



AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NSW STATE UNIT INC.

Minutes for Council Meeting Monday 18th March 2013 held at 222 Pitt Street Sydney.

WELCOMES: President Isabel Hewitt welcomed all, especially Elizabeth Neale, representative from Girls' Brigade replacing Ruth Dickenson. Jan Harrison introduced Mavis Coleman, incoming Anglican Representative from Newcastle Diocese.

DEVOTIONS: Isabel led this segment with an account from Luke's Gospel of the women going to the tomb on Easter Day to anoint the body of Jesus. When we reflect on this scripture we are, like the women at the tomb, amazed that they were – although by the social standards of the day second class citizens – the first ones to be entrusted to tell the good news. We can take from this that God valued them highly as women, people he could trust with the most important message imaginable. Isabel concluded by reading a hymn from Brian Wren. In the prayer we were urged to reflect on God's grace to us as we approach Easter and to find opportunities to share that grace and love.

PRESENT: 36 + 2 visitors **APOLOGIES:** 13

CONFIRMATION of MINUTES: The minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 18th February were confirmed on the motion of Lyn Middleton and seconded Shirley Mitchell. Passed.

BUSINESS ARISING from the MINUTES:

1.NSW as National Executive 2013 – 2015. Lyn Middleton presented results for the Nominating Committee. Passed by the Council. Isabel expresses thanks to Lyn for the smooth working of the Nominating Committee.

National Conference 7th – 11th October 2013. Isabel reminded the meeting that expressions of interest needed to be sent.

2. Constitution Review – Response to National Executive: Isabel outlined the areas requiring comment. **1. Discipline Clause** which had been discussed and agreed to by NSW Executive. **2. Composition of National Executive.** An essential quorum required and other positions on committee. This enables smaller groups to work effectively and have opportunity to take on the role of National Executive. **3. Public Officer** Needs to come from ACT where the Constitution is registered.

4. Proposal for affiliated members. This raises the issue of voting rights for National Conference. Units to have voting rights and others eg Denominational bodies to be observers. National Executive wishes to have these matters ready to present to the Conference in October to be finalized. Isabel to send letter to National Executive outlining the responses.

3. Consideration for National Conference: *Honouring Australian Church Women; Possible motions to be presented at National Conference; Honours received; Deaths in NSW Unit.* Isabel outlined the above and requested that proposals be ready to give to the meeting as soon as possible.

4. Proposal for visit of Esther Kilaghbian: Isabel outlined proposal for Friday 18th October 2013

AGM Monday 16th April: Isabel reminded the meeting that the reports for the Annual report and the nominations need to be completed. ACWC could be divided into 2 roles if needed.

5. Annual report from NSW State Unit: Pamela said that the addresses for those to whom the reports are to be sent need to be confirmed. People were requested to provide names and details for others within the organization/ denomination who may receive a copy of the Annual Report. It is hoped that being proactive and disseminating our information may make others aware of ACW. Reports for publication need to be to Pamela by Friday 22nd March.

6. Dedication Day 20th May 2013 at Hamilton Wesley Uniting Church 150 Beaumont St Hamilton. Thanks to Nola for preparing the leaflets with instructions for location and train timetables.

7. Proposals for Spiritual Enrichment Day Monday 16th September. This will be held at The Salvation Army Function Centre 4th Floor 140 Elizabeth Street Sydney. The cost of hiring the venue has been covered and payment will be made for the catering. Further details later.

8. Banner: No news at this stage.

9. Lutherans: The Lutherans have responded to Isabel's letter stating that they would like to join with ACW. It is hoped that there will be representation at the June Council Meeting.

REPORTS:

Treasurer: Helen Richardson presented the statement with the bank balance at 28th February being \$9145.69. The statement and accounts to be paid were received on the motion of Helen Richardson - seconded by Tricia Graham. Passed.

FELLOWSHIP of the LEAST COIN: In the absence of Lillian Hodges, Sr Marie Craddock brought a reading from the *Circle of Prayer* and an Easter prayer.

ASIAN CHURCH WOMENS' CONFERENCE [ACWC] No report

SPECIAL DAYS: Lyn Middleton informed the group that materials for Fellowship Day were to hand awaiting printing. Lyn spoke about the program *Project Samaritan* supporting women involved with trafficking, which is proposed as the Special Project for 2013. Lyn told the story of a woman from Fiji who now attends her church and has been the recipient of the care at this place. This was ratified. Pamela to send this response to Margaret Ker – National Secretary.

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARS: Judith Cayzer had given out the recently arrived pamphlets featuring the 4 scholars for 2013. These are ready for inclusion with the materials for packing day for the Fellowship Day. Judith has had an email from **Leinamu** [Vanuatu – 2007] expressing her delight that her friend **Christina** is one of this year's scholars. Leinamu is always grateful for the opportunity given to her to study. Mina Whybourne received phone call from Rachel Otto [McManus][1997] who has moved with her husband and family to Brisbane as his father has cancer. Ivymay in High School and Jayden in Pre-school.

SOCIAL ISSUES: Rae Goth requested prayer for Adam Giles, first Aboriginal head of state for NT government. Letter of congratulations. 2. There have been disturbing reports about the dangers of returning unsuccessful asylum seekers back to the country of origin. Letter to the Minister for Immigration would help highlight community concerns. 3. In a recent article the lawyer leading the current enquiry into the abuses of individuals within the armed forces, has questioned the commitment of the Defence Minister to bringing justice to victims. Rae supplied appropriate contact addresses for people to follow through on these

PASTORAL CARE: Helen Hill mentioned Jennifer Peffer [recovering from surgery]; Pat Cory [after her health scare]; the wonderful obituary in the SMH regarding Naline Edmonstone [Olive Edmonstone]; Norma and Bill Dumbrell who have settled into the retirement village; Rae Goth's husband John [undergoing chemotherapy]; Beryl Duncan [surgery]; Edith Ridge [husband Barry taken to hospital]; no further update on Shirley Wells. Please continue to pray for these people and their families.

NEWSETTE: Jennifer Peffer had sent a report [read by Pamela Freeman] stating that the renewals for the Newsette for 2013 are filtering in. Reports for the next issue should be sent no later than the first week in April, immediately after Easter. Reports limited to 300 words – A 5 page and of Ecumenical interest or Social Issue comment.

PUBLICITY: Nola Dickson pointed out the details for the Dedication Day as per the flyer.

The reports were received on the motion of Jan Harrison – seconded Jan Jeffrey.

CORRESPONDENCE: [Inwards]

National executive Minutes – February 2013

Proposed visit of Esther Kilaghbian – Friday 18th October 2013. To be confirmed by National Exec.

Prayer request for Olive Dell [hip] National Executive

Annual report received from President,

Annual Reports from Conveners; Special Days, Membership, ACWC,

Annual Reports from branches – Kincumber, Burwood/Concord/Strathfield, The Entrance,

Annual Reports from; NCW, NSW Ecumenical Council [Churches Together],

Information regarding eligibility of attendees for Jean Arnot Luncheon.

Invitation to MU Annual Festival Service 22/03/13

Invitation to CWLA Centenary Mass & Luncheon – 19/04/13

Invitation Sydney Day Mission Support Group – Mission Get-Together Monday 29th April

SPAN March 2013 – Presbyterian Women's Association in NSW

Notification of obituary Naline Edmonstone 4/3/13 SMH

Extract from Minutes from National Executive re: Special Project for 2013

Nomination from for Jean Arnot Luncheon 2013

CORRESPONDENCE [Outwards]

To National Executive Secretary regarding visit of Esther Kilaghbian Friday 19th October 2013

Pamela Freeman moved that the correspondence be accepted – seconded Norma Dumbrell.

BUSINESS ARISING from the CORRESPONDENCE: Consideration to be given to nominees for the Jean Arnot Luncheon on Friday 10th May at the NSW Government. This luncheon is held each year for women turning 90 this calendar year or those already over 90 who may not have had this honour.

HONOURING AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN. Isabel Hewitt gave snippets from the lives of Olive Ackland [Vic]; Betty Farrell [ACT]; Juanita Miller [Tas]; Lila Williams [Vic]; Vera Wilson [WA]

PRESIDENT'S BUSINESS – FUNCTIONS ATTENDED / TO ATTEND; PPSEAWA Luncheon March 15th; MU service and Catholic Mass. Uniting Church Sydney Day Mission Support Group Monday 29th April.

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS:

Bible Society: Rhyllis thanked those present for the invitations received to speak. Looking at World Mission – In Western Society the bible is readily accessible. Other cultures still need their language to be written before receiving the bible in their own tongue. In these days, people from countries regarded as 3rd World are sending missionaries to other areas of the world. The work is never ending. EG In Rwanda 50% of the population is 12 years or under. Many church pastors do not read, do not have bibles. Forgiveness and reconciliation need to be taught. In Australia there is ongoing work in with those working in areas of disaster relief and chaplains in schools.

NSW Ecumenical Council: The group has reverted to this name. Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is May 12th to 18th. On Thursday 16th May 2013 Prayer Time to be held at St James' Church 6.30 pm.

GIRL'S BRIGADE: Elizabeth Neale referred to the National Conference held at Philip Island Victoria. There have been In-Service days for leaders and Leadership training. The State Camp was held at Shellharbour where the participants slept in tents. Some Divisions have combined to become Regions. Numbers are steady with some enquiries for new Brigades. In 2012 the Facebook page was launched and in 2013 a Twitter account. During 2013, Girl's Brigade is celebrating the 120th Anniversary. Companies are encouraged to make movies to mark this event, featuring 120 somewhere in the movie. Several other events are planned.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN:

Pan Pacific and South east Asia women's association [PPSEAWA]: In the absence of Edith Ridge Isabel reported on the function attended. There was a focus on East Timor. Some time ago a group decided to be involved with the ongoing betterment of women in East Timor. They raise money through garage sales, have visited East Timor, and have sponsored people from East Timor to visit Australia for learning experiences This was uplifting news as the work continues today.

WORLD DAY of PRAYER: Shirley Mitchell - It was a very wet day for World Day of Prayer 2013 and reports indicate that this service was well received. Norma Dumbrell spoke of the service at the retirement village where she now resides. The Order of Service for 2014 is being prepared as suggested by women from Egypt with the theme - *Streams in the Desert*.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: Ramona reported that \$81.50 had been spent at the Trading table.

Thank you to the Uniting Church ladies for morning tea and the Catholic Church ladies for chair duties.

NEXT MEETING: Monday 15th April 2013 – AGM followed by Council Meeting

Morning Tea Catholic Church Ladies

Chair Duties: The Salvation Army.

In closing Isabel prayed that we each use our good intentions so that we will be the answer to the prayers, and thanked God for his presence and inspiration.

The meeting closed at 11.55 am

Signed: 

Date: 15.4.2013

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NSW STATE UNIT INC
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
1 FEBRUARY - 28 FEBRUARY 2013

CREDIT BALANCE AT BANK 1 February 2013 8263.92

INCOME February:

Fellowship of the Least Coin	593.10	
Newsette	550.00	
ACWC News	12.00	
Fees	100.00	
Travel Fund	81.50	
Bank Interest	<u>0.17</u>	1336.77
		9600.69

PAYMENTS February

F. Fryirs - Auditor	80.00	
PPSEAWA - Annual Fees	40.00	
PPSEAWa - IWS Lunch	35.00	
L. Middleton - Special Days	13.95	
Uniting Church - Room donation	<u>300.00</u>	<u>468.95</u>
Cash Book Balance		9131.74
Cheque not yet presented		<u>13.95</u>
Bank Balance 28 February 2013		9145.69

ACCOUNTS TO BE PAID:

<i>CWU - Centenary Lunche</i>	<i>90.00.</i>
<i>M. Noel - stamps & Envelopes</i>	<i>24.95.</i>