

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NSW UNIT

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 222 PITT STREET, SYDNEY  
on Monday, 19 September 1994

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OPENING: The President, Mrs Lucelle King, welcomed everyone to the meeting and especially mentioned three new members who were with us for the first time.

Devotions were led by Heather Reid with reference to William Barclay's study of Galatians 5:13-15 concerning Christian freedom. We were reminded of our obligations as Christians to our fellow men - we are free but must love our neighbour as ourselves. Our Christianity is the only true democracy. In a Christian state we think as much of our neighbour as ourselves. This is only possible for a Christian. Selfishness does not exalt a man, it destroys him. Prayer followed, during which absent members who were ill were remembered.

PRESENT AND APOLOGIES: There were 43 in attendance with 10 apologies. New members welcomed were: B Kirkwood (Baptist), Sr Louise Reeves (Roman Catholic) and D Quarmby (WCTU).

MINUTES OF THE AUGUST MEETING were confirmed as a correct record.

BUSINESS ARISING:

1. The Treasurer read the proposed changes to the Constitution re Finance:  
10.5 will read: "The financial year shall end on the last day of December in each year, and the Financial Statement be audited by an accredited Accountant and circulated to the Council for endorsement. All monies received by the Treasurer shall be dispersed as determined by the Council."  
An addition to 10.6 will read: "Each branch must have a bank account in the name of Australian Church Women (branch name and title); the signatories for all bank accounts shall be any two of three elected office bearers and the Statement must be audited by an accredited accountant each year."  
The motion was passed unanimously. The Treasurer advised that branches could expect the usual Government charges, but no charge at all for a Society Account with cheque account attached to it.
2. It was noted that as Mrs Col. Peterson has had to resign, it is necessary to appoint a new representative for ACW at the NSW Ecumenical Council. It was agreed that Marie McCann be appointed.
3. It was agreed that a letter be written to National Executive asking them to write to the National Council of Churches in Australia requesting that we be given some status within the Council, reminding them that ACW (formerly Women's Council) was inaugurated in the '60s by Australian Council of Churches. It was agreed that ACW National should be given some status in the NCCA.
4. BCA: Mina Whybourne and Beryl McLaughlin reported having attended the Thanksgiving Rally and Luncheon on 18 August and that it had been well attended; the pertinent message stressed how important it was that this ministry should continue.  
PWA: Joan Tong attended Federal Conference on 12 September and reported on an excellent day with splendid speakers and programme. Members agreed with Joan that the suggestion could be made that ACW representatives at such conferences be given an opportunity to speak and so acknowledge that their denomination is affiliated.
5. ECUMENICAL LUNCHEON on 29 August: While regretting that an accident precluded Marie McCann's speaking, it was reported that the luncheon had been most successful. Joan Elliston from NCW had brought warm greetings as had two Fijian ladies who had accompanied her: Mrs Esiteri Kamikamica, recently President of the Fiji National Council of Women (NCW) and currently President of the Ecumenical Council of Fiji, and holidaying in Sydney; and Mrs Mary Siganiscocu, a resident of Sydney and currently President of the Fijian Women in Sydney Ecumenical Council. Both ladies gave most interesting highlights of their work. Registration leaflets were distributed for the proposed Ecumenical Luncheon on Monday 31 October, costing \$5, when Marie McCann will be the speaker. It was agreed that a copy of the Report of the Luncheon on 29 August be given to each denomination and also that a ceiling of 50

be put on future luncheons held at the 222 Pitt Street venue.

6. It was moved seconded and agreed that Heather Reid be appointed Social Issues Convener.

7. Peg Blake reported on the magnificence of the 17th Flower Festival held 9-12 September in St Andrews Cathedral and that the ACW arrangement had been gratefully received and acknowledged.

8. Members were reminded that the Calendars were selling well, some still available.

9. ACWC Service plans for 18 November well under way and members were asked to take flyers for publicity.

#### BUSINESS FROM EXECUTIVE:

1. Members were asked for suggestions re possible venues for future functions of ACW. Scots Church, Central Baptist and YWCA (Wentworth Street) were suggested.

2. A reminder was given re Trading Table, funds from which go to Overseas Travel Fund. Members were asked to buy and supply, please.

3. It was agreed that a small token of appreciation be given to Sean Surplus who is leaving the Uniting Church offices and who has been such a wonderful help to ACW with regards photocopying, and in many other ways, for a long time, especially on Packing Days.

4. Revision of the membership list being due, members were asked to advise Heather Reid of any additions or alterations. The same applies to the list of Speakers, and Edith Ridge will appreciate receiving comments or alterations.

5. It was noted that a list of venues for World Community Day Services is available.

6. Recommendations that ACW send a representative to the Beijing Conference in '95: It was agreed that we suggest that the National President should attend, or if she is unable to do so, a substitute representative be appointed; also suggest that each State be invited to share the cost of sending the representative.

#### CORRESPONDENCE:

1. From National President re relationship between ACWC and ICFLC. It was agreed that our reply should indicate that confusion would be avoided if all communications were handled by National Conveners.

2. National Minutes: As noted at the last meeting, CAPOW is a network of national women's organisations and while it is a secular group, Christian groups are invited to attend and Australian Church Women has voted to be an "Informed Organisation" and so will receive all information from meetings.

Disaster Fund: Noted that this Fund now stands at \$2,900 and is to be re-invested for three months. Still no reply to our query regarding the distribution of the Fund, but it was noted that "it is anticipated that a review of the Fund needs to be done at National Conference". Contribution of \$A1,500 to Rwanda was approved.

3. List of PWA representatives received, noting two new ladies already welcomed.

4. Letter from Sr Emily Mary Holstein now linking with Mayfield branch.

5. Lyons Forum

6. Lobby for Life

7. Ecumenical Decade pamphlets

8. List of Queensland Unit office bearers received.

9. Letter of encouragement and congratulations on State Conference from South Australian Unit.

10. CWL - re Christian Response to Family Abuse

11. NCW - invitation to 98th AGM on 29 September and the end-of-year function 24 Nov.

12. NCW - letter of thanks for our involvement in NCW week.

13. ABM - invitation for 28 September.

14. Invitation from Baptist Women's Fellowship - 24 October, Bankstown Town Hall.

15. Letter of congratulations from Helen Stutchbury following Ecumenical Luncheon.
16. National Executive, Circular 3, reminding us of the affiliation with the Girls Brigade. Asked for prayers for ACWC 10th Assembly in Taiwan in November '94. It was noted that plans are well in hand for National Conference '95 with the theme: "Jesus, Women and the World".
17. ACW News July/August received.
18. NCW - Joan Elliston expressed thanks for the hospitality shown her and her Fijian friends at the August Luncheon and assured us they had all been uplifted by the fellowship they enjoyed.
19. National Executive - August 25 reaffirming who the voting delegates will be at the ACWC Assembly, Taiwan. Noted that CAPOW is the Coalition of Australian Participating Organisations of Women - assisting the non-Government organisations' preparation for Beijing.
20. HERSAY paper with important information regarding women's affairs.
21. NSW Baptist Women's Fellowship listing ACW representatives with the addition of Mrs Beryl Kirkwood.
22. NSW Council for Children's Films and Television: leaflets for distribution.
23. NSW "Baptist" Spring Edition, which has a report of the Induction of our President in May.

REPORTS: 1. The TREASURER advised that \$8 would be needed at the November meeting for copies of "The Asian Church Woman". The Treasurer's report as presented was accepted.

2. PROMOTION: List of city and near-city venues was distributed. **J Tong, E Ridge and B Finlay attended a planning meeting at Regentsville in the Salvation Army building for WCD.** With Hazel McIver's help Penrith can again be added to our list. We have been approached by Goulburn through FLC. Lists of venues, dates and times of WCD Services were distributed.
3. MEMBERSHIP: Noted that 43 are in attendance today with 10 apologies.
4. FLC: Information still needed to collate history. Letter received from Shirin Samuel asking for details of experiences shared and photographs for 40th Anniversary. Sixty applications for FLC grants were received. Have applied for a grant for Shalom Christian College in Townsville, which educates all nationalities. Last year 39 were granted. Shirley chose for devotion "The Voice of the Solomon Islands", referring to Matthew 28 and Acts 3.
5. WKS: No letters to hand from scholars. Referred to ACW News item about Rev. Mary Au. Deaconess Andrews added interesting comments about Mary Au's work.
6. NEWSLETTE: Deadline 10 October. Interesting items to Beryl, please.

GENERAL BUSINESS: Yvonne Davis reported on her visit to Shalom College, bringing greetings from Alan Randall. Yvonne described the "miracle" in development of the college: there are new buildings, a modern kitchen and lunch room, classrooms to Year 8 (noted that highschool has mostly boys), library, art room - where they admired aboriginal art; children obviously enjoying school; grandparents are also there and a grandmother insisted on serving morning tea; native grass has now been planted and is doing well; next section to be built is for parents and grandparents. It is hoped for a good response for Fellowship of the Least Coin at the WCD Services and that the general offering, from which Shalom College will benefit, will also be a good amount.

PWA representatives invited members to the Presbyterian Market Day on 12 October in the Sydney Showground's Hall of Industries.

Mabel Ward recommended a Book of Prayers, published in England, soon to be available at Salvation Army Bookshop. Mabel and Joan were congratulated on having prayers included in this excellent compilation of prayers.

NEXT MEETING: 21 November. Churches of Christ ladies were thanked for attending to today's Morning Tea.

There being no further business the meeting closed with the Benediction.

Confirmed 21 November 1994 .....

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN (NEW STATE UNIT)

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS  
For two months ended 31-07-1994

CR BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD 1-6-1994 3446-32

ADD RECEIPTS FOR <sup>Two</sup> ~~ONE~~ MONTH \$

Affiliation Fees	10-00	
A.C.W.A. Partners	116-00	
"Newsette" Subs	25-00	
F.L.C.	32-25	
Associate Members	45-00	
Sale of Souvenirs	90-50	
Overseas travel - Trading Table	12-00	
Administration -Tea Money	11-80	
State Conference	6-00	
Donations for Flower Festival	12-60	
Offering - Installation Service	5-00	
Winifred Keik Scholarship	65-00	
World Community Day	50-00	
Fellowship Day	243-15	
Donation	3-00	
Bank Interest	101-55	
Glebe Board Interest	92-73	922-62
		4369-20

DEDUCT - PAYMENTS FOR TWO MONTHS

President - Expenses	39-70	
Secretary - "	77-58	
Installation Service - Expenses	52-85	
Photos	6-85	
Postage	73-20	
Printing & Stationery	41-05	
- F.L.C. - Photocopying leaflets	20-00	
Fellowship Day - CBA FM - Advertising	20-00	
L King - Contra (May)	6-50	
Nat.Col Women - Seminar (H Reid)	50-00	
" " - Ann. Lunch (P McKinnirey)	35-00	
Margaret Jessup - Photos - Conference	28-50	
" " - " - Install. Service	25-80	
Joan Tong - Conference Expenses	44-50	
- Government Charges	7-95	535-29
		3843-91

A/c's to be passed for payment (ratified)

	\$
St V De Paul - Photocopying F.L.C. Leaflets	30-00
CBA FM - Publicity F'ship Day Service	20-00
Joan Tong - Sec. Expenses	97-05
Edith Ridge - Sec "	34-54
" " " "	1-10
C.W.L.A. Parramatta - Admin. Exp	18-44
Joan Tong - Admin. Exp	33-45
" " - Stock	9-00
Dept of Accounting - Printing Ann. Report	73-80
" " " - Postage - F'ship Day	104-70
" " " - Print. W'ld Com Day	240-00
" " " - " Newsette	45-00
" " " - " W'ld Cm Day	48-00
" " " - F.L.C. Leaflets	11-20
Peg McEntee - Guest Speaker	20-00
Carmel Emmett - Postage - Newsette	72-75
<i>Jack Flack - Publicity</i>	89-40

