



**AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN
NSW STATE UNIT INC.**

***Minutes of Council Meeting Monday 20th August 2018,
10.00 am, 222 Pitt Street, Sydney***

OPENING: President Peg McEntee welcomed all to the meeting.

DEVOTIONS: Peg shared a reading from 'The Upper Room Daily Devotional Guide', based on Luke 12:22-28. 'Take no thought for your life'; 'Life is more than food and the body more than clothing'. Peg commented that we women are so concerned and worried; we pray and don't seem to see an answer; this passage is telling us to 'settle down'. The Spirit from God is there 'Let go and let God'. It all comes down to faith. If we can 'let go and let God' perhaps things won't be as over-whelming as we think they are. Peg shared a story from the booklet demonstrating that life is made for the moment. Each moment is precious and can never be retrieved. "God's love remains constant through each and every moment".

PRESENT and APOLOGIES: There were 28 members present and 3 visitors. Four apologies were received Peg introduced visitors from Wollongong, Jo Clark and Therese Nilson.

MINUTES: The Minutes of the Meeting held on 18th June 2018 were confirmed on the motion of Tricia Graham and Tex Quirk. Carried

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

- 1. ACWC Concert 26th August 2018:** Pamela encouraged everyone to attend the concert which will be held at Epping Baptist Church commencing at 2.00 pm. Elizabeth reminded about catering arrangements made at the June meeting.
- 2. State Conference 17 September 2018:** This will be held at Concord Baptist Church, North Strathfield, commencing at 10.00 am. Invitations were available for everyone to take at the meeting. The conference will include a celebration of 80 years of ACW. Peg outlined the program for the day and advised that the ACW National President, Fran Moss, will be attending and will speak on the theme 'Bearers of Christ's Love'.
A vote of thanks was given to Jennifer Peffer for the work she has done in creating the flyer advertising the ACWC Concert, and the invitation to the State Conference.
- 3. Formation of Illawarra Branch of ACW:** A branch has been formed and two meetings have been held. Peg thanked Jennifer Peffer for sending the outline of how to form a branch. Each person donated \$5 to start the branch. Peg will stay as leader until the end of the year. Peg has invited Lyn Middleton and Judy O'Hara to a meeting to explain Special Days and FLC. Peg asked for prayer for the new branch. Tricia congratulated Peg and the new branch members.

REPORTS:

Treasurer: Pat Cory presented the financial report for June and July. Total Income for this period was \$1793.40; Total Expenditure was \$1160.62; Credit Balance at Bank at 31st July was \$5098.01. Accounts presented for payment were: Reimbursement to L. Middleton postage & printing \$323.05; J. O'Hara, postage \$10.00; E. McEwen, postage & printing \$39.20; Petty Cash \$48.00; J O'Hara – travel expenses and meal allowance \$100.00; I. Hewitt, Newsette postage and envelopes \$220.43. Pat moved that the Financial Report be accepted and the accounts be paid; Seconded by Helen Richardson.

Fellowship of the Least Coin: New Circle of Prayer booklets are available for \$3 each. Judy commented that the world still seems to be in crisis, encouraging us to continue to uphold people in need wherever they are and referred to Proverbs 31:8-9. From the Circle of Prayer, Judy shared a reading about the worth of human dignity. 'Do all you can with what you have, wherever you are'.

Special Days: Lyn commented that she has been encouraged with reports that have come in for Fellowship Day – numbers are keeping up. Yvonne Coorey reported that the service held at St Pauls Anglican Church at Burwood was well attended and enjoyed by all; Helen Richardson commented that a few churches that haven't been before joined the service at Dee Why where Rae Goth was the speaker and Isabel Hewitt reported on the service in Newcastle, where over 40 attended and the speaker was someone working with women and children refugees in the area. Everyone commented favourably on the

service which was written by NSW. The next Special Day is World Community Day in October. The service has been sent out and packages were available at the meeting to branches to take. The theme for Community Day is 'Listen, Care, Love, Assist. The Scripture readings are Luke 8:1-3; Romans 12:9-18, 21. It was written by the Tasmanian Unit.

Lyn spoke about the allocation of offerings at WCD: There is a special collection for FLC. The General Offering is split 50% to ACWC and 50% to the Special Project. There is a sheet inside the packages which will give information about the Special Project 'Communitify Queensland Asylum Circle' whose aim is to find accommodation for Asylum seekers who have no financial support.

Applications are open for the Special Project 2019. Lyn asked those present to think about their community or church that may have an eligible project. Generally the amount is between \$2000 - \$3000. The applications need to be returned to Lyn by 9th November.

Winifred Kiek Scholarship: Judith commented that News has been scarce this year, then suddenly she received the following from Hina Burq. (2017/Pakistan) Her scholarship was deferred then in April she attended the Toronto World Leadership Forum on Leadership and Peace. Hina represented the churches in her country as a Youth Worker. There were 50 participants female and male, all for world peace. Speakers spoke on teamwork, networking, goals, work/life balance, communication. Hina met all the speakers and visited churches and projects. She received a Certificate of Recognition in Outstanding Leadership Skills. Hina gave thanks to ACW for this opportunity. Please email Judith if you would like full reports emailed to you tootoot@tpg.com.au.

Lyn Middleton spoke about fewer branches holding Fellowship Day which supports the Winifred Kiek Scholarship fund and her concerns that the fund would be affected. It was agreed by the Executive that at this Council meeting we would take time to think about this year's scholars and to have the opportunity to contribute to the scholarship fund. Judith then referred to the WKS pamphlet information about 2018 scholars. Lauren England (Toowoomba) who travelled to Pasadena US on 19TH August, with some sight-seeing first, then 19 September starts to study for Master of Theology at Fuller Theological Seminary. Lauren is very thankful for this opportunity through WKS. Elise Ruthenbeck Silson (SA) is continuing studies PhD Theology and English Studies, under direction of Deaconess at Strathalbyn Anglican. Research into history of Christianity and Politics 19th century England. Elise was married in April and then husband was retrenched from his job. Her research material is now in New York US instead of London. Elise is sorting her way forward for funds, accommodation and accessing the needed documents. Lyn led prayers of thanksgiving, from the Fellowship Day Service, remembering women and our scholars.

Social Issues: Rae Goth drew attention to three issues of concern: Letter to Julie Bishop; Foreign Affairs Minister regarding the killing of innocent civilians, particularly children, in military conflict (in Yemen); letter to NSW Premier with congratulations on the decision to maintain the Lord's Prayer as part of our Parliamentary proceedings; Letter to Mr Cormann, Minister for Finance, expressing concern regarding the actions of the wealth management industry.

Membership: At today's meeting there were 28 members, 3 visitors and 4 apologies.

Pastoral Care: Pray for Jan Harrison, who has not been well, and continue praying for Judith Cayzer as she cares for her husband.

Newsette: The August Newsette has been sent out. The next one will be in November. Copy for that issue is due by mid-October. Tricia has offered to write a report about the ACWC Concert and Isabel asked Ramona to take some photos. Peg will mention Newsette at the next Illawarra branch meeting. It is \$10/year to receive Newsette, due in November.

ACWC: Tricia and Lyn explained ACW's affiliation with ACWC and that the proceeds of the concert will be part of ACW's contribution to help ACWC with the projects and emergency aid that they provide in Asian countries.

Publicity: ACW branches were reminded to get in touch with Brenda Dickinson to publicise the World Community Day. Elizabeth gave Brenda's email address.

Reports received: The reports were received on the motion of Yvonne Coorey, Seconded by Pamela Freeman.

Correspondence – Inwards

18/6 Helen Raymond request for information
20/6 Donna Bryan re L. Adam address
20/6 NE FLC information
28/6 ACT Winter Newsletter
23/7 NE Fran Moss acceptance of invite
26/7 NE Helen Lloyd's husband
PWA – Span June 2018
NE: Minutes Tasmanian Unit
SA Unit re NE 2019-2021
L. Green re Essay Competition
NSW Ecumenical Council re AGM

Correspondence – Outwards

NE Fran Moss invite State Conference
NE Fran Moss response to acceptance
ACW Council request from H. Raymond
J. O'Hara – FLC information
ACW Council ACT Newsletter
Exec. & Life Members re H. Lloyd's husband
Card to Helen Lloyd
Conference Invitations sent to Denominational representatives, Life & Associate Members
NSW Ecumenical Council re AGM
Greta Howard UCA – room bookings 2019

BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE:

Lynette Green advised that she received an Essay Application from Scots College in Bathurst.

FUNCTIONS ATTENDED/TO ATTEND: Peg will attend the Anglican Board of Missions Sydney Committee Morning Tea on 26th September.

OTHER ORGANISATIONS:

Bible Society: No Report

NSW Ecumenical Council – Rae Goth attended the AGM on 18th August at St George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Redfern.

National Council of Women: Tricia Graham reported that NCW held their Foundation Day Luncheon celebrating their 122nd year. The NCW NSW Recognition Award was given to Sonia Cassanova, nominated by Soroptimist International. All members of ACW are members of NCW, so are invited to attend NCW Council meetings and morning teas. Council meetings are held on the last Thursday of each month at 4.30 pm at 280 Pitt Street, Sydney at 4.30 pm. Morning Teas are held on the third Wednesday of each month in the Food Court, First Floor of the Piccadilly Arcade, Pitt Street at 10.15 am. The speaker on Thursday 30th will be Dr Joanna Penglase OAM, speaking on 'The Forgotten Australians – Righting the Wrongs of the Past'. NCW will hold their AGM on 27th September.

Pan Pacific & South East Asia Women's Association (PPSEAWA) No Report

World Day of Prayer: Tricia attended the WDP AGM on 23rd July at which Penelope Sewell was re-elected as President. The 2017 Executive were also re-elected for 2018. The Treasurer reported that \$76,000 was given to the Bible Society to be forwarded to the Suriname Children's Program 'Children at Risk'. The material for the 2019 Project in Slovenia 'Women in Trauma' was viewed. The material will now be forwarded to the Bible Society for printing and distributing to WDP committees around Australia.

Girls Brigade: Elizabeth Neale and her mum Renelle (IVP Pacific) presented a PowerPoint Presentation of their recent trip to Zambia for an International Girls' Brigade Conference. There were 350 people attending from 26 countries. They shared the wonderful sights they had seen, including Victoria Falls and animals seen close up in game parks, as well as information about the opening ceremony and workshops they attended. Peg commented that it is encouraging to see the work of Girls Brigade International and gave a Vote of Thanks to Elizabeth and Renelle.

NEW BUSINESS: There was no new business

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING: 19th November, 2018

Morning Tea: Anglican

Chairs: Uniting

Trading Table: Uniting

CLOSE OF MEETING: There being no further business, the meeting closed with prayer, at 12.35 pm.