

Australian Church Women

**NATIONAL COMMITTEE
MEETING**



"Life as a Gift from God"

1st 16th. - 19th. 1983

Melbourne, V



MELBOURNE 16th - 19th AUGUSTTABLE OF CONTENTS

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THEME: "Life as a Gift from God"

PROGRAMME

Tuesday, August 16.

11.00 a.m.)	
12.30 p.m.)	ARRIVAL AND REGISTRATION
12.30 p.m.		LUNCH
2.00 p.m.		OFFICIAL OPENING SERVICE: College Church, Parkville. Led by the National President, Deaconess Elizabeth Alfred. <u>Speaker:</u> Sister Mary Lou Moorhead, Secretary Victorian Council of Churches. Introduction of Conference Theme.
3.30 p.m.		AFTERNOON TEA at Whitley College.
4.30 p.m.		FIRST BUSINESS SESSION - Welcome, Roll Call, Apologies, Greetings. Business Procedure, including adoption of Agenda. Notices of Motion. Minutes to be confirmed. Correspondence. Working Committee Report by Secretary. Financial Report by Treasurer.
6.00 p.m.		DINNER
7.30 p.m.		SECOND BUSINESS SESSION State Unit Reports (Highlights)
8.15 p.m.		Notice of Motion re change of name of National Committee. Conveners' Reports: Burma Prayer Partnership Special Days
9.15 p.m.		EVENING WORSHIP (Tasmanian Unit)
9.30 p.m.		SUPPER

Wednesday, August 17.

7.45 a.m.	MORNING DEVOTIONS in the Chapel -(Queensland)
8.00 a.m.	BREAKFAST
8.45 - 9.30 a.m.	BIBLE STUDY - Commissioner Eva Burrows
9.45 a.m.	BUS LEAVES FOR TOUR
10.45 a.m.	Visit "Knox Community Relations Centre" 1351 Ferntree Gully Road, Scoresby.
12 noon	Lunch at Ferntree Gully - St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, Forest Rd., Ferntree Gully.
1.00 p.m.	Conveners' Reports: Winifred Kiek Scholar Catherine Min A.C.W.C. F.L.C.
2.00 p.m.	Bus leaves for scenic trip home over the Dandenongs via Sassafras, Olinda and Montrose.
3.30 p.m.	Arrive home - AFTERNOON TEA. FREE TIME till Dinner
6.00 p.m.	DINNER

Wednesday, 17th August.

7.30 p.m. FOURTH BUSINESS SESSION
Denominational Reports (Highlights)
8.15 p.m. Reports from A.C.C. and Women's
World Day of Prayer.
Convener's Report: Women at Work.
Notice of Motion from South Australia re
election of delegates to other bodies.
9.15 p.m. EVENING WORSHIP (South Australian Unit)
9.30 p.m. SUPPER

Thursday, 18th August.

7.45 a.m. MORNING DEVOTIONS in Chapel (N.T. Unit)
8.00 a.m. BREAKFAST
9.00 a.m. BIBLE STUDY - Sister Betty Paul
10.00 a.m. MORNING TEA
10.30 a.m. REV. FATHER MAGUIRE - "The Abuse of Children
in Prostitution and Pornography". Workshop.
12.30 p.m. LUNCH
1.45 p.m. FIFTH BUSINESS SESSION
Notice of Motion from South Australia re
New Constitution.
Business re Winifred Kiek Travelling Fellow.
3.30 p.m. AFTERNOON TEA
4.00 p.m. Business re F.L.C. Day
Appointments to A.C.C.
Recognition of Rachel Cocks.
6.00 p.m. DINNER
6.45 p.m. EVENING WORSHIP (New South Wales Unit)
7.30 p.m. INTERNATIONAL NIGHT at Pharmacy College -
OPEN NIGHT.
Speaker: Mrs. Helen Banks
Cultural Expressive Entertainment
9.30 p.m. SUPPER

Friday, 19th August.

7.45 a.m. MORNING DEVOTIONS in Chapel (West Australian Unit)
8.00 a.m. BREAKFAST
9.00 a.m. BIBLE STUDY - Sister Patricia Madigan
10.00 a.m. MORNING TEA
10.30 a.m. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
Appointment of New Working Committee
11.45 a.m. CLOSING SERVICE - Message from Incoming President.
12.30 p.m. LUNCH

PROCEDURAL ARRANGEMENTS

The following procedures will be used by the President and Vice-Presidents during the National Committee Meeting, 16 - 19 August, 1983.

The Agenda as set out in the Conference Programme, will be followed unless the meeting otherwise determines.

Resolutions must be presented in writing on the forms provided and signed by the mover and seconder.

Recommendations and suggestions from State Units, if they become resolutions, must be presented in writing as indicated above.

Debating: Up to five minutes will be allowed for each speaker. No member may speak more than once on the same motion or amendment, except the mover, who shall have the right of reply.

On receiving recognition from the Chair, speakers will please stand and state their name and Unit or organization.

At the beginning of a Reports session it shall be moved -

"THAT all reports be taken as read".

Speakers will speak to each report and at the end of the session the reports shall all be "received or adopted" together.

VOTING ENTITLEMENTS

- 2 from each State Unit
- 1 from each denomination
- 1 from federal organisation of any special interest group
- 2 appointed by Executive Committee of A.C.C.

Delegates and Observers are asked to bring copies of the 1981 National Committee Meeting Minutes.

Please bring your Bible.

The address of Whitley College is:

271-273 Royal Parade,
Parkville, Victoria, 3052.
Telephone: 347-8388

PARTICIPANTS

<u>Life Member</u>	Andrews, Head Deaconess Mary	
<u>Working Committee</u>	Alfred, Deaconess Elizabeth Macintyre, Mrs.Lieut.Col. I. Strack, Mrs.Doreen Morris, Mrs.Freda Dixon, Mrs.Myra Ackland, Mrs.Olive Hughes, Mrs.Jean Downes, Mrs.Fran (absent) Callander, Mrs.Brig. Rita Foster, Mrs.Berna	President Vice-President Vice-President Secretary Treasurer Special Days Convnr. Winifred Kiek Scholar Convnr. F.L.C.Convener W. at W. Convener Minute Secretary
<u>State Units</u>	<u>Delegates</u>	<u>Observers</u>
A.C.T.	Taylor-Rogers, Mrs.P. Sullivan, Mrs.E.	Adcock, Mrs.J. Gray, Mrs.F.
New South Wales	Davis, Mrs.Y. Ward, Brigadier M.	Blackwell Miss E. Walker, Mrs.E.
Northern Territory	Johnson, Mrs.D. Harvey Mrs.J.	
Queensland	Clarke, Mrs.V. Potter, Mrs.R.	Meadows, Mrs.L. Skippen, Mrs.A.
South Australia	Haensel, Mrs.D. Roberts, Mrs.J.	Chittleborough Mrs.M. Crosby, Mrs.P.
Tasmania	Burt, Mrs.G. Stevenson, Mrs.J.	Brooks, Mrs.S. Thomas, Mrs.R.
Victoria	Himbury, Mrs.M. Fry, Miss D.	Madigan, Sister P. Ashlin, Mrs.D.
West Australia	Napier, Mrs.M. Miller, Miss J.	Liveris, Mrs.L. Scurlock, Mrs.M.
<u>Federal Organisations</u>		
Anglican	Fleming, Mrs.M.	Forge, Mrs.J.
Churches of Christ Ellement,	Mrs.N.	
Salvation Army	Venables, Major J.	
Uniting Church	Marshall, Mrs.F.	Parry, Mrs.S.
Society of Friends Cooper,	Mrs.M.	
A.C.C.	Dougherty, Mrs.W.	
<u>Invited Federal Organisations</u>		
Baptist Women's Fellowship		Clack, Miss D.
Catholic Women's League	Cooper, Mrs.J.	
<u>Consultant</u>		
Women's World Day of Prayer - National Liaison Officer		Armstrong, Mrs.D.

PARTICIPANTS (Cont'd)

Victorian Invited Observers

Anglican

Baptist

Churches of Christ

Catholic Women's League

Uniting Church

Salvation Army

Invited Observer

Winifred Kiek Scholar

Incoming Working Committee

Dunn, Mrs. A.

Warner, Mrs. E.

Hilbig, Mrs. P.

Penny, Mrs. T.

Vanclay, Mrs. D.

Smith, Mrs. Captain N.

Mason, Mrs. B.

Min, Miss Catherine

Meadows, Mrs. Lena

Clarke, Mrs. Val

Turner, Mrs. Sheela

Skippen, Mrs. Ailsa

Trudgian, Miss Helen

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As the present Working Committee comes to the close of its term of office, there are several things I would like to put on record.

First, my thanks - to the members of the Working Committee, and to the State Units. To the members of my Committee, who have been so co-operative, hardworking and efficient! They really have been towers of strength, and, as each has performed her own particular function, the work has been carried through, hopefully to a successful conclusion of our term.

Then to the State Units, for their co-operation in keeping us informed of their activities and concerns, and in answering our many queries and requests promptly and cheerfully. Without these two areas - committee and State units - Australian Church Women could not function.

"No man is an island,
No man stands alone."

I have become so aware of the truth of these words of John Donne in these last two years - in that Australian Church Women do not stand alone; there are three areas in which we are particularly involved - the Church in the World, the Church in Asia and the Pacific, and the Church in Australia itself.

As I am writing this, our Australian representatives are on the verge of departing for Canada, to attend the Sixth Assembly of the World Council of Churches. What a wonderful privilege to be able to attend such a gathering of Christians from all over the world - what an inspiration it must be to be part of it. Mrs. Helen Banks, of Geelong, and a member of the Victorian unit of A.C.W., is one of the Churches of Christ Australian delegates, and we are looking forward to hearing her report at this Conference. This great ecumenical World Assembly of Christians is a witness to people outside the Church of the oneness we have in our faith in Our Lord Jesus Christ - just as, on a smaller scale, A.C.W. is a witness to the people of Australia. Our links with the world church through the Australian Council of Churches and the World Council bind us together with a strength which we could not have as individuals - it is our oneness in Christ and with each other that gives us the power to live as His witnesses in our several communities, and a gathering such as the World Assembly reminds us of this oneness and this power which is ours. Let us pray that much good will emerge from this Assembly, for the strengthening of the Church in the world.

Then the Asian Church Women's Conference. Until one has the joy and privilege of being part of this Conference, the letters A.C.W.C. are just letters representing words. But once you experience the spiritual depths and the joy and happiness and friendship of our Asian Christian sisters, A.C.W.C. takes on new and rich significance. What benefits are ours through our membership of A.C.W.C.! Quite a number of Australians have now attended those Conferences, and have been able to share with us something of what Asian Church Women have to offer, not only to us but to the world. We are indebted to our representatives who have served on the A.C.W.C. Executive in the past - Fran Bailey, Olga Badger and Rachel Cocks - now Olive Ackland represents us on that Executive. We know that Olive will always keep A.C.W.C. informed of our needs and of what we have to offer, and will keep us informed as to what is going on in the Asian scene concerning the women of the Church in those countries.

And so to A.C.W. I believe that our organisation is of great value to the Church women of Australia, in that we are a binding agent of small groups scattered over a vast continent - and through our bonds, we pray together, we serve God together, and we serve our community together. This has become increasingly apparent to me as I have been a member of our Working Committee - as we have discussed various aspects of our activities, we have talked about matters concerning the unit in one State or another, and as we mention names, those

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (Contd.)

"names" become "people" - and so, although we are hundreds of miles apart, yet we feel we are close to the people who have written to us. When we have met on Monday mornings, it has been as though we were at the centre of a wheel, with the spokes going out to the States, to Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory, and the rim has brought us together. I hope that this will be the experience of the incoming Queensland Committee - that they will be aware of the unity of A.C.W., and also that there is a closeness, because of our oneness in Christ, and of our fellowship with each other.

I pray for God's blessing on this Conference, and on the work which will be done by the Working Committee in Brisbane in this coming term.

Elizabeth Alfred. Deaconess.
National President.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

It is with pleasure that I present the Report of the National Working Committee for the period from August 1981 to August 1983. Having been given an excellent start by the outgoing National Working Committee in Tasmania, the Committee has worked harmoniously under the leadership of Deaconess Alfred whose wise counsel has helped us over difficult situations.

Each member of the Committee has carried out her separate responsibilities well and the conveners present their own reports. I would like to personally thank each one for her willing co-operation in all aspects of the work. Doreen Strack has assumed responsibility for the arrangements for the National Committee Meetings and, without her help, my task would have been much heavier. Myra Dixon has been a gracious and excellent Treasurer.

To the Secretaries of the State Units I would also say "thank you" for the way they have faithfully fulfilled and responded to all requests. It has been a delight to work with them.

We have been greatly helped with printing and photo-copying by the Salvation Army and the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne and we would thank these Churches for the way they have so willingly assisted us.

Most of our meetings have been held in the Uniting Church Centre and we have appreciated the excellent facilities available there.

The National Committee Meeting in Hobart passed on some recommendations which we have attempted to implement - some have been dealt with by the conveners - others are:

The Motion asking A.C.W.C. to change the Statement by omitting the word 'Protestant' and substituting the word 'Christian' was raised at the Assembly and, after discussion, was deferred for further consideration.

The invitation to hold the 1986 Quadrennial Assembly in Adelaide was issued and discussed by the Committee at the 7th Assembly, but we have been advised that a reply will be given after the Executive Meeting in November 1983.

In response to the Motion regarding Resources and Promotion, Mrs. Isabel Macintyre was appointed Promotions Convener and her report appears in these working papers.

As requested, States were invited to submit designs for an A.C.W. Badge and these were circulated and a choice of the South Australian design was made by the majority of States.

SECRETARY'S REPORT (Contd.)

Subsequently South Australia was invited to produce the Badge, to which they readily agreed, and the badges are available at this Conference. We are indebted to the South Australian Unit for their work in this regard and express our appreciation to them for their willing help.

Australian Council of Churches

Mrs. Win Dougherty and Mrs. Margaret Ralph were appointed as A.C.W. representatives to A.C.C. and they have carried out their responsibilities well and we thank them for the time and effort they have put into this work. Mrs. Ralph is no longer able to accept nomination for this position as she will be leaving Sydney in the near future. We wish her well as she enters new spheres of service.

We were invited by A.C.C. to send a Consultant to the 31st General Meeting in Brisbane in July 1982 and Deaconess Alfred accepted this invitation. A report of A.C.W. activities for the two previous years was also furnished.

The A.C.C. have regularly sent us News Releases which have been circulated to the State Secretaries and these have been a valuable source of information for us. Excerpts have been published in Women at Work and the information spread as widely as possible. We are grateful to A.C.C., and to Jean Skuse in particular, for their courtesy and help when the need to consult them has arisen.

Women's World Day of Prayer

An invitation for a representative of A.C.W. to attend the National Committee Meetings of the Women's World Day of Prayer in February 1982, was received and Brig. Mabel Ward, Secretary of our New South Wales Unit graciously consented to attend as our representative. A Report of A.C.W. activities was also furnished. Women at Work published Brig. Ward's report on these Meetings.

Asian Church Women's Conference

Because of the increase in the number of delegates and observers allowed for the 7th Assembly of A.C.W.C. at Bali in October, 1982, much correspondence flowed in an attempt to have someone from every State including a representative from the aboriginal community. Those who had been nominated in Hobart were first asked and the representatives then embraced all States and Territories except Queensland and A.C.T. It was hoped that we might get an aboriginal representative from one of these places but it was not possible and we were pleased to be able to appoint Bernice Mason from the Aboriginal Evangelical Fellowship in South Australia as a delegate. Once again we have to thank the South Australian Unit for their help in the appointment of Bernice and for their care of her in travel arrangements. To the eight members of the delegation and to Dorothy McMahon, who led the Commission on Strategies and Resources for Peace, we are grateful.

Some reports of the Conference have been published in Women at Work. Mrs. Rachel Cocks, our National Representative for eight years, until October 1982, was most helpful to the Working Committee and much correspondence has passed between us. She has carried out her task as National Representative with distinction and all members of A.C.W. thank her. We feel sure that Olive Ackland, who has taken up this position, will be a fitting representative for A.C.W. and we wish her well as she occupies this position for the next four years. Olive has been elected to the Executive of A.C.W.C. and we congratulate her and know that she will bring to this task the same spirit of dedication she brings to all she does.

It has been an enriching experience to work as a National Committee for two years and we give thanks to God for His guidance and strength over this time and pass on to the incoming committee from Queensland our best wishes for a successful two years.

Freda Morris Secretary.

Financial Statement for the Year ended June 30 1983

A. Bank Reconciliation as at June 30 1983

1/7/82	Balance brought forward	\$ 3811.56
	<u>Add</u> Receipts	54801.29
		58612.85
	<u>Less</u> Payments	53418.64
30/6/1983	Balance as Bank Statement C/f	<u>\$ 5194.21</u>

B. Summary of Investment Movement and Interest Received during year ended 30/6/83

	<u>PRINCIPAL Invested</u>	<u>INTEREST Received</u>
<u>Investments and Bank Account</u>		
Commonwealth Savings Investment Account 5003530	\$ 21859.13	2591.91
C.S.B. Cheque A/c 903348	5194.21	104.46
Petty Cash Imprest	100.00	
<u>Specific Investments</u>		
Australian Government Bonds - Series 19	3000.00	382.60
16/6/83 Redeemed		
Replaced by: 16/6/83 - Series 24	3000.00	Nil
Additions: 16/6/83 - Series 24	600.00	
Treasury Bonds	2400.00	204.00
CBFC Ltd. Debenture Stock April 82	800.00	139.22
Commonwealth Government Term Deposit 20/10/82	100.00	7.00
Sub-Total - Specific Investments	\$6900	
<u>Total Investment, Cash at Bank and in Hand</u>		
	(As K) <u>\$ 34053.34</u>	
<u>Total Interest Received during year ended June 30 1983</u>		<u>\$ 3429.19</u>

C. Allocation of Interest:

Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fund	\$ 1570.10
Winifred Kiek Memorial Bursary	182.09
National Travel Fund	518.38
Overseas Conference	535.78
Administration and General	622.84
	<u>\$ 3429.19</u>

D. Fellowship of the Least Coin

Balance at 1/7/82	Nil
Receipts : Offerings	\$ 16832.15
Payments : International Committee F.L.C.	15822.23
Asian Church Women's Conference	336.64
Administration and General	673.28
	<u>16832.15</u>
Balance at 30/6/83	Nil

E. Winifred Kiek Accounts

	E1 Memorial Bursary	E2 Fellow- ship Day	E3 Scholar- ship
Balance at 1/7/82	1625.31	Nil	20273.79
Receipts : Offerings			
Canberra A.C.T.		265.38	
Western Australia		266.53	
South Australia		1000.00	
Tasmania		271.00	
New South Wales		1250.00	
Victoria		2400.00	
Queensland		226.44	
Interest Received	182.09		1570.10
Donations: Memory			
Mrs. Mary Wood	100.00		
Mrs. Colonel Saunders	100.00		
Mrs. Florence Fishburn	300.00		
Transfer from Fellowship Day			5338.59
Donation : South Aust. Unit			560.00
" from Q'land for Bond			200.00
	<u>2307.40</u>	<u>5679.35</u>	<u>27942.48</u>
Less Payments:			
Book Bursary - Catherine Min	100.00		
Expenses - Catherine Min			3493.00
" - Deaconess Sala			1059.45
T'fer to W.K. Scholarship		5338.59	
" to Admin & General		227.17	
Donation to A.C.W.C.		113.59	
		<u>5679.35</u>	<u>4552.45</u>
Balances 30/6/83	\$ <u>2207.40</u>	<u>Nil</u>	\$ <u>23390.03</u>

F. World Community Day

Balance at 1/7/82	Nil
Receipts : Offerings:	
A.C.T. Canberra	134.94
West Australia	172.46
South Australia	215.83
Tasmania	140.57
New South Wales	1000.00
Victoria	1500.00
Queensland	169.62
	<u>3333.42</u>
Less Payments : C/O Australian Chl.Churches	3133.41
To A.C.W.C.	66.67
T'fer to Admin.& General	133.34
	<u>\$ 3333.42</u>
Balance at 30/6/83	Nil

G. National Travel Fund

Balance at 1/7/82		\$ 1013.97
Receipts : Investment Interest		518.38
	<u>Balance 30/6/83</u>	<u>\$ 1532.35</u>

H. Overseas Conferences

Balance at 1/7/82		\$ 1085.89
Receipts : Invested Interest	579.23	
Donations	<u>1054.00</u>	
	1633.23	
Expenses re Bali Conference	<u>1369.08</u>	264.15
	<u>Balance 30/6/83</u>	<u>\$ 1350.04</u>

I. National Committee Meeting Melbourne

Balance 1/7/82		Nil
Receipts : Conference Fees		2635.00
Travel Pool		<u>486.34</u>
		3121.34
Payments : Travel Pool	665.76	
Stationery & Printing	<u>43.78</u>	709.54
	<u>Balance 30 3/83</u>	<u>\$ 2411.80</u>

J. Administration and General

Balance 1/7/82		\$ 3166.37
Receipts : Investment & Bank Interest		622.84
A.C.W.C. Bulletins (held for 1984 P'ments)		130.00
Small Beginnings		6.50
Circle of Prayer		119.00
Silver Jubilee Books		220.00
Donations (Printing A.C.W. Leaflets)		140.00
" (Postage)		10.80
A.C.W. Badges		14.00
Fellowship Day		227.17
World Community Day		133.34
Fellowship of the Least Coin		<u>673.28</u>
		\$ 5463.30

Less Payments :

Bank Charges	12.35	
Postage & Telephone	546.29	
Stationery & Printing	81.16	
Printing Women at Work	206.00	
" W.K.S. Leaflets	499.00	
Rent : Meeting Room	88.00	
Silver Jubilee Books	198.06	
W.C.C. Pamphlets	29.00	
C.C.A. "	11.37	
A.C.W. Badges	575.92	
Bali Conference	34.43	
Copyright	<u>20.00</u>	2301.58

Balance at 30/6/83 \$ -3161.72

BALANCE SHEET AS AT JUNE 30 1983

K.

Balances in Accounts:

Fellowship of the Least Coin	\$ Nil
Winifred Kiek Scholarship Memorial Bursary	2207.40
Fellowship Day	Nil
Winifred Kiek Scholarship	23390.03
World Community Day	Nil
National Travel Fund	1532.35
Overseas Conference	1350.04
National Committee Meeting	2411.80
Administration and General	3161.72
	<hr/>
	\$ 34053.34

Above Balances are Represented as Follows:

C.S.B. Savings Investment Account	\$ 21859.13	
Government Bonds Series 24	3600.00	
Treasury Bonds	2400.00	
C.B.F.C. Ltd Debenture Stock	800.00	
Commonwealth Government Term Deposit	100.00	
Petty Cash Imprest	100.00	
Cheque Account (CSB)	5194.21	
	<hr/>	
		\$ 34053.34

Auditor's Report to the Members of
AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

I have examined the books, records and financial statements of the Australian Church Women for year ended 30th June 1983 and in my opinion The Financial Statements are drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the results for the year ended 30th June 1983 and Balance Sheet at that date.



B. L. McEAIN A.A.S.A (Senior) A.C.I.S

Melbourne 10-7-83

TREASURER'S REPORT

It is my pleasure to present the Financial Report of the Australian Church Women for the year ending June 30 1983 and express my appreciation for assistance and co-operation received from all members of Working Committee, State Units and the Honorary Auditor, Mr. Bruce McBain.

The four year comparison will serve to illustrate the on-going financial position.

	<u>1979/80</u>	<u>1980/81</u>	<u>1981/82</u>	<u>1982/83</u>
F.L.C.	10,000	12,200	15,767	16,832
W.C.D.	2,880	2,860	4,430	3,333
Fellowship Day	3,890	4,498	4,992	5,679
	<u>16,770</u>	<u>19,558</u>	<u>25,189</u>	<u>25,844</u>

Considering the down turn in economy, contributions reflect generosity. The present unfavorable exchange rates reduce assistance given to overseas projects.

During the two year period, the following memorial bursaries have been received and invested:

Nell Cain	\$55.50	South Australia
Mary Wood	\$100.00	Tasmania
Mrs. Colonel Saunders	\$100.00	Victoria
Florence Fishburn	\$300.00	New South Wales

Interest for memorial bursary amounted to \$151 in 81/82 and \$182 in 82/83.

Consideration could be given to increasing the book allowance. Money has been moved between cheque account and savings investment account to obtain a better interest return, reaching a total of \$3,400 income for the last financial year.

MYRA DIXON
Treasurer.

MOTION that appreciation for the work of the Honorary Auditor be placed on record and that a small gift of appreciation be presented to him.

SPECIAL DAYS

One of the greatest witnesses to Christ's love within us is in our outward expression of that love shared across Christian and National boundaries. Within Australian Church Women this love is expressed as we share together on our two Special Days - Fellowship Day and World Community Day. As we share in worship and prayer and as we give to support projects which reach out to help others, we are enabling that love to flow out to others.

When I took over from Roma Hickman, Tasmania, in September, 1981, preparations for both Special Days for 1982 were nearing completion. I would like to express my appreciation to Roma for making it easy to take over this responsibility.

FELLOWSHIP DAY

The 1982 service was prepared by a group of Salvation Army women from Melbourne Headquarters under the leadership of Mrs. Commissioner Merle Linnett. The theme "Co-workers in Christ for Renewal" was brought out through the careful selection of prayers and readings. The 1983 service was prepared by the Baptist Women's Fellowship, Victoria, with the theme "By the Power of the Spirit, Our Burdens are Shared" and they used readings from the New International Bible to express this theme.

WORLD COMMUNITY DAY

Rev. Beverley Bellinger, who attended a Conference of Theological Women, prepared the 1982 service using the theme of the conference "Women Dare .. Share .. Act". The project for 1982 was the "Aboriginal and Islander Development Fund".

When Rev. Thelma Adair visited Victoria in 1982 she asked the National Working Committee to prepare the 1983 World Community Day Service for Church Women United. After consultation the theme decided was "No Longer Strangers" Ephesians 2: 17-18.

A committee of four - Doreen Strack, Myra Dixon, Olive Ackland and Deaconess Frances McKecknie - prepared an order of service and background material encompassing our past history, our development and future. This service will be adapted for our service in 1983. The project chosen is "Training programs for Harijan (untouchables) women, Punthamba".

Over the past few years, included in W.C.D. service, has been an opportunity for the dedication of the Fellowship of the Least Coin tokens.

1984 Plans are already in hand for Fellowship Day - Mrs. Helen Banks, who is attending the World Council of Churches Assembly in Vancouver, 1983, has been asked to prepare a service with the theme "Jesus Christ, the Life of the World".

It has been a privilege to work in this area of service for Australian Church Women and my thanks go to the people who have prepared the services and to State Units who have used the services to provide opportunities for Church women in Australia to reach out to their sisters in Christ both in Australia and in other places. These services provide an important network for the sharing of information and for the expression of our love for each other.

Olive Ackland
Convener

WOMEN AT WORK

I have found a great challenge in preparing articles for Women at Work. These have been varied, and as I have read and prepared them I have received a lot of blessing and pleasure and, sometimes, felt a little disturbed.

Some of you have sent articles directly to me, and for this I thank you. Other items of interest have been culled from State and Territory Units' reports and passed on to me by our National Working Committee Secretary, Mrs. Freda Morris, who has been most helpful in all she has done and my thanks go to her.

At the commencement of my term as Convener of Women at Work, I wrote to every State and Territory Unit, setting aside one month's issue for each president to write a devotional article for the front page. Most of you responded to this very well, and a lot of blessing has been received from these "devotionals". To each of my colleagues on the National Working Committee, I would like to say "thank you" for their front page articles and the reports of their particular work they have given me from time to time.

I would also like to acknowledge the help that Mrs. Lieut.-Colonel Macintyre has given me in the preparation of Women at Work. I do not type nor do I have access to a typist, but she has undertaken the responsibility of getting this paper typed for me. We have also checked each article together month by month.

Please continue to give your support to the incoming convener of Women at Work, and to those of you who have not told us much about what you are doing in your Unit, I would urge you to send news to the convener so that we all may rejoice with you or pray for your particular needs. We give thanks to God for what He is doing with us and through us.

Rita Callander
Convener.

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship was inaugurated by Dr. Winifred Kiek and was awarded for the first time in 1965. It is available to an overseas Christian woman to increase her knowledge, experience and capabilities, so that when she returns to her own country after studying here for an academic year, her own people will benefit.

The Scholarship fund covers return airfare, tuition fees, accommodation, book allowance, warm clothing allowance, pocket money and insurance against medical expenses and loss.

Any organization that has the privilege of hearing the Scholar is asked to cover the expenses incurred. The sponsoring body is not asked to contribute.

We have used the revised 1981 Application forms and have drawn up a fuller health sheet, both of these being sent out together.

Four applications have been received for 1984 - three from India and one from Pakistan. Two of these have small children, and we are a bit apprehensive about inviting a mother to leave small children for so long a period.

During the last two years covering part of 1981, 1982 and 1983 you have been involved in helping four Christian women.

Our 1980 Scholar, Dien Sumiyatiningsih, returned to Indonesia at the end of 1982 after completing her Graduate Diploma of Theology at Ridley College in Melbourne.

Our 1981 Scholar, Malini Weerasinghe, completed her year of Religious Education and returned to Sri Lanka.

In 1982 we made a grant from the funds to Lieutenant Miriam Gahare of New Guinea to do a typing course. We hope that Mrs. Gahare benefitted from this gift, but I have had no news of her.

Our Scholar of 1982 was Deaconess Salasine Kanavakaka who studied at Alcorn College in Brisbane, where her presence was much appreciated, her results were good, and she has gone home to Fiji feeling the benefit of that year. She was able to visit and speak to many groups, travelling as far north as Bundaberg, Rockhampton and Mackay and out west to the new mine-field towns of Central Queensland.

The financial arrangements were made from the National Working Committee through the Queensland unit. We would like to thank the Queensland Unit for the loving care given to Sala.

Our 1983 Scholar is Miss Byong-Ok Min from Korea who is studying at St. Barnabas College in Adelaide, where the South Australian Unit has added a feminine touch to her room in a basically male Institution.

Owing to difficulty and delay in obtaining a passport, Catherine - her Christian name - did not arrive in Adelaide till May 10th, and as the College was on three weeks' vacation she stayed at the home of Mrs. Chittleborough and her family, to whom the Winifred Kiek Scholarship committee

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP (Cont'd)

members are grateful. It would be to Catherine's advantage to complete Term I next year.

At the 1981 National Committee Meeting there was discussion about the Winifred Kiek Visiting Fellowship - "That funds shall be available triennially or at the discretion of the National Working Committee". The last Fellowship was in 1981 so that in 1984 another Fellowship could be granted.

The present Winifred Kiek Scholarship Committee has, as yet, no candidate in mind, but it is concerned about the increasing cost of travelling and accommodation as this Fellow moves from State to State.

Christmas greeting letters were sent to as many past scholarship holders for whom addresses were known. A few were returned "address unknown" but some newsy answers were received.

It is good to know that what started as a happy thought by Dr.Kiek has spread over Asia and the Pacific area in widening circles of love between those women and their Australian sisters. It is not always easy to love our neighbours as ourselves but Dr.Kiek has helped us all in a very practical way to spread that love and know that in Christ we are all one.

Jean Hughes
Convener

FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN

1980 marked the international celebration of Fellowship of the Least Coin Silver Jubilee in the Philippines - the place where Fellowship of the Least Coin began. Those of us who attended this joyous Celebration in Manila will never forget the wonderful fellowship women from thirty-five countries shared with each other.

In 1981 the 25th Anniversary Year, each Country related to Fellowship of the Least Coin was asked to plan a celebration appropriate to that country. Reports from around Australia suggest, that it was a time of Joyous Celebrations - giving thanks to God for the Past, Joy for the Present, and anticipation for the Future. In so many ways through Fellowship of the Least Coin we have seen demonstrated in a remarkable way the deep significance of small acts of faith and love!

It is interesting to note, that Asian Church Women in 1958 felt the need to know one another, and to begin to work together. Funds from Fellowship of the Least Coin helped to make this possible. This year, 1983, Asian Church Women are celebrating their Silver Anniversary.

GRANTS

Three State Units and the Northern Territory have received Fellowship of the Least Coin grants for projects they submitted in 1983:-

<u>South Australia</u>	- Services to Vietnamese Refugees	\$1000
<u>Queensland</u>	- "Mamre" Family Support for Handicapped Children	\$1000
<u>Victoria</u>	- Research on Isolated Handicapped Children in the Outback	\$1500
<u>Northern Territory</u>	- Leadership Training Aboriginal Women Resource Centre with additional \$1500 from Asian Church Women.	\$1000

Questions have been asked, should Australia apply for grants? Let us not forget it was by "receiving an overseas grant" from Asian Women that we first heard of Fellowship of the Least Coin. Reflecting on the nature of Fellowship of the Least Coin, it is interesting to find that gifts to, and grants from Fellowship of the Least Coin include all Continents.

ADMINISTRATION

Fellowship of the Least Coin has developed from being an Asian project to being a world-wide fellowship - it will in the future be administered by an International Committee of Fellowship of the Least Coin, but will remain in essence Asian. Responsibility has shifted from guardianship to partnership between Asian Church Women's Conference and Fellowship of the Least Coin.

PROMOTION

The visit of Rathie Selvaratnam in 1981 to a number of State Units proved a very worthwhile contribution, these meetings with Rathie helped to further the understanding of Fellowship of the Least Coin. Promotion by State Units is by writing letters to Fellowship of the Least Coin groups, having

FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN (Contd.)

speakers, visual aids, "Circle of Prayer" booklets, Silver Jubilee book and "Small Beginnings". We are very limited in promotion material, if only the International Committee of Fellowship of the Least Coin would or could, keep us informed this would be a great help.

Mrs. Shanti Solomon, Executive Secretary of the International Committee for Fellowship of the Least Coin, has written asking if it would be possible for Australia to give an occasional report on how the State Units promote Fellowship of the Least Coin.

As we begin a new "era" could we re-commit ourselves to prayer. It is not the coins we give, but the prayers for Reconciliation and Peace that are important. We are always interested when we know the total of our coin giving, but how much have we given in personal prayer?

Could we learn to be humble enough to be "receivers" as well as "givers", for the grants to and from Fellowship of the Least Coin are "Gifts of Love".

Fran Downes
Convener.

PROMOTION & PUBLICITY REPORT

It was proposed at the National Committee Meeting in Tasmania 1981, that a Promotion Officer be appointed to the National Working Committee and be responsible for resource:-

To keep all Units and Branches well-informed on ACW activities.

To keep Church Women and the public in general well informed of the existence of ACW in their community.

To provide branches with a resource pool for local projects.

Mrs. Lyn Green, Tasmania, introduced the subject at the National Committee Meeting in Tasmania, 1981, and a decision was made that a new Promotion and Publicity Officer be appointed from the Incoming Working Committee.

A Resource Kit was provided for all representatives to take back to their State Unit. This consisted of:-

1. Promotional Aims
2. Guidelines for Branch Meetings
3. Guidelines in commencing a ACW Branch
4. Resource Sheets providing resource idea for ACW.
5. Copies of Press Release material and suggestions.

With the appointment of the new Promotions Officer, the proposal was made by her that each State Unit appoint a Publicity Officer to promote and develop the work in branches and State Units. This proposal was carried and a number of appointments have been made with satisfactory result in State Units.

Suggestions were made that reports from State Publicity Officers be forwarded to the National Promotion and Publicity Officer in order to develop promotions work, provide helpful information to State Units and material for Women at Work.

Promotional and Publicity inserts have been included with Women at Work and a quarterly Australia/Burma Prayer Partnership Roster has been forwarded including information and suggestions as they come to hand from Burma and from meetings held in our State Units. Arrangements and contacts were made for Press Release and interviews in relation to the National Committee Meeting.

Congratulations and commendation should go to State Unit Publicity Officers for their promotion work at State and Branch level. This promotional and publicity project has proved a helpful innovation and could be developed further.

Isabel Macintyre

Promotion and Publicity Officer

AUSTRALIA/BURMA PRAYER PARTNERSHIP

Prior to the Sixth Assembly of Asian Church Women's Conference, each participant was assigned a prayer partner in order to make the ecumenical fellowship richer and more meaningful.

During this preliminary period each participant prayed for her partner at a time fixed mutually by both partners. It was stated in the ACWC News Bulletin, third quarter 1978, "We hope this will build solidarity among the women of member countries and will lead to a real concern for each other."

As a result of this person to person partnership, the National Working Committee of Australian Church Women endorsed the idea of a country to country partnership and so commenced the link of Australia with Burma in prayer partnership.

Commencing in 1981, the National Working Committee of Australian Church women allotted to each State Unit a particular month in roster on which to focus a meaningful approach to praying for their Burmese friends.

The monthly roster system has worked most effectively. Units through Guest Speakers, films, and special displays, have learned more of the customs and culture of Burma. Prayer groups have met at Unit Meetings and in Homes. Individual members have made contact by correspondence with Christian women in Burma learning of prayer requests and needs. Reports have been forwarded to the Convenor in Melbourne, who provides a comprehensive report to all States, thus helping to foster suggestion, schedules and information, the involvement relating to the prayer partnership.

The Women's Committee of Burma Council of Churches have taken up the project and have been praying and promoting the Australia/Burma partnership. Letters have been joyously received from Australia and a regular newsletter is being sent to Christian women throughout Burma from Daw Mya Kyi, Convenor, in Rangoon, with the prayer partnership as the main theme in each newsletter.

The Women's Committee of the Burma Council of Churches have been following our monthly roster schedule with a map of Australia in order to pray meaningfully.

A helpful link was made at the Asian Church Women's Conference when delegates from Australia were able to make contacts with their Burmese counterparts at the Conference in Bali. From this contact came a better understanding of some of the problems in communication and also clearer insights into those things for which we should pray.

We believe that the initial aim and hope for the prayer partnership is being fulfilled and that we are building up a solidarity among the women of each country leading to a real concern for each other. This caring and sharing we feel will benefit all who participate and as one report stated during 1982 "What beautiful times we have shared together turning our minds and hearts to pray for our sisters in Burma. When we intercede we become bridge-builders between people and their need and God the source of undeserved favour."

May this bridge building prayer partnership continue to enrich the lives of those who share in it and may God, the Holy Spirit, give guidance in our prayers that His Kingdom will be extended and His Name glorified in the countries of Burma and Australia.

Isabel Macintyre

Convenor

STATE UNIT REPORTSAUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

The period under review has been one of consolidation, membership now totalling thirty-nine affiliated organisations. At the 1982 Annual General Meeting our name was formally changed from Canberra Church Women to A.C.T. Unit - Australian Church Women. Our Constitution was amended accordingly.

SPECIAL GUESTS

Mrs.Rathi Selvaratnam. In July, 1981, we were privileged to have as our guest Mrs.Rathi Selvaratnam who came to Canberra on a Winifred Kiek Visiting Fellowship. Twenty-eight ladies met Rathi at luncheon when she spoke about Fellowship of the Least Coin, then celebrating its 25th Anniversary.

Dr. Thelma Adair. A luncheon was planned for 19 March, 1982, in honour of Dr.Thelma Adair, President of Church Women United of U.S.A. 70 ladies attended, but, unfortunately, due to a breakdown in her travel arrangements, Dr.Adair did not reach Canberra until mid-afternoon.

New Zealand Church Women. In September, 1982, we were pleased to participate in a visit to Canberra of 25 members of the New Zealand Church Women's Council of the Council of Churches. The visitors were billeted in the homes of members and in appreciation of hospitality received, they graciously made a donation of \$125 to A.C.T. Unit Travel Fund.

Farewell to Edith Ridge. It was with much regret that we farewelled our popular A.C.T. Unit President, Mrs.Edith Ridge in December 1982, when Edith's husband, Rev.Barry Ridge, accepted the call to a Sydney church. Edith made a tremendous contribution to the Unit during her three year term as President.

SPECIAL DAYS

Fellowship Day 1981. Two services were held on Friday, 31 July. An 11am service, held at Yarralumla Uniting Church organised by their Women's Fellowship, was attended by approximately 100 ladies. An 8pm service was held at Kambah High School organised by Kambah Anglican Women. Mr. Neil Gilmour proved a very popular guest speaker at both services. Mr.Gilmour, a skilled craftsman, captivated his listeners by potting as he spoke.

Fellowship Day, July 1982. An 11am service at St.Paul's Anglican Church, Manuka, hosted by St.Paul's Churchwomen's Union was attended by 130 ladies. An 8 pm service was held at Padua College, Wanniasa, hosted by the ladies of St. Anthony's Catholic Parish. Mrs.Edith Ridge, President of A.C.T. Unit of Australian Church Women was guest speaker on both occasions.

At Belconnen a service was held in the Belconnen Baptist Centre. 42 ladies attended, being representative of twelve church groups in the Belconnen area. Guest speaker was Lieutenant Elaine Royes, Commanding Officer, Belconnen Corps of the Salvation Army. This was the first Fellowship Day Service held in Belconnen.

World Community Day, 1981. An 11am service at St.Andrew's Church, Forrest, was organised by St.Andrew's Presbyterian Women's Association and was attended by approximately 150 ladies. The Guest Speaker was Jackie Somerville of Kaleen. An 8 p.m. service at Tuggeranong was attended by 40 ladies and the Guest Speaker was Lynette Pearce (Salvation Army).

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY Contd.

World Community Day, October 1982. The 11am Service at Wesley Uniting Church, Forrest, was hosted by ladies of Wesley Uniting (Central Parish) Day and Evening groups. Approximately 100 ladies attended.

Women's World Day of Prayer, March 1982. Three services were held in Canberra in observance of the day, with a marked increase in attendance.

Women's World Day of Prayer, March 1983. An 11am Service at Watson attracted over 200 women, and evening services in Belconnen and Tuggeranong were particularly well attended.

Burma Prayer Partners. A.C.T. Unit continued to participate in the programme of prayer partners begun in 1981.

GENERAL

Mrs. Ruth Burmester O.A.M. received her well deserved award in the 1982 Queen's Birthday honours. Ruth was for several years Hon. Secretary of Canberra Church Women.

Our current Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Evonne Sullivan, was made a life member of Catholic Women's League early in 1983.

In conclusion we wish to place on record our appreciation of the wonderful work of the retiring National Working Committee of A.C.W.

PAT TAYLOR ROGERS
President

EVONNE SULLIVAN, A.M.
Hon. Secretary.

NEW SOUTH WALES

Through promotion and the two main projects of A.C.W. the aims of Australian Church Women are not only maintained but are attaining a measure of success.

The promotions convener, Mrs. Marie McCann, prepared a promotions kit for distribution to centres interested in becoming local branches. This has largely been responsible for the formation of several new groups of the A.C.W. N.S.W. Unit.

The two special days of the year, Fellowship and World Community Day show an appreciable increase in attendances at services. The themes were challenging and most centres appreciated the excellent orders of service as well as the speakers who brought the messages. Thirty-six centres held these special days and the numbers attending are approximately two thousand, five hundred.

Overseas Visitors: In 1981 Dr. Thelma Adair addressed a Sunday afternoon gathering of women in the Northside Baptist Church. Her visit was not only a success but an inspiration to all who came to hear her message.

An Ecumenical group from the Women's Committee of the New Zealand Council of Churches, spent three days in Sydney and were billeted by council members who also provided transport during this time. A reception was held when all members could meet these delightful Christian women from across the Tasman.

Overseas Visits: Three executive members who had been on overseas trips brought thumbnail sketches of the conferences they attended and the women they had met. Deaconess M. Andrews, who was a representative to the International Conference of Women's World Day of Prayer, and Miss D. Mitchell of her contacts in the U.S.A. with members of Church Women United. Our representative to the Asian Church Women's Conference held in Bali, Mrs. M. McCann, informed us of the inspiring personalities which made this gathering of Christian women so outstanding.

Winifred Kiek Scholar Malini Weerasinghe was farewelled by members of the executive during December, 1981 when she returned to her homeland, Sri Lanka. The convener receives letters from her regarding her work and the benefits gained from her studies in Australia.

Council members serve as representatives to various organisations, National Council of Women, N.S.W. Council for Children's Films & T.V., Women's World Day of Prayer, and one is a Fraternal delegate to the N.S.W. Ecumenical Council.

There are sub-committees connected with the State Unit in order to deal with organisational details. One is a Social Concerns Committee in order to keep in touch with matters relating to women and children.

During the year the A.C.W. is represented at special functions of church and women's organisations by the president and secretary. Both were invited to an historic service in St. Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, on the occasion of the Women's Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service, when one of our members, Dame Monica Gallagher, gave the occasional address on the history of the Cathedral. The president, Mrs. Yvonne Davis, with her husband attended the Installation Service of the new Archbishop of Sydney, Edward Clancy.

Council Meetings are well attended and are made interesting by the variety of speakers and topics dealt with from Religious Education in Schools to Aborigines and their attitudes to the land and European settlement, to the discovery of an underground church in China, which has survived for the last thirty years.

Fishburn Memorial Fund has been set up in honour of one of our members who unassumingly worked for A.C.W. for over twenty years.

NEW SOUTH WALES (Continued)

This is the first time N.S.W. has participated in the Winifred Kiek Bursary Fund of the National Committee.

Miss Doris Mitchell, retiring treasurer, has been made a Life Member of New South Wales Unit. Miss Mitchell has served as president, secretary and treasurer as well as secretary to the National Working Committee.

Mabel Ward
Secretary.

NORTHERN TERRITORY

The Northern Territory Unit, based in Darwin, is a small group of women who greatly appreciate their commitment to each other through A.C.W. We believe that our contribution to the ecumenical involvement of women is very important to the life of the Church.

Great distances, lack of finance and a transient population have been a problem for the group since its beginning. We are delighted, therefore, that through the assistance of other Units, we are able to send two delegates to this year's Conference. Our financial resources are such that this would have been impossible without your help.

Distance did not seem so great when Dr. Thelma Adair visited us as guest speaker for the 1982 Women's World Day of Prayer. It was wonderful to have this well-known person to address us. A number of Aboriginal women from Nungalinga College attended the service.

Mrs. Dorothy McMahon was guest preacher at our Community Day Service. Dorothy was on her way to the A.C.W.C. Conference in Bali where she was resource person for the group studying "Strategies and Resources for Peace."

At the end of 1982, 1980 Winifred Kiek Scholar, Dien Sumiyatiningsih visited Darwin on her way back to Indonesia following her study in Australia.

These three visits seemed to bring the world closer to us and reduce the isolation we so often feel.

One of the positive aspects about isolation is that we are constantly thrown back on our own resources and find that our local women have much to offer. On Fellowship Day, three Darwin women spoke of their role as Christian women working as Co-workers in Christ for Renewal. Another led our thoughts through music. All present were touched by the way we can all participate in working for renewal.

Women's World Day of Prayer 1983 again meant drawing on our own resources. At the lunch-time service, we chose to study a Bible passage from the Order of Service, sharing together our thoughts and concerns as Christian women in Darwin on the theme "New Persons in Christ". At the evening service, Uniting Church deaconess Marion Watson spoke on the same theme. Mrs. Dinah Garadji, an Aboriginal student at Nungalinga College, read the lessons at that service.

In October, Dianne Johnson attended the A.C.W.C. Conference in Bali. The theme was "Co-workers in Christ for Renewal"

NORTHERN TERRITORY (Continued)

and Dianne worked in the Study Section concerned with problems of prostitution and tourism.

In the past year, two of our key members, Mrs. Betty Vawser (President) and Mrs. Wilma Taylor (Secretary) left the Territory - Betty to the Kimberleys and Wilma to C.M.S. South Australia. Mrs. Gwen Fairbank has been elected Secretary but we are still without a President. Mrs. Dianne Johnson is vice-president, but will not be available next year. This movement of personnel is a constant problem for the church in Darwin.

In July we will hold a Fellowship afternoon to publicise and promote the work of A.C.W. among Church women in Darwin.

We were delighted to learn that the N.T. Unit has received a grant of \$1500 for Leadership Training for Women. The proposal was drawn up by Betty Vawser and Dianne Johnson in response to a need for financial assistance for women who wish to attend leadership training courses offered by church organisations. (A copy of the proposal is held by the National Committee.) The grant for this program has come from the Fellowship of the Least Coin.

Dianne Johnson
Vice-President.

QUEENSLAND

Our Monthly meetings allow women from different churches to fellowship with each other as we attend to the business of A.C.W.

World Community & Fellowship Days: Services are held in one of the city churches and also in three suburban areas. Also in 1982 eighteen country centres held services.

Branches: Country branches at Mackay, Rockhampton and Bundaberg are very enthusiastic as they work together to break down barriers so women can come to worship together the Lord and Master of us all. During the year each branch enjoyed an enriching time of fellowship when Deaconess Sala the Winifred Kiek Scholar visited each centre.

Winifred Kiek Scholar: Queensland was delighted to have the 1982 Winifred Kiek scholar study in Queensland at Alcorn College. It gave our Unit a wonderful opportunity to get to know Sala and work experiences she had as a Deaconess in Fiji. It was a thrill to see the experiences of College life and her studies help her to grow so she could become more effective when she returned to Fiji to further serve God. Sala had so many different experiences while here in Queensland. She was part of a mission team that visited the new mining towns in Central Queensland. She also visited many parishes of different denominations which was completely new for her.

Fellowship of the Least Coin: Mrs. Lena Meadows faithfully and joyously promotes F.L.C. wherever she can. Lena travels throughout the State speaking to women and so encourages women to thank God for his reconciling power and put a small coin aside as the practical part of our giving thanks. We were also thrilled that money from F.L.C. was given to the project we submitted in 1982 - MAMRE Brisbane C.W.L. for books and activity equipment for handicapped children.

Christmas Festival: Every second year the City churches hold a Festival. We were pleased to be involved in their wonderland of trees. The theme for our tree was "Joy in New Life".

Burma Prayer Partner: After a number of letters written by our correspondent Mrs. Dennis, she received a very informative letter from Mrs. Galstein. This contact allows us to be more effective as we pray for the needs of the women of Burma. Mrs. Brig. Flood of the Salvation Army, a past missionary from Burma, gave us a very informative talk of life in Burma when she was there.

Mrs. V. Clarke - President

Mrs. R. Potter - Secretary

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Mrs. Dorothy Haensel, in her second year as President, continues to give excellent guidance and direction to the women from six affiliated denominations, two observer denominations, associate members, and affiliated branches who make up the membership of A.C.W. in South Australia. Her enthusiasm and dedication is a stimulating challenge to all.

President-elect, Mrs. Margaret Chittleborough, will take office in November, and we look forward with confidence to the same gracious, capable leadership which has given our Unit such a sound basis for effective witness in the past.

Personal Column: We were saddened during 1961 by the death of Past-President, Mrs. Nell Kain. Her fine contribution to the work of Christian women was well known and greatly respected, and a very fitting tribute was paid to her just one week before her death, when she was presented with the Benemereti Medal, awarded by Pope John Paul, to honour this loving and gracious lady. Mrs. Barbara Grealy, past Convener of F.L.C., was also similarly honoured for her work among women in the Catholic Women's League. The Unit was delighted to recognise the honour awarded to Past-President Mrs. Pauline Crosby in the 1982 Queen's Birthday Honours. In recognition of her work in establishing the voluntary organization of Lavender Lads and Ladies at the Royal Adelaide Hospital, her distinguished service to the Girls' Brigade, and within the Christian Church, Pauline was awarded the British Empire Medal.

Meetings and Outreach: Bi-monthly meetings are held, at which reports are given, speakers invited, forums are introduced and Bible studies shared to make varied and interesting meetings, with an half hour reserved for fellowship. Alternately, Business Meetings are held, comprising members of Executive, and one representative from each denomination. Matters of importance are handled with recommendations presented to the following Unit Meetings. After Unit Meetings, Executive meet to complete matters relating to State and National Working Committee business. We feel this change in meeting structure is valuable and meets the needs of Executive to give full attention to business and a more relaxed enjoyable atmosphere to Unit Meetings. A special meeting held in 1981 - a 'Day of Dialogue', with representatives from executives of denominations, proved to be a very fruitful time of input of expectations, ideas for programmes and a comprehensive outline of the work and purpose of A.C.W. Another similar day has been planned for September this year.

During the Adelaide Festival of Arts, we were one of fourteen organizations invited to present a display of our work. The display was held in the Constitutional Museum and was arranged by the United Nations Status of Women Committee.

A special treat last year was the visit to South Australia by Dr. Thelma Adair. She endeared herself to everyone and her visit will long be a treasured memory. A Fellowship Tea followed by an inspiring Special Service was held in Pilgrim Church, with a beautiful musical presentation by children from the Magill Church of Christ. Outreach contacts continue between our Unit and Women's World Day of Prayer, National Council of Women, United Nations Status of Women, Bible Society, Women's Information Switchboard, Women's Shelters and recently we were pleased to arrange an exchange of delegates to the South Australian Council of Churches.

Burma Prayer Partners: Several of our members have written as prayer partners to women in Burma, and only two letters have been received in return so far.

A.C.W.C.: Mrs. Barbara Grealy attended the Quadrennial Assembly in Bali in October last year as an observer and spoke

SOUTH AUSTRALIA (Continued)

on our behalf regarding our invitation to A.C.W.C. to hold their 1986 Assembly in Adelaide. We await their reply with anticipation. We were pleased to assist Mrs. Bernice Mason, from the Aboriginal Evangelical Fellowship, to attend the Assembly as a delegate for Australia.

Fellowship of the Least Coin: In August, 1981, we celebrated the Silver Jubilee of F.L.C. with a reception and dinner at which invited guests met the guest speaker, Mrs. Rath Selvaratnam. An Asian Celebration Service, adapted for use in Australia, was held, and women of different nationalities took part. Mrs. Selvaratnam also visited two country areas where women travelled long distances to meet her and to share in a Thanksgiving Luncheon and Service.

Community Day Services were held in three country centres and three metropolitan areas. More fellowships in both these areas are becoming involved in F.L.C. An F.L.C. Grant has been received for the Vietnamese Association in South Australia to provide a counsellor/interpreter service to help with personal and social difficulties of newly arrived refugees.

Winifred Kiek Scholarship: In 1981 we were pleased to welcome Malini Weerasinghe. A luncheon was arranged at Victor Harbour and a public meeting and luncheon on the last day of her stay here. We also had the opportunity to say goodbye to Dien Sumiyatiningsih before she returned home to continue her work in Indonesia. This year we are delighted to have Catherine Min from Korea based here to study various aspects of christian education at St. Barnabas College, Adelaide. Catherine is settling in well and looking forward to commencing her studies at the start of the next school term.

Community Concern: The 1981 project was for People for Alcohol Concern and Education, and \$1,400 was presented which enabled them to produce 25,000 christian leaflets for distribution.

The 1982 project was the Kersbrook Riding School for the disabled. In all nine luncheons were held and in excess of \$2,000 raised which helped with funding to provide an all weather arena and more adequate facilities for their venue. This year we are currently holding luncheons, ten in all, for the Kampuchean association. The fellowship shared at these times is always rewarding and gives members of executive opportunity to share about the work of A.C.W. with a greater number of people.

Jubilee 150: Representatives from our Unit attended a meeting arranged by the Women's Committee for Jubilee 150 Board, and we were invited to set up a committee to be responsible for the organization of special events to be held by christian women during the State's 150th celebrations. Mrs. Pauline Crosby is the Chairperson, with key representatives from all denominations wishing to participate, and already ideas and plans are well under way for a combined Women's Thanksgiving Service, a Foundation Fund and a Book of Remembrance. It will be very exciting if A.C.W.C. can plan to hold their Assembly in Adelaide to coincide with Jubilee 150. A special Pageant is to be arranged also to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the formation of the South Australian Unit in 1986. Mrs. Margaret Knauerhase has been invited to write and direct the pageant.

A.C.W. Badge and Souvenir Tea Spoons:

We are pleased to advise you that by the fine efforts of President Dorothy Haensel and her husband Frank, badges and spoons are now available. We are very pleased with the finished result, and feel they will be well received by other state units.

Jean Roberts

Secretary.

TASMANIA

It is difficult in a written report to convey to those who read it -- the feeling of love which exists between the women of Tasmania involved in the work of A.C.W. As we work together, we grow closer and at our Annual Meeting in April there was a feeling of warmth, friendship and joy - both in the Bible Study - in the morning - "Women Dare, Share and Act" and the business session in the afternoon.

From National Committee Meeting in Hobart, President Dawn Nibbs (now past President) made a special effort and visited our isolated women in Tasmania. Queenstown on the West Coast and Scotsdale in North-east Tasmania.

We learnt from New South Wales of their president's Bible and we have introduced this in our own Unit - with a special presentation at our Annual Meeting. We know that this "Badge of office" - the Word of the Lord has meant, and will continue to mean a great deal to our Presidents of the future.

Our women have joined in prayer for the women of Burma, in our homes, church groups and special prayer sessions. We have widened our knowledge of the needs of the women of Burma and their way of life. One group organized a prayer corner at their gathering.

Fellowship Day services have continued to be celebrated at Burnie, Ulverstone, Devonport, Launceston, Hobart, Queenstown and, last year for the first time, on the Eastern Shore, Hobart. This year we are hoping that Scotsdale will join in.

Community Day was held in the three major centres and Queenstown.

Fellowship of the Least Coin continues to capture the imagination and support of many women in Tasmania and is the project for which A.C.W. is well known.

Several members of Launceston Committee took part in an Ecumenical Service prior to the opening of the Catholic Women's League State Conference - a further demonstration of our oneness in Christ.

It is sometime since we had a special guest in Tasmania concerned with A.C.W. and this does create an interest and link for Tasmanian women.

As we look to the future under the leadership of Mrs. Gwenda Burt, we do so with enthusiasm, for each president brings her own special gift. We put our faith and trust in God, for whatever he asks of us he will give us the strength to fulfil.

Jan Easter
Secretary.

VICTORIA

Women from six denominations with eight extra Associate members meet bi-monthly for Council meetings. With an average attendance of thirty-five we are able to be alerted to our various concerns, and this item "Area of Concern" with relevant prayer continues to be part of our program. Executive meetings held between council meetings enable the business to be dealt with more promptly, thus enabling guest speakers more time to address our members, or discussion groups to be more useful.

Our members represent us at meetings of other organizations and report back to council meetings - National Council of Women, Victorian Council of Churches and Women's World Day of Prayer.

Since we have had the National Working Committee in Victoria for these last two years, we have been kept well aware of the National program and preparation for August conference.

Program: As a result of Hobart Conference, we were challenged to "Women in Isolation" by Deaconess McKechnie. But the important item on our program was the Special Service prepared for the Jubilee celebrations of F.L.C. Mrs. Rathi Selvaratnam had planned this service, so with invited guests joining our Council members, those taking part were well rewarded. Special spoons, bookmarks and a lavish publication have enabled us to remember this special year.

We had an audio/visual concerning Burma, screened by a Columban priest (Father O'Keefe) who had worked there, and this helped to make our Prayer month more realistic.

Because we are privileged to have one of our members (and our current Junior Vice-president) Mrs. Olive Ackland as Australian representative on Asian Church Women's Conference Committee - we were able to hear and see with confidence concerning the 7th Assembly of Asian Church Women's Conference in Bali, as she showed us slides of the time she spent there.

We also had two discussion days using the Australian Council of Churches study "Images of Life".

A full report of the Quiet Day arranged by our 82/83 President, Sister Patricia Madigan, is in the May "Women at Work". For those who had gathered, it was surely a day of bonding - through God's presence in the time spent together.

Special Items of Interest:

The death of one of our Life members - Mrs. Col. Flo Saunders in January 1982, was remembered by a donation to the Winifred Kiek Memorial Bursary Fund - as an acknowledgment of her contribution to our organization over many years in executive office. Mrs. Elsa Warner has now been made a Life Member.

We were able to farewell the 1980 Winifred Kiek scholar - Dien Sumiyatiningsih - who had continued her theological studies at Ridley College within the Melbourne University complex. She returned to her home in December 1982, thankful to so many people who had, in a true Christian spirit, made the extra two years of study feasible. Mrs. Ackland had met members of her family while in Indonesia for the Bali conference.

In September 1982, we were able to host a group of twenty-four New Zealand church women at the conclusion of an Australian tour planned by the New South Wales Unit.

Special Days and Promotion: Thanks to an energetic group of friends, our Special Days convener was able to distribute 3500 Community Day services to sixty-five groups, and 3,000 Fellowship Day services, together with Winifred Kiek leaflets and news-letters to sixty-seven groups. Reports received indicate continued interest, maybe because despatch was early, thanks to the prompt reception of program resulting in satisfactory printing procedures. Altogether this outreach is proceeding smoothly. A state news-letter is distributed twice a year, and this enables the groups to

VICTORIA (Continued)

feel part of the State Unit, and we also have had a wider distribution of "Women at Work".

In conclusion, we thank our group of Victorian women who were so willing to accept the responsibility of the National Working Committee for these last two years.

So we look forward to the future in faith, trusting God will lead us, and show us the way to work together in an ecumenical outreach to the women of Victoria.

Dorothy A. Fry
Secretary.

WEST AUSTRALIA

Our Unit has representatives from:

Anglican, Uniting, Salvation Army and Greek Orthodox Churches. The Y.W.C.A. is also a member body. Associate members from Church of Christ and Roman Catholic Churches. We also maintain liaison with the Aboriginal Evangelical Fellowship.

During 1981/82 our President was Lady Leila Wilson; Vice-Presidents Mrs. Margaret Napier, Mrs. Leonie Liveris; Secretary Miss Vera Dean and Miss Joan Miller; Treasurer Mrs. Jean Banyard. Miss Dean retired at the A.G.M. December 1981, with thanks for the contribution she had made to the smooth running of the Unit including her period as National Secretary. At the A.G.M. held in December 1982 Lady Wilson retired as President. Her two year term of leadership and willing hospitality was much appreciated. Mrs. Napier was elected President, Mrs. Doreen Gibson Vice-President; other positions unchanged.

One of the special times during 1981 was the visit of Rathi Selvaratnam. A very interesting itinerary was arranged which included at her request an evening with the Aboriginal Fellowship group, which she enjoyed very much.

Another interesting visitor was Mrs. Ayub, wife of Rev. Ayub, General Secretary of the Protestant Christian Churches in Bali. A most enjoyable and interesting morning was held, followed by lunch. Mrs. Ayub wished to know more about F.L.C.

Mrs. Leonie Liveris was congratulated on being one of nine West Australians appointed to the committee of Australian Institute of Multicultural Affairs. She reported that the first conference was positive.

At the 1981 A.G.M. a revised copy of the W.A. Unit's Constitution was distributed.

At the commencement of 1982 we were joined by two more members of the Greek Orthodox Church and one from the Majellan Group in the Catholic Church. These three are younger ladies.

On the 10th March in conjunction with the Synod of the Uniting Church in Australia we met with Dr. Thelma Adair of New York, President of Church Women United, in the U.S.A., at Wesley Church, Perth. Dr. Adair spoke on "Role of Women as Educators in Home, Church and Community". Her talk was very interesting and informative. During lunch Dr. Adair mingled with those present, talking and taking photos.

SPECIAL DAYS

Our convener Mrs. Vera Wilson has done wonderful work in arranging special days. More suburban and country areas are now participating in these services, this has been our aim during the past two years. The Ecumenical spirit on these special days and with the lunch gatherings afterwards

WEST AUSTRALIA

is a joy to behold.

The highlight of the year was that of Vera Wilson being selected as an Australian representative at the Asian Church Women's Conference in Bali. On World Community Day Vera's talk on her experiences at the conference was an inspiration to all present. She has shared with the Unit members the exhilarating and spiritual experiences with such enthusiasm, at having the privilege of being given the opportunity to participate.

Australia/Burma Day was held on the 27th September, in the form of a Forum.

F.L.C. Convener, Janet Watts, is to be congratulated on a job well done so lovingly. She has worked very hard keeping in touch with her groups, including giving talks.

We have representatives on the National Council of Women, an observer on the W.A. Council of Churches, Women's World Day of Prayer, our member Mrs. Marjorie Scurlock will take over as President in July 1983.

Our thanks to the Working Committee in Victoria for their work during the last two years.

We give thanks to the Lord for His guidance.

Joan Miller

Secretary.

REPORTSFEDERAL DENOMINATIONAL ORGANIZATIONSANGLICAN ACTIVITIESWomen's Auxiliary to the Australian Board of Missions

The Women's Auxiliary to the Australian Board of Missions is affiliated with Auxiliaries and Women's Groups in nineteen of the twenty-four Dioceses of the Anglican Church in Australia. An Annual Meeting of representatives of all Dioceses is held in April in Sydney each year. Office Bearers are elected at this meeting and hold office for two years.

The Australian Board of Missions presents a missionary programme which calls for the strongest commitment possible, in prayer, service and giving.

The work of the Women's Auxiliary has changed over the years with the Partner Churches in Asia and the Pacific becoming independent. Block Grants are given and personal gifts of money are only given in rare cases. The Auxiliary members help with the Parish commitment to Missions, and in addition raise money and engender interest in a Special Project each year. 1982 Special Project was to assist in the financial support of a Secretary for Aboriginal Affairs. The target was \$15,000 and \$19,233 was raised. This is in addition to the amount of over \$100,000 raised by the Branches for General Funds.

1983 Special Project is to cover 1984 as well as it is to finance the building of a College in the Highlands of Papua-New Guinea to train Lay Evangelists. This College is to be at Tsendiap in the Lower Jimi Valley.

Many groups in Parishes receive regular letters from men and women in the Partner Churches and are able to maintain personal interest in these areas.

The work of Australian Board of Missions covers Papua-New Guinea, Melanesia, Polynesia, Kuching, Sabah, West Malaysia, Korea, Jerusalem and the East, some parts of India and Africa, as well as work with our own Aborigines in Australia. Most of the Missionary work in India and Africa is supported by the Church Missionary Society.

Both A.B.M. and C.M.S. have total budgets of over \$1,000,000 and the work of the women of the Anglican Church is a very large part of this amount.

We are pleased to be associated with women of other denominations of the Christian Church through the Australian Church Women.

Barbara Briggs

Federal President.



It is our pleasure to report to the Australian Church Women on the continuing work of our organisation over the past two years, and at the same time to send greetings to our fellow Sisters in Christ as you meet in Conference and follow your theme of "LIFE AS A GIFT FROM GOD".

The Mothers' Union continues to base its work on the purpose of the Society - to be specially concerned with all that strengthens and preserves marriage and Christian family life.

Each Diocese in Australia formulates its own pattern to suit the particular needs of the members and their families in their own areas, whilst drawing on and contributing to the Australian Council. In this way those with more resources can share with those more isolated and with smaller numbers.

In the past two years a considerable amount of literature has been produced for the whole of Australia. This has been possible through the papers written by the former Primate of Australia, Archbishop Sir Frank Woods, Bishops Neville Chynoweth, George Hearn and Oliver Heyward, and The Reverend Bruce Reddrop. These papers have been based on the Objects of our Society.

A short history of The Mothers' Union and its departmental areas has recently been produced by a Brisbane member, Erna Lee.

In May/June 1982 several dioceses participated in a Promotion Week when publicity was given to The Mothers' Union so that many members of local congregations could share in activities and learn something of the organisation.

A South Pacific Consultation was held in April of this year when Australia was represented by five members. The venue was the Solomon Islands and representatives from Australia, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, New Zealand joined with the Melanesians for two weeks of study and activity. A representative from The Mothers' Union in England was also present and the special guest was Miss Evelyn Mahlatsi the Provincial Trainer of The Mothers' Union in South Africa.

Following the Consultation Miss Mahlatsi journeyed to Papua New Guinea for two weeks training and then to Thursday Island for a week's leadership course which she conducted most successfully there.

Support for our workers in overseas countries continues and money given especially for work in our Northern areas has been sent to the Bishops of the Dioceses of North West Australia, Northern Territory, Carpentaria and Papua New Guinea for specific projects nominated by the Bishops concerned.

Many dioceses have special projects themselves and support these in a very meaningful manner.

Message Home, a scheme whereby we have a telephone placed at a certain point and serviced by an answering machine, makes it possible for young people to advise their families that they are alright, although not disclosing their whereabouts. Two and a half years ago there was only one telephone in operation now there are at least four and enquiries are going forward regarding another two services coming into operation. These are totally funded by The Mothers' Union members themselves. We believe this work is needed in our country and if only one mothers mind may be put at rest to know that her child is alright, we believe it a service worth continuing.

After School Care continues in one of our Metropolitan dioceses, care for parents and children at Court is another area in which several dioceses are concerned, special care for those incapacitated also is another service in which many members are involved. Our Intercessory Prayer leaflets are received by approximately 14,000 people throughout Australia.

The work continues... but we believe it is not only the outward signs which mark the worthwhile nature of The Mothers' Union, but the building up and witnessing to stable family life which must be the very real and personal work of our members.

Margot Sanders

Margot Sanders
President - Australian Commonwealth Council
of The Mothers' Union
July 1983

AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP, FEDERAL CONFERENCE
OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST.

Christian Women's Fellowship aims to develop a deeper understanding of Christ's love and salvation for ourselves and others; and to provide channels of service to the Church, the community and the world.

It operates at State level, Federal level and World level, and it aims to co-ordinate women's work at each of these levels.

We support the different departments of mission and education. These cover Overseas Missions, Home Missions, Aboriginal Missions, Christian Education, Social Welfare, Hospitals and Hospital Chaplaincy. We are also involved in work with Homes for the Aged, Children's Homes and Hostels, Play-groups and Friendship Centres. Women's camps and study days are also held to provide further avenues for fellowship and study.

The present Federal Executive is resident in Perth, Western Australia and the officers are:

President: Mrs. Norma Ellement, Vice-President: Mrs.
Secretary: Mrs. Betty McIlwraith, Joyce Bolton
Treasurer: Mrs. Mae Smyth, Ass. Secretary: Mrs. Pat Beard
Editress: Mrs. Elsie Taylor, Members: Mrs. Elma Ewers
and Mrs. Vi. Pallot.

The theme for the Conference to be held in Perth, Western Australia in October, 1984 is -

"That they may have Life" John 10:10.

The World Convention of Churches of Christ is to be held in Jamaica in 1984.

The women of Churches of Christ in Australia were represented at the National Meetings in Hobart by Past-President Mrs. Margaret Pollard and Mrs. Gwenda Burt of Tasmania. In most States and at Federal level some executive positions are filled by women of our churches.

Mrs. Helen Morrow (South Australia) who was visiting the United States at the time, was our representative at the International Christian Women's Quadrennial Assembly at Purdue University, La Fayette, Indiana, from June 21-25, 1982, when the theme was "Hope for the Journey".

It is the sincere wish of Christian Women's Fellowship members all round the world that the Holy Spirit will guide us in many channels of service - that we will be known as women who care and share with others - that loving concern is fundamental in our groups, and our prayer is that the love of God will make us more caring - the grace of Jesus make us more gracious, and that the fellowship of the Holy Spirit will permeate in our hearts and in our groups.

Betty McIlwraith
Secretary.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE, AUSTRALIA

Greetings to the Australian Church Women from Catholic Women's League, Australia. May the Lord send you many blessings and the Holy Spirit guide you in your deliberations.

At the beginning of the past two year period, the National Conference of C.W.L.A. was held in Hobart, Tasmania with the Theme " Marriage and the Family - The Cornerstone of Society." This was attended by 600 members. National Office passed from Tasmania to the Northern Territory in April 1982. This was very exciting for us as it was the first time Northern Territory had held National Office. Presently membership of C.W.L.A is approximately 19,000.

All branches have a strong spiritual base for their activities with prayers and Bible Study an integral part of Branch meetings. Members all participate in works such as visiting the sick, the lonely, the bereaved, assisting Red Cross with Meals on Wheels, in the Women's Refuges, the resettlement programmes for Refugees, and many other aspects of community work.

Good participation in ecumenical activities such as Women's World Day of Prayer, Fellowship Day and World Community Day as well as other local programmes has been reported by all affiliates of C.W.L.A.

One of my first duties as National President was to attend the Asian-Pacific Regional Conference of World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations, (W.U.C.W.O.), held in Jakarta, Indonesia in June 1982. A delegation of seven attended from Australia. Twelve countries participated with many papers being presented. One of the seven papers was on Ecumenism. "How delightful it is for all to live like brothers and sisters" given by Marianne Katoppo, Master of Divinity, belonging to the Presbyterian Church, with an introductory speech by Sister Rosemary Huber, (a religious belonging to the Maryknoll Congregation). Sister Rosemary Huber based her speech on the Church Document "Decree on Ecumenism (Vatican Council II)". An important point in this document is the suggestion that "ecumenical dialogue starts with discussion concerning application of the gospel to moral questions."

Marianne Katoppo stated that Christian Unity is not an abstract thing but a living process in which living human beings are involved. She went on to say that gatherings like this Regional Conference are also a form of Christian Unity. Dark pages in Church history were the result of ignorance and intolerance. The important thing is that one does not try to prove that one is right, but rather that one tries to show the love that one feels for one another.

This Conference was a fore runner to the General Assembly of W.U.C.W.O. which is being held in Antigonish, Nova Scotia, Canada in June, 1983. The theme is "Women: Identity - Development - New Community". The Australian delegation is about ten.

C.W.L.A. is holding the 31st Biennial Conference in July, 1983. Our theme "A Loving Community - Embracing All Creeds and Colours" gives us great incentive to foster unity between us all - be it religious or racial. We have prayed for it's success and hope that the challenges extended will be met.

The Australian Council of Churches organised a local Conference here in Darwin in May, 1983, during Unity Week for the local Church Ministers to participate and an invitation was extended to me to attend. I found this most stimulating and I was deeply honoured to be asked.

We thank God for the devotion and dedication manifested through members of A.C.W. and are grateful to our members who are active in it's work.

Judith Cooper

National President C.W.L.A.

AUSTRALIAN BAPTIST WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

"With unflagging energy, in ardour of spirit, serve the Lord. Let hope keep you joyful; in trouble stand firm, persist in prayer." Romans 12:11-12 NEB.

This exhortation from St. Paul on the front page of our prayer leaflet this year, typifies the work of our Baptist women around Australia. The prayer leaflet encompasses the work of all our States, giving requests for prayer needs, specifically, and for the wider work of our Church and Mission, and is used by all women for a prayer day in May. And in fact gives a comprehensive coverage of the work which the women do, in caring for Aged, infirm, families in crisis, Ethnic people, young people at risk, as well as the work of the Church through Theological Colleges and Missionary outreach.

We are linked too with the Baptist Women's Union of the South West Pacific, and will meet with the delegates in the 3rd Assembly at Christchurch, N.Z., from 22nd to 26th August, 1983. Our world leaders, Kirsten Ruden of Sweden and Judy Clanton of U.S.A. will meet with delegates from Irian Jaya, Papua New Guinea, as well as New Zealand and Australia.

During the past two years, the members of our Fellowships throughout the Commonwealth have been discussing the special problems associated with our day and age of the need for encouraging younger women to take their place in church work at the local level and also at State level. At our Council meeting, with representatives from all States, attending, in August last year, here at Whitley, we exchanged ideas on this very pressing issue in our Church work. The changing pattern of living, with the "working wife" makes it vital that we come to terms with this new element and gear our women's work accordingly. Now, we are receiving such reports as this one from N.S.W.: 'We have been encouraged by the number of young women who have been attending functions arranged by the State Council and find their enthusiasm a cause for praise'.

The Leadership Training Course is one of the few direct undertakings of this Federal body, as we are a co-ordinating Council, rather than an instigator of projects for the States. This Course, recently revised, is in three stages and is by correspondence. Students from the various States are assigned on enrolment to Tutors, who as a general rule live in another State, so that neither student or tutor have a prior knowledge of each other. The course is so constructed that it leads the student by way of study and assignments, through simple Bible study to the position where she becomes knowledgeable enough to lead meetings, and feel confident in speaking in front of other people. The benefits from such training are now showing out around the States, as many women, mostly of a younger age, are able to take their place as office holders. We are grateful to our Lord for this most excellent way that He has shown us, which is now ensuring a continuity of leadership in our women's work.

So our women continue with their work of serving their Master in many ways, loving Him, His work, and His people, with unflagging energy.

Ruth Codner
Secretary.

THE SALVATION ARMY - EASTERN TERRITORY

The women of The Salvation Army have an active ministry as varied almost as the facets of a diamond ... From top administrative positions, ministry in corps (church leadership), training college teaching ... managers and matrons of institutions ... and a variety of local corps leadership and other active involvement levels as vastly different as teaching a Sunday School class; playing a timbrel or a brass instrument; or singing in the songsters, to sorting the jumble or serving the "Army cup of tea".

Women take their place with the men of the Army. This has been so since Catherine Booth opened the door for the Ministry of Women.

During the years in review thirteen Australian women were and are serving in missionary lands as well as a goodly number in Papua New Guinea (which, for our records, is part of the Australia Eastern Territory).

Social Services.

Extensions to the facilities for the care of aged persons; new child-care accommodation in both city and country areas; shelters for the care of women and children in crisis; as well as a continuing ministry in rehabilitation of alcoholic and drug dependents gives added involvement for professional counselling and practical Christian caring.

Of recent years the H.I.D. programme (Households in Distress) has been a most useful avenue for shared pastoral caring. Seminars involving professional tutors are held on a continuing basis so that trained visitors can make necessary visits to homes and give personal support or refer, where necessary, to the appropriate source of help.

The Home League is not a club, but women with a purpose who meet weekly (and in a few places fortnightly or monthly). Their aim is high - "Christ in the home in every land". The programme is fourfold - Worship ... Service ... Education ... Fellowship.

The scope of these meetings is as wide as the imagination and ability of the christian women who lead. Groups, small or large, are found wherever there is a Salvation Army corps - maybe even two or three.

In 1981, the Home League celebrated 70 years of home leaguering in Australia.

Some of the results of the past two years is proof that the Women's Home League is still meeting needs today -

212 decisions for Jesus Christ
222 new Soldiers or Adherents
378 new families linked with corps
389 children of members gained for the Y.P. Corps

There is a spiritual glow of enthusiasm about the work of the Home League throughout the Territory.

New groups are often started as a result of a woman moving into a new district where there is no league and sets about to start one. This has happened.

Fund raising for Territory Projects such as "Boroko Vocational Training Centre" - \$33,454.00. Furnishings for Families" - \$45,300 for Zimbabwe and countless other local corps and international appeals were responded to.

Home League Camps (both Territorial and Divisional) were held, with profit for all. A new venture was made by one corps which held its own young mothers with children camp .. for a week!

An Outer Circle circular letter keeps "touch" with 1000 homes every month.

THE SALVATION ARMY - EASTERN TERRITORY (Contd.)

The League of Mercy has something like 600 women members who regularly conduct a visitation ministry at hospitals, nursing homes, institutions - helping with Meals on Wheels - doing washing - counselling mothers not coping with children - organising bus trips for aged and retarded people.

Regular seminars have been held and Leadership Training Courses taken. New leaflets, hand-outs, prepared Christmas gifts, etc., are all part of the ministry. This work of the women is supported by bands, singing companies, life-saving sections and women of the Home League.

The S.A.N.F. is a ministry to Christian women in the nursing and medical professions. In the city a bi-monthly meeting is held and a bi-monthly letter sent. This is a great encouragement. An annual dinner is held and a Christmas activity to others. Counselling is always available to those in need.

Youth

A tri-territorial youth convention held in Sydney attracted more than 800 delegates from both Australian territories and from New Zealand. Women shared in all the planning and implementation of this venture.

The Fourfold Fellowship has come into being in the last four years. Women who have been members of the Life-Saving Movement (during 60 years) can belong. They are a group who are banded together for fellowship, and have a great ministry of encouragement to the present day leaders and girls.

The woman Salvationist can wear many 'hats' as suggested, but the heart of the true Salvationist woman is first directed to God in worship and prayer and then outward to others in service.

Amy A. Orsborn

Mrs. Commissioner

Territorial President of Women's Organisations.

THE SALVATION ARMY - SOUTHERN TERRITORY

The Southern Territory with headquarters in Melbourne welcomed their first woman leader. Commissioner Eva Burrows, a native Australian, came here from Scotland to be the Territorial Commander in October 1982. Under her leadership, women continue to have a very important role.

The Women's Home Leagues and Fellowships have been actively engaged in spiritual and community service during the past two years. Special emphasis has been given to the commencement of Bible Study and Prayer groups of which there are now 82 and 41 respectively associated with the Home League.

Many women have shared in camps where a variety of activities have been enjoyed. These included conferences, Bible studies, handicraft instruction, prayer groups, outings etc. One group of country women who were in desperate situations were taken, with their children, to a camp center for one week. During this time qualified persons interviewed and advised, among them a home-economist, a dietician, and a social worker. The 24 ladies knew little of the Christian gospel, but seeing Christianity at work, began making enquiries. A program of follow-up is being maintained.

Christian books have been purchased and donated to local libraries. A young mother came to know the Lord through reading these books.

THE SALVATION ARMY - SOUTHERN TERRITORY (Contd.)

Nearly \$40,000 was raised during 1982 through the Helping Hand Fetes which is used to support our missionaries. The Women's Leadership Training course continues with good participation throughout the territory. A special 'Family Week-end' is held at every Salvation Army Corps during the year when family gatherings are planned and women's Church Parades are encouraged. Several women were given community service awards for their dedicated work in local areas.

The women have played a very important part in emergency service during the recent bush fire disasters. Many hours have been spent in counselling and meeting material needs, at a time when the world seemed to fall apart for so many people.

A little known service is the search for missing persons. Initially the Missing Persons Bureau was asked to trace loved ones who had come from other countries, leaving family members behind who lost contact with them. In more recent years enquiries have centered around families that have been broken because of divorce and the children, now adults, are looking for a parent and other brothers and sisters. During the past year, from May 1982 to April 1983, 260 persons were located which is 38% of the enquiries.

Through the League of Mercy a continuing, co-ordinated program of hospital, nursing home, and home-bound visitation of the sick, needy and lonely is carried on. Families who are interstate or in the country make contact with the League of Mercy office on behalf of relatives who have been hospitalized and are without visitors. This request is met and someone does visit. When a new nursing home was erected on the site of an old one which was regularly visited for many years by a League of Mercy worker, her name was included on the plaque as an expression of appreciation for her faithfulness.

Of the 80 cadets now in full-time training for Salvation Army officership in this territory there are 46 women. Half of this number are married. In January a number of these women will be ordained and commissioned as full-time officers. They will be appointed to do pastoral and social work in many places across the territory. One young woman cadet is a Vietnamese who was among the boat people refugees. She has given her life for full-time Christian service in The Salvation Army.

Ivy M. Roberts
Mrs. Colonel
Vice-President of Women's Organizations.

THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA
National Committee for Adult Fellowship Groups

Women's activities in the Uniting Church in Australia during the last two years have been many and varied. Each of the seven Synod areas (equivalent to the states except that the Northern Synod takes in the north of Western Australia as well as the Northern Territory) has its own pattern of linking local, parish and presbytery groups and organisations. In New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania, and since October 1982, Western Australia, there is a Uniting Church Fellowship which links women's, men's and mixed fellowship groups in various ways. South Australia has a Synod Committee for Fellowships with a similar function, while Queensland Uniting Church women are linked through the Division of Women's Services within the Synod Department of Parish Services. Because of its sparse population and huge distances the Northern Synod has no central organization for fellowships, but through its Board of Education for Ministry, Betty Vawser has been asked to keep in touch with groups and encourage wider fellowship. Recently Betty and her husband Nevin have moved from Darwin to the Kimberley presbytery where they will work as co-ordinators.

Throughout the Uniting Church there are many groups meeting in congregations and parishes for a wide variety of reasons and to meet differing needs. These include fellowship, Bible study, prayer, mission support, fund-raising, craft and recreation, and incorporate education, personal growth, and Christian witness and outreach. There are also area meetings in most of the fifty-four presbyteries, which range in size from compact city ones to vast tracts of the inland and the north.

In May 1982 a Consultation of representatives from each Synod area requested the formation of a National Committee for Adult Fellowship Groups (under the Assembly Council of Christian Education) to link Synod groups, promote Australia-wide fellowship, share concerns, and provide a link with international fellowship bodies. In its infancy this National Committee, based initially in Queensland until 1985, and with Corresponding Members from each other Synod area, is still feeling its way and gathering news and information.

Concerns shared during 1982-3 have been for those affected by drought, recession, unemployment, bushfires, floods and cyclones, for ministry to families through education, all-age activities, marriage preparation and enrichment, and for world peace.

Many women are increasingly involved as Elders and as members of the councils and boards of the church, a new experience for some, and there are more women being trained and ordained as Ministers of the Word and Deaconesses. Lilian Wells and Ethel Mitchell have served as Synod Moderators and women are holding executive positions in presbyteries. Times of meetings and lack of experience and opportunity are barriers to having a higher number of women serving on boards, committees and councils. The regulation asking that there should be a significant proportion of women on such bodies during the first six years of the Uniting Church has run its course. A study is being conducted by Marie Tulip in New South Wales to assess the current situation in the U.C.A. as a result of this regulation.

About seventy-five women from throughout the Uniting Church in Australia will meet in Melbourne in February 1984 as members of the South Pacific Seminar of the World Federation of Methodist Women. Consultation for delegates from each Synod fellowship group is being planned for the time of the next Australian Assembly of the Uniting Church in 1985. Uniting Church women send greetings of love, joy, and peace in Christ to Australian Church Women meeting in Melbourne, 1983.

AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES
REPORT TO AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

"Life in its Fullness" was the theme chosen for the A.C.C. General Meeting in Brisbane, July 1982. The General Meeting is the policy-making body of the Council and sets the agenda for the ensuing two years.

A highlight of the meeting was the decision to re-establish the Commission on Faith & Order. With strong representation from all member churches and the Lutheran and Roman Catholic churches, this Commission is studying and promoting the WCC text on "Baptism, Eucharist and Ministry". This is the historic document agreed to by a widely representative group of Christian churches- Roman Catholic, Orthodox, Protestant, Pentecostal, Anglican, etc. - at Lima in January 1982. It has now been sent to all member churches in each country for official responses. The ACC will be producing a guide to assist this process at local level.

In April 1982 the ACC organised a visit from the Australian churches to China at the invitation of the China Christian Council. It was a great privilege to share in worship and witness with Chinese Christians. We look forward to a return visit of Chinese Christians to Australia in March 1984. A Report is available from the ACC.

The Family, Today & Tomorrow was the theme of a conference organised by the ACC Commission on Education. Over 100 people gathered in Melbourne to look at many aspects of family life including Biblical Models of Family, The Changing Face of Australian Families, and The Government, Church & Families.

The Aboriginal Advisory Group advises the ACC Executive on Aboriginal affairs and administers the only substantial fund controlled by Aborigines themselves. With interest from the Roman Catholic agencies, we have been able to widen the scope of this Advisory Group. The present Chairperson is Mr. Kevin Cook. We would encourage you to enquire about projects given valuable support in this way and suggest your groups consider offering financial assistance.

In December this year the ACC will host a Conference on Faith, Science & Technology: 1984 and Beyond. This will bring together theologians, scientists, trade unionists, students, etc. to discuss this important topic.

Two hundred women attended a Migrant & Refugee Women's Speak-out in Sydney in March, 1982. Eleven languages were used in the presentations and discussions. The Speak-out highlighted many problems faced by migrant women workers, including such matters as health, compensation, industrial safety, sexual harassment, family problems and language difficulties.

The ACC continues its work in aid and development on behalf of the churches through its World Christian Action program. We thank all those who give through the Christmas Bowl Appeal and Force 10. A detailed balance sheet of expenditure of funds in 1982 is available. New guidelines for priorities have been developed based on the concept of partnership. Giving is much more than money. The sharing and experience from this involvement has enriched the Australian churches as well as offering hope to millions in need. One World Week each year focusses on international peace and justice.

The sense of our belonging to a worldwide Christian community was brought home to the ACC following the bushfires in Victoria and South Australia earlier this year. Expressions of prayerful and financial support were received from churches in Tonga,

AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES (Contd.)

Canada, U.S.A., Scotland, England, Hong Kong and Thailand.

In July-August this year the Sixth Assembly of the World Council of Churches will be held in Vancouver. Over 1000 delegates and many visitors and observers will meet with the theme "Jesus Christ, the Life of the World". Many groups around Australia have been using the preparatory Bible Studies. Background Biblical and theological books are available from the ACC, which will organise followup programmes in the churches when delegates return to Australia. A Youth Conference is planned from August 26 to September 2, 1983.

The ACC was invited as an observer to the National Economic Summit Conference in April this year. A statement was prepared to be sent out with all the material for the Conference, representing the hopes of the churches for a just, participatory and sustainable society in Australia. The ACC and its member churches are working with the Catholic Commission for Justice & Peace on a joint Social Justice Statement for Social Justice Sunday in September this year. The ACC and Catholic Commission for Justice & Peace co-convened a consultation on The Power of Hope: Peacemaking Confronts the Nuclear Evil in Canberra, August, 1982.

Human rights, religious freedom, oppression of minority groups continue to be ACC priorities. Mission boards work co-operatively through the Commission on Mission. The Commission on Community Relations has organised seminars in this important area.

The ACC operates under severe financial constraints for its general budget. We would welcome assistance from Australian Church Women in promoting the Christians One support program and the distribution of "In Unity".

The ACC has experienced a number of staff changes during the past twelve months. Thelma Skiller, Finance & Administration Officer, now works for the World Council of Churches in Geneva; Russell Rollason, Information Officer, has been appointed Executive Director of the Australian Council for Overseas Aid. Both had served with the ACC for over 9 years. The Rev. Ron O'Grady is now the Director of World Christian Action and Margie Cook has been appointed Information Officer. Both bring considerable experience and expertise to these positions.

It has been good that Australian Church Women have been represented at Executive meetings of the ACC and at the General Meeting. We look forward to this continued association going back now over many years and providing mutual enrichment.

Jean Skuse

General Secretary.

May 31, 1983.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER REPORT - August 1981 - August 1983.

It is with great JOY and THANKFULNESS to God, that I offer this report on Women's World Day of Prayer - JOY, because this ever-growing movement reaches beyond barriers of race, culture and tradition toward people of 175 countries. It reaches out in love, understanding, fellowship and prayer, affirming our "oneness" through faith in God; and THANKFULNESS to God for his blessings and guidance and the availability of his boundless resources.

World Day of Prayer International

1987 marks the centenary of the World Day of Prayer movement. It is hoped that a thousand women from all over the world will assemble in U.S.A. to celebrate this occasion. World President, Mrs. Margaret Williams of Scotland, will lead the celebrations.

It was my very real privilege to represent W.D.P. Australia at the International Quadrennial Meetings in Tutzing, Germany, last year. During ten days of conference, representatives shared in deliberations related to administration at international level, preparation and planning for the next four years. Women from 67 countries attended and one was increasingly aware of the scope and strength of the W.D.P. movement in the world. It was pleasing to note the appointment, for the first time, of a Roman Catholic member to the new International Committee; the new appointee, Mary Breslin, is a young mother from Ireland.

World Day of Prayer Australia

From small beginnings in each State in 1927, the movement has progressed to an Australian attendance of over 200,000 men and women at the annual service on the first Friday in March. Offerings of over \$90,000 are disbursed to many beneficiaries. Reports presented at the February 1982 Australian Quadrennial Meeting in Sydney showed W.D.P. to be a vital movement in all States.

Australia accepted the invitation to prepare the 1985 Order of Service and its associated assignments on the selected theme, "Choose Life", and each State is currently working on a particular segment of this.

World Day of Prayer Local

It is at this level that the movement as a whole "fitly joins together". Local groups generate enthusiasm, tolerance, and blessing as well as appreciation and fulfilment of W.D.P. ideals and purposes. In many areas, creativity and initiative at local group level help to highlight the cultural background and tradition of the country which produced the particular year's service.

Use of BIBLE STUDIES prepared by each country to complement and broaden appreciation of the selected theme, is increasing annually.

Conclusion

It is fitting that tribute be paid to the many ladies, past and present, who undertake the work necessary to maintain the W.D.P. movement at its present vital level thus ensuring that its purpose is fulfilled to the glory of God.

Dorothy Armstrong
National Liaison Officer.

ASIAN CHURCH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Asian Church Women's Conference forms a network which links sixteen Asian countries and so provides an avenue whereby women from differing denominations and countries can share their concern regarding important issues of the present era and attempts to give guidelines for co-ordinated action. It has been in existence for 25 years. A.C.W.C. is closely linked with the Christian Conference of Asia and maintains fraternal relationships with regional ecumenical women's organisations and with women's organisations of world confessional bodies.

COUNTRIES - Australia, Bangladesh, Burma, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Singapore, Thailand, New Zealand, Taiwan.

The main thrust of action has been for the enhancement of the status of women, the empowerment of rural women, and a concern that theologically trained women are able to take their place in the life and mission of the church.

The Asian Church Woman is the official publication and serves as an exchange for information, reports, guidelines for action and an inspirational source.

A.C.W.C. comes together for an Assembly every four years and in the interim its work is carried forward by an Executive Secretary and an Executive Committee which meets annually.

During the 25 years of existence, Mrs. Shanti Solomon, has been Executive Secretary, a source of inspiration as she has struggled to plan patterns of growth and organisation. She has always felt this task was a call from God and now as she hands over to Mrs. Eunice Kim (Korea) she feels confident that A.C.W.C. will be led by the Holy Spirit to continue to seek new ways, new patterns of service to achieve its purpose.

The Seventh Assembly was held in Bali, October, 1983 with the theme "Co-workers in Christ for Renewal". The many excellent speakers included Dr. Mastra, Moderator Balinese Christian Church, Dr. Ihromi Simatupang (keynote speaker), Mrs. L. Sutanto, Associate Minister for Women's Affairs, Indonesian Government and Dr. Chang Sang, Bible Study leader.

Ten Australians were present -

Mrs. Rachel Cocks, Executive Member and retiring National Representative. Mrs. Olive Ackland, National Representative 1982/86, Executive Member. Captain Lynette Green, Voting Delegate. Mrs. Vera Wilson, Mrs. Di Johnson, Mrs. Bernice Mason, Non-Voting Delegates. Mrs. Barbara Grearly, Mrs. Marie McCann, Mrs. Jan Easter, Observers. Mrs. Dorothy McMahon, Leader of the Commission on Peace - Strategies and Resources.

The Bible Study led by Dr. Chang Sang challenged us to rethink and examine interpretations of the Bible in relation to how this has influenced social and cultural patterns which determine the status of women.

The Constitution has been re-drafted and changes were ratified.

Elections were held and the new officers for 1982/86 are:

President - Mrs. Boonmee Julkiree, Thailand
Vice-President - Mrs. Shirin Samuel, Pakistan
Assembly Secretary - Mrs. Eva Findlay, New Zealand
Treasurer - Mrs. Phyllis Wee, Singapore
Members - Mrs. Olive Ackland, Australia
 Mrs. Maya Michael, India
 Mrs. Gloriosa Rajendran, Malaysia

There is need for strong financial support from member countries now that A.C.W.C. moves away from full support by the Fellowship of the Least Coin.

ASIAN CHURCH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE (Contd)

Leadership Training - Workshops have been held in Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Korea, Malaysia and India, and a Leadership Manual has been produced.
Leadership Training planned - Northern Australia, Japan and Bangladesh.

Team Visit - Pakistan was well planned and involved many people and proved to be a way of promoting A.C.W.C.

- Japanese delegates will visit Korea in 1983.

Theologically Trained Women - Associations have been formed in Korea, Philippines and India.

1983 Seminars planned - Philippines, India.

Silver Jubilee of A.C.W.C. All member countries are urged to arrange some celebration to mark this year - a service has been prepared by Malaysia - the theme "Co-Workers in Christ for Renewal".

ASSEMBLY STATEMENT

"When anyone is joined to Christ, he is a new being. The old is gone, the new has come". II Cor. 5:17

We, the delegates of Asian Church Women's Conference during our 7th Assembly held at Bali, Indonesia from October 15 - 20, 1982 were challenged by the theme "Co-Workers in Christ for Renewal". Theological explorations and biblical reflections undergirded the theme which spoke clearly to the burning issues of our day: many international guests and many observers participated in celebration and affirmed the significance of our discussions. We acknowledged the exploitation and dehumanization of people, the continual threat of a total holocaust if world powers were to increase their nuclear arms, the hunger and poverty that saps our people's strength, the cry for peace and social justice, and the longing for people to stand and be counted because they have self-respect, worth and dignity.

The theme was approached through the perspective of
(a) Social Renewal (b) Renewal for Peace (c) Spiritual Renewal (d) International Solidarity.

Social renewal addressed itself to the issues of prostitution and tourism, empowerment of rural women and consumerism. Renewal for peace considered (a) Education, Resources and Strategies for Peace, and (b) Disarmament and Nuclear Power. All Commissions dealt with contemporary and critical social concerns.

In our discussions, we recognised that prostitution is a world-wide problem and is on the increase as a result of international tourism, the presence of military bases, and aggravated by economic imbalances due to poverty and unemployment. We saw moral degradation that is the effect of using sex as a commodity and as an object for pleasure.

The conditions of rural women we found are appalling. They are tied down by tradition, age-old customs that enslave them, and a society that keeps them ignorant and deprived - while they may appear to be simple, sweet and beautiful, they lack confidence and awareness of what is happening around them and the skills to transcend above them. We, therefore, realised the need to empower them, so they too can stand with worth and dignity and be self-reliant.

Olive Ackland
National Representative.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

Appreciation of Mrs. Rachel Cocks

Resolution from the National Working Committee:

THAT the National Committee of Australian Church Women meeting in Melbourne, Victoria, 16 - 19 August, 1983, recognises the splendid manner in which Mrs. Rachel Horn Cocks has discharged her responsibilities as representative of Australian Church Women to the Asian Church Women's Conference 1974-1982 and the valuable contribution she has made as a member of the Executive of that Conference 1978-1982. This National Committee records its deep appreciation of her loving service.

A.C.W.C.

From National Working Committee:

Motion - THAT each State have some special service of their own for 25th Anniversary of A.C.W.C.

Recommendation - THAT the National Working Committee shall be responsible for the stationery, postage and telephone expenses of the national representative to A.C.W.C.

Guidelines for election of representatives to A.C.W.C. as outlined at National Committee Meeting in Perth, 1977:

1. A person who has not attended an international or regional ecumenical conference should be given a chance.
2. Delegates shall be chosen by rotation of denominations.
3. Where there is more than one delegate, one should be 35 years of age or below.
4. \$200 is the cost of participation for delegates.
5. All voting members are expected to be present for the whole assembly proceedings.
6. The whole proceedings shall be in English.
7. All observers shall be responsible for their expenses.
8. Hospitality expenses shall be provided for Assembly guests.

F. L. C. Discussion about a special F.L.C. Day Service. Whether States have a special service or whether it is held at the same time as Community Day. Should the name then be changed to FLC Day.

Winifred Kiek Travelling Fellow: Discussion and evaluation of the benefits of the travelling fellow to Australian Church Women.

AMENDMENTS TO NOTICES OF MOTION

From West Australia

Amendment to the South Australian Unit Notice of Motion to amend the Constitution -

4. NATIONAL COMMITTEE

New Clause (g) Appointments

Appointments of representatives and delegates to other bodies (e.g. A.C.W.C., Council of Churches etc.) shall be by ballot at National Committee Meeting, from nominations received six weeks prior to the National Committee Meetings.

Amendment to add "and may not be taken from the floor".

Any member in good standing in any denomination affiliated to a State Unit of A.C.W. may be nominated for any such position.

From the National Working Committee

Amendment to the South Australian Unit Notice of Motion to set up a committee to prepare a new Constitution -

THAT a committee of five members be set up to prepare a new Constitution for A.C.W. etc.

instead of the words "to prepare a new Constitution for A.C.W." substitute the words "to revise the Constitution for A.C.W."

APPOINTMENTS

The following are the nominees for representatives of Australian Church Women to the Australian Council of Churches:

Dougherty Mrs. Win - Representative of A.C.W. on Australian Council of Churches Executive.

Past National President of A.C.W., Life Member of N.S.W. Unit.

Vice-chairman N.S.W. Christian Television. President C.T.A. Women's Auxiliary.

Member U.C. Board of Education Sub-Committee on Continuing Education for Ministers.

Nominated as representative.

Walker, Mrs. Elizabeth - Married to Edmund, General Secretary Board of Finance and Property, Uniting Church in N.S.W. Mother of 3 teenage children.

Formerly primary school teacher, pre-school director.

For a time employed in computer software management.

Previously Sunday School Superintendent, President Ladies' Guild.

Representative to N.S.W. Council for Christian Education in schools.

Currently, Parish Elder. Parish Councillor, Convener Parish Mission Committee. Interviewer for Christian Television

Representative of Uniting Church and Treasurer A.C.W. N.S.W. State Unit.

Nominated as alternate representative.

APPOINTMENTS

The following are the nominees for the incoming Working Committee. Individual profiles appear below:

President	Mrs. Lena Meadows	Presbyterian
Vice-Presidents	Mrs. Val Clarke Mrs. Mary Carroll	Anglican
Secretary	Mrs. Sheela Turner	Anglican
Treasurer	Mrs. Ailsa Skippen	Anglican
Conveners :-		
F.L.C.	Mrs. Ina Collard	Uniting Church
W.K.S.	Mrs. Mollie-Jean Hunt	
Special Days	Mrs. Maj. Averil Whybird	Salvation Army
Women at Work	Miss Helen Trudgian	Churches of Christ

Lena Meadows

Chairman Social Service (Division Aged and Family Welfare) Presbyterian Church Queensland
Convener F.L.C. - A.C.W. Queensland.

Val Clarke

Representative for The Mothers' Union.
Diocesan Vice President - The Mothers' Union.
President Queensland Women's World Day of Prayer.
President Queensland Unit Australian Church Women.

Sheela Turner

Delegate to A.C.W. from The Mothers' Union Diocese of Brisbane.
Immediate Past Diocesan President of The Mothers' Union.
Previously Diocesan Secretary.

Ailsa Skippen

Representative for The Girls' Friendly Society at A.C.W. Queensland.
Vice-Chairman for G.F.S.
Chairman of G.F.S. Townsend Fellowship.

Helen Trudgian

Member of Churches of Christ. Church Board member.
President of Christian Women's Fellowship.
1982 President of State Christian Women's Fellowship.
Served on State Committees of Churches of Christ.
Member of Kenmore Christian College Board.
Hon. Registrar and part-time lecturer at Kenmore Christian College.
Retired Senior Lecturer in Education at Kelvin Grove CAE.

NOTICES OF MOTION

From the South Australian Unit Notice of Motion to amend the Constitution as follows:-

4. NATIONAL COMMITTEE

New Clause (g) Appointments

Appointments of representatives and delegates to other bodies (e.g. A.C.W.C., Council of Churches etc.) shall be by ballot at National Committee Meeting, from nominations received six weeks prior to the National Committee Meetings. Any member in good standing in any denomination affiliated to a State Unit of A.C.W. may be nominated for any such position.

6. FINANCE

New Clause (d) The National Committee shall appoint an accredited Accountant resident in the State of the Working Committee, to audit the accounts.

From the National Working Committee Notice of Motion to amend the Constitution as follows:-

4. NATIONAL COMMITTEE

(a) The words "National Committee" be changed to "National Conference" and wherever the words "National Committee" appear hereafter they shall be changed to "National Conference".

ii. The words "Working Committee" be changed to "National Executive" and wherever the words "Working Committee" appear hereafter they shall be changed to "National Executive".

From the South Australian Unit the following Notice of Motion:-

THAT a committee of five members be set up to prepare a new constitution for A.C.W., to submit to the National Committee at it's meeting in 1985. The time schedule to be:

First draft to all Units by June, 1984, to be returned to committee with comments and alterations by August 31st, 1984.

Second draft to all Units by October 1984, to be returned by December 1984, and final draft to all States by April 30th, 1985, for adoption at meeting in August (or whenever that meeting is held).

South Australia makes this suggestion because they feel that after eighteen years there are many things that need amending to suit our needs and that it is better to present a completely new Constitution incorporating sundry things that have become apparent over the years, rather than constantly amending a document that is not really suited to our present needs.

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

CONSTITUTION

1. NAME: AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN
2. AIMS:
 - To unite Australian Church Women in their allegiance to their Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ;
 - To promote co-operation of men and women in Church, family and society;
 - To help Christian women to take a more effective place in the total life and mission of the Church;
 - To provide opportunities for Christian women of different denominations to worship, study and serve together, and
 - To encourage fellowship and service across national boundaries.
3. RELATIONSHIPS:
 - (a) Through the Australian Council of Churches, Australian Church Women shall be linked with the World Council of Churches and with the regional conferences of churches in Asia, Africa and the Pacific.
 - (b) Australian Church Women shall be a member of the Asian Church Women's Conference.
4. NATIONAL COMMITTEE:
 - (a) The National Committee shall consist of:
 - i. Representatives:
 - (i) two from each unit of Australian Church Women in the Australian States and Territories;
 - (ii) one from each denomination participating in the Australian Council of Churches and such other denominations as shall be invited by the National Committee to attend;
 - (iii) one from the federal organisation of any special interest group which is granted representation by the National Committee;
 - (iv) two appointed by the Executive Committee of the Australian Council of Churches.
 - ii. the Working Committee, as set out in para.5 below.
 - (b) the National Committee shall meet biennially at a time and place to be determined by the National Committee on the recommendation of the Working Committee.
 - (c) The Working Committee shall prepare an Annual Report and audited Financial Statement which shall be circulated annually to all organisations having representation on the National Committee and to the Australian Council of Churches and shall be presented to the biennial National Committee Meeting for endorsement.
 - (d) At least half of the representatives under 4(a) i.(i) and (ii) together with half of the Working Committee shall constitute a quorum.
 - (e) Alternates may be appointed for all representatives to the National Committee.
 - (f) Observers and Consultants to be invited to National Committee meetings
 - i. Non-voting observers with privilege to speak:
 - (i) two from each unit of Australian

4. NATIONAL COMMITTEE: (contd.)

- Church Women in the Australian States and Territories;
- (ii) one from each denomination participating in the Australian Council of Churches and such other denominations as shall be invited by the Working Committee to attend;
 - (iii) one from the federal organisation of any special interest group which is granted representation by the National Committee;
 - (iv) up to ten Working Committee nominees from the new state or territory location.
- ii. Consultants with privilege to speak
 - (i) the Federal Liaison Officer, Women's World Day of Prayer;
 - (ii) the Australian Representative on the General Committee of the Asian Church Women's Conference;
 - (iii) any co-opted members of the Working Committee of Australian Church Women.
 - iii. Non-voting observers without privilege to speak
one from each State or Territory women's organisation of each denomination or special interest group in the State or Territory in which the National Committee meeting is held.

5. WORKING COMMITTEE

- (a) The Working Committee shall consist of ten members and the Australian representative to Asian Church Women's Conference in an ex officio capacity:
 - i. Officebearers of Australian Church Women
 - (i) a President
 - (ii) two Vice-Presidents
 - (iii) a Secretary
 - (iv) a Treasurer
 - ii. Five Committee members, one of whom shall be the Convener of the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Committee.
- (b) The ten members of the Working Committee shall all be
 - (i) Resident in one State or Territory;
 - (ii) Elected biennially by the National Committee.
- (c) The Working Committee shall have power to co-opt:
 - (i) Up to three members for special purposes;
 - (ii) Any members of the Planning and/or Working Committee of the Asian Church Women's Conference resident in the same State or Territory as the Working Committee of Australian Church Women. Such co-opted members shall not be eligible to vote, but shall be eligible to attend the National Committee Meeting as Consultants with privilege to speak.
- (d) The location of the Working Committee shall be determined by the National Committee and shall be changed to a different State or Territory every two years, and shall not be relocated in any one State or Territory until a period of four years has elapsed following the retirement of the previous Working Committee in that State or Territory.
- (e) The Working Committee shall be responsible to the National Committee for the implementation of the programme of Australian Church Women according to the directions of the National Committee and shall act as an Executive on behalf of the National Committee between its meetings.

5. WORKING COMMITTEE (Contd.)

- (f) A Statement of Accounts shall be presented to each meeting of the Working Committee.
- (g) In the event of a vacancy on the Working Committee occurring between National Committee meetings, the Working Committee shall appoint a replacement to fill such vacancy and shall within one month notify in writing those organisations having representation on the National Committee.

6. FINANCE

- (a) All monies received by the Treasurer shall be paid as determined each year by the National Committee or by postal ballot by all organisations having representation on the National Committee, on the recommendation of the Working Committee.
- (b) Signatories for all Bank accounts and investments shall be any two of the President, the Secretary and the Treasurer.
- (c) The Financial Year shall end on 30th June in each year.

7. AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

This Constitution may be amended by a vote of a two-thirds majority of the National Committee present and voting. Notice of Motion to amend the Constitution shall be forwarded in writing to the Secretary by any organisation having representation on the National Committee or by the Working Committee. All Constituent bodies shall be notified in writing of the proposed amendment not less than three months before the meeting of the National Committee at which the proposed amendment will be moved. Amendments shall be operative only upon ratification by the Australian Council of Churches.

8. DISSOLUTION:

In the event of the dissolution of Australian Church Women, its projects and trust funds shall be paid to the purposes designated and its administrative funds to the Australian Council of Churches.