

Connexion newsletter

Uniting Church Adult Fellowship

NSW/ACT Synod

February 2017



From the Chairperson.

Welcome to the first issue of the NSW/ACT Synod Adult Fellowship Committee's Connexion Newsletter. Why the change from the usual format of Connexion?

At the 2016 AGM of the Committee, a review of the cost to produce and distribute Connexion resulted in the decision for a NEW WAY FORWARD by distributing the Connexion Newsletter electronically. After each bi-monthly meeting of the Synod Committee, the Connexion Newsletter will be emailed to each Presbytery Contact in the NSW/ACT and it will be their task to distribute the Newsletter to the groups in their Presbytery, predominately by email. The Synod Committee is endeavouring to compile a complete email list for the distribution of the Newsletter and will be asking Contact Persons for assistance in this matter.

A positive response has been received from Uniting Mission and Education regarding our request to "link" the bi-monthly Newsletter to the UCAF webpage on the UME website.

A team of three has been appointed to produce the Connexion Newsletter and Janice Willis, Judy Hicks and Geoff Hicks will be happy to receive news, photos of events happening in your area.

It is acknowledged that 2017 will be a trial period for the Connexion Newsletter and the Committee asks for your understanding and patience during the transition period.

Our 2017 year commenced with our Dedication Service on 8th February, with Dan McAloon, Frontier Services Relationships Manager (Mission Engagement) our Guest Speaker. Rev Noreen Towers led the Sacrament of Holy Communion with those present.



Dan McAloon, Milvia Harder



Elizabeth McEwan (ACW) Laurel Kellett (Synod Com)

The Synod Committee will again host the Moderator's Retired Minister's and Spouses Luncheon on 21st March at Turramurra Uniting Church.

In May, the NSW/ACT Synod UCAF will be hosting the National Adult Fellowship Chairperson Margaret Pedlar from 22nd-26th. Margaret will be attending the Hunter Presbytery Rally at Charlestown Uniting Church on 24th, and Shellharbour Rally on the 25th. Other arrangements are under way to have Margaret meet as many Adult Fellowship members as possible.

A recent NSW/ACT Synod recipient of the Joan Stott Bursary, Danielle Hemsworth-Smith was recently Ordained as a Minister of the Word at Trinity Uniting Church in New Lambton, and was Inducted as the Minister in Placement at Centenary Church, North Parramatta. We pray God's Blessing will be upon Danielle as she commences her Ministry.

The Synod Committee resolved to again support Frontier Services Outback Links-Clean Water as our Project for 2017. The Committee thanks all Adult Fellowship groups for your support in 2016, and ask for your continued support of our Project in 2017.

Blessings to Adult Fellowship Members for a successful and happy year of Fellowship. Allan Secomb.

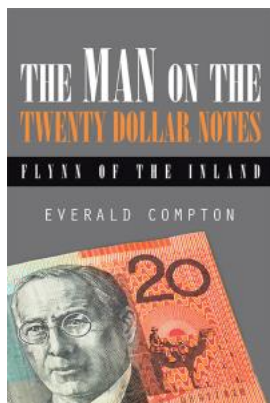
Part of a letter received from Joan Stott winner 2016

Dear Members of the Uniting Church Adult Fellowship,

Last year was an amazing year with some surprising twists. At the beginning, I thought that I would be using the year to complete my studies and prepare to look for a placement at the start of this year. The Lord, however, had other plans in mind. With all the changes that Trinity College, Queensland, made to the formation program in the time I was there, a review of the training I had completed revealed that by the end of the first semester I would have fulfilled all the requirements for ordination. This meant that I was able to go before the Synod Selection committee in March which resulted in me being offered a call to minister at Iona West Uniting Church in Mackay.

So, now I have been in placement here at Iona West for almost five months and already there have been many blessings and challenges. I'd like to say again how grateful I am to have been blessed with the Joan Stott UCAF Bursary. At the start of 2016 it was a great help in acquiring the texts and resources I needed for my studies but beyond that it meant that I was in a much stronger financial position to survive the two months from the end of my studies to the beginning of my placement when I had no income at all. Thank you also for your prayer support over the past year. No matter what work a person does, it is futile unless it is covered with prayer. May the Lord richly bless you and continue to encourage and sustain you all in the vital work He has given the Adult Fellowship.

Grace and Peace,
Rev Nathan Barton



NEW BOOK RELEASED IN APRIL 2016.

"The Man on the Twenty Dollar Notes"

Written by Everal Compton.

One review of the book states –

In his book titled "The Man on the Twenty Dollar Notes", Everal Compton does a great justice to a man to whom the nation owes so much – John Flynn known as "Flynn of the Inland".

It can be ordered on website: everaldcompton.com/my-books.

Rally Dates for your Diary

March 31st – Sydney/Central Coast Picnic at Woy Woy

April 1st - Canberra Region Gathering – City Church Canberra

April 26th – Macquarie/Darling Gathering - Grenfell

Produced for the UCAF NSW/ACT SYNOD COMMITTEE

Readers are invited to submit articles and reports for publication, in this your Newsletter.

Please email Janice Willis: janicewillis@tpg.com.au or mail 2/47 Carnarvon Ct East Maitland 2323

Geoff Hicks: ghicks47@bigpond.com or Judy Hicks: judyh_rnh@hotmail.com or mail G & J Hicks 176

Lawes St east Maitland 2323

Next issue deadline 12th April 2017.