



AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

NSW STATE UNIT INC.

Minutes Council Meeting – Monday 16th June 2014 - held at 222 Pitt St Sydney

WELCOMES: Past President Isabel Hewitt welcomed Natalie McLeod as President. Natalie welcomed all to the meeting especially Major Nancy McLaren.

DEVOTIONS: Natalie read from John 14 15-21, and reminded those present of the events leading up to the Easter scenes. Beyond comprehension. Feelings of anxiety and uncertainty after the death of Jesus. Then came the resurrection followed by Pentecost, the great day when the wonder and strength of the Holy Spirit came to them and gave them courage. What does this mean to us today? It is a guide, comfort, giving peace and encouragement. Trinity Sunday has just past, reminding us of God the Creator, becoming Man and then imparting the Holy Spirit to us, fulfilling God's promises. The disciples found this difficult to believe. Natalie offered prayer thanking God for Jesus and the gift of the Holy Spirit and prayed for guidance for the deliberations of the meeting and for those not able to be present.

PRESENT 36 and 1 visitor **APOLOGIES:** 10

Martha Noël explained the contact detail envelopes and asked that these be given back to her.

CONFIRMATION of MINUTES of AGM: The minutes from the AGM held on April 14th were confirmed on the motion of Jan Jeffrey and Denise Secomb and passed then initialed by the President, Natalie McLeod

CONFIRMATION of MINUTES: The minutes of the Council meeting held on Monday 14th April were confirmed on the motion of Pat Cory and Helen Richardson. Passed

BUSINESS ARISING from the MINUTES:

National Executive [NSW] 2013-2015: Major Lyn Middleton [President] showed a book, from archives, written about F.L.C. by an American woman who had visited the various projects at that time. 1. As National President Lyn is to visit WA Unit 22-28 October. Lyn shared her itinerary. 2. Report from the FORWARD GROUP was presented on behalf of Major Beatrice Kay. Lyn explained the 'Coffee & Chat' Bible Studies and the guidelines for these. 2 ladies have taken copies to trial and to bring report to August Council meeting. 3. Speakers have been confirmed for the ecumenical Service and Bible Studies at National Conference 2015. 4. Two F.L.C. applications for grants have been lodged – Messy Church [Tas Unit] and Mums' Cottage [NSW Unit]. 5. Enews has been sent out- positive feedback has been received. 6. Lyn gave tribute on behalf of ACW at the Celebration of Life Service for Shirley Wells.

Vacancy for National Life Member: Isabel Hewitt said that there was now a vacancy for the role of National Life Member from NSW on the death of Shirley Wells. Such a person has to have served on National Executive. The invitation was given to consider this and submit names to State Executive by the end of 2014. This would be ratified by NSW Council and the name put forward for ratification at the next National Conference in 2015.

Archival Materials: Isabel Hewitt explained some of the arduous work involved with the sorting and preparing of materials for digitalising. Some materials are typed. Others are hand written.

Installation and Dedication Service Monday 19th May 2014: President Natalie thanked those in attendance for their support. Thanks was expressed to Natalie for the service and the warm hospitality of the Beecroft Anglican Church members. A letter of thanks has been sent to the Beecroft Anglican Church.

Vacancy for State Life Member: Isabel stated that this is in the hands of the New South Wales State Unit Inc Executive.

ACWC Function 24th August 2014 2 pm Epping Baptist Church: Pamela encouraged all to take leaflets for distribution. Jenifer Peffer arranged a time with Pamela to visit the church and its facilities. Helen Hill and Jan Harrison are oversighting catering; Helen Richardson and Pat Cory the offering; Ros Abbey, photography. By August meeting the program for the afternoon will be in place.

REPORTS:

Treasurer: Helen Richardson presented the statement. Balance \$5187.72 and after payment of accounts the balance is \$4867.77 Helen moved that this report be accepted and accounts for payment be passed. Seconded Carmel Keys. Passed.

Fellowship of the Least Coin: Pamela presented report sent by Lillian Hodges. Lillian has attended Hazelbrook Uniting Church and Parramatta Centenary Uniting Church. Will go to Westmead Uniting Church in July. Devotional segment from Major Laurel Pearce, past National President. Laurel speaks of the verse from Psalm 27:14, "Wait on the Lord, be of good courage and He will strengthen thine heart. Wait I say, on the Lord." This verse encourages her in her walk with God. A prayer was read.

Special Days: Lyn Middleton stated that all the Fellowship day materials had been forwarded. Some spare copies are available. Lyn encouraged people to take advantage of the publicity available on the website by contacting Brenda regarding the details of the Fellowship Day being held in the local area. NE has submitted Mums' Cottage for an F.L.C. grant

Winifred Kiek Scholars: Pamela presented report sent by Judith Cayzer. Judith wrote that word had come from Christy Ferguson [2009] who is in Melbourne with her sending organization. Christy is to have 2 years extended leave. She is working at the hospital where she worked prior to her mission time and is involved with groups outside her ministry which refreshes her. Easter card from Nighat Gulzar. Email via Nancy McLaren from Tonu, who is in Fiji and has married. The scholars from 2014 need our continued prayed support. Wasano [Sri Lanka] and Seng Ja [Myanmar]. Applications for scholarships from multicultural Australia for 2015, closed on 31st May.

Social Issues: Rae Goth highlighted the funding cuts proposed for the legal expenses of victims of domestic violence; encouraged listeners to write asking for an assessment of the interim disruptions when the poles and wires are leased out; and invited letters to be sent to St Vincent de Paul Society congratulating them on organizing the sleep out on 19th June to highlight the plight of 100,000 homeless people.

Pastoral Care: No report

Publicity: No report

The reports were received on the motion of Brenda Dickinson and Val Hazlewood.

CORRESPONDENCE: [Inwards]

ACW NE E-News

ACW NE Coffee and Chat guidelines and Bible Studies

ACW NE Listing of Tasmanian Executive

Order of Service for Celebration of Life of Shirley Wells

Letter Merle Menzies – thanks for Jean Arnot Luncheon and resignation as Council representative from Presbyterian Church

Girls' Brigade – June Issue of *The Brigade Effect*

NCW NSW COTA event Parliament House 27th May.

NCW NSW E-News

PPSEAWA copy of Minutes from AGM

From Quakers requesting that invitation no longer be sent to them.

CORRESPONDENCE: [Outwards]

To Council members – ACW NE E-news

To Council members – notification of death of Shirley wells and her funeral details

To Nola Dickson – note of thanks for her service on New South Wales State Unit Inc Executive

To Merle Menzies – acknowledging her service as Presbyterian representative on Council

To Council members – prayer requests for State Life member Mina Whybourne;
for Marion McCall, Barbara Lacy, Nita West [S.A.]

To Council members re prayer request for Korea – [ferry sinking]

To Council members notification of COTA event from NCW NSW

To Quakers in response to their letter.

Correspondence was accepted on the motion of Pamela Freeman and Shirley Mitchell

BUSINESS ARISING from the CORRESPONDENCE

PRESIDENT'S BUSINESS: State Conference Day Monday 15th September. Natalie asked Pamela to present outline of the day.

Date and times were stated. Global Recordings and Logosdor to bring presentations under the theme *Communicating the Message*.

Advertising materials to be available at August meeting.

FUNCTIONS ATTENDED to ATTEND: Jean Arnot Luncheon 9th May: Natalie invited Nola Dickson to share her impressions of the day. Isabel Hewitt spoke in glowing terms of the exceptional speaker, Elizabeth Kirkby, who had recently been awarded her doctorate at the age of 94.

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS:

Bible Society: Rhyllis spoke of [Pakistan] Beacon of Light project. Anthony Lamuel visited recently from Pakistan, which generally has poor literacy rates some provinces as low as 20% overall. Trying to teach Christian women to read and write using Bible based literacy material. Population of 180 million and around 3% of those being Christian. In the 4 Bible Society offices there is security to enter just like at airports. He also told how the church stands together in unity. After a suicide bomber killed 172 people at a church service, the next weekend many Christians travelled for up to 14 hours to gather to worship The Lord. Hymnfest at Maitland is next Sunday at 2 pm; on the Central Coast in August; Manly in October; in Newcastle at the Anglican Cathedral in November. *Eternity* Newspaper is free to churches and individuals who order packs. Circulation of 110,000 a month, packs of 8, 40 and 80.

NSW Ecumenical Council: Isabel shared her experiences during Week for Christian Unity. Service at St Paul's Anglican Church. Father Shenouda Mansour has been commissioned as General Secretary for NSW Ecumenical Council. [Coptic Orthodox] Women from Coptic Orthodox may join some of our functions. E-Letter from NSW Ecumenical Council shared news of the Installation and dedication day of New South Wales State Unit Inc Executive. Isabel has had email from Tricia Graham [overseas] and Cela Cooper with thanks for greetings for her 90th birthday.

National Council of Women [NCW]: Rae Goth attended the NCW Conference in Alice Springs and was glad to meet passionate Asian women and a contingent of Aboriginal women and other Christian women.

Pan Pacific and South East Asia Women's Association [PPSEAWA] Helen Richardson asked if those present realized what PPSEAWA stood for. Helen proceeded to outline excerpts from the Annual Report of PPSEAWA, especially referring to the Trans Pacific Partnership involving Fair Trade, not Free Trade. Other matters mentioned were: funding cuts for legal expenses of victims of domestic violence; leasing of poles and wires of electricity in state to fund transport and infrastructure; Congratulations to St Vincent de Paul in organizing a sleep out 19th June to highlight the plight of homeless people.

World Day of Prayer: Shirley Mitchell reported that responses from 2014 service were good. Some areas no longer able to continue with services due to age of members and declining numbers. Murwillumbah returned the materials stating that holding a World Day of Prayer gathering would disrupt the unity of the denominations. Offerings totalled \$95,860 an increase from 2013. Long service certificates presented to Rae Goth and Joan Villiers. Bahamas is host country for 2015. AGM in July.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Thanks to the Catholic ladies for morning tea and to The Salvation Army ladies for chair duties.

Thanks to the Presbyterian ladies for the trading table.

NEXT MEETING: Morning Tea: The Salvation Army ladies - Chair Duties: Church of Christ ladies
Trading Table in 2014 to be arranged by Presbyterian ladies.

President Natalie closed in prayer, remembering all the things that have to be done from this meeting, leaving our cares and concerns with the Lord.. Natalie invited all present to say 'The Grace' together.
Meeting closed at 12.15 pm.

Signed: n. McLeod

Date: 18/8/2014.

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN NSW STATE UNIT INC
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
1 APRIL - 31 MAY 2014

CREDIT BALANCE AT BANK 1 April 2014 5187.72

INCOME *1 April - 31 May*
~~March~~ 2014

Newsette	60.00	
FLC	275.65	
Travel Fund	95.90	
Jean Arnot Lunch	400.00	
Fees	45.00	
President's Installation	538.05	
Bank Interest	0.08	1414.68
		<u>6602.40</u>

PAYMENTS 1 April - 31 May 2014

P. Freeman - Post and Stationery	123.64	
M. Noel - Postage	33.00	
NSW Fair Trading - Incorporation Fee	52.00	
Treasurer's Petty Cash	50.00	
L. Middleton - F. Day Postage	148.94	
L. Hodges - Postage FLC	60.00	
Jean Arnot Lunch	580.00	
The Printing Department - F. Day	470.00	
J. Peffer - Newsette Post & Badges	167.05	
St. John's Anglican Church Beecroft	50.00	1734.63
		<u>4867.77</u>

Bank balance	4917.77
Cheque not yet presented	<u>50.00</u>
	4867.77

ACCOUNTS TO BE PAID:

The Salvation Army Parramatta - Donation for printing	\$100.00
<i>M. Noel - Postage</i>	<i>21.20</i>