



**Australian Church Women Inc
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE MINUTES
Friday 13 March 2009 at 10.00 am**

1. **Welcome** President Jean welcomed everyone in attendance and thanked Vonnie for hosting the meeting at her home.
2. **Devotions** Judith-Ann led the devotions with the theme 'slowing down, stepping aside, resting' from a book by Dr Margaret Hover entitled "Women in the Middle – Facing Mid-life Challenges in Faith".
3. **Present** Jean Thomson (in chair), Jan Abrahamffy, Constance Aronsen, Angela Devlin, Jacqueline Hipwell, Eileen Holley, Margaret Lawton, Helen Lloyd, Helen Raymond, Judith-Ann Sjostedt, Ruth Burmester (NLM) and Evonne Sullivan (NLM).
4. **Apologies** Donna Bryan, Brenda Dickinson, Fran Moss.
5. **Minutes** of meeting held on 13 February 2009 were accepted on motion of Constance Aronsen, seconded Judith-Ann Sjostedt.

Business arising

- a) ACWC Order of Service 2009 has been sent to ACWC.
- b) Token of appreciation to Oliver Raymond to be sent together with letter of appreciation.

6. **Treasurer's Report** Helen L presented her report – see attached. Moved Helen L, seconded Judith-Ann that the March report be accepted.

Business arising

- a) Account for PO Box 487 at Curtin for \$75, to be paid before 31 March 2009;
- b) ACWC donation of US\$500 (A\$760.57) from their Emergency Fund to be acknowledged with receipt and letter of thanks for their generosity;
- c) Reimbursement in the amount of \$1957.82 to be made to Constance for the printing of the WKS leaflets (postage costs to follow).
- d) Petty cash reimbursement of \$113.35 to President Jean.
- e) Cost of registering Incorporation was \$138 and an additional cost of \$30 was incurred for the stamp, the latter amount to be paid to Helen R.

7. Correspondence IN Feb 2009

1. NSW Unit minutes 17 November 2008.
2. Jennifer Peffer (NSW Unit), concerned about cost of the Conference.
3. Email from Donna Bryan (VIC Unit), concerned about Conference Cost.
4. SA Unit Minutes of meeting held on 13 February 2009.
5. Emails from several ACWC members praying for bushfire victims in Victoria.
6. Nat Council of Women (Aust) Newsletter February 09 – Margaret Smith.
7. UNIFEM News Release (Sue Conde) re women in Afghanistan marking IWD.
8. ICFLC – Cora Tabing-Reyes indicating her availability to attend National Conference.
9. Invitation to 'Harmony Day' gathering hosted by Nat Council Jewish Women Aust, 18 March in Sydney.
10. Invitation to 'Harmony Day' gathering event at Regatta Point, Canberra, on 29 March 09, hosted by PPSEAWA.

Correspondence OUT Feb 2009

1. National Executive minutes of 13 February meeting emailed/posted.
2. President Jean forwarded NCJWA Harmony Day invitation (Item 9 IN) to NSW Unit. – Carmel Keys will represent ACW at the gathering on 18 March 2009.

3. Emails to ACWC with thanks for their thoughts, prayers and donation from the Emergency Fund.
4. AWC Annual Reports posted to Units.
5. Get-well card signed by members sent to Fran Moss.
6. Application for Community Grant sent to Southern Cross Club.

Moved Judith-Ann that IN/Correspondence be received and OUT/Correspondence be ratified, seconded Helen R.

8. Reports

- 1) **WKS** – Constance reported that one of the WK scholars, Christine Ferguson, is now in residence at the Bible College of Victoria and so far enjoying her classes. Imelda has emailed from Dubai, where she has been very busy with language lessons. She reports that Dubai is an interesting place to be in the weeks leading up to Easter. Rachael Otto sends thanks for prayers and support and advises that her BEd is finally going to be awarded and has only 15 weeks of practical teaching left to do before she graduates. The WKS pamphlets for 2009 have been collected from the printers and are ready for posting to all States and affiliated National Organisations.
- 2) **Special Days** – Fran has recently undergone surgery and we wish her well in her recovery. Jean sent flowers from the National Executive. Fran has written to the incoming national executive re their “theme” for the coming two years, so that themes for the Special Days services can be chosen. Only one application had been received for the Special Project in 2009 – *Kairos Outside* in Western Australia. This ecumenical group supports women who have a family member in prison. President Jean outlined details of the application and it was agreed to recommend support for this application. A letter of recommendation is to be included with these minutes. Draft Order of Service for World Community Day received from WA Unit. A small change was suggested.
- 3) **Social Justice** – Judith-Ann spoke about the dangers of ‘bullying’ and ‘cyber-stalking’. The issue of *Alco Pops* continues, with marketing group Diego offering a ‘new’ drink with a 6% alcohol targeting 18-30 year olds. We should also lobby for ‘safe surrender laws’ as at least 10 babies a year are abandoned in Australia.
- 4) **Publications** – Eileen advised that items for the next Newsletter have been coming in and production should be under way next week.
- 5) **ACWC** – Donna will be attending an ACWC Committee meeting in Korea next month. Greetings had been received from Korean Church Women United, together with prayers and concern for the victims of the fires in Victoria. Donna had sent an account of “Black Saturday” and the devastation caused, and thanked all those who took part in many remembrance services around the world, offering prayers and messages of support.
- 6) **Website** – Brenda has updated the ACW web page with some information on the Conference and Angela will send additional information for inclusion.

9. General Business

- 1) **Incorporation** – Helen R reported that ACW incorporation was registered on 3 March 2009, and the *Certificate of Registration* was passed around for all to see. No one law covers incorporation for all States and Territories in Australia, but all Units will have affiliation as long as they abide by the Rules. Helen L will prepare a separate statement of accounts from 3 March 2009 until 30 June 2009. Helen R will seek confirmation on when this statement should be presented. Helen R, as Public Officer, will be the custodian of the ~~stamp~~. *Common seal*. Congratulations were expressed to Helen R and a vote of thanks and appreciation to her and her husband is herewith recorded on the successful completion of all the necessary paperwork – a time-consuming exercise.
- 2) **Honouring Australian Church Women** – Jacqueline holds the National copy of “Honouring Australian Church Women”. As the book is becoming rather full, it may now be necessary to start a ‘new’ book. Isabel Hewitt, who prepared these existing books, would be asked if this would be acceptable. Jacqueline also holds the National Life Membership Roll Book, but there is still adequate space in this book for future entries.

- 3) The matter of what to do with the donation from Asian Church Women's Conference (ACWC) from their Emergency Fund was discussed. It was moved by Angela, seconded Constance, that Victoria Unit investigate the purchase of small silver communion plates, suitably engraved, which could be donated to Church communities whose buildings were destroyed in the fires.
- 4) Summaries of Unit Surveys to be sent to all Units.

10. Next Meeting – at 10.00 am on Friday, 3 April 2009, at the same venue.

11. Meeting closed at 12.30 pm.

Signed: Jean Thomson Date: 3.4.09
 (Jean Thomson, President)

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN – NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

Treasurer's Report 13 March 2009

Cheque A/C

Balance at 13.02.09 \$8500.75

Receipts

Victorian Unit – FLC items and postage	83.95	
ACWC for Victorian Bushfire support	<u>760.57</u>	<u>844.52</u>
		\$9345.27

Payments

Gift Voucher 50.00

Balance at 13.3.09

\$9295.27

A D F Call a/c

Balance at 13.2.09 and 13.03.09 \$22943.14

Balance of Funds at 13.3.09

National Travel Fund	4296.52
National Conference Fund	13017.86
Overseas Conf & Travel Fund	2860.00
Honouring Australian Church Women	10.00
Victorian Bushfire Support (from ACWC Emergency Fund)	760.57
Administration	<u>11293.46</u>
Total Funds	<u>\$32238.41</u>

Helen Lloyd, National Treasurer
 13.03.09

HOUSEKEEPING MATTERS FOR NATIONAL EXECUTIVE ONLY
13 March 2009

Conference Planning – FAITH IN THE FUTURE

- o The Conference brochure, together with registration forms ready to be sent out. Ten (10) copies to each Unit and Helen R took one for the Heritage Hotel.
- o Timetable would be discussed and decided on at the planning meeting on Monday 27 April 2009.
- o Vicky Cullen would led Bible Studies
- o Other speakers to include – a) representative from COTA (ACT) “Be Informed – prevention of falls, depression, improving use of medicines”. Bookings: Christine Spicer, Peer Education Manager, COTA (ACT) Tel: 62823777; Email: cspicer@cota-act.org.au b) Ron Reeson to speak of Young Ambassadors for Peace (YAP). WDP story of Bougainville women as a YAP project.
- o Conference song – words distributed.
- o National Executive to prepare opening and closing services (latter to include transfer to incoming National Executive. How many other services?

Devotions for 3 April meeting: Jacqueline
Lunch *Sandwiches* – Helen L *Slice* – Jacqueline *Fruit* – Helen R

Lunch for Monday 27 April workshop:
Sandwiches – Angela *Slice* – Jacqueline *Fruit* – Jean *Juice:* Margaret

Devotions: Jean

amd:13.03.2009