

NSW Unit Conference

On Wednesday 16th May I travelled to Sydney to attend the Conference of Australian Church Women, NSW Unit. The Conference venue was the Salvation Army Leadership Training Institute at Stanmore, where some of us were privileged to sleep in rooms of the old house. The Conference Room itself was fully equipped. It was a very good venue for such a conference. Some people came for only one of the two days, with about 50 attending altogether, I was the only interstate visitor.

The outgoing President Lucelle King welcomed us all on the first day, and from then on we were in the capable hands of Marie McCann the Conference chair. The theme for the Conference was **God is Life Love Unity** and Conference devotions were well organised around the theme, with different people taking part each time, and usually some singing, either to keyboard or ukelele

A number of Speakers came to address us on different topics, each related to the theme, including Dr Anne Pattel - Gray on unity with Aboriginal - Non aboriginal; Dr Bernard Thorogood - a vision of the ecumenical movement in the year 2035!; Mrs Joan Elliston - history of women working together over the past century; Rev Marjorie Roberts - Love and Unity in the church; and Rev Janet Frost who spoke on St Paul's New Testament view of unity and led the closing service.

There was time for some consideration to be given to the way those present want ACW to move in the future, and some recommendations as to ways and means.

A full report of the Conference will be available in due course, and videos and tapes of the main addresses are also available.

Shirley Wells gave a good report of the work of FLC as well as a fictionalized account of the commencement of the movement.

I have asked for a report and order of service from same, and also a copy of the Annual Report, where I hope to learn more about the many branches of ACW in NSW.

Jean Thomson

National Secretary, Australian Church Women 27. 5. 96

Amended / Edited version correlated with minutes