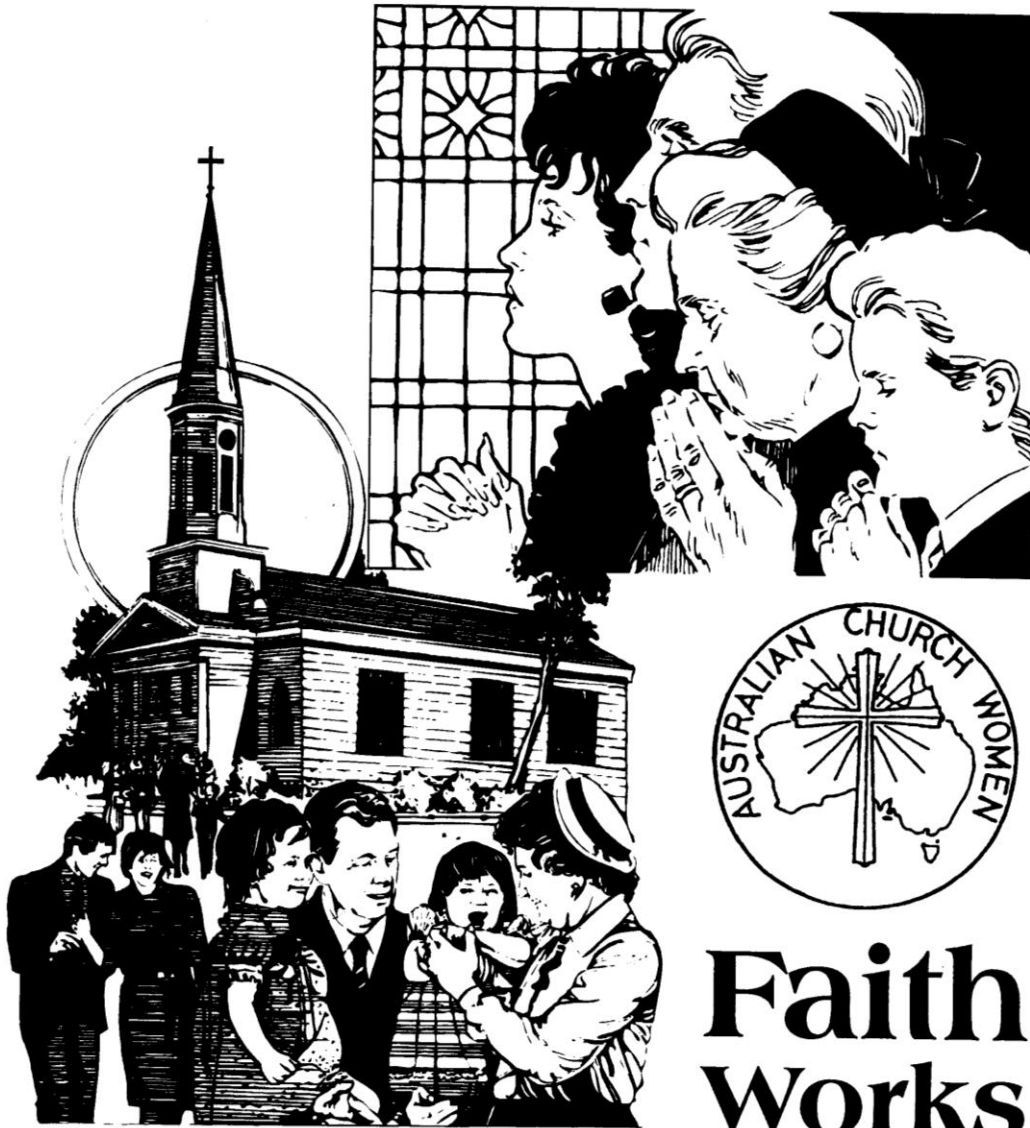


Australian Church Women NATIONAL CONFERENCE

27th September - 1st October, 1999
BRISBANE

WORKING PAPERS



WORKING PAPERS

Australian Church Women National Conference

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Australian Church Women
National Executive 1997-1999

President	Mrs Aileen Mortensen
Vice President	Mrs Terry Reeves
Vice-President	Mrs Ina Collard
Secretary	Mrs Margaret Florence
Treasurer	Mrs Joan Trudgian
Minute Secretary	Mrs Averil Jell
FLC Convenor	Mrs Mollie Jean Hunt
Special Days	Mrs Val Van de Wiel
Publication Editor	Major Miriam Pratt
WKS Convenor	Mrs Ailsa Skippen

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NATIONAL CONFERENCE
27TH September – 1st October 1999
Grace College, within the University of Queensland, Brisbane Qld
"FAITH WORKS"

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Monday September 27th:

9.00am – 12.30pm	Registrations
12.30pm – 1.30pm	LUNCH
2.00pm – 3.15pm	Conference Session 1 Welcome/Opening Devotions Introductions/Greetings/Apologies Remembrance/Honours/ and Awards Presentations of Working Papers Procedural Arrangements Working Arrangements (In House) Appointment of Reference Committee (3) Appointment of Scrutineers (2)
3.15pm – 3.30pm	AFTERNOON TEA
3.30pm – 5.00pm	A Reflection Conference Session 1 (continued) <u>Minutes of National Conference 1997 (Canberra)</u> (a) Alterations, Amendments (b) Confirmation of Minutes (c) Business Arising:-
Reference	
97/M6	Change to W.K.S. Guidelines -
97/M9	Abridged Version F.D.S & W.C.D.S
97/M10	Appointment of Publicity Officer
97/R2	Clarification of Membership – Mission Statement
97/R4	Representation of State/Territory members at Seminars/Workshops etc.
97/R6	Favourite Benediction of Winifred Kiek – included in W.C.D. Services.
General Business	Submission – Rights of the Child
Correspondence:	As tabled, Inward received, Outward endorsed.
6.00pm – 7.00pm	DINNER

7.15pm – 9.00pm	Conference Session 2 Singing Evening Devotions Western Australian Unit Discussion “ACW 2000 ONWARDS”
9.00pm	SUPPER
<u>Tuesday 28th September</u>	
7.30am – 8.00am	BREAKFAST
8.45am – 9.15am	Singing Morning Devotions South Australian Unit Announcements
9.30am	Assemble at front of Grace College
9.45amz	Coaches leave for Albert Street Uniting Church
10.30am	<i>National Conference Ecumenical Service</i>
12.00 noon	Luncheon in Wesley House
1.30pm	Coaches depart for Grace College
2.15pm – 3.15pm	A Reflection Conference Session 3 Address to the Conference – Ms Esther Byu Executive Secretary International Committee Fellowship of the Least Coin.
3.15pm – 3.30pm	AFTERNOON TEA
3.30pm – 4.00pm	A Reflection Conference Session 3 (Continued) Question Time – Fellowship of the Least Coin
4.00pm – 5.30pm	Conference Session 4 Reports/Motions
6.00pm – 7.00pm	DINNER
7.00pm – 7.15pm	Singing Evening Devotions Tasmanian Unit
7.30pm – 9.00pm	Conference Session 5 Reports/Motions
9.00pm	SUPPER

Wednesday 29th September

7.30am – 8.00am	BREAKFAST
8.45am – 9.15am	Singing Morning Devotions Victorian Unit Announcements
9.15am – 10.15am	BIBLE STUDY – Rev Janice Hughes <i>"FAITH WORKS" - Family</i>
10.15am – 10.30am	MORNING TEA
10.30am – 12 noon	A Reflection Conference Session 6 Reports/Motions
12.15am	PICNIC LUNCH Coaches depart for TOUR
6.00pm – 7.00pm	DINNER
7.00pm – 7.15pm	Singing Evening Devotions - N.S.W. Unit
7.30pm – 9.00pm	Conference Session 7 Guest Speaker – Ms Glynthea Finger
9.00pm	SUPPER

Thursday 29th September

7.30am – 8.00am	BREAKFAST
8.45am – 9.15am	Singing Morning Devotions Queensland Unit Announcements
9.15am	Assemble at front of Grace College
9.30am	Coaches leave for Civic Reception – Brisbane City Hall
11.30am	Coaches leave City Hall for Grace College
12.30pm – 1.30pm	LUNCH
1.30pm – 2.30pm	BIBLE STUDY – Sr. Beryl Amedee <i>"FAITH WORKS" – Ecumenism</i>

2.30pm – 3.15pm	Conference Session 8 Reports/Motions
3.15pm – 3.30pm	AFTERNOON TEA
3.30pm – 5.00pm	A Reflection Conference Session 8 (continued) Reports/ Motions
6.00pm	<i>CONFERENCE DINNER</i> (Grace College Dining Room) Entertainment Installation of New National Executive Evening Devotions Incoming National Executive
<u>Friday 1st October</u>	
7.30am – 8.00am	BREAKFAST
8.45am – 9.15am	Singing Morning Devotions ACT Unit Announcements
9.15am – 10.15am	BIBLE STUDY – Mrs Gwen Tavener <i>"FAITH WORKS" - Community</i>
10.15am – 10.30am	MORNING TEA
10.30am - 12noon	A Reflection Conference Session 9 <u>Unfinished Business</u> Closing Devotions Retiring National Executive Conference Close
12.30pm	LUNCH

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NATIONAL CONFERENCE
27TH September – 1ST October 1999

Guests:

Ms Esther Byu	Executive Secretary ICFLC
Mrs Diana Manson	Church Women United, Aoteara/New Zealand
Rev Jenny Tymms	Speaker at National Conference Ecumenical Service
Rev Janice Hughes	Bible Study
Sr. Beryl Amedee	Bible Study
Mrs Gwen Tavener	Bible Study

National Life Members

Mrs Shirley Brooks	Tasmania	Observer
Mrs Vera Wilson	Western Australian	Observer
Mrs Dorothy Wright	South Australia Unit Delegate	
Mrs Ailsa Skippen	Qld. - National Executive Delegate	
Mrs Olive Ackland	Vic – Day Visitor	Observer

National Executive

President	Mrs Aileen Mortensen	Delegate
Vice President	Mrs Terry Reeves	Delegate
Vice President	Mrs Ina Collard	Delegate
Secretary	Mrs Margaret Florence	Delegate
Treasurer	Mrs Joan Trudgian	Delegate
Min. Secretary	Mrs Averil Jell	Delegate
National Convenor FLC	Mrs Mollie Jean Hunt	Delegate
National Convenor WKS	Mrs Ailsa Skippen	Delegate
National Publication Editor	Major Miriam Pratt	Delegate
National Special Days Con.	Mrs Val Van de Wiel	Delegate

Incoming National Executive

Mrs Marj Dredge	Delegate
Mrs Shirley Birch	Delegate
Mrs Maureen Clark	Delegate
MISS Mrs Dorothy Chapman	Delegate
Mrs Margaret Greenslade	Delegate
" Barbara Grueney (unofficial)	

ACW National Archivist

Mrs Edith Ridge	Observer
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ACWC Australian Representative

Mrs Barbara Lacy	Observer
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UNITS

Australian Capital Territory

Mrs Evonne Sullivan	Delegate
Mrs Jean Hambley	Delegate
Mrs Helen Lloyd	Observer
Mrs Janet Abrahamffy	Observer
Mrs Olga Scott	Visitor

New South Wales

Rev Elizabeth Walker	Delegate
Mrs Jan Harrison	Delegate
Miss Heather Reid	Observer
Mrs Marie Majoer	Observer
Miss Shirley Wells	Visitor
Major Eileen Holley	Visitor <i>absent</i>
Mrs Lucelle King	Visitor
Mrs Marie McCann	Visitor

Queensland

Mrs Daphne Featherstonhaugh	Delegate
Mrs Kath Gallagher	Delegate
Aux. Capt. Irene Farr	Observer
Mrs Marlene Behan	Observer
Mrs Evelyn Clerc	Visitor
Mrs Bev Currie	Visitor

South Australia

Mrs Laurice Smith	Delegate
Mrs Dorothy Wright	Delegate
Mrs Beth Ingram	Observer
Mrs Eva Cooper	Observer

Tasmania

Mrs Narelle Digney	Delegate
Mrs Juanita Miller	Delegate
Mrs Joan Smith	Observer

Victoria

Mrs Beth Skilbeck	Delegate
Mrs Shirley Wallis	Delegate
Mrs Joan Maher	Observer
Lt. Col. Isabel Macintyre	Observer

Western Australia

Mrs Margaret Napier	Delegate
Mrs Leeola Loughnan	Delegate

Winifred Kiek Scholarship Trust

Mrs Dorothy Ferrier	Delegate
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National Denominational Representatives

Anglican Mother's Union	Mrs Mina Whybourne	Delegate
Catholic Women's League	Mrs Marie Majoor	Delegate
Presbyterian Women's Association of Aust.	Mrs Peg Blake	Delegate
Salvation Army Eastern Territory <i>del</i>	Major Annette Wilson	Delegate
Salvation Army Southern Territory <i>plus</i>	Major Lynette Green	Observer
Uniting Church Adult Fellowship	Rev Lee Edwards	Delegate
<i>Aust. Baptist Women</i>	<i>Mrs Helen Smul</i>	<i>Delegate</i>

Special Interest Groups

National Council of Churches	Mrs Edith Ridge (Archivist)	Observer
The Girl's Brigade	Mrs Helen Irwin	Observer
World Day of Prayer	Mrs Noelene Roose	Observer

Honours awarded to ACW Members

South Australian Unit

Mrs Jean Roberts Medal of the Order of Australia – OAM

Queensland Unit

Miss Norah Thomson Medal of the Order of Australia - OAM
Mrs Ina Collard Life membership of QLD Unit

ACT Unit

Mrs Betty Farrell Life membership of ACT Unit
Mrs Betty Laurie Life membership of ACT Unit
Mrs Helen Lloyd Life membership of ACT Unit
Mrs Olga Scott Life membership of ACT Unit

Tasmanian Unit

Mrs Deirdre Hunter Deacon of Anglican Church & Community Service Award

Darwin Branch

Mrs Elizabeth Appleby Medal of the Order of Australia – OAM AM

In Remembrance

We record with sorrow the following ACW members who have passed away during the past two years.

Mrs Lois Harris	S.A Unit
Mrs Agnes Liston	S.A. Unit
Mrs Joyce Lever	S.A. Unit
Col. Edna Baker	N.S.W. Unit
Mrs Yvonne Davis	N.S.W. Unit
Mrs Beth Finlay	N.S.W. Unit
Mrs Doris Mitchell	N.S.W. Unit
Col. Florence Peterson	N.S.W. Unit
Mrs Leah Pickering	N.S.W. Unit
Brig. Mabel Ward	N.S.W. Unit
Lt. Col. Olwen Everitt	QLD Unit
Major Mavis Wespahl	QLD Unit
Mrs Margaret O'Sullivan	QLD Unit
Mrs Muriel Stafford	Vic. Unit
Mrs Mabel Dee	WA Unit
Mrs Joy Warren	Tas Unit

Procedural Arrangements

The following procedures will be used by the President and Vice Presidents during the National Conference 27th September – 1st October 1999.

- 1 **Agenda** as set out in the Conference Programme will be adhered to unless the meeting determines otherwise.

Any business not included in the Agenda must be presented in writing to the National Executive no later than 9.00pm Monday 27th September for consideration and presented for debate if and when it is considered appropriate.

The President shall determine when introduced business genuinely arises from the current debate, and if so determined, it may become part of the Conference Agenda regardless of the date introduced.
- 2 **Resolutions** must be presented in writing and signed by the mover and seconder, together with a preamble and/or rationale.
- 3 **Recommendations and/or Suggestions** from Units, should they become Motions, must be presented in writing as indicated above.
- 4 **Reference Committee** of three (3) shall be appointed by Conference.
- 5 **Scrutineers.** Two (2) shall be appointed by Conference.
- 6 **Members wishing to speak** shall stand and wait until recognised by the President. Members shall address the President when speaking. All members are to please state their name and Unit or Organisation represented, before beginning to speak. Observers shall have the right to speak but not to vote.
- 7 **All Conference Papers to be taken as read**, but the presenter of the business may care to highlight certain aspects within limits as prescribed in Item 15.
- 8 **A Motion may be moved**, and the mover shall speak to the motion. Any motion which is not seconded shall lapse and not be recorded in the Conference Minutes.

The seconder of the motion may speak to the motion, or may reserve the right to speak later. (See Item 11)
- 9 **Motions may be debated** once they have been moved and seconded. The President may enquire if there is anyone wishing to speak for or against the motion, and may choose to alternate such speakers. If there are no speakers against the motion, the President shall put the motion to the vote.

The mover of the motion has the right of reply to the debate immediately prior to the vote being taken.
- 10 **Debating** Up to three (3) minutes will be allowed to each speaker unless permission is granted for an extension of time (for a maximum of two [2] minutes and must be moved, seconded and agreed upon).

No member may speak more than once on the same motion or amendment, except the mover, who shall have the right of reply. If debate exceed twenty five (25) minutes on one motion, it will be deferred to a later Business Session.

- 11 **Amendments** may arise from the debate, but the mover of the amendment shall not have spoken to the original motion. The proposed amendment must vary the subject matter of the motion, whilst maintaining the intent of the original motion. Any amendment not seconded must lapse and not be recorded in the Conference Minutes.

The President may choose to enquire if any amendment is likely to be seconded, before allowing the mover of the proposed amendment to speak to the amendment.

The mover of the amendment may not reserve the right to speak later.

One (1) amendment shall be dealt with at a time, with speakers limited to addressing the amendment subject. A speaker may foreshadow their intention (but not to speak to their proposal) to offer an alternate amendment following the resolution of the current amendment.

Any amendment must be taken in sequence.

- 12 **The debate is closed** when the time limit of twenty five (25) minutes is exceeded on the one motion; the President indicates she believes there has been sufficient debate; there are no more speakers; or when someone, who has not taken part in the debate, moves the motion "That the vote be now taken" and this is seconded and passed. The vote must be taken immediately without the mover's right of reply being granted.

If there is a motion and an amendment before the Conference, the amendment is put first to the vote. With the resolving of an amendment, the debate on the motion, or the amended motion, is resumed. Any foreshadowed amendment is now proposed and the debate resumed.

The mover of the motion may use their right of reply, after which the President shall put the motion to the vote. A simple majority vote is necessary for the motion to be carried. The President shall declare the result of each vote.

- 13 **Voting Entitlements** are:
2 from each State/Territory Unit
1 from each Denominational Organisation
5 from Incoming National Executive
1 from Winifred Kiek Scholarship Trust
All National Executive members.
- 14 **Voting Method** shall be by the Delegates displaying their official Voting Card when the vote is called for, unless otherwise decided by vote at the Conference.
- 15 **At all Reporting Sessions**, it shall be moved "That all reports be taken as read". Speakers to the National Executive and Unit Reports are allocated five (5) minutes, National Denominational Groups, Special Interest Groups, Winifred Kiek Scholarship Trust and National Representatives are allocated three (3) minutes. Questions and comments are not included in the time allocation, but at the discretion of the President.

1997 Conference Minutes**Amendments**

	<u>Page</u>	<u>Line</u>	<u>Details</u>
Heading	1	3	Heading should read John XXIII College
Paragraph 1	1	1	Have the words to 'Jesus Christ the light for my path' been omitted from Appendix 1?
Paragraph 7	1	1	Should read Miss Betty Crough
Paragraph 7	1	3	Should read Mrs Jessie Dennis
Paragraph 7	1	4	Should read Mrs John Dingle
Paragraph 8	1	1	Should read Rachel Cocks
Paragraph 2	3	5	Should read Marjorie
Unit Reports	5	4	Should read Deaconess Barkat Dass
Discussion Paper Vic. Unit			
Paragraph 3	8	1	Should read Margaret spoke
Paragraph 9	8	1	Should read Brooks (Tasmanian Unit)
WCTU of NSW report			
Paragraph 3	20	1	Should read Organisations
Bible Study			
Paragraph 7	22	1	Should read Bible Study Luke
Motion 10	27		Should read Lacy
Greetings	38	15	Should read Appleby
Participants List	45		Should read 6/31 Royal Avenue, Pooraka SA 5095
Participants	44	1	Mrs Jenny Jarvis was not present

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

During my term as National President I have found the position to be not only busy but very rewarding. My own horizons have been widened spiritually as well as geographically.

In March 1998 I was able to attend the seminar on Domestic Violence where suggestions were received for additions and alterations to be made to the working papers.

The Girls' Brigade International Conference in Brisbane on 8th July, 1998 was a morning to remember. Fifty-two countries were represented.

On 9th July the Prime Minister, Mr John Howard, visited Brisbane 'to meet the people'. I was pleased to accept an invitation to attend a function at the Wynnum RSL hall at which he was present.

The Round Table Conference arranged by the Office of the Status of Women was held in August last year in Canberra and which I was able to represent ACW. A bonus of the trip was a visit to the A.C.T. Unit on the day following the conference. I appreciated the opportunity to meet so many members of the Unit over lunch at the home of Mrs Evonne Sullivan after a morning of sight-seeing. An invitation to attend this year's conference has been received.

Using up frequent flyer points it became possible to visit Units and Branches around the country during October and November. My husband, Allan, and I also enjoyed the gracious hospitality of members in Darwin, Alice Springs, Perth, Adelaide, Launceston, and Melbourne which we much appreciated. Whilst in Perth I had the pleasure of speaking at the Community Day Service in the Salvation Army Citadel.

Both in 1998 at St. Stephen's Cathedral and 1999 at Ann Street Church of Christ I represented ACW at the World Day of Prayer services.

At the UNIFEM Breakfast in Brisbane on 8th march this year over a thousand persons attended. The inclusion of many young people from Brisbane schools in the programme demonstrated an awareness across the generation of women's issues, and especially the problems facing underprivileged peoples throughout the world.

My thanks to the NSW Unit for their invitation on 17 May, to speak at their Dedication Service. It was a rewarding experience. (My apologies for not being able to attend their 60th birthday celebrations.

Thanks also to those members who represented ACW at other functions. Heather Reid attended the Superannuation Conference in Sydney; Pat Franklyn attended the NCW meeting to investigate the possibility of a Millennium Conference; Margaret Florence represented ACW at the NCCA 3rd Forum in Sydney and Evonne Sullivan was present at the Prayer Breakfast at Parliament House, Canberra.

To the National Executive and ACWC representative I would extend my thanks for their dedication, hard work and loyalty. For many it has been a difficult time with personal health problems as well as illness of family members.

Thank you for the privilege of representing you. May God bless you all every day and in every way.

Aileen Mortensen – President

National Secretary's Report

The National Executive met each month during their two year term. We have met at the Catholic Women's League Rooms, within the Catholic Centre, Edward Street, City. This has proved very convenient as National Executive members have travelled from all areas of Brisbane to attend meetings. The monthly meetings have covered all facets of ACW and Conference planning and have lasted for up to five hours. Each Executive member has led in Devotions, which has been of great support and encouragement to us all. A time of fellowship has been experienced as we shared in Morning Tea, provided by members and lunch, purchased at the CWL Coffee Lounge. National Executive would like to thank the CWL Brisbane Diocese for the use of their rooms.

Minutes have been prepared and posted as soon as possible after the National Executive meetings. To keep State/Territory Units informed of all decisions and action taken by National Executive a covering letter has also been included. I would like to record my thanks to our Minute Secretary, Averil Jell for the accurate and efficient way she has prepared the minutes each month.

The National Executive has operated a Post Office Box for all mail. Mail has been collected and redirected to the President and Convenors as soon as possible so that any urgent matters could be dealt with. I have found the Post Office Box to be an advantage in the preparation of the Agenda and Correspondence for the monthly meetings.

We were not able to appoint a Social Justice Issues Convenor or Publicity Officer for our term of office. The National President has attended Seminars/Workshops on behalf of ACW, and members from State/Territory Units have represented ACW at Seminars/Workshops held in their State/Territory. We have endeavoured to respond to the many different publications and notices that have been received from Government Departments and Agencies.

The National Executive as requested by the National Conference 1997 prepared a Submission on the 'Rights of the Child' and sent the submission to the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties. In response we received from the Joint Standing Committee a copy of United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child, Executive Summary - 17th Report. We were able to send a copy of the report to State/Territory Units. We thank the office of Senator John Woodley for photocopying the report for us.

I was privileged to represent Australian Church Women, as an Observer, at the 3rd Forum - National Council of Churches in Australia - October 1998. This was a very inspiring and stimulating time, and I thank the National Executive for this privilege.

ACWC Rep. Lynette Green was able to meet with the National Executive in August 1998 and discuss matters relating to the Asian Church Women Assembly, to be held in Chiang Mai, Thailand, and we thank Lynette for all the work involved in the preparation for this Assembly. In April 1999 Barbara Lacy, our present ACWC Rep., was able to attend our Executive Meeting and share with us some of the happenings from the ACWC Assembly. We thank Barbara for travelling to Brisbane to attend our meeting.

It was with regret that the National Executive received the resignation of Elizabeth Appleby from the Darwin Branch, and Joan McDonald from the Alice Springs Branch in June 1999. Elizabeth's husband has received a new appointment in Brisbane and they have now settled there. Joan and her husband have moved to Adelaide and have now settled there. We thank Elizabeth and Joan for their leadership in these branches.

I would like to thank the State/Territory Units, especially Unit Secretaries, for their help and support during the last two years. I have made many new friends during this time and look forward to meeting many of them at the National Conference. On behalf of the National Executive I would extend to the incoming National Executive our very best wishes and ensure them that -

"With God all things are possible".

Margaret Florence

Treasurers Report

I have pleasure in presenting the Treasurer's Report for the 2 years ending June 30th, 1999.

Offerings received at Fellowship Day Services and World Community Day Services have remained almost constant over the past 4 years. The money from Fellowship Day goes to the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fund. Half of World Community Day offering goes to Asian Church Women Conference and the other half to the special project of the year. 1997 project was Bimbadeen Bible College at Cootamundra \$4510, 1998 project was Korea Church Women United Migrant Women Workers \$4637.

Fellowship of the Least Coin donations were fairly stable. 1997- \$33963.78; 1998-33827.90. Money was sent overseas by Bank Draft (cost \$15.00) or by International Money Transfer (cost \$25.00). In either case waiting for affirmation of its arrival at its correct destination is always a trying time. Patience helps.

Early in the 2 years, application was made for tax exemption from State Revenue Dept. following the lines taken by the previous treasurer. Our organisation was classed as an "umbrella group" for a member of religious institutions. The answer was "No Exemption" from Qld. State Government Tax.

Milise, WKS Scholar, did her study in Melbourne and travelled to Sydney, Canberra and Brisbane for a visit at a cost of \$612.00, and paid by WKS Trust. Lynette Green, Asian Church Women Conference Representative, met with National Executive to discuss plans for the conference to be held in Chiang Mai, Thailand. A Total of \$1166.00 was paid for 3 delegates to attend. Money from work stall was given to the Asian Conference. Special thanks to Lynette for a job well done and best wishes to Barbara Lacy as she starts her 4 years as Australia's representative.

Margaret Florence attended the National Council of Churches, 3rd. Forum in Sydney at a cost of \$787.00.

Aileen Mortensen attended a UNIFEM Breakfast and other functions.

I would like to encourage all State/Territory Units to support the National & Overseas Conference Funds annually. Guidelines state that amounts of \$2000 in National Conference Fund & \$1000 in Overseas Conference Fund must be maintained at all times. As there is no subscription from Units to National Executive the working capital comes from money transferred from Fellowship Day, World Community Day and FLC donations. At 1997 Conference it was moved that up to 10% be taken for administration costs from offerings. I chose to keep it at 5%, but I realise that increase is necessary. The new Executive should take at least 7 1/2 % 1st year and 10% in the year of conference.

I would like to express my appreciation to Helen Lloyd for lots of advice in the early days and to Chris Walsh – our Auditor.

My prayers and best wishes are with the incoming National Executive from south Australia as they carry on this work for the next 2 years.

Joan Trudgian

TO THE MEMBERS

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

SCOPE

I have audited the attached special purpose financial report of The Australian Church Women National Executive for the year ended 30 June 1998, comprising an income and expenditure statement. The Committee is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial report and the information contained therein. I have conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the members.


The special purpose financial report has been prepared for distribution to the members of the association for the purpose of fulfilling the Committee's accountability requirements. I disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report to which it relates, to any person other than the members, or of any purpose other than for which it was prepared.

My audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. The procedures included examination on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether in all material aspects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with the requirements of the association's constitution.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

AUDIT OPINION

In my opinion, the financial report of the Australian Church Women National Executive presents fairly the income and expenditure of the executive for the year ended 30th June 1998.


C.P. WALSH
Certified Practising Accountant

Brisbane, 7th October 1998

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NATIONAL EXECUTIVE
FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1998

Balance at 1st July 1997 \$9,655.49

RECEIPTS

ACWC Bulletin Subscriptions	660.00	
ACWC Partners	1,682.50	
Winifred Kiek Bursary	275.00	
Winifred Kiek Donations	1,276.25	
Winifred Kiek Trust	1,600.00	
Winifred Kiek Fellowship	600.00	
Fellowship Day Offerings	11,323.81	
Fellowship of the Least Coin	35,661.35	
World Community Day Offerings	9,585.11	
National Conference Fund	6,936.16	
Overseas Conference Fund	2,857.12	
National Conference Accom. Etc.	24,433.75	
Petty Cash Refunds	138.18	
Term Deposit Inv. Redeemed 29/8/97	5,000.00	
Interest	30.82	
Sundries – Badges and spoons	552.10	
Circle of prayer	1,513.40	
Donations for postage and Newsletter	60.00	
Travel Winifred Kiek Scholars	300.00	
Administration	3,895.53	
Interest	30.17	
Refund Bank fee	13.20	
	<u>108,424.45</u>	<u>108,424.45</u>
		118,079.94

PAYMENTS

Petty Cash Expenses	1,048.60
ACW Newsletter	808.67
Travel	427.40
Fellowship of Least Coin	33,963.78
Winifred Kiek Scholarship Trust	12,033.87
Winifred Kiek Scholarship Bursary	275.00
Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fellowship	1,600.00
Winifred Kiek Scholarship Petty Cash	367.25
World Community Day ACWC	5,943.18
ACW Bulletin	788.26
World Community Day Special Project	4,510.18
Administration	1,607.60

Circle of Prayer	596.59	
National Conference Expenses & Refunds	24,573.84	
Sundries - Float to new Nat. Exec.	1,000.00	
Travel WKS	300.00	
Gifts to auditors		
& solicitor	250.00	1,090.40
WKS Leaflets & postage	460.40	
Prayer Breakfast & gift	80.00	
Transfer to National Executive	6,802.64	
Close of Weston Account	5,286.14	
Investments Com.B.King George Sq.		
7/11/97	5,000.00	
13/3/98	5,000.00	
Bank Charges	47.87	
Subscription to NCCA	60.00	
	<u>112,831.27</u>	<u>112,831.27</u>
Balance at 30 th June, 1998		<u>5,248.67</u>
<u>BANK ACCOUNT BALANCE AT 30TH JUNE, 1998</u>		
Cheque Account - C*wealth Bank-King George Sq. Brisbane	5,248.67	
Term Deposits 4001 5023 6038 (matures 1/10/98)	5,000.00	
5/4/98 Interest	92.87	
4001 5024 3377 (matures 26/9/98)	5,000.00	
	<u>15,341.54</u>	
<u>BALANCES OF DESIGNATED FUNDS AT 30TH JUNE, 1998</u>		
Administration	5,343.04	
National Conference & Travel Fund	6,873.31	
Overseas Conference & Travel Fund	2,875.69	
ACWC Signature Cards	249.50	
	<u>15,341.54</u>	
<u>TRANSFERS TO ADMINISTRATION</u>		
Fellowship of Least Coin	5%	1,787.57
Winifred Kiek Scholarship	5%	566.19
ACWC & Special Project	5%	474.75
		<u>2,828.51</u>

**AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NATIONAL EXECUTIVE
FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 1999**

Balance at 1 st July 1998	\$	5,248.67
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RECEIPTS

ACWC Bulletin Subscriptions	465.00	
ACWC Partners	636.00	
ACWC Endowment Fund	500.00	
Winifred Kiek Scholarship Donations	587.27	
Fellowship Day Offerings	12,440.13	
Fellowship of Least Coin Offerings	35,687.61	
Community Day Offerings	9,855.78	
National Conference & Travel Fund	781.46	
Overseas Conference & Travel Fund	545.65	
Petty Cash Refunds (Fare reimbursements)	612.40	
Term Deposit Investment redeemed	5,000.00	
INTEREST on Term Deposit	250.60	
Sundries: Donation	50.00	
C. of Prayer	37.50	
Teaspoons & badges	103.75	
2 Fares refund Sydney	486.80	
Bank charges refunded	6.15	684.20
Travel Pool for National Conference	460.00	
National Conference Accommodation	1,320.00	
INTEREST on Cheque Account	15.17	
	69,841.27	69,841.27
		75,089.94

PAYMENTS

Petty Cash Expenses	947.20	
ACW Newsletter	496.90	
Travel	749.20	
Fellowship of Least Coin	33,827.90	
Winifred Kiek Scholarship Trust	11,818.13	
Winifred Kiek Scholarship Bursary	587.27	
Winifred Kiek Scholarship Petty Cash	1,043.25	
World Community Day ACWC	6,023.12	
Special Project – Korean Church Women United	4,637.63	
ACWC Bulletin	629.85	
ACWC Conference & Travel <i>see note at year end</i>	1,166.00	
Travel Pool for National Conference	654.00	
Conference Administration	93.60	
National Conference – Air Fares	3,054.00	
National Conference Refund	285.00	

PAYMENTS C'TND

Sundries: FLC Brochures	764.00		
NCCA Conference	525.00		
NCCA Subscription	60.00		
Auditor	100.00		
Nat. Prayer Breakfast	50.00		
Unifem Breakfast	38.00		
WKS Brochures	400.00		
Postage	72.75		
C of Prayer	30.00	2,039.75	
Bank Charges		<u>38.95</u>	
		68,091.75	<u>68,091.75</u>
Balance at 30 th June 1999			<u>6,998.19</u>

BANK ACCOUNT BALANCE AT 30TH JUNE 1999		7,670.69
LESS O/S Cheques	9.50	
	285.00	
	<u>378.00</u>	
	<u>672.50</u>	
		<u>672.50</u>
		<u>6,998.19</u>

Term Deposit (4001) 50236038	5,092.87}	
Interest to 23/4/99	255.24}	5,348.11
Total Balance at 30 th June 1999		<u>12,346.30</u>

BALANCE OF DESIGNATED FUNDS AT 30TH JUNE 1999

Administration	4,139.43
National Conference & Travel Fund	4,862.76
Overseas Conference & Travel Fund	2,331.45
Fellowship of Least Coin	79.30
Community Day	92.36
National Conference Accommodation	<u>1,035.00</u>
	12,540.30
Less O/S payments Travel Pool	<u>194.00</u>
	<u>12,346.30</u>

TRANSFERS TO ADMINISTRATION

Fellowship of Least Coin 5%	1,780.41
Fellowship Day 5%	622.01
Community Day 5%	<u>488.16</u>
	<u>2,890.58</u>

TO THE MEMBERS

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

SCOPE

I have audited the attached special purpose financial report of The Australian Church Women National Executive for the year ended 30th June 1999, comprising an income and expenditure statement. The Committee is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial report and the information contained therein. I have conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the members.

The special purpose financial report has been prepared for distribution to the members of the association for the purpose of fulfilling the Committee's accountability requirements. I disclaim an assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report to which it relates, to any person other than the members, or of any purpose other than for which it was prepared.

My audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. The procedures included examination on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether in all material aspects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with the requirements of the association's constitution.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

AUDIT OPINION

In my opinion, the financial report of the Australian Church Women National Executive presents fairly the income and expenditure of the executive for the year ended 30th June 1999.


C.P. WALSH
Certified Practising Accountant

Brisbane, 30th July 1999

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN - NATIONAL EXECUTIVE
1997 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

RECEIPTS

Registrations	\$ 5,040.00	
Accommodation 22-26 September	16,920.00	
Accommodation 21/9/97	1,000.00	
Accommodation 26/9/97	760.00	
Accommodation 20/9/97	120.00	
Accommodation 27/9/97	40.00	
Conference Dinner	1,395.00	
Day Visitor Fees	570.00	
Optional Tours	570.00	
Donations	30.00	
Lunch 23/9	90.00	
Tapes of Ecumenical Service	165.00	
Service Collection	849.85	
Souvenir Sales	<u>173.90</u>	27,723.75

PAYMENTS

Accommodation	18,669.50	
Refunds accommodation	740.00	
ACTION - Bus Hire	770.00	
Printing, Postage, Stationery & Photocopying	1,577.17	
Travel	1,480.00	
Copyright	45.00	
Hiring equipment	258.05	
Lunch 23/9/97	1,600.00	
Accommodation ACWC Rep.	295.00	
Honorarium Minute taker	150.00	
Tapes of Ecumenical service	180.00	
1 Timer	15.50	
Phone calls from Conference Office	3.17	
Gifts	<u>97.90</u>	25,881.29
Excess of Receipts over Payments		<u>\$1,842.46</u>

Fellowship of the Least Coin

It is a privilege to read the reports sent to me by our state Convenors and to experience the enthusiasm with which they have fulfilled their roles this past two years. So good to know of speaking engagements in new areas and increased giving of our Least Coins.

Grants in 1998 gave education in sewing to Somali women in Auburn and in self-esteem to Aboriginal young women in Redfern. Application last year was made for leadership and this year for Chaplaincy and again for leadership for our young people, we feel so necessary for them to mature responsibly in this overwhelming society of today. We were pleased to receive notification of the grant to GFS and await news of the processing of this year's applications.

As we read, see and hear of the dreadful conditions under which our Sisters have been forced to live in so many countries, we can only be grateful to be able to pass this message of Peace, Justice and Reconciliation to new groups as often as possible. I think the loss of our founder, Shanti Solomon, has made us all more aware of the importance of FLC in our lives, and how good the amassing of so many Least Coins can do. May our effects in this direction continue to be blessed.

MEMORIAL MINUTE TO SHANTI SOLOMON

Founder of the Fellowship of the Least coin

It is my pleasure to move this Memorial Minute to Mrs Shanti Solomon, a very remarkable woman of both vision and inspiration. Her dream of the amassing of every woman's Least Coin being able to provide assistance in the betterment of conditions for her sisters, has proved a most rewarding movement. We thank God for her life and for her energies on behalf of the Fellowship of the Least Coin, a Global Movement of Prayer, Peace, Justice and Reconciliation.

SPECIAL DAYS REPORT

For the past two years since I became the National Convenor for Special Days, I've been unable to give my full attention to carrying out the duties, and I have to sincerely thank Terry (first year) and Margaret (this year) for their assistance and support in getting the service sheets out on time.

We have endeavoured to present the Order of Service as professionally as possible and hope the results have met with your approval.

For the Nursing Homes we have instituted an abridged version of the Services and trust that these have been useful.

Have received the State Convenors Reports and noted their remarks. Some find the World Community Day Service better attended and others the Fellowship Day Service. It is good that you have had very interesting speakers. This makes the service better appreciated when we are able to hear from those who have served in different parts of the world.

It will be interesting to hear from other Convenors how the "Nursing Home" service sheets were received and indeed if they were used. It all depends on the need of those concerned. Some people in the homes may find the service too long, although we have endeavoured to make this abridged version cover all the main points. The shared meal held at these services is always much appreciated, and we find it gives us a chance to talk to the different denomination's representatives – quite interesting to hear how people receive the service.

I would like to wish the in-coming National Executive all the best for their two years. Time goes quickly when interesting things are happening.

May God send His blessings on you all.

Val Van de Wiel
Convenor

NATIONAL PUBLICATIONS EDITOR

During the two-year term of the present National Executive ten issues of A.C.W.News have been produced.

At present 560 copies are being printed allowing a few extra for when required.

The Copies for members of National Executive and Queensland Unit have been taken to the relative meetings. The remainder to State Units and branches, with individual copies to Winifred Kiek Trustees, National Life Members, national leaders of Affiliated churches and organisations and interested individuals have been forwarded by bulk postage mostly during the last week of the previous month.

Our first issue was printed by K. Williams when an offer was made that the Executive could not refuse. The copying would be done by A. Trudgian.

I would like to thank all who have contributed to the A.C.W.News. Each one who has sent news of their Unit, those who have given permission for verses to be used, my husband for his patience, our son for setting up the 'News' and the Trudgian family for all the work they have contributed.

My best wishes to the South Australian Unit as they take up the reins of National Executive especially the Publications Editor.

Miriam Pratt Major

NATIONAL ARCHIVES REPORT 1999

Material not needed by the current National executive was passed over to my care after the last National Conference.

The volume of paper work assembled in two years can be quite astounding and I am sure that the Office Bearers and Convenors are pleased to be able to 'pass it on'.

I am grateful to the National Secretary for her sending to me the Minutes and other papers after each Executive Meeting. This not only ensures that copies are kept, but the archivist is well-informed about the National Executive's month to month business. I enjoy reading the ACW News and keep each copy also.

I would again recommend to members of all State/Territory Units that they take time to speak to their older and long-serving members about the 'days gone by' in their Unit's history. When these valuable people are no longer with us, we can no longer benefit from their memories.

Although we should be considering the use of modern technology for storing our records, there are some papers that we would want to retain in their original form. It may soon come to the time when the small steel cabinet that we have used for many years will not hold all our records. I have been offered a steel filing cabinet with four drawers and the price should not be beyond our capacity to pay.

I am prepared to speak to the National Executive about this matter.

In reply to the question asked by the National Secretary about my availability to continue to serve as Archivist, I reply that I am able and willing to fill this small role.

Edith Ridge
National Archivist.



ASIAN CHURCH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

It is my pleasure to report on the involvement of Australian Church Women with Asian Church Women's Conference. During the two years 1997-1999.

REPRESENTATION: We acknowledge the commitment and work of Major Joan Tong. Retiring Executive Member 1990-1998, and Major Lynette Green, Australian National Representative 1994-1998. Lynette remains a member of the General Committee until the 12th General Assembly. Representation at the 11th Assembly in Thailand comprised delegates Jean Thomson & Barbara Lacy with the support of five observers, namely, Lucelle King, Kayleen Manton, Marie McCann, Heather Reid, and Helen Richardson. It was a learning curve for us all as the Australian delegation.

Shirley Weiss

Mrs Rathie Selvaratnam, an invited guest, was awarded with a plaque of appreciation as a former President of ACWC —1966-1970.

THE 11TH ASSEMBLY: The Assembly statement is attached. Australia moved the motion that we revive the Prayer Partnership among ACWC member Countries. Australia's prayer partner is **PAKISTAN** and we are in contact with their National representative, Ms Shunila Ruth. We are encouraged to pray for the women and people of Pakistan at our meetings and services.

Thank you to contributors and Lynette Green for organisation of our Asian Festival stall. It was most attractive and well stocked with a variety of Australian products. We donated our total profit to ACWC, not the 30% as suggested.

ACWC DAY: The 1998 Liturgy theme, "Rejoice, Reclaim, Response", brought us close together as we united in prayer for the needs of each member country. The 1999 worship is to be prepared by Sri Lanka.

ACWC NEWSLETTER: Contributions to the Newsletter are welcome.

ACWC PROGRAM: The Executive Committee and General Committee will be working on the wording of a Mission Statement; a new ACWC brochure and the review of the Constitution. The program for 1999-2002 has three components: 1. Christian Education and Nurture; 2. Stewardship and Resource Development and 3. Witness and Service.

"WHO IS MY NEIGHBOUR"? Since 1994 when I first became an ACW delegate to ACWC, my awareness of the social and economic poverty of our member countries has heightened. In Manila, some coins given to a young, thin mother, with such sad eyes, could not do much for her and her babe in arms. I only hope she saw His compassion as we made eye contact.

Now home with space, fresh air and clean drinking water, I ask "What can we do"?

I recommend we host the ACWC Executive Committee Meeting in Australia at the time of the 2001 National Conference.

Although this recommendation means an extra financial sacrifice for Australian Church women, some of our member countries find it hard to make an annual contribution OF \$100US to ACWC. It is imperative we hear the stories of our Asian sisters in Christ – our neighbours!

Barbara Lacy, National Representative, Asian Church Women Conference.



ASSEMBLY STATEMENT

Sixty-three (63) delegates and 52 observers from 17 countries, and 19 guests gathered together for the 11th Ruby Jubilee and the 40th Anniversary of the ACWC held on 14-19 November 1998 at Lotus Hotel, Chiang Mai, Thailand.

It was a challenging experience on the theme: **REJOICE, RECLAIM, RESPOND.**

WE OBTAINED NEW INSIGHTS from the Theme Worship, Bible Study, Keynote Address, Presentation, Sharing and Workshop.

WE ACCEPTED THE CAMBODIAN SISTERS into the membership of the ACWC.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE PRESENCE, ACTIVE PARTICIPATION AND RICH INSIGHTS of our former ACWC leaders, international guests, observers and the local women's committee.

WE CELEBRATED THE LIFE OF SHANTI SOLOMON and her contributions.

WE WERE ENRICHED by the fellowship and sisterhood and rejoiced through worship, weaving together and solidarity night.

WE BECAME AWARE of the painful condition and struggle being experienced by our Asian sisters as well as women around the world through violence against women, injustice, victimization and other issues affecting them.

WE AFFIRM the need to build a community of God's people, and to reclaim our rich spiritual heritage.

WE RECLAIM OUR SPACE as equal partners in the family, church and society, and recognize the different gifts and talents of women as given by God.

WE AFFIRM that ACWC is committed to respond by taking action of work for mercy and justice, peace and reconciliation by means of education at all levels and strengthen the networking, seeking for prayer partners among Asian women.

WITH THE HELP OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, THE PARTICIPANTS WERE CHALLENGED TO MOVE FORWARD INTO THEIR COMMUNITY WITH DEEPER COMMITMENT AND HOPE.

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

It has been a privilege to convene the Winifred Kiek Scholarship on National Executive over the past two years.

My sincere thanks to the Winifred Kiek Trustees, particularly Mrs Dorothy Ferrier, for their dedication in administering the Trust, assessing the many applications each year. Applications for the year 2000 Australian Scholar are presently being evaluated.

At the 1997 Conference we had the opportunity to meet Rev Iluminada Domingo, Executive Secretary Asian Church Women's Conference, The Philippines, who was made a W.K.S. Fellow.

We also welcomed the two Australian 1997 Winifred Kiek Scholars Lt. Joanne Harries and Rachael McMannus, both of whom completed their studies in 1998.

Our 1998 Scholar Milise Taipaliti of Tonga, studied for her Masters Degree in Theology at Melbourne College of Divinity. Milise attended A.C.W. State Unit Meetings and spoke at several Fellowship Day Services. Some A.C.W. members attended the Tongan Wesleyan Church, Yarraville to hear Milise preach in Tongan. At the completion of her studies, Milise was able to visit three State Units, A.C.T., Qld, and N.S.W. where she enjoyed their hospitality and a varied itinerary.

I would like to thank all the Units, Hostesses and Convenors for making this trip so memorable for Milise.

The 1999 Scholar Mai Zin Zin Wah was sponsored by the Mothers Union in the Province of Myanmar. The Trustees have gone forward in faith in selecting Mai to enable her to study towards her Masters Degree in Theology at Trinity College, Singapore. Mai will commence her course on 8th July, 1999. Mai's resume has been forwarded to all State Units to be read at the 1999 Fellowship Day Services in July.

Fellowship Day Services have been held in all States and Territories, honouring our scholars and promoting Fellowship with Women from all denominations. It is worthy to note that in the spirit of the late Rev. Winifred Kiek, in whose name the Scholarship was founded, theology is an integral part of our Scholars elective studies and their Christian lives.

Collection from Fellowship Day Services are credited to the Winifred Kiek Scholarship each year.

The Memorial Bursary Book records four new entries; the late Lois Harris, S.A. Unit; the following entries from N.S.W. Unit, Doris Mitchell, Leah Pickering, and Brigadier Mabel Ward, honouring their contribution to Australian Church Women and to their respective Churches.

Donations accompanying these entries enable funds to be available to purchase books for our Scholars.

It is very rewarding to continue corresponding with our past Scholars, even though one wonders if the mail reaches its correct destination. Some scholars respond at Christmas and Easter sending greetings to all members of A.C.W. and are very grateful for their support and prayers.

It has been a pleasure working with the National Executive and I thank them for their friendship and support. I wish my successor, and the incoming National Executive a happy and rewarding term of office.

Mrs Ailsa Skippen
Winifred Kiek Scholarship
National Executive

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP TRUST REPORT

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting the report of the Winkfred Kiek Scholarship Trust for the period 1998/99.

SCHOLARSHIP

The 1997 Scholar, Captain Joanne Harries, completed her course in New Testament Studies during 1998. This had been delayed twice due to the availability of the course, and later whilst recovering from the premature birth of her twins.

The 1998 Scholar, Melisa Taipaleti from Tonga, had a very successful year undertaking a pre-entry course for her Masters in Theology at the Melbourne College of Divinity. Before returning to Tonga for Christmas, Melise was able to visit the New South Wales, Australian Capital Territory, and Queensland Units. The Trustees were delighted to agree to assist with help from the Fellowship A/c, and these visits were apparently a great success. We wish Melise well with her continuing study and assure her of our prayers.

Our 1999 Scholar, Mai Zin Zin Wah from Myanmar has now commenced her studies for pre-entry Masters Degree at the Trinity Theological College in Singapore. I must say that we were pleased when we finally had advice to transfer the funds to a bank account in Singapore in early July at the commencement of her studies. Although we had thoroughly investigated the possibility of any problems Mai would have in leaving her country, it was a joy to know that it was actually happening. We look forward to hearing from her in due course.

FELLOWSHIP

We are delighted to have with us at this Conference Ms Esther Byu, the Executive Secretary of International Committee of Fellowship of the Least Coin. The Trust is delighted to assist with her travel, and I am sure that we will all benefit from having met with her and hearing her presentation.

GENERAL

We have made further changes to the application form in the hope that it would reduce the number of queries that are often necessary. This is especially difficult when we receive applications from the South Pacific and Asian areas. We realise that the language can be a problem, but it is very difficult to finalise the selection of the scholar when sections of the forms are left blank. To this end we regretfully made a decision to state on page 2 of Form 1 that all questions in this section must be completed to enable the application to be considered. This may seem harsh, but it is difficult and expensive to make international phone calls, particularly if the person to whom you wish to speak is hard to find. As my husband is now retired I don't have easy access to a FAX machine, and although I was able to contact Myanmar once by Email, further contacts have only been made by phone, but with some delays. Australian applications are not always perfect, but it is not quite so difficult to obtain answers to queries, although as we all know Australia is a big country. I would like to mention that the sponsoring body should make every effort to ensure that the forms are fully completed and that the required references etc. are attached. If the ACW Units could possibly assist with this matter in any way we would be very grateful.

It would also be helpful if the end of year scholar's report is submitted to the Trustees. This is one of the points included in the Scholar's Agreement, but it is more the exception than the rule. It is always very interesting to hear from the scholar, and we are ever eager to learn of any improvements that we could make to the programme in general.

THANK YOU

The Trustees express their appreciation to Ailsa Skippen, WKS National Convenor, Aileen Mortensen, National President and Margaret Florence, National Secretary for their support and prayers over the past two years. Our thanks also go to all Units, especially the WKS State Convenors, who have so kindly and happily assisted Scholars with their travel arrangements etc. I am sure that it has been much appreciated by the recipients.

My personal thanks to the other Trustees for their continued loyal support, enthusiasm and friendship. Once again the assistance and expertise of our Treasurer, Jess Horton and our Scribe, Norma Bishop is almost invaluable. During my trip overseas last year Barbara Grealy happily and efficiently dealt with the application forms and other queries, for which I am very grateful. I continue to enjoy our time together – we make a great team.

Jess Horton, Norma Bishop, Margaret Greenslade, Barbara Grealy, Dorothy Ferrier.

TRUSTEES


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AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN
WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP TRUST

AUDITOR'S REPORT

I have audited the accounts in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards.

In my opinion, the financial statements of Australian Church Women Memorial Bursary and Winifred Kiek Scholarship Trust Accounts are properly drawn up and are in accordance with the books and records of the Trust, so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Trust as at June 30, 1999 and the results of the Trust for the year ended on that date, and are in accordance with acceptable accounting standards.



.....
ADRIAN L NICHOLLS
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

ADELAIDE

August 12, 1999

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN - WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP TRUST

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD 1ST JULY, 1998 - 30 JUNE, 1999.

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP ACCOUNTS						ADMINI- STRATI- ON COSTS
	BALANCES	CAPITAL	'98 SCHL.	'99 SCHL.	2000SCHL.	W.K. FELL.
BALANCE B/F	\$ 198,157.49	175,874.69	357.69	10,788.04		11,080.02
RECEIPTS						57.05
Interest	\$ 9,548.61				9,140.72	407.89
New Capital	\$ 12,405.40	12,405.40				
Transfers	\$ 3,557.94					3,557.94
Administrations	\$ 630.85					630.85
Total Credits	\$ 224,300.29	188,280.09	357.69	10,788.04	9,140.72	15,045.85
						687.90
Payments						612.40
Schls & Grants	\$ 612.40					276.25
Administration	\$ 276.25					172.45
" '99 Schl.	\$ 172.45					129.70
" 2000 "	\$ 129.70					
Transfers	\$ 3,557.94	3,200.25	357.69			
Total Payments	\$ 4,748.74	3,200.25	357.69			612.40
BALANCE						578.40
30/6/99	\$ 219,551.55	185,079.84	-----	10,788.04	9,140.72	14,433.45
						109.50

<u>SUMMARY OF INVESTMENTS, CAPITAL AND INTEREST</u>						<u>ADMINIS- TRATION COSTS</u>
<u>BANK ACCOUNTS & INVESTMENTS</u>	<u>BALANCES</u>	<u>CAPITAL</u>	<u>'98 SCHL.</u>	<u>'99 SCHL.</u>	<u>2000SCHL.</u>	<u>W.K.FELL.</u>
BANK SA Chq.A/c	\$ 17,111.54			10,788.04	4,127.81	2,096.29
A.G.C.	\$ 71,844.54	62,665.40			1,105.77	8,073.37
ESANDA	\$ 90,603.30	87,580.86			2,401.35	621.09
TOWER TRUST	\$ 3,607.47	135.06			161.68	3,310.73
NAT.AUST.BANK	\$ 12,735.68	12,500.00			235.68	
CPS Cr.UNION	\$ 23,638.92	22,198.52			1,108.43	331.97
CASH ON HAND	\$ 10.10					10.10
TOTALS	\$ 219,551.55	185,079.84		10,788.04	9,140.72	14,433.45
						109.50

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP TRUST

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD 1ST JULY, 1998 - 30TH JUNE, 1999

MEMORIAL BURSARY ACCOUNTS

	BALANCES	CAPITAL	'99 SCHOLAR	2000 SCHOLAR
BALANCE B/F				
Receipts	\$ 8,548.46	8,100.31	448.15	
Interest	\$ 426.23		15.91	410.32
Total Credits	\$ 8,974.69	8,100.31	464.06	410.32
Payments				
Nil				
BALANCE 30/6/99	\$ 8,974.69	8,100.31	464.06	410.32

SUMMARY OF INVESTMENTS, CAPITAL & INTEREST

	BALANCES	CAPITAL	'99 SCHOLAR	2000 SCHOLAR
BANK ACCOUNTS & INVESTMENTS				
BANK SA Chq. A/c	\$ 681.57	48.31		198.53
A.G.C.	\$ 5,598.64	5,500.00	434.73	98.64
ESANDA	\$ 1,588.68	1,520.00		68.68
TOWER TRUST	448.97	415.87	16.41	16.69
CPS Cr. UNION	\$ 656.83	616.13	12.92	27.78
TOTALS	\$ 8,974.69	8,100.31	464.06	410.32

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP TRUST

TREASURER'S REPORT 1997 - 1999

Over the last two years the Capital has increased by \$12,000 in 1998 and \$12,400 in 1999. Which indicates a continued national commitment to this very worthwhile scholarship. This is vital as with interest rates remaining low, new capital is necessary. The 1999 recipient has received \$10,800 for study in Singapore. The amount available for year 2000 scholar is approximately \$1,700 less but as the recipient is from Australia this amount is adequate there being no expensive travel involved.

The Memorial Bursary funds available in 1998 were used by Milise Tapaleti and to date none of the 1999 money has been requested. During 1998 Milise Tapaleti was able to visit the Eastern states with funds made available from the Winifred Kiek Fellowship. This fund also provided expenses for Rev Iluminada Domingo to attend the 1997 National Conference in Canberra.

I acknowledge financial advice from a retired financier support on this advice from my fellow trustees and grateful thanks to Mr Adrian Nicholls for his time assistance as Auditor. Mr Nicholls has kindly agreed to continue as Auditor for a further 2 years.

Jessie F Horton
Honorary Treasurer

Recommendation:

I recommend that Mr Adrian Nicholls be re-appointed as Honorary Auditor and that a gift of \$100 be made in appreciation of his service over the past 2 years.

Australian Capital Territory Unit

We present with pleasure our Biennial Report for the period 1997-1999.

Membership and Meetings membership remained stable with 29 affiliated organisations and 3 Associated members.

General Meetings were held on the last Friday in each second month, with meetings of the Executive in the alternate month. A special prayer for the woman of Pakistan is offered at each meeting.

The Unit Newsletter has been published quarterly, with a copy being sent to all other state Units as well as to National Executive.

An annual community grant from the Canberra Southern Cross Club was much appreciated.

The ACT Unit received and accepted invitations from organisations, the ACT Government and the Commonwealth Government to attend various functions and presentations.

Honour Roll The ACT Honour Roll was firmly established – affiliated organisations being invited to submit the names of members with a long association with ACW for inclusion.

Honours	Betty Farrell	Life Membership ACT Unit ACW
	Betty Laurie	Life Membership ACT Unit ACW
	Helen Lloyd	Life Membership ACT Unit ACW
	Olga Scott	1998 ACT Womens Award

Visit of National President The visit to Canberra in 1998 of Aileen and Allan Mortensen afforded executive members the opportunity of entertaining them to luncheon at the home of President Evonne Sullivan, following a sight seeing tour of Canberra.

Representation The ACT Unit remained affiliated with the National Council of Women of ACT and the ACT Council of Churches, the representatives expressing the point of view of ACW at the regular meetings of these bodies.

In 1998 Jean Thomson was appointed, for a 3 year term, to represent ACW on ACT Women's Consultative Council.

At the invitation of Senator Margaret Reid (Senator for the ACT) the ACT Unit was represented at Round Table Consultations with Peak Women's Organisations in the ACT, discussing issues of major interest.

On two occasions executive members accepted the invitation of NSW State Unit to be present at special functions. In July 1998 three members attended their Diamond Jubilee Celebrations and in July 1999 President Evonne was privileged to be a special guest at luncheon when Life Membership was bestowed on a former ACT Unit President Edith Ridge.

Special Day Services Various affiliated organisations hosted Fellowship Day, world Community Day, World Day of Prayer, services. All were beautifully presented and well attended. ACT Unit had the privilege of preparing the 1999 Fellowship Day order of service with the theme "A People Reflecting God's Glory".

Winifred Kiek Scholar The Unit was delighted to host the visit to Canberra of 1998 Scholar Milise Taipaleti prior to her return to Tonga. As this report goes to press members are overjoyed to learn that the ACT Unit nominee Suzanna Nitrai has been chosen as the Winifred Kiek Scholar for year 2000.

Evonne Sullivan – President

Averil Whybird – Hon. Secretary

NSW UNIT REPORT TO ACW NATIONAL CONFERENCE – SEPTEMBER 1999

The NSW Unit has had two wonderfully full and interesting years and we thank God for opportunities, challenges and blessings.

In May 1998 we celebrated sixty years with a Diamond Jubilee Thanksgiving Service and Luncheon. Our inspiring guest speaker was Commissioner Lorraine Buckingham of the Salvation Army Eastern Territorial Command.

We have given a high priority to activities relating to Aboriginal Australians, hearing speakers from the Council for Reconciliation (Elaine Telford), the Aboriginal Inland Mission - AIM (Cliff Letcher), and Bimbadeen College – Aboriginal Evangelical Fellowship (Beryl Burke). During her Presidency Peg Blake represented us at the Enquiry into Dedicated seats for Aboriginals in Parliament. Many of us were among 2000 in St. Mary's Cathedral for the churches apology to Aboriginal Australians organised by the NSW Ecumenical Council. We were delighted to assist two young Aboriginal women to broaden their ecumenical experience – Kayleen Manton (wife of a Presbyterian Aboriginal Pastor in western Sydney), who attended the Asian Church Women's Conference in Chang Mai; and Lisa Jackson (from the Aboriginal and Islander Commission of the National Council of Churches), who will attend the Central Committee meetings of the World Council of Churches in Geneva as a youth steward. She is the first Aboriginal Australian to be chosen for this honour. We have been represented at activities of Women for Wik, and are grateful for the Fellowship of the Least Coin grant offered to Crossroads Aboriginal Ministries.

The FLC grant to the Somali Refugee Program has also been most effective with more than 50 women participating in the sewing scheme.

We are delighted by the growth of interest, attendances and offerings at Special Days Services – Fellowship Day was held in 36 centres and World Community Day in 40 centres. We have formally welcomed into membership the Congregational Federation of NSW, the new Kincumber Branch of ACW, and Church Women of the Hunter (CWH).

Our annual Asian Church Womens Service continues to grow, with attendances of Korean, Chinese, Filipino, Cambodian and other Asians Christians worshipping with Anglo and Pacific Islanders.

A wide range of current social issues is brought to our attention for appropriate action and responses. This year our focus has been on the International Year of the Older Person. We have been ably represented on the Council for the Ageing's Coalition '99 by Heather Reid. Our Annual Ecumenical Luncheon was addressed by Mrs Marjory Deasey, a 4 times retired missionary, whose theme was 'You're never too old to be of use'.

Many useful recommendations, and much inspiration, came from our State Conference in May '98 with the theme 'Towards 2000 – Walking Together'. We plan another conference in 2000 and we are preparing to celebrate it as the Year of Jubilee.

Together with the National Council of Women we have supported Fiona Collins and Mia Hoggboom in their OzIndo Project. This is a year-long, 16,000km, sponsored bicycle ride around Australia to raise funds for Indonesian women and their families.

We have been delighted and blessed by two visits from ACW National President Aileen Mortensen, and a visit from the '98 Winifred Kiek Scholar Milise Taipaliti.

We have continued to give testimony to our city by participating in the Cathedrals Spring Flower Festivals, and by maintaining our association with the National Council of Women, The NSW Ecumenical Council, the NSW Council for Children's Films and Television, The Women's Temperance Union, the Girl's Brigade, and the Pan Pacific and SE Asia Women's Association.

Life Membership (ACW NSW) has been conferred on Mabel Ward, Mina Whybourne and Edith Ridge. Congratulations were offered to Marie McCann, honoured in the Order of Australia and to Joan Tong, nominated for the NCW Woman of the Year Award, and for her re-election as President of the NSW Ecumenical Council. Colleen O'Sullivan, Margaret Collier and Lucelle King have been farwelled from the Executive and we have welcomed Eileen Holley, Irene Carder and Glenys Holley. We remember with sadness and thanksgiving former Executive members who have died –Doris Mitchell, Beth Finlay, Linda Perriam, Edna Baker, Leah Pickering, Mabel Ward, and Yvonne Davis.

We are delighted that our fabulous secretary, Jan Harrison, has been nominated by Archbishop Goodhew as our President Elect! With praise and thanks to God and all the wonderful people in ACW NSW for the achievements and blessings of the past two years:

Elizabeth Walker – President

Northern Territory Branch Reports:

Alice Springs

The Alice Springs Branch has continued to operate for the years 1997-1999 with some changes to Office Bearers. The President, Anne-Marie Priestly left to further her studies in Adelaide during this time and has now been appointed the Anglican Parish Priest at Tennant Creek. In June 1999 Secretary Joan McDonald and her husband left Alice Springs to live in Adelaide. Deaconess Frances McKechnie replaced Anne-Marie as President.

With these changes the Branch considered their future and has decided to continue and will have an election of new Office Bearers.

Fellowship Day 1999 was held with fifteen people attending and the branch is preparing to hold World Community Day.

QUEENSLAND UNIT REPORT

The Queensland Unit of Australian Church Women consists of representatives of the Anglican Church, Catholic Church, Churches of Christ, Salvation Army and Uniting Church together with associates from Y.W.C.A. and Girls' Brigade.

There are three Branches – Bundaberg, Rockhampton and Mackay.

The Unit holds monthly meetings from February to November. These meetings have been ably led by Presidents Averil Jell, 1997/1998 and Daphne Featherstonhaugh, 1998/1999.

Both Fellowship and Community Days are held in Brisbane City and fourteen other venues throughout the State. Thought provoking addresses have been brought at these special meetings in the City by Rev. Janice Hughes, Lt Col. Jean Venables, Miss Margaret Parkinson and Rev J Tymms.

Two funding raising are held each year. Entertainment was provide by the Twilight Zone Quartet, the Wesley Singers, and Shalom Singers to the delight of those attending.

The visit of the W.K.S. Scholar Milise Taipeliti was an enjoyable event. She was able to engage in some sightseeing, participate in a visit to a local school and visit the Carina Salvation Army Corps for various activities. A luncheon was arranged so that Milise could meet both State and National representatives of A.C.W.

At the Community Day service in 1998, the Unit was pleased to award Life Membership to Mrs Ina Collard and to present Recognition certificates to Mrs Mary Carroll and Mrs Anne Green. The awards were well deserved by these dedicated women.

The Unit was saddened by the passing of Lt. Col. Olwen Everitt, Major Mavis Westpfahl, and Mrs Margaret O'Sullivan. Condolences were expressed to the bereaved families.

Our grateful thanks go to all our convenors and representatives for their services to A.C.W. Queensland. They are to be commended for their loyalty, enthusiasm and diligence.

A.C.W. was represented at many functions held by W.C.T.U., Y.W.C.A., Girls' Brigade, Mothers' Union, G.F.S., C.W.L., Churches of Christ, and World Day of Prayer.

Thanks is expressed to St. Andrew's Uniting Church, City, for allowing the Unit to use both the church and hall for the Unit's functions.

The Unit also wishes to express its appreciation of having the privilege of hosting the 1997/1999 National Executive. We extend our best wishes to the incoming National executive being hosted in Adelaide by the south Australian Unit.

May God bless us each one as we continue to work for Him through the days to come.

Aileen Mortensen
Secretary,
14/7/99

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN UNIT

REPORT TO THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

GRACE COLLEGE SEPTEMBER 27TH – OCTOBER 1ST 1999

Unit and Business Meetings are held on the second Friday each month from February to November at the Pilgrim Centre, Flinders Street, Adelaide.

Membership has increased, slightly, with the addition of five Associate members. Five metropolitan and two country branches remain affiliated and work tirelessly, networking in their own areas to keep members in the work of ACW.

During 1997, Unit meetings provided opportunities to learn more about a variety of topics, such as the conference of the World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women who met in Rio de Janeiro for their international gatherings.

We learnt of the dedicated work being done in support of refugees and migrants from Christine Loveday who has worked for many years, believing that God has chosen her to show His love to those people seeking re-settlement in countries other than their own.

An invitation was accepted for the Unit to be represented at the official opening of the new headquarters for the SA Council of Churches.

Mrs Jenny Main was guest speaker at the World Community Day service in October and told of her experiences, having spent 19 years service with the Salvation Army in India and 4 years in Romania working with World Vision.

The WKS in this year assisted two Australian women undertaking further studies. The SA based WKS Trustees selected a woman from Tonga as the 1998 recipient of the Scholarship.

Fellowship Day services were held in 6 metropolitan and 5 country centres with donations being received from several other fellowship groups.

Social Justice raises awareness of inequalities in life and the desire for things to be better. Athalie Ford, Social Justice convenor, brought to our attention the ongoing deliberation concerning Aboriginal Reconciliation. The traumatic experiences of women who find themselves serving gaol sentences and the impact that has on their lives. A watching brief was kept on the issues of anti-personnel land mines and on behalf of the Christian Blind Mission International, a petition was sent to the Commonwealth Government concerning the banning of laser weapons. Letters were sent to State and Federal Health Ministers expressing concern about rural health issues.

Trustees of the J150 Trust of South Australia were pleased to be able to present five awards to assist disadvantaged women. A report back is required to learn how the awards are used and to what benefit to the recipients.

Our Community Concern Morning Teas project reached out into a new area by supporting the Joint Churches Action Group on domestic violence. It was encouraging to see some younger women attending these functions.

1998 was a very busy year with the Unit grasping opportunities to listen, learn and to express its concern for the welfare of the disadvantaged and often neglected people in the community, for example; services to the frail and elderly, health and care services, the ongoing struggle to secure Native Title and Reconciliation, the campaign to ban Land Mines, the social implications for the mentally ill in community based care, poker machines and the impact they are having on family finances and support services to assist victims of crime. Our members are aware that as Christians we need to be concerned and prayerfully vigilant.

Speakers invited to address members at Unit meetings have been excellent in addressing their chosen topic. Mrs Barbara Agacy spoke about the work being done to help victims of crime by the Victims of Crime Support Services in south Australia. Ms Anne Van Loon told of the service provided by the Faith Community Nurses Association and Dr. Brian Nelder spoke enthusiastically about his work with the Lutheran Church in Europe and Africa.

Margaret Greenslade, Convenor of the Fellowship of the Least Coin, spoke to eleven groups during the year about the history of the foundation of F.L.C. in 1956. World Community Day Services were held in each centre, everyone appreciating the theme of "Unity in Diversity" prepared by the Tasmania Unit.

Maureen Clark, Convenor of the Winifred Kiek Scholarship, reported that seven centres held Fellowship Day Services in the metropolitan area and seven in country areas. A new centre was formed at the Seaford Ecumenical Mission, Seaford.

A Celebration Service was held in May for the end of the "Churches in Solidarity with Women Decade". Many denominations were represented and heard of the contribution made by women in the Church from biblical times, through the decades to the present times.

The Community Concern project for 1998 was the Childhood Cancer Support Association, a support group made up of parents and friends of children suffering from cancer. \$3,284 was raised over a period covering May to August when fifteen Morning Teas were held at venues in the Metropolitan and near country areas. Extra donations of money and food items were generously given by women attending the Morning Teas to support the Family Support Units which is a base house for parents to stay while they visit the hospital during a child's treatment time which may take an extended time.

The Jubilee 150 Trust, which was established by the late Pauline Crosby to help disadvantaged women, made two Awards for 1997-98 to the value of \$650. Reports from the two sponsoring bodies indicated the monies allocated were of considerable assistance to the recipients.

Lyn Smith, Social Justice Convenor, brought to our attention the following concerns:
Landmines: Advice was received from an international source, that the International Campaign to ban Landmines Organisation will continue to focus on the three major areas of concern, and through working groups, will provide assistance to victims – help to clear mines and lend support to the legal and moral responsibility of this issue. Regular feedback is being received.

Model Domestic Violence Laws: A recent review of the legislation reveals little consistency between the States and Territories which has led to a further review of existing laws to see what can be gained from a national perspective rather than trying to develop something new.

Model Criminal Code – Slavery and Sexual Servitude Offences: A discussion paper was received outlining proposals for reforming the laws to deal with offences on "Non Fatal Offences Against the Person". The present structure of offences is confusing because of the

considerable overlap which exists between a number of offences. Following receipt of submission, a final report is awaited

1999:

Mr Chris Keating, Executive Officer for the Diocesan Commission for Justice and Peace, spoke at the March Unit meeting about the Jubilee 2000 Debt Coalition Charter, presenting a most informative overview of the implications involved in bringing about acceptance of the Charter. Petition Forms for the collection of signatures were available.

Cross Cultural Ministry was the topic for the May Unit Meeting. Mr Scott Litchfield, Consultant for the Uniting Church on World and Cross Cultural Ministries, spoke about the need to support churches using languages other than English in their Church Services, the need to raise awareness about refugees and their needs and to encourage the Church to look outside itself towards local and global relationships with ethnic communities.

Across Our Church Communities was the theme for the July Unit meeting. With a change of format from the usual agenda, small groups were formed and a representative from each denomination spoke for five minutes on the findings of her denominational group who had previously discussed where they saw the Church, today, and their visions for how the Church can be effective into the 21st Century. The topic was the outcome of an address presented at the Annual General Meeting held in November, 1998 by Rev Cathy Thomson. Cathy challenged us to also consider how we, as an ecumenical body within Australian Church Women, plan to reach out into the community and interest women in the work of the Church in the new millennium. Scribes reported back on the findings of questions asked of the small groups and the whole exercise was summarised by Cathy Thomson. A most rewarding time of discussion and fellowship which members appreciated.

This year's Community Concern Project has been the Cystic Fibrosis Association. Fifteen Morning Teas with trading tables have been arranged to support the project. The Association's Publicity Officer has given information about Cystic Fibrosis and has told of his own experiences as a sufferer, for which there is no cure. Proceeds received from these occasions will help support research into the disease. A cheque will be presented to the Association at the Annual General Meeting in November.

Affiliation with other organisations is an expression of our outreach which we feel to be important in reaching and networking with the wider community. Representatives attend on our behalf, The Bible Society in South Australia, the National Council of Women of South Australia Inc., Lavender Lads and Ladies Auxiliary, World Day of Prayer South Australian Committee, and the United Nations Association, South Australian Division, Status of Women.

VALE: We record, with sadness, the sudden death of our esteemed member and Secretary, Mrs Lois Harris, in September 1998. Her untiring energy, cheerful presence and her capacity to do all things well, was an inspiration to us and one we will hold dear into the future. We are deeply grateful for the commitment Lois made to the life of our Unit as Secretary and friend. We praise God for the privilege of sharing in her life journey.

Our prayer for Australian Church Women as we prepare to face the challenges and blessings of working together across our denominations in the new millennium is, that by God's grace we may encourage other like-minded women on a journey of new and exciting dimensions, with a greater understanding of the call of Christ, 'that we may all be one in Him'.

Jean Roberts OAM
Secretary ACW (SA Unit)



Australian Church Women

Tasmanian Unit



TASMANIAN UNIT REPORT.

The Tasmanian Unit continues to meet bi-monthly in Launceston where the business of Australian Church Women is discussed and a time of fellowship is enjoyed over lunch.

There has been a slight change in our Executive this year with the election of Mrs Juanita Miller as President for the next two years. We thank our past President Mrs Deirdre Hunter for her leadership over the past two years and wish her well. Deirdre has had a busy couple of years culminating in her being inducted as a Deacon in the Anglican Church during the last year. We pray that she will be richly blessed as she serves our Lord and Saviour in this capacity.

Unfortunately our members are growing older and are finding it increasingly difficult to attend meetings. I'm sure that we are not the only State that is having this problem. The challenge remains to encourage new blood within our groups so that the great work of Australian Church Women can continue.

It was a real pleasure to welcome our National President, Mrs Aileen Mortenson to our State at the end of last year. We spent a very informative time with Aileen over morning tea and lunch and enjoyed hearing about the work of A.C.W. throughout the rest of Australia.

We continue to celebrate Community Day and Fellowship Days with good support at the various centres around the State.

We thank God for the National Executive for their great leadership over the past two years, and assure the incoming Executive that you will be in our prayers during your two year term. May God richly bless you all as you serve Him.

Narelle Digney.
Secretary.

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN (Victorian Unit) Report 1997-1998

The average attendance at the bi-monthly COUNCIL MEETINGS has been 35. Members have been able to enjoy fellowship and worship together.

Under the leadership of Major Lynette Green and Miss Pat Franklin, we have had a varied and informative program – Family Tracing Service, Life and Faith Stories, Prison Chaplain and Court Officer, Bible Studies, World Vision 2000, are a few of the topics covered. We also supported the Fairwear Campaign and ACWC Signature Cards. FIVE MINUTE FOCUS is covered by each denomination on a rostered system, speaking on a project in their church.

Each year a QUIET DAY is organised by the President-Elect and a small committee. Soothing music and pleasant surrounds helps to relax the body and mind.

A FILM LUNCHEON is held each year and is very popular with members and friends. A decision to sell Bartel CALENDARS proved successful. Proceeds went to our funds as well as National and State Travel. Thanks to those who organised the two events.

VISITS by members to ACW Groups to share in the services of Fellowship Day and World Community Day, gave an opportunity to meet with others who support ACW. Certificates are presented to those who have served 20 years. Our banner is taken to these services as it was when some members attended Sunday Worship at the Salvation Army, Berwick, and Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Church, Cheltenham.

CONGRATULATIONS are extended to Mrs Barbara Lacy who was elected to be the Australian National representative for four years on the Asian Church Women's Conference, and was also elected onto the Executive of ACWC. Barbara is a capable, dedicated and loyal member of ACW.

Our thanks to Major Lynette Green, who so ably represented National ACW on ACWC, and we congratulate her on her Re-election on the General Committee.

Mrs Rathie Selvaratnum, is a past –president of ACWC (before coming to live in Australia), who with others, received a plaque commemorating her service. The members supported Barbara and Lynette by donating cash and goods towards the stall at the Asian Festival. At the November meeting members heard a very interesting and informative report of their time before and after the Assembly Meeting, held in Thailand.

VISITS – The Rev Iluminada Domingo after the National Conference was the guest of Major Lynette Green in Victoria. A successful barbecue lunch held on the Saturday at Jell's Park gave everyone time to mix informally.

Melise Taipaleti, Winifred Kiek Scholar, was able to speak to one of our meetings where we learned of her background and hopes for the future when she has completed her studies. Melise also visited two other groups and had a radio interview.

The National President, Mrs Aileen Mortensen, met with 28 members over lunch in November '98. It was an enjoyable relaxed time enabling us to meet Aileen and her husband.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT – Thanks are give for the life of Mrs Muriel Stafford who passed away early '99 in her 95th year. Muriel was a Church of Christ representative when the organisation was known as 'Women's Inter-Church Council'. Her loyalty to the organisation

was shown when she agreed to accept to be President when the name-change was in its infancy.

Another older member, Mrs Jean Smith who has celebrated her 90th birthday, was honoured by her son writing a book about her life. The Unit was asked for a contribution and our talented Lynette Green wrote a poem outlining Jean's ACW involvement.

We thank the members who represent us on the Victorian Council of Churches; National Council of Women Vic.; and World Day of Prayer –Vic. Committee. Their informative reports keep members involved in the wider Community.

Our thanks of appreciation go to the retiring National Executive for their dedication to Australian Church Women over the past two years, for the time and effort given to keep the Association working.

We congratulate the incoming Executive and ensure them of our prayerful support as they accept positions on this worthy Committee.

Audrey Binks
Hon. Secretary.

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AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

Western Australian Unit National Report – 1997-1999

Membership of the Western Australian Unit consists of representatives of the Anglican, Catholic, Uniting Churches, the Salvation Army and the YWCA.

Our Office Bearers for 1998-2000 were elected last October.

President: Margaret Napier; Vice President: Bethel Caple and Patricia Smeeton;
Secretary: Leeola Loughnan; Treasurer: Leila Wilson

There were no changes in our Convenors: FLC – Patricia Smeeton; WKS – Marjorie Scurlock; Special Days – Leeola Loughnan; World Day of Prayer – May Eddy; National Council of Women – Mollie Smith; Conferences of Churches WA – Janet Watts; Social Issues – Vera Wilson.

Our President for 1996/98, Barbara Bourhill was thanked for her gracious and excellent leadership. It was with great sadness that we extended our sympathy and condolences to Barbara on the death of her husband Crawford in April this year.

A 'thank you' was extended to Janet Watts who as Secretary for four years.

Special Days: It was decided to change the venue for Fellowship Day and World Community Day services to the suburbs of Perth, instead of city venues. This proved quite successful. At each venue the parishioners have been so helpful in preparing the luncheon and anything else asked of them. Other services are held in Balga/Girrawheen and Floreat (suburbs of Perth) and Bunbury, Busselton and Mandurah (country towns).

Days of Reflection have been well attended by members from our various Churches. We have been privileged to have excellent leaders for these days.

Invitations have been received and accepted to participate with our various Church Groups and Government organisations.

Country Visits: We have participated in two country visits. In 1997 it was to Kukerin, 280kms away. Women from Lake Grace and Yealering also made the effort which was most appreciated. In 1998 our members travelled to Toodyay, approximately 100kms from Perth.

Visitors: We were privileged to welcome Iluminada Domingo after her attendance at the Biennial Conference in Canberra in 1997. Iluminada was able to experience a day in the bush with an Aboriginal man explaining his culture. At a visit to a local Memorial Park we enjoyed the antics of a joey falling out of its mothers pouch and then returning to same. Iluminada was most impressed! Margaret Knauerhase was another welcome guest. We welcomed Aileen Mortensen, who graciously accepted our invitation to be our guest speaker at World Community Day service in 1998.

We enjoyed our meeting held in Kings Park as part of the video which was prepared for the Asian Church Women's Conference last November.

All our members are to be thanked for their various expertise and faithful diligence to our Western Australian Unit and to Australian Church Women in Australia.

Leeola Loughnan
Secretary

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE AUSTRALIA INC.

At the present time the National Executive of Catholic Women's League Australia Inc. is busily engaged in preparation for the 39th Biennial Conference of the League. The Conference will be held at Melbourne University from Sunday 19th – Thursday 23rd September, 1999. We ask for your prayers that the Conference will be a very successful one.

During the year our President, Mrs Olive Reichman and Vice President Mrs Brenda Finlayson, were in New York for the 43rd session of Commission on the Status of Women. The session was concerned with Health, Poverty, Violence and the Girl Child. From our contacts at the UNO we are kept informed on developments in these areas.

We are very gratified recently to learn that the young girls we have helped support through their education at the Academy have all gone on to University.

Over the past twelve months our Executive members have attended quite a few conferences organised by Government Offices, the Office of the Status of Women, and other women's groups where we have been most welcome and our input at these meetings has been well received.

Members continue to support their Parish Priest, are involved in Lay Ministry, Liturgy and various Charitable works in their community.

One of our League members, Mrs Shelia Hill, has been awarded an AM in this year's Queen's Birthday Honours List for her services to women through the Catholic Women's League and World Union Catholic Women's Organisation.

Olive Reichman



MU Australia Report for the ACW National Conference – September 1999

MU Australia is on a special journey. A journey we believe will lead and equip us for our work in the new millennium. We have spent much time in praying and worshipping together, discussing, debating and consulting as we have prepared ourselves for the exciting times that lie ahead for us in ministry.

Our members hold fast to the vision of our founder, Mary Sumner, **“to win the homes of the nations of Christ”**, and we have developed our new mission statement **“Sharing Christ’s love by encouraging, strengthening, and supporting marriage and family life”**, to guide us in pursuing that vision. We see the great opportunities God is giving us and we want to be intentional, contemporary, and flexible as we minister in our time and context. To express both our Australian identity and our changing structure we prefer now to be known as **MU Australia – part of the World-Wide Mothers Union.**

To celebrate being part of our world wide organisation, the Presidents from all the 23 Australian Dioceses were able to go to UK in July 1998, to attend the World Wide Council of MU, which is held every ten years. Delegates numbered over 400, and included members from every continent. This was a very encouraging time of fellowship, worship and work as the future of MU around the world was discussed, with the thrust of evangelism and outreach being central to our ministry.

In September 1998, our triennial elections were held, and a new Australian President, Jan Livingstone from Sydney and a new Executive Committee were elected. A new department of Promotion and Development under the leadership of Rev Wendy Pullin has been set in place to promote the Christian faith and the work of MU. The Journey in Faith we have embarked on is full of promise and challenge as we continue in prayerfulness on our way.

A great source of pleasure and pride has been the recent award received by our Immediate Past President Elizabeth Appleby. Elizabeth’s work has been recognised in the 1999 Queen’s Birthday Honours List. She became a member of the Order of Australia in The General Division for service to women’s affairs through The Mother’s Union, and to the community, particularly through The Red Cross.

Our social responsibility Department was requested to send a submission to the senate select Committee, on problems associated with easy access for children to unsuitable material on the internet, and is currently working on another submission about online gambling. This department is also researching the effects of workplace agreements on family life.

As a project to mark the Millennium, MU in 17 of the Australian Dioceses will be distributing over 40,000 copies of St. Luke’s Gospel to babies born in 2000. We pray that this will be an opportunity for families to be challenged about what happened 2000 years ago with the birth of Jesus.

MU Australia wishes all members of the Australian ACW a productive conference. May it be a time of blessing and encouragement to all.

Mary Coyne
Australian Secretary

15 July 1999



Presbyterian Women's Association of Australia

REPORT OF PRESBYTERIAN WOMENS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA FOR 1999 CONFERENCE OF AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN.

The Presbyterian Women's Association of Australia have State Units, which have their own Committees to carry out our Christian Commitment to society. These encourage those on the fringe of the Churches by planning and organising their meetings sometimes on 'neutral' grounds, inviting friends, relatives and workmates to social functions such as luncheons at restaurants barbecues at a park etc. as well as regular type meetings and money raising functions. Bible Study Groups and State Camps and Retreats have proved stimulating, sharing the Love of the Lord. The Main Avenues of service are:-

1. **MISSIONARY** - where we support our missionaries in many countries of the world, financially, with gifts, and prayers. The N.S.W. P.W.M.U. Standing Committee have issued a booklet this year "Adopt a Missionary" which has been given to their Branches to encourage support for Missionaries and to give ideas and guidance. State Missionary Rallies give us chances to hear Missionaries when they are on furlough.

2. **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION** :- Design and print leaflets for sale to Church Groups. They also prepare Study material and conduct Study and Fellowship Days. Leaflets prepared as follow-up to infant baptism and contain encouragement for parents and a list of suitable books for children.

3. **HOME MISSION & CHURCH EXTENSION** In excess of \$17,000 was raised to purchase High Frequency Radios to enable part time P.L.M. Padres in N.S.W. to contact their home base as well as folk along the way.

4. **DORCAS** this year is celebrating "The International Year of the older Persons" with an appeal to support Aged Care within the Church. Many interesting functions have been organised by branches to honour the contribution that has been made by older persons in their communities.

5. **THE MARKET COMMITTEE** in Sydney has supported Aged Care:- Westcott at Stockton and Historical Records and Library Committee.

6. **CARE AND CONCERN** cares for visiting hospitals, 'shut ins' contacting new families, giving aid to needy folk wherever needed to alleviate suffering. In recent years, the Lord has challenged us to a greater commitment to carry the Word of God to all those in need of a Saviour.

7. **OUTREACH** . Three of our members have just returned from Suva, Fiji, where Presbyterian Women met for their second Conference. to establish a networking group among women from the Presbyterian Churches of Asia, Pacific Nations and Southern Africa. They were inspired by the fellowship and wonderful speakers. We are planning to Celebrate the year 2000 with a Special Christian Witness week between palm Sunday and Easter.

It has been my pleasure to give this report and hope and pray that we can continue with our Christian Witness serving the women within our Churches as we enter into the new Millennium.

Grace Burgess

Federal Secretary P.W.A. of Aust.

of
THE SALVATION ARMY – AUSTRALIAN EASTERN TERRITORY

Ministry to Women and Families continue to be a strong component of the Salvation Army's expression of service to congregation and community. The women's programs are based upon a 4/fold foundation offering opportunity for Worship, Education, Fellowship and Service. All programs are designed to develop these.

Along with offering opportunities to participate in worship and develop spiritually, groups focus on specifics recognising local need. Developing programs available include,

Worship – Christianity Explained – Bible studies – Prayer groups – “Growing in faith” discipling groups.

Fellowship – Coffee Mornings – Ladies Nights Out – Women's Special Interest Groups i.e. craft classes, health and fitness, self esteem awareness groups – line dancing,

Education – Life skills development – Budget advice – Parenting skills – training in care for the housebound and families of prison inmates as well as hospital visitation, nursing home services and care for the elderly in their own homes.

Service – Overseas Ministry support – sponsorship for children in developing countries – support for training programs in developing countries – fundraising for the local congregation and work amongst the young people.

Pre-school groups for mothers and children are growing rapidly. Mothers attend with their toddlers and respond positively to the friendship and support offered over coffee while their children 'have fun in a safe environment'.

Decisions for Christ are being registered and women and their families introduced to the warm fellowship of Church life.

Highlights of the year's activities include a residential Bible Convention for Women. Registrations reached 700 and attendance brought together women of all ages from late teens through to senior citizens. The topic “Journey in Grace” captured the imagination and the hearts of all who attended and many testify to a life changing experience as a result of this occasion. Our International Leader – Commissioner Kay Rader was the guest speaker and a similar event is held for the men and is also warmly received.

Camps are another special occasion for ladies to enjoy each other's company, examine their spiritual development and explore new ways of serving the community and reaching others for Jesus. This year a number of special events have been planned to recognise the Year of the Older Person.

“People Count” and “Deeds of Kindness” are two motivating concepts which have led to some real growth in Friendship Evangelism. The Women's Program offers a ready made platform for developing these themes.

A training tour through our Territory focused on motivational leadership. Our guest from the United States of America developed the theme of servant Leadership – “You can impress people from a distance but can impact people if close up”. “God does not always call the equipped but promises to equip the called” brought both challenge and encouragement to leaders.

A sense of mission and a real desire to reach others with the Gospel is evident and we are excited about the innovative ways women are developing to care for the household of faith and serve the community in the name of Jesus.

Lorraine Buckingham
Territorial President
Women's Organisations



Uniting Church in Australia Adult Fellowship National Committee

REPORT TO AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NATIONAL CONFERENCE

27 September - 1 October 1999 at Brisbane.

The National Committee of the Uniting Church Adult Fellowship is a co-ordinating body. Responsibility for forming this Committee moves from Synod to Synod each three years. The present Committee, based in Western Australia, is now in its third year and has fulfilled many of its responsibilities, including

- *representing the Uniting Church in Australia at the two National Conferences of Australian Church Women
- *planning organising and 'hosting' the UCAF National Conference held each three years. This Conference is not for business matters but is intended to be a time of inspiration and spiritual growth open to all UCA adults. The 1998 Conference was held at a Conference Centre in a Perth suburb and attended by approximately 130 women and men from all States who enjoyed the opportunities for fellowship and the program which included a speaker and bible study on the theme 'Signposts for our Journey' plus opportunities for elective studies and outings.
- *sending two delegates officially representing the UCA at the second Consultation of Bridgebuilders International, a new organisation of Presbyterian and associated women based in the Pacific area, held in Fiji in July.
- *having ²⁶ sixteen members attending the World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women's South Pacific Area Seminar in Samoa in August.
- *intentionally widening our participation in the life of the church nationally by
 - .sending a representative to each annual meeting of the Gospel and Gender Committee of the Assembly
 - .sending a representative to each annual consultation of the Assembly agencies.

As National President I went on a tour to each Synod (in the 6 States and NT) where I met with Synod Committees and spoke at rallies, dinners, lunches, meetings and informal gatherings in cities and in many country areas. This tour, funded by the Synod Committees, allowed me to report on our stewardship as a National Committee, and to meet with and address women and men who belong to the Adult Fellowship groups in churches across the land.

'Adult Fellowship' begins at local church level where it has its base; it is then experienced by many at Presbytery level where rallies, coach outings, gatherings, meals etc are shared and bring people into a larger community than is the usual in small churches. Occasional activities are planned at Synod level, including support for the 'service' arm of our Adult Fellowships where the emphasis is on mission and outreach, and funds are raised. 'Fellowship' and 'service' go hand in hand within the life of Adult Fellowship groups in the UCA in local churches and at presbytery and synod level - and this National Committee continues to do the particular tasks allotted to it, the last of which is to plan and resource the Consultation, the triennial business meeting of UCAF, in May next year. We will then hand over our responsibility to a new National Committee to be formed in Victoria.

JULY 1999.

Lee Edwards

PRESIDENT: Revd Lee Edwards 2/67 Hardey Road Belmont WA 6104 ☎ (08) 9277 9324 Fax: (08) 9277 9192
SECRETARY: Revd Wally Fawell PO Box 1578 Busselton WA 6280
ECUMENICAL/
INTERNATIONAL LIAISON: Mrs Phillis Dolling, 2 Trimdon Street, Wagin WA 6315 ☎ (08) 9861 1125 Fax: (08) 9861 2324

~~COUNCIL~~
National Churches of Churches in Australia

It is now over five years since the Australian Council of Churches was transformed into the more comprehensive National Council of Churches.

The ecumenical family there represented continues to grow. The Lutheran Church in Australia joined in 1998, so the council now comprises seven Orthodox churches, five Protestant churches, the Anglican Church and the Roman Catholic Church. The Baptist Union of Australia and the Congregational Federation of Australia have become observers, along with the Presbyterian Church and the Seventh-Day Adventists.

Major Programme initiatives in this period include –

- Movement towards a multi-dimensional covenant between the churches. This would be based on inter-church agreements including one or more of the following: decision-making with consultation; common strategies for mission; common witness; shared use of buildings; and shared ordained ministries.
- The Pilgrimage to the Heart – a journey planned for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, in June 2000, that will take heads of churches plus a young person from each church from Canberra, through isolated inland communities, to celebrate Pentecost together at Uluru.
- Standing against racism and supporting Australia's indigenous peoples, with the strong leadership of the NCCA's Aboriginal and Islander Commission.
- Finding more ways for the churches to work together, in practice, through Christian World Service. Last year's Christmas Bowl Appeal was up, not enough but at least the movement is in the right direction.
- A gathering of youth leaders from member churches to work at the future of youth ministry in Australia.
- Major statements on Unemployment and Housing in Australia.
- In coming months the NCCA will host a major conference of Asian theologians and social scientists in Darwin, to reflect on "Church and Society" issues facing the churches of our region. Also, the Council's faith and Unity Commission is arranging an assessment of how bilateral talks between the churches are going, in Melbourne on October 25th.

The NCCA's Network on Women and Gender Relationships continues to evolve, clarifying its role and facilitating deeper understanding by the churches of each other's traditions and the issues they severally are facing. A major gathering, "Celebrate Women – Celebrate Church" brought together over a hundred people for a day before the 1998 NCCA National Forum. Work is preceding to collate and publish information about women's groups associated with the churches.

Through these and other initiatives, the churches continue to press forward towards the vision of a transformed church that is visibly one in its obedience to the risen Lord.

David Gill
General Secretary
26 July 1999



THE GIRLS' BRIGADE AUSTRALIA *Incorporated*

National Patron: Her Excellency Lady Deane

Greetings from The Girls' Brigade Australia

We have been busy over the last two years.

The Girls' Brigade Constitution. Our new Constitution was lodged and passed last year. Now all of our States have lodged their own Constitution and have become Incorporated.

International Conference of The Girls' Brigade (I.C.G.B.). Last July, 1998 saw the Girls' Brigade Australia hosting a very successful International Conference in Brisbane. The holding of such an event was a wonderful experience, meeting with about 240 people from 35 countries. The Christian atmosphere was electric when the many different cultures came together to worship the Lord. In between meetings, devotions, worship sessions, work shops and decision making times, there was trip to Brisbane and the Sunshine Coast.

We have changed our world structure from 2 to 5 regions, now known as Fellowships. They are European Americans and Caribbean, African, Asian and the Pacific. Each Fellowship has an elected Chairperson, also known as an International Vice president. At the I.C.G.B. a new International President, Mrs Jill Clarke, from New Zealand, was elected for the next four years. Thailand will be hosting the next I.C.G.B. IN 2002.

International Fonomarae. A Fonomarae is a camp for older girls (Pioneers) and Young Leaders. Fonomarae is a combination of FONON – a Samoan word meaning "getting together" or "meeting" and MARAE – A Maori word meaning "meeting place". Every two years in Australia a National Fonomarae is held, the next one in Western Australia in 2000. It was decided to hold an International Fonomarae to run in conjunction with the I.C.G.B.. There was over 200 girls and Leaders in attendance and it was held in Queensland (run by our New South Wales Leaders). There was many friendships formed from this event. Devotions, worship time, culture activities, outings and workshops were included in the main part of the program.

Leader's Training. Our Leader's Training has been rewritten to bring it in line with our new Leader's Handbook that was accepted at our last National conference in Perth, October 1997.

National Conference. South Australia will be hosting the next National Conference in July 2000 at Immanuel College, Novar Gardens.

THE GIRLS' BRIGADE AIM:- "To help girls to become followers of the Lord Jesus Christ and through self-control, reverence and a sense of responsibility to find true enrichment of life".

THE GIRLS' BRIGADE MOTTO:- SEEK SERVE FOLLOW CHRIST.
This motto is illustrated on the badges that our Juniors (girls aged 8 to 12 years) can earn.



(Mrs) Renelle Neale,
National Administrator.



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER, AUSTRALIA

National Liaison Officer:

Mrs Noeline Rose 140 Thomas Mitchell Rd Killarney Vale N.S.W Australia
Phone: (02) 4334 2944 Fax 61243342944

Thank you for the opportunity of sharing with you a few of the exciting things which have been happening in World Day of Prayer during the past two years.

In November 1997, the National Quadrennial Conference was held in Adelaide with representatives from all states attending. We also were privileged to have Taumua Toma and Yvonne Harrison with us on this occasion. They were our Pacific representatives to the International Committee at that time. At the conclusion of the conference, Barbara Grealy finished her term as National Liaison Officer and Noeline Rose was inducted into this position.

The service for 1998 was written by the Christian women of Madagascar and was entitled "Who is my Neighbour?" This was very well received. This year, 1999, the service was written by the W.D.P. Committee of Venezuela and was called "God's Tender Touch" and the reports have been very positive. We look forward to the year 2000 when we will hear from Indonesia - "Talitha Kumi. Young Woman, Stand up!"

The highlight of this year has been the 9th Quadrennial Meeting of the International Committee of World Day of Prayer which was held in Cape Town in April. 199 women from 92 countries attended the meeting. The theme was "In Christ, Global Partners in Reconciliation." Delegations from Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Macedonia and Bolivia attended for the first time. Dr. Brigalia Bam, the key note speaker, introduced the theme from her experiences with the Apartheid in South Africa and the changes that were made. Many women gave witness of the demanding work of reconciliation in their countries. Dr. Mercy Amba Oduyoye led 3 Bible studies to deepen the theme. We attended an Ecumenical service in the city, an African Cultural Programme in City Hall and had a day out when we were able to visit Robben Island where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned for so many years. We were delighted when Yvonne Harrison, from Launceston, was elected President of W.D.P.I.C. for the next 4 years. This is the first time this position has been held by a member of the Pacific Region.
To God be the Glory, Great Things He has Done!" - Noeline Rose.

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN – NATIONAL CONFERENCE 1999

In accordance with decisions made at the 1995 National Conference/1997 National Conference the National Executive has prepared the following recommendations concerning changes and addition to the Australian Church Women Constitution / Guidelines.

ALTERATIONS / ADDITIONS TO CONSTITUTION

Page 4

6.2 National Executive

6.2.1 Membership of the National Executive shall consist of:

(a) Executive Officers who shall be:

President
2 Vice-Presidents
Secretary
Treasurer

(b) Five Committee members who shall be

Minute Secretary
Winifred Kiek Scholarship Convenor
Fellowship of the Least Coin Convenor
Special Days Convenor
Publication Editor

PROPOSED –

6.2 National Executive

6.2.1 Membership of the National Executive shall consist of:

a. Executive Officers who shall be:

President
2 Vice-Presidents
Secretary
Treasurer

b. Committee members who shall be:

Minute Secretary
Winifred Kiek Scholarship Convenor
Fellowship of the Least Coin Convener
Special Days Convener
Publication Editor
Social Justice Issues Convener
Publicity Officer

RATIONALE:

At the 1995 National Conference it was agreed that the National Executive of Australian Church Women be encouraged to appoint a person/persons who will be responsible for receiving from National Secretary such correspondence relating to Social Justice Issues, who will extract relevant information from the correspondence and propose appropriate action. (95/13)

At the 1997 National Conference it was agreed that the position of Publicity Officer on National Executive be reactivated. (Motion 10)

GUIDELINES – PUBLICITY OFFICER

The National Publicity Officer shall:

1. Act on resolutions passed at National Conference relating to National Publicity of Australian Church Women.
2. Prepare monthly report (including correspondence in and out) for National Executive.
3. Maintain a file of all correspondence for duration of office and hand on to successor.
4. Compile a list of contact persons from each State/Territory Unit, each National organisation of denomination participating in Australian Church Women, each National special interest group participating in Australian Church Women through its State/Territory Unit.
5. Prepare information concerning the work of Australian Church Women to be Released to –
 - a. State/Territory Units
 - b. National organisations of each participating denomination, National special interest groups participating in Australian Church Women.
 - c. The General Press.
 - d. Such information to be ratified by the National Executive before release.

GUIDELINES – SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES

A committee may be appointed by National Executive to support National Social Justice Issues Convenor.

National Social issues convenor shall;

1. Convene committee (if any committee used)
2. Act on any resolutions passed at the National Conference relating to Social Justice Issues.
3. Prepare monthly reports (including date & details of correspondence in and out) for National Executive.
4. Maintain a file of all correspondence for duration of office and hand on to successor.
5. Compile a list of all State/Territory Units Social Justice Convenors. Encourage all Unit Convenors to promote Social Justice Issues by providing up-to-date material, and ask them to share information on issues, which could be helpful to others.
6. Inform all State/Territory Units of relevant Social Justice Issues and produce articles for Editor of ACW News.
7. Prepare a report (to be included in the Working Papers for National Conference) of approximately one (1) page A4 size. This report to be forwarded to the National Secretary two months prior to the date of the Conference.

In accordance with Recommendation 2 – National Conference 1997 – National Executive have prepared the following for discussion –

Recommendation 2 from NSW Unit.

Clarification is requested on the criteria for affiliation with ACW denominationally speaking, and by what method is an individual deemed eligible for affiliation. The ACW constitution gives no direction.

Constitution Page 1

2. Aims:

- 2.1 To unite Christian women in their allegiance to their Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ;

PROPOSED –

- 2.1 To unite Christian women from those churches and Christian communities which confess the Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour according to the Scriptures and commit themselves to the glory of the One God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Constitution Page 4

- 4. Membership:** Each and every member of a State or Territory Unit shall be a member of Australian Church Women.

PROPOSED –

4. Membership:

- 4.1 Membership is open to women of those Churches and Christian Communities which accept the Aims of Australian Church Women.
- 4.2 Associate Membership is open to individual women who accept the Aims of Australian Church Women, are ~~credited~~ ^{active} members of their Church or Christian Community.
- 4.3 Life Members
- 4.3.1 The honour of life membership

RATIONALE:

At the 1997 National Conference clarification was requested on the criteria for affiliation with ACW denominationally speaking, and by what method is an individual eligible for affiliation.

The National Executive sort legal opinion on this matter (which is attached). As a result of our discussion the above changes are proposed.

Australian Church Women

Membership Qualifications

Qualifications for membership of ACW. The specific question is whether professing Jehovah's Witnesses or Latter Day Saints are entitled to be members of Australian Church Women (ACW). This raises the more general question as to the beliefs or denominational adherence that a person must hold before being entitled to become a member of ACW.

In short, the national executive of ACW has no power to answer this question. The reason lies in the decentralised federal structure of ACW, which abdicates all responsibility for setting substantive qualifications for membership to State and Territory Units. Clause 4 of ACW's Constitution provides:

Each and every member of a State or Territory Unit shall be a member of Australian Church Women.

This is a procedural qualification only. State or Territory membership is both sufficient and necessary for ACW membership, with only life membership being a possible but improbable exception. So long as a person is a member of a State or Territory Unit, that person is thereby a member of ACW. In addition, the total ACW membership comprises only State and Territory members. The ACW Constitution sets no other qualification, not even that the person be a woman.

The only possible exception to this procedural qualification lies in life membership. Clause 4.1 of the Constitution states that there can only be one national life member from each State or Territory. For a person to be a life member, there must be a nomination by the relevant State or Territory Unit and an appointment by the National Conference, presumably when the Conference is satisfied that the life member is a woman who has made 'a long term significant contribution to Australian Church Women at the national level'. There is no *express* provision in clause 4.1 that a life member be a member of the relevant State or Territory Unit and, thereby, of ACW. That raises the *possibility* that a life member need not be a member of a State or Territory Unit beforehand, but it is only the slimmest possibility. It is more likely that, considering clause 4 as a whole, there is a necessary inference that a life member be a member of a State or Territory Unit. As a practical matter, it is unlikely that a nomination would be made or that a woman could have made a significant contribution to ACW without being a member of a State or Territory Unit beforehand.

Thus, in all respects clause 4 relegates any qualifications for membership based on belief or denominational adherence to State and Territory Units, and ACW is bound by the separate qualifications in that respect made in the constitutions of the State and Territory Units. The power to decide whether, eg, a Witness or Latter Day Saint can be a member therefore rests with each of those Units. Consequently, the question must be referred to each of the State and Territory Units, to be answered in accordance with their separate constitutions.

Revised membership qualifications (brief comments only). If ACW is concerned *not* to have Witnesses or Latter Day Saints as members, then the best means of ensuring

this is to have unambiguous membership qualifications to that effect included in State and Territory Unit constitutions or, indeed, in the ACW constitution itself. In the case of the State or Territory Unit constitutions, this may require a constitutional amendment to the membership clauses. In the case of ACW, there would certainly have to be a complete revision and amendment of clause 4. The most certain approach to clauses like these is to limit membership to women who are members or adherents of denominations listed in a schedule to the constitution, and simply not include the Jehovah's Witnesses or the Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints in that schedule. Often, para-church organisations limit membership of the organisation to 'members of a Christian church'. This terminology is desperately ambiguous, and could - according to the law - encompass groups like the Witnesses and Latter Day Saints. It should be avoided at all costs.

Anti-discrimination laws (brief comments only). The recommended clause is undoubtedly lawful. There should be no concern that a clause limiting membership to women of listed denominations is in breach of anti-discrimination laws. First of all, there are no federal religious discrimination laws applicable throughout Australia, although the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission has recently recommended that there be so. Secondly, there are no religious discrimination laws in New South Wales, South Australia and Tasmania. In those States, it is lawful to discriminate on the ground of religion (although racial discrimination laws provide some protection to ethno-religious groups). Thirdly, it is generally unlawful in the Australian Capital Territory, the Northern Territory, Queensland, Victoria and Western Australia to discriminate on the ground of religion in the provision of goods and services, employment, education, health and welfare etc. These laws do not apply to membership of private organisations, and in areas of doubt actually give express exemption to religious organisations as a recognition of their rights to discriminate. That is, religious organisations have the right to exclude from membership those of different beliefs in order to maintain their particular religious identities.

Dr RG Mortensen
Solicitor
Senior Lecturer in Law, University of Queensland

11 January 1999

MISSION STATEMENT

Australian Church Women seek to unite Christian women across denominational boundaries, to promote peace, understanding and unity through faith and love in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

STATE/TERRITORY MISSION STATEMENTS

QUEENSLAND

'Church women who promote peace, understanding and unity, trusting in God'.

NEW SOUTH WALES

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN believe that there is one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. One God, three in one.

We believe that Scripture teaches that salvation is only through faith in the atoning death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God's only Son.

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

In fulfilment of its Aims, Australian Church Women shall promote State and Territory Units who will co-operate with the National Executive in the sponsorship of Fellowship Day, World Community Day and in observance of World Day of Prayer.

In addition State and Territory Units will actively promote the Winifred Kiek Scholarship, Fellowship of the Least Coin and the Asian Church Women's Conference.

Australian Church Women shall provide a forum where members of the various Christian women's organisations may foster ecumenism and encourage inter-religious dialogue.

VICTORIA

We, Australian Church women – Victorian Unit, seek to unite Christian women across denominational boundaries, that we may all be one in our love and commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

"Australian Church Women (South Australian Unit) is an organisation amongst Christian women, who are united in serving our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, by promoting co-operation and understanding within church, family and society, and who endeavour to help Christian women to have an effective role in the total life and mission of the church, providing opportunities for different denominations to worship, study and serve together."

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

"Australian Church Women is based on the acknowledgment of the Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour as witnessed by the Scriptures and in the life of the Church; and readiness to fulfil together our common calling to the glory of the one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit."

Notice of Motions

The South Australian Unit moves:

1. The South Australian Unit of Australian Church Women urges:

"That other State and Territory Units support the aims of the Fair Wear Organisation in its efforts to protect the rights and human dignity of outworkers by writing to their appropriate Government Ministers, Retailers, Manufacturers, Wholesalers and fashion houses who have not signed to Homeworkers Code of Practice".

RATIONALE:

The South Australian Unit of Australian Church Women expresses its concern regarding the proposed changes to the Industrial and Employee Relations Act which would appear to adversely impact on home based outworkers, and therefore, supports the aims of the Fair Wear Organisation in its campaign, seeking to ensure that such outworkers are protected from being exploited by those contractors in the Retail, Manufacturing and Wholesale fashion houses in Australia, who are not signatories to the Homeworkers Code of Practice, which serves to protect the rights and human dignity of such workers.

The Trustees of the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Trust moves:

2. The Trustees of the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Trust recommend that the Surplus funds from the 1999 and 2000 scholars be credited to the Winifred Kiek Fellowship Fund.

Dorothy Ferrier, for the Trustees.

The South Australian Unit moves:

The South Unit of Australian Church Women is pleased to recommend that Mrs Dorothy Ferrier and Mrs Jess Horton, presently serving as WKS Trustees, be Re-appointed for a further 2 (two) years.

Recommendations:

The National Executive recommends:

1. The Executives Committee of Asian Church Women Conference is invited to hold their Executive Committee Meeting in Adelaide in the year 2001, at the same time as the Australian Church Women National Conference.

Asian Church Women's Conference will be responsible for Airfares for the Executive Committee members. Australian Church Women will be responsible for the cost of accommodation for The Executive Committee members.

Rationale: Australia has not hosted an Asian Church Women's Conference Executive Meeting for twelve years. The last Executive Meeting being held in Adelaide in 1987.

The National Executive Recommends that:

- 2. Australian Church Women National Executive minutes be sent to National organisations of each denomination, each National special interest group participating in Australian Church Women through its State and Territory Units.**

Rationale: These groups receive the ACW Newsletter. The Newsletter does not include decisions made by the National Executive, therefore national organisations are not keep in touch with the work of Australian Church Women.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE MEMBERS 1999 - 2001

President	Mrs Marjorie Dredge 18 Mortimer Terrace BRIGHTON S.A. 5048	08 8298 4557
Vice President (1)	Mrs Shirley Birch 3/45 Daly Street SOUTH PLYMPTON S.A. 5058	08 8297 7395
Vice President (2)	Mrs Laurice Smith 70 Folkestone Road SOUTH BRIGHTON S.A. 5048 ³⁸	08 8377 2275
Secretary	Mrs Maureen Clark 572 States Road ONKAPARINGA HILLS S.A. 5163	08 8382 1360
Treasurer	Miss Dorothy Chapman 8/22 Robert Avenue BROADVIEW S.A. 5083	08 8261 0616
Minute Secretary	Mrs Marjorie Crawford 10 Chaliapin Street ROSTREVOR S.A. 5073	08 8337 5107
Convenor, F.L.C.	Mrs Margaret Greenslade 4 Yalpara Avenue ROSTREVOR S.A. 5073	08 8379 7729 08 8336 1821
Convenor, W.K.S.	^{5B} Mrs Dorothy Ferrier 5B Windsor Road GLENSIDE S.A. 5065	08 837 ⁹ 7729
Convenor, Social Justice	Mrs Mavis Ellis 4/24 Sixth Avenue CHELTENHAM S.A. 5014	08 8240 0601
Publicity Officer	Mrs Barbara Grealy OAM 37 Rutland Avenue LOCKLEYS S.A. 5032	08 8234 6123
Convenor, Special Days	To be appointed	<i>mo</i>
Publications Editor	To be appointed	<i>maya Shirley Sanderson</i>

PROFILES - INCOMING NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

Marjorie Dredge

Married to Colin, Marjorie is in ministry at the Brighton Church of Christ with Colin.

They have four adult children, two daughters-in-law and a beautiful grand-daughter. Marjorie's various leadership roles within Churches of Christ include

Women's Conference President	1982 - 83
President Churches of Christ in S.A.	1993 - 94
National President C.W.F.	1993 - 95
State President ACW SA Unit	1995 - 96
Convenor, Community Concern, ACW SA Unit	1984 - 89
World President CWF	1996 - 2000

Marjorie has served in Eldership and leadership roles at various times.

She has been a member of Churches of Christ for 45 years, serving in Queensland, Australian Capital Territory and South Australia.

She has been a member of the National CWF Executive in Canberra ACT and South Australia.

SHIRLEY BIRCH

Shirley's association with Australian Church Women began in the early 1980's as representative from the Baptist Women's Fellowship of South Australia.

In November 1986, she was appointed by the Baptist Union to be President-Elect for 1987, then President for 1988-89, following which she served as Immediate Past President for one year.

Since that time, with the exception of one year, Shirley has served on the Unit Executive for, five years as Fellowship of the Least coin Convenor, and since November 1996 has held the position of Promotions Officer.

During those years also, Shirley has acted as secretary as well as Minute Secretary, the latter for some months, and relieved on occasions.

While holding the office of President, Shirley was instrumental in the revision of the Constitution as it was then.

Shirley has also held the position of State President for a number of groups, namely, World Day of Prayer South Australian Committee, The Penguin Club of Australia (SA Inc.), Baptist Women's Fellowship of SA twice and is currently in office as Leader following changes in administration.

LAURICE SMITH

Laurice was born in the Maitland Hospital on Yorke Peninsula (S.A.) and came with her parents to live in Adelaide at the age of 18. After training at a Business College, secretarial Work became her career, working in the legal and medical professions.

She has been a member of the Anglican Church all of her life, and is married to Brian, an Anglican Priest, who retired in the position of Archdeacon of Adelaide.

They have served in many parishes and experienced the joys and sorrows of many communities, particularly in Rotary, Hospital Boards, voluntary work and committees. As a member of M.U. Australian for 46 years Laurice has held positions in many areas, working for better family life.

She has only recently become a member of Australian Church Women SA Unit, and is completing her second year as President.

Brian and Laurice have three children, two in Adelaide and one in Perth, and eight grand children. Interests are volunteer work with Anglican Services, St. Peter's Cathedral, Carers Group and visiting for her local church of All Saints' Seacliff. Needlework, cooking, camping, grandchildren are her relaxation.

MAUREEN CLARK

Member of the Catholic Women's League for 26 years.

Branch service: President for 10 years, currently branch Secretary

Archdiocesan service: Newsletter Editor 4 years
Archdiocesan Secretary 4 years
Committee member for many years

State Executive service: State Treasurer 3 years
State Secretary 5 years
State International Secretary 2 years

Australian Church Women (SA Unit) service:
Liaison Officer from Catholic League to ACW (SA Unit) several years
Unit Secretary 5 years
Promotions Officer 4 years
Winifred Kiek Convenor 3 years
Delegate to National Conferences – Perth 1989
Sydney 1991
Canberra 1997

Local service: Representative from my Church to Southern Districts branch for many years,
Currently serving as Treasurer.

DOROTHY CHAPMAN

Dorothy is a member of the Uniting Church and for almost 20 years has worshipped with the Broadview congregation where she is a member of the church choir and both the day and evening fellowships. At present she is treasurer of the day fellowship and has served as treasurer of the evening fellowship and also of her Parish Council. Dorothy is at present recorder for the UCAF "Together" magazine.

Dorothy has been a member of the ACW Unit for eight years and for the last four years has been State Treasurer.

Her hobbies include craftwork, photography and she loves to travel.

MARGARET GREENSLADE

Growing up in the country as a member of the Salvation Army, Margaret was involved, actively, with young people, particularly as a teacher and leader in the Sunday School.

In the community, Margaret was a committee member at the local kindergarten and served on high school committees.

Moving to Adelaide approximately 20 years ago, Margaret, with her husband, Peter, joined the Norwood Salvation Army Corps, participating as Secretary of the Ladies Fellowship for four years, a member of the Corps Council, a volunteer with the Family Support Centre and a member of the Catering Committee.

Activities with the South Australian Unit of Australian Church Women include, two years as President, Immediate Past President, one year, F.L.C. Convenor (Currently) W.K.S. Trustee (four years) and a Trustee of the Jubilee 150 Trust, a special Trust, unique to South Australia, benefiting disadvantaged women and girls. Attended National Conference in 1993, 1995, 1997.

Hobbies include cooking, entertaining, family – two children and five grandchildren. In her spare time, Margaret is a volunteer in a Lutheran Retirement Village canteen.

MARJORIE CRAWFORD

My interest in ACW (SA Unit) began while I was still living in country South Australia and after moving to Adelaide became Winifred Kiek Scholarship Convenor from 1984 – 1988. Then from 1990 to 1997 I was a delegate for the Uniting Church Fellowships and am now an Associate member.

I was a member of the Uniting Church Adult Fellowship Synod Committee for many years and for 11 years of them was Editor of the committee's Fellowships magazine "Together".

Now widowed I have 2 married daughters and regularly look after my 2 grand daughters. My main hobby now is reading.

DOROTHY FERRIER

I was born at Prospect, SA in 1940 and educated at Blair Athol School and St Peter's Collegiate Girls' School. On leaving school I gained employment at Myers on the sale staff, but later entered a shareholding office, eventually becoming private secretary within a broking firm. I remained in this employment until my marriage in 1962.

My husband, Bob and I have two adult sons and one grand daughter. We have a holiday house at Goolwa (on the south coast) and we are now enjoying our retirement spending some of our time at either the house or on our riverboat – "Sandpiper".

We worship in the Anglican Parish of Glen Osmond – St Saviour's. Bob has served as parish Treasurer and Priest's warden and I have served on the Parish Council and occasionally help out in the Parish Office.

I have been a member of the Mothers' Union for over 30 years and have served as Branch President and Secretary, Deanery President, Diocesan Secretary, Diocesan Vice President and Diocesan President. I have previously been the Anglican Liaison Officer in Australian Church Women (SA) Unit and am presently representing that organisation on the Management Committee of the Lavender Lads and Ladies within the Royal Adelaide Hospital.

I am currently enjoying the position of convenor of the Trustees of the Winifred Kiek Scholarship which is such a rewarding and interesting task, and I look forward to continuing that interest in another capacity.

One of my other interests is Inner wheel, an international organisation which female relatives of Rotarians may join. We meet monthly, enjoy fellowship and speakers and raise funds for needy causes within the community. I have served as Secretary and president of the former Inner Wheel Club of Adelaide, and am presently a committee member of the Norwood Club.

I enjoy being part of the Mothers' union choir. We sing at Mothers' Union Services and give programmes at Nursing Homes.

My other interests are needlework, knitting and reading.

BARBARA GREALY

Barbara Elizabeth Grealy has served as:

Australia's International Secretary to (World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations) 1979-85.

National Vice President of Australian Church Women, 1985-87

Elected as Australia's Representative to Asian Church Women Conference, 1985

Elected Vice President of ACWC and Deputy Chairperson of the International Committee of the Fellowship of the Least Coin, 1986-1990.

Member of the World Christian Action Committee of the SA Council of Churches, 1982-1992

State President of National Council of Women of SA., 1989-1992

Executive Member of the SA Women's Suffrage Centenary Council Committee, 1992- 1995

Co-Chair of the SA Telecom Regional Consumer Council, 1990-1993

Consumer Representative on the SA Breastscreen Service, 1991, still serving.

National Liaison Officer, World Day of Prayer, Australia, 1993-1997

Charter President of Lockey's Combined Probus Club. 1993

Committee Member of the SA Order of Australia Branch, 1995, still serving.

MAVIS FLORENCE ELLIS

Date of Birth, 14th September, 1933

I have been involved in the Church all my life, firstly the Methodist and since 1977, the Uniting Church. I began Sunday School teaching at the age of 15 years and have served in all areas of congregational and parish life.

At synod level I have served on the Commission for Mission, National and World Mission Support and have just concluded two years as President of the U.C. Adult Fellowship, South Australia Synod Committee. I became a Uniting Church representative to Australian Church Women (SA Unit) at the beginning of 1998.

Most of my working life was spent at the Adelaide Central Mission where there was a strong emphasis on Social Justice. I was involved in setting up a Credit Union there to help those who came for financial assistance to better handle their finances.

I was widowed 10 year ago and since then have attended interstate Fellowship Conferences, two Area Seminars and the last World Assembly of the World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women, a group vitally interested in improving the conditions of people, particularly women and children in developing countries.

FAITH WORKS

Words by: Alik Flodine

Music by: Lexene Marquenie

I want to serve ^{you} the Lord
Out of this grateful heart
Forgive me for this independent heart
Then you remind me Lord
If I just rest in you
Your unfailing love will shine through

(CHORUS)

The secret of peace, is in Christ
who gives me the strength to face life.
It works, my faith in you.
The promise of a life brand new
Like the branches and the vine,
It's your strength that becomes all mine.

And when ^{my} doubts arise
I hold to the life I know.
And even though I can not see ahead,
I hear you say "let go".
And remember that you can see
The only way through fear is on my knees.

(CHORUS)

Yes, Faith works!
I will let go and rest in you Lord.
For this life is truly new,
As I hold onto only you.

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