President following Jacqueline Hipwell's term. Helen brings a wealth of experience to the position and her husband Oliver is also generous with his time and expertise.

Two years ago ACT Unit took on the responsibility for the National Executive with Jean Thomson as President. Jean was awarded the OAM in the Queen's Birthday Honours for her outstanding contribution to the Uniting Church as well as to various women's organisations.

Presently the ACT Unit comprises members from 20 affiliated congregational groups as well as five associate members. We thank the Management of the Canberra Baptist Church for the use of their comfortable meeting room and acknowledge the generosity of Life Members, Ruth Burmester and Evonne Sullivan for inviting us to meet in their respective homes for Executive Meetings.

At the beginning of my tenure as Unit Secretary I embarked on a membership drive. The call was answered by Indian-born Dr Vimala Isaac from St Peter's Lutheran Church. Vimala was nominated for the FLC Convenorship to replace Jan Abrahamffy who retired after 10 years of dedicated service as Convenor. Vimala is already enjoying spreading the story of Shanti's vision.

We sadly record the passing of Mollie McMahon and Enid Rochow, quiet stalwarts of the Unit for many years. WKS Convenor, Betty Farrell, and Life Member Jean Hambley both lost their husbands recently and we remember that they both used their talents in art and IT to assist the work of ACW.

Constance Aronsen, Social Issues Convenor, has kept us well informed on topical issues with particular emphasis on binge drinking, pensions, hospitals and aged care to name but a few. She joined The Friends of the Albert Hall to lobby the ACT Government to preserve the precinct of said building from the hands of greedy developers. Due to constant pressure from this group the government has shelved the idea. A coup for people power.

Special Days Convenor, Dorothy McMaster, has again excelled in organising our Special Days throughout the year. We were fortunate to have Major Sue Cox from the Salvation Army in Sydney as our guest speaker for the World Day of Prayer Service in March. The theme was "In Christ we are many members, yet one body" and the service was prepared by the World Day of Prayer Committee of Papua New Guinea. An added touch for us was the presence of the wife of the PNG High Commissioner at the service.

Unit Vice President, Cela Cooper, took over as Newsletter Editor from National Secretary, Margaret Lawton. Cela is also working on bringing the Honouring Australian Church Women Book up-to-date.

Vice President, Marie Gallagher, is the Unit representative to the Churches Council and Jean Thomson and Helen Raymond delegates to the National Council of Women. I would also like to pay tribute to our Treasurer, Helen Lloyd, for her years of dedicated service to the Unit.

May our Unit go from strength to strength as we continue to work for the honour and glory of God.

Judith-Ann Sjostedt, Secretary

NEW SOUTH WALES UNIT

It was with thankfulness and joy that we celebrated 70 years of NSW Women's Inter Church Council and Australian Church Women NSW State Unit in September 2008 with the theme, *Looking Back for Inspiration, Moving Forward with Anticipation*. Meeting in Scots Church Sydney, those gathered *Looked Back* with Edith Ridge and Joan Tong, still recognisable in their angelic attire, exploring the history of the Unit to date. Pru Goward MP followed with inspirational thoughts about *Moving Forward*, and the role church women can have in the community. Lyn Middleton then delivered the challenge to be visionaries, because "without a vision the people perish". The compilation of Profiles of Past Presidents was completed not long before, and a summarised version was available at the celebration. A powerpoint presentation traced the history of the unit decade by decade. As we step into the next decade we add, *The Future, Our Responsibility*.

Mrs Jennifer Peffer was responsible for the organisation of the day, having taken over from Mrs Carmel Keys as President in May. We sincerely thank Jennifer for her leadership thus far, looking forward to her continuing guidance in the year ahead. Although Carmel is now Past President, she is also our Social Issues Convener, and we acknowledge her fine contribution to the work of the Unit. Our President Elect is Mrs Nola Dickson.

At Council in August 2008 our speaker was Robyn Gaspari from Australian Women's Coalition and Eastwood Christian Community Aid. Robyn spoke on a range of matters affecting women such as the plan to combat violence against women, equal pay, sex discrimination, parental leave, and caregiving to sufferers with HIV AIDS. Social Issues that we can take up are brought to the attention of members on a continuing basis.

Following last National Conference some of our members hosted Shu-Wen Chiang before she left Australia. Since November 2007 Lyn Middleton has been our ACWC Convener, and while visiting Taiwan in April 2008 Lyn met up with Shu-Wen. The annual ACWC celebrations in the form of multicultural concerts of praise have been well received, and offer times of enjoyment and fellowship for those able to attend. The generous offerings constitute the bulk of our contribution to Asian Church Women's Conference. While in South Korea for a Salvation Army function Lyn was unsuccessful in her efforts to meet up with our prayer partners, Korea Church Women United.

Our Service of Dedication in May 2009 asked us to look back for inspiration but also to accept responsibility for the future. Colonel Jan Condon was the speaker on this occasion. Fellowship Day and World Community Day services have been held throughout the State, but some Branches have closed largely because there have not been people willing to take on the work of organising.

Our representatives to NSW Ecumenical Council, World Day of Prayer, National Council of Women, and Pan Pacific and South East Asia Women's Association continue to bring us reports from these organisations. Since last ACW National Conference, Woman's Christian Temperance Union of NSW has wound up as an organisation after 126 years and has become a Foundation, as this was felt to be the best way to utilise its resources in the cause of temperance. The Bible Society and Girls Brigade are represented on Council and we hear of their continuing activities.

As we thank ACT for their time as National Executive, we also wish South Australia well as they take on this responsibility.

Isabel Hewitt
Secretary

QUEENSLAND UNIT

The Queensland Unit continues to keep going even though our numbers are small at each meeting. Unfortunately the representatives from the Churches are few and we are faced with the continuing problem of how to get new members. With illness and operations happening to some members our numbers have been even fewer at times. Those members we do have are ever faithful in their attendance and commitment to ACW and we praise God for them.

The three country branches in the State, Mackay, Rockhampton and Bundaberg continue to meet.

We meet every month in St Andrews Uniting Church in the City and have been led by Captain Marion Sutcliffe from the Salvation Army in 2008 and by Fran Moss from the Uniting Church since the AGM last year.

Special Day Services were held around Brisbane and in the country centres. The Fellowship Day Service for 2008 was the last Service to be held in Brisbane City and organised by the Unit. Those who are able to come number very few so it was decided from this year on Unit members will try to attend the Services elsewhere around the suburbs. It is sad that the situation has got to this but those few who are interested find it too difficult going into the City any more.

Our only fund raiser for each year is the Musical Morning Tea. Last year it was held at St Andrews Uniting Church but again the problem of lack of numbers made us rethink for this year as to what we would do. So we decided to go out to the northern suburbs. With the wonderful support of the Geebung Catholic Women we had the most successful Musical Morning Tea ever. The nearly eighty people who attended had a wonderful morning and were entertained by 'The Brothers James Singers', a male choir who gave us a feast of songs touched with a little humour along the way. We hope to continue to have our 'fund raiser' in the suburbs from now on.

The Leadership Development Course conducted by the Girls Brigade of Queensland was the successful World Community Day Project for 2008. This course for the girls is all about personal challenge and providing opportunities to develop/improve skills and practices that enhance their ability to be effective Christian leaders in the Brigade and their community. The grant they received (\$3810) enabled girls from outback drought stricken Queensland to attend this course.

We will continue to serve our Lord and Saviour through our commitment to Australian Church Women and pray that through His guidance we will be able to keep Australian Church Women going in Queensland in the future.

Fran Moss
President

Margaret Florence
Acting Secretary

SOUTH AUSTRALIA UNIT

This report is written shortly after our National President, Mrs Jean Thomson, visited us in May and attended our Unit meeting, as well as a day apart to meet with Liaison officers and women from other organisations, and finally a Community Concern event. We are grateful that Jean was able to visit us and to forge bonds between us and National Executive.

Our largest local undertaking each year is the staging of Community Concern Events, with sixteen gatherings taking place in 2008 and a further sixteen this year. It is an opportunity for suburban churches to meet women and men from other denominations and to support the chosen charity for the year. While in 2008 the chosen charity was Angel Flight – for which we raised \$5,000. In 2009 we are supporting Prison Fellowship SA – our mandate for choosing a charity is that it receives no government funding and is not church based. Our thanks to all the churches who host meetings and to Mrs Judy Burge who sends out the correspondence and often visits the host churches in advance.

Through our Jubilee 150 Trust we give one-off grants to women who just need a small injection of funds to help further their careers. The grants in 2008 were given to a woman doing a certificate course in Theology and to another woman to help set up a home-based tailoring business. While the recommendation for grants come from a church group, the recipient does not necessarily have to be a church-goer herself.

We have been much involved with finding a President Elect and have been fortunate enough to have the Reverend Nita West to fill the role. She comes to us after a three month stay in Thailand where she has taught English. We welcome her warmly.

We are extremely grateful to the ladies who have offered to serve on the incoming National Executive and offer them our prayers and support. The process of choosing an executive was preceded by a specially composed prayer asking for wisdom.

We have kept up our ties with the World Day of Prayer, and the Fellowship of the Least Coin, most members often 'wearing two hats' and being involved in both of these movements as well as in ACW.

In January 2008 and again in 2009, a number of members met at the home of our Social Justice Convenor, Captain Judith Brown, and packed several parcels of toiletries for inmates of the women's prison and OARS.

In 2008 we welcomed three guest speakers to our Unit meetings. They were Mrs Wendy Sinnott, who spoke on the response to Refugees in our Communities, Mr Jonathan Gear (one of the 100 speakers specially trained by Al Gore) on Climate Change, and Sister Julie McMahon on the No Interest Loans Scheme and how effective they can be.

In 2009 we have had two Unit meetings with guest speakers. Dr Anna Muller spoke to us about aspects of breast cancer, and Major Hank Fernee from the Salvation Army spoke about his tours in the APY Lands, delivering furniture to residents of remote communities – it was inspiring to see the spirit of fraternal love shown by Hank, his wife and team as they set out on their journeys with a prayer.

We remember to pray for our prayer partners in South Korea and are kept informed of all the work of ACWC through the newsletter. Our practice of our faith seems so trouble free compared with that of women in Asian countries.

Our Day of Christian Reflection was a good opportunity for us to come together and not talk for a change. It was conducted by Mrs Barbara O'Halloran, with scripture readings to help us in our quiet time. The weather was perfect and the garden at the Church of the Good Shepherd was peaceful, with birds and butterflies to keep us company as we walked or sat.

My thanks to all on the executive who have worked with unfailing generosity throughout the year. We look forward to more loving co-operation through the remaining months.

Aileen Eldridge
Unit Secretary

Anne Parnis
Unit President

TASMANIA UNIT

The Theme for the 22nd national Conference in September 2009 "Faith in the Future" gives strength and hope to all members of ACW.

Here in our State Unit we use and exercise the word Faith frequently. It is Faith that gathers an average of 9 women to our State meetings, Faith that is a favourite topic in many of the opening devotions and Faith that provides meeting rooms, a variety of churches for special day services and Faith by which we as mature women see ACW as the strength it is.

As we are approaching the May AGM we have set in place the nominations for office bearers. Shirley Brooks having completed one year as president will continue another year. The same can be said of our treasurer Kath Pearce. Secretary position of some year's service will continue with Juanita Miller

Generally our meetings for the Unit consist of women from the North West and the North of the State. More members live in the south of the state and when possible join us at the AGM. The arrangement of meetings means some have to travel some 110 km to the meeting whether we meet in Launceston or twice yearly when we meet in Devonport.

We are extremely grateful to the Churches who welcome us to use their meeting rooms and kitchen facilities.

All our convenors make our meetings interesting with reports to share. Two of our members bring reports from outside ACW they being Tasmanian Council of Churches and World Day of Prayer.

All members put prayerful thought into the prospects for potential FLC grant recipients and Special Day projects. We have supplied our Churches with literature regarding the opportunities offered for Winifred Scholarships.

Unfortunately we do only have one Branch still operating and that is in Launceston. There are occasions when members from the branch will join with State members for a Fund Raiser and of course at the AGM. It is at the AGM that the local Branch helps with the catering.

Social Justice Items are of special interest to our members both at Branch and State levels. Members have on occasions taken measures to make known our opinion wherever possible should the need arise. We have been very fortunate to be kept well informed on the very nature of things by now retiring Ione Bakes. Members are actively supportive of the School Chaplaincy programs and pray the Government may see the wisdom of continuing the financial support for their presence in schools.

It is our prayer that by "Faith in the Future" ACW with God's help will remain healthy and active.

Juanita Miller
Tasmania Unit Secretary

VICTORIAN UNIT REPORT

The Victorian Unit meets bi-monthly as a Council and in between bi-monthly as an Executive Committee. Each Council meeting we have a visiting Speaker or other special contemplative segment, selected by the President of that time.

The recent bushfires in Victoria have been often on our minds. These, combined with interesting Speakers at our meetings have enabled us to be more in tune with what is happening around us. And contributing very much to widening our knowledge about each other have been the very interesting segments called "Five Minute Focus", prepared by the denomination acting as refreshments Hostesses on that day.

In the last two years, fund-raising efforts have included a Bakeless Cake Day (when we paid for recipes), selling especially prepared greeting cards to members, selling tea bags with attached messages, and more recently, organising a retiring fund to assist with travel expenses to the National Conference. There are many jobs, and a lot of people are involved in each Vic Unit ACW meeting.

Unhappily, in recent times we have had much illness among members. This has required strong support from 'well' members who have assisted those unable to carry through their given roles for a period until they were again well. Our activities in Social Justice issues have risen, concerning things like breakfast clubs for students, homelessness – especially of young people – and trafficking of women.

During the period we have updated one small part of our Constitution (5.4.4f) related to the Winifred Kiek scholar that "the Convener be the President-elect or as recommended by Executive and ratified by Council".

A pleasing activity has been to follow through the decision to archive our minutes and other material as recommended in 2005.

Our Presidents in the last two years have been Rev Eunice Smith (2007-08) and Captain Donna Bryan (2008-09). Both people have shown strong and welcoming leadership. They and Executive members are warmly thanked for their work.

We look forward to renewing friendships and exchanging ideas at the ACT National Conference this year, and we wish the SA Unit every blessing as they assume responsibility during 2010 – 2011.

Pat Burchell
Secretary

WESTERN AUSTRALIA UNIT

Although membership of the executive of our Unit is small, our members are busy and committed both within Australian Church Women and in representing ACW on other organisations and events, thus presenting a Christian voice in the community.

At the beginning of 2008 we thanked our outgoing President, Mrs Margaret (Peg) Sanders for her leadership of the Unit during 2006–2007 and welcomed out new President, Mrs Leeola Loughnan. Peg is our representative on the World Day of Prayer Committee. During 2008 she concluded a role of treasurer and took on the role of president of that committee. Leeola is also our Winifred Kiek Scholarship convenor.

Our Fellowship of the Least Coin Convenor is Reverend Lee Edwards who has spoken to groups about the FLC Prayer movement.

Special Days have been held in city and country areas including Bunbury, Busselton, Capel, Mandurah and Wanneroo. Our main Fellowship Day Service for 2009 was held at Cannington Anglican Church, the speaker being Mrs Gwyneth Marshall from “Kairos Outside”. World Community Day 2008 was at North Perth Anglican Church, the speaker being Major Rosslyn Casey of The Salvation Army. Our Day of Reflection was a “Preparation for Advent” led by Sister Joan Buckham RSM at Wesley Church in the city.

Fellowship Day 2009 is at the Uniting Church, Carlisle, and the speaker is Sister Emilie Cattalini RSJ from “The Sister’s Place, Fremantle”. Thanks go to Special Days convenor, Mrs Meryon Goode for her fine organisation of these days.

Mrs Janet Watts served members well as Pastoral Care Convenor during 2007–2008. Major Olive Dell has taken on this role in 2009.

Our finances have been ably administered by our Treasurer, Mrs Marie Majoer.

Our Social Responsibility Convenor, Mrs Joan Mann, has represented us well at a wide range of gatherings, including ecumenical events and also lectures and seminars on many issues, including human rights, racism, domestic violence, torture, global poverty, aboriginal rights and restorative justice.

Major Laurel Pearce is our representative on Council of Churches WA, where ACW WA is an associate member. Mrs Margaret Ker has represented the Council of Churches on the Women’s Advisory Network of WA. This group has considered many important issues, including Paid Parental Leave, Domestic Violence, Housing, Gender Equity and Social Inclusion and the importance of community consultation. Unfortunately the WA Government has recently suspended the Women’s Advisory Network.

Apart from the groups already mentioned, we have members active in National Council of Women (Joan Mann and Marie Majoer representing ACW, Margaret Ker, Catholic Women’s League, and Laurel Pearce, The Salvation Army) and Joan Mann is a member of the United Nations Association. Members have also attended various annual Meeting and special functions held by member Churches as well as being active in their local churches. All members of the Unit have contributed to a successful two years.

Mrs Leeola Loughnan
President

(Major) Laurel Pearce
Secretary

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE AUSTRALIA INC.

It is with pleasure that I present **Catholic Women's League Australia Inc Report** to the Australian Church Women's Conference Canberra, 21-25 September 2009.

World Youth Day

*"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you;
and you will be my witnesses" Acts 1:8*

The success of CWLA's involvement in World Youth Day08 can be attributed to Immediate Past President Mary Schultz and her Executive, Sydney Archdiocesan President Moya Potts (who was CWLA's official representative), members of the Sydney Archdiocesan Office and Catherine McGrath NSW President for their attendance at WYD08 meetings, producing the PowerPoint presentation and being present at the Vocations Expo Booth at Darling Harbour. These women were joined by members from around Australia who travelled to Sydney to be part of this 'once in a life time' experience!! It was thrilling and exciting and a little overwhelming on that first day, as we remembered back to when it was first suggested by NSW that CWLA National should be involved in WYD08 and a motion was passed stating that we should invest time, energy and finance to be part of this momentous occasion.

National International Secretary

National International Secretary Thora Regan AM attended CSW 53 in New York 2-13 March 2009. The Theme for the UN Commission for the Status of Women (CSW 53) was "The equal sharing of responsibilities between women and men, including care-giving in the context of HIV/AIDS". Following the support by CWLA in 2008 to sponsor a Billings Ovulation Method Workshop, Thora was contacted with a request for the same arrangement in 2009. Further contact from Babette Lambton of the Endeavour forum resulted in CWLA sponsoring two workshops "True Shared Fertility Management" and "The Health of Mothers" were held on 10-11 March with CWLA (Inc) nominated in the CSW schedule as the Organising NGO.

AusAID

During 2008 and again on 15 February 2009, CWLA wrote to the Hon. Mr Stephen Smith, Minister for Foreign Affairs, urging that the existing AusAID guidelines which had been in place since 1996, prohibiting any overseas development funding from being used for activities which involved the termination of a pregnancy, NOT be changed. However, on 10 March 2009, a Media Release from Stephen Smith MP announced that the rules had been changed, allowing Australia's overseas development assistance programs to support the same range of family planning services for women in developing countries as are being supported for women in Australia. Being a part of WomenSpeak has enabled CWLA to become aware of and to counteract the actions of other member organisations. During 2008-2009 when emails to Mr Stephen Smith Minister for Foreign Affairs were submitted in support of the AusAID guidelines being changed, CWLA used the opportunity to respond citing that we did not support change.

Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting Seoul South Korea October 2008

It was with a great deal of relief, pride and thanksgiving that we finally completed preparations for the WUCWO Asia Pacific Regional Assembly held in Seoul, South Korea from 26-31 October. The theme of the conference was "Women, Peace Makers – United in Faith and Action". Members from Australia who travelled to Seoul were Karyn Kammann, Mary Harrold, Patricia Liddiard, Eileen Hogg, Jacqueline Hipwell, Margaret Toomey, Jean Tanzer, Catherine McGrath, Susan Meehan, Joan Hughes, Peg McEntee, Marilyn Dickenson, Brenda Finlayson and Thora Regan.

CWLA had the privilege of preparing the liturgy for Mass on Tuesday 28 October which was celebrated by Father McMullen SSC, who resides in Seoul. Later in the day Thora Regan AM, our National International Secretary, represented Australia as part of a Panel talk with Dr Amelita Go,

Philippines, "Women's Initiative for Peace", Japan, "Peace and Arms" and Australia, "Peace and the Environment". As National President, I presented the CWLA National Report on actions taken relative to the Motions presented and discussed at the Arlington General Assembly in 2006.

National Council of Jewish Women

In September 2008 I was honoured to attend the NCJW WA section's very successful evening "NCWA Women Achievers Evening" held to honour three influential women – Faye Zwicky, Shohana Charkrabati and Dr. Sue Gordon AM. In June 2009 I accepted an invitation to attend the 80th Anniversary Dinner 1929-2009 of the WA section of NCJWA. The local Jewish community helped establish the Maurice Zeffert Home fifty years ago and these wonderful women continue to volunteer for charitable organizations, fundraise for their own community, here and in Israel, work in the areas of youth, the environment, migrants, the family and promotion of multicultural and interfaith tolerance.

On behalf of CWLA we extend our congratulations to ACW National President Jean Thomson OAM on her award for faithful "service to the community through Women's Organisations and to the Uniting Church in Australia".

We ask God's blessings on your Conference deliberations as you gather in His name – may all your decisions be pleasing to Him and keep you faithful to all that is true.

In Charity Work and Loyalty

Karyn Kammann

National President Catholic Women's League (Inc.) 2008-2009

MOTHERS' UNION AUSTRALIA REPORT

Christian Faith in Action

The Mothers' Union aim and purpose is to demonstrate the Christian faith in action by the transformation of communities Worldwide through the nurture of family in its many forms.

The 3.6 million Mothers' Union members around the World do this by working towards five Objectives:

- **To promote and support married life;**
- **To encourage parents in their role to develop the faith of their children;**
- **To maintain a Worldwide fellowship of Christians united in prayer, worship and service;**
- **To promote conditions in society favourable to stable family life and the protection of children;**
- **To help those whose family life has met with adversity.**

MU Australia began 2008 by hosting an International Regional Conference in March in Toowoomba, Queensland. Participants were Provincial Presidents, Diocesan Presidents, Official Workers and Mary Sumner House Staff, and they came from Sri Lanka, South India, Myanmar, South Korea, Canada, United States of America, West Indies, New Zealand, Melanesia, Papua New Guinea, United Kingdom and Australia. This was a time for growing together, learning about each other's country, building relationships and wonderful worship. The Conference was attended by about 100 members and it closed with the World Day of Prayer Service led by women from Guyana, whose country was responsible for compiling the service in 2008. It was truly an International Service, as those taking leading roles spoke in their own language.

MU Australia Council will meet at Pallotti College, Millgrove near Melbourne, in May 2009. Our theme will be **"Challenge, Change and Relationships"**. Particular training will be building media relationships and increasing our knowledge of the Worldwide Mothers' Union which has branches in 79 countries.

Our Parent Education Program, PEP, continues to grow with facilitators trained in all States. The Family Life Program, FLP, has made small beginnings in the Torres Strait and indigenous leaders on Cape York are looking at how they may introduce this initiative of MU Worldwide. A DVD for those who are being married will be launched at Australia Council. Work has commenced on a marriage preparation program called "Loving for Life". Financial aid was given to the Dioceses of Melbourne, Gippsland and Wangaratta following the devastating fires this year. Prayer support for them came from around the World.

The Overseas and Northern Outreach Fund provides aid to developing countries and supports initiatives in North West Australia, Northern Territory, North Queensland, Papua New Guinea and Melanesia, as well as clergy families living in isolated areas.

MU Australia is a member organisation of the Australian Women's Coalition (AWC), an alliance of 20 women's organisations attached to the Office of Women in the Federal Government. In the past year this organisation has been gathering information on "Healthy Ageing" and making recommendations to the relevant Government Ministers. Work has now commenced on looking at retrieval programs for girls and young women who come before the courts.

At branch level, members continue to provide pastoral care in many forms and they are encouraged to be involved in Parish and Diocesan outreach/missional programs. A number of Dioceses are working with migrant groups, particularly the Sudanese, and in Melbourne with Karen people. Our MU members are providing love, care and basic information about social and health services that are available in Australia.

In June, 2009 I was privileged to meet with MU Provincial Presidents from 25 Provinces of the Anglican Church from around the World at Canterbury, England. The theme for this gathering was ***"Pilgrimage – journeying together"***. We examined our journeys, and the journey of MU in our own Provinces, and how we have moved forward. There was agreement that Mary Sumner, our founder's vision of **"winning the homes of the nation for Christ, and helping parents to educate their children in a loving Christian home"**, was still very relevant.

MU Worldwide will still continue to work for the advancement of Christian family life and provide Christian care for families in need.

MU Australia members continue to strive to meet our Vision of **"Sharing Christ's love by encouraging, strengthening and supporting marriage and family life."**

Deane Bray
Provincial President, MU Australia.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

The Federal Executive of the Presbyterian Women's Association of Australia is in office for three years and is domiciled in Queensland till the Annual Conference, which will be held in Sydney in September 2010. All States (excluding Victoria) have their own Presbyterian Women's Associations and are linked to the Federal Association.

We are kept in touch with the activities of the State Associations by receiving their Minutes and Magazines, and our President Mrs Heather Ross visits whenever possible.

Mrs Ross has just visited Western Australia for their Retreat, which was held at Bassendean Presbyterian Church WA on the evening of 1 May and day of the 2 May 2009. This was to be a time of "encouragement for the women" and the theme was "Rejoicing in Hard Times." Heather gave the devotions on the Friday evening and chose Daniel 3 v 12 -28 as her topic. Mrs Judith Nicol was guest speaker and spoke of Psalms 77 and 33. She is the wife of the Anglican Archbishop of Perth. Mrs Ross was also a guest at a Moderator's Reception where she was invited to speak about the Presbyterian Women's Association.

Mrs Ross then visited South Australia Presbyterian Women's Association for their Conference which was held on 4 May 2009 at the Presbyterian Church in North Adelaide. She again addressed the gathering and spoke on their theme, "Love".

Tasmania Presbyterian Association is holding a Camp in October.

On 13 July, 2009, New South Wales held their State Conference and Mrs Ross was invited for the 3 day activities and brought a greeting to their Conference.

All States have their own Rallies, Time-out Days and Camps and Conferences, and each State works in their own particular way to help the Presbyterian Church and their own community in any way they are able. The ladies of all the States support among other things the work of the Presbyterian Inland Mission and Missionaries with financial assistance and prayer.

Since taking the position of Federal President she has visited Central, Downs, Mowbray and Wide Bay/Burnett Presbyterial Associations, in Queensland bringing words of encouragement to the ladies she meets. It is important ladies do not feel isolated in our vast country and much is gained by bringing ladies together in fellowship with their Lord and with each other.

We are finding it difficult to get ladies to take office. New South Wales Presbyterian Association has formed a Committee to look into this matter and as we, the Federal Executive start to arrange our Federal Conference in 2010 we have set aside an afternoon, before the Conference, to also discuss this matter. All States will have an opportunity to bring their ideas and thoughts to this meeting.

One of the aims of our Association is "to link the Women of the Presbyterian Church of Australia in a friendly comradeship for mutual help and inspiration and for united service to Christ and His Church at home and abroad." We pray God will continue to bless the ladies as they serve Him in any way they can in their own particular place in His vineyard. Psalm 100 v 2 and 3 says

"Serve the Lord with gladness,
Come before Him with joyful singing,
Know that the Lord Himself is God.
It is He who has made us, not we ourselves,
We are His people and the sheep of His pasture."

Betty Gadsby
Federal Secretary, Presbyterian Women's Association of Australia

THE SALVATION ARMY WOMEN'S MINISTRIES IN THE AUSTRALIA EASTERN TERRITORY

Ministry to women is alive and well in the Eastern territory especially through our Focus groups. These are needs based groups that most of our Corps run and there is great variety in the types of groups that are operating. Some examples are:- Scrapbooking, Mainly Music, Playgroup, Quilting, Craft, Bible study groups plus some evening groups that are more social fellowship focussed.

During last year there was over 145,000 women and children who attended the variety of groups. Through these groups and other women's ministry groups, 190 new families have been linked to the Salvation Army Corps.

Mainly Music has been a great success – in fact some Corps have had to turn parents and children away as they have too many for the classes. The challenge of course is – how to link these people with the church. We hope in the near future to see more of these families being linked with other activities in the church and in worship.

Other groups which have been very effective include a sandwich club which operates in a very needy suburb in Brisbane – women from the church gather to pack lunches for children who come to school without a meal. Some corps are very active in preparing pamper packs to be distributed by our Rural chaplains in the drought affected outback areas.

Each of our 7 Divisional leaders organise spiritual retreats for our women officers and retreat weekends for members. These are special times when women draw near to God and to each other. Each Division also organises a “rally day” when all the Corps in the area come together for worship and celebration.

Of special significance is our Annual Bible Convention which this year was re-named “Captivated by the Word”. This attracted 316 women over a weekend and 175 on a Saturday. An international guest speaker leads in Bible study and the weekend also includes workshops based on the theme of the weekend. This year the theme was “Hearing from God” so all the workshops featured aspects of prayer and prayer exercises, including a prayer room and prayer walk.

The territory also has a designated missionary project each year and all our women raise funds for this. Last year an amount of \$89,000 was sent to the Karibu Centre in Kenya. Each year the project chosen is to assist women and children. This year we are raising money for Myanmar.

Over \$20,000 is raised for Child Sponsorship and a further \$64,000 for a variety of other projects. The women certainly work hard to raise this money each year.

We do have challenges – an ageing population and lack of local leadership to name but two, but overall we thank God for the women who are connecting weekly with our women's ministry and thank God for the privilege of ministry by women to women.

(Colonel) Jan Condon

THE SALVATION ARMY, AUSTRALIA SOUTHERN DIVISION, WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

The Australia Southern Territory includes Victoria, Tasmania, South Australia, Western Australia and the Northern Territory. Each of these states and the territory, under local leadership, conducts program for women both in the church and in the community with the fundamental purpose to bring women to Christ.

The Territorial President of Women's Ministries, Commissioner Carolyn Knaggs, is responsible for the development, recruiting and the administration of these ministries. The Team of women leaders in each state are supported and report the program results along with statistical and business results to the Territorial office.

The Salvation Army had conducted ministry to women, by women, for women for over 100 years. The original purpose of a women's organization was to help young mothers care for family needs and to give support and mentoring through the influence of others. This has not changed through the years even though our methodology has adapted to the changing society.

Women's Ministries has been an area of vibrant activity and witness for the Gospel. The most recent surveys show a membership world-wide of 500,279. In the Australia Southern Territory our recorded membership is 11,719. These statistics include our various programs that include The Home League (focused on older women), Bible study groups, craft classes, educational opportunities, nurture groups and our most successful programs of Playgroups and Mainly Music. During 2009, 307,901 attended our programs.

There has been good growth in our attendance and memberships. We attribute this growth area in relationship to our outreach programs to young families through the Playgroup programs and Mainly Music. Our primary focus is on the mothers and grandmothers who accompany their children/charges to our weekly programs. This is paying great spiritual dividends and we are making good connections with our worshipping communities through this outreach. The main focus would be on "Friendship Evangelism". We have connected with many women who have needed friendship and in turn are discovering some of the deeper needs of their hearts.

We have been delighted that through this ministry, 908 families have been linked to our corps (worship centres) and many women have found their way to a relationship with Christ. Some of these women made first-time commitments to God and have found salvation for their souls. Opportunities are given in various venues to tell the stories of Jesus including retreats and camps.

One new resourcing tool developed in 2008 was the women's ministries website which has allowed for new ways to get available material to our women leaders. The website is www.salvationarmy.org.au/women. This addition to our material has allowed us to communicate regularly with our field operations and help to resource their needs as they arrive.

Leader development has been a thrust during the past two years with opportunities for our women leaders to up-skill themselves. Training has been offered not only in areas of ministry, but also in areas of administration. This has been well received.

The opportunities for ministry are endless to us. The most encouraging side of our ministry to women is that it is conducted by God-loving women who are anxious to see the Kingdom of God established here in Australia.

(Commissioner) Carolyn Knaggs
Territorial President of Women's Ministries, Australia Southern Territory

UNITING CHURCH ADULT FELLOWSHIP *“For such a time as this ...”*

The Uniting Church Adult Fellowship (UCAF) has, through its members been very active in the life of the Church and many communities in the last three years.

The National Committee's role is to plan, coordinate, and facilitate activities for its members under the approved Mission statement –

“To facilitate the network of Adult Fellowships nationally in order to promote the mission and witness of the Uniting Church in Australia.”

In the 2006–2009 triennium the National Committee has been based in Queensland. Through the leadership of Mrs Alyson Madsen (President) and the committee much has been accomplished throughout Australia and in other parts of the world.

In her report to the Twelfth Assembly of the Uniting Church, Mrs Madsen said, “There are approximately 18,000 members nationwide; who bring diverse gifts, are extremely loyal and committed to the service of the church. Arguably, they are the “glue” which holds many congregations together. Each fellowship group brings together members for spiritual, social, educational, recreational, service, and mission support activities.” These activities are organised at local level and report to their State's Synod Committee.

The National Committee has a coordinating role with the Synod Committees. Nationally we are linked with, relate to, and pay affiliation fees to two world bodies: the World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women (WFM&UCW) and the World Alliance of Reformed Churches (Department of Partnerships of Women and Men). Our Ecumenical Liaison member has corresponded with our thirty-three partner churches in the Pacific, Asia, India and Africa.

The theme for the triennium was “Let the Son Shine Through” and each affiliated group was challenged to use the theme in such a way that the Uniting Church could exhibit the love of God to the wider communities in which they live. This, in fact means, in excess of 18,000 women and men are witnessing to the people of Australia.

Some 2,400 rugs (approx. 48,000 squares) ‘were created, as members of fellowship groups throughout Australia were encouraged to knit, crochet or sew a square from warm material’ for the major project. The squares became rugs of all colours, sizes and textures to be distributed through Uniting International Mission and other agencies to people in many situations including – orphanages in Russia, Uganda, Mongolia, Zambia, Shi-Loh Church ministry; the Papua New Guinea Cyclone Appeal; Nan Province, North Thailand; fire victims in Nepal and Kinglake; in PNG Highlands; Cambodia; to Solomon Islands (for new born babies); World Vision; to Equestrian Group Members isolated in Warwick (Equine Flu); as well as many agencies/people in Australia.

Nine Australians were amongst 2000 women who attended the conference of the World Federation of Methodist & Uniting Church Women held (May 2006) in Jeju Island, Korea. At the Conference the Australian contingent agreed to embody the eight Millennium Development Goals of the United Nations and encourage all Fellowships to incorporate at least one of the Goals into their annual program.

Alyson Madsen joined a Uniting Church Assembly team of delegates to the World Methodist Conference in Seoul, a gathering of some 3,500 Christians from all over the world to experience diversity of spiritual expression, challenges confronting many countries, expressions of faith, daily worship and fellowship. In practical support for our prayer partner, the Solomon Islands, Pose Telasasa accepted an invitation to join with us at the World Assembly.

During September 2008 thirty-four Australians attended the South Pacific Area Seminar of the WFM&UCW held in Tonga with a number of our Solomon Island and Thursday Island friends accepting an invitation to join us. Ann Connan (Victoria), currently Vice-President of the South Pacific Area of WFM&UCW, provided leadership in the Bible Studies.

The National Celebration held in the early part of the triennium and the National Consultation at the close provide opportunities for people across Australia to gather. At the Consultation (May 2009) the 2009–2012 National Committee from the Synod of NSW and ACT was introduced and commissioned.

Greenhills Centre, Canberra, is the venue for the National Celebration to be held from 21 – 25 April 2010, picking up the theme *'For such a time as this...'*

(Rev) Alistair Christie
Chairperson, National Adult Fellowship Committee, 2009 – 2012

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER AUSTRALIA



On Friday 2 March 2009 there were 1,248 World Day of Prayer (WDP) services held throughout Australia. (NSW = 400, QLD = 213, VIC = 302, TAS = 52, WA = 121, SA = 160) This is almost the same number as last time we reported to ACW in 2007. This year's service was written in Papua New Guinea with the theme "In Christ there are many Members but One Body"

Coming author countries and themes for the annual service are:

2010	Cameroon	Let everything that has breath praise the Lord
2011	Chile	How many loaves have you?
2012	Malaysia	Let justice prevail

This year I had the wonderful privilege of attending the main service held in Port Moresby and of being with our WDP sisters on their special day. Since then WDP Australia has funded the purchase of a printer for PNG Christian Women who organise the World Day of Prayer services. A proposal will be put to our coming National Meeting that we fund two airfares each year for PNG Christian women leaders to travel to a province to conduct WDP training days.

Quadrennial National Meeting

Our next National Meeting will be held at the Holy Cross Centre at Templestowe in Melbourne from November 13th – 15th. Should you have any matters about World Day of Prayer that you would like to have considered at that meeting please submit them to me as soon as possible. For the first time we expect to have representatives from the two Commonwealth Territories present as well as the customary two representatives for each state. The National Liaison Officer from the newly constituted New Zealand National World Day of Prayer Committee has also been invited to attend as our guest. My term as National Liaison Officer will terminate at that meeting and Mrs Barbara Arnold from Adelaide will be elected to replace me.

WDPIC mid term – September 2009

The mid term meeting of the World Day of Prayer International Committee (WDPIC) will be held in New York during the first week in August. Vaieli Fuiono Piita from Tuvalu, but currently resident in Fiji, and I will represent the Pacific Region. The main task of the meeting is to plan the next quadrennial International Meeting but several other agenda items are also listed.

Pacific Workshop

As one of the two Pacific Representatives on the WDPIC last November I visited Fiji to assist with the running of a four day workshop for WDP leaders. The Executive Director of WDP, Eileen King, who is based in New York, led the workshop. The other Pacific representative, Vaieli Fuiono Piita from Tuvalu, but currently resident in Fiji, also assisted. This workshop was a training experience for Vaieli and myself I and it is planned that we run a similar workshop in another Pacific country next year and in coming years, as funds and other resources permit.

Vaieli represented WDP at the most recent bi-ennial Conference of the Pacific Council of Churches Conference in Samoa. It is planned that we have a presence and display at each of these conferences in the future. We may have the opportunity to run a workshop at the next one. Vaieli was also funded by WDP Australia to visit New Zealand this year and while there was able to contact many of her country women from Tuvalu and encourage them to actively participate in WDP in NZ.

Pauline Smit
National Liaison Officer

NOTICES OF MOTION

MOTION 1

ACW National Executive apologises that the wording for this Motion re ACW Incorporation is not included. It will be sent to all Conference participants as soon as possible.

MOTION 2

ACW National Executive proposes that the following amendments to “the Rules” be made:

Part 1.

1 Definitions.

That in the second line of Ordinary Committee Member it should read 12(2)(a)

1C Objects

The following be added:

- (5) Website: the National Executive of Australian Church Women ^{Inc} shall be responsible for the operation of the Website.

Part 2.

7 Fee - Subscriptions To read:

- (1) That each State and Territory annually contributes to the National Conference Fund, National Travel Fund, and the Overseas Conference and Travel Fund.
(2) That all interest received on money held by the National Executive is transferred to Administration.

Part 3.

12 National Conference

(2) Membership (a) (i) to read paragraph 13(2)

(2) Membership b (ii) & (vi) spelling error – *Sate* should read *State*.

15 Funds – Source amendment

The funds of the Association be derived from annual donations, and, subject to any resolution passed by the National Conference ... (delete *subscription of members*)

Part 5. Miscellaneous.

19 (2) spelling error in first line. *forward* should read *forwarded*.

Part 12 ~~6~~ (a) line 1 Spelling error. *Sate* should read *State*

2

MOTION 3 (following Motion 2)

National Executive moves that, if Motion 2, Part 2, 7 is accepted, Guidelines Page 9 National Treasurer 12 final sentence (*All interest received...to Administration*) be deleted.

MOTION 4

National Executive moves that: (see Guidelines, Page 9 National Treasurer item 12)

“National Treasurer may deduct ... an amount not exceeding 10% ... for Administration costs.” be confirmed for 2009 – 2011.

MOTION 5: *— withdrawn*

SA Unit moves:

That all Business Sessions at Australian Church Women 22nd National Conference 21-25 September 2009 be conducted according to "Australian Church Women Constitution 2007."

Rationale:

"Australian Church Women Constitution 2007" Clause 8 details the process by which the constitution may be amended viz.,

6. Amendment to Constitution:

- 8.1 This Constitution may be amended by a vote of a two-thirds majority of voting delegates at the National Conference.
- 8.2 Notice of Motion to amend the Constitution shall be forwarded in writing to the National Secretary not less than four months before the meeting of the National Conference at which the proposed amendment will be moved. Such Notices of Motion shall be circulated to all State/Territory Units three months prior to the National Conference.
- 8.3 All duly ratified changes and amendments to the Constitution shall become operative on the conclusion of the National Conference at which they are adopted.
- 8.4 Following the National Conference the Constitution and Guidelines shall be updated where necessary, and amended pages sent to each State/Territory Unit within six (6) months.

As the reported recent incorporation of Australian Church Women by 2007-9 National Executive was not done in accordance with this clause any business at the forthcoming 22nd National Conference should be conducted under the Australian Church Women Constitution 2007 in order to be valid.

MOTION 6

SA Unit moves:

That Australian Church Women meeting at its 2009 National Conference, authorises 2009-11 National Executive to review and consider Australian Church Women's National ~~Constitution~~ *Rules*, and propose any appropriate amendments to the next National Conference, or to a Special/ Extraordinary Meeting after due consultation with State and Territory Units. *the next annual meeting*



AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN INC

NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2009
Canberra ACT

With compliments from

National President
Mrs Jean Thomson OAM
and members of the National Executive

Please note that the attached MOTIONS 1–5 will replace the
Motions on Pages 46–47 of the Working Papers

PO Box 487
Curtin ACT 2605
elabeach@thomzone.com

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN INC

NOTICES OF MOTION

MOTION 1

Preamble:

Apology from the outgoing National Executive, that the incorporation of Australian Church Women Inc which occurred in or about March 2009 was contrary to section 16 of the *Associations Incorporation Act 1991 (ACT)* and clause 8 of the 2007 constitution of Australian Church Women.

ACW National Executive proposes that:

- incorporation be ratified for the purposes of section 16 of the *Associations Incorporation Act 1991 (ACT)*; and
- the amendments made to the ACW 2007 constitution to effect incorporation in March 2009 be ratified for the purposes of clause 9 of the 2007 constitution; and
- all actions taken by the National Executive following March 2009, purported to have been taken under the ACW Inc 2009 Rules be ratified as valid.

MOTION 2

ACW National Executive proposes that the following amendments to the ACW Inc 2009 Rules be made:

Part 1.

1 Definitions.

That in the second line of Ordinary Committee Member it should read 12(2)(a)

1C Objects

The following be added:

- (5) Website: the National Executive of Australian Church Women shall be responsible for the operation of the Website.

Part 2.

7 Fee - Subscriptions To read:

(1) That each State and Territory annually contributes to the National Conference Fund, National Travel Fund and the Overseas Conference and Travel Fund.

(2) That all interest received on money held by the National Executive is transferred to Administration.

Part 3.

12 National Conference

(2) **Membership (a) (i)** to read paragraph 13(2)

(2) **Membership b (ii)** spelling error – *Sate* should read *State*.

15 Funds – Source amendment

The funds of the Association be derived from annual donations, and, subject to any resolution passed by the National Conference ... (delete *subscription of members*)

Part 5. Miscellaneous.

19 (2) spelling error in first line. *forward* should read *forwarded*.

MOTION 3 (following Motion 2)

National Executive moves that, if Motion 2, Part 2, 7 is accepted, Guidelines Page 9 National Treasurer 12 final sentence (All interest received...to Administration) be deleted.

MOTION 4

The National Executive moves that: (*see Guidelines, Page 9 National Treasurer item 12*) "National Treasurer may deduct ... an amount not exceeding 10% ... for Administration costs." be confirmed for 2009 – 2011.

MOTION 5

The SA Unit moves that Australian Church Women Inc authorises the 2009-11 National Executive to review and consider the Australian Church Women Inc 2009 Rules and propose any appropriate amendments to the next National Conference, or to a Special/Extraordinary Meeting after due consultation with State and Territory Units.

Rationale for Motion 1:

ASSOCIATIONS INCORPORATION ACT 1991 - SECT 16

Matters preliminary to incorporation

An association or a group of 5 or more persons proposing to form and incorporate an association may, by resolution—

- (a) authorise a person who is at least 18 years of age and who resides in the ACT to apply for the incorporation of the association or proposed association; and
- (b) approve a statement of the objects of the association or proposed association for the purposes of the application; and
- (c) adopt rules of the association or proposed association, being—
 - (i) the model rules, as in force from time to time; or
 - (ii) rules other than the model rules, being rules that comply with section 32; and
- (d) appoint at least 3 members of the association or of the group proposing to form and incorporate an association to be the inaugural members of the committee of the incorporated association if the application is successful.

ACW 2007 CONSTITUTION CLAUSE 8

Amendment to Constitution:

- 8.1 This Constitution may be amended by a vote of a two-thirds majority of voting delegates at the National Conference.
- 8.2 Notice of Motion to amend the Constitution shall be forwarded in writing to the National Secretary not less than four months before the meeting of the National Conference at which the proposed amendment will be moved. Such Notices of Motion shall be circulated to all State/Territory Units three months prior to the National Conference.
- 8.3 All duly ratified changes and amendments to the Constitution shall become operative on the conclusion of the National Conference at which they are adopted.
- 8.4 Following the National Conference the Constitution and Guidelines shall be updated where necessary, and amended pages sent to each State/Territory Unit within six (6) months.

MOTION 7

SA Unit moves:

(A) That Australian Church Women meeting in conference in Canberra requests the National Executive of ACW to approach the Minister for Indigenous Affairs for a detailed plan of how the Government intends to close the gap on Indigenous disadvantage within a generation.

(B) To ensure that funding is guaranteed for the stated targets, i.e.:

- to halve the literacy, numeracy and employment gaps within a decade
- to halve the gap in infant mortality within a decade
- to close the approximate 17 year gap in overall life expectancy within a ~~decade~~ generation

RATIONALE:

- It is a sad fact that the life expectancy of Indigenous Australians is around 17 years lower than that of the Australian population.
- In 2006 the unemployment rate for Indigenous people was 16% compared with only 5% for the non Indigenous population.
- In 2004-2005, 27% of Indigenous people were living in overcrowded conditions.
- Indigenous people are more likely to experience homelessness than other Australians.
- Indigenous people are more likely to experience domestic violence than non Indigenous people.
- Finally Indigenous people have also suffered from limited recognition and protection of their cultures, languages and rights and ownership of land and resources.

Regarding health alone, although in November 2008 the Council of Australian Governments committed \$1.6 billion in new health funding – the largest increase ever for Indigenous health – the statistics on are compelling: around twice as many Indigenous infants died before their first birthday compared with non Indigenous infants

Cardiovascular disease is around 2.5 times higher for Indigenous Australians, respiratory disease is almost four times higher and pneumonia three times higher. (NACCHO CEO Mr Mick Adams in Oxfam media release March 09.)

National Executive notes for interest: *Closing the gap on Indigenous disadvantage* can be found on the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) web page –

www.fahcsia.gov.au/about/news/2009/Pages/Closingthegap.aspx

The first annual statement to Parliament on the Australian Government's Closing the Gap strategy was made on 26 February 2009.

The minister responsible for FaHCSIA is the Hon Jenny Macklin MP.

MOTION 8

National Executive moves:

That Australian Church Women meeting in Conference in Canberra write to both the Federal and State Attorneys-General requesting them to consider adopting "safe surrender" legislation ensuring the protection of newborns.

RATIONALE: Ten infants are abandoned in Australia each year. The figures could be much higher as the numbers reflect only the babies that are discovered and reported in the media.

Safe surrender laws operate in Germany, Italy, Japan, Hungary, Austria and the US where a mother can leave her baby at a hospital or other safe place without legal penalty. Child abandonment is a deeply saddening response to what must be a very traumatic event for a mother who feels she is left with no other option but to relinquish her infant.

Presently in Australia abandoning a child is a criminal offence and therefore, a mother or a father who abandons a child can face criminal prosecution. As long as the mother is treated like a criminal we will continue to see many more babies left at rubbish tips, public toilet blocks etc to perish from exposure to the elements.

Last September, Senator Helen Polley proposed that Safe Haven laws be introduced in Australia to offer a mother/father a safe means of relinquishing a baby under tightly controlled guidelines.

MOTION 9

Members of National Executive of ACW meeting in Conference respectfully bring to the attention of the Minister for Health and Ageing, Nicola Roxon, our concern regarding the excessive alcoholic content of drinks such as *Bacardi Cruise*, *Lemon Ruski*, *Pineapple and Coconut Rum*, and *Vodka Raspberry*. They have the appearance of a harmless soft drink but, in reality, these drinks contain between 5–7% alcohol. (A light strength beer usually consumed by males contains only 2.5% alcohol, and a can of full strength beer contains 4.7% alcohol.)

RATIONALE: Young girls are being particularly targeted by the liquor industry in their presentation of these drinks. The bottles appear to contain soft drink and the colouring suggests that they are soft drinks. The contents taste like soft drink. Most young women would be oblivious to the strong alcoholic content of these supposedly harmless drinks presented to them as an alternative to stronger alcoholic beverages. It has been established that females have a much lower tolerance to alcohol than males.

Alcohol is a very addictive drug. In the past few years calls to the Family Drug Support hotline by concerned parents worried about alcoholism have increased by 11%. Fifteen per cent of the 25,000 calls to the hotline last year were alcohol related with the overwhelming majority concerned about their teenagers binge drinking.

Consuming only two of these “lolly drinks” by young women could cause drunkenness, changes in consciousness, mood and emotions. These intoxicating and psychoactive effects lead to many accidents, injuries, diseases and disruptions to family life.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

NSW Unit asks:

1. Whether Orders of Service for Special Days can be varied to suit the needs, age and culture of the community where they are being used
2. Whether an ideas page should be submitted with each Order of Service for Special Days prepared, giving suggestions for alternate worship styles to which the service may lend itself.
3. That consideration be given to the venues, costs and types of accommodation for future National Conferences. What are the expectations of those likely to attend?
4. Concerning Public Liability Insurance for Australian Church Women. Can there be cover on a National basis with States contributing?

**AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN INC.
INCOMING NATIONAL EXECUTIVE FOR 2009-2011**

PRESIDENT: Miss Margaret Flint OAM

SECRETARY: Mrs Judy Burge

VICE PRESIDENT (1): Mrs Dorothy Ferrier

VICE PRESIDENT (2): Major Wanda McKeand

TREASURER: Ms Christine Barber

MINUTE SECRETARY: Mrs Pat Walker

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP CONVENOR: Mrs Maureen Clark

FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN CONVENOR: Mrs Margaret Greenslade

SPECIAL DAYS CONVENOR: Captain Judith Brown

SOCIAL JUSTICE CONVENOR: Mrs Kath Smith

PUBLICATIONS EDITOR & PUBLICITY: pro tem group: President, Secretary + 2 National Executive Members.

ASIAN CHURCH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE AUSTRALIAN REPRESENTATIVE: Captain Donna Bryan

AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S COALITION REPRESENTATIVE: pro tem – President

Auditor: Mr Adrian Nicholls, Chartered Accountant

PROFILES OF INCOMING NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

Margaret Leighton Flint OAM, BA, Dip T (Prim) – President Anglican

I was born at North Kensington, South Australia in 1945, with my early years spent at St Peters. My education was at East Adelaide Primary School, Girton Girls' School (now Pembroke), Wattle Park Teachers' College and University of Adelaide.

My Christian faith journey commenced at All Soul's Anglican Church. St Peters Consequent on the family move to Norwood in 1951, I became part of the third generation of my family to worship at St Bartholomew's Church. I attended Sunday school, as a student, then teacher and later as superintendent. I was involved in the Girls' Friendly Society branch as a member and then as leader.

Service in the Parish of Norwood until 2003 included as People's Warden, Member of Committee of Management, Parish Council, Synod Representative, Lay Assistant, Lay Reader and Parish Secretary. Later I was involved with GFS at Diocesan level as a State Executive member, leader in State and Vacation Day camps, and State Leader Training Officer. I attended the GFS World council Meeting in Japan 1984.

I was a primary school teacher with the Education Department of South Australia for over thirty years. 1972-74 I took leave to serve through Australian Volunteers' Abroad. I lectured at Balob Teachers' College, Lae, PNG, was Dean of Women 1974 and a member of the Anglican College community.

Advent 2003 I joined the worshipping community at St Aidan's, Payneham, where I have served on Parish Council 2004–, as Lay Assistant 2004– and People's Warden, October 2004–07. I attend a monthly Home Group, the parish Education for Ministry Group, Meditation Group, produce the weekly pew sheet and am Parish Contact for SACC, ABM-A and EAC.

Wider church and Diocesan involvement has included attending 1995 General Synod Meeting; a member of Diocesan Council (1989–2003), Anglican Board of Missions - Australia Provincial Committee (SA Lay Board Member 1998-2000), Anglican Board of Christian Education (1988–2000), Provincial Council (1995–), Ecumenical Affairs Commission (1995–, Chair 1998–), an Anglican representative to South Australian Council of Churches (1998–2008).

I have been active in women's affairs for many years. I was a GFS Delegate (1985-87) to National Council of Woman SA, Inc and then became an Associate Member. Since then I have been an Executive Member, Vice President, Membership Secretary, President Elect, Acting State Co-ordinator, Newsletter Editor, President and NCWA Board Member(2000–03). I have represented NCW SA on WIS Support Group, ACCC Consumer Consultative Group, IWD Luncheon Committee and numerous sub-committees e.g. Nominations, Constitution. I attended NCWA Conferences in Perth, Melbourne (twice), Hobart and Canberra, as well an ICW Conference, Perth 2003. I am President of NCW War Memorial Fund Committee.

Since graduation (1972) I have been a member of Australian Federation of University Women SA Inc FUW SA, served as a Committee member and Secretary and attended AFUW National Conference, Hobart, Tasmania 1991. My interest in cross-cultural issues and current affairs is kept informed through UNAA (SA) Status of Women Committee, SACC and church mission (ABM-A) connection and involvement.

Initially I became an Associate Member, Australian Church Women SA Unit and then President – elect, President (2004-6) and Promotions Officer 2007-9. I attended ACW National Conferences at Collaroy, NSW, and Geelong, Victoria.

June 2007 I was awarded an OAM “for service to the Anglican Church of Australia in a range of committee roles, and to the community through women's organisations.”

When time permits, for relaxation, I enjoy my home and garden, time with friends, opera, viewing movies, reading, computer, gym and my feline companion, Tina.

Dorothy Ferrier – Vice President (1), Anglican

I was born at Prospect in 1940 and educated at Blair Athol Primary School and St Peter's Girls' Collegiate School. On leaving school I gained employment at Myer on the sales staff, but later entered a sharebroking office, eventually becoming a Secretary with a firm where I remained until my marriage in 1962.

My husband Bob, and I have two adult sons, one granddaughter and one grandson, and we are shortly to happily legally acquire three step-granddaughters. We have a river boat –“Shearwater” – moored on The Marina Hindmarsh Island where we spend some delightful times of rest and relaxation.

We worship in the Anglican Parish of St Saviour's, Glen Osmond, where we both serve on the Parish Council. Bob has served as Parish Treasurer and Warden and until recently I have also been Minute Secretary.

Over the 40 years of membership of MU Australia I have served as Branch President and Secretary, Deanery President, Diocesan Secretary and Diocesan President. I am presently one of the Diocesan Vice Presidents, and in 2007 I was honoured to be awarded a Life Vice Presidency.

I am currently an Anglican Representative for the ACW (SA Unit) and have very much enjoyed the positions of Minute Secretary, the Anglican Liaison Officer, Convenor of the WKS Trustees and I also served on the National Executive when it was last in South Australia.

I have also been a member of Inner Wheel, which is an international organisation comprising of female family members of Rotarians. I have served as President and Secretary of the former Adelaide Club and Secretary of the former Norwood Club.

My other interests are needlework, knitting and reading and I am looking forward to serving as a Vice President on the ACW National Executive 2009–11.

Major Wanda McKeand – Vice President (2), Salvation Army

Becoming a Christian when a child has brought unbelievable challenges and opened up opportunities never sought for or even dreamed of.

Serving the Lord all her life through the Salvation Army and involved in the usual Church, (Norwood Corps) activities until her marriage to John in 1965. Wanda and John entered Training College in 1966, thus began an exciting journey which has seen them serve the Lord in Tasmania, Victoria, Kenya and South Australia.

Appointments have included parish work in Churches in Norlane, Ararat, Stawell and Geelong West before going overseas for eight years. Wanda worked as the sponsorship officer where at Joytown

School for Crippled Children, over 200 children were sponsored. This followed several years in an adult training program which also required sponsorship as well as other practical and spiritual leadership.

Returning to Australia, management of a Rehabilitation Centre preceded 9 years ministry in Senior Citizens Centres, "a work close to my heart," says Wanda. Wanda was then appointed to work with women in Domestic Violence issues in Ballarat. Returning to Adelaide Wanda and John took up dual roles as Managers of Community Support Services as Associate Officers (Pastors) of Adelaide Congress Hall where in "retirement" they continue to serve and worship.

It was during this time that Wanda became President elect (2001) and enjoys very much her association with Australian Church Women, as ecumenism has always been a passion.

Added highlights have been entertaining Cliff Richards, and a couple of Salvation Army Generals, meeting Douglas Bader; the Passion Play at Oberammergau, a three day Silent Retreat (believe it or not!) and marvelling at the majesty of Niagara Falls.

Wanda and John have two sons and a daughter and 5 darling grandchildren. Wanda enjoys her marriage, family loves to read, cook, write and travel.

Judy Burge – Secretary, Uniting

I was born at Jamestown in the mid north of South Australia, the family moving to Adelaide when I was 10 years old. Attended Unley High School, achieving Intermediate standard in the Commercial course, continuing at night school attaining a Certificate of Merit in Year 12 in Shorthand Speed and Stenography. Employed by the Government in the Education Department where I worked for the Director of Education. I left the Government after 12 years to marry Don, a pharmacist, now retired. We then had two children, Amanda 41 years old and Peter, 39 years old, both of whom now live in Canberra. I did not work for some years when the children were small, but then returned to the workforce and worked full time for approximately 12 years, still in an office, before taking up volunteer work with Uniting Church Adult Fellowship.

I attended the Jamestown Methodist Church in Sunday School and then in Adelaide, the Edwardstown Methodist/Uniting, becoming a Sunday School teacher and enjoyed the vibrant youth group in Christian Endeavour. It was at the time in Churches when sport was abundance and had many tennis and netball courts. It was a wonderful time, it was the youth group's social activities and gaining a spiritual outlook.

During the past 30 years I have also been active with the local Lions Club taking on the position of Secretary of the Ladies Auxiliary for a few times, as President. My life with the Edwardstown Lions Club helped me develop skills of talking to people, taking positions and initiating events. My husband was District Governor for part of South Australia and the Northern Territory and we were able to travel to various centres and meet many people.

I was Secretary of the UCAF Committee of the South Australian Synod for three years, continuing as a committee member for seven years. I was on the National Committee of Uniting Church Adult Fellowship for 3 years, which has been of great inspiration to me. My journey with UCAF and ACW has shown me a greater awareness of God and my desire to serve Him. For the last five years my project with Australian Church Women as Convenor of the Community Concern events, has brought me much joy, passion and enthusiasm. I have attended the ACW National Conferences at Collaroy,

NSW, and Geelong, Victoria. I attend the Colonel Light Gardens Uniting Church and take an active part in the life of the Church, as a Reader and Fellowship group.

My hobbies are competitive tennis, reading, craft and gardening.

Pat Walker – Minute Secretary, Catholic

Born 1933. Widowed twice. Mother of five. Grandmother of five. Great grandmother of 1.

I have been a member of Catholic Women's League for about 38 years.

Became CWL delegate to ACW about 12 years ago.

Spent two years 1999 and 2000 in Balgo as Parish volunteer living in the Kutjungka Catholic Parish, which was made up of four communities – Balgo, Yaka Yaka, Malaarn and Billiluna. Here I was office worker and house keeper to the Parish priest and also ran the visitors' rooms which served as a mini motel for visitors to the community. The work was hard and the temperature was high but it was an invaluable experience. I made many Aboriginal friends.

When I returned home I was elected to be ACW representative on the Asian Church Women's Conference. For four years I served as the Australian representative and am currently serving my second four year term on the general committee. This has entailed meetings in Korea, Japan, Myanmar, Cambodia, Taiwan, Malaysia and will end at the next General Assembly in Indonesia in 2010.

Christine Barber – Treasurer, Anglican

I was born at Hindmarsh in the western suburbs of Adelaide in 1941, where I spent the first 30 years of my life in the local community with my parents and my late brother Brian. I was baptized in the Parish of Good Shepherd Bowden and attended Sunday School and worshipped at St Barnabas Croydon. During that time I attended Croydon Primary and Woodville High Schools, attaining my Intermediate Certificate in commercial subjects and piano, prior to taking up office work with National Mutual Life Association for 34 years until retrenched in 1993.

My social life centred around the St Barnabas' Church where I was a Sunday School teacher, Commissioned Leader for GFS (an Anglican Ministry for girls and women), and parish youth group, netball and tennis clubs. I was also a keen calisthenics member, taking part in club competitions and shows, and state competitions at Ballarat.

Subsequently I worked on the State Executive of GFS for 40+ years, serving terms as Chairperson, Treasurer and Magazine co-ordinator, also taking part in Australian Council Meetings as State Representative and Australian Treasurer and attending World Councils in Melbourne, London and Japan.

Since moving to Cheltenham in 1970 I have worshipped at St George's Alberton and continued my interest and commitment to children's ministry with Sunday School and School Holiday Programs. I am a lay assistant for services and pastoral visiting, and recently stepped down as an Anglican Synod representative. On taking up music for Sunday Services I have relinquished my Sunday School work, but continue as a Parish Council Member and representative to our Western Deanery Action Group of Lay people.

After retrenchment I did voluntary work as well as training in word processing and various computer packages to continue casual office work. It was during this time of unemployment that I joined the Board of the Archway Rehabilitation and Community Services in Port Adelaide, as minute secretary. Although this Board was disbanded in 2000, and the work of alcohol and drug rehabilitation became a programme of Anglicare SA, I continued as Secretary of the Archway Foundation. The Foundation was set up as a fund raising and support for clients amenities at the Archway.

I joined the ACW in September 1999 as an Anglican delegate and subsequently became the Anglican Liaison to Business Meetings. I was appointed a Trustee for the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Trust in September 2001 and also Treasurer.

Outside of the above activities, I attend my garden and the numerous pot plants filling my shade house and share family time with my sister in-law, two nieces and two great nephews.

Captain Judith Brown – Special Days Convener, Salvation Army

During my working career, I was employed at Arnott Motteram Menz biscuit company in the area of credit control from July 1968 until September 1991.

As well as working full time throughout those 23 years, I was actively involved at the Prospect/Ingle Farm Corps for 30 years, being in the Songster Brigade (choir), in the inaugural pastoral care team, member of the stewardship committee and corps pianist for 20 years. For approximately 5 years, I also represented The Salvation Army on the board of ITIM Australia (Interchurch Trade & Industry Mission).

For many years I had felt called by God to full time ministry and in 1990 it took a \$7,000 trip to The Salvation Army International Congress in London to finally say 'yes' in response to God's continued calling to officership (ministry).

My appointments included assisting at Norwood Corps and Peterborough South Australia, then Graceville Women's Centre, Subiaco and Willagee Corps, Western Australia followed by three years at Williamstown Corps in Victoria where I became a Rotarian.

In 2004 I returned 'home' to South Australia where I was appointed as chaplain to two Aged Care Residences, followed by an appointment in Women's Ministries.

I 'officially' retired on 1/4/2006, had one month's leave as I had already been asked to accept an 'appointment in retirement' amongst 12 Companion Clubs (seniors' ministries) within South Australia in which I am currently involved.

I have served on National Council Women (WA) 5 years, Australian Church Women (Vic) 3 years, Australian Church Women (SA) 5 years, and represent ACW (SA) on the United Nations Association of Australia, Status of Women (SA) Division.

Maureen Clark – Winifred Kiek Scholarship Convener, Catholic

I have been married to Michael since 1958. We have two daughters, one son and four grandchildren and by the grace of God, we will have twin grandchildren before the National Conference.

I have been a member of Catholic Women's League since 1973 and have served as Secretary at Diocesan, State and National levels. I have also served as State International Secretary. I am currently Diocesan Treasurer.

I have been involved in Australian Church Women since about 1986. I have served as Unit Secretary, Promotions Officer and Winifred Kiek Scholarship Convener. I have attended National Conferences in Perth (twice), Sydney (twice), Canberra, Brisbane and Adelaide.

I served as National Secretary of Australian Church Women from 1999–2001 and have been Chairman of the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Trust since 2003.

In my Parish I have been a Proclaimer of the Word since 1976 and a Leader of the rostered Sunday night Counting Team since 1995. I have been a member of the Neo-Catechumenal Way community since 2006.

I have been Secretary of the Noarlunga Schools Chaplaincy Committee since 2001 and work in the St Vincent de Paul shop one Saturday morning every four weeks.

Kath Smith – Social Justice Convenor, Catholic

After I had completed my Intermediate Certificate, I stayed at home to help my parents with the housework and farm duties for 2 years, as I was the eldest of nine children.

I worked as a housekeeper on a farm for a family of four at Booleroo Centre for three years, then married Jude, my husband of 54 years. Our family of five children attended St Gabriel's Parish school where I joined the Mother's Club and was elected President of that Committee for five years, was a member of St Paul's College mother's club for 10 years, also Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College Enfield, for 10 years.

I coached and arranged transport for three netball teams at St Gabriel's School for 5 years. I coached Junior Tennis at Clearview Tennis Club, organized Junior teams and transport for 5 years, was a committee member of that club for 15 years, played competitively for 20 years in Div. 1&2, mostly Div 2, then played veterans tennis at Broadview tennis club for 10 years. During that time I served as Social Activities Convenor and was awarded Life Membership of that tennis club. From 1972–75 I was elected on the Social Committee for the Enfield Harriers Athletic Club, then 1975–78 I worked for the North Adelaide Football Club in the Canteen, as a volunteer.

After my children completed their schooling, I joined the Catholic Women's League in 1984 with the Clearview Branch, where I have served it as a Secretary, then as President.

In 1995 I was elected as the Adelaide CWL Archdiocesan Secretary which I served for 5 years, then was elected Archdiocesan President in 2000 for 4 years. In 2004–08 I was elected CWL State President of SA Inc. In 2006–09 was elected President of the Status of Women (UNAA) SA Inc. In 2009 I joined the Australian Church Women.

In 1964 we came to the Clearview Parish where I joined the Church cleaning roster and am now a Reader, Eucharistic Minister and a Minister to the sick.

I now enjoy watching my Grandchildren compete in their various sports.

Margaret Greenslade – Fellowship of the Least Coin Convenor, Salvation Army

Born, educated, employed in office and married in Renmark, South Australia.

Involved in community affairs through school committees – kindergarten to high school council and canteens. Helped Meals on Wheels by delivering the meals in the district.

Through my membership of the Salvation Army have been involved with the Sunday Schools, both in the township of Renmark and one at a soldier settlement, 10 miles out of town. After moving to Adelaide I have been involved with women's fellowship as leader, and as a helper with the Family Support Centre at Norwood Salvation Army and the Op shop.

Have been involved with various business activities in partnership with my husband Peter, both in the country and in the city. We have a daughter and a son, 7 grandchildren (including 2 sets of twin boys), and 3 great grandchildren.

I have been a member of Australian Church Women SA Unit for 17 years, have held position of President, Fellowship of Least Coin Convenor, a Trustee of Jubilee 150 (a SA Trust), Trustee of WKS, at National level have been Convenor of Fellowship of Least Coin,

I have been privileged to attend 7 National Conferences, and am sorry not to be able to be in Canberra as I will be in Germany visiting our son.

NOMINATION FOR WKS TRUSTEE

Barbara J Grear

A member of Churches of Christ worshipping at the Magill Church, South Australia. Past Treasurer and Board Chairman at her church and is currently a Board Member and Deputy Chair.

Has previously held positions of secretary and treasurer of Churches of Christ in South Australia, and treasurer and president of Churches of Christ Women's Conference in South Australia.

Is now a director of Churches of Christ Life Care Inc., deputy chair of Churches of Christ Building Extension Mutual Fund Inc., treasurer of Women's Ministries – Churches of Christ in Australia.

Treasurer of Australian Church Women SA Unit Inc., treasurer of Jubilee 150 Trust.

Has an Associate Diploma in Accounting and is an Associate of the National Institute of Accountants.

Married to Barry for 50 years with 4 adult sons and 11 grandchildren.

**DELEGATE TO ASIAN CHURCH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE
NOMINATION FROM WESTERN AUSTRALIAN UNIT**

Name: Laurel Pearce
Address: 4/242 Lawrence Street, Bedford WA, 6052
Age: 70 years
Family Single. One brother, two sisters

Work Experience:

Worked for Westpac for six years in the 1950s.

Thirty-nine years as an active officer in the Salvation Army in Victoria, Tasmania and Western Australia. Appointments included Corps (Church) ministry, aged care, residential child care, work with unmarried mothers, youth hostels, women's refuges, emergency relief, disability services, work with the chronically unemployed and an appointment on the staff of The Salvation Army Training College. Many of these appointments were in management roles and many involved working with, and for, people of different cultures.

I have a Bachelor of Arts degree (Psychology) and a Bachelor of Social Work degree, both from the University of Melbourne, Victoria.

I have served on a number of committees: Residential Child Care, Women's Refuge and Emergency Relief groups in Victoria, and Disability Services and Women's Refuges groups in Western Australia. In Western Australia I served terms as Assistance Coordinator and Coordinator of the Women's Refuge Group. I am honorary Chaplain for the Women's Royal Army Corps Association.

In 2002 I joined the National Council of Women WA as The Salvation Army representative. I have been on NCW WA executive for six years, the last two as Vice President, and I will soon be starting a term as Chairman of Standing Committees. I am also State and National Advisor for Habitat, have attended two National Conferences (the third this September) and the International Council of Women Conference held in Perth in 2003.

Ecumenical Experience

I have family and friends who belong to different denominations and value opportunities to share in worship with them.

On retirement in 2000 I joined Australian Church Women WA as The Salvation Army Representative. I served three years as President and am in my sixth year as Secretary. I served on National Executive as Social Justice Convenor 2001–2003. I represent ACW WA on the Council of Churches WA. I attended the ACWC Assembly in Kuala Lumpur in 2007 as a delegate. I enjoy the opportunity ACW affords to learn from and share in the different ways members express their faith. I attended the Salvation Army International College for officers in London in 1983 where I had the opportunity to share with officers from five continents.

Signed personally:

L K Loughnan
Leeola Loughnan
President

L Pearce
Laurel Pearce
Nominee

**PROFILE FOR NOMINEE
DELDGATE TO ACWC ASSEMBLY 2010**

Fran Moss, Unit 4, 7a Copernicus Street, WYNNUM WEST QLD 4178

I was born in Sydney in 1939, the third child in the family. When I was only a few months old the family moved to Melbourne where my father changed from teaching to being a Minister of the Word in the Presbyterian Church. We moved around Victoria during my youth and ended up in Werribee in 1954 where I lived for the next 50 years. After ending High School I did a Child-care Course for twelve months before going Nursing. Unfortunately the nursing didn't work out and I ended up as a Bank Clerk for a number of years. I was married in 1961. I have four children, three sons and a daughter. I have six grandchildren aged from 18 to 8. I have been on my own for thirty years now. My daughter Cheryl has cerebral palsy and I looked after her for 28 years until she was married in 1999. She married a Queenslander and they lived in Werribee for four years after their son was born. Cheryl and Graeme moved to Brisbane in 2004 with their son Dylan. I also moved to Brisbane a few months later.

Being a Minister's daughter I have always been connected to the Church. I was very involved at Werribee, firstly in the Presbyterian Church, then later when it became Uniting. I was an Elder for many years, in the Choir and the local UCAF (Uniting Church Adult Fellowship), and not forgetting the Tennis Club. I was also on the Committee of two Community Centres in Werribee for nearly twenty years, holding the position of Treasurer in both – fifteen years in one and five in the other. Once a month I was one of the volunteers for the City Council's program called "Lunch with the Bunch". We would go and pick up the shut-ins and take them out to lunch at a certain venue.

Around 1985 I became involved with UCAF at a Presbytery level, then at a Synod level on the Victorian State Council. I was UCAF President of Victoria in 1992 and 1993. During 2000 to 2003 I was on the National Committee of the UCAF when the National Committee was based in Victoria. I have attended many seminars in the South Pacific for the World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women, and a World Assembly in England in 2001, representing the Federation.

I have always been very interested in the ecumenical scene. In the early '90s I became a UCA representative on the Victorian Council of Churches and also the Australian Church Women. I was ACW President of Victoria Unit in 1996–97.

I represented the Uniting Church Assembly at the Centenary of the Gospel celebrations in the Solomon Islands in 2002.

I have attended two Asian Church Women's Conference Assemblies; one in Korea in 2002 and also in Malaysia in 2006, as a visitor.

I am a member of the Bayside Uniting Church at Wynnum, am President of the Queensland Unit of Australian Church Women; ACW Rep on Queensland Churches Together, and on the UCAF Committee for the South Moreton Presbytery.

Personally signed:

Frances E Moss
President

M J Florence
Acting Secretary

CONFERENCE SONG

Judith-Ann Sjöstedt

"Faith in the Future"

1.

We have faith in the future,
raise your voices in praise and song
that Australian Church women
remain ever faithful and strong.

Together we are united
in prayer and fellowship
all Protestant denominations,
Catholics, Salvationists.

2.

We are called Christ's disciples
with compassion and charity
befriending the poor and the lonely,
and welcoming refugees.

We have faith in the future,
as servants of his Word,
Australian Church Women's prayers
will always be heard.

3.

We will fight for truth and justice
and reconciliation.
no matter what creed, race or colour
in every nation.

We have faith in the future,
of WKS and FLC,
to keep alive the vision
of Winifred and Shanti.

4.

Lord, lift us in your spirit,
fill us with life anew,
that Australian Church women
remain ever faithful to you.

So said the prophet Micah –
Live justly and love tenderly
we'll walk with our God for ever
in peace and humility.

Faith in the future

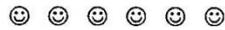
Judith-Ann Sjostedt; arranged B. Potts Hendy

The musical score is written in 8/8 time with a key signature of two sharps (D major). It consists of four systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "We have faith in the future; raise your voices in praise and song. That Australian Church women remain ever faithful and strong. We have faith in the future; raise your voices in praise and song. That Australian Church women remain ever faithful and strong." The score includes measure numbers 5, 10, and 14. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line and a more active treble line with chords and melodic fragments.

In appreciation

The President, Jean Thomson OAM and members of National Executive sincerely thank the following:

- The management and staff of Hotel Heritage, Narrabundah for their consideration and service.
- All those who have provided transport for our guests during the Conference.
- The pianists.
- Leaders who have introduced us to new ideas.
- *Lady's Mantle Choir*, under the direction of Maia Harrison, who provided wonderful entertainment during the Formal Dinner.
- Rohan Thomson Photography.



Australian Church Women National Executive acknowledges with thanks the Community Grant awarded by the Southern Cross Club of Canberra.



Australian Church Women National Executive acknowledges with thanks the generous financial assistance given for the production of Conference papers by the ACT Government, and the Brochures supplied for our visitors to Canberra.

BENEDICTION.....
repeat together

*Father,
We are different in many ways, but in you we are one
body.
It is only in you, Lord, that we become whole, for
your spirit is within us.
Help us to use our being for your service.
With our voices use us to spread your message and
give you praise.
With our ears to listen to your word.
With our eyes to look and see the wonders of your
creation.
With our lips to pray for each other.
With our hearts to listen to your voice in our prayers.
With your spirit within us let us show your love to all
who we meet
We are one body in you Lord, one mind, one heart,
one spirit.
May we show our faith in the future...
One day at a time.*

AMEN

For your private readingHebrews 11: 1, 6-10

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*When things go wrong,
As they sometimes will,
When the road you're trudging seems all uphill,
When the funds are low and the debts are high,
And you want to smile, but you have to sigh,
When care is pressing you down a bit,
Rest, if you must -
But don't you quit!*

HAVE FAITH IN THE FUTURE.....

ACW NATIONAL CONFERENCE
CANBERRA 2009

Conference Theme.....Faith in the Future

Evening Devotions

Presented by
NSW Unit



Tuesday, 22nd September 2009

Faith in the Future—One day at a time

CALL TO WORSHIP

There is a Redeemer

PRAYER

Let us sing:

A time of reflection and prayers on 'FAITH'

All are invited to join in the personal prayers led by the reader of each section

No. 1 **Faith is Following Jesus**—Matthew 4:10

Lord I hear your call to follow You. Please enable me to follow You faithfully into the future you have planned for me

No. 2 **Faith triumphs over fear** - Mark 6:36

Lord, You know how often fear confronts me as I seek to live my life for you. Speak to my heart the encouragement that enables me to take my fears in hand. Help me to learn and trust your promises.

No. 3 **Faith makes the heart calm and joyful**—Psalm 33

Almighty Father, enable me to recall constantly each day who You are and what You are to me. Let faith flow into courage and praise.

No. 4 **Faith is the foundation for generosity**—2 Cor. 9:8

God, you are good to me; gracious, kind and generous. Help me to be the same. Open my eyes to see you, and my heart that I might be a blessing to others..

No. 5 **Faith opens our eyes to divine realities**—Rev. 4:1

Sovereign Lord, let me never for a moment forget that You are the King.

No. 6 **Faith to fight**—Joshua 1:5

Lord, sometimes I feel weary and occasionally as if I am totally on my own. Help me to hold on to Your promise to be with me always.

No. 7 **Faith that grace inspires**—Ephesians 2:5

Gracious Father, keep me looking at You and Your grace and not at myself, my weaknesses and my failures. Give me today a renewed appreciation of Your sovereign mercy **AMEN**

BIBLE READING: Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

A TIME FOR EVERYTHING

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven:

A time to be born and a time to die,

A time to plant and a time to uproot,

A time to kill and a time to heal,

A time to tear down and a time to build,

A time to weep and a time to laugh,

A time to mourn and a time to dance,

A time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,

A time to embrace and a time to refrain,

A time to search and a time to give up,

A time to keep and a time to throw away,

A time to tear and a time to mend,

A time to be silent and a time to speak,

A time to love and a time to hate,

A time for war and a time for peace.

Reflection

Let us sing: **In Christ Alone**



Please turn page for Benediction

5. Angels help us to adore him, you behold him face to face;
sun and moon, bow down before him,
dwellers all in time and space:
Praise him, praise him, hallelujah,
praise with us the god of grace.

Words: Henry Francis Lyte 1793-1847 *alt.* based on Psalm 103
Music: John Goss 1800-80

Acknowledgments

The National Executive of the Australian Church Women thank the following:

St Benedict's Catholic Church and Father Ben Roberts

Speaker: Reverend Professor James Haire AM KSI MA PhD DD DLitt DUniv,
Executive Director of the Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture,
Professor of Theology of Charles Sturt University and Director of the Public and
Contextual Theology Strategic Research Centre.

Pianist: Pam Wright

Readers: Monsignor John Woods,
Rev. Joy Bartholomew

Mission of ACW

Australian Church Women seeks to unite Christian women across denominational
boundaries to promote peace, understanding, and unity through faith and love in
the one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit



Fellowship of the Least Coin

The Fellowship of the Least Coin Prayer Movement brings Christian women
together in a fellowship of prayer without any discrimination of race, nationality,
colour, culture or denomination. Christian women have solidarity through their
common concern and love for humankind. Women of the world are bound
together by giving of the "least coins".

Hymns are from *Together in Song* (Sydney: HarperCollinsReligious, 1999). CAL licence #5466E.



Australian Church Women Inc Conference Service

St Benedict's Church, Narrabundah ACT

Tuesday 22nd September 2009

'FAITH IN THE FUTURE'

Entrance Procession
Processional Hymn: In Faith and Hope and Love

Refrain:

*In faith and hope and love
with joyful trust we move
towards our Father's home above.*

1. Christ our star, our map, our road to the Father's high abode.
Refrain
2. Christ, our bread along the way; Christ, our rescue when we stray.
Refrain
3. Christ our shelter, Christ our friend, our beginning and our end.
Refrain
4. Christ, our hope and our reward; our redeemer and our Lord.
Refrain

Words: James Phillip McAuley, 1917-76
Music: R. Connolly 1927

Welcome to Country and a greeting from the National President

Prayer to proclaim God's Word

Heavenly Father, you have spoken to the world through your prophets in ancient times and then through your only Son. Your message is in the Scriptures and your word is living and dynamic. It is more penetrating than a two-edged sword, reaching the very depths of human beings. Help us to listen for your word in the Bible, in the Church, and in the world. Let us be transformed by its power and bring it to others in our turn.

Reading: Mark 1: 21-28

Hymn: To God be the glory

1. To God be the glory, great things he has done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life in atonement for sin
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory! great things he has done!

2. O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
to every believer the promise of God!
and every offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.
Praise the Lord! ...

3. Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher, and great will be
our wonder, our rapture, when Jesus we see.
Praise the Lord! ...

Words: Frances Jane van Alstyne 1820-1915 *alt.*
Music: William Howard Doane 1832-1916

Psalms 46: 1-7 NIV

Response: God is our refuge and strength

God is our refuge and strength,
an ever-present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear, though and the earth give way
and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,
though its waters roar and foam
and the mountains quake with their surging. **R**
There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy place where the Most High dwells. **R**
God is within her, she will not fall;
God will help her at break of day. **R**
Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall;
he lifts his voice, the earth melts.
The Lord Almighty is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress. **R**

Hymn: Here I am Lord

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?
Here I am, Lord; is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night;
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

- I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain;
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
and give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?

Here I am Lord ...

- I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame;
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts are satisfied.
I will give my life for them.
Whom shall I send?

Here I am Lord ...

Words and Music: Daniel L. Schutte 1947 – suggested by Isaiah 6

Reading: Romans 12: 1-5

Hymn: Be thou my vision

- Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
naught be all else to me, save that thou art
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
- Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my great Father, thy child let me be;
thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.
- Be thou my armour, my sword for the fight,
be thou my dignity, thou my delight;
thou my soul's shelter and thou my high tower:
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.
- Riches I scorn and the world's empty praise,
thou my inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only the first in my heart;
high King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

- High King of heaven, after victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O ruler of all.

Words Gaelic c. 8th cent. Jr. Mary Elizabeth Byrne 1880-1931
Music: Irish Traditional Melody, harm David Evans 1874-1948

The Speaker – The Reverend Professor James Haire

Prayers of the Faithful

Leader

Lord God our Father, grant that in everything we do we may be filled with the love of Jesus Christ. Help us to see the claims of your love in every part of life, and having seen them, to accept them, so that everything in us may be remade by your love.

- We walk by faith, not by sight – Lord we ask your blessing on the members of Australian Church Women: that we may all accept one another, wherever we stand, wherever we tread. We pray that Christians from different traditions will grow in communion through their common calling. Lord hear us.
Response. Lord hear our Prayer.

- We walk by faith not by sight – Lord we pray for generosity of heart – that in sharing our faith, journey we remain open to your call to listen without judgement and to speak without malice. Guide us to put our trust in you, enlighten us with the grace of your Holy Spirit, and our minds as we are called to decide important issues. Lord hear us.
Response. Lord hear our Prayer.

- We walk by faith, not by sight – We pray for those who come from other countries and make their home in this land. Help them to overcome difficulties of custom, language and race. Let us welcome and befriend them, that in your great family we may live as members of one another. Lord hear us.
Response. Lord hear our Prayer.

- We walk by faith, not by sight – We pray for leaders of nations, that they will listen to the voice of the Spirit through whom wars and discord can cease. We pray for peace so all may walk without fear and struggle for daily life. Lord hear us.
Response. Lord hear our Prayer.

5. We walk by faith, not by sight – We pray for the deceased members of Australian Church Women. They have journeyed long; may we honour their work on earth as they now share their eternal reward in heaven. Lord hear us.
Response. Lord hear our Prayer.

Let us join together in the prayer our Lord taught us.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

Leader

We thank you, God, for the fellowship of the Australian Church Women and for the influence we have had in local and national affairs. Inspire us to touch minds and hearts of people everywhere. We pray for all members that they may be aware of changing social needs, and, inspired by that awareness, may continue to serve you with love and loyalty. When we return home help us to live filled with love for you, our families and everyone around us, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
All. Amen

Collection for the Fellowship of the Least Coin.

Hymn: O Lord Jesus Marrkapmirr

1. O Lord Jesus Marrkapmirr
all the power belongs to you.
Hold me by this power, O Lord,
you alone are king.
2. Now we praise you for your Word,
living, true and full of light.
Yours the hands that rest on me:
hold me for all time. *To be sung twice.*

Words: Aboriginal people of Arnhem Land, versified by D'Arcy Wood 1936 –
Music: Australian Aboriginal melody

Prayer for a Productive Faith

**O Lord, increase my faith and let it bear fruit in my life.
Let it bind me fast to other Christians in the common certitude
that our Master is the God-Man, who gave his life for all.
Let me listen in faith to the divine word that challenges me.
Help me to strive wholeheartedly under the promptings of my faith
in the building of a world ruled by love.
Enable me to walk in faith toward the indescribable future
that you have promised to all who possess a productive faith in you.**
Benediction: In faith, let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Recessional Hymn: Praise, my soul, the king of heaven

1. Praise my soul the king of heaven;
to his feet your tribute bring:
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
who like me his praise should sing?
Praise him, praise him, hallelujah,
praise the everlasting king!
2. Praise him for his grace and favour
to his people in distress;
praise him still the same for ever,
slow to chide and swift to bless:
Praise him, praise him, hallelujah,
glorious in his faithfulness.
3. Father like he tends and spares us;
well our feeble frame he knows;
in his hands he gently bears us,
rescues us from all our foes:
Praise him, praise him, hallelujah,
widely as his mercy flows.
4. Frail as summer's flowers we flourish,
blows the wind and it is gone;
but while mortals rise and perish
God endures unchanging on.
Praise him, praise him, hallelujah,
praise the high eternal one.

I wish for you my friend, this happiness that I've found:
You can depend on him, it matters not where you're bound,
I'll shout it from the mountain top: I want my world to know,
The Lord of love has come to me, I want to pass it on.
I'll shout it from the mountain top: I want my world to know,
The Lord of love has come to me, I want to pass it on.

Kurt Kaiser
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Leader:
Loving God, we give thanks for the service of the outgoing ACW
National Executive through 2007-9.

As we remember ACW's links with FLC, WK Trust, ACWC, AWC,
NCCA and State & Territory Units we pray that the presence of the
Father enfolds us, the peace of the Saviour be upon us and the Spirit
be within us. Amen.

Leader:
Jesus said, 'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot
be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel
basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house.'

All: In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they
may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.'
(Matthew 5:14-16; NRSV)

Turning Darkness into Light

'I am the Candle of the Lord'

Music by Joy Webb; Sung by Mike and Jenny Clark
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The Pattern of Our Days, Liturgies and Resources for Worship,
Edited by Kathy Galloway the Iona Community*



National Conference Australian Church Women Canberra ACT September 2009 Devotions

Leader:
In the beginning of creation,
when God made heaven and earth,
the earth was without form and void.
Darkness was over the face of the deep,
and a mighty wind swept over the waters.
God said, "Let there be light", and there
was light.

**All: God saw that the light was good,
and God separated the light from
darkness.** (from: Genesis 1:1-4)*

Song: Christ be our Light

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.

Refrain:

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled,
Longing for hope, many despair,
Your Word alone has pow'r to save us.
Make us your living voice.

Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed.

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone.

Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come.

Bernadette Farrell
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Leader:

When all things began, the Word already was,
The Word dwelt with God,
and what God was, the Word was.
Through him all things came to be;
no single thing was created without him.
All that came to be was alive with his life,
and that life was the light of the world.

All: **The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness has never put it out.**
(from John 1:1-5)*

Stories: Maureen and Margaret

Leader:

It's important to know that we are loved, people care for us, and stand up for us. We need food to eat and safe places to work, sleep and lay. It's good to have places where we feel safe and comfortable, We enjoy the people we are with, family, and friends who love us.

We pray for people around the world, who, like us,
need to know that God loves them.
We know that God brings light and love into the world. #

Intercession:

Into the dark places of our world, where people
are frightened and hungry

Loving God, turn darkness into light

Into places where people are fighting and
where people have no home

Loving God, turn darkness into light

Into places where we feel unsafe, and situations
that hurt us and scare us

Loving God, turn darkness into light

Loving God, keep us safe in danger

Give us courage and keep us loving

Loving God, help us to speak the truth

To stand by those who need our help

Loving God give us friends who love us

Places and people that help us grow

Loving God send us on our way rejoicing

And welcome us safely home. #

Song: Pass it on

It only takes a spark to get a fire going,
And soon all those around can warm up in its glowing.
That's how it is with God's love: once you've experienced it,
You spread his love to everyone, you want to pass it on.

What a wondrous time is spring, when all the trees are budding;
The birds begin to sing, the flowers start their blooming.
That's how it is with God's love: once you've experienced it,
You want to sing, it's fresh like spring, you want to pass it on.

LEADER – (to incoming National Executive):

In recognising the gifts and talents that you have to offer, the members of ACW have appointed you to be the National Executive for the next two years. During this time you will have the practical and prayerful support of members of Australian Church Women throughout Australia, and the knowledge that when God calls people to a task he also equips them.

Do you accept and welcome this responsibility, and commit yourselves to faithfully carry out the tasks to which Christ has called you?

INC NATIONAL EXECUTIVE: *We will, trusting God for his guidance and strength, and relying on his grace.*

LEADER: We are pleased to hand over these badges to the new National Executive members.

PRESENTATION OF BADGES

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

May today there be peace within.
May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be.
May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith.
May you use those gifts that you have received, and pass on the love that has been given to you.
May you be content knowing you are a child of God.
Let his presence settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love.
It is there for each and every one of us. **Amen.**

(St Teresa's Prayer)

**AUSTRALIAN
CHURCH WOMEN INC**

NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2009

“Faith in the Future”



Installation & Dedication

Incoming National Executive

24 September 2009

INTRODUCTION BY PRESIDENT: Mrs Jean Thomson OAM

Conference Song:

We have faith in the future,
raise your voices in praise and song
that Australian Church Women
remain ever faithful and strong.

We have faith in the future
as servants of His word,
Australian Church Women's prayers
will always be heard.

We are called Christ's disciples
with compassion and charity
befriending the poor and lonely,
and welcoming refugees

Lord, lift us in your spirit,
fill us with life anew,
that Australian Church Women
remain ever faithful to you.

**PRESIDENT JEAN INTRODUCESTHE
INCOMING NATIONAL EXECUTIVE**

President:	Miss Margaret Flint OAM
Vice President:	Mrs Dorothy Ferrier
Vice President:	Major Wanda McKeand
Secretary:	Mrs Judy Burge
Treasurer:	Ms Christine Barber
Minute Secretary:	Mrs Pat Walker
W K S Convenor:	Mrs Maureen Clark
F L C Convenor:	Mrs Margaret Greenslade
Special Days Convenor:	Captain Judith Brown
Social Justice Convenor:	Mrs Kath Smith
Publications & Publicity:	Vacant

ACT OF COMMITMENT:

LEADER: Let us now pray to God, our loving Creator, that he may hear our prayers as we come together with the new National Executive at the beginning of their term of office.

May these newly elected members of the National Executive lead Australian Church Women through service and dedication.

ALL: Lord, hear us.

LEADER: May we show our support for them through all that we do and in our service to them, to each other and to God.

ALL: Lord, hear us.

LEADER: Help us to do our best and to learn from our successes and our mistakes.

ALL: Lord, hear us.

LEADER: Guide us through the hard times and help us to encourage and support each other.

ALL: Lord, hear us.

LEADER: May we be reminded that we each have different gifts and each play a part in building up faith within Australian Church Women.

ALL: Lord, hear us.

ALL: Most gentle God, guide us along the right path; Jesus Christ be always there beside us. Comfort us by granting these prayers which we make with love and hope and faith in the future. AMEN.