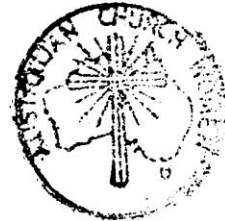


AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

MINUTES OF NATIONAL EXECUTIVE MEETING, 10am 18th APRIL 2000,
held in Koorong Bookstore Staff Room, 198 Waymouth Street, Adelaide



WELCOME President Mrs Marj Dredge welcomed all present at 10.00 am.

DEVOTIONS Marj Dredge spoke of the four significant people in John 20 - Mary Magdalene, John, Peter and Thomas and their pathways in coming to terms with the resurrection. No matter what the pathway is as we struggle with our faith Christ comes to us in our daily living. Prayer.

PRESENT Marj Dredge, Shirley Birch, Laurice Smith, Maureen Clark, Dorothy Chapman, Dorothy Ferrier, Mavis Ellis, Barbara Greely, Shirley Sampson and Marj Crawford.

APOLOGY Margaret Greenslade.

MINUTES of the meeting of 21/3/2000 were accepted and signed

BUSINESS ARISING from the Minutes

- 1 **NCCA Gender Relationships Meeting** - Secretary to phone Elizabeth Walker for report
- 2 **Web Site** - proposed set up & information given (needed in seeking Government grant).
- 3 **Memorial Book & Life Members photos** - some photos already received & others to come
- 4 **Special Days Convener** - awaiting confirmation of acceptance of nomination.
- 5 **World Community Day Order of Service** - will be mailed in May
- 6 **World Community Day 2000 Project** - will be 'Teen Challenge'.
- 7 **World March for Women** - information etc has gone to all Units/State Branches
- 8 **Federal Court of Australia Human Rights Briefing** conducted by Justice von Doussa (Chair), 3 members of the NSW Federal Court & the SA Registrar of the Federal Court in SA. Lyn Smith, Social Justice Convener, SA Unit attended & reported that they briefly explained the changes to the Human Rights jurisdiction and the new role of the Federal Court and gave detailed information of rules and procedures. The changes (came into force on 13 April 2000) were to effect a smoother transition of proceedings, especially for those involved in the legal profession.
- 9 **ACW News** - Shirley Sampson was congratulated on the latest issue - lesser cost for printing - best quote available. Postage to be reduced by mailing lesser weights per envelope for bulk lots.

CORRESPONDENCE - on separate sheet. Inwards received, Outwards endorsed.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE CORRESPONDENCE

- 1(8) NSW Unit's concern re gambling; m.Barbara Grealy, s.Dorothy Ferrier that a letter of support and congratulations be written to Nick Xenophon MLC in his continued stand against gambling, and a letter to congratulate Dean Brown, Minister for Human Services for his proposal to cap the number of poker machines - copies to be forwarded to Premier John Olson. **Agreed.** (The Conference enabled many people to express their concerns and experiences in this public arena.)
- 2(10) The Gale Group, producer of Encyclopaedia of Associations, International Organisations sent a form for an update of ACW Nat. Exec (free listing in previous issue) - **Agreed** to update.
- 3(12) Cards sent to Margaret Napier, Olive Dell, Pat Smeeton & Vera Wilson.
- 4(13) Australian Community Faith Nurses - Secretary to write that this group be added to the comprehensive list.
- 5(14) Quote from Vic Unit Minutes - **'Five Minute Focus'**; B Webb reported that she had visited ACW in Canberra & attended World Com. Day Service. It was reported that Lieut-Colonel I Macintyre has improved a little but needs more surgery. B Lacy read E-mails from L. Green, 7 Feb, "Enjoyed my time in London. We have arrived & are in the process of settling in." 14 Feb, "3,500 attended the welcome meeting & installation of the Territorial Commander. My little speech ended in a couple of sentences in Kiswahili & it went down really well. The service went for 2 1/2 hours."
- 6(16) Replying that it is not appropriate for ACW to be involved with client reference group as we do not employ anyone and are not employees.
- 7 Nat. Exec. do not need to be involved with Australian Women's Health Network.

TREASURER

Correspondence - From Queensland former Nat. Exec. - refund on keys for post box.

Accounts - Winifred Kiek Convener, \$51.95: Publications Convener, \$93.09 (Postage, envelopes) & \$185 for 'Open Book' (printing ACW News). Moved D.Chapman, s.S.Birch these be paid.
GST D.Chapman will attend a seminar in May to help clarify Nat. Exec.position re this.
Fax Machine for Convener of Winifred Kiek Trust. Units to be asked to give permission to purchase this (it will be passed on to each future Convener) - it is the most certain way of getting mail into Asia.

REPORTS

1 **Publicity - Barbara Greal**

A short report has been sent to these Church papers - "New Times", UCA; "Adelaide Church Guardian", Anglican; "Southern Cross", Catholic; "Baptist Newsletter" & "Churches of Christ Newsletter".

Social Justice Convener - Mavis Ellis

I have written again to all Unit Social Justice Conveners and to secretaries where no Convener has been appointed including Darwin & Alice Springs Branches. I included the report from the "Southern Cross", Dec.1999 by three Adelaide YCSM students who attended the Fairwear Candle-light Vigil, also a copy of Manifesto 2000 for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence and information and postcards for the World March of Women 2000. I requested information about what actions they are taking and await with interest to see if I receive any more replies this time.

Our SA Unit convener, Lyn Smith (see her report under Business Arising from the Minutes No.10) is certainly doing her bit. Lyn has read a booklet entitled 'Taken In' issued by the 2000 Women's Legal Services outlining problems arising when women with dependent children are taken into custody. Currently there is no policy detailing appropriate action to be taken by police offices when arresting a person with dependent children although there are instructions on the appropriate action to take when arresting an offender with a pet! The report makes 21 recommendations. Many of the prisoners with dependent children who were interviewed were aboriginal women.

Unfortunately I was away when the Jubilee 2000 'Who is Fooling Who?' demonstration was held on 1st April. However the handout advertising this event has some alarming information about the effect of western countries' control over debt owed by developing countries. 'One thing is certain, Debt has been killing millions and will continue unless we act. Their debt is equivalent to a small fraction of a day's trading on the world's currency markets. ONLY OUR GREED IS KILLING THESE PEOPLE.' It is to be hoped that recent news of a commitment by the World Bank & the International Monetary Fund to address this problem will have some effect.

Unifem Australia's Year 2000 Project is to support survivors of violence against women in East Timor - surplus from the 8th March breakfast will given to this. Rev Professor James Haire, President-elect of the UCA has just visited Indonesia (he served 14 years as a missionary there) and reports that Christians have been driven out of several islands and extremists are planning a holy war to drive them out of other islands. We are asked to pray for the Peace Conference called by President Wahid.

The report from the Round Table Consultation arranged by the Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Agency which Marj Dredge and I attended last December has been received including an invitation to join a Client Reference Group. Nat. Exec. decision under Business Arising from the Correspondence 7(16)

ACWC REPORT - (phone call from Barbara Lacy)

Padma Ebenezer's daughter Niroosha is to have an operation, 2nd May on her "bad" leg. Her sister and husband have bought a house at Paramatta so they will all be moving in May. This will mean that Niroosha & Padma will have to travel further for her treatment - support is still needed.

General Meeting to be held in October when Illuminada's term will expire. The appointment of a new General Secretary will be discussed as will the cost of ACWC Bulletin/Newsletter.

GENERAL BUSINESS

- 1 **Conference Programme** - Christ Church, North Adelaide is available for the Service.
- 2 **'You & Your Future Opportunities Conference'**, 8-11 March 2001 in Canberra - Rev Lee Edwards is the ACW official representative on the Planning Committee. National President will receive the Minutes. m.S.Birch, s.D.Ferrier the ratification of this. **Agreed.**
This will mean a Christian presence on this planning committee and ACW has stated that it is unable to underwrite any expenses of the Conference.
- 3 **NSW Unit Retreat Day** Financial assistance will be available to the National President to lead this Retreat in July 2000. NSW will meet some expenses.

CLOSURE Prayer led by Marj Dredge

Date of Next Meeting **Tuesday 16 May 2000 at 10.00 am**

National President

Date

NB The meeting could be expected to go until 1 pm.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Inwards:

- 21/3/00 1. Shirley Brooks ACW (Tas) photos of J Harris and L Bertwhistle for Memorial Book and L.Ms' Book and info. re Dien Sumiyatiningsih (Nuhamara) WKS 1980 from Indonesia
- 28/3/00 2. Federal Court of Australia re change of venue for meeting 30/3/00
- 30/3/00 3. ACW(SA Unit) minutes meeting 10/3/00
- 30/3/00 4. ACW(ACT Unit) Newsletter April/May/June and amended Unit Constitution
- 4/4/00 5. ACW(QLD Unit) minutes 28/2/00
- 4/4/00 6. Rev. E Walker Return Thanks
- 7/4/00 7. NCCA 15 more copies of Update2 'Pilgrimage to the Heart'
- 10/4/00 8. ACW(NSW Unit) minutes of meeting 21/2/00
- 10/4/00 9. ACW Alice Springs support for our proposed website
- 10/4/00 10. International Organizations request for update of ACW details
- 11/4/00 11. ACW(WA Unit) minutes meeting 17/3/00
- 11/4/00 12. ACW(WA Unit) advising ill-health of M. Napier, O. Dell, V. Wilson and P. Smeeton.
- 11/4/00 13. Morgan Disney & Assoc. Scoping Paper on Dom. Violence & Older People
- 13/4/00 14. ACW(Vic) minutes meeting 25/2/00
- 13/4/00 15. Women in Super – Fun Run (in Sydney on May 14th) entry forms !
- 14/4/00 16. Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Agency Roundtable Findings
- 14/4/00 17. Email: Rosemary Calder to head Office of Status of Women

PUBLICATIONS:

Affirmative Action Agency
NEWS#5, Womens NEWS sup 28/3/00, NEWS#6
Aus. Bureau Stats. Order form for Publications
Report on Rural & Isolated School Students
Aust. Dom & Fam Violence Clearinghouse Newsletter
Queensland Women's Health Network News March
Partnerships Against Domestic Violence Bulletin#3

Outwards:

- 24/3/00 1. Pilgrimage to the Heart re more copies of Updates
- 25/3/00 2. Senator Jocelyn Newman re Round Table
- 25/3/00 3. Circular 2000/2 to all Units
- 29/3/00 4. The Venerable John Collas re use of Christ Church and hall for Ecumenical service
- 3/4/00 5. Email Denise Tart Aust Convention & Travel Services our logo, aims & Mission Statement
- 7/4/00 6. Getwell cards to: Margaret Napier, Vera Wilson, Olive Dell & Patricia Smeeton
- 18/4/00 7. Change of address for Nat. Exec. Correspondence to:
Australian Domestic and Family Violence Clearinghouse
Morgan Disney & Associates
Queensland Women's Health Network
Partnerships Against Domestic Violence, Minister for the Status of Women