

**CONSTITUTION OF THE GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY INC
WITHIN THE DIOCESE OF PERTH IN THE PROVINCE OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

1. GENERAL

- (1) The Society shall be known as "GFS - An Anglican Ministry".
- (2) The Society shall conduct its affairs principally in the Anglican Diocese of Perth Western Australia.
- (3) The Society is an organisation within the Anglican Communion with full power, as if it were a natural person, to implement its purposes to the fullest extent possible which may include the setting up and operation of hostels within the Diocese of Perth.
- (4) The Society is an association of persons, who accept the Christian faith and seek in the fellowship of worship, study, work and play, to serve God and extend His Kingdom.
- (5) The purpose of the Society is to give glory to God by bringing children and families into the full life and fellowship of the Church, and by helping them to know, love and serve our Lord Jesus Christ.
- (6) The Prayer of the Society signifying unity of purpose to its members shall be used at meetings of the Society.
- (7) The registered office of the Society shall be at the Lodge or such other place as may be decided upon.
- (8) Definitions

"Act" means the Associations Incorporation Act (WA) 1987;

"Annual General Meeting" means the Annual General Meeting of the Society to be held pursuant to Clause 15.

"Branch Committee" means the Branch Committee comprised of representatives from Parish branches and Townsend Fellowship groups.

"Chairperson," "Secretary," "Vice-Chairperson," "Deputy Chairperson" and "Treasurer" means the person for the time being holding that office in the Executive Committee.

"Executive Committee" means the Executive Committee appointed at the Annual General Meeting.

"General Meeting" means a General Meeting of the Society and includes the Annual General Meeting.

"Leaders" means members appointed to fulfill leadership roles within the branches of the Society in accordance with Clause 28.

"Lodge" means the premises owned by the Society located at 240 Adelaide Terrace Perth.

"Lodge Committee" means the Lodge Committee appointed at the Annual General Meeting, provided the Lodge is under the management of the Society.

"National Council" is the body elected by the members of GFS Australia Limited.

"Society" is the Association known as "GFS – An Anglican Ministry' within the Anglican Diocese of Perth in the Province of Western Australia.

"Townsend Fellowship" means the aggregate of the Townsend Members being the members of the Society of age eighteen (18) years or more named after the founder of the Society, Mary Elizabeth Townsend.

"Townsend Lodge Liaison Officer" means the person appointed at the Annual General Meeting to hold the office on the Executive Committee when the Lodge is leased to a person or organization.

2. POWERS

The Society has all the powers of a natural person including to:

- (1) collect and raise funds, establish foundations or trusts and receive gifts bequests and devised of real and personal property to be applied for the purposes of the Society;
- (2) purchase take on lease build or otherwise acquire maintain alter any buildings or other property for the purposes of the Society;
- (3) sell exchange lease mortgage charge hire dispose of or turn to account or otherwise deal with all or any part of the property of the Society;
- (4) invest and deal with monies of the Society not immediately required in such securities and in such manner as may from time to time be determined;
- (5) borrow or raise or secure the payment of money in such manner as the Society shall think fit including the issuing of debentures or debenture stock perpetual or otherwise upon all or any of the Society's property both present and future and to redeem or pay of any such securities;
- (6) appoint employ and pay officers employees and agents of the Society and the same from time to time to suspend or dismiss;
- (7) give donate or subscribe money or personal property of the Society and provide benefits in furtherance of the objects of the Society to:
 - (a) any body, organization or institution which is a public benevolent institution within the meaning of Section 78(1)(a) of the Income Tax Assessment Act, 1936 (as amended) ("Tax Act"); and
 - (b) any organization within the Anglican Church of Australia;
- (8) establish and maintain a scheme to make financial provision in respect of the retirement invalidity or death such members of the staff and officers of the Society as the Executive Committee decides may be members of the scheme and as such become members;

- (9) execute the fulfillment if any contracts or engagements entered into by the Society;
- (10) execute in favour of any member of the Society or other person who may incur or be about to incur any personal liability for the benefit of the Society such guarantees or indemnities and to secure the same by mortgage of the property of the Society (present and future) in such manner as the Society may think fit and any such mortgage may contain a power of sale and such powers covenants and provisions as shall be agreed upon;
- (11) enter into transactions with other entities whereby the goods and services of the Society is disposed of for consideration to one or more of such entities;
- (12) hire out the services and facilities of the Society and to engage in such other activities as the Society deems fit on such terms and conditions as the Society deems fit;
- (13) undertake commercial activities to achieve and promote the objects of the Society;
- (14) do all such things as are necessary to carry out and exercise the objects and powers of the Society and also all such things as are necessary to carry on the ordinary business of the Society; and
- (15) do all such things as are in the opinion of the Society incidental or conducive to the attainment of any object of the Society.

3. VISITOR

The Archbishop shall be the Visitor of the Society and as such shall have and may exercise the powers which customarily relate to that office and the powers conferred on the Visitor by this Constitution subject to any of those powers not contravening the Act and in addition shall have power to:

- (a) grant at the Archbishop's sole discretion dispensation in all spiritual matters and to settle differences relating to questions of the doctrine and discipline of the Church that apply to the Society; and
- (b) make recommendations to Synod, the Executive Committee or the President as the Visitor deems fit.

4. PATRON

The wife of the State Governor, or other person selected by the Executive Committee, may be invited to be patron of the Society.

5. TRUSTEES

The Perth Diocesan Trustees for the time being appointed under The Diocesan Trustees Statute 1952-1990 (as amended) shall be the Trustees of the Society.

6. COMMON SEAL

- (1) There shall be a Common Seal of the Society and all deeds instruments amendments contracts and other documents in the name of the Society shall be sealed with such Seal.
- (2) The Common Seal shall be in the custody of the Secretary and the persons

authorised to use the same shall be the Chairperson and Secretary or in the absence of either of them such other person or persons as may from time to time be authorised by the Executive Committee

- (3) The Seal shall not be affixed to any documents except by order of the Executive Committee and such documents shall be counter-signed by the persons authorised to use the Seal.
- (4) A record shall be kept of all such deeds, instruments or documents to which the Seal has been affixed.

7. CHAPLAIN

A Chaplain of the Society shall be appointed by the Archbishop on the nomination of the Executive Committee. The Chaplain shall hold office for a term of three (3) years and shall be eligible for re-appointment for one further period of three (3) years only.

8. MEMBERSHIP

- (1) Full membership of the Society shall be open to women and men, of the age of 18 years and upwards, who pledge themselves, God helping them, to uphold the aims of the Society.
- (2) Children aged from seven (7) to seventeen (17) years may be enrolled as Junior Members of the Society.
- (3) Members of the Society shall be divided into groups. [See By Law 4.]
- (4) Members of the Society shall pay the annual subscription determined from time to time pursuant to Clause 22.
- (5) All persons holding office in the Society must be financial members of the Society and must be communicant members of the Anglican Church.
- (6) The wife of the Archbishop of Perth shall be an Honorary Member of the Society and is entitled to hold the office of Vice Chairperson.
- (7) The Perth Diocesan Trustees shall be ex officio members of the Society.

9. HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Honorary life membership of the Society may be granted at the Annual General Meeting on the recommendation of the Executive Committee to persons whose services to the Society are deemed worthy of such honour.

See By-law 1.

10. ORGANISATION OF THE SOCIETY

The Society shall conduct its affairs at the direction, in order of descending priority, of:

- (a) the General Meetings of the Society;
- (b) the Executive Committee;
- (c) the Lodge Committee (if applicable)

- (d) the Branch Committee; and
- (e) the Parish Branches including the Townsend Fellowship.

11. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- (1) The Executive Committee shall exercise the powers of the Society and manage the affairs of the Society and shall submit an annual report of its activities to Synod.
- (2) The Executive Committee may make alter amend or revoke rules and regulations for the internal government of the Society.

12. HONORARY TREASURER

The Honorary Treasurer shall comply on behalf of the Society with sections 25 and 26 of the Act.

13. INDEMNITY

- (1) Every office bearer, member of the Executive Committee, sub-committee member and employee of the Society shall be indemnified out of the funds of the Society against losses and expenses which any such office bearer, member of the Executive Committee, sub-committee member or employee of the Society may incur or become liable for by reason of any contract or agreement entered into or any personal injury or property damage done or caused by her or him in the capacity of such office bearer, member of the Executive Committee, sub-committee member or employee of the Society in the proper discharge of her or his duties.
- (2) No office bearer, member of the Executive Committee, sub-committee member or employee of the Society shall be liable for the acts, neglects or faults of any other office bearer, member of the Executive Committee, sub-committee member, employee of the Society or any other person or legal entity or for the joining in any receipt or act of conformity or for any loss or expense happening to the Society through the sufficiency or deficiency of title to any property acquired or deficiency of any securities in or upon which any of the money of the Society shall be invested or for any loss or damage arising from bankruptcy, insolvency or tortuous act of any person with whom money, securities or effects shall be deposited or for any other loss, damage or misfortune whatever which shall happen in the execution of her or his duties or in relation thereto unless the same happens from her or his own fraudulent act or omission.

14. CHAIRPERSON

- (1) The Chairperson shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting for a term of three (3) years and shall be eligible for re-election for two (2) further periods of three (3) years only. A Chairperson who has held office for the full term of nine (9) years shall be ineligible for re-election until after the expiry of two further years.
- (2) The Chairperson, or in his or her absence the Deputy Chairperson, shall take the Chair at all meetings of the Executive Committee. If both are absent the Executive Committee shall elect its own Chairperson.
- (3) At every meeting the Chairperson shall have a casting vote in addition to an ordinary vote.

- (4) A Deputy Chairperson shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.

15. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- (1) The Annual General Meeting shall be held prior to the 31st day of March in each year.
- (2) The Agenda for the Annual General Meeting shall include:
- (a) apologies;
 - (b) confirmation of the Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting;
 - (c) the adoption of the annual Reports of the committees of the Society.
 - (d) the reception and adoption of the annual financial Statements and Auditor's Report;
 - (e) election of office bearers of the Executive Committee, Lodge Committee (if applicable) and the Branch Committee; and
 - (f) any other business.
- (3) Notices of motion, if any, must be given in writing fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting.
- (4) Twenty eight (28) days notice of Annual General Meeting must be given to all financial adult members.

16. GENERAL MEETINGS

- (1) The Executive Committee may convene at least one other General Meeting each year.
- (2) At every General Meeting the Executive Committee shall report on its proceedings since the previous General Meeting.
- (3) Twenty eight (28) days notice of a General Meeting must be given to all financial adult members.
- (4) At any time members of the Society may petition the Chairperson to convene a special meeting and the Chairperson must convene such a meeting should ten (10) members of the Society request him/her in writing to do so.
- (5) Life members, honorary members and all financial members eighteen (18) years and over are eligible to vote at General Meetings.

17. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- (1) The Executive Committee shall be the chief executive arm of the Society. It shall have the responsibility for the promotion of the Society in the other Provincial Dioceses in consultation with the relevant Diocesan Bishop.
- (2) The Executive Committee shall consist of:
- (a) the Chairperson;
 - (b) the Deputy Chairperson;

- (c) the Treasurer;
 - (d) one (1) Townsend Lodge Liaison member;
 - (e) 2 members of the Lodge Committee (if applicable);
 - (f) two (2) members of the Branch Committee;
 - (g) the Chaplain of the Society; and
 - (h) up to four (4) members of the Society.
- (3) The GFS Secretary appointed by the Executive Committee shall be an Ex-officio member if they are not already an elected member of the Executive Committee.
- (4) If a vacancy occurs on the Executive Committee, the remaining members may elect some other fit and eligible person to fill the vacant office.

(5) **Voting rights**

All members of the Executive Committee shall be entitled to vote at its meetings, except as otherwise herein provided, no other person shall be entitled to vote at meetings of the Executive Committee.

(6) **Executive Committee Meetings**

The Executive Committee shall meet at least ten (10) times.

(7) **Secretary**

The Executive Committee may appoint a paid Secretary of the Society who shall also act as Secretary of the Executive Committee. Otherwise an Honorary Secretary may be elected from amongst the members of the Executive Committee.

- (8) The Secretary shall maintain a record of all resolutions and proceedings of the Executive meeting.
- (9) Paid employees of the Society who attend Executive Meetings shall be ineligible to vote.

(10) **Treasurer**

At its first meeting following the Annual General Meeting the Executive Committee shall appoint a Treasurer. The posts of Secretary and Treasurer may be combined.

18. **QUORUM**

- (1) At all general meetings of the Society twenty (20) current financial members shall constitute a quorum.
- (2) At all meetings of the committees of the Society, fifty (50) percent of the members of the relevant committee shall constitute a quorum.

19. CASUAL VACANCIES

- (1) A casual vacancy occurs in the office of an Executive Committee member and that office becomes vacant if the Executive Committee member:
 - (a) dies;
 - (b) resigns by notice in writing delivered to the President or, if the Executive Committee member is the President, to the Deputy President and that resignation is accepted by resolution of the Executive Committee;
 - (c) is convicted of an offence under the Act;
 - (d) is permanently incapacitated by mental or physical illness;
 - (e) is absent for more than three (3):
 - (i) consecutive meetings of the Executive Committee (of which meetings the member received notice); or
 - (ii) meetings of the Executive Committee in the same financial year (of which the member received notice) without tendering an apology to the person presiding at each of those Executive Committee meetings,

and the Executive Committee has resolved to declare the office vacant; or
 - (f) is the subject of a resolution passed by a general meeting of members terminating his or her appointment as a member of the Executive Committee.
- (2) Any casual vacancy in the membership of the Executive Committee shall be filled by the Executive Committee. The person so appointed shall remain a member of the Executive Committee for the balance of the term of the member replaced.
- (3) Clauses 19(1) and 19(2) above may apply to any vacancy occurring in any other Committee of the Society.

20. PROPERTY AND INCOME

The property and income of the Society shall be applied solely to the promotion of its objects or purposes and no part of that property or income may be paid or otherwise distributed, directly or indirectly, to members of the Society, except that remuneration may be paid in good faith to officers of the Society or other persons in return for services rendered to the Society in the promotion of those objects or purposes.

21. FINANCE

- (1) All monies received by the Society shall be deposited in an account in the name of the Society with such financial institutions (which may include the Anglican Community Fund) as the Executive Committee determines.
- (2) All cheques and/or other instruments drawn on any such account shall be signed by an office-bearer and at least one other person or office-bearer as the Executive Committee may determine from time to time.

- (3) All cheques and/or other instruments to be deposited to such an account may be endorsed by such person as the Executive Committee determines.
- (4) The financial year of the Society shall conclude on the last day of December in each year.
- (5) The Auditor shall be elected annually by the Annual General Meeting and shall hold office under terms agreed to by the Executive Committee.
- (6) The Auditor shall audit the books and records of the Society and shall report thereon to the Annual General Meeting as to whether the books and records have been properly kept, and whether the Statement of Income and Expenditure or Statement of Receipts and Payments sets out a true and fair view of the operations of the Society for the period ended December 31st prior to the meeting and whether the Balance Sheet laid before the meeting discloses a true and fair view of the financial position of the Society as at the date thereof.

22. SUBSCRIPTIONS

The Executive Committee shall recommend at the Annual General Meeting the amount of the annual subscription or range of annual subscriptions to be paid for membership of the Society.

23. ACCOUNTS AND REPORTS

- (1) The Executive Committee shall cause to be kept proper books of account in which there shall be kept full and true and complete accounts of the affairs and transactions of the Society
- (2) The books of account shall be kept at the registered office of the Society or at such other place as the Committee may determine.
- (3) The Executive Committee may determine from time to time at what time and places and under what conditions or regulation the accounts and books of the Society or any of them shall be open for inspection by members of the Society.
- (4) The Executive Committee shall once in each year cause to be prepared and to be laid before the Annual General Meeting proper accounts of income and expenditure and balance sheet (respectively called the "Statement of Income and Expenditure and the "Balance Sheet")
- (5) A copy of the Balance Sheet and Statement of Income and Expenditure shall be made available at the Annual General Meeting, together with a copy of the Auditor's Report, and other reports of the Society's activities.
- (6) A copy of the Balance Sheet and Statements of Income and Expenditure, and the Auditors' Report thereon shall be made available on request to the Perth Diocesan Secretary at Diocesan Office.
- (7) Each year the Society shall make a report in writing upon the operations of the Society and this shall be sent to Diocesan Synod.

24. BRANCHES

- (1) Branches of the Society may be established in parishes within the Diocese only with the approval of the Rector of the parish concerned and the Executive Committee.
- (2) Non-parochial branches may be formed in schools, hospitals and hostels at the request of the authorities concerned with the approval of the Chaplain, and with the knowledge of the Rector of the parish in which the non-parochial entity is located.
- (3) **Townsend Members**
 - (a) Townsend Fellowship groups may be formed either as a parish group or as a central group with members from a number of parishes.
 - (b) Only members of a particular branch are entitled to vote at meetings of that branch.

25. BRANCH COMMITTEE

- (1) The branches of the Society shall be co-ordinated by the Branch Committee. The Branch Committee shall be responsible to the Executive Committee.
- (2) Immediately prior to the Annual General Meeting each branch shall be entitled to elect/appoint two representatives to the Branch Committee, to be confirmed at the Annual General Meeting.
- (3) If there are GFS branches in the Dioceses of Bunbury or North West Australia they may appoint a proxy by notice in writing to the Secretary.
- (4) The Branch Committee shall elect a Chairperson,/Coordinator and appoint a Secretary. The Branch Committee shall conduct its business as it sees fit but in accordance with any guidelines which may be prescribed by the Executive Committee.
- (5) Copies of outcomes of all meetings shall be tabled at the subsequent meeting of the Executive Committee.
- (6) Only elected members of the Branch Committee shall be entitled to vote at its meetings.
- (7) If there is a Publicity Officer appointed, they shall be a member of the Branch Committee.
- (8) Leader Development Officer/Team and Fieldworkers. See By-Law 3.

26. LODGE COMMITTEE

If the Lodge is under the management of the Society, its operation on a day to day basis shall be the responsibility of a Lodge Committee elected at the Annual General Meeting. See By-Law 2.

27. BRANCH PRESIDENT

In the case of branches located within a parish worship centre, the Rector shall be the branch president and is consequently entitled to attend meetings of the branch.

28. LEADERS

- (1) Leaders must be members of the Society of age eighteen (18) years or more and communicant members of the Anglican Church.
- (2) Their appointment shall be made by consultation between the Rector of the relevant parish and the Chairperson of the Society and they shall undertake training as required and hold a working with children licence.
- (3) Cadet Leaders aged fourteen (14) to seventeen (17) years may be appointed under conditions laid down by the Branch Committee.

29. CLOSING OF BRANCHES

If a branch closes down, all Society handbooks and materials shall be returned to the Executive Committee. The disposal of any branch funds and other equipment shall be at the discretion of the church council concerned.

30. AWARDS

The Society at a General Meeting may grant awards to any of its members in the forms from time to time adopted by the National Council.

31. NATIONAL COUNCIL

The Executive Committee shall appoint representatives to any meeting of the National Council.

32. DISPOSAL OR ACQUISITION OF REAL ESTATE

- (1) Real estate property of the Society shall only be acquired or disposed of by the Trustees of the Society in accordance with a resolution of a general meeting on the recommendation of the Executive Committee. Notice of such a resolution shall be given at a preceding general meeting held not less than twenty eight (28) days prior to the general meeting to which the resolution is to be put.
- (2) Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary contained in this Constitution, any proposed sale of Townsend Lodge shall require the prior written approval of The Perth Diocesan Trustees.

33. AMENDMENT OF CONSTITUTION

- (1) This Constitution may be altered, added to, or repealed with the prior written approval of The Perth Diocesan Trustees and by a special resolution passed by the majority of not less than three fourths (3/4^{ths}) of the members of the Society who are entitled under this Constitution to vote and vote in person or where postal votes are allowed by this Constitution by postal vote, at a general meeting of which notice specifying the intention to propose the resolution as a special resolution was given in accordance with this Constitution.
- (2) The Executive Committee shall advise the Deputy Commissioner of Taxation of any amendment of this Constitution.

34. BY-LAWS

By-laws not inconsistent with the provisions of this constitution may be enacted by the Executive Committee from time to time.

35. TECHNOLOGY

- (1) The Executive Committee may hold a meeting at two (2) or more venues using any technology that gives the Executive Committee members as a whole an opportunity to participate.
- (2) An Executive Committee member participating in a meeting held at two (2) or more venues using technology is deemed to be present in person at that meeting.

36. DISSOLUTION

- (1) If the Society is solvent it may be dissolved with the prior written approval of The Perth Diocesan Trustees and by a special resolution passed by a majority of not less than three fourths (3/4^{ths}) of the members of the Society who are entitled under this Constitution to vote and vote in person or, where postal votes are allowed by this Constitution, by postal vote at a general meeting called for that purpose of which notice specifying the intention to propose the resolution as a special resolution is given in accordance with this Constitution.
- (2) If on the winding up or dissolution of the Society there remains after the satisfaction of all the debts and liabilities of the Society any property whatsoever, that property shall not be paid or distributed among the members or former members but shall be paid upon trust to The Perth Diocesan Trustees to be given or transferred to another public benevolent institution incorporated under the Act which has similar objects to the Society, or for charitable purposes and to which income tax deductible gifts may be made and approved by the Deputy Commissioner of Taxation under the Tax Act.
- (3) The Executive Committee shall advise the Deputy Commissioner of Taxation of the date of dissolution of the Society and the transfer of any surplus property to another Society under sub-clause (1) above.

37. SECRETARY

The Secretary shall comply on behalf of the Society with section:

- (a) 27 of the Act in respect of the register of members of the Society;
- (b) 28 of the Act in respect of the Rules of the Society; and
- (c) 29 of the Act in respect of the record of the office holders and any Executive Committee members of the Society.

38. VALIDATION OF ACTS

All acts and proceedings of the Executive Committee and any committee or any member thereof or of any employee of the Society shall be deemed valid notwithstanding that it may afterwards be discovered that some defect existed in the appointment of the Executive Committee, the committee or any member thereof or of the employee in question.

39. PECUNIARY INTEREST

- (1) An Executive Committee member who the Executive Committee has decided has a material personal interest in a matter that is being considered by a meeting of the Executive Committee or general meeting must not:

- (a) be present while the matter is being considered at the meeting; and
- (b) vote on the matter.

- (2) Each Executive Committee member must declare any interest, including direct or indirect pecuniary interest, at the beginning of each meeting or as soon as the conflict becomes apparent or in relation to a resolution before the Executive Committee.

40. INSPECTION OF RECORDS ETC OF SOCIETY

A member may at any reasonable time inspect without charge the books, documents, records and securities of the Society. The Honorary Secretary shall have custody of the books, documents, records and securities of the Society.

41. DISPUTES AND MEDIATION

- (1) The grievance procedure set out in this rule applies to disputes under this Constitution between:
 - (a) a member and another member; or
 - (b) a member and the Society.
- (2) The parties to the dispute must meet and discuss the matter in dispute, and, if possible, resolve the dispute within fourteen (14) days after the dispute comes to the attention of all the parties.
- (3) If the parties are unable to resolve the dispute at the meeting, or if a party fails to attend that meeting, then the parties must, within ten (10) days, hold a meeting in the presence of a mediator.
- (4) The mediator must be:
 - (a) a person chosen by agreement between the parties; or
 - (b) in the absence of agreement in the case of a dispute between a member:
 - (i) and another member, a person appointed by the Executive Committee; or
 - (ii) or non-member and the Society, a person who is an accredited mediator appointed to, or employed with, a not for profit organization.
- (5) A member of the Society may be a mediator.
- (6) The mediator cannot be a member who is a party to the dispute.
- (7) The parties to the dispute must, in good faith, attempt to settle the dispute by mediation.
- (8) The mediator, in conducting the mediation, must:
 - (a) give the parties to the mediation process every opportunity to be heard;

- (b) allow due consideration by all parties of any written statement submitted by any party;
 - (c) ensure that natural justice is accorded to the parties to the dispute throughout the mediation process; and
 - (d) as far as may be possible follow the Institute of Arbitrators and Mediators Australia Ltd Rules for the Mediation of Commercial Disputes.
- (9) The mediator must not determine the dispute.
- (10) The mediation must be confidential and without prejudice.
- (11) If the mediation process does not result in the dispute being resolved, the parties may seek to resolve the dispute in accordance with the Act or otherwise at law.

BY-LAWS

1. GFS LIFE MEMBERSHIP GUIDELINES

Life membership may be conferred on members who have given outstanding and continued service to the Society over a period of at least ten (10) years beyond that of Branch levels.

All nominations are to be examined by members of the Executive Committee and must be accompanied by documentation.

The Life Member's badge and certificate is to be presented at the Society's Annual General Meeting or some other appropriate occasion as determined by the Executive Committee.

All Life Members shall have full voting rights at General Meetings.

2. TOWNSEND LODGE

With the lessee's approval the Society may elect at the Annual General Meeting two representatives to the Board of Management of Townsend Lodge, one of whom shall be appointed to the Executive Committee.

3. BRANCH COMMITTEE

If not otherwise nominated, the Leader Development Officer/Team and Field Workers shall be members of the Branch Committee

4. MEMBERSHIP GROUPS

- (a) Teddy bears aged four (4) to six (6) years
- (b) Kids Plus+. Primary age five (5) to twelve (12) years
- (c) Junior GFS Members aged from seven (7) to twelve (12) years
- (d) Teens Plus+ aged twelve (12) to seventeen (17) years.
- (e) Senior GFS Members aged twelve (12) to seventeen (17) years.
- (f) 15-30's Group. There shall be a provision in the fifteen (15) to thirty's

(30's) age group to provide a ministry of fellowship and further Christian growth within the Diocese of Perth.

(g) Townsend Members –eighteen (18) years and over.

The age limits specified above for each membership group shall not be applied rigidly but may vary to meet any special local conditions.

5. CHRISTIAN PLAYGROUPS

There shall be provision for children aged from birth to pre-primary and their parents, to a ministry of Christian fellowship and growth through Christian Playgroups principally within the Diocese of Perth.