



AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

NSW STATE UNIT INC.

Minutes Council Meeting – Monday 19th August 2013 - held at 222 Pitt St Sydney

WELCOMES: President Isabel Hewitt welcomed all

DEVOTIONS: In Luke's gospel there is the account of the servants waiting for the return of their master, with some diligently completing tasks allotted and others bending the rules to suit themselves. Isabel reminded the gathering, that though only a few from New South Wales State Unit Inc are entrusted with the greater responsibilities of the National Executive for 2013-2015, it is the privilege of all in NSW Unit to share in the organization of the National Executive from NSW. Isabel invited Jan Harrison to pray for each of the members of the Incoming Executive in their respective roles. Isabel concluded with prayer that all would be mindful of God's love and share this with others. Those not present were remembered in prayer.

PRESENT: 35 **APOLOGIES:** 18

CONFIRMATION of the MINUTES : The minutes of the Council meeting held on Monday 17th June 2013 were confirmed on the motion of Shirley Mitchell and seconded by Norma Dumbrell. Passed.

BUSINESS ARISING from the MINUTES:

1.National Executive Elect from NSW 2013: Lyn Middleton thanked Isabel for the prayer time for the Incoming National Executive. The theme for 2013 – 2015 was announced, *Building in Harmony*, together with the scripture verse from Romans 14:19 *Let us aim for harmony in the church and try to build each other up.* 8 members are to attend the National Conference in WA in October 2013. Denise Secomb [Nat Vice Pres] is taking on co-ordination of National Conference in 2015. Denise then listed items that may be suitable for inclusion in bags to be prepared for the conference. Lyn Middleton re-iterated that the NSW Unit is included in the running of the National executive from 2013-2015. Executive will call upon others in the NSW Unit to assist with various roles.

2.National Conference in WA October 2013 Isabel Hewitt informed the meeting that NSW State Unit is responsible for the devotions on the Monday evening. National Executive to give devotions after the installation on Thursday evening. Prayer was requested for these activities.

3. Honouring Australian Church Women: Profiles for Beryl Kirkwood and Heather Badgery have been forwarded to National Secretary Margaret Ker who was pleased with the nominations. \$50 per nomination to be forwarded to the National Executive. Isabel suggested that during the term of office for NSW as National Executive, thought could be given to names that may be put forward in 2015.

4. Spiritual Enrichment Day and 75th Anniversary – 16th September. Prayer request for this special day. A reminder to register with payment to Helen Richardson. Speaker is Jenny Stanger from Project Samaritan for trafficked women. This is the Special Project to be supported with funds from the offerings at World Community Day 2013.

5. Visit of Esther Kilaghbian [ICFLC] to NSW Unit Confirmation has been received from National Executive regarding the itinerary for Esther's visit to NSW. Social gathering with the Unit.

REPORTS:

Treasurer: Helen Richardson presented the balance sheet with a balance of \$11,315.57 as at the end of July. Helen moved that the report be received and accounts for payment accepted. Seconded Bev Elliott. Passed.

Fellowship of the Least Coin: [FLC] Lillian Hodges showed the new edition of *Circle of Prayer* available for \$3 per copy. She has spoken at Springwood Presbyterian Church. Good reminder of the intentions of FLC. A devotional passage was shared from the writings of Shanti Solomon where her experience of being refused a visa, gave her opportunity to think through the operation of the Least Coin. Shanti said that "*Forgiveness is not easy, but with God's grace, we can forgive. As we forgive we start a ripple of reconciliation that spreads out into the world. Forgiveness is not a case of holy amnesia that wipes out the past. Instead it is the experience of healing that drains out the poison from the wound.*" Lillian prayed.

Special Days: Lyn Middleton asked for those present to share experiences of Fellowship Day 2013. Bev Elliott [Kincumber] Brenda Dickinson [Sutherland] Shirley Mitchell [Newcastle] spoke. Lyn said that materials for World Community Day have been sent, including application form for Special Days Project for 2014, and copy of FLC report from Lillian.

Winfred Kiek Scholars:

Social Issues: Rae Goth highlighted material regarding, the National Aged Care Alliance; the off shore solution for those claiming to be refugees; misappropriation of funds from the Australian South Sea Islanders [ASSI]. Rae encouraged women to write to the Prime Minister calling for acknowledgement of these wrongs and to provide adequate support for those in this group today.

Membership: no report

Pastoral Care: Helen Hill welcomed back Edith Ridge after time tending to Barry and Ramona Cowle; reported on her husband David; mentioned Shirley Wells, and Bev Elliott's husband; Jan Jeffrey has had surgery and requires further treatment. Jan Harrison's husband Graham has had major surgery. Rhyllis Davey's father [in NZ] has died.

Newsette: Jennifer Pepper. Next edition articles to be to Jennifer by 6th October. Report from National Conference for November issue. There are spare copies of the August edition.

Publicity: Nola Dickson pointed out the benefits of the new document detailing the workings of ACW that can be passed on to friends and acquaintances.

CORRESPONDENCE (Inwards)

National Executive Minutes for July 2013 and August 2013.

National President Laurel requesting representation at the PWA conference Monday 9th September at Scots Church.

100 copies of Prayer Circle Volume 21 [FLC]

Prayer requests from National- India and Nepal (severe weather); Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore (smoke from forest fires)

National request for nomination for delegate from ACW to be considered to attend Quadrennial Assembly in Philippines October 2014

CORRESPONDENCE (Inward) cont.

National – Winifred Kiek Scholars – Circular 2.

Enquiry from Michael Pun re ACWC Concert 2013.

ACT Unit Winter Edition Newsletter

Anglican Board of Mission – invitation to morning tea, Wednesday 28th August

Uniting Church Adult Fellowship – *Connexion*- July 2013.

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CORRESPONDENCE (Outwards)

Copy of June Minutes 2013 to National Secretary

Letter to Mr Malcolm North re: position as auditor for National executive from NSW 2013-2015.

Contact details for visit of Esther Kilagbhan to President Laurel Pearce.

Forward prayer requests as received

Invitations to Spiritual Enrichment Day 2013

Information regarding National Conference as requested by delegates.

Michael Pun regarding possibility of concert in 2014.

Notification to World Day of Prayer of representatives from New South Wales State Unit Inc of ACW

HONOURING AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN: Isabel gave snippets from the lives of Eileen Dingle, Nancy McLaren, Terry Reeves, Evonne Sullivan, Dorothy Woodhouse.

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS:

Bible Society: Rhylis Davey

Ecumenical Council: No recent meetings. Working to make contact with churches around the state – Central west and North of the state. The Salvation Army has a new international leader, General André Cox, and the Sydney Anglicans have elected a new Archbishop, Dr. Glenn Davies.

Girls' Brigade: Elizabeth Neale – Girls' Brigade still celebrating the 120th year. In August there was the State Council comprising all Regional Representatives and State Executive, who discussed future matters of the organization as well as sharing fellowship. Girls' Brigade has become a partner with a program called ESTEEM DESIGNZ, where teenage girls are encouraged on a journey of self-exploration and empowerment. Mid August a Leaders' Workshop was held where training as given and included some doing initial training. There has been an enquiry about starting a group in Newtown. Older girls have completed the second Pioneer Leadership Training, based at Brigade Headquarters, which teaches skills required to become a leader in the Brigade and the community. A Girls' Getaway Camp is scheduled for the September school holidays. Those who have completed the Pioneer Pin (highest National Award for Girls' Brigade) or Queens' award (highest international award) are to be presented with these at Government House by NSW Governor Her Excellency Marie Bashir AC CVO [NSW State Patron].

National Council of Women: No report

Pan Pacific and South East Asia Women's Association [PPSEAWA] In May Dr. Eileen Pittaway, Assoc Prof, UNSW, Research Project spoke on *Refugee Women at Risk: Protection and Integration in Australia*. Over 80% of these women are systematically raped and abused. Her aim is to achieve the recognition of rape and torture and sexual abuse as war crimes, in conflict situations. We need to lobby our Government to support women's groups against sexual and gender-based violence. In June Mr Bob Ernst from Red Cross's Young Parents' Program spoke. He has been a volunteer with this program for 10 years. Young women as young as 12 are assisted to deal with the implications of raising a baby. This program aims to end the cycle of disadvantage by helping these women to deal with the experiences of abuse, neglect, early disengagement from schooling, limited health care, and lack of positive parenting examples, with aid given until age 21 and Aftercare until 25. July, Chris Franks of *Habitat for Humanity* gave the example of 100 Australian women who had visited Nepal to build 10 houses as shelter for 300 widows. This organization focuses on the providing homes by working with the local community, and digging wells, sharing sanitation and training in hygiene. Help was given in Victoria after the devastating bushfires. Prisoners in June goal build sections of these houses and then go out of gaol to construct the residence thus leaving gaol with employable skills. The International Conference for PPSEAWA will be in Fiji at the end of August. Australian delegates will wear a printed silk scarf made by aboriginal women from Sydney. A letter of protest has been sent to the Minister and Prime Minister regarding sending refugees to Manus Island. International Day of Peace will be held on Saturday 21st September at St David's Lindfield Uniting Church and all are welcome to attend.

World Day of Prayer: Shirley Mitchell One day each year features prayer around the world. Preparations for 2014 Day of Prayer are in hand. The service has been prepared by Egyptian Christians with the theme *Streams in the Desert*. Egyptian women say do not feel sorry for us, be glad at the opportunities we have. National Government literacy program. \$240,000 at 2013 services, with donations given to Bible Society and House of Welcome. Elizabeth Clarke, President. Sr Marie Craddock new member to the World day of Prayer from ACW.

FUNCTIONS ATTENDED: NCCA Forum Melbourne, Fellowship Day Kincumber

to ATTEND: PWA Federal Conference, ABM Sydney Auxiliary

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:


Nominations to National Conference: ACWC Quadrennial Assembly Pamela Freeman; AWC Tricia Graham: Auditor 2013-2015 NSW as National Executive – Mr Malcolm North.

Thank you to the Churches of Christ team for morning tea and the Presbyterian team for setting up the chairs.

Next Meeting **Monday 18th November**

Morning Tea: Presbyterian ladies Chairs: Baptist ladies

Trading table arranged by the Baptist ladies.

Signed 

Date 18.11.2013

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NSW STATE UNIT INC
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
1 JUNE - 31 JULY 2013

CREDIT BALANCE AT BANK 1 June 2013 9454.97

INCOME June and July 2013

Fellowship of the Least Coin	931.00	
Newsette	10.00	
Fees	15.00	
Travel Fund	55.20	
Nat. Exec. Subsidy for NSW	118.00	
Fellowship Day Offerings	1538.60	
Spiritual Enrichment Day	60.00	
Nat. Exec. Subsidy for Incoming	3205.00	
Bank Interest	<u>0.35</u>	<u>5933.15</u>
		15388.12

PAYMENTS June and July 2013

M. Noel - Envelopes & stamps	23.00	
P. Freeman - Posting Annual Report	63.35	
L. Middleton - Postage FD Parcels	185.28	
I. Hewitt - Airfare to Perth	506.29	
P. Freeman - Reg. & Airfare to Perth	1218.95	
I. Hewitt, H. Richardson, N. McLeod		
Reg. for N. Conf.	<u>2020.00</u>	<u>4016.87</u>
		11371.25
Outstanding Cheques presented		<u>55.68</u>
Cash Book & Bank Balance 31 July 2013		11315.57

ACCOUNTS TO BE PAID:

B. Dickenson - Newsette Labels & Toner	65.06
ACW Nat. Exec. - 100 Circle of Prayer	200.00
NCW - Annual Subs	
J. Peffer - Postage Newsette August	110.00
Incoming Nat. Exec. Travel Subsidy	3205.00
ACW. Honorary Aust Church Women	100.00
L. Middleton - Postage WCD Services	150.45
Incoming Nat Executive Subsidy	
Brenda Dickenson	801.25
Denise Secombe	801.25
Jennifer Peffer	801.25
Shirley Graham	801.25