

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN
MINUTES OF NATIONAL EXECUTIVE MEETING 21ST MARCH 2000
held in Koorong Bookstore Staff Room, 198 Waymouth Street, Adelaide

Welcome: President Marj Dredge opened the meeting at 9.35am and welcomed all present including a special welcome to Shirley Sampson, ACW News Editor.

Devotions: Marj had recently been to a Churches of Christ Ministers' retreat, where the focus was 'where the Church fits into the Post-modern World'. People have deep spiritual yearning, and are seeking spirituality in all sorts of places. Church does not seem to satisfy their needs. they can identify with the Jesus we know, but not the church we know. Our lives need to reflect Jesus in the church we know, and the world we know. In our organisation (ACW) we seem to be showing in our love and sharing what we know of Christ.

Present: M.Dredge, S.Birch, M.Clark, D.Chapman, M.Greenslade, M.Ellis, S.Sampson, B.Grealy.

Apologies for Absence: were received from L.Smith, M.Crawford, D.Ferrier. (In the absence of Marj Crawford (Min.Sec.) Shirley Birch recorded the Minutes.)

Minutes of Meeting 22nd February 2000: were confirmed after the following alterations:- Page 1:

Devotions - line 3 - 'excerpts' instead of 'excepts'.

Treasurer - line 3 Summary - should read 'Unit/NT Branches.'

Business Arising from Minutes:

1. NCCA Gender Relationships Meeting report: Elizabeth Walker (NSW) to forward report.
2. Web Site - See Other Business
3. Memorial Book & Life Member photos. D.Haensel offered to contact a number of women whose photos are needed.
4. Padma Ebenezer: Barbara Lacy wrote that Niroosha is now in her sister's flat. A note will be included in ACW News.
5. Special Days Convenor: Still no appointment.
6. WCD Service: almost ready to distribute. theme "New Beginnings, Bright Hope"
7. WCD Project: SA Unit's submission was the only one. Details will be sent to States & Branches for approval.

Correspondence: see separate page - to Correspondence IN add:

19. NSW Unit - corrections to National Conference Minutes.
20. Federal Court of Australia - changing Human Rights legislation - meeting 30th March, 4.30pm. Administration Appeals Tribunal House.
21. Leaflet re 'Understanding Discrimination Against Pregnancy'.
22. ACWC Report - Barbara Lacy.
23. Marj Dredge has been invited to attend a Convention Conference - "You and Your Future Opportunities" in Canberra 8-11th March 2001. ACW appears to be the only obvious Christian organisation on the list. Teleconference on Friday 30th March 2000.

Business Arising From Correspondence:

1. (4) NSW new Publicity Officer Mrs. Peg Blake, 22 Parkview Street, MIRANDA, NSW. 2228.
2. (6) Government Grant re website - (see Other Business)
3. (8) Motion 'that we send for 15 more copies. One to be sent to each Unit/Branch, and remainder for National Executive'. m.M.Greenslade/s.B.Grealy Carried.
4. (14) Women's History Search - Invitation from Centenary of Federation Dept.(Status of Women) to submit a story, secret or memoirs of a female ancestor, to be included in a book about Celebrating Australian Women throughout history.
5. (15) **New Address for Queensland President: Mrs. Daphne Featherstonhaugh, 1 Belford Drive, WELLINGTON POINT. QLD 4160 pH. (07) 3822 4909.**
6. (20) Marj Dredge will try to go. Lyn Smith (SA Unit Soc. Justice Convenor) to be invited to attend.

From Publications: Supplement Report on round Table. Maureen to write to Senator Jocelyn Newman inquiring as to the reason why we (ACW) were left off the list, in the light of the small attendance.

Treasurer's Report: (see Separate sheet) **Adopted:** m.D.Chapman/s.M.Ellis m.D.Chapman/s.S.Birch 'that payment of \$66.45 be paid to Secretary'. Carried.

Reports:

W.K.S.: (D.Ferrier) - Leaflets have been distributed to States and Branches.

F.L.C.: (M.Greenslade) - Esther Byu (ICFLC Executive Secretary) has written and also sent copies of "F.L.C. Moves and Touches", March 2000, together with a list of allocated Grants for 2000. This paper is very interesting, with messages from ICFLC Executive and this one has news that Circle of Prayer Vol. 15 is now available. Units are requested to submit orders **now**. The autobiography of Shanti Solomon was quoted as being out of print, but after receiving communication from the printers, ISPCCK (Indian Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge), who advised that by increasing the order from 50 to 100, we would receive them at a special price of \$A3.00 plus postage, the cost at Conference. The original price was \$US3.00 plus \$1.00 postage. I have increased the order, the books should sell, as there has been a lot of interest shown among FLC supporters. I am still waiting to receive orders from the Units for the FLC History Book. As yet, no applications for FLC Grants for 2001 have been submitted, although forms have been requested. **The applications must be in the hands of FLC National Convenor by 30th April.**

Social Justice: (Mavis Ellis) - Another letter has been received from Queensland Secretary advising they have not yet found a Social Justice Convenor. There has been no reply from the other 5 letters I sent, so I am at a loss to know what to do next. Perhaps another letter to say what I have been doing!! I attended the Forum on Partnerships Against Domestic Violence with Lyn Smith (SA Unit), who gave a detailed report to the Unit. (see end of this report). Since then, the Attorney General has introduced the possibility of gaol for a third offence. I also attended the monthly meeting of SA Council of Churches Social Questions Liaison Group. There is a rally on the steps of Parliament House at 12.01pm on 1st April re Jubilee 2000 Debt Forgiveness, and a meeting on Thursday 23rd March re the plight of the refugee boat people held in detention, neither of which I can attend.

(Precis-ed SA Unit Social Justice report for 10/3/2000 - Lyn Smith) - Speakers were Hon. Jocelyn Newman, SA Attorney General Trevor Griffin and SA Police Commissioner Mal Hyde. The emphasis is moving towards focussing on prevention rather than dealing with situations as and when they arise. More ways of doing this are being sought, and Relationships Australia is working hard in an endeavour to deal with the problems in a holistic manner. Religious leaders from 5 faiths gave their perspectives, stressing the importance of family unity and recognising the need for early intervention. The home should be the most sacred place - it is incumbent on us all to make that a reality. In his summation, Commissioner Hyde emphasised that domestic violence is a crime and as such should be reported wherever it is witnessed. Not to do so is tantamount to being an accessory. Violence is a learned behaviour created through many aspects, often an imbalance of power in relationships and changes in society. Crossing all cultures and creeds, help must be given by the community and its agencies if we are to stamp out this invidious blot on our society. Much has been done, but there is still a long way to go. Whilst some men are victims, it is women who are most affected, particularly those from non-English-speaking backgrounds, because they feel isolated, and also due to the subjectiveness of their up-bringing and traditions. When adults are affected, the children of the families often see it as an acceptable part of relationships. We have to teach them a better way of living as a family.

Newsletter Editor: (Shirley Sampson) - Lots of copy has come in, ready to be processed.

Deadlines = 17th of each other month - next one 17th MAY 2000. Email - saltbush@senet.com.au

A.C.W.C.: (Barbara Lacy) - Included up-date on Naroosha: Asking for Agenda items for ACWC Committee Meeting in Bangladesh - one question from Conference was 'the cost of ACWC Newsletter': Correspondence: 4 inward; various E-mails to Joan Tong re Naroosha, & to ACWC Executive Committee.

General Business:

1. Publications Editor: List of whom to send ACW News? Are all getting one?
2. Cost of printing ACW News: Shirley to ascertain cost, with colour, number, etc. from Printers.
3. Theme for Fellowship Day. Needing ideas (2001)
4. World March of Women: States would have Postcards regarding this - to be discussed at April National Meeting. Information in April/May ACW News. Website for Australia www.uq.net.au/march/2000
5. Conference Programme: Discussion of components needed, and suggestions for suitable venues for Special occasions.

Other Business:

1. Manifesto 2000: Mavis Ellis will send a copy to each Unit/Branch with her next letter.
2. Website: Investigation into possibility, answering Grant criteria, etc. 5 main questions to ask. **Would States please contact National Secretary** with comments, suggestions, etc.

Next Meeting/s: Tuesday 18th April, 2000, 10.00am Koorong Bookshop Staff Room. All Meetings in future will be held on Third Tuesday at 10.00am in Koorong Bookshop Staff Room.

Close: Marj closed the meeting with a prayer at 12.30pm

Signed

Date

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

Financial Report for month ending 29th February 2000

Balance 31-1-00			12,159.64
Receipts			
Sales - FLC Badges			<u>95.00</u>
			12,254.64
Payments			
Winifred Kiek Scholarship Leaflets		469.00	
ACW Newsletters		208.00	
Membership - Ecumenical Friends - NCC in Aust		60.00	
Petty Cash -			
Minute Secretary	54.85		
WKS Convenor	39.80		
Publications Editor	67.90		
ACWC Rep - B Lacy	50.00		
WKS Trust	191.95		
L Smith - Postage	<u>10.80</u>	415.30	
Term Deposit (maturing 23-8-00)		<u>6,000.00</u>	<u>7,152.30</u>
Balance 29-2-00			<u>5,102.34</u>

Balance cheque account as per bank statement	5,102.34
Total Term Deposits	<u>11,000.00</u>
Total Balance 29-2-00	<u>16,102.34</u>

DESIGNATED FUNDS SUMMARY

Administration	4,134.61
Fellowship of the Least Coin	33.00
National Conference Fund	9,132.63
Overseas Conference Fund	<u>2,802.10</u>
	<u>16,102.34</u>

CORRESPONDENCE:

Inwards:

- 22/2/00 1. ACW(SA Unit) minutes meeting 11/2/00
- 24/2/00 2. CWLA addresses of National Executive members
- 25/2/00 3. NCCA Network on Women and Gender Issues re meeting 8/3/00, Sydney
- 28/2/00 4. NSW Unit minutes of meetings 20/9/99 & 15/11/99 Peg Blake new Publicity Off.
- 29/2/00 5. ACW(SA Unit) proposal for WCD 2000 Project – Teen Challenge
- 1/3/00 6. Networking the Nation Information Kit
- 6/3/00 7. Draft WCD 2000 'New Beginnings Bright Hope'
- 6/3/00 8. NCCA 'Pilgrimage to the Heart' Updates 1&2 Biblical Reflections & Prayers Ecservice
- 8/3/00 9. ACW(WA Unit) minutes 11/2/00 meeting, number of copies of ACW News,
- 8/3/00 10. WA Unit info. for Community database, list of Office bearers
- 8/3/00 11. ACW(Vic Unit) address for recipient of ACW News-Mrs Joy Morley
- 9/3/00 12. Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation Draft National Strategies to Advance Reconciliation
- 9/3/00 13. Senator Jocelyn Newman information re International Women's Day
- 10/3/00 14. Senator Jocelyn Newman-Aust. Women's History Search, Govt. achievements for women
- 13/3/00 15. ACW(QLD Unit) Minutes meeting 22/11/99, Treasurer's report 20/11/99-24/2/00, change of address **President: Mrs Daphne Featherstonhaugh, 1 Belford Drive, WELLINGTON POINT QLD 4160 Ph. (07) 3822 4909**
- 14/3/00 16. ACW(ACT Unit) Annual report 1999/2000; Unit Directory
- 14/3/00 17. Edith Ridge(Archivist) corrections to 1999 National Conference Minutes
- 16/3/00 18. Phonecall - S. Wallis Vic Unit re item for ACW News

PUBLICATIONS

'In Unity' NCCA

'Partnerships' (against Domestic Violence)

Network Exchange Womens Services #3,#4 and

supplement report on Round Table meeting

Nungalinya News

Pan Pacific & SE Asia Women's Assoc. N/letter
Feb.2000

'footsteps' March 2000

CWL Canberra/Goulburn Newsletter

CWLA Newsletter March

Working Together 2000/1

Outwards

- 23/2/00 1. E. Ridge re Nat. Exec. To be placed on mailing list for 'Pilgrimage to the Heart' information
- 23/2/00 2. Nungalinya College Darwin acknowledging letter
- 23/2/00 3. N. Dickson, NSW Unit re change of address for receipt of 'Newsette'
- 23/2/00 4. Jess Horton WKS Trustee, excerpts from Nat. Conf. mins. confirming appointment of Trustees
- 23/2/00 5. Circular 2000/1 all Units re 'gift of love' for Padma and Niroosha Ebenezer
- 26/2/00 6. DAS Distribution change of address for National Executive
- 26/2/00 7. NCCA Network on Women & Gender Issues change of address for National Executive
- 26/2/00 8. NSW Unit re NCCA Network on Women & Gender Issues meeting 8/3/00