

# WOMEN AT WORK FOR AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN



JUNE '80

- (1) To unite Australian women in their allegiance to their Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.
- (2) To help Christian women to take a more effective place in the total life and mission of the Church.

REMEMBERING CHRIST'S HUMILITY Philippians 2:2 - 5

"I urge you, then, to make me completely happy by having the same thoughts, sharing the same love, and being one in soul and mind. Don't do anything from selfish ambition or from a cheap desire to boast but be humble toward one another, always considering others better than yourselves. And look out for one another's interests, not just for your own. The attitude you should have is the one that Christ Jesus had."

Paul's exhortation on unity and humility to the first Century Christians is just as applicable today as then. Paul needed to remind them that they were part of the family of Christ and as such should be working together as one and not for their individual gain.

In today's society when the emphasis is on competition and material success; it seems as if selfish ambition is encouraged. But that is not the way of Christ.

( cont from front cover)

What a difference there would be in the world if everyone took Paul's words to heart and showed true love to one another.

As the early Christians struggled with their human tendency to greed and pride, so we still struggle today. But striving always to remember and imitate Christ's humility.

We in Australia are free to worship God as we choose; but, what about other countries?

EXTRACT FROM CURRENT EDITION OF "WORLD IN ACTION"--  
Publication of the Bible Society ...  
COURAGE ON THE STREETS OF IRAN

Facing up to the Future.

"Not many people would expect to see Bibles still being sold in the streets of Iran, but a few truly dedicated people have brushed their fears aside and set themselves up on the pavement alongside others distributing their own kinds of literature. It takes a lot of courage to do this in the new Islamic climate in Iran. Many of the traditional outlets for the Scriptures have been closed -- for example, the programme for new literates in the schools has been stopped. However, the Bible Society has been allowed to continue publishing the Scriptures as before, and the depot in Tehran has had any interference. In the new constitution, it seems that religious freedom will be guaranteed to minorities, among whom the Christians are a large group. But it is still not clear just what are the limits of this freedom."

..... " The Bible Society remains confident that it has a future in Iran, although it will take time to adapt to the new Islamic society."

FROM THE EDITOR'S CHAIR

Here it is 1st. June already.  
Pentecost last Sunday and feast of the  
Holy Trinity today! Although officially  
the first day of Winter, and for us especially  
in the Southern States, this is not always a happy  
thought, but it also means long evenings, log fires  
and we hope, family chats and cosy sharings.  
It is also the beginning of the Church's year, when  
she puts on her colour of green, representing new life

Let us hope we can grow spiritually stronger during this  
year. These traditions and customs were set  
mainly in the Northern Hemisphere, and we some-  
times find them hard to adapt to our  
conditions; but, if we work a little  
harder and think and pray a little more  
during these cold months, they will soon pass  
and we will enjoy more the "burst of Spring"

Thank you all for your letters and news during  
the past months; particularly to Roma & Marie  
for their report on Dein --- centre pages.

We did not get a lot for our "Back Cover", but  
keep your contributions coming. We would like to  
hear particularly from Northern Territory, and the  
"Great Heart"

God Bless you all till next month (ED)

DONT FORGET MAIL CLOSES 28th each month

3 BURGAN CIRCLE  
CHIGWELL 7010  
GLENORCHY TAS

OUR 1980 WINIFRED KEIK SCHOLAR, MISS DEIN

Have you ever met a person who listens with her eyes? You have 'nt! then you have 'nt met Dein.

As our young convenor for the W.K.S put it ontowords "I must admitt that I had a few doubts when I first took on this job -- was it all worth it to bring one Asian student to Australia ? But now that I have met her I know the answer".

MRS ROME HICKMAN REPORTS ON DEIN'S ITENERY

Dein's planned arrival for 4.35p.m. was delayed until approximately 8.45p.m. so members of the working committee and the Southern Branch of the State Unit of A.C.W. had a long wait before they were able to welcome Dein to Tasmania.

A busy week was planned for Dein. On Tuesday morning she was met by Father Jim Smith and taken to the Risdon Jail to meet the women prisoners, then to a radio station for an interview, followed by a visit to the Royal Hobart Hospital. After lunch, it was off to the Mercury Office for an interview with the reporter of Church News; then on to Channel Six for a live talk back programme. Tuesday evening was spent in the home of her hostess, meeting people from Indonesia.

Wednesday morning dein was invited to the Link Group which meets at St. John's Presbyterian Church and as a result of her visit, the group has asked for a speaker from A.C.W. to attend another meeting and give them more information about the Fellowship of the Least Coin and the Winifred Keik Scholarship. After the meeting, her hostess Mrs Vanemmerick, took Dein to lunch at Fern Tree, then into the City to buy warm clothes and a lovely pair of warm boots. In the evening she as the guest of the Mary's Grange Auxiliary:-

## SUMIYATININGSIH, VISITS "TASSIE" & WORKING COM.

And here, Marie Price takes up the story:-

"It is unlikely to happen again five women, each with an adopted title, together in one car! In the front seat the President of A.C.W. Working Committee, currently also executive member of Asian Church Women's conference. In the driver's seat, the National President of the Catholic Women's League. Side by side in the back seat, the 1980 W.K. Scholar, her hostess, originally from Holland, and thirdly, the National Working Committee convenor of the Fellowship of the Least Coin". They were all on their way to Mary's Grange, home for the aged, for Mass and afterwards to attend the annual meeting of the auxiliary.

Supper followed the meeting and Dien was shown around the comfortable apartments, by some of the residents, who had taken a great liking to the petite brunette"

Dein paid a visit to the Friend's School on Thursday morning, where she spent a happy time with students who are studying the Indonesian Language. In the afternoon she had a trip to Mt. Wellington to admire the beautiful view of Hobart, the Derwent River, and surrounding country-side. In late afternoon she went to Kingston to the home of Mrs. Trudy Kuilburg for the evening meal before attending the Dutch Reform Church Fellowship meeting.

A tour of the University on Friday morning, and a drive along the banks of the Derwent River to New Norfolk in the afternoon. Coming back on the opposite bank to Bridgewater, Dein had a wish fulfilled when she saw Black Swans on the river.

Friday evening was a Bible Study meeting in the home of her hostess. Saturday was an early morning start for Launceston (our capital in the North).

X X

We hope to have a short report from our Tasmanian State Unit for next Month's Women at Work. Dein was there for Wed 21st when they had their Annual Meeting and knowing the hospitality of the Launceston people we feel sure she enjoyed herself. (ED.)

EASTER ON CHRISTMAS ISLAND ( from our West Aust.con.)

this is an extract from an account by Major J. Linsell)

From our vantage point in the 'plane, we saw it! and, as the 'plane circled around the island we gathered our first impressions. Ruggedly beautiful in its remote location in the Indian Ocean. 14525 miles north west of Perth, 224 miles south of Java Head, 815 miles south from Singapore. It is difficult to think of it as the summit of a submerged mountain, but such it is.

Light had barely dawned as our little Christian group, interdenominational and multiracial, and varying in degrees of social status, gathered silently and reverently in a beautiful garden on the morning of Easter Day.

In this pause between dawn and sun-rise, the air was very still; the settlement below was scarcely astir, although bright with lights. Rugged cliffs, topped by towering rain forests, was contrasted by the cantilever loader, its mighty arms stretching seaward. This is an integral part of the island's machinery, belonging to the phosphate company, which provides work for the majority of the residents on the island.

There were those who were awake and on the job bright and early to keep production moving, and high above, in the lovely nursery garden, the faithful group, curious and wondering, prepared for the dawn Easter Service, .....the first ever held on Christmas Island.

There is no resident minister on the island. One from Perth visits annually, arriving on special Govt. chartered 'plane; which flies fortnightly via Cocos Is. and Perth.

Standing in the grey of that early overcast, Easter morning, we were conscious of a new and very wonderful experience. To the accompaniment of the sound of a solitary Flugel Horn, the fervent group of worshippers stood in the semi-darkness "Christ the Lord is risen today" ( cont. on page 7)

## Q "EASTER ON CHRISTMAS ISLAND" cont.)

The sound echoed through the garden and carried to the sheltered cove below. Many and varied were the needs which ascended to the Throne of Grace as heads were bowed silently in prayer. Then ... "Up from the grave He arose" triumphantly sang the group. I looked around. They were all there! the newly committed; the young; the old; the faithful and others.

As dawn broke in the cloudy sky and as patches of red and gold outlined the rim of the clouds, it was not difficult to follow and relive the Scripture story of the Empty Tomb. "He is not here, He is risen" echoed in the hearts of the little group as we each quietly moved away and prayed that this would not be the last time a ceremony such as this takes place on this island, where we felt there was truly another Presence with us.

There is much food for thought in this beautiful article. No resident minister on the island? First time such a service has been held? So near and yet so far from other Christians.

( cont. from back page )

His life was entwined with characters who could be true or fictitious, but, like other stories ( such as Ben Hur, The Robe, Quo Vardis ) so long as it is Scripturally correct, and historically true, the rest can be left to the reader's imagination

God is the same today, yesterday, and forever, and there is no reason why He should not inspire writings of today as He did in time gone by. Of cause Lucanus becomes the great St. Luke who wrote the Gosple; and, after reading this book, I love his Gosple even more.





## SHARE WITH OTHERS YOUR PRECIOUS MOMENTS

"DEAR AND GLORIOUS PHYSICIAN" by  
Taylor Caldwell (1978) £3.25

Before reviewing this book which I recently read and thoroughly enjoyed, I would like to quote from the end of the Gosple of John:

(v25) "There are many other things that Jesus did ...."  
(v24) "these are written, that you may believe, these things are true. and believng you may have Life Everlasting".

The author has taken time and prayfully written a biography of Lucanus, the beautiful Greek boy, who after the untimely death of his father, is fostered by Diedorus, a Roman soldier, who later became his step-father. This was the point in time when ancient Greece had fallen to the might of All Powerful Rome.

From his early childhood, Lucanus is torn between loyalties and loves. His great love for his young and beautiful mother Iris, from whom he learned of the Greek gods: the influence of Diedorus, whom he respected and who taught him the so called power of the Roman gods: the household physician Keptah, who believes in the "One True God" of the Jews. This learned and kindly man has a great influence on the boy and at the early age of eight years, they share an experience together when, one warm summer's night, they "see a great, bright star in the East".

It is through the influence of Keptah and the money of Diedorus, that the young Lucanus was sent to Athens to study to be a physician. Before this, however, he has suffered personal grief and loss of a loved one and he  
( cont inside back cover )