

WORLD CHAIRMEN

(title changed to WORLD PRESIDENT from 1999)

1955-1956	Mrs H Woodward	United States of America
1956-1957	Mrs F R Barry	England and Wales
1957-1959	Mrs K H Bright-Parker	Australia
1959-1962	Mrs Mercy Simms	Ireland
1962-1965	Mrs Emiko Tsuji	Japan
1965-1969	Mrs W A Atkins	United States of America
1969-1972	Mrs Jean Cheshire	Australia
1972-1975	Mrs Felicity Mandleberg	England and Wales
1975-1978	Mrs A Floris Bain	United States of America
1978-1981	Mrs Elizabeth A E Mayes	Ireland
1981-1984	Mrs Umeyo Iwai	Japan
1984-1987	Mrs Dilys Fowler	Wales
1987-1990	Mrs Subuola Thompson	Sierra Leone
1990-1993	Mrs Joy Parkin	New Zealand
1993-1996	Mrs Joy Epton MBE	England
1996-1999	Mrs Nobantu Makunga	South Africa
1999-2002	Mrs June Hillier	Australia
2002-2005	Mrs Adele Ray	United States of America
2005-2008	Mrs Ruth Choi	Korea
2008-2011	Mrs Emila Corrigan	Ireland
2011-2014	The Revd Glenys Payne	Wales
2014-2017	Canon Val Gribble ML	Australia
2017-2020	Ms Thembeke Pama	South Africa
2020-2023	Ms Thembeke Pama	South Africa - Extended due to COVID-19
2023-2026	Ms Jeanne Withanage	Sri Lanka

FORMATION OF THE GFS WORLD COUNCIL

1955

During an International Holiday Conference held at Winchester House, Shanklin, Isle of Wight, and organised by the GFS in England and Wales and attended by representatives of the Society in Australia, England and Wales, Ireland, Newfoundland, Scotland, the United States of America and British Giana, the formation of a GFS World Council was introduced by Mrs Woodward, the President of the GFS in the USA. After discussion, the terms of a Charter were provisionally agreed, subject to confirmation by the Councils of the countries concerned.

Mrs Woodward was elected as the first President of the Council, to serve from June 1955 to June 1956. The President of the GFS in England and Wales was elected to service from 1956/57 and the

Chairman of the Commonwealth Council of Australia from 1957/58.

Later in the week a GFS World Day of Prayer was agreed upon and September 29th, the feast of St Michael and All Angels was suggested and subsequently ratified.

Terms of the Charter

We, the undersigned, agree to form a World Council of the GFS for the object of promoting fellowship between the members of the Society throughout the world by the exchange of information and ideas. Membership shall be open to GFS in all countries whose purposes are in fundamental agreement.

We further agree that the first project of the World Council shall be the production of a yearly newsletter, the editorship of which shall be the responsibility of a different country each year, one copy being sent to each member country. The distribution of this letter shall be the responsibility of the member countries.

And that the second project shall be the promotion of world assemblies, camps, exchange visits and correspondence between members.

It is further agreed that the organisation shall be through the Headquarters of the member countries or where there is no Headquarters, through the sponsoring Society.

England and Wales

Scotland

Ireland

USA

Australia

Newfoundland

When this Charter ratified by the Councils concerned, the signatures of the Presidents of Scotland, Ireland and Newfoundland were obtained.

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EXTRACT FROM REPORT ON OVERSEAS TOUR ARRANGED BY GFS IN 1955

“On June 18th we went to Winchester House, Shanklin, Isle of Wight to attend the Holiday Conference. There were representatives of GFS in England, Wales, Scotland, Ireland, USA, Australia, Newfoundland, and British Guiana. We had a most enjoyable holiday and during the week made two momentous decisions, one to form a World Council of GFS and two, to set aside September 29th as a GFS World Day of Prayer. All leaders had been worried regarding the method of linking GFS throughout the world, the old treaty system was no longer suitable, so after much discussion, it was decided to form this World Council and a suitable charter was framed subject to ratification by the Councils of the various countries. At the conclusion of the Conference, everyone felt that the fellowship we had experienced during our week together would influence the work of GFS throughout the world.

**GFS WORLD COUNCIL
SWITZERLAND
1956**

Minutes of the second meeting of the GFS World Council, held in Les Diablerets, Switzerland, on Saturday 4 August 1956.

Present: Chairman: Mrs Woodward, President of USA, Mrs Barry, President of England and Wales, Miss Trangmar, Australia, Mrs Le Messurier President of Newfoundland, Miss Murkin Scotland, Mrs Marks Ireland.

As observers: Mrs Walters, USA, Mrs Kirby and Mrs Garland, Newfoundland, Secretary, Miss A E King, England and Wales.

The meeting opened with prayers.

Chairman's Address:

Mrs Woodward told the delegates that the need of the GFS throughout the world to bind itself together had found expression in the formation of the World Council and the signing of a simple Charter by the six countries of England and Wales, Australia, Ireland, Newfoundland, Scotland and the United States of America.

The first project undertaken was the introduction of a GFS World Day of Prayer held on 29th of September, the Feast of St Michael and All Angels. This day had been observed by GFS throughout the world.

Secondly, the first Newsletter, edited by the GFS in the USA was produced in January 1956 and copies had been circulated to GFS groups working in the different countries.

I had not originally been thought possible to call a meeting so soon after the Council inauguration but when it was found that representatives were coming to the International Conference arranged in Les Diablerets it was decided to call the second meeting at rather short notice with no previous agenda papers.

Term of Office of the Chairman

At the first meeting in 1955 it had been decided that each term of office should be of one year's duration and that the USA, England and Wales and Australia, in that order, should provide the Chairman of the World Council.

Mrs Woodward asked that this should be discussed further in the light of experience gained. There was a full discussion in which the questions of representatives, travelling and finance were raised. It was finally proposed by Miss Trangmar, seconded by Miss Murkin and resolved: "that the decision of the first meeting should stand".

Statement of Purpose and Constitution:

The Chairman asked the meeting to consider a statement of purpose and the formation of a simple Constitution. The words of the Charter were read aloud and later some discussion it was decided

that for the present no alteration or restatement was required. It was also decided that the representatives should meet again to consider rules by which the business of the Council might be carried on and thus postpone the making of a formal Constitution until some further material experience had been gained. At the suggestion of Mrs Barry these rules were termed "directives".

World Emblem:

Three different designs obtained by the GFS in England and Wales were shown to the Council and after some discussion it was decided to obtain the opinions of delegates attending the Conference.

Application for Membership

An application for membership of the World Council had been received from the GFS in Ceylon which was sponsored by the Society in England and Wales. Before taking this particular case, a general discussion was held on condition of membership and it was decided to put this question to a full meeting of the conference. The sponsoring Society stated that the work of the GFS in Ceylon was at present in the Diocese of Colombo and fulfilled the requirements of the Charter in that its purpose was in fundamental agreement with those of the signatory countries.

It was proposed by Mrs Barry, seconded by Mrs Le Messurier and resolved "That the GFS in Ceylon be admitted to full membership of the World Council and that the document as presented to the meeting be signed, pending the production of a parchment form".

Invitations:

Invitations had been received from the GFS in the United States of America to hold a meeting of the World Council during their National Assembly in New York in June 1957 and from the GFS in Australia to hold a meeting in Australia at the time of their Commonwealth Council in 1958. It was agreed that both these invitations should be accepted gratefully.

Finance:

The Chairman said that she had been considering this question for some time, as, if the World Council were to fulfil its purpose; it would need funds available for use in connection with its projects. She said that she had several enquiries in hand in the USA and would also like to put forward the suggestion that a freewill offering might be combined with the World Day of Prayer and the money used for training leaders in countries new to GFS or any other purpose decided on by the World Council. This idea was enthusiastically received and was fully discussed. It was thought that under the present currency restrictions, the sums collected would have to be held in different countries and it was finally proposed by Mrs Barry and seconded by Mrs Marks and resolved "That it be suggested to member countries that a freewill offering should be made on the World Day of Prayer and that this collection might form the basis of a fund from which grants could be made to delegates attending meetings of the GFS World Council".

There being no further business, the meeting terminated with prayers.

Signed M H Woodward, Chairman, August 4, 1956.

A Second Session of the World Council to which members of the International Conference were invited – 5th August 1956.

It was decided to ask the Planning Committee to arrange for a Conference Session in which matters concerning the World Council might be discussed. A service of re-dedication and a ceremony of handing over the Chairmanship of the Council from the GFS in the USA to the GFS in England and Wales took place.

Minutes of the supplementary meeting of the GFS World Council held in Les Diablerets, Switzerland on 9 August 1956.

Present:

Chairman: Mrs Woodward, President of GFS, USA, Mrs Le Messurier, President of Newfoundland, Miss Trangmar, Australia, Mrs Marks, Ireland, Miss Murkin, Scotland; Secretary Miss A E King, England and Wales.

Observers: Mrs Walers, Miss Heald, USA; Mrs Kirby, Mrs Garland, Newfoundland.

World Emblem

It was agreed to accept the choice of the majority of the Conference which was for design "B" with the addition of the cross and the map of the world on the globe. It was also agreed to leave the final arrangements with the GFS Headquarters in London. The colour of the emblem to be blue on white.

Application for Admission

Since the meeting on August 4th an application for membership of the GFS World Council had been received from the Society in British Guiana. Although there was not a Central Council controlling the work it was decided to admit British Guiana to full membership particularly as their representative, Miss Irma Chase had been present at the signing of the Charter and at the first meeting of the Council.

It was proposed by Mrs Marks and seconded by Mrs Le Messurier and resolved "That the GFS in British Guiana be admitted to full membership of the GFS World Council".

Suggested Directives

The meeting agreed to the following principles governing the operation of the World Council.

- 1 That the duration of the office of Chairman of the Council should after 1957/58 be extended to not less than two years and should coincide with the interval between Council meetings.
- 2 That GFS in countries seeking membership of the Council should each be considered separately, and that the policy should be one of inclusion rather than exclusion.
- 3 That the chairmanship of the Council after Australia in 1957/58 should go to each country in turn in alphabetical order and that there should be the right of refusal.
- 4 That the office of Chairman of the Council need not be filled by the President of the GFS in the country concerned but might be chosen by that country.
- 5 That if the Chairman of the Council were not the President of the GFS, then the President should be an ex-officio member of the Council but that the country could only cast one vote.

- 6 That representation on the Council should be extended to two delegates from each country won of whom should be ideally between the ages of 16 and 20 years.
- 7 That the agenda for a meeting of the Council should be circulated to member countries as long as possible in advance to allow for discussion and suggestions.
- 8 That the Newsletter be edited by the country providing the Chairman and that, if possible, it should contain signed articles.

Projects

It was suggested by Mrs Walters that the GFS World Council might undertake some definite project in promoting peace throughout the world. There was no time for discussion, and this was deferred to a later meeting.

The meeting then closed with prayer.

Signed

M H Woodward, Chairman
August 5th, 1956.

GIRLS FRIENDLY SOCIETY WORLD COUNCIL

USA – 1957

Minutes of the 3rd meeting of the World Council of the Girls 'Friendly Society held at Bronxville, New York, United States of America on the 24th and 25th June 1957.

Present:

Chairman:		Mrs Frank Russell Barry	England and Wales
Australia	Delegates	Mrs K Bright-Parker, Miss N Long	
	Observer	Miss H Bright-Parker	
British Guiana	Observer	Miss S McMurdoch	
Canada	Observers	Miss Tester Miss B Cunningham, Girl's Auxiliary Miss C Kiff	
England and Wales	Delegates	Mrs Russell, Barry, Miss J Almgill	
	Observers	Mrs K Mulliner, Miss C Hawks	
Japan	Observers	Miss A M Ueda, The Revd JS Yamane, The Revd J H Araki	
	Guests, 1 st Session	The Revd and Mrs Hikaru Yanigihara	
Newfoundland	Delegates	Mrs Cruchey, Miss Davage	
	Observers	Mrs Garland, Mrs Yatman, Mrs Sheppard	
Panama	Observer	Miss G Smith	
Philippines	Observer	Miss K Longid	
Puerto Rico	Observer	Miss A Flores Sanchez	
Scotland	Delegate	Miss E M Darvie	
USA	Delegates	Mrs H E Woodward, Miss R Cooney	
	Observers	Mrs Sumner Walters, Mrs S K Mahon, Mrs E G Ferreira, Miss M Heald	

Secretary Mrs E G Ferreira, USA

Apologies were received from Ceylon and Ireland.

June 24th 1957 – afternoon

The third World Council of the Girls 'Friendly Society was held at Sarah Lawrence College, Bronxville, New York, USA preceding the 80th anniversary and National Assembly of the GFS, USA.

Mrs Russell Barry, President of the World Council opened the meeting and called on the Revd J S Yamane and The Revd J H Araki of Japan for opening prayers. Mrs Barry then welcomed by name the delegates and observers to the World Council and noted the coincidence that the date of the meeting was also the second birthday of the founding of the World Council in England in 1955.

Welcome was also given by Mrs H E Woodward as host for GFS, USA.

Mrs Barry read a welcome from the Episcopal Church of the USA, presented an illuminated address from Ireland and another from Scotland. Letters of greeting were read from Her Excellency Lady

Slim, Patron of GFS in Australia and from the Primate of Australia, His Grace the Archbishop of Sydney.

It was moved by Mrs Bright-Parker, seconded and agreed

"That each delegate should have a vote and each observer the right to speak but no vote.

Minutes

Minutes of the previous meeting of the World Council were read and approved. It was noted that minutes would be circulated and signed, and a copy placed in the Minute Book which was presented by the GFS of England and Wales.

GFS World Day of Prayer

Reports were made on the World Day of Prayer by the different countries. These reports showed wide diversity of observance, but general enthusiastic acceptance of the idea.

The meeting adjourned to accept the hospitality at tea of Mrs G Burpee and Mrs C Proctor of Bronxville.

June 24th 1957 – Evening

The second session of the World Council met on the evening of June 24th at Kober House, Bronxville, Mrs Barry presiding. She spoke briefly of the history of the World Council and the outstanding progress made in the past two years. She expressed the hope that the Society would draw together in bonds of Christian fellowship and community which would lead to truer international understanding.

GFS World Day of Prayer (cont)

Discussion was resumed on ways of implementing observance of the GFS World Day of Prayer.

England presented the intercession leaflets prepared by them, based on the information given in the World Newsletter and offered further copies upon request to Townsend House, London.

There was general discussion on the form of service. The question was raised whether it was preferable to prepare one service for use by all or offer suggested prayers and intercessions to be incorporated in any service. Various points of view were expressed, among them Australia who feared that contents prepared in advance might lose their poignancy, England warning that too much paperwork would mean hardship on the country providing the chairman. England suggested that a theme should be agreed, and each country left to develop it in its own way. Newfoundland felt there was an advantage in the use of a set form and all using the same service. All agreed on the value of using the same prayers. Scotland suggested that each year each country should send a petition representing its particular needs to be incorporated in a set form of service to be used every year. Australia asked for a special service suitable for children. It was agreed that there should be a common theme and that intercessions be prepared.

The use of the offering was discussed. Australia felt that the use of money for oneself turns one's thoughts inward and that a gift for missions would be more desirable. USA agreed that their original idea was that the money should be used for scholarships but that they had agreed to use it for the

expenses of delegates since this would be one way of subsidising the Council. It was decided that the offerings given on the World Day of Prayer should be used for a joint project in the mission field. This project would not cut across the programs of the individual countries.

It was moved by USA, seconded by Australia and agreed "that the theme adopted for 1957/58 should be *The World-wide church and the place of GFS in it!*". It was suggested by Mrs Bright-Parker of Australia that the theme for the following year be "The United Nationals" and that the project be in connection with either UNICEF or UNESCO.

After a general discussion on projects including work to promote good relations in South Africa, proposed by Mrs Darvie of Scotland, and international work camps proposed by Mrs Mahon of USA. Newfoundland suggested that it might be better to build up a reserve fund and to leave the decision of the exact way in which to use it until it was known how much money was available. It was there proposed by Australia, seconded by USA and agreed

"That the contribution from each country be put in reserve funds to be used for the further education of some girls in another country, the decision to be made at the next meeting of the World Council".

Discussion followed concerning a poster. England suggested one perpetual poster. Australia felt that teenagers change their thinking so rapidly that it would soon be updated. USA stated that a poster was not necessarily the answer. England felt that a poster been essential in 1955. Australia said they had not used the poster and did not feel it was advisable unless it was a really first class one. It was finally moved by Australia, seconded by England and agreed, *"That until the machinery of the GFS World Council became more workable posters for the GFS World Day of Prayer be left to the initiative and responsibility of each country"*.

Joint Activities

Opportunities for joint activities in addition to the World Day of Prayer were then discussed. Australia spoke of correspondence through pen friends. Cynthia Hawkes of England told of a round robin circulated by those who had attended Les Diablerets and also suggested that correspondence between branches in different parts of the world be encouraged. Newfoundland mentioned the World Newsletter as a means of keeping together its members. Jean Almgill of England asked that since there was no central organisation the names and addresses of those present be circulated with the Minutes. Miriam Heald of USA spoke of the problem of making the World Council real to members. Exchange of staff and letters was helpful but working on a common project would be a real means of uniting members in all parts of the world. It was suggested that the Council might need a committee that would not necessarily meet to deal with such matters.

Australia reminded the meeting that letters of introduction from one country to another could be very useful. Mrs Mahon of USA spoke of exchange programs of students now in progress and possible future expansion of this idea. Mrs Bright-Parker asked if this might mean exchange of jobs. The past experience of USA and England in the interchange of staff was spoken of.

The Council discussed International Conferences. Cynthia Hawkes suggested that sectional conferences be promoted where world ones were not possible.

Film Strips and Tape Recorders

Film strips as a means of communication were discussed. England were now producing a world one in black and white. Australia had colour slides of the four-fold basis of GFS activity in that country. Interchange of colour slides by countries was thought to be more valuable than film strips, as the former could be varied and replaced when necessary. It was moved by England, seconded and agreed

“That colour slides taken at the meeting and in our various countries be made available to other countries and information concerning them should be circulated”.

Tape recordings were suggested by British Guiana and it was decided to make one of the meeting to demonstrate their possibilities. It was suggested that a message be recorded at the meeting and sent to all countries.

Finance

The matter of finance was discussed. England explained their birthday fund whereby one gave a coin for each year of membership. Australia spoke of their delegates fund and said it would be difficult to create another. It was agreed that there should be a World Council Fund if this proved practicable.

The meeting was adjourned until the following day after an effective use of England’s intercessions for the World Day of Prayer, each President reading the section concerning her own country.

June 25th 1957 – morning

The meeting was opened with a tape recording from Japan.

Further Expansion

Consideration of means of further expansion included the necessity of personal contact and taking the initiative. Mrs Woodward suggested that members should make themselves known to organisations and leading church people as they travelled round. Mrs Bright-Parker reported that Australia had expanded through contact with outside ladies such as Mothers Union, Women’s Auxiliary, Labour League and National Fitness Council. Newfoundland felt that they publicised the Society through church organisations. Jean Almgill told of speaking to students at a Theological College, of interesting those in teacher training colleges. Naomi Long said that the Society must be built up from inside so that it would promote itself as it grew. Mrs Walters of USA displayed the new folder jointly issued by GFS USA and the Women’s Auxiliary. Mrs Barry said that there was a need to fill our girls with a sense of Christian vocation so that they would be stimulated to draw others into the Society, that it was important not only to expand numerically but to provide witnesses for GFS and the church.

Mrs Mahon asked that “Total Operation Girl “should be borne in mind and ways should be found of working with other youth organisations. Mrs Barry said that the GFS of England and Wales had had to work out ways of co-operation with many youth organisations both secular and of the church. Cynthia Hawke said that GFS in England were trying to work with the Church of England Men’s Society, the Mothers’ Union and the Church Lads’ Brigade and that a pamphlet had been published describing the work of the four organisations. Branches of GFS Guides also existed and the system

was working very satisfactorily. Mrs Darvie of Scotland spoke of their affiliation with other organisations such as AYPAs. Mrs Walters felt that secular organisation in the USA did not touch the spiritual side of life and as the Society's task was to convert girls it must have an entirely different program, a spiritual one. Mrs Walters pointed out the difficulty of holding teenage members. Cynthia Hawke spoke of reasons for this. Naomi Long agreed that in view of this a vision of what the Christian life could be, must be given to them. Mrs Bright-Parker felt that if girls were given a solid training up to the age of 14, they would come back later and take an active part in the church again. Mrs Barry said that it should not be considered a loss if they did not attend meetings after the age of 14 after they had been in the Society for eight years, as they were still members and carried their membership wherever they went. Miss Graff of USA spoke of the recent study by the Boy Scouts Association on this subject. Representatives of the GA of Canada told of their plans for teenage members.

Representatives of the Diocese of Osaka in Japan reports that it was hoped that the GFS would be adopted by the whole church in Japan. The Philippines and Panama also contributed to this discussion.

Leadership Training

Leadership Training was next considered by the World Council. The USA told of their G-3 plan, developing potential leadership and of the summer opportunities project. Australia used the syllabus provided by the church and had secular training through National Fitness Councils. Correspondence courses were also made use of. England described their Leaders' Training Corps and summer courses and Area and Diocesan Leadership Conferences, displayed the "Hour" leaflets and explained their voluntary leaders' certificate for courses in GFS work and theology provided by the church.

Canada spoke at length of their dominion leadership training courses that were also open to girls of 15-16 years of age, and of leadership training in camping. Scotland, Panama and Newfoundland spoke to the desirability of making current courses open to all. It was moved by England, seconded by USA and agreed

"That all countries that have leadership training courses should make them available to any country in the World Council who wished to use or adapt them".

June 25th 1957 –Afternoon

The World Council held its final session on the afternoon of June 25th at Kober House, Mrs Barry presiding.

Directives

The suggested Directives were considered point by point and accepted as under.

- 1 **Name.** The organisation shall be called the World Council of the Girls' Friendly Society.
Discussions: England spoke to the desirability of keeping the name Girls Friendly Society, until the World Council was better known, at least USA spoke for changing it. Australia had found little response in a poll on the subject. The difficulties which might arise if some countries changed the name and not others were raised.

2 **Purpose.** The purpose of the World Council of the GFS shall be to promote fellowship between the members of the Society throughout the world, by the exchange of information and ideas. The promotion of World Assemblies, camps, exchange visits and correspondence between members shall be encouraged. September 29th, St Michael and All Angels Day shall be the GFS World Day of Prayer.

Discussion: Australia had submitted the following statement of purpose: "To unite girls and women in a fellowship of prayer, service and a high quality of life for the Glory of God throughout the world, by the exchange of information and ideas, through the practical means of world assemblies, amps, exchange visits, correspondence."

It was suggested that "high quality of life" should be replaced by the words "integrity of life".

Australia withdrew the motion for reconsideration at the next meeting of the World Council.

3 **Membership.** Membership shall be open to GFS in all countries whose purposes are in fundamental agreement. Each country seeking admission shall be considered separately and the policy shall be inclusive rather than exclusive. Representation at Council meetings shall be extended to two delegates from each country, one of whom shall be ideally between the ages of 16 and 21 years.

Discussion: The final words "years of age" were thought to be redundant.

4 **Officers.** The Chairmanship of the World Council shall pass from one country to another in alphabetical order and it shall be the duty of the Chairman to inform and obtain the acceptance of the country next but one and to arrange for the editorship of the Newsletter. The Chairman shall not necessarily be the President of the country but shall be chosen by that country.

The duration of the office of Chairman shall, after 1957/58 usually be for not less than two years and shall coincide with the term between meetings, and the Chairman shall relinquish office at the conclusion of the Council meeting. The responsibility for the Chairmanship of the GFS World Council shall rest on the person of the Chairman and not on the Executive Committee or Board of the country she represents. The Chairman of the previous period shall be the Vice-Chairman for the next meeting.

Discussion: Moved by Cynthia Hawke, seconded by Mrs Woodward

"That the words 'where possible' be inserted to read 'and where possible' to arrange for the editorship of the Newsletter in that county".

It was moved by Mrs Woodward, seconded by Cynthia Hawke.

"That the words "in alphabetical order" be deleted".

These two motions were carried. The suggestion was also made that large and small countries hold the chairmanship alternately. It was moved by England, seconded by Australia and agreed

"That the country providing the Chairman should be elected by the voting delegates at World Council."

It was understood that this might be an election by mail.

- 5 **Votes.** Each country on the Council shall normally have one vote and the countries concerned shall decide which of their representatives shall be the voting member. If the Chairman is not the President of the GFS in the country concerned, then the President shall be an ex-officio member of the Council, but the country shall only cast one vote.
Discussion: It was decided to delete the first sentence and substitute "Each delegate on the World Council shall have one vote". "Observers have a voice but no vote."
- 6 **Agenda.** Suggestions for inclusion on any agenda shall be sent to the Chairman of the GFS World Council to reach her not less than 3 months prior to the date of the meeting. The agenda for a meeting of the Council should be circulated to the Presidents and Secretaries of member countries as long as possible in advance to allow for discussion and suggestions.
- 7 **Minutes.** Minutes of each meeting shall be circulated and signed by the Chairman of the meeting and shall be recorded in a book which shall pass from Chairman to Chairman. Further that as a common language will be necessary for this book, English to be used as the official language.
- 8 **Newsletter.** The newsletter shall be edited by the country providing the Chairman or any another country at the request of the country providing the Chairman. At least one copy shall be sent to each member country. The distribution within each country shall be the responsibility of that country.
Discussion. There was much discussion on the editing of the newsletter, with the suggestion that only larger countries might find it possible to carry out the work involved and that if the editing was linked with the chairmanship this might deter countries from accepting the chairmanship. No action was taken other than that taken with regard to the Directive concerning Officers and the Directive covering the newsletter was left to stand.
- 9 **Applications for Membership.** Application for membership had been received from Grahamstown, Union of South Africa. After discussion about the fact that there was only one branch in that diocese and the possibility of other branches or dioceses joining with them, the matter was deferred to the next meeting of World Council.
Further applications for membership were received at the meeting. Mrs Woodward sponsored the request of Japan, seconded by Australia. Miss Flores requested membership for Puerto Rico, seconded by Scotland. Miss Glenda Smith requested for Panama seconded by USA. All requests were granted subject to confirmation of the applications by the countries concerned. The Revd J Araki thanked the World Council in the name of Japan.
- 10 **Affiliation of the Girls' Auxiliary of Canada.** The Girls' Auxiliary of Canada requested membership or affiliation. During the discussion which followed it was pointed out that the Constitution precluded full membership. It was moved by Australia seconded by England and agreed that affiliation be offered to the Girls' Auxiliary with all privileges other than that of the vote and the chairmanship of the World Council. Miss Tester of the GA told of this dominion wide organisation of the Anglican Church and gave an outline of its work.

- 11 **Executive Committee.** The question of an executive committee to act between meetings of the World Council was considered and it was moved by the USA, seconded and agreed
‘That the Chairman be given authority to appoint a standing committee to consist of an equal representation of women and girls. The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and the Chairman for the following period should be ex-officio members of the Committee, the total number of which should not exceed eight.’
The World Council expressed its sympathy for Ireland in the recent death of their President, Mrs Bewley, and asked that their love and sympathy be sent by the Chairman.
- 12 **Handover.** The handover of the Chairmanship of the World Council to Mrs Bright-Parker of Australia was postponed to the public meeting of the National Assembly and the Chairman declared the Council adjourned.

Secretary: Lilian J Barry

IRLS FRIENDLY SOCIETY WORLD COUNCIL

AUSTRALIA

24/25 APRIL 1959

Minutes of the fourth meeting of the World Council of the Girls' Friendly Society held at Gilbulla, Menangle, New South Wales, Australia, on 24th and 25th April 1959.

Present:	Chairman	Mrs K H Bright-Parker, Australia
Australia:	Delegates	Mrs K H Bright-Parker Miss M Bunday
	Observers	Members of Fifth Meeting of Australian Commonwealth Council
England and Wales:	Delegates	Mrs F Russell Barry Miss Mary Bell
Ireland:	Delegate	Miss Ivy Kerr
Japan	Delegate	Miss E Tsuji
New Zealand	Delegate	Mrs E J Rich
Scotland:	Delegate	Mrs J Powell
USA:	Delegates	Mrs E Ferreira Miss G Eagleson
	Observers	Miss E Sloane
	Secretary	Miss J Perkins, Australia
	Chaplain:	Rt Revd J A G Housden, Bishop of Newcastle Australia

Friday morning 24th April 1959

The fourth World Council of the Girls' Friendly Society was held at Gilbulla, Menangle, NSA, Australia, following the fifth meeting of the Commonwealth Council of Australia.

Opening

The Chairman, Mrs K H Bright-Parker opened the Council meeting with prayer.

Welcome

Mrs Bright-Parker welcomed the delegates and observers to World Council.

Greetings

Personal greetings were given by Mrs Berry, Mrs Powell, Mrs Ferreira, Miss Kerr, Mrs Rich, Mrs Tsuji and Miss Bunday on behalf of their countries. Mrs Barry brought personal greetings from the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Greetings were read from: Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother (Patron), Her Excellency Lady Slim (Commonwealth Patron), Rt Revd Arthur Lichtenberger (Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church of USA), Rt Revd R C Halse (Acting Primate of Australia), 29th Triennial of Women's Auxiliary of

USA; Mrs Carrington (President of Girls' Auxiliary, Canada), Mrs M Woodward (USA), Mrs F Power (USA), Board of GFS Diocese of Los Angeles, Mrs Sims and Council of GFS in Ireland, Miss E Cowan (on behalf of Scottish GFS), Mrs Le Messurier (USA), Miss F Kirby, From GFS Diocese of Wellington

(New Zealand), Grafton (Australia), Newfoundland, Birmingham (England), Kempsey (Australia), and from Mrs de Mel (Ceylon), Mrs Storrs (Morpeth, Australia) and Miss J Rossiter.

Greetings with the reports came from Ceylon, New Hebrides, Windward Islands, South Africa, British Guiana, Puerto Rico and St Vincent, West Indies.

With the greetings from Mrs Woodward (USA) came the gavel which is to be used at all World Councils. Mrs Ferreira, on behalf of Mrs Woodward, presented the gavel to Mrs Bright-Parker to use for the first time at this Council meeting.

Mrs Bright-Parker then read as a challenge to each delegate and observer, St Matthew 28:18-20.

Apologies

Mrs Sumner Walters, USA, Mrs Carrington, Canada; Mrs de Mel, Ceylon; and from those countries unable to send delegates.

Reception of Greetings and Apologies

"That the greetings and apologies be received" was moved by Miss Eagleson, USA and seconded by Mrs Powell, Scotland." CARRIED.

Minutes

The minutes of the World Council meeting held in Bronxville, USA on 24 and 25 June 1957 were read.

Directives: The Directives formulated after the last Council Meeting were read.

"That the Minutes and Directives from the World Council meeting 1957 be endorsed" was moved by Miss Bunday (Australia) seconded by Miss Bell (England) CARRIED.

Reports from Member Countries

Reports were presented by Miss Mary Bell on behalf of England and Wales, by Mrs Powell on behalf of Scottish GFS, by Miss Eagleson for USA, Miss Kerr for Ireland, Mrs Rich for New Zealand, Mrs Tsuji for Japan and Mrs Bright-Parker for Australia.

Gifts

Mrs Tsuji presented each delegate with a bookmark cross; Mrs Bunday on behalf of Australia gave each delegate a coloured booklet "Wildflowers of Western Australia"; Mrs Rich presented Mrs Tsuji with a bookmark and conveyed the greetings of New Zealand GFS to GFS of Japan.

Reports (cont)

Reports were received from Ceylon, Windward Island, Petro Rico, St John's Diocese, South Africa, Grahamstown, South Africa, British Guiana, Mrs Barry (England) moved, and Miss Eagleson (USA) seconded

"That these reports be received." CARRIED

New Member Countries

Two countries have applied for membership of the World Council. They are New Zealand (comprising Wellington, Auckland, Waiapu, Nelson Dioceses) and the Province of South Africa.

It was moved by Miss Bunday (Perth) seconded by Miss Kerr (Ireland)

"That South Africa become a member country of the World Council of GFS" CARRIED

It was moved by Mrs Barry (England) seconded by Mrs Ferreira (USA)
"That New Zealand become a member country of the GFS World Council" CARRIED.

The Chairman reported that the member countries of the World Countries of the World Council of GFS are: Australia, British Guiana, Ceylon, England, Wales, Ireland, Newfoundland, Japan, Panama, Puerto Rico, Scotland, United State of America, New Zealand, South Africa and affiliated member – Girls' Auxiliary (Canada_ . Linked through England are: Barbados, Ghana, India, South Sudan, Southern Rhodesia, Windward Islands, Antiqua, St Vincent (British West Indies), Mauritius.

Friday afternoon 4.15pm

Relationship with other Organisations (cntd)

Mrs Tsuji (Japan) said that in Japan the government has recently given permission for co-education and asked why GFS thought it better for the girls to work separately from the boys' societies.

Mrs Russell Barry (England) replied that in her country they are very keenly aware of the whole situation. The church has set up a new Board of Education and it is hoped that GFS and its work will come under their consideration and will come into consultation with them. She further replied that up to the age of 15 most girls seemed happier in groups of their own and although some after this preferred to stay in GFS, most tended to prefer mixed groups.

Mrs Tsuji asked for information of any organisation especially for boys. Mrs Marry replied that in her opinion the CEBS of Australia was the most effective.

Miss Sloan (USA) commented that they recently had a combined girls and Scout Leader's Rally at which they had a teenage panel of scouts and girls and the publicity for this meeting and the pictures of the boys and girls planning the panel has spurred the interest of both boys and girls everywhere. Gail Eagleson (USA) said she had always gone to a co-ed school, but they still feel the need for separate boys' clubs and girls' clubs. The Chairman said that it is generally accepted that both psychologically and physiologically the younger age groups are better working separately. Mrs Powell (Scotland) commented that the PFA is a mixed group but is not always very satisfactory. Comment was made by Mrs Read (Australia) that she felt that the Conference had brought home the potentiality of GFS coming into YMD and MU and that as Australian Chairman of MU she intended to see that a GFS speaker is invited to come to their meeting. It is very important for the unity of the church that women's organisations should get to know each other and to cooperate with each other. It was moved by Mrs Barry (England)

"That the World Council recommend wherever there are MU, GFS and the Women's Division of Christian Work (USA) there be reciprocal representation on the various Councils".

Seconded by Mrs Ferreira (USA) CARRIED.

Friday evening. Prayers were taken by representatives from England.

Resolutions from Member Countries.

The English resolutions were taken first, and Mrs Barry presented three which were sent in by the Central Council in England.

- 1 That the Central Council feels that it would like to send in a resolution to the World Council to the effect that in the future the World Council should meet not more than once in three years.
- 2 That there should be a small common fund to which every member country of the World Council contributes to defray the cost of a country carrying the Chairmanship.

- 3 It was proposed by Miss Scott (Ireland) seconded by Miss Williams (USA) and agreed
“That each country represented on this Conference send a recommendation through their Central Councils, Assemblies or Boards to the GFS World Council urging that in view of the pressing need for two workers, one MU and one GFS among the native girls in the diocese of Mombasa, East Africa, all countries represented on World Council should, as a follow up to Lambeth year, make this a special project and raise £300 per annum for two years for the salary of one of the workers”.

Mrs Barry reported that the English Council does endorse the Mombasa project.

Whereas we, as Christians, are one family in Christ, and

Whereas the United Nations is the major channel through which 81 nations are working together, and

Whereas this is the area of education in which the GFS may take leadership in international goodwill, therefore

Be it resolved.

That the GFS World Council meeting in April 1959, heartily endorsed education with regard to the United Nations and its specialised agencies and requests that the GFS, USA, provide member organisation of the World Council with continuing information from United Nations.

The Chairman asked Mrs Ferreira (USA) to speak to the Council about the work of the United Nations, Mrs Ferreira being an accredited observer at same. Mrs Ferreira said that non-governmental organisations are represented by observers, and that is their obligation to pass on as much information as possible to their constituencies. The organisation has received information from the United Nations on which programs can be based. The GFS in USA is one such organisation. Mrs Rich (New Zealand), moved that the Council endorse the resolution seconded by Miss Bunday (Australia) CARRIED

Leader Training

Mrs Ferreira (USA) said that Leadership Training was one of their main concerns. They have organised a new plan by which they can train their leader. They are hoping there will be a plan by which each Provincial Vice-President will survey her territory consult with her Diocesan President, find out just what the situation is and then have some sort of training conference for leaders who will in turn go to as many Dioceses as possible and as many branches as possible. At every age they try to train for leadership, not just as young women, but for the jobs they are doing and the lives they are living at the moment. The G3 plan is the method for training special teenage girls who have showed a potential for leadership.

Mrs Barry told of leadership training in England. Two basic schemes that have been put out to help in training are Branch Program Syllabuses and Training Syllabuses. Branch Training Syllabuses are for the different age groups. In the last year or so suggestions for branch meetings put out specifically in the Syllabus have been a great help. Each year there is a theme around which the syllabus is built. Training Syllabuses are also put out in the different age groups; Junior for potential leaders, Intermediate for leaders and Advanced, which is intended for people who are going to take up some sort of youth work. There are four sides to the syllabus: Religious Knowledge, Methods of Teaching religion in the branch, Human Relations, Practical Branch work. This year they are going to do a telescoped course, covering the four

spheres in one year instead of the usual three. They have a director of studies who is a voluntary worker. She is put in touch with any girl who wants to take the syllabus. This can also be done by correspondence. Also, training is given at Summer schools of all types and diocesan training week-end study groups are starting in a number of dioceses.

Mary Bell reported that in England a Leader Training Corps works towards a Leaders Voluntary Certificate. Members of the Corps must be a Branch Leader or do active leadership of some sort. This is a three-year course and at least once in three years candidates must attend a Summer School. Training weekends or days are organised for the group. A members committee is formed within the Diocese. All branches are represented, and the committee has representation on the diocesan council. One Diocese has formed a GFS Commando Group (8 members) who are ready to go immediately to give practical help to any parish to start or to help a branch.

Mrs Ferreira asked Australia about their Correspondence Course in Leadership Training and was told that though this is all ready for use it has not yet been tried. Mrs Barry (England) asked that the Council discuss ways and means by which countries could help one another by the interchanging of ideas and schemes.

A minute from the last meeting was read in which all the countries agreed to make available to other countries their Leader Training material. Mrs Barry suggested it be mentioned in the next Newsletter that such material is available.

It was moved by Miss Bunday (Australia)

“That we publish in the Newsletter and circulate member countries that a list containing names and addresses of the countries from which suitable leadership material could be obtained.”

Seconded by Mrs Barry (England) CARRIED.

Saturday 25th April 1959 – morning.

This session opened with prayer by Miss E Sloane (USA)

World Project

Discussion on this project was opened when Mrs Barry (England) reported that the original Mombasa scheme is not now practicable. Correspondence was read from the Bishop of Mombasa and Mrs Beecher setting out a new project which is to help provide a worker to introduce GFS to the people of the Taia Hills district, in the south east of the diocese. The MU and CMS will also help and in this way, money will be provided for the salary of a missionary who has been working in this district for a number of years. The lady has been engaged in educational work, but this job ends during 1960 and she would be available. Mrs Barry stated that the World Project should be one that we can all share and which satisfies all participating countries.

Mrs Ferreira (USA) said that the United States would be willing to accept whatever Council decides. This was supported by Miss Sloane (USA). Japan and Scotland also signified their willingness to support the Mombasa scheme and the following motion was moved by Miss I Kerr (Ireland) seconded by Mrs Tsuji (Japan)

“That we proceed with the Mombasa Scheme” CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

It was reported that the following amounts are held in reserve funds for the World Project:

England	£125
Australia	£70
USA 542.24 dollars	£241
Ireland £40 pa (for 2 yrs)	£100
TOTAL	£425 (England), 1,206 dollars (USA) 431,478 yen (Japan) £536 (Australian)

It was moved by Miss Eagleson (USA) seconded by Miss Bell (England)

“That the reserve funds of the respective countries be held in their countries until further notification is received, after Mrs Barry has enquired as to currency problems.” CARRIED

The Chairman stated that we must keep in mind the Exchange of Students Scheme put forward by the United States. Mrs Barry (England) suggested that perhaps it could be decided at this World Council what form the next World Project is to take.

It was moved by Miss M Bell (England) seconded by Miss Bunday (Australia)

“That the World Project monies collected until the next Council meeting be applied to provide instruction and help to a GFS member from a country such as Central America, Melanesia, New Guinea or Ceylon. It is desired by this Council that the chosen girl be given training and instruction in say America, England, Australia, New Zealand or a similar country to fit her for work among her own people.” CARRIED.

GFS World Newsletter

The Chairman suggested that as the reports are in Australia, together with photographs, that the Newsletter be produced here, and that we follow the directive of 1967 with regard to future issues.

World Day of Prayer and Intercession

The Chairman reported that Ireland will prepare the intercessions for the World Day of Prayer on the subject of Human Rights and Freedom.

Poster for World Day of Prayer

It was moved by Miss M Bell (England) seconded by Mrs Powell (Scotland)

“That we do not have a world poster for the World Day of Prayer but leave it to the individual countries to prepare their own”. CARRIED

Exchange of Representatives from one country to another

Open discussion took place on this matter. Miss Bell (England) reported that she had learned much from her visit to Australia which would be of help to her when she returned to her own country. Mrs Ferreira paid tribute to the hospitality of GFS branches around the world. Mrs Tsuji (Japan) asked for help of member countries. Miss Gerdes told the Council of the wonderful hospitality extended to the Australian delegation to the 80th birthday celebrations in London when they passed through Ceylon and also the hospitality given by the England GFS to their party. Miss Gerdes also reminded Council of the need for careful consideration of finance when travelling abroad. Miss Gerdes emphasised that although the hostess country was often quite

prepared to provide hospitality it was always necessary for the visitor to be prepared to pay her own travelling expenses.

Miss G Eagleson (USA) asked if there was anything the World Council could do to promote this exchange and said that she could never say too much in favour of exchange visits and added how much valuable experience she has received from her visit and that she would be sharing it with other GFS in the United States on her return. Mrs Barry (England) suggested that perhaps we could help promote regional camps.

Out of this discussion it was moved by Miss Bunday (Australia) seconded by Mrs Ferreira (USA)

'that (1) a person be appointed in each country to act as a commendation secretary to receive from other countries the names of members travelling and to pass the relevant information to the appropriate people. (2) a list be published in the World Newsletter of the names and addresses of these commendation secretaries.

(3 that these commendation secretaries be supplied within their own countries with a list of the times and places of camps and conferences which might be attended by those members aboard."

CARRIED.

Mrs Rich (New Zealand) asked that girls booking accommodation in GFS Hostels be careful to advise hostels if arrangements are changed.

Mrs Barry (England) moved

"That we should plan now to have an international camp, if possible, an international workscamp in conjunction with the next World Council." CARRIED.

Mrs Ferreira (USA) moved, and Mrs Rich (New Zealand) seconded

"That in the meantime each country tries to promote international camps." CARRIED

Mrs Ferreira (USA) reported on International Christian Youth Exchange Scholarships.

Mrs Barry (England) and Mrs Tsuji (Japan) seconded

"That the International Christian Youth Exchange be made known through the newsletter and through the Minutes of the World Council with details." CARRIED

Saturday Evening

Scottish greetings were received before this meeting. Prayers were said by Miss I Kerr of Ireland.

Next World Chairman

The Chairman said she had had communications from both Scotland and Ireland advising that each is prepared to accept World Chairmanship. Mrs Barry asked that in the voting would it not be fairer if each country had just one vote, particularly as the voting which has already been received had been done in this way. It was agreed that each country be allowed one vote.

A ballot was then held, and the Chairman announced that the result was that Ireland would have the World Chairmanship. The new World Chairman would therefore be Mrs M Simms, wife of the Archbishop of Dublin. The Chairman then read the Council two letters, from Mrs Simms and the other from Miss JH Scott, who is the Central Secretary of the GFS in Ireland. The Chairman pointed out that Miss Ivy Kerr, the Irish delegate, would be asked to receive the World Badge at the Commissioning Service, on behalf of Mrs Simms.

Mrs Barry (England) said she felt that the World Council would greatly enjoy having Mrs Simms as their World Chairman and also that as we are on the verge of accepting a new World

Chairman we might from this Council send to Mrs Woodward, the first World Chairman, the best wishes of this Council.

Mrs Barry moved, and Mrs Powell (Scotland) seconded

"That these wishes be sent" CARRIED.

Vice-Chairman

The Chairman then said that this position is an automatic one in that the retiring Chairman occupies this position.

Secretary

It was pointed out that in our directives there is no place for the appointment of a Secretary to the World Council.

Mrs Rich (New Zealand) moved, and Miss Bunday (Australia) seconded

"That the new World Chairman be empowered to appoint her own Secretary for her term of office". CARRIED

The Chairman pointed out that though Mrs Woodward, former World Chairman, had a National Office which could deal with the work, and Mrs Barry of England when she was Chairman, had the Central Office, in Australia there was no such office, and it did mean that great deal of work fell on the Chairman. She felt that it would be unfair to expect Mrs Simms to work under such conditions, but the appointment of a Secretary would greatly relieve the situation.

Next World Council Meeting and Time between meetings

Mrs Berry (England) spoke about the resolution sent in by the Central Council of England and Wales, that each country should be asked, if possible, to contribute to a common fund to help defray the expenses of the country carrying the World Chairmanship. Mrs Berry, in speaking to the resolution, said she felt it was very important that we should have something of this kind to make sure that smaller countries would not, when it came to their time, feel that they could not afford to accept World Chairmanship as the expenses involved would be too heavy. If the Council would agree to establish such a fund it would help considerably. It should be made quite clear though, that such a fund would be optional and there should be a sliding scale for larger and smaller countries. Miss Bunday (Australia) asked approximately what amount such a fund would involve. The Chairman replied that the approximate amount would be £100.

Mrs Ferreira (USA) said she thought the idea was excellent. Mrs Barry (England) and Miss Eaglesham (USA) moved

"That the above resolution". CARRIED

Mrs Rich (New Zealand) moved, seconded by Miss Bell (England) then moved

"That the basis of contribution to the expenses of the World Council be upon membership, that countries with membership of less than 500 be asked to contribute the equivalent of 5/- sterling annually, those with membership between 500 and 1000 to contribute £1, between 1000 and 5000 to contribute £2 and those countries with membership of over 5000 to contribute £5."

CARRIED

The contributions are to be sent to the Secretary appointed by Mrs Simms, in Ireland during her time of office.

Length of time between meetings

Mrs Barry (England) brought forward the third English resolution

“That World Council should not meet more than once every three years. She said that they felt very strongly that is probably too great a financial strain to meet oftener than this, and that the Council should be able to do the work every three years.”

Mrs Barry (England) moved the above resolution, seconded by Miss Bunday (Australia) CARRIED It was suggested that the summertime in Ireland would be a good time for the next World Council, particularly as that would avoid the Australian Commonwealth Conference. Ireland is to be notified of the three-year period between meetings and will be asked to advise when the next meeting will be held.

Next Hostess Country

The Chairman asked for approval to send a cable on Monday of warm greetings and congratulations to the new World Chairman.

The Chairman moved and Mrs Barry (England) seconded

“That this be done”. CARRIED

It was also felt by the Council that Council meetings should be held in the country where the World Chairmanship was held.

Reply by Ireland.

Miss Ivy Kerr spoke on behalf of Ireland and thanked the members of the World Council for choosing her country for the World Chairmanship, and therefore Mrs Simms to be World Chairman. She then gave all members a cordial invitation to visit Ireland for the next World Council meeting. The Chairman then said she would write immediately to Mrs Simms to ask for a photograph to be printed in the newsletter.

26 April 1959, Morning.

The session was opened with prayer by Mrs Bright-Parker.

Directives

- 1) Name - Correct
- 2) Purpose – Mrs Barry moved, and Mrs Powell seconded
“That the World Day of Prayer sentence be deleted – and that there be a separate heading for the World Day of Prayer, to become Clause No 3” CARRIED
- 3) Now 4 – Membership – Correct
- 4) Now 5 – Officers leave out “after 57/58. Should read “That the new World Chairman be empowered to appoint her Secretary for the duration of her term of office” (The above motion from a previous session to be included in the Directives.
“That Mrs Barry and Mrs Ferreira present to the next session the wording of the opening sentence of Clause 5 ‘Officers’ was moved by Mrs Rich, seconded by Miss M Bunday.
CARRIED
- 5) Now 6 – Voting – Heading to be “Voting at Meetings”.
- 6) Now 7 – Agenda – Correct
- 7) Now 8 – Minutes – Correct
- 8) Now 9 – Newsletter – Correct

9) Now 10 – Finance –

“That a clause headed ‘Finance’ be added after Clause 8 Minutes” was moved by Miss Kerr, seconded by Miss Bell. CARRIED

(Minute from previous session re Finance to become Clause 10)

Mrs Powell (Scotland) spoke appreciatively of the warm hospitality extended by Australiaduring the time of the Council meeting and expressed grateful thanks to overseas visitorsand Australian delegates for friendship and fellowship. Mrs Bright-Parker thanked Mrs Powell for her contributions to the meetings and, as a newcomer to Australia, for representing Scottish GFS, and extended her greetings for many happy years in Australia.

27 April 1959-morning

Day of Prayer

5 It shall be the responsibility of the Chairman of the World Council to arrange for the election of the country to preside over the World Council for the succeeding period, the voting to be carried out by mail. The method of voting to be determined by each country concerned. There shall be one vote for each member country in this election.

It was moved *“that No 5 be altered to read as above. Moved by Miss Eaglesham (USA) seconded by Miss Kerr (Ireland).* CARRIED.

It was moved *“That the Directives be altered and printed as amended”.*

Moved by Mrs Rich (New Zealand) seconded by Mrs Barry (England) CARRIED.

There shall be a small common fund to which, if possible, every country shall contribute to defray the costs of the country carrying the World Chairmanship. (This to be added to the Directives).

Mrs Ferreira said she felt it had been a very happy and successful meeting and thanked MrsBright-Parker for the work put in by her. She said she felt we, and succeeding generations, will feel the benefit of the work done for GFS by Mrs Bright-Parker.

The meeting then closed.

GIRLS FRIENDLY SOCIETY WORLD COUNCIL

IRELAND

25/27 June 1962

Minutes of the fifth meeting of the World Council of the Girls’ Friendly Society held IN St Philip’s Hall, Dartry Road, Dublin, Ireland, on 25-27th June 1962.

Theme: Peace through Friendship

Present:	Chairman	Mrs G O Simms
Australia:	Delegates	Miss J Perkins, Miss J Edwards
British Guiana	Delegate	Miss D Stewart
England	Delegates	Mrs Barry Miss Barrett
Ireland:	Delegate	Mrs Simms, Miss Irwin
Japan	Delegate	Miss Yoshida, Miss Kumakura

Liberia	Delegate	Miss Barnaby, Miss Bowen
New Guinea	Delegate	Mrs Houston
Newfoundland	Delegate	Miss Creek (lent by England)
Scotland:	Delegate	Mrs Donald, Miss Bell
St Kitts (W.I.)	Delegate	Miss O'Loughlin
South Africa	Delegate	Sherrard
USA:	Delegates	Mrs Nichols, Miss C Smith
Wales	Delegates	Mrs Thomas, Miss Macdonald

Council Secretary	Miss J Scott
Assistant Secretary	Miss Fynes
Chaplain:	Rt Rev A Buchanan, Lord Bishop of Clogher
Hostess	Mrs Buchanan

Observers

Australia	Miss Ash, Miss Bunday, Miss Crean, Miss Crawford-Brown, Miss Harrison, Mrs McDougall, Mrs Scully, Miss J Smith, Miss Taylor, Miss Toppin, Mrs West.
England	Miss Lloyd, Mrs Lamplugh, Miss Dunbar, Miss Bayliss, Miss Dobson, Miss Morley, Miss Halling, Miss Pointon-Smith, Miss B Jones, Miss Collins, Miss Watson, Miss Ward, Miss Wade, Miss Orledge.
Ireland	Mrs McCann, Mrs Butler, Miss Costello, Miss Boyd, Mrs Moore, Mrs Mackwell, Mrs Perdue, Miss Rycroft, Miss Ross, Miss Fleming, Miss Kerr, Mrs McAlister, Miss Cambridge, Mrs Boake, Miss Rothwell, Mrs Wolfe, Miss Kingston, Miss Brandon, Miss Perrin, Miss Dyke, Miss Hughes, Miss Kerr.
Japan	Mrs Tsuji
Scotland	Mrs Walker, Mrs Stiell, Mrs Stirling, Miss Errington, Miss Murkin, Miss Cramb, Miss Bell, Miss Smeaton, Miss Wilson, Miss Burnett, Miss Donnelly, Miss Henderson, Mrs McCreadie.

USA	Mrs Woodward, Mrs Mahon, Mrs Ferreira, Mrs Hull, Mrs Effler, Miss Carter, Mrs Judd, Miss Smythe, Mrs Van Walkenburg, Miss Johnson, Miss Peoples, Mrs Morris, Miss Judd, Miss Bain, Miss Wickham, Miss White, Miss Fox, Miss Dorrurachter
Wales	Miss Vaughan Jones, Miss Winnen

The chaplain opened the Council with prayer. The Chairman, Mrs Simms, welcomed the delegates and observers and asked those from each country to stand up in groups in turn.

Greetings were read from

The Lord Primate of Ireland; Bishop Yahiro, Presiding Bishop of the Nippon Sei Ko Kei and Bishop of Kobe, Japan; The Archbishop of West Indies, patron of GFS in British Guiana; Mrs Bright-Parker, first World Council Chairman; Perth and Ballarat dioceses, Australia; Diocese of Hobart, Tasmania; Miss Sandra Todd, GFS Exchange member back in Australia; Girls 'Auxiliary in Canada; GFS President in Ceylon; Sister Joyce Anthony and Miss Irma Chase, British Guiana; GFS in Mexico; May Louis Summer of Liberia; Mrs Thompson, Scotland; Miss J Kind English GFS Organiser working for a year with GFS, USA; Miss H Watson, Irish GFS Missionary in Kenya.

Minutes of the 4th World Council

It was proposed by Mrs Barry (England), seconded by Miss Perkins (Australia) and passed "*That the Minutes of the last World Council held in Australia, already circulated, should be signed as correct*" CARRIED.

Matters Arising

World Patron – The Chairman reported that following the proposal at last World Council, the Queen Mother had been approached and invited to become World Patron of GFS. The Queen Mother in a reply to the English GFS stated that she felt unable to accept this invitation as she preferred to remain Patron of the Society in the British Isles, and in accordance with the principles of royal patronage she could not extend his privilege to the elements of the same Society.

The USA had suggested at their Board in October that Mrs Ramsay be asked to be Honorary President and perhaps visit this Council and the Chairman had sounded her unofficially but her answer to both suggestions had been in the negative, as she was already engaged on other duties this last week in June.

Other members referred for further discussion to this World Council were:

- a) Cooperation with the clergy and other youth organisations.
- b) How to hold the interest of teenagers in organisations.

Reports were then presented by

Mrs Barry and Miss Barrett, England

Mrs Donald, Scotland

Miss Scott, Ireland

Mrs Nichols and Miss C Smith, USA

Miss Creek, Newfoundland

Miss Stewart, British Guiana

Miss O'Loughlin, St Kitts and West Indies

Miss Barnaby and Miss Bowen, Liberia

Mrs Houston, New Guinea

Miss Sherward read Miss Wilson's report on Transkei, South Africa

Miss Edwards, Australia

Miss Yoshida, Japan

Miss MacDonald, Wales

Written reports were also received from Ghana and Barbados and were read by the World Council Secretary.

The Chairman asked for news of Mexico from Mrs Mahon (USA) who had last visited there in 1966 and Mrs Mahon gave a short account. Miss Effler was asked about Cuba and Mrs Ferreira about Panama, also about Nicaragua, where four branches were found last year to be working on mainland as well as the branch on Corn Island. Mrs Lamplugh reported that she had heard of the possibility of GFS starting in Natal.

Miss Ivy Kerr, recently returned from Australia and New Zealand thanked Council for the opportunity of attending both the last and present Councils and said she had enjoyed her time overseas and learned a lot but had little to report on New Zealand as their work was almost altogether hostels. No reports had been received from Argentina, Hyderabad (India), Melanesia, Ceylon, St Lucia, St Vincent, Granada, Cost Rica, Trinidad and Puerto Rico.

The Chairman reports that GFS work had been closed down in Grahamstown (South Africa), in Ethiopia, in South Sudan and in South Rhodesia, as far as she knew.

Mrs Barry then read Miss Camm's report of wonderful progress in Mombasa and described her visit there last December. The Chairman gave a short report.

Miss Perkins proposed, and Mrs Barry seconded

'The adoption of all the reports' CARRIED

Mrs Stephen Nichols presented to the Irish GFS a beautiful Stueben Glass Bowl, inscribed with letters "GFS" and later in the week Australia presented a large illustrated book on Australia and some examples of Australian handicrafts and Mrs Tsuji gave a bamboo scroll with a picture of a Japanese girl, also personal gifts of a cultured pearl brooch and a painted gift fan to the World Chairman and a painted silk scarf to the World Council Secretary and other personal gifts to the delegates and Irish Diocesan Observers. Miss O'Loughlin presented an inscribed tray to the Chairman and a calendar to the Secretary and many other gifts were presented during the week.

Admission of Wales to this Council

The Chairman said that she had asked leave of the English GFS to suggest that as Wales was so closely linked with Ireland and had its own language and its own church though the GFS there is administered in conjunction with English GFS,

"That for this Council Meeting Wales be allowed to have two voting members on a par with Scotland. This motion was proposed by Mrs Barry (England) and seconded by Mrs Nichols (USA) and CARRIED".

Application for Membership

The Chairman had asked both Mexico and Ghana if they would like to apply for full membership, but both had replied that they did not feel ready for it yet. No other countries had applied.

Miss Creek asked if observers could speak, and the Chairman said the Directives allowed them to speak but not vote.

Proportional Representation of Countries.

Miss B Irwin proposed the resolution send in by Irish Council

“That a formal request should be sent to the World Council to have proportional representation on the Council, so that countries with a large GFS membership may have more voting delegates at future meetings of the World Council”.

Miss C Smith (USA) opposed this motion and said that it would make GFS too political and was against the aims and objects of the Society.

Mrs Woodward supported Miss Smith and said that it would penalise the smaller countries and was not in accordance with the intentions of the First World Council.

Mrs Perkins said that Australia was also against this motion. If any change in voting system were needed it should not be proportional to membership.

Mrs Nichols reported that the USA Board had discussed this motion and rejected it.

Mrs Walker (Scotland) felt that each country should be represented, and any change should not be to proportional representation.

Mrs Barry asked if it was felt that only the larger countries could afford to send two delegates, while smaller countries were often only able to send one. This she had often felt was unfair.

A vote was taken, and THE MOTION DEFEATED.

Hostess Country to the next World Council

The Chairman reported that both British Guiana and Ceylon felt unable to stand for election as Hostess Country. The Council heard with great delight that Japan had agreed to be nominated and accepted unanimously Mrs Tsuji's invitation to hold World Council in Japan in 1965.

But the Chairman explained she had recently found that Mrs Tsuji did not feel able to accept the position of World Chairman, chiefly owing to the language difficulty and also that she felt she ought to devote her time to the growth of GFS in Japan itself.

To deal with this situation Mrs Nichols proposed and Miss Edwards seconded

“That a Sub-committee be appointed of senior delegates of the countries present and past World Chairman to discuss further this matter of the next Chairman and report back to Council at a later session”. CARRIED

During coffee break the Archbishop of Dublin arrived and gave a personal welcome to the members of World Council.

1 or 2 World Presidents

Miss Perkins explained the proposal, which was based on the Australian GFS Constitution, where the Bishop is ex-officio, President of GFS in his Diocese. The question left undecided was whether the Archbishop of Canterbury only, or another presiding Bishop as well should be invited to become the President of the World Council.

Mrs Barry asked whether a Patron or President was really necessary – much less two. Mrs Nichols agreed with Mrs Barry and felt that the Council represented many countries, but the President would represent only one (or 2) countries.

Miss Sherrard and Mrs Barry felt that if one were necessary then the Archbishop of Canterbury was the recognised head of the Anglican Communion.

A vote was taken, and it was decided to have no World Patron or President.

World Council Funds for Secretarial Expenses

Miss Scott (World Secretary) read a statement of account.

Amount received was £49.3.7 Balance remaining was £8.13.3 but some of this would still be needed for stationery and postage.

The Proposal at last World Council was for a fund of £100. The suggested scale would only bring in approximately £25 per year for three years between Councils. Some countries apologised for not having sent in their subscriptions up to date.

The Chairman said that all subscriptions remained on an optional basis, but she thought the anomaly in the figures suggested at last Council should be cleaned up and a more definite statement made as to what expenses the Fund should cover. Ireland had used a certain amount of her own stationery for World Council purposes.

Mrs Barry said it was undesirable that the subscriptions should be a worry to small countries, but it should also be remembered that a hostess country should not be embarrassed by expenses beyond their capacity. Mrs Woodward felt concern lest arbitrary figures chosen now might not necessarily cover expenses. Mrs Nichols pointed out that by the suggested scale the subscriptions paid by larger countries were proportionately smaller and not at 5/- per member rate.

Miss Perkins proposed, and Miss Barnett seconded that the amount suggested should be subscribed annually, ie £100 per annum and the Directives amended accordingly.

The Chairman was asked to form a sub-committee to discuss the figures of the present scale and report back at a later session. As it affected the question of World Chairmanship it was felt that the same sub-committee should discuss both questions.

Title of the Society

The Chairman said she had felt this matter should be raised at World Council since she had found that England, USA and Australia had all been discussing this question at their National Council and it would be useful to see if the points for and against were the same in all countries.

It was interesting to note that the Mothers' Union and Church of England Men's Society were also discussing a change of title.

The English GFS had drawn up an excellent list of points for and against a change and the World Secretary introduced the discussion by reading these out.

Mrs Nichols said that the GFS Board USA felt that the name is outmoded but when it was brought to the girls at the General Assembly in 1960, they voted against a change mainly because they felt they would thereby separate themselves from World GFS. Many wanted to keep the initials but change the name, but no good alternatives were suggested.

Mrs Barry said the English Council had also turned down a change of name largely because of the world aspect. About ten years ago she had felt a change to be desirable in England, but now their numbers are increasing again and in places where GFS is well run the name is no obstacle. She felt that the public image of the GFS needed to be changed, not the titles.

Mrs Perkins said that opinion in Australia was divided. Discussion was proceeding but no better alternative had so far been put forward.

Miss Barnaby (Liberia) said that Africans loved to join a "Friendly" Society and that the title was a positive attraction.

Miss Sherrard said that in her experience the word "Friendly" appealed to girls in Africa and England.

Miss D Stewart said the name was no deterrent in British Guiana. Instead of discussing change of

name, Council could more usefully discuss the need for a greater supply of trained leaders to carry on the existing Society, name and all. There was an urgent need for Leaders in British Guiana. Miss Ash (Australia) said that the need in a large country is so different and communication with those outside the church was important, she would like further consideration given to a change of name.

Miss Bain (USA) said in her experience the initials were acceptable, but not the word "Friendly" – that often made people laugh. Miss Barnett (England) said that basis teaching given on the initials "God first, Friends next, Self last" would be upset if a change were made. Mrs McAlister (Ireland) said she thought the word "Girls" put off possible members, but Miss Creek agreed with Miss Bain that "Friendly" was the offending word. Miss C Smith (USA) said our present title often made an opening when people queried it and gave a chance to explain our aims. Mrs McDougall (Australia) suggested keeping the initials, but that they should stand for "God, Fellowship, Service".

Mrs Barry said that she had been impressed by the fact that an outsider from the Ministry of Education had recently expressed the opinion that the word "Friendly" was one of our strongest assets. Miss Dobson (England) said that we should consider outside opinion. It was true that most members accepted it, but were we keeping possible members out by our present title?

The Chairman then said that we would make no decision as a World Council now, but that she hoped no country would make a definite change without informing other member countries. She felt the free expression of various opinions at this Council had been worthwhile and points of view could be reported back to National Councils. She read out various statements of our aims and purposes as expressed in England, USA and Australian Constitutions. The wording of these and the promises varied slightly but in general our aims, she said, were clearly the same.

26 June 1962 – afternoon

Survey of the Function of Members over 21 years – Sponsors and Townsend Fellowship Members

Mrs Nichols said sponsors were introduced in USA in 1947. Mrs Barry said TMF stated a little earlier. Miss Johnson spoke for USA on Sponsors. Those over age of 21 may become sponsors or branch advisers. There are some sponsor groups. Sponsors help pay expenses for summer opportunities for girls and fares for young delegates to conferences. They also present awards at Branch and Diocesan levels. Mrs Van Walkenburg said Sponsors were active in Connecticut and hold themselves responsible for repairs to Holiday Houses and also sponsor financially new GFS groups. They also raise money for Missionary projects.

Miss Perkins (Australia) said that out of a total membership of 14,000, less than 200 were in TMF groups. The Associates were largely active leaders, but some were just people in the parish interested in GFS. Some were married ex-members. They had very useful parents and friends' groups supporting branches.

Mrs Barry said that in England GFS was moving towards a break with TMF which already had a separate Chairman. The recent Chaplains 'Advisory Committee urged speedy progress towards separation from the Girls' Society and possibly dropping name "Townsend". They hoped the TMF would become a lively group within the church.

Miss Creek said that in Newfoundland older members were usual in the outposts but in St Johns a separate TMF group had recently been started.

Other delegates reported on their older members as follows:

British Guiana Branches mainly consisted of young girls

St Kitts	Branches included older girls but many emigrate.
South Africa	Girls marry and join Mothers' Union
Japan	Members on marriage are encouraged to join the Women's Auxiliary and some become Associates
Liberia	Young members only, older girls may become branch Advisors.
Scotland	All ages but they must leave on marriage
Wales	Young members only.
New Guinea	Leave on marriage as Guild is especially for unmarried girls.

In order to clarify some doubts for reason for using the name "Townsend", Mrs McCann said she was proud that the Foundress of GFS was an Irishwoman. Mrs Townsend, who came from Kilkenny and went to live in England and there founded the GFS.

Cooperation with other Youth Organisations

Mrs Perkins said that since the last discussion on this, an Association of all National Youth Organisation had been formed in Australia. Cooperation at local level with Guides was very difficult as they do not have parish companies attached to churches as in Great Britain and Ireland. Miss Edwards (Australia) said that boys and girls up to 15 and 16 preferred separate organisations but afterwards joined mixed societies such as Young Anglicans.

Mrs Mahon (USA) asked Mrs Hull to report on the GFS representation at the White House Conference on Children and Youth. Mrs Hull explained that this Conference meets every 10 years to recommend necessary reforms. It is concerned with all aspects of young peoples' lives. The GFS presented the results of a questionnaire on adolescent opinion among their members. This report "This is What we think" was often referred to in discussion at the White House as it was the only report sent in by a specifically religious group (There was a copy on the bookstall of this Council).

Mrs Tsuji (Japan) asked for more cooperation with boys' groups.

Miss Irwin (Ireland) said that in Northern Ireland all youth organisations met in the newly formed National Association of Girls' Clubs and mixed Clubs and discussed problems common to all.

Miss Creek said that she had suggested to the Bishop in Newfoundland to form a diocesan Youth Council covering all church youth organisations.

Mrs Mahon said that YMCA and YWCA now both ran mixed groups for some activities. The problem of mixed activities remained unsolved in GFS USA.

Mrs Barry said in England GFS is represented on C of E Youth Council and C of E Children's Council. In Australia the cooperation with Anglican boys was much simpler, as there was the one main C of E Boys' Society. England had at least 3. The Church Lads' Brigade, the Boys' Brigade and the junior members of the C of E Men's Society. The GFS were exploring the possibility of a link with the CLB and their Officers had been invited to meet members of English Council. Miss Barrett (England) said in some branches, boy friends were invited to occasional meetings.

Cooperation with Clergy

The delegates from Australia, Ireland and British Guiana said that relations with clergy were excellent in their countries.

Mrs Nichols said GFS in USA had many good friends among the clergy especially Bishop Stephen Bayne, but many clergy needed education about the work of GFS. Mrs Hull said that recently she had been allowed to speak about GFS in some theological seminaries. The Chairman said she felt

that this was a most important line of approach even if only a printed leaflet was given out to

ordinands. Miss C Smith said that in her experience in USA, clergy were reluctant to start a branch of GFS, but if they have been in a parish where there was a branch, they are keen.

Miss Barnaby (Liberia) said GFS was popular with her Bishop because of the help which had been given from USA to his Diocese. Liberia was the Mission Object of the GFS USA on two occasions. Miss Wade (England) said that her branch GFS Admission Service was included in the parish Patronal Festival service, in an effort to interest visiting clergy in GFS and it had succeeded in doing this. Miss Creek said she found the Bishops keen to extend the work of GFS but at Diocesan Synods the clergy were not always so keen. She had to ask fact fully to speak to the women in their parishes and this might result in a request to the Rector for a branch of GFS.

Mrs Tsuji said that some Japanese clergy disliked GFS as being an organisation governed by a central body outside the parish and not directly under their control. Mrs Barry said that that was a very good point and in England too some clergy opposed membership of an organisation governed from outside the parish.

Mrs Woodward said she had sent posters and information on GFS to all clergy in Connecticut and had several enquiries as a result.

Mrs Buchanan (Ireland) said she had interested clergy by asking them to mark GFS Bible essays and Missionary competitions and the clergy were so impressed by the members' standard of work that they asked for further information and she hoped several new branches were starting.

Report from Sub-Committee re Next World Chairman and World Council Fund

The Chairman reported that this sub-committee, consisting of Mrs Barry, Mrs Woodward, Miss Perkins, Miss Barnaby and Mrs Tsuji, had recommended

"That in order to help Japan with language difficulties, the publication of the World Newsletter be undertaken as follows: England in 1963 and USA in 1964 and that these countries will undertake to produce the Day of Prayer leaflet also for that year or ask another country to do so".

Mrs JH Edwards proposed, and Mrs Houston seconded

"That these recommendations be adopted." CARRIED

It was suggested that in order to save bookkeeping and exchange difficulties, each country hold its collections for the World Project and hand them over at the next World Council meeting in 1965. Some felt that this should not be decided finally until the next World Project was settled.

World Council Fund – Recommendation from the Sub-Committee

That a flat rate of 5/- per 500 members be adopted as a basis of contribution by member countries.

Miss Perkins (Australia) then proposed, and Miss C Smith (USA) seconded

"That Directive 10 be amended to read as follows:

No 10 Finance. *All member countries should, if possible, contribute to a common Fund to help defray the expenses of the country carrying the World Chairmanship. Contributions to be sent to the Secretary of the World Council for the time being by 31 arch each year. The Annual rate of contribution from each country to be at the rate of 5/- sterling per 500 members, total membership.*

CARRIED.

The Chairman then reported that under these conditions Mrs Tsuji had been persuaded to accept the World Chairmanship for 1962-65 provided that a previous Chairman or senior delegate who had experience of GFS World Councils would help her with language difficulties at the actual meetings. If Mrs Tsuji wished, a standing committee consisting of the previous World Chairmen could be formed as suggested at 1957 Council, but their work would have to be done by correspondence only. It was felt that Mrs Tsuji could call on any of these for help and advice informally perhaps without forming

them into a Standing Committee. Mrs Tsuji then rose and said she agreed to act as World Chairman under these conditions. This statement was received with much applause.

Time of Next World Council

Mrs Tsuji was asked what the most suitable time for Japan would be and said that during end of April and in early May there were many public holidays, and her girls would be free to come to the meetings then.

Mrs Nichols said that USA teenager girls would be at school and college then. Miss Perkins agreed but felt that if it was going to help Japan and influence a larger number of girls thereby having it at end of April, other countries should make an effort to find girls who would be free then.

Mrs Tsuji said she would discuss it with her Board on her return and let the countries know re time of meeting later on.

World Project 1959-1962

The Chairman asked about the present Woodward Scholarship holders, in case any of them needed additional help. Mrs Woodward said that the present holder was from the Panama Canal zone. Japan reported that she had already sent her World Day of Prayer collections from 1959-62 direct to Mombasa.

Both Japan, USA and England had sent in final resolutions from their Councils – that in future a definite person or country should be defined as the object of the Project and the approximate amount needed should be circulated to all countries.

Mrs Barry said that England would send £100 as their contribution for 1959-62. USA reported collections of \$US1000. Australian approximately £176. The World Secretary then announced that she had received £76 to date. When all amounts now reported are received there should be over £700.

Mrs Barry thought that many people felt it might be better to consolidate work in Mombasa so well begun, by training young leaders to carry on this work. Africa was at a crisis in its development and urgently needed leaders from its own people. Mrs Ferreira felt that until facts were found out about possible candidates and possible trainings this Council could not make a useful decision.

A decision was deferred until the projects proposed for the next 3-year period were read out. Those already sent in were:

- a) From Japan: to help one of the Oriental countries, eg. The Philippines.
- b) From Ireland: can we help to provide up-to-date Christian literature for the teeming masses who are being taught to read in our missionary schools and then through lack of Christian literature, are reading and absorbing communist propaganda?

As a result of Miss Stewart's appeal in the morning, many felt inclined to help a girl in British Guyana. Mrs Nichols said if Africa were chosen, possibly a grant might be available from the School of African Studies, Boston, which existed for this very purpose of training Africans to go back as leaders to their own countries.

As so many projects were proposed, the chairman suggested that the Council break into national "buzz" groups and report decisions after a short time.

Findings of the groups were as follows:

Australia Instead of expense of training a girl in England, USA or Australia, why not train her in her own country, or at least continent?

Japan	Would like the East, especially Philippines; to be considered by would fall in with Council's decision.
England	Would prefer to consolidate work in East Africa with the present Project collections. The actual training to be recommended by Miss Camm and Archbishop Beecher.
USA	Would like to help Africa, if possible, through scholarship help from Boston School of African studies, where two girls might be helped.
Ireland	Defer decision on the present project till the next Project is decided on so as not to leave out British Guiana.
Scotland	No definite decision. Would like small sub-committee to investigate possible girls to be helped.

As many seemed to prefer both projects to be used to help a definite person, the Chairman asked for a vote on the Irish proposal re Christian literature, there was no seconder, so this proposal was dropped.

Miss Ash asked to what extent Protestant work was carried on in the Philippines. The Chairman replied that there was quite a large church of "Reformed" Catholics and also missions from the Protestant Episcopal church of USA. Miss Barnaby said she has worked there for many years, but it was difficult as clergy were suspicious of organisations like GFS, which they felt to be under foreign control. Mrs Woodward felt that development of GFS work there might be premature as a survey of position of Protestant churches there was being made by the findings were not out yet.

Miss Perkins proposed, and Mrs Barry seconded

"That next World Project be to spread GFS work in the Far East".

Miss Lloyd suggested that as our thoughts would be towards Japan, next project might be in Japan.

Miss Sherrard proposed, and Mrs Houston seconded

"That British Guiana be helped next time (1962-1965) by training one or more leaders.

Miss Barnaby proposed, and Miss C Smith seconded

"That the training of a girl from Mombasa be the present Project (1959-61) CARRIED.

A vote was taken then on the Project for 1962-65 and Miss Sherrard's proposal of British Guiana was CARRIED by a majority of delegates.

Miss Barnaby proposed, and Miss O'Loughlin seconded

"That it be left with Ireland to appoint a committee to communicate with Archbishop Beecher and Miss Camm about the training of a girl from Mombasa" CARRIED.

This committee felt it should also ask the Archbishop of the West Indies and the Convent of the Good Shepherd at Georgetown re the most suitable girl to be helped by the 1962-65 Project. Mrs Simms asked that Mrs Woodward, Miss Lloyd and Mrs Lamlugh should be members of the Committee, also Mrs Ferreira, Mrs Hull and Miss Ash.

Wednesday 27 June 1962

Mrs Mahon (USA) introduced the subject Fund-Raising. She said there could be fun and satisfaction in fund-raising, but it is something we have to learn how to do and learn to do it well. The main method of fund-raising in USA is during a publicity and fund drive during last week in January. The members then raise about 30% of total funds required for running GFS "Project 2000" was the name given to a new drive aimed at commemorating the 85th birthday of GFS in USA by endowing the organisation sufficiently to allow it to expand and carry it forward into the next century. The USA has 5000 parishes without any organisation for girls – leaders need to be trained for these and a

wider, more varied programme offered. "Project 2000" also aims to develop a World Christian outlook by taking girls from the parish out into the world (Summer Opportunity etc) and bringing the world to the parish (Mission Object, study books and films and dramatics). Laymen and women are helping on committee of "Project 2000". Mrs Ferreira explained that in GFS work the total branch contribution aimed at \$US15,000, this represents 2 dollars per member – this sum however is not obligatory. No Government aid is given to GFS but a small subsidy from the church is received. The staff consists of only one field worker, two diocesan workers, one executive secretary, one programme editor, one office manager in charge of literature, one bookkeeper and two secretaries. Miss Ash gave background of GFS in Australia: 4,000,000 population mostly on east and south east coast – 14,000 GFS members and leaders. There is no central GFS setup or paid personnel – all is diocesan. The church itself has only this last year held its first General Synod. All office bearers on Commonwealth Council are voluntary, unpaid workers. Each Diocese pays to this Council 3d per candidate and 9d per member per year, to help with Council expenses, especially travelling. This gives an income of £250 per year. Literature is financed also from this and eventually brings in a small profit. The Leaders' handbook has been for years in process of revision as no one had time to work on it full time. A few dioceses, ie Sydney, have fulltime paid workers and these are loaned to other dioceses sometimes. Membership fees in Sydney diocese are 3/- for Candidates and Intermediates, 5/- for seniors. Associates and TMF. Large amounts are also raised for missions and this is regarded as a priority. Hostels make a profit of £800 approximately. Sale of uniform profit £400, Church Youth Dept grant £200, Annual sports £120, District competitions £200, Budget needed for GFS in Diocese is £2200, so the balance of £400 is raised by faith. Wages amount to £800. The offertory at annual services is given to Mission, Branches may subsidise Leader Training but not on a Diocesan level.

Miss C Smith (USA) said two methods used for branch fundraising were:

- a) Penny bags – you put in 1d for every day it rains and 2d if it snows.
- b) A tear off calendar with forfeits etc "if you forget to brush your teeth, pay 3d".

Miss Creek (England) said the following were subscriptions fixed for Members to pay to Central Funds of English GFS. Under 11 years 6d., 11-14 years 1/6d, 14-21 years 2/-, Over 21 years 2/6d. This brought in £1600 in 1961. Substantial government grants are given from Ministry of Education, King George V Jubilee Trust to help youth work, also some income received from letting part of Townsend House as offices. Diocesan funds are raised in similar fashion.

Miss Scott (Ireland) said their fees were as follows: Candidates and Prentices 6d. pa., of which only 3d goes to Central. Members 1/6 (1/- to Central), Townsend members 2/- (1/6 to Central).

Associates 3/- (6d to Central). No grants are received from Government or church.

Mrs Walker (Scotland) said their juniors under 14 paid 6d. Members 1/- minimum, Associates 2/6 and Hon Associates 7/6. Other subscribers gave voluntary donations. Central Office received half of Members' subscriptions and special efforts are made as necessary to help special Projects.

Liberia has a yearly circus to entertain the community. You pay for seats, charge even for standing and Girl Guides help to keep non-paying onlookers at a distance.

Chairman said it had been interesting comparing the practices of fund-raising in various countries and delegates could report on these to their National Councils.

Three USA speakers then presented "Give us our Dangerous Assignment"- a cry of modern youth to middle aged expressed in poetical prose – Truth and Idealism are dangerous weapons – should we entrust them to our young people?

Then 44 younger delegates and observers formed into 3 groups to discuss “How to hold the interest of teenagers in organisations” while older delegates went out for a break.

Chairman and organiser of groups Beth Irwin (Irish). Leaders of the 3 groups were: Carol Smith (USA), Yvonne Barnett (England), Joan Edwards (Australia). Reports were presented as under.

Carol Smith’s group the countries represented in my group were Liberia, Wales, USA, Ireland, Scotland, England, Japan, Australia and British Guiana. We began the meeting by briefly discussing the Choral Speaking presentation. From this discussion rose the general conclusion that materialism is posing a very real threat to today’s world of children and adults. It was also found that the girls themselves feel that children are being forced to grow up too fast. We all felt this was wholly undesirable and unwise. The girls discussed the difficulty in every branch of holding the interest of teenagers. We felt that a wise leader will understand her girls and do her best to avoid personality conflicts, which are often a cause of dividing the groups, thus making it uncomfortable for some. Several girls expressed the feeling that a varied program with some time for just talking and “being girls” was needed. It was also agreed that the leader was often the factor which governed a girl’s attendance. Some girls felt that teenage groups are sometimes neglected because they prove more problems than the younger girls. The girls agreed that teenagers do want some independence but do not want to be abandoned. We felt that twice-monthly meetings may be better than weekly ones for teenagers and that all new members should be given a chance to prove themselves.

Yvonne Barrett’s Group The general opinion in my group was that holding the interest of teenagers was extremely difficult – one of the reasons being the difficulties incurred during adolescence, others the attractions of television, cinemas, coffee bars.

(I personally felt the less one has the more one creates and asks and has, and the more pleasurable life becomes). The countries in this group put forward activities which they participated in in their Branches, and which had had some success in holding interest.

Wales – beautify demonstrations, physical training. Australia: talks on the various cancers that might interest the girls on leaving school, those were voluntary talks by friends of the leaders – Teacher. Hairdressers, Typist, Dental Nurse etc. The older ones made out a rotor and visited a Members; home on Club night, arranging an interesting theme for the evening – singing, talks on nursing, mothercraft, experimenting on tape records, Chinese teas, puppets, first aid. Training nine people in a particular branch and each three training for different things. Branch camp – spiritual camp. The church has its own camp site. On special occasions they got their mothers to sell cakes down the highway. Northern Ireland: First Aid, jewel craft, basket work. America: Arts and craft, learning about a country (G3) 3 years partaking church work, social work, leadership training conferences. Keep them busy starting branches. Achievement ladder and ribbons also worn sometimes on “Beanies” (Skull cap), Worship, Service, Recreation, Junior frolic – once a year (competitive activities). England: First Aid, King George V’s Leaders Training Corps, Duke of Edinburgh Aware Scheme, Hikes bringing in all subjects – religion, history, geography, biology, English, collecting things, everything learned in a natural, unconscious way.

West Indies: Quizzes very popular, garden parties, girls behind stalls dressed in Nursery Rhyme costumes, all day hiking, devotional meeting theme – once a quarter.

Scotland: Members after the age of 16 years. Church service, concerts.

Conclusions: These girls must have active and lively programs. They themselves must be kept busy – although they do not wish to remain completely responsible – there should be cooperation of parents – who should be invited along occasionally to meetings. If they are occupied in doing jobs that are demanding and if they are making things not just for appearance but because it will have a

purpose afterwards – they are much more interested (I think the main thing here is interest and speed – something that keeps moving and has at first quick results. If they are to be of use the girls will remain and dwell upon the subject longer. The results all round are then far more rewarding). Joan Edward's Group Our discussion group consisted of young embers from five different countries. – England, Ireland, Scotland, Australia and USA. Between us we found seven different ways which one or other of us had found helpful in overcoming the problem of losing our teenage girls.

- 1) Have the girls start GFS at an early age, say 7 years, so that they develop an interest in GFS which will carry them through the early teen years.
- 2) Always have a well-planned program and talk about forthcoming activities early and so whip up enthusiasm.
- 3) Intersperse GFS meetings with social events like evenings at home, parties, socials, hikes.
- 4) Give the girls responsibility such as being in charge of a younger group, taking a game or dance, leading a discussion or holding an office.
- 5) Having a definite objective like
 - a. In USA G3's or an achievement badge
 - b. Duke of Edinburgh award scheme used in England and Northern Ireland.
- 6) Recognise the work the girls do – a pat on the back for their achievements is very encouraging for the teenager.
- 7) Keep the teenager a separate group from the younger GFS girls but encourage them to help with all junior activities.

Leader Training

England

Miss Lloyd said English programs were drawn up annually on a theme at a National level and catered for four age groups, including Townsend members. Summer Schools usually studied the programs for the coming session. There were Diocesan Residential training courses for leaders and also day and evening training in some places.

There were also correspondence courses for leaders, which could be studied under special tutors appointed for each person but were much better studied in groups at diocesan level with a trained GFS organiser. The content of these courses leading up to examinations were 2 parts theory and 1 part practice.

- a) Theory. 1 Organisation, 2 What I believe
- b) Two residential weekends dealing with program planning, how to run a branch, human relationships, Christian leadership, teaching Christianity, followed by the Examiner's inspection of two actual branch meetings conducted by the candidate, who has also to write a community survey – a study of local government schools, teenagers' use of leisure time, accounts of visits to factories and institutions.

On passing the leaders examination, a special badge is worn. The new Leader's handbook has just been issued. The King George V Leaders Training Corps is largely superseded by newer methods. Isolated branches are visited by Diocesan Trainers or intending leaders do the course purely by correspondence.

Participation in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme is encouraged. Under this scheme bronze, silver and gold medals are awarded for proficiency in chosen skills in four groups.

- 1 Design for living: care of hair, clothes, home decoration etc.
- 2 Interests: photography, archery, etc.

- 3 Service: First aid, home nursing etc.
- 4 Adventure: 1 day for bronze medal; 1 weekend for silver; 1 week for gold.

Wales has many isolated branches due to geographical structure and leaders need training in their own branches.

Australia. Miss Ash said that the new Leaders' Handbook about to be published in five sections:

- 1 Practical: How to run a branch
- 2 Principles: Aims and objectives of GFS.
- 3 Pivot: Instruction in Christian faith.
- 4 Progression: development of girls from children into women.
- 5 Principles of, then model plans for four consecutive meetings.

This was introduced experimentally in Sydney Diocese and if successful will form National GFS training program.

Leaders take 3 examinations:

- 1 Preliminary, before admission as Leader.
- 2 Basic, compulsory within two months of starting.
- 3 Advanced, optional exam.

Specialised training in music or drama may be carried out regionally or provincially. Leaders are trained also by watching and observing an established branch at meetings.

- a) City leaders training courses in evenings: six consecutive evenings.
- b) Residential training weekend courses.
- c) Holiday courses, up to two weeks.

Training methods are kept as informal as possible, with emphasis on "learning by doing".

British Guiana. Miss Stewart said, as was mentioned in report, they had a weekend Presidential Training and one week Summer School. Both had been very useful. The latter had included a course in puppetry as well as discussion groups and practical work. However, many in outlying districts were unable to attend residential courses and she was much interested in the English correspondence courses and wondered if they could be adapted to be passed without any residential training. Miss Lloyd and Mrs Lamphugh promised to look into this and let British Guiana know. The British Guiana Youth Council run courses in Leadership, but these are not specifically Christian.

USA. Mrs Nichols said distances made training difficult. They had only one leadership consultant at present, but the Department of Leadership arrange three annual conferences, two delegates from each diocese attend the nearest conference and learn all that is possible in the short time and convey what they have learnt to leaders in their own dioceses. The Leadership Consultant helps with this follow-up work. A leadership kit is sent to leaders unable to attend conferences. Literature is needed to reach all.

South Africa. IN her report, Miss Wilson spoke of two centres where she had held their first leader training days, which had been most successful and useful.

Resolution from USA Board re United Nationals

Mrs Nichols proposed the following resolution which had been put forward by the Board

"That the GFS, USA ask the World Council state its belief in the United National as a means to build peace and understanding among nations. Be it further resolved that programs relating to UN be provided for Juniors, Intermediates and Senior members in the next three years, the programs to be developed by a World committee to be appointed by the World Chairman.

- 1 Juniors to study UNICEF
- 2 Intermediates – Freedom from hunger (a project sponsored by FAO)
- 3 Seniors – Study Status of Women Commission”

This proposal was seconded by Miss Person, who said it provided a more definite follow-up than a similar proposal at last World Council.

Mrs Ferreira said that GFS Offices in the various countries could apply to addresses in their own countries of agencies who stocked propaganda and literature about the UN. A teacher’s kit was especially useful. She displayed some UN posters.

The motion was CARRIED unanimously.

The Chairman said that the references to detailed programs was new to her and she would like the help of Mrs Ferreira who was official UN Observer for GFS to UN to serve on the suggested Committee, the other members might be the same she had suggested to discuss the details of the World Project. This was agreed to.

Greetings

Miss Barrett (England) proposed, and Miss Stewart (Br Guiana) seconded

“That greetings be sent from this Council to all member countries not represented here and that a letter be sent to Miss Camm telling her of the decision to make the training of a girl from Mombasa the World Project for 1959-62 and a similar letter to British Guiana to the GFS Secretary there and to the Archbishop of the West Indies re Project for 1962-65.

Miss Perkins (Australia) asked that the thanks of all present to the Chairman, Mrs Simms and the Secretary, Miss Scott, be recorded. This was greeted with applause.

There being no other business the 5th World Council closed.

GIRLS FRIENDLY SOCIETY WORLD COUNCIL

JAPAN

28 April to 5 May 1965

Account of the 6th meeting of the World Council of the Girls’ Friendly Society held at the Mt Hili Hotel, Kyoto, Japan from 28 April to 5 May 1965

THEME: Our Family in Christ.

PRESENT:

Chaplain: The Revd J Yamada

Chairman: Mrs Iwao E Tsuji

Delegates:	Australia:	Mrs N Richardson, Miss E I D Wilson
	British Guiana	Miss E E Edwards
	Canada	Miss K Keturakis, Miss J French
	England and Wales	Mrs I N Lamplugh, Miss D E Bayliss
	Ireland	Miss V Cole, Miss E Irwin
	Japan	Mrs U Iwai, Miss M Hayaski
	Kenya	Miss Penina Mnjama
	Korea	Miss M Pak, Miss C Oh
	Okinawa	Miss K Tsuguchi, Miss M Higa

Philippines	Miss I Chua, Miss R Lim Ri Le
Scotland	Miss A Walker
South Africa	Mrs I N Lamplugh
USA	Mrs W A Atkins, Miss Tsukamoto

Council Secretary

Miss Y Uoshida

Asst Secretaries

Mrs S Mizutani, Mrs M Yanagida, Miss P A Fisher,
Miss D Stout

Hon Chaplain

The Rt Revd M H Yashiro, Bishop of Nippon Sei Ko Kei

Music and Recreation

Miss S Mita, Miss S Hayakawa

Observers

Australia	Miss M V Crosby, Miss M J Disting, Mis B Gerdes, Mis J I Smithers
England and Wales	Dr I M Cullum
Japan	All the delegates to the 1965 Japan GFS meeting
USA	Miss P L Ellis, Miss J Kind, Mrs F S Volkenburg, Miss E Bohl, Miss E M Fox, Miss E L Sippel Mrs D V Handorf

May 2 1965 The Chaplain opened the Business Meeting with prayer.

Greetings The Primate of Ireland, the Presiding Bishop of USA, the Archbishop of the West Indies.

Report and Greetings of the World Chairman.

Admission of Philippines, Korea and Okinawa to this Council

The Chairman requested that members from the Philippines and Korea be accepted as voting delegates. It was agreed.

Mrs Atkins moved and Miss Tsukamoto seconded

"That Okinawa be given voting rights for this Council" CARRIED.

Applications for Membership

The Chairman announced that there had been no applications for membership from new countries.

Minutes of the last World Council.

Mrs Atkins moved and Miss Bayliss seconded the motion

"That minutes of the last World Council held in Ireland, already circulated, should be signed as correct" CARRIED.

Hostess Country to Next World Council.

The Chairman reported that she had not received an invitation from any country for the next World Council.

Mrs Lamplugh suggested that as GFS in England will be celebrating their hundredth anniversary in 1975 at which time they would like to be hostesses to the World Council, the next World Council dates be set with this in mind.

Mrs Atkins moved and Beth Irwin seconded

"That the invitation from England be accepted with pleasure" CARRIED.

Miss B Irwin moved and Miss E Edwards seconded

"That the World Council meetings be held every five years instead of three"

Miss Tsukamoto voiced agreement. Miss Bayliss said she felt that such a long period between meetings breaks the continuity and makes it difficult for the girls to think that far ahead. Mrs Atkins voiced understanding of Miss Irwin's motion but suggested that as four years from now would coincide with the National Assembly in the US, perhaps the next World Council could be held in 1969 and the next 1972. Mrs Richards felt three years was ideal as a link but that expense makes it difficult, so she was in favour of the four year suggestion. Mrs Lamplugh agreed but felt that one should not be guided only by finance but by fellowship. Miss M Jama voiced agreement. Mrs Iwai felt that five years would be too long for a chairman and that membership would change within five years. She felt that four years would perhaps be best. Miss Chua felt that from the financial viewpoint she agreed with Ireland but taking all aspects into account she agreed with USA. Mrs Walker's feelings were the same as Miss Chua's. The GA delegates from Canada were granted the courtesy of voicing their opinion and Miss French said they agreed with the US. Miss Beth Irwin and Miss Eunice Edwards withdrew their motion.

Mrs Atkins moved and Mrs Richards seconded

"That the next World Council be held in the USA in 1969" CARRIED.

Next World Chairman

There was discussion about the fact that up to now the World Chairman has been President of the Hostess country but that the term of office of Mrs Atkins ends in 1966. Mrs Lamplugh and Miss Kind suggested leaving this decision to the Host country.

Mrs Lamplugh moved and Miss Irwin seconded

"That the GFS, USA elect a World Chairman and then notify member countries". CARRIED

The following wishes were expressed – that this Council hopes in accordance with wishes expressed by Australia that Mrs Atkins will be the new World Chairman.

Greetings were read or expressed by

Mrs Lamplugh, on behalf of England and Wales,; Miss Nobbs, Tanzania; Mrs Challoner, Barbados; Mrs Kalpage, Ceylon; Margaret Amott and lone members in Zululand; Miss Matalalinte, New Hebrides; Miss Carling, GFS Guides; The Bishop of Karachi; The Metropolitan of India; The Bishop of Hong Kong; Miss Wilson, St John's Transkei.

Mrs Richards on behalf of The primate of Australia, Hobart, Tasmania, Newcastle dioceses, New SouthWales Provincial Councils, Mrs Simmons of the Coee paper.

Miss Edwards on behalf of President and Organising Secretary of British Guiana; 2 sisters of Convent of the Good Shepherd, British Guiana; Mrs Van Cooten of British Guiana.

Report on World Council Funds

A report of the World Council funds sent to Japan was read by Miss Yoshida. A financial statement and a report were read by Miss E Edwards. She stressed her thanks to Mrs Tsuji for paying half of the fare from British Guiana and asked the Council to help send a leader trainer from the US or England, if possible. Miss Kind.

Mrs Edwards stressed that British Guiana would like a reply from the Council concerning this request.

There was discussion re how the World Project money should be paid and re the GFS financial year end.

Next World Project Money

England had moved that the next World Project should be concerned with work among girls in Asia and that, should Colombo be in need, that be the first choice. However, Mrs Lamplugh, on her way to Japan, visited Colombo and learned at first hand that the strong hurricane which recently hit Ceylon, did not damage the GFS hostel there. Therefore she announced the withdrawal of the above motion.

The US moved that the Philippines be the next World Project country.

Mrs Iwai moved

"That Korea be the next World Project. She mentioned that there is as yet no GFS in Korea but they need both the spiritual and financial help of the Council"

Mrs Richards seconded this motion.

Miss Oh of Korea gave an excellent report of conditions in Korea and their genuine desire to start a GFS. She said they would like to receive slides and pamphlets from other countries and to have the help of trained leaders.

Miss Kind spoke to the US proposal of the Philippines and said that perhaps the need was not so urgent as Korea. Miss Chua said that in the Philippines the GFS groups are only in schools and that she felt the need was greater in Korea. Dr Callum said that having heard the needs she was in favour of Korea. Miss Edwards said that as we need new groups she agreed with Dr Cullum. Mrs Lamplugh voiced the feeling of the group by thanking the Philippines delegate for her kind words re Korea.

The US and English motions were withdrawn and the Japanese motion CARRIED.

There was further discussion re the World Project year and it was moved by Miss Bayliss and seconded by Miss Tsukamoto

"That we start thinking and praying and giving to Korea from September 29, 1965" CARRIED.

Future World Council meetings

It was suggested by Miss Kind that the World Council between 1969 and 1975 be held regionally. This would enable more people to meet at less expense.

Miss Gedes disagreed as the World Council is primarily for fellowship not business. She felt regional meetings could be held as well.

Mrs Tsukamoto spoke in favour of the suggestion.

Miss Bayliss said she felt it would not destroy Council friendship if the meetings were regional and agreed with Miss Kind's suggestion for this time on the understanding this would not necessarily be setting a precedent.

Miss Kind spoke to her suggestion again.

Miss Edwards endorsed all Miss Kind said and said she felt regional meetings would be good and reports could be sent for the 1985 meetings.

The Chairman announced that this could really be discussed at the next World Council.

Further Greetings and Gifts

Gifts were given to all delegates from England, UA and Japan. A gift album was given to Mrs Tsuji by British Guiana and a hand-made cross from the US and a scroll from Scotland. A fine linen cloth on which GFS letters were embroidered was given from Ireland, a doll from Korea, hand-made napkins from Philippines, beautiful books and pictures from Australia and a wonderful guest book from England and Wales. A gift of maple leaf brooches were given to each country from Canada. Greetings were read or expressed by Mrs Tsuji on behalf of The Bishop of the Philippines, the Bishop of Colorado, Honolulu, Mexico, the Archbishop of Dublin, Canada, Mrs Simms, Vice-President of World Council; Mrs Bright-Parker, Mrs Woodward, the preceding World Chairman; Mrs Nichols (former US GFS President; Dioceses of Alaska, Western Massachusetts and New York; Western Australia; Newfoundland GFS; Mrs I A Norris, St Vincent; Miss Barnaby, Liberia; Mrs H C Arnold in New Zealand; Mrs O J Nurse, California.

The Chairman announced the glad news of the newly started GFS in Sierra Leone in Africa.

There being no other business, the meeting of the 6th World Council closed.

GIRLS FRIENDLY SOCIETY WORLD COUNCIL

1969

Preface to the World Council 1969 Minutes

At the World Council in Japan in 1966, the USA was chosen as the venue for the GFS World Council in 1969 and Mrs William A Atkins was elected as World Chairman.

In 1966 "The GFS, USA was incorporated within the Department of Christian Education of the Episcopal Church" and, arising out of this situation, it was suggested that the GFS World Council should be part of a forthcoming International Youth Conference, which was to be held in the USA sometime in 1970. GFS delegates could attend the Youth Conference but would convene and conduct their own business meetings. One of the difficulties which this presented was the impossibility of making plans sufficiently in advance, as nothing was yet firmly decided about the arrangement for the Youth Conference.

In November 1968, England and Wales, supported by Ireland, suggested that the USA World Council for 1969 be cancelled and a "Meeting by Mail" be held. This was later agreed by the other members of World Council.

Throughout the three years of her Chairmanship, Mrs Atkins carried out her role under very great difficulties and it would seem right that our grateful thanks to her should be recorded in the preface to these minutes.

Here follows the agenda items, as sent out by Mrs Atkins on 25.6.69 and following that, a report of the replies received, as sent in a letter to England and Wales dated 16.9.69, (A further letter to all countries appears to have been written, but this is not available at the time of compiling these Minutes)

Sd. F J Mandelberg, World Chairman 1972-1975

1969 GFS World Council

Dear GFS Members around the World:

My grateful thanks to all of you who sent me reports and pictures. All the material could not be included in the GFS World Newsletter, but I certainly enjoyed learning about your GFS activities, and I have the reports in my files to refer to from time to time.

Thank you, too, for your understanding and cooperation when I wrote you about the necessity for cancelling the Meeting of the World Council in the USA. Now it is my privilege and duty to see that

the business of the World Council is accomplished by some method. This letter is an attempt to conduct the GFS World Council Meeting by mail and I am sure you will give the following paragraphs your thoughtful consideration and then will reply to me as soon as you possibly can.

- 1 The Australian GFS has generously offered to accept the responsibility for the World Council for the next three years 1969-72, with the highly qualified Mrs F W Cheshire as the Chairman of the World Council. Do you vote "yes" or "no"?
- 2 If you voted "no" to the above, then what nomination do you want to make for this?
- 3 GFS in England has invited the World Council to participate in its 100th Anniversary celebration of the Founding of GFS and will host the meeting in 1975. So, England will have the World Council Chairmanship from 1972 to 1975, if this is acceptable.
- 4 We want to express our gratitude and admiration to the GFS in Korea for the exceptional progress they have made. This World Project towards which our World Day of Prayer offerings have been sent for the past four years have been sent has certainly been an outstanding success. Now a new World Project for the next three years must be chosen. Please send me your ideas about this, and if you know of a country where GFS needs special help, tell me all you know about the special circumstances. In choosing a new

World Project, we must have all the information we can obtain. Mrs Tsuji, World Council Vice-Chairman, has proposed that the Philippines GFS be the next World Project. Some of you will remember the presentation given in Japan by the Philippine delegates. The GFS in the Philippines needs help to expand and is very worthy of our help. New Guinea has also been suggested, there is no GFS branch there now, but there are good prospects for GFS work. World Project money is spent for leadership training, promotion by travel and literature, conferences and program material.

- 5 Do you vote to accept Saint Michael as the Patron Saint of the GFS World Council? As you know, the annual services of the World Day of Prayer take place on September 29, on the feast of Saint Michael and All Angels.
- 6 Since there will be no World Council meetings in 1969, we sincerely hope that it may be possible for regional meetings to be held, or at least that neighbouring countries will exchange program ideas and leadership training help by correspondence. For example, perhaps GFS groups in various parts of the West Indies, or Africa, or Asia could communicate with each other to their mutual benefit. What is your opinion about this?
- 7 Shall we continue the publication of the GFS World Newsletter? Mrs Simmons and the Australian GFS are to be congratulated on the publication of the 1968-69 Newsletter, but it is a difficult and costly undertaking. If you want the Newsletter continued, then do you think that every 18 months is often enough, or what time interval do you prefer? An alternative to the Newsletter is that each country distributes its yearly reports to every other member country and intensifies its correspondence with each other. What do you think?
- 8 If you haven't already sent me your annual dues (2-1/2 cents per member) please do so promptly. I want to have my accounts audited before relinquishing my job to my successor.
- 9 Have you any comments regarding the World Day of Prayer Service? It has been suggested that the World Chairman choose a theme and perhaps a special prayer each year, but that each country prepare its own Service to meet its own special needs and age groups.
- 10 Please tell me about additional concerns you may want to bring to the attention of GFS World Council.

In order to expedite this meeting by mail, it is extremely important that I have your answers and suggestions as soon as you can get a consensus from your members. You may have to have a mail poll of your members – circulating copies of this letter perhaps. I am confident that you GFSers will give this meeting by mail your prompt attention and this will enable me to fulfil my responsibilities as your World Council Chairman and I can turn over my "job" to my successor before August first. It has been a joyous privilege to serve as your Chairman since the meeting of the World Council in Japan. Your love and support have truly been a "sharing of one another's burdens" and I am humbly grateful.

May God bless and keep you all and may GFS continue to be a worthy instrument of His peace and His love.

Faithfully and affectionately

Nancy L H Atkins, Chairman GFS World Council.

Replies to the meeting by mail trickled in slowly, in spite of the plea for haste. Here are the results.

Mrs Cheshire was unanimously elected to be the new GFS World Council Chairman. She will be installed in October.

The invitation of GFS in England and Wales to have the 1975 World Council was gratefully accepted.

The Philippines will be the next World Project from 1969-72. Some replies suggested that there be an investigation into the possibility of having New Guinea chosen in 1972. Others said they would explore additional projects, but Philippines received the greatest number of votes.

Even though England and Wales saw no reason for having a patron Saint, other countries voted to adopt St Michael, as proposed several years ago by Australia.

Many of the GFS countries reminded me that they already had close relationships with neighbouring countries but agreed to the advisability of exchanging letters and reports, with any or all active GFS groups who are interested. The majority preferred to have a yearly Newsletter but were willing to have it published every 18 months, realising the difficulties and the cost involved.

Most agreed to have selected prayers instead of a complete service for the Day of Prayer.

So, you see, the GFS countries around the world have made their decision by voting in the Council meeting by mail. As Chairman, I could not vote, except to break a possible tie. GFS, USA, under the changed structure had to refrain from participating in the voting officially, although individuals with whom I corresponded endorsed all the proposals and are hoping to attend the meeting in Australia in 1972 as unofficial visitors.

Faithfully yours

Sd. Nancy L H Atkins, soon to become Vice Chairman of GFS World Council.

**GIRLS FRIENDLY SOCIETY WORLD COUNCIL
AUSTRALIA
24/27 AUGUST 1972**

Minutes of the 8th meeting of the World Council of the Girls' Friendly Society held at Janet Clarke Hall and St Hilda's College, University of Melbourne, Australia, Thursday 24 August to Sunday 27 August 1972

The Purpose of World Council

The purpose of the World Council of GFS shall be to promote fellowship between the members of the Society throughout the world by exchange of information and ideas. The promotion of World Assemblies, camps, exchange visits and correspondence between members shall be encouraged.

Theme: Living and Loving

Chaplain: The Rt Reverend Gerald Muston, Coadjutor Bishop, Diocese of Melbourne.

Bishop's Chaplain: The Rev John Stockdale, Vicar, Holy Trinity, Thornbury, Diocese of Melbourne.

Chairman: Mrs F W Cheshire

Hostess: Mrs R Richards

Secretary: Miss P Franklin

Treasurer: Mrs W L Sanders

God, I rejoice to realise you are always here

I rejoice that you have given me human ties.

I rejoice in the many friends who are so loyal.

For duties that await me today

I ask your strength and skill

Let me remember all this day

That people matter more than things

That monetary rewards matter less than honest service

That faith, hope and love are the lasting things and the greatest of these is love.
Let life be more meaningful for somebody
Because we live in the world today.

A Woman's Book of Prayers, Rita Snowden.

Present:

Delegates:

Australia:	Mrs M Sanders, Miss G MacDonald
England and Wales:	Mrs F Mandleberg, Miss J Bitchenor
Ireland:	Miss N McKinley
Japan	Mrs U Iwai, Miss M Miyazaki
Papua New Guinea	Miss D Osembo
Philippines:	Mrs A Lee Go, Miss J Tan Go
Sri Lanka:	Mrs M Jayaraphasn
USA:	Mrs A Ray, Miss B Moore

Hostess Mrs Buchanan

Observers

Australia Mrs Arnott, Mrs Beames, Mrs Beynon, Mrs Boles, Mrs Bowman, Miss Bracken, Mrs Bright-Parker, Mrs Campbell, Miss Champion, Miss Clarke, Mrs Cohn, Mrs Collier, Miss Crosby, Mrs David, Mrs Dean, Miss Dent, Miss A Ebbs, Mrs Egerton, Mrs Featonby, Miss Granville, Mrs Heldane, Miss Hemer, Mrs Hill, Mrs Hollan, Mrs Hogg, Mrs Hill, Miss Jackson, Miss Jimmieson, Mrs Keogh, Miss Kowalski, Mrs Lawrence, Miss McNamara, Mrs Matthews, Ms Meyer, Miss Mills, Miss Mousley, Miss Nothrop, Mrs Parnaby, Miss Parker, Miss Prior, Miss Randle, Mrs Rayner, Miss Runnals, Miss Shaw, Mrs Joy Smith, Mrs Stockdale, Miss Stone, Miss Strong, Miss Taylor, Mrs Trevaskis, Mss West, Miss Woodhouse, Mrs Worland.

Japan Mrs Ito, Mrs Kochi, Miss Misukami, Miss Mureka, Miss Murasku, Miss Okagabi, Miss Schara, Miss Sugimura.

Philippines Miss Chuia, Miss Pe, Miss Ty

USA Mrs Bain, Miss Beeghly, Miss Cope, Miss Fox, Miss Johnson, Miss O'Brien, Miss Seward, Miss Scott, Miss Scoggins, Mrs Jackie Smith, Miss E Taylor, Mrs Thorne, Mrs Van Volkenburg.

The Australian Patron, Her Excellency the Lady Hasluck, D.St.J, was the guest of honour and guest speaker at the inaugural dinner which was the official opening of the 8th World Council of the Girls' Friendly Society. Her Excellency stressed the importance of GFS maintaining its principles in the face of great opposition in modern life.

Each morning began with a celebration of Holy Communion when delegates and observers experienced different liturgies.

The Chaplain, the Right Rev G Muston, began each morning session with a "Thought for the Day". These short addresses were an inspiration to us all and influenced the thinking and decision of the day.

Greetings

Greetings were received from the Primate of Australia; Primate of All England; the Archbishop of Dublin; Bishop of the Episcopal Church of the Philippines; Bishop of Tasmania; GFS in Ireland; Mrs Atkins, Past World Chairman; Mrs Barry, Mrs Simms and Mrs Tsuji, former World Chairmen; Mrs Lamplugh, Mrs Scott Ireland; Mrs Chee and Mrs Park, Korea; Miss Pickles, Mrs Calvert, Australian in Italy; Mrs Woodward, USA; Mrs Yetman, Newfoundland; Miss Wilson, Umtata; Mrs Davies, St John's Diocese, South Africa; GFS in Guyana; Windward Isles; Japan; St Kitts; Sri Lanka; Board of USA; Dioceses of Arizona, California; Connecticut; Central Florida; SW Florida; SE Florida; Long Island; Massachusetts; Newark, New Jersey; Southern New Jersey; Oregon; Pennsylvania; Utah; Leader Training Camp, Japan; Girls Auxiliary, Canada.

Mrs Moore, USA, moved and Miss McKinley seconded
"That the greetings be received" CARRIED.

Mrs Ray, USA, moved and Mrs Mandelberg seconded
"That the apologies be received" CARRIED.

Minutes of the 6th World Council Meeting

The minutes of the 6th World Council meeting, held in Kyoto, Japan, 28 April to 5 May 1965. Were read by Mrs Iwai, Japan who moved

"That they be confirmed".

Seconded by Mrs Richards of Australia. CARRIED.

Business Arising

7th World Council Meeting, United States of America.

In January 1969 the Board of Directors of GFS, USA, wrote to GFS Member countries, regretfully withdrawing their invitation extended in Japan, to host the 7th World Council meeting. The member countries regretfully accepted this Directive, and the 7th World Council was a Meeting by Mail.

GFS Patron Saint

Mrs Mandleberg (England and Wales) raised a question regarding the acceptance of St Michael as GFS Patron Saint. It was agreed that this subject be placed on the Agenda for the 1975 World Council meeting.

Lost Minute Book

The Chairman reported that an Australian Clergyman visiting USA has called on Mrs Atkins in order to obtain the GFS World Council Minute Book but learned that Mrs Atkins had already posted it to Australia. However, the book did not arrive at its destination. Mrs Bright-Parker (Australia) recalled that in 1970 there had been a fire at the GPO and mail from USA was destroyed. It is assumed that the Minute Book was amongst this mail.

It was suggested that Mrs Tsuji, Japan (a past World Chairman), who had kept GFS records over the past years, be approached for copies of previous minutes.

Mrs Bright-Parker (Australia) suggested that the letter from Mrs Atkins be accepted as a report and received.

Mrs Ray (USA) moved, Mrs Sanders (Australia) seconded

"That the letters concerning the 7th World Council meeting be received as reports". CARRIED.

Financial Statement

The Financial Statement of the World Council was presented by Mrs Sanders, World Treasurer, who moved

"That it be received and adopted". Seconded by Mrs Middlebury (England and Wales) CARRIED

World Project Report:

The Philippines – read by Miss Judy Go.

GFS in the Philippines was organised on 3 September 1965 affiliated with the GFS of the United States of America at the St Stephen's High School. The School is an Episcopal Mission School. The Girls Friendly Society is one among the other school organisations we have. WE started with an initial membership of 12 girls increasing to more than 80 girls at present.

During the 6th World Council held in Japan we were able to send two girls to attend the Convention. In 1969 we were chosen as the World Project country. We would like to take this opportunity to express our heartfelt gratitude to those who have given us spiritual as well as financial aid.

We have to apologise for not bringing the financial report. We shall furnish copies of this report as soon as we reach home.

Among the activities we have are cooking, handicrafts, lectures, field trips, guitar lessons and of course worship and service too.

The visit of the World Chairman, Mrs Cheshire, In January 1971, was the highlight of our activities. It was of great significance to us in the sense that we are made more aware of how our fellow GFSers work in other countries. This was followed by one day visit paid by Mrs Eva K Fynes of Northern Ireland. Deaconess Daphne Robey from Burnie, Tasmania, stopped over at Manila too on her way to London. Visitors from abroad always enrich our girls with new ideas.

Upon receiving the invitation to the 8th World Council, we worked doubly hard to raise enough funds to send delegates to represent the Philippines in the 8th World Council. We devoted our time to making straw (raffia) bags which came in different sizes, designs and colours. Aside from having a Trick or Treat for Halloween, numerous bazaars were held, and we had benefits film showings to raise funds for delegates to come to Australia.

We were thrilled and happy when news came from Australia saying that they will sponsor one girl from the Philippines for Leadership Training. This truly proved to be beneficial. Mrs Alicia Lee Go was designated by our school chaplain for this mission because she works more closely with the GFS. January came with another cable from Australia stating that we could send another girl to accompany Mrs Go for the Leadership Training. Written examination as well as oral interview were taken by all applicants, an election was held, and the final decision was based on that of the Screening Committee. Eleanor Rose Ty was chosen to come for the Leadership Training, with Judy Go and Hedy Pe as the Philippine delegates to the 8th World Council held in Melbourne, Australia. We were very happy that Irene Chua, who was delegate in Japan in the 6th World Council paid on her own to accompany Judy Go and Hedy Pe to Australia.

The problems that we encounter may be the same as those you are trying to solve. When girls graduate from High School, they leave us, and we are trying to find ways of how we can keep them with us. We are also in the planning stage of developing a branch at Easter School, Baguio City (summer capital of the Philippines). We have plans to teach in about GFS in various parts of the country.

Taking the GFS to visit orphanages and making gifts for the orphans, helping UNICEF on Halloween night with Trick or Treat cans, visit to the school of deaf and blind, all these activities help our GFS to be more civil minded. From there we come to realise how fortunate we are than the others and we surely give praise to our Lord.

Miss Judy Go (Philippines) moved

"That this report be received" seconded Mrs Iwai (Japan). This report was CARRIED with acclamation.

Korea

Prior to the Secretary presenting the Korean report on behalf of Mrs Hilda K Choe, President of the Seoul Diocesan GFS, the Chairman expressed her utmost dismay that, that day despite endless communication, the plane ticket and the absolutely tireless efforts of the Australian Immigration Department and Qantas officials, Korea's delegate would not be with us.

Korean Report – read by the Secretary:

Since GFS first organised in 1965, it has made a steady progress to establish twelve branches throughout the Diocese of Seoul with the membership of about five hundred. Most of the members are over 19 years old and we have some girls of 13-16 years. A Sunday School Teacher, Miss Kim at St Nicholas and St Mary Cathedral will soon start the first GFS group of little girls from 7-12 years. And this we hope will give us another beginning of all GFS as we realise the increasing membership among elder groups is often limited and that the earlier the education begins the better its fruits, as we experience it in Australian GFS. May I now bring to your knowledge some of the more important programs and general events of the past six years.

Leadership Training: When August comes this annual program is held in one of the parishes or seminaries with some study on GFS History, Bible Class, The Lessons of Music, Folk Dance, Recreation and Handicrafts. During the recent two years another characteristic was added to this training camp, that is, a work camp for these parishes, the participants sewed the church linens, curtains, drew the Sunday School Hymn Chart and took care of the flower seeds around the church.

Here I shouldn't go further without mentioning to you some important reports on the girls' leadership training in Australia from April 1968 to beginning of 1970.

When Mrs Im and I returned from the Leaders Training Camp in Japan we felt we needed leader training in some GFS experienced country to lead our GFS in a righteous way in this country. Miss

Joan Ash, an Australian leader, was staying in Japan at that time. Once she came to visit us, conveyed this to Mrs Egerton and her committee who kindly accepted to undertake this work for us. Miss Marie Park, staying at the Deaconess House in Melbourne, was given theology, religious education lecture by Deaconess Elizabeth Alfred. While Miss Elizabeth Yi and Miss Agnes Yun, staying at Bishopscourt in Perth and Adelaide, have been mostly trained by observing branches and the GFS office. Each of these three loved to travel to meet our GFS friends through the country and they learned a great deal which should have prepared them for greater service in their respective branches after their return. We will never be too much grateful for their training to Mrs Egerton and Mrs Sanders respectively, as well as their leaders and members, Mrs Atkins, Mrs Tsuji and all of you respectively.

The report continued as under:

Prayer Day of the World GFS

On 29 September we offered our prayer of thanks for all the member nations of the World GFS, who said for us one universal prayer and made contributions. Since 1970 we have said this prayer and made some contributions for them. Philippines GFS.

The Branch and Diocesan Works: The Diocesan members visit to each branch once or twice a year helped those who sent out the monthly branch programs, cleaning church, teaching at Sunday School, serving the church with tea or music are some of the countryside branch works for their parish. At a branch they wove the straw rack of rice with youth club members to make the branch funds. Generally speaking, in Seoul, branches are some more active to set a stand of sacred things, cross rosary, etc., and sell some coffee or noodle, arrange bazaar, charity concert to raise the funds. They bought several baby pigs for the people who live on an isolated island. They also visited the monthly visit to soldiers to pray and play together, gave a party for their parents on Mothers' Day, met some old, retired priests. For their study they have Bible Class, Religious Seminar, retreat and opened a Bible contest. The Diocesan GFS newspapers have been published four times a year. At the annual GFS picnic members joined in one prayer for certain branches, made contribution for two branches during the recent two years. Your fellowship of World GFS has been constantly remembered in our prayers. On behalf of GFS in Korea, may I pledge that I and my colleagues will do our best strengthened by him for further growth and expansion of the GFS in Korea.

Mrs Sanders (Australia) in moving

"that we receive the report from Korea", said that we could feel the presence of Mrs Hilda Chae and Miss Marie Park through the loving letter. This was seconded by Mrs Mandleberg (England and Wales) CARRIED.

Reports from Member Countries:

England and Wales	Presented by Mrs Mandleberg
Ireland	Presented by Miss N McKinley
Japan	Presented by Miss M Miyazaka
Papua New Guinea	Miss D Osembo
Philippines	Presented by Miss Judy Go
Sri Lanka	Presented by Miss Marjorie Jayaraphasn
USA	Presented by Mrs Adele Ray
Australia	Presented by Miss G Macdonald

Newfoundland, St Vincent, New Zealand, Antigua, Umtata South Africa) read by Secretary.

World Project

Mrs M Davis (Australia) because of her personal interest and detailed knowledge due to regular correspondence with Miss Shirley Macdonald, was asked to present Lesotho as Australia's nomination for the World Project country. Mrs Davis told of the magnitude and influence of Miss

MacDonald's work involving thousands of young people. Miss Macdonald herself was returning to England. In order for her work to continue it was necessary to find friends to pay the salary of an indigenous Youth Worker.

In the discussion which followed, it was agreed that it was most necessary for a project to be concerned only with the development of GFS for it to be considered as a worthwhile nomination. The Chairman, in introducing Mrs Marjorie Jayaraphasn, explained how a donation received from a Melbourne GFS Leader, now living in Italy, had been used to pay the airfare for Mrs Marjorie Jayaraphan, a GFS Leader from Sri Lanka, now living in Sydney to come to World Council.

Mrs Jayaraphasn spoke of the GFS Hostel for girls and how it was endeavouring to meet the desperate need for the accommodation of girls in Colombo. If Sri Lanka was chosen as the World Project Country, the money would be used to enlarge the hostel.

The Delegates and Observers were so moved by Mrs Jayaraphan's simple and sincere presentation of Sri Lanka's needs and by Mrs Davis' comprehensive and vivid picture of Miss Macdonald's splendid work with the youth in Lesotho that they found it impossible to make a choice.

Mrs Bright-Parker (Australia) spoke of the introduction of the World Project. Originally this had been an Annual Project and the money raised had been modest. Today, since the inception of triennial World Council meetings, the support given has surpassed the wildest dreams of the instigators.

Mrs Sanders (Australia) moved, and Mrs Ray (USA) seconded the motion

"That both Lesotho and Sri Lanka become World Project Countries until next meeting of World Council" CARRIED.

Agenda Items

GFS Prayer:

One of the startling discoveries of this World Council was the realisation that the wording of our GFS Prayer varied from country to country. Several delegates spoke of the need to update the prayer and of their endeavours to do so. AT the Australian Council meeting held immediately prior to the World Council, this matter had been discussed at great length and alternative versions reviewed. It was interesting to note that the more senior members were the ones who favoured an updated version whilst the younger members favoured the traditional version.

It was moved by Mrs Ray (USA), seconded by Mrs Go (Philippines)

"That the wording of the GFS prayer be considered at the next meeting of World Council." CARRIED

Closer Links with Branches in other countries:

Mrs Mandleberg (England and Wales) introduced this agenda item under two headings.

- 1) The "twinning" of branches exchanging news, ideas, songs etc., by tape recordings as well as correspondence.
- 2) Exchange of information on program activities and projects in different countries. This, without doubt, would be fulfilling the purpose of the World Council "to promote fellowship between the members of the Society throughout the world by the exchange of information and ideas".
- 3) Those attending World Council had already exchanged ideas with other delegates and observers and unanimously agreed that this interchange of experiences and ideas was most worthwhile. However, after much discussion it was agreed that the most effective way to implement this interchange was with direct links between a branch in one country and a branch in another country.

The World Newsletter

Mrs Mandleberg (England and Wales) spoke of the value in receiving regular information regarding GFS around the world. In the past these newsletters had been infrequent and expensive to produce. It was agreed that in future these newsletters be produced more regularly and in a simpler form.

Miss Gaynor McDonald (Australia) moved and seconded by Miss J Go (Philippines)
"That Australia be permitted to produce a newsletter as a souvenir of this meeting and to bear the cost of its production". CARRIED

Cooperation with Other Church Youth Organisations

Miss Naomi McKinley (Ireland) spoke of the need for closer cooperation with other church youth organisations and asked for suggestions as to how we could do this effectively. It was agreed that this should be encouraged but would be more effective if worked at parish and diocesan level.

Future World Council Meetings

Mrs M Sanders (Australia) mentioned that one Diocese in Australia had raised the matter of increased travel costs. With this in mind, they had suggested that consideration be given to the possibility of the World Council meeting every five years.

In the discussion which followed, delegates expressed the view that a lapse of five years between meetings would hamper continuity and the term of office for office-bearers would be over long. No amount of correspondence could balance the value of face-to-face encounters. However, it was agreed that the matter of lengthening the intervals between World Council meetings be revised at the next World Council.

Next World Council Meeting

As 1975 would mark the centenary of the founding of our Society, England volunteered to be the hostess country for the 9th meeting of the World Council. This would enable all member countries to participate in the centenary celebrations. This offer was accepted with acclamation. Mrs Felicity Mandleberg, President of the GFS Central Council for England and Wales was duly elected World Chairman for 1972-1975. Her commissioning took place in the Cathedral Church of Saint Paul, Melbourne, Australia, on Sunday morning 27 August 1972, by the Right Reverend G Muston.

Presentations GFS around the World

The evening sessions of our World Council were most colourful and provided the opportunity for member countries to present items depicting cultural activities and scenic attractions, eg the Japanese Tea-making Ceremony, Philippine and Papua New Guinea dances, American and Australian folksongs, slides of Ireland and USA.

The culmination of our final evening together was the "Breaking of Bread" celebrated by our beloved Chaplain, the Right Revd G Muston, assisted by his invaluable Chaplain, the Revd J Stockdale. The Liturgy used was Australia 69, emphasising that "We being many, are one bread and body, for we all partake of the one bread". The concluding prayer of the Service:

"Almighty God, we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Holy Spirit, to live and work as faithful witnesses of our Lord Jesus Christ. Grant that at his coming we may be ready to meet him, so that with all your saints, we may worship you forever. Amen" was said by all who had shared in the memorable experience of the 8th World Council, as a fervent expression of their rededication to the aims and purpose of our Society.

Sign. Felicity Mandleberg, 21 July 1975

Through no fault of our own, the following Australian Observers were omitted.

Australia: Miss C Barber, Miss J Beard, Miss A Davis, Mrs D Downie, Mrs D Foley, Mrs J Langlois, Miss J Perkins, Miss R Punch, Mrs A Rayner, Mrs K Reynolds, Miss B Slack, Mrs M Suhr, Mrs L Tutley, Mrs S Girvan.

**+GIRLS FRIENDLY SOCIETY WORLD
COUNCIL ENGLAND
21/23 JULY 1975**

Minutes of the 9th meeting of the World Council of the Girls' Friendly Society held at Westfield College, University of London, England, 21-23 July 1975,

Monday 21 July

Thought for the day: "Sir, we would see Jesus" conducted by the Revd H Waite

Council was opened by the World Chairman, Mrs F Mandleberg, who introduced the delegates

Australia:	Mrs Sanders, Miss A Ebbs
England:	Mrs Oakes, Miss C Ford
Guyana:	Mrs Van Cooten, Miss Bernadette Ward
Ireland:	Mrs J Lindsey, Miss Hilary Ward
Japan	Mrs Kawasaki, Miss Y Wakai
Korea:	Mrs Shin-Ja H Bradner
Lesotho:	Miss E Moleko
Liberia:	Mrs L Harmon, Miss Marie Watkins
Newfoundland:	Mrs Yetman
Philippines:	Maria Corayon Sy, Sandwal Pe
Scotland:	Mrs Johnston, Miss Watson
Sierra Leone:	Miss Brainerd, Miss A McFoy
Sri Lanka:	Mrs de Silva
Transkie:	Mrs K Makiwane
USA:	Mrs Floris Bain, Miss Kate Killifer
Wales:	Miss Avril Boraman, Miss D Roberts

Greetings were received from:

Her Majesty the Queen Mother, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Mrs Ford (wife of the President of the United States), the Archbishop of Melbourne, the Bishop of Grafton, the Bishop of Seoul, the Bishop, Episcopal Church, New York; the Provost of Victoria, the Bishop of Japan; the Lord May of Perth (Western Australia); GFS Japan, Melbourne, Ballarat, Perth, Ireland, Newfoundland, Guyana; Mrs Richard, Mrs Bright-Parker, Mrs Stockdale, Miss Painton Smith.

Apology:

Miss Painton Smith

Minutes:

Mrs Cheshire (Australia_ explained that the old Minute book had been accidentally destroyed by fire and the earliest Minutes could not now be found. Those available, however, would be recorded in the new Minute book, which Mrs Cheshire formally handed over to the World Chairman.

It was proposed by Mrs Sanders, seconded by Mrs Bain

"That the Minutes of the meeting held in Melbourne, Australia, in August 1972, be accepted".

CARRIED

Business Arising:

It was noted by Council that there was no mention in the Minutes of the amount to be paid in dues.

Chairman's Report:

Our report, covering the period since we last met in Melbourne, in August 1972, is, perhaps, not quite as exciting as that given by my predecessor, Mrs Cheshire, for she had been able to visit nearly all the countries around the world where GFS is to be found. Her tour was a wonderful tonic to every country and was largely responsible for the enthusiasm which made the Melbourne World Council such a success. At that Council we all became aware of the immense value of being part of a world-wide organisation. We realised the true meaning of a fellowship and to be part of such a gathering was a deeply moving experience.

When you fight a battle, the spearhead goes in first and then comes the task of consolidating the gains and this latter has been how we have seen our role during the period since the last World Council. We have endeavoured to maintain the contacts between countries, by sending out a newsletter, twice a year and while we did not always receive as much information or photographs from other countries as we would have wished for, we tried to pass on as much news as possible. We apologise for failing to send out the promised newsletter this spring, but we can only say that we were in touch with all the countries, searching out information in connection with our present conference.

At the last Council we undertook two world projects – Lesotho and Sri Lanka and the response has been encouraging. Ms Evans will give you the facts and figures when we come to the Treasurer's report. It was the first time that we have supported two world projects. Inevitably the response for Lesotho has been the greater, because never before have we had a project in which it has been possible to identify so clearly with a person. What has made this a rather special project has been Elizabeth herself. We have not been working for a small, rather remote dioceses in another continent, but for someone who right from the beginning, we have all felt that we knew and, to crown it all, Elizabeth is with us this week.

I think it would be fair to say that it took far longer for the Sri Lanka project to get under way, not because there was not a desire to help, but because it was difficulty to get the necessary information to put out to the other countries. However, once we had some more details, response was forthcoming and we are delighted to have a delegate from Sri Lanka with us, who will, no doubt, be able to tell us more.

All those who attended the last Council were very much aware of their good fortune in being able to take part in such an occasion, and of the value, both to them personally and to the GFS in their respective countries, when they went home full of new ideas and awareness of the world fellowship to which we belong. We were also acutely aware that those who had the greatest need of this experience were those who had the least likelihood of being able to meet the ever-growing expense of travel and I would like to take this opportunity to thank those countries, UAS, Australia and Ireland, who responded so generously to my appeal to them to help with aid towards the fares of those who would not have been able to be with us now without their help.

Perhaps I may also be allowed to mention our own GFS members, who by giving one penny for each year of their age, paid for Elizabeth's fare. Our TF, while deciding that a penny for years would be embarrassing for those who, by their actions appear no more than fifty, but who are, in fact, well over their allotted span of threescore years and ten, compromised by giving a coin for every year of their membership and this has raised more than enough to bring Kolaka to England. I would like to say how much pleasure it has given us to be able to do this for the Transkei, for I feel that they set us an example, both in their delightfully honest reports, their emphasis on the responsibilities of GFS members in the community and every year we in London receive a donation from them to help with the Society's expenses.

While serving as your World Chairman, I have been privileged to visit Ireland and while there, attended the opening of the new Oak House – a wonderful occasion. I have also visited Scotland, attending the Service and meeting many of their older members. Dame Marion has also visited Ireland, attending a Leaders' Training Weekend – something which Ireland does so well.

We now look forward to the days ahead, here in Westfield, which are the culmination of our time in office, and thank you for giving us the opportunity to have this privilege.

It was proposed by Mrs Sanders, seconded by Mrs Van Cooten
"That the Chairman's report be accepted." CARRIED

Treasurer's Report:

Mr Evans said how gratified he was to occupy the post of World Treasurer, a unique position for one of his sex – he now felt himself to be fully a member of GFS.

He referred the meeting to his written report. He was conscious of the mundane character of finance, in comparison with the Westminster Abbey service, and of how little a bare recital of figures could convey the time spent of GFS. Money had come in from all directions, in many cases small sums from those who were obviously making a real sacrifice.

Mr Evans then described how he had attended a GFS centenary service in a region where membership was not large, but there was still a great love of the Society. Members of the congregations comprised four generations and the spirit of fellowship had been very strong. It was regions such as this that would benefit from the increased field staff, so that branches might be started or revived.

World Council dues had been fixed at the last World Council AT 50P PER 500 MEMBERS. The Travel Fund for overseas delegates totalled £1712.65. The Townsend Fellowship had subscribed £572 to date for Koleka Makiwana. The fund for Elizabeth Moleko stood at £538.09.

It was proposed by Mrs Buchanan (Ireland), seconded by Mrs Harman
"That the Treasurer's report be accepted." CARRIED.

A vote of thanks to the Treasurer was proposed by Mrs Bain, seconded by Mrs Yetman and agreed.

Reports:

The following reports were given:

Australia:	Mrs Sanders and Miss Ebbs
England	Mrs Oakes and Miss Ford
Wales	Miss Boraman and Miss D Roberts
Guyana	Mrs Van Cooten
Ireland	Miss H Johnston
Japan	Miss Y Wakai
Korea	Mrs Bradner
Lesotho	Miss E Molego
Liberia	Mrs Harman
Newfoundland	Mrs Yetman
New Zealand	written report from Mrs Madgwick
Philippines	Miss M Corazon d Sy and Miss H Sandowal Pe
Scotland	Mrs Johnston
Sierra Leone	Miss Brainard
Sri Lanka	Mrs d Silva
Transkei	Mrs Makiwana
USA	Mrs Bain

Resolutions:

GFS Prayer

At the last Council it had been resolved that the wording of the GFS Prayer be considered at the next meeting of Council.

Speaking to this, Mrs Sanders (Australia) was in favour of an identical prayer for all member countries. It would, she considered, form a worldwide link, especially in these days of increased travel.

Mrs Johnston (Scotland) was in favour of each country retaining its own form of the prayer. The prayer of the host country to be used at World Councils. Delegates from Newfoundland and UA agreed with this.

The prayers of England and Wales, Australia and New Zealand, Ireland and the United States were read out. It was noted that all the prayers were similar, but that Scotland's prayer underlined the need to "seek first the Kingdom of Heaven" and the importance of this was emphasised by the Scottish delegates.

Mr Waite said that the Chaplain's conference had looked into this matter very carefully and had reflected upon the theological climate and the aspirations of each prayer. The conclusion had been reached that it would be a pity to lose the national individuality. The conference had strongly recommended retention of national prayers.

The Chairman stressed the importance of maintaining complete national autonomy in World GFS. The prayer, she considered, should be left free to develop in each country. Countries would also find difficulty in changing over now.

Australia then withdrew the resolution.

Frequency of Councils:

The Chairman spoke to this resolution which had been put forward by England. In view of inflation and the ever-rising cost of travel and accommodation, it had been suggested that World Council should be held every five years with a mid-term conference for young members every third year.

In the ensuing discussion, although the financial aspect of three yearly meetings was given due regard, it was pointed out that the richer countries could help those less prosperous, not only by providing fares, but also in subsidising host countries. It was felt that a longer interval would weaken the links which are so vital, and which are so greatly strengthened by interchange of ideas and problems. The present Council, being that of the centenary year, was necessarily a very full one, but future Councils might reduce the numbers attending and the expenses involved. It was, however, suggested that it would be a pity if more money were spent on fares and accommodation for Councils than on projects. It was resolved to hold World Council every three years, combined with a seminar for young people.

Continuing Project – Training Leaders:

England and Wales put forward a resolution that the training of young leaders should be a continuing project and that a world fund should be set up for this purpose, supported by the member GFS countries and that this should be in addition to any current project set up triennially, as at present. This was unanimously AGREED.

There was discussion on the way in which this training could best be carried out. Most delegates agreed that training should take place in the country concerned, so that the particular needs of each country could be met. It was thought that this was more important than the possible advantages gained by foreign travel.

Next World Project:

A proposal was put forward by England, that the next project should be the Gambia, where GFS work had just begun and where there was a great need for leadership training. The Liberian delegate pointed out that such training could be provided in Liberia, to the benefit of both countries.

Mrs Partridge (Observer, England) strongly urged that India should be considered as a world project, as the needs of women and girls in that sub-continent are acute.

After a full discussion, it was proposed by England, seconded by Guyana

"That the next World Project be 'Leadership Training' in the Gambia and other West African countries with GFS connections". CARRIED with a large majority.

Tuesday 22 July

Thought for the day: "This is the day that the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it" conducted by The Revd Canon Frank Gouge.

I was proposed by Australia, seconded by USA

"That Wales be accepted as a member country of the World Council" CARRIED

As a query had been made as to the number of World Councils held to date, the following was recorded:

1956 Switzerland; 1957 USA; 1959 Australia; 1962 Ireland; 1965 Japan; 1969 Postal Council chaired by USA.

1972 Australia; 1975 England and Wales.

It was therefore proposed by England and Wales, seconded by Australia

"That the present Council be deemed the eighth" CARRIED.

It was agreed that, if and when a Council was held by post because of unavoidable circumstances, this should be deemed to have been a Council and be duly reckoned as such, this to have retrospective effect.

Wednesday 23 July

Thought for the day: "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life" conducted by The Revd C Southerton.

There was further discussion on the subject of training, including a suggestion from the Korean delegate that a permanent training school for GFS leaders should be established. The majority opinion was, however, that such a school would not justify the expense involved and that local and inter-branch training projects were of more value than set courses. It was agreed that postal interchange of ideas and information between countries was of great value.

The question of setting up a resource centre was discussed, and it was proposed by England, seconded by Scotland

"That the incoming Executive of World Council explores the possibilities of setting up a resource centre for training, at the next World Council and that all countries be asked to contribute".

CARRIED

Mrs Buchanan, President of the Irish GFS, spoke on the need to provide more explicit help and support in dealing with problems of youth in the modern world. Purity is inherent in the GFS ethos, not only in its narrower sense, but in regard to all aspects of life. The great aim to be instilled was that of singleness of purpose – that of following our Lord Jesus Christ "more abundantly". Lack of informed direction may result in loss of dignity and reverence for life, but GFS, in increasing its emphasis on purity of action and intention, may give a lead to young women all over the world.

Election of New World Chairman

It was proposed by Guyana, seconded by England and Wales

"That the next World Chairman be Mrs Floris Bain (USA)" CARRIED

Date and Place of World Council 1981

The following countries offered to host World Council 1981 – Ireland, The Philippines, The Transkei. A secret ballot was held and as a result, the country selected for the 1981 World Council was The Transkei.

Dues

It was proposed by Australia, seconded by USA

"That the amount should be £1 per 500 members." CARRIED

Travel Fund

It was decided to start a travel fund, to which all countries can

contribute. This concluded the business of the Council.

Signed: Floris Bain 7/17/78

USA
15/22 JULY 1978

Minutes of the 9th meeting of the World Council of the Girls' Friendly Society held at Whittier College, Whittier, California.

Session 1 Monday July 17

"Mood for the day" was conducted by Mrs Jean Cheshire, World Chairman, 1969-1972, "Bear Ye One Another's Burdens".

The Ninth World Council was called to order by the Chairman, Mrs Floris Bain, at 9.50am. She introduced the delegates.

Australia:	Mrs Harvie Featonby, Miss Jennifer Hood
England:	Mrs Elizabeth Nixon, Miss Diane Webster
Gambia:	Miss Betty Cates
Guyana:	Sister Joan, CJGS, Miss Beverly McDonald
Ireland:	Mrs Elizabeth A E Mayes, Miss Helen Trimble
Japan	Mrs Matoe Kawasaki, Miss Keiko Ohazchi
Korea:	Martha Yung Hee Park, Angela Myung Ja Kim
Liberia:	Mrs Lottie Harmon, Mrs Rose Sambola
Sierra Leone:	Miss Gladys Langlely
Sri Lanka:	Mrs Gris Samuel
USA:	Miss Marilyn Cogger, Miss Kathleen Allan
Wales:	Mrs Joan Williams, Miss Carol Samuel

Miss Cogger, senior delegate from USA moved

"That husbands who had been so helpful upon our arrival at Shittier, become members of the Boys' Auxiliary of GFS".

Motion was seconded by Miss Cates of Gambia and so voted. CARRIED.

Mrs Bain introduced the members at the head tables:

Mesdames Barbara White, World Council Treasurer, Dorothy Collins, World Council Secretary, Adele Ray, Vice-President of GFS, USA who substituted for Mrs Ann Hawkins, President of GFS, USA, she being unable to attend because of illness at home. Prayers were offered for Ann and her family.

Next, by introduction, Mrs Felicity Mandleberg, World Council Vice Chairman.

Mrs Bain also presented Mrs Ethel Tiley, President of Townsend Fellowship and Miss Edith Wilson, President of GFS National Sponsors, USA.

Greetings were received and read from The Archbishop of Canterbury; The Presiding Bishop, USA; Archbishop of Armagh, Primate of All Ireland; Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth, Queen Mother; The Archbishop of York; The Bishop of Gambia; The Bishop of Liverpool; Archbishop Muston, Melbourne, Australia; The Bishop of Gloucester; The Bishop of Sheffield; The Bishop of Washington, DC.; Primate, Archbishop of Sydney; The Bishop of Tasmania; The Bishop of Rhode Island; The Archbishop of Melbourne; The Bishop of Los Angeles; The Bishop of Seoul, Korea,; The Bishop of Massachusetts; The Bishop of Guyana; The Bishop of Melbourne; The Bishop and People, Diocese of New Jersey; The Bishop of Chicago; The Bishop of Western Massachusetts; The Archbishop; of Wales; The Bishop of Liberia; Rector, St Thomas, Penna, Rector, St James, Perkionene, pa; Minister, Secretary of State, Wales; Bishop of Japan in Japanese and English'; Lady Anna Cowen, Patron Australia; GFS Sri Lanka;

Nancy Atkins, past World Chairman, Jimmy Carter, President USA, (read at later session), J Joseph Garrahy, Governor, Rhode Island; GFS Victoria; GFS Zambia; GFS Sierra Leone; Joyce Creek, Leadership, London, Harry Secombe, Swansea; GFS New Zealand (tape heard at later session); Geo M Chapman, Rector St Paul's Brookline, Mass. (Mrs Bain's Parish), Rector, Church of the Resurrection, Long Island, New York; Director Christian Education, Diocese of Rhode Island; Rector, St John's, Huntingdon Valley, PA; Rector, Trinity Oxford Penna; national Chairman, Episcopal Church Women, Betty Crenally, USA; Director Christian Education, Mrs Flemister, Liberia; Vicar General, Diocese of Ballarat, Australia; Dame Marion Kettlewell, DBE, London, Michael Dukakis, Governor of Massachusetts, GFS, Ireland; GFS Melbourne; GFS Grafton; GFS Barbados; Edmund Brown, Governor, California; Central Council in England and Wales; The Bishop of Transkei.

Mrs Bain announced that Mrs Fletcher of GFS headquarters in London had graciously taken on the tedious task of handwriting the minutes of all past World Council meetings into the new record book, a gift of Mrs Jean Cheshire to replace the one that was lost (Post office fire) prior to World Council in Melbourne, 1972. At this time the minutes of the 1969 Council were signed by Mrs Jean Cheshire, and those of the 1972 Council were signed by Mrs Felicity Mandleberg. Following the signing, a copy of a document that was presented by the English delegation was read which informed the assembly that the founding meeting of GFS was held at Swanmere, 22 December 1874. It was moved and seconded that this information be placed in the records (Copy not with records as of this report)

Mrs Ruth Miller, Chairman of Hospitality for tis Council meeting reported registration as follows: 218 residents, 3 daily visitors.

Location of World Council 1981

Mrs Bain read letter received from the Bishop of Transkei requesting withdrawal of invitation extended in London, 1972. The Bishop advised that he was obliged to come to this regrettable decision only after long deliberation.

Australia moved and England seconded

"That a letter conveying our love and prayers be sent to the Bishop of Transkei". CARRIED

Liberia moved

"That Ireland's original invitation which was extended at 1972 World Council be accepted for 1981 at this time".

Seconded by USA.

CARRIED

Program Correction:

This is the 9th World Council.

Agenda:

- 1 Responsibility for cost of delegates
- 2 Date of World Day of Payer
- 3 World Project
- 4 Adoption of World Symbol
- 5 Request from England – discussion of Family Life (Father Detor's Workshop)
- 6 Invitation for 1984 World Council
- 7 Travel expenses of delegates.

Treasurer's Account for 1975

Ireland moved approval and England seconded, so voted. CARRIED

Signed by Mrs Mandleberg.

Session One recessed at 12.15 for prayer lead by Father Bain.

Session Two

Called to order by Mrs Bain at 2.45pm. She reported news story from Johannesburg about Dolphin saving fishermen's boat from smashing onto the rocks in a fog.

Rules of Order

Only delegates may vote. Observers are free to speak.

USA delegates and Diocese of Los Angeles delegate presented birthday bouquet to Mrs Bain.

At this time the assembly listened to the tape recording from New Zealand. It was delightful to hear the singing in Maori. Arrival of greeting from Mrs Kathleen Bright Parker, past World Chairman. Also from Council, Chichester.

Minutes of 1975 World Council were read.

Wales moved, USA seconded,

"That the minutes be accepted."

CARRIED

Mrs Bain signed minutes, July 17, 1978.

Reports:

Reports were distributed in typed form and then read or commented on by the delegates from:

Sri Lanka – Mrs Gris Samuel; Sierra Leone – Miss Gladys Langley; Ireland – Mrs Elizabeth A E Mayes; USA – Miss Kathleen Allen; Liberia – Mesdames Harman and Sambola; Korea – Angela Myung Ja Kim; Wales – Carol Samuel and Mrs Joan Williams; Barbados – Read by Patricia; Australia – Mrs Harvie Featonby and Jennifer Hood; Henderson for Mary Marshall; Guyana – Sister Joan, Shirley Thomson and Gail Molyneux; Japan – Miss Keiko Okagaki; England – Mrs Elizabeth Nixon; New Zealand – read by Adele Ray for Molly Gambrell.

At this time Mrs Nixon, England, asked if message could be sent to the Bishop's Conference at Lambeth Assembly agreed this should be done.

Session Two –

recessed at 5.15.pm

Session Three –

The third session was called to order by the Chairman at 9.45am, Wednesday, July 19. The devotions were conducted by the English delegation followed by a repeat of the Rules of Order of the Council. Greetings were read from GFS of Tasmania, Australia.

Report from The Gambia was given by delegates, Miss Betty Cates. This was followed by a welcome from England and then the entire assembly on the first attendance of Gambia GFS at a World Council. There was discussion of the minutes of previous councils with reminders from Australia to insert into 1975 minutes that the book had been lost in transit. Copy of Mrs Atkin's (World Chairman) was needed, it being the only record relative to 1969-92 period. Liberia and USA will try to search this out.

The suggestion was made that a list of World Chairmen with dates be inserted in front of new record book.

World Day of Prayer date:

USA proposed that the date of World Day of Prayer be changed from September 29 to a date later in the calendar year. After considerable discussion, Liberia moved

"That the date remain as is" England seconded the motion

CARRIED.

Expenses of Delegates at World Council:

The next matter of business was the question of who should bear the cost of expenses of the delegates while at World Council. After discussion of this problem, England moved and USA seconded
"That a Committee be set up to study the situation and report back. The Committee – Mrs Mandleberg, England; Mrs Harman, Liberia; Martha Park, Korea; Sister Joan, Guyana; Mrs Beth Mayes, Ireland; Mrs Cheshire, Australia and Miss Mrs Bain, USA"

To meet at 4pm in Hastings House and report findings at the evening session.

The 1975-1978 Project – (Leadership Training for Sierra Leone, The Gambia and Liberia).

Miss Cutbush, England spoke to the problem of finding the proper person for the project. After discussion Australia moved, Ireland seconded

"That the four West African delegates meet with Mrs Bain, Mrs Mayes, Mrs Featonby, Kathleen Allen, junior USA delegate, Miss Cutbush and a delegate from Korea as observers to meet at 2.30 in the 'Lounge' at the Information Centre and report back at the evening session. CARRIED.

The 1978-81 Project

Proposals were presented by Sri Lanka, The Gambia, Korea and Liberia.

Session Three ended at 12.10 for noonday prayers with request from Information Centre that corrections be made on master list posted there.

Session Four

The fourth session opened at 8.10pm. Mrs Bain reported that the proposals for a change for World Day of Prayer should have been presented by the delegate from USA not by an observer.

Australia moved, Korea seconded

"That this correction be accepted". CARRIED with the request that date be made flexible. At this time a request was expressed that prayers for the ill, shut-ins and all in any kind of trouble be offered by the Assembly.

Mrs Mayes, Ireland reported for the committee on cost of expenses of delegates to World Councils
"that an anonymous (World) fund be established (One half of funds to be given anonymously and the other half raised through partnerships between countries"

USA moved to accept the report, Liberia seconded the motion.

After a five minute caucus of delegations, the motion was CARRIED to accept the report.

After discussion of how to raise funds, the USA delegates (Junior) moved
"the establishment of a working fund for World Council".

Ireland seconded the motion and the motion was CARRIED

USA moved

"Partnerships in GFS be established as reported".

The junior delegate from Australia seconded the motion.

Mrs Mayes read list of suggested partnerships –

England, Guyana, Philippines, Barbados

USA, New Zealand, West Africa

Australia, Korea, Scotland, Newfoundland

Ireland, Japan, Transkei,

Wales, SRI LANKA.

After discussion and rephrasing the motion was CARRIED.

Mrs Featonby, Australia reported on the committee for 1975-78 projects. It was proposed That a candidate from West Africa could be sent abroad for training, subject to the approval of the Bishop of West Africa. Meanwhile, search for a candidate in England should go on.

Mrs Featonby moved

"This report be accepted".

Mrs Nixon (England) seconded the motion and the motion was CARRIED.

Adoption of World Symbol

The recommendation for adoption of a symbol proposed by Australia was withdrawn, Such a logo



already exists as found in minutes of previous World Councils.

Newsletter

The value of a newsletter was discussed as well as news. Mrs White, USA, indicated that as Chairman of "Penpals" for 1975-78, she has people writing for linkups on Penpals. Session Four ended 10.30pm.

Session Five

Session five opened for delegates only on Friday, July 21 at 9.45am with a briefing by Father Bain on the Commissioning Service.

Mrs Mayes gave outline for permanent World Council Fund.

- 1 Countries to contribute as they are able for travel and running expenses of Council.
- 2 Partnerships of Countries for sharing support, the more established countries paired with less established countries. There was discussion on how money was to be raised and handled.

Mrs Mandleberg reminded the delegates that establishment of an executive committee to handle such matters was in the 1957 minutes. Finally, USA moved

"That an executive committee consisting of the Chairman of World Council, the Vice-Chairman and the Chairman of the next World Council plus three girl delegates from immediate past Council, to be chosen by the World Chairman constitute the Executive Committee".

Korea seconded the motion, and the motion was CARRIED.

At this time the meeting was opened to observers. Belinda Mone, USA alternate delegate and in charge of Youth program for World Council, conducted the devotions.

Mrs Adele Ray, Vice-President, GFS, USA presented gift of love to Mrs Bain from GFS, USA. A Steinben Dolphin. At this time greetings were read from the following, Jimmy Carter, USA President, GFS Transkei, Merle Davis, Perth, Australia, Summer Staff at Whittier College.

Mrs Bain reported consensus was that part of each session of World Council meetings should be for delegates only.

Invitation to host World Council – 1984

Guyana, Wales, Korea and Sri Lanka hope to host World Council sometime in the future. Ireland proposed

"that their invitation as offered (for 1981) be accepted."

USA seconded the motion, and the motion was CARRIED.

Election of World Chairman 1978-1981

England moved

"Elizabeth A E Mayes, Ireland be Chairman"

Australia seconded the motion, and the motion was carried. Beth accepted prayerfully.

Acknowledgements

From Beth Mayes for love and concern of Mrs Bain, Mrs Samuel (Sri Lanka) for help and love and the privilege of coming, Liberia thanks and appreciation, especially to Father and Phoebe Detor, Mrs Featonby (Australia) to Diocese of Los Angeles. The information centre to Martha Killefer and Phoebe Detor for the help at the Cathedral. Mrs Williams (Wales) for GFS welcome at Airport and all other help. Belinda Moore tribute to the girls who have been so cooperative. Mrs Nixon (England) hostesses and hospitality corner for tea. Mrs Cheshire (Australia) to Jamie (photographer) Whittier College, especially the kitchen staff, the welcoming committee at the airport (145 people on 31 flights were met by 19 people). Mrs Mandelberg helpfulness of College staff and civility of everyone in Los Angeles.

Japan (Mrs Kawasaki through her interpreter) the beautiful program, of World Council, communications with those in attendance, really feel "We are one in His love" will spread what they have heard here to GFS in Japan, after practice of speaking English would like to hold World Council in Japan.

Adele Ray for everyone here who made it all possible. Korea for rescue at airport at midnight. Sister Joan (Guyana) the hostesses, the Boys Auxiliary, especially for carrying all the heavy luggage, Gambia (Betty Cates) to security guards who let her in and to all who made her visit possible. Gladys Langley (Sierra Leone) kindness and hospitality. Mrs Bain to Father Bain, Father Detor, the Boys Auxiliary, Marilyn Cogger, the officers, the committees, all the workers and the staff at Whittier College.

Mrs Bain announced greetings would be sent to Lambeth Conference.

Questions arose about 1978-81 Project. Liberia moved

"That the World Day of Prayer fund for the next three years go towards World Council Funds".

Sri Lanka seconded the motion. USA requested recess for caucus. Motion put to vote, USA opposed. Vote CARRIED.

Mrs Mayes announced we would have to forge our own links but she will send initial letters.

World Council (1978) meeting adjourned at 12.37pm.

Sign A Floris Bain, July 22, 1978.

AMENDMENTS

- 1 Page 4, Session IV Line 5

At this time a request was expressed that prayers for the ill, shut-ins and all in any kind of trouble be offered by the Assembly.

TO READ

At this time a request was expressed that prayers for the ill, shut-ins and all in any kind of trouble be included in the World Day of Prayer Service sheet. It was explained that the Service sheet was only intended as a guiding framework for each country to add to or adapt as they wished.

- 2 Page 4, Session four, Line 8

....." World Councils that an anonymous (World) fund be established. One half of fund would be given anonymously, and the other half raised through partnership of countries. TO READ

....." World Councils (delete rest of sentence) One half of the project would be to set up an anonymous fund for funding World Council and the other half of the project would be partnerships between countries.

Sign Elizabeth A E Mayes, 20 July 1981

GIRLS FRIENDLY SOCIETY WORLD COUNCIL
IRELAND
19/26 JULY 1978

Minutes of the 10th meeting of the World Council of the Girls' Friendly Society held at THE New University of Ulster, Coleraine, Northern Ireland from 19 to 26 July 1981

Theme: "Go Forward With Love"

The Opening Service of the 10th World Council was held in the New University of Ulster at 5.00pm on Sunday 19 July 1981. The celebrant was the Rt Revd. G D Simms, former Primate of All Ireland assisted by the Bishop of Connor, Dr A Butler and the Revd. N H G Mayes.

A service of Holy Communion was conducted each morning under the theme for the day. Evening Prayers, in the form of Compline and Ancient Irish Vigils were conducted each night at the close of sessions.

Monday 20 July. Theme for the day "The Family"

The World Chairman, Mrs Elizabeth Mayes, called the council to order and introduced the delegates.

Australia:	Miss P Franklin, Mrs A Fisher
England:	Mrs Elizabeth Nixon, Miss D A Haigh
Guyana:	Miss I Chase
Ireland:	Mrs P Johnston, Miss G Thompson
Japan	Mrs U Iwai, Miss Y Ito
Korea:	Mrs Maria Sung Jo Kay, Miss Agnes Hyun Suk You
Lesotho	Miss E Maleku
Liberia:	Mrs L C Harmon
Philippines:	Miss T B Paten, Miss J B Dimas
Sierra Leone:	Mrs O Macaulay, Miss I Gooding
Sri Lanka:	Mrs S de Silva
Transkei:	Mrs N Locke
USA:	Mrs A J Ray, Miss T Crane
Wales:	Mrs R McDonald, Miss J E Thomas
Windward Islands:	Sister Joan

Apologies were received from Barbados, New Zealand and Scotland.

The World Chairman introduced Dr G O Simms, Chaplain, The Revd Michael H G Mayes, Asst. Chaplain, The Revd N Sato, GFS Chaplain, Japan, Mrs F Bain, Vice Chairman, Mrs R Broadstock, Secretary, Mrs N Gilmore, Asst Secretary, Miss D Ross, World Treasurer, Mrs J May, Mothers' Union Ireland, Miss Eva Hales.

Mrs Mayes welcomed all present and said "I bid you welcome to Ireland in the words of an old Irish greeting – "Cead Mile Failke – a hundred thousand welcomes. Many people have shown unease about attending the World Council in the north of Ireland. I make no apology for once again mentioning our situation as it does inevitably affect all we do when we begin to plan. It is natural that this should be so as very often the only news seen outside the country is of a violent nature. You will see the scars of the past twelve years as you travel around the province, but we want you to see more than that.

We hope you will look around and see the country we live in. It is a beautiful one. There is a vast program being carried out in the area of housing and redevelopment both in the cities and in the rural communities. Scenic spots are being thoroughly brought to life so that we can all enjoy and appreciate the natural beauty spots of our land. I ask you not to let the events of the past twelve years colour or distort your image of the people of this island. We value our family life, our freedom of speech, our freedom to worship. We care, too, about those who do not enjoy the privileges we sometimes take for granted.

The theme for this Council "Go Forward With Love", was carefully chosen. I hope you go forward from here having seen our love in action. Mrs Jean Cheshire from Australia wrote the following when I was feeling depressed about World Council and wondering whether anyone was going to come:

Go

Go where Lord?

From you

From reality

From renewal

Go where, Lord?

Go Forward.

Not retreating

Not reproaching

Not rebelling.

Go with courage, with compassion, with commitment.

Go forward with praise, Prayer, Peace.

Go forward with love of you, of family, of fellow travellers.

Go forward with love means

Go forward with God for God is Love.

The World Chairman stated that all present, delegates and observers could speak but only delegates could vote. However, Lesotho and Windward Islands were not full members of World Council, so these delegates did not have voting rights.

Minutes:

Minutes of the 9th World Council had already been circulated. Mrs Nixon, England, questioned the accuracy of two items. All agreed that these should be amended. This was duly done, and the minutes were then agreed and signed.

Chairman's Report

'This is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it.' This is a day I thought would never dawn. It has been like a dream for the past three years, three years which have been the most hectic of my life.

I feel the whole of my family has been enriched over this time. Mrs Bain is someone well known to my children. Evan Hales becomes a member of the family on many occasions and is treated like our older sister with whispers and secrets and test favourites from the local sweet shop. "Betty Nixon's on the phone". Betty could be 5 or 15 but her name is known.

Sister Joan – letters from Korea – photographs from Sierra Leone – all have added a new and exciting interest to our lives. One of the children is sure to ask each day "Is there any post for me or is it all GFS for mummy?". Often it has been GFS only.

Undoubtedly the highlight of the past three years has been the West African Training Project. At one time I think we almost despaired of being able to carry out this project as it seemed there was no way forward. At every turn we encountered snags and difficulties. Then in late 1978 a small

group met in Dublin to interview Eva Hales who showed interest after meeting Mrs Betty Ross from Sierra Leone and hearing about our intentions to carry out a training program as required.

Miss Rhoda Cutbush, England, had been working for three years as had Mrs Bain who was the overseer of the project since it came into being during her term of office. It all seemed suddenly like an answer to prayer.

In September 1979, Eva departed for West Africa. I was involved in the planning, chiefly because Eva comes from this country and also as the present World Chairman.

Inevitably with such a project and one which we had not carried out before, there were difficulties and problems. However, Mrs Ross in Sierra Leone undertook to guide the project in West Africa and planned the work in her diocese. Lottie Harmon organised the Liberian program which was shortened by a few weeks due to a military coup. We were all invited in sorrow and prayer when we heard the news from that country. Betty Cates looked after the Gambian end, but sadly I have not been able to get any news from there other than Eva's. I have explored every avenue but get no replies to letters.

Reports due later today will tell of the resounding success of this project.

During my term of office, we have witnessed the expansion of GFS work in Guyana guided so carefully by Sister Joan.

Dr Kate Botengan and Trinidad Paatan have been sending news of GFS Philippines where I had assumed that there was only work in St Stephen's School, Manila, but find there is actually more than that. Transkei too has a new Secretary/Organiser in Miss Lockwe. The Mothers Union had looked after the work in the interim period up to Mrs Lockwe's appointment. In many parts of our world there seems to be a renewed interest in Youth Organisations in general. For a number of years "discipline" has almost been a dirty word. Yet we know we need order and discipline in our lives. This shows itself in so many ways, not least the enormous interest among young people in Oriental religions and the art of meditation. There is great discipline involved in the following of these and it seems to me as though young people are unconsciously crying out for help, but so often we confuse what they are asking for and only see them as strange notions which we don't understand. Young people today care deeply, and we fail them if we show ourselves as being "too busy" to listen.

Our society in general needs listeners – not people who always offer cures and remedies, but people who care enough to give time to the other person, to be present with the other person in whatever the situation. You and I know it is not our words which help most in time of trouble. Those who help us most are those who are present with us when our need is greatest. Not doing, but being, the one who can hold a hand in time of distress, the one who sighs with us in our sorrows, who is willing to sit with us, not knowing what to say but just knowing it is right to be there, is the friend indeed. That is what you are to us. Your greatest gift to us in this country is your coming here and being with us.

When we lived in Japan, the late Bishop Yoshiro, the Presiding Bishop of Japan, who was a very great man and a giant of a Christian, once told us, "Westerners are often so busy doing they forget about being". It is the being which matters most.

When one part of the body is in trouble, another part comes to the rescue. We are all members of one body in Christ. At present this part of the body is in need, and you, by your coming and by your being, have come to the rescue. We all have a tremendous resource of caring within us. So often we keep it hanging somewhere between our heads and our hands and do not allow it to descend to our hearts where the caring comes from. By releasing this enormous energy within us we can give birth to a new awareness reaching far beyond the boundaries of our human efforts.

This is truly a day which the Lord has made. Let us all rejoice and be glad in it.

Treasurer's Report

Miss Olive Ross, World Treasurer, presented the account of the World Council funds. She pointed out that the World Fund was voluntary so the amount contributed by each country would not be

made public. However, she would happily give details to individual countries of their contribution. Total subscriptions received by the fund amounted to Fund £12,774.86; Standing Committee of Youth Organisations Northern Ireland £1,000, Interest £261.96; World Dues to date £124,27 making a total of £14,161.09 received. Expenses etc., were still to be paid but these were estimated at £8914.98 for printing, travel, housing etc. This would leave a credit balance of £5246,11. Miss Ross suggested using some of the fund to cover the cost of the extra night which some delegates had spent at the University as the exact time of the Opening Service had not been given in advance. This was not accepted, and delegates agreed to pay the extra cost. The World Chairman apologised for her error in not making clear the exact time.

Mrs McDonald, Wales, proposed
"the adoption of the accounts"

Sister Joan, Windward Islands, seconded the proposal. CARRIED.

Greetings

Greetings were received from : Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother; Archbishop of Canterbury; Rt Revd G Muston of Melbourne; Sr Gloria of Guyana; Bishop Mokuku of Lesotho; Youth Department of Lesotho; Mothers Union Ireland; MU Transkei; Archbishop Scott of West Africa; Archbishop Dann of Melbourne; GFS Mt Waverley, Victoria; Mrs K Bright-Parker OBE Australia; Bishop Stewart of Western Mass; GFS Melbourne Diocese; Mrs Joan Williams, GFS President Wales; Mrs E Tsuji, Japan; GFS Wagga Wagga Australia; Diane Webster English delegate 1978; Bishop Childs of Monmouth; Bishop Cusack of Los Angeles; Mrs King, GFS Sierra Leone; Archbishop McAdoo of Dublin; Archbishop Armstrong of Armagh; Episcopal Church women of Liberia; Archbishop Williams of Wales; Dr Kate Botengan, GFS Philippines; Bishop Allin Presiding Bishop USA; Mrs Scott GFS Pres. Sierra Leone; Townsend Fellowship Dept. England; Bishop Van Duzen of New Jersey; Bishop Montgomery of Chicago; the Revd Freeman of Perkiomen, Pennsylvania; Mrs Baker, GFS New Zealand; Bishop Coburn of Mass; The Revd Durkee of Grace Church, Medford, Mass.; Bishop Lee of Korea; the Most Revd Sir Marcus Loane, Archbishop of Sydney and President of GFS Australia; Bishop Nakamichi of Japan; Gippsland Diocese, Australia; Ballarat Diocese Australia; GFS Leaders Sydney; GFS Victoria; GFS Barbados; Mrs Flemister, Liberian delegate 1962; Mrs Ross, Sierra Leone; Central Council of GFS and Townsend Fellowship England; Chichester Dioceses England; The President of Sri Lanka; the Primate Minister of Sri Lanka; Mrs Harold Woodward USA, 1st World Chairman.

Mrs Simms, Ireland, World Chairman 1959-1962 asked if special greetings could be sent from this World Council to the first World Chairman, Mrs Harold Woodward, now resident in an Old People's Home in St Louis, USA. This was agreed and a telegram sent.

Family Life Workshop

The World Chairman had asked Mrs Nixon, GFS President, England to conduct a workshop on Family Life. Theme – What effects might a broken home have on a girl? What can we in GFS do to counteract these effects?

Findings – In most countries the church looks at this problem from the standpoint of being a Christian country but in a non-Christian country it is a national problem not a church one.

- 1) What are the common causes of family breakup in your country?
Lack of preparation for marriage. Too much me, not enough us in marriage. Marriages of people who are too young and have unrealistic expectations.
In Ireland – pressure and problems of security force works.
Sierra Leone and Japan – mother-in-law
Gambling and more widely alcohol
Changing role of women. Loss of values.
- 2) Do the girls from these families come to GFS? Are they accepted?

It is necessary to accept the children of such homes into GFS. In a broken home there may be nobody to encourage, to listen to support. WE should give of our time and be aware of all the children in a branch. Don't be over aware of the problem.

- 3) Does the church as a whole do anything to help?
The church often comes in when asked but perhaps should not always wait until asked.
More Christian preparation for marriage needed.
High Christian standards taught more by example than any other way. Discipline is important.
Commitment should be stressed as we live in an age where it is almost discouraged.
- 4) What work is being done in your church to promote family life?
Church should encourage extended family relationships.
Family worship Sunday. Organisations such as Marriage Encounter and Christian Family Life associations were mentioned. Subject of sex education discussed in this question. Sex education for marriage should be encouraged not just biological facts. Education in terms of relationships.
- 5) Is marriage preparation taught in your GFS branch?
Most branches have girls too young to be taught marriage preparation. But subject should be included for teenage groups. Section on this in Irish GFS handbook.
If GFS leaders are to give marriage preparation, then we must prepare them and give them something to work with. Perhaps World Organising could put money into films, books, etc., was suggested. Closer liaison between GFS and Mothers Union.
- 6) What standards do you expect from your leaders?
Encourage leaders to show love for those in their groups.
Encourage discussion perhaps using topical events to bring in Christian ideals of marriage and family life when training leaders.
Important to include divorced leaders who have overcome great difficulties. If we exclude them, we opt out of full support and become exclusive.
Experience of one mistake or broken home can be invaluable.
- 7) What suggestions for action have you to put to GFS as a World Organisation that individual countries can take back and try to pursue?
Different cultures need different actions.
Pride in the homemaker to be encouraged.
Don't leave out the fathers.
See also 3 and 4.

Mrs Mayes thanked Mrs Nixon for the work put into preparing the workshop and the benefit felt by all who had participated.

West African Project

The World Chairman asked Mrs F Bain to introduce this session. Mrs Bain introduced Eva Hales who had gone to Sierra Leone, Liberia and the Gambia to carry out the Leadership Training Program. Eva presented her report with visual aids on the work carried out. A full booklet is available and attached to the Minute Book giving details of the completed program.

Eva's report was greeted with great enthusiasm and all agreed the personal approach of someone telling of her experiences on behalf of a GFS project really brought home the true feeling of our motto "Bear Ye One Another's Burdens". The delegates from Liberia and Sierra Leone thanked Eva and the World Council for a very worthwhile and much appreciated project.

Tuesday –Theme for the day "Peace"

World Project – delegates only.

Session opened with the World Chairman explaining that at the last World Council it was agreed that at future World Councils some time be given to a "delegates only" session. This was to encourage

participants by all delegates as very often it is easy to be overwhelmed when in a very large group. She said that each delegate has a contribution to make, and this should be encouraged.

World Project 75-78 was planned when delegates from West Africa requested assistance in the training of leaders and development of GFS.

World Project 78-81 was a different type of project. It was one of partnership between countries and the establishment of a World Fund as that in future between countries and the establishment of a World Fund as that in future a developing GFS country could host World Council without the problem of lac of finance to assist with running costs.

Delegates were asked to consider if they wished this type of project to continue or if they wished to adopt a specific project. Discussion took place. It was decided that a specific project is easier to work in branches and encourages support from the girls as well as being more personal and interesting. However, it was felt that the establishing of a World Fund had been necessary at this time. All agreed that we need a specific project for the next three years.

PROJECT PROPOSALS

1) From Guyana

The establishment and development of GFS work in the Province of the West Indies subject to the agreement of the Bishops. The Bishops gave verbal agreement to this suggestion as put to them by the late Archbishop. Due to his death and changes in the area, the present Archbishop feels it is not possible to continue with this proposal at this time. Proposal withdrawn.

2) From Transkei

GFS members would like an incubator and brooding machines to open a small factory to rear chickens and produce eggs to raise funds. The aims are not to open a factory only but to use the profits to open a GFS Art and Craft School or shop for this diocese and to help give employment to those who would otherwise be unemployed. The delegate from Transkei, Mrs Lockwe. Spoke about her country and outlined the problems which resulted in this proposal. Much discussion followed and many questions were asked about a market for the eggs, cost involved, quality of electrical system, availability of agricultural advice. Mrs Lockwe answered these. A site is available on the mission premises and promised by the Bishop. Teachers are willing to give time to the teaching of crafts and will supply initial materials. Cost to be refunded when project is working. Hospitals in the area buy fowl and eggs from outside and it is hoped to capture this market. Advice is available from the agricultural school. Project would only be dependent on funds for a few years and then will be independent. Treasurer of the diocese to be responsible. Craft work could be carried out as a home industry.

3) From discussion between Mrs Mayes, Ireland, Mrs Williams, Wales and Mrs Ross, Sierra Leone, Miss Eva Hales – A Leadership Training program as an ongoing thing such as the one completed I West Africa. Is it possible to think in terms of providing a trainer to carry out such work as requested by a country? Is it possible to have a follow-up at some stage to the West African project? Problems to be faced would be the work between assignments and a salaried post in home country and the difficulty of moving from one country to another and from one culture to another.

Much discussion took place on the follow-up idea. Liberia and Sierra Leone would like such a follow-up but could see the problems z%%% involved.

The World Chairman felt we were not in a position financially at this time to embark on the kind of training program outlined in the proposal. The Liberian delegate, Mrs Harman, suggested giving the West African countries the next three years to consolidate the training they have had and the proposal for a follow-up could be brought up at the next World Council. All the delegates were very impressed and excited about the West African Project and thought the suggestion of the Liberian delegate was correct.

USA proposed

'the adoption of the Transkei Chicken Farm as the next World Project'.

Guyana seconded this proposal.

CARRIED

It was proposed by Australia, seconded by England.

"that money left over from the West African Project, approx. \$3,000, be put into the account of the Transkei Project for use in purchase of an incubator" CARRIED.

World Fund

Mrs McDonald, Wales, reminded delegates that at last World Council the question of one country holding all World Council monies had been raised. The World Chairman stated she had consulted a banker on this matter. His advice was that at the present time only countries with a stable currency such as a sterling area, the USA, Japan or Germany should be considered. The delegates postponed making a final decision until the next hosting country of World Council was decided.

The proposal was put forward by Wales and seconded by Ireland

"That the World Fund be transferred to the next host country provided that country has a stable currency as outlined above" CARRIED.

Observers now joined the delegates, and the World Chairman reported the above decision.

That GFS worldwide will raise funds for GFS in Transkei to establish a chicken farm and produce eggs. This will provide employment and food. Funds raised thereby to be used to establish a craft industry. Transkei World Project to be one fund. World Council Fund to assist with the running of Council to be a separate fund.

Reports

Copies of reports were printed and distributed to delegates covering GFS work for the past 3 years. Delegates commented on reports as presented.

England, Liberia, USA, Philippines, Sierra Leone, Transkei, Australia, Korea, Guyana, Sri Lanka, Japan, Lesotho, Wales, Ireland.

During the reports many gifts were presented to Mrs Mayes. TV cameras arrived to interview the World Chairman and filmed the presentation of a gift from the Anglican Youth of Lesotho.

Links

Discussion took place as to how effective the links system had been. Some countries found it worked very well, while others had difficulty in establishing worthwhile contact. USA said they would try to establish link with Windward Islands and Newfoundland as well as Gambia and Sierra Leone. Liberia and Australia asked to be linked and Australia also said they would try to forge a greater link with New Zealand. Japan is linked with Transkei and Ireland and there is a language problem. General opinion was that all are in favour of link system and in trying to further the bonds between countries.

Mrs Nixon, England proposed, Miss Pataa, Philippines, seconded

"That with the exception of a change for Liberia, Australia and USA the present overseas links be extended for a further three years". CARRIED.

World Newsletter

The World Chairman reported she was unable to send two newsletters per year for the whole of her term due to a National Postal Strike in the Republic of Ireland which lasted over six months. An appeal was made for correspondents to use the Newsletter to maintain closer contact between countries and also make known National Camps etc., at which visiting GFS members from overseas would be welcome. Appeals for special assistance in the way of craft materials etc., could also be put in the Newsletter.

Following this session Dr Simms gave a wonderful, illustrated lecture on the Book of Kells, an 8th Century Irish illuminated manuscript of the Gospels. This was an awe-inspiring lecture delivered by Dr Simms in his own very personal way.

Wednesday. Theme for the day “The Church in Service”

“Windows on the World”. Mrs Jessie Synnott chaired the “Windows on the World “session. This gave all present the opportunity to see and hear the conditions in which the church is working in all the countries where GFS works as present at Council. It was appropriate that a telegram to the World Chairman was received from the Archbishop of Canterbury just as England finished their presentation.

Resource Workshops – Delegates and observers split up into groups in workshops. Drama, Resource Kits, Dance, Bible Study Methods, Singing Games, Crafts.

Mrs Mayes introduced the leaders of each workshop and explained the aims of the afternoon. Each group to meet for two hours then to join together at 4.30pm to prepare for the Celebration of Holy Communion at 5pm at which our work of the afternoon would be offered up. Dance, a dialogue on the Lord’s Prayer, drama and singing games all became a part of the service. Crafts and resource kits together with the Bread and Wine were presented at the offertory. A real spirit of thanksgiving was present during this service.

Thursday – Theme for the day “The sick and those in need”

Council members departed after breakfast for an all-day tour of Ulster and were greeting by local GFS groups as well as local district councillors in various areas. On return Dr Simms conducted a Quiet Evening and centred around the theme for the day as he calmed and prepared us for the closing days of World Council.

Friday – Theme for the day “Thanksgiving”

The Revd Nobuyaan Sato, Japan, celebrated the early morning service of Holy Communion.

The closing session of the World Council began with the members all singing “This is the day the Lord has made”. Each delegate was presented with a little box of Australian sunshine to make up for the lack of sun all week. However, the warmth of love radiating from all present was so much brighter than any produced by the sun.

Frequency of World Council

With the increasing costs some members wondered if a five-year gap between councils might be advisable. The World Chairman pointed out that most countries work on a three-year election system and also it imposes a rather daunting task on the Chairman if the term be extended. A camp in the interim period was suggested if a five-year term be thought better. However, Mrs Nixon, England, stated that those going to camps and paying their own costs are not necessarily the people chosen as delegates to World Council. Also, the purpose of a Council and the purpose of a camp is rather different. General feeling was to keep to three years as we do need closer contact with each other. The World Chairman then asked if those countries planning camps would advise through the World Newsletter of dates etc. and make clear that visiting members from overseas would be most welcome to attend. Wales told of their plans for a 1981 Provincial Holiday to be attended by GFS members from Ireland. USA and Australia made known their plans for 1983 and 1984 and extended an invitation on the spot.

Location of 11th World Council

The World Chairman said it had been hoped that Guyana would host the 11th World Council in 1984, however the Bishop of Guyana feels that the position there would be too uncertain and has withdrawn the request. He hopes it may be possible to host a later council.

After consultation and careful thought Japan said they would be willing to host the next World Council in 1984 and Mrs Umeyo Iwai said she would be willing to act as World Chairman.

Mrs Nixon, England proposed and Mrs De Silva, Sri Lanka, seconded
"That Japan be the venue for the 1984 World Council" CARRIED.

This was greeted with great applause. Mrs Iwai then welcomed all to come to Japan and thanked council for their support. She asked for their assistance, prayers and understanding regarding the English language. She reminded members she could only do the work with God's help and with member's help and quoted the GFS motto "Bear Ye One Another's Burdens". England and Australia immediately offered assistance with World Newsletter and Mrs Mayes offer to assist with the world Project if this would help Mrs Iwai. The World Chairman expressed her delight that the next World Council would be in Japan where she and her family had spent seven happy years. She knew Mrs Iwai would be an excellent World Chairman. Mrs Simms informed Council that Mrs Tsuji, former Japanese World Chairman would be present at Open Day on Saturday and in Armagh on Sunday for the Commissioning of Mrs Iwai. The World Chairman said with Mrs Tsujio's arrival there would be seven World Chairmen present in Coleraine. All of the eleven members to hold the office are still alive. Those present would-be Mrs Mercy Simms, Ireland 1958-1962; Mrs Emiko Tsuji, Japan 1962-1965; Mrs Jean Cheshire, Australia 1969-1972; Mrs Felicity Mandelberg, England 1972-1975; Mrs Floris Bain 1975-1978; Mrs Elizabeth Mayes, Ireland 1978-1981 and World Chairman Elect, Mrs Umeyo Iwai, Japan, 1981-1984.

Location of 12th World Council

The present Bishop of Guyana has said it is hoped the 1987 World Council can be held there.

Any other business

The World Chairman reminded Council of the plans for Open Day which would be attended by members and their families from all over Ireland. National Banners are to be carried at the Service of Thanksgiving in Armagh at which Mrs Iwai will be commissioned as World Chairman. A delegate from each continent was appointed to read intercessions. Archbishop Armstrong, Primate of All Ireland will commission the World Chairman and will preach. Mrs Mayes thanked Dr Simms for all he had done for Council members during the whole week in his capacity as Chaplain. He also thanked her husband, Michael, for all his support and encouragement and not least for looking after the children so that she could carry out her duties. Dr Simms, in reply, said that the Coleraine World Council had meant a lot to him and that the worship, friendship and manner in which Council was conducted had deeply impressed him. Those present had been a great witness to the outside world. He thanked Beth for piloting the Council so well and he prayed that God would pilot all as they depart from Coleraine. He then extended every good wish to Mrs Iwai.

Yet more presentations were made to the World Chairman. She thanked everyone, particularly her steering committee for their support, help and prayers during her term of office and she thanked especially all those who had travelled to Coleraine.

Mrs Judith May, Mothers Union representative, thanked Mrs ayes for the warmth of her welcome and for the fellowship of a wonderful week. She said that in GFS work she could see it was God first, friends second and Self last. Members spoke of their initial reluctance to travel to Northern Ireland because of all the bad news but they would carry good news away with them.

Mrs Nixon, England, expressed the thanks of all present to Miss Olive Ross for all her work undertaken as World Treasurer.

The World Chairman dismissed the 10th World Council and called on all present to join together in Japan in 1984 under the chairmanship of Mrs Iwai and said
“May the road rise to greet you, May the wind be always at your back, May the sun shine warm upon your face and the rains fall soft upon your fields, and until we meet again may God hold you in the palm of His hand.”

All present joined hands in a circle and sang “Bind us together with love” after which Dr Simms closed the Council with his blessing.

Sgd. Anna Umeyo Iwai
August 22nd, 1984

As World Chairman 1978-81, I would like to record personally the witness of all who came together in love at the New University of Ulster in July 1981. At a time of great unrest and violence in the province, the GFS World Council came together and showed their love for their fellow members in the Body of Christ. They came in faith not knowing what to expect. By their presence we were enriched and greatly encouraged.

Sgd. Elizabeth A E Mayes

GIRLS FRIENDLY SOCIETY WORLD COUNCIL

JAPAN

21/26 AUGUST 1984

Minutes of the meeting of the 11th meeting of the World Council of the Girls' Friendly Society held at Tokyo, Kyosato and Kyoto, Japan from 21 to 26 August 1984.

Theme: “Together in Christ, Sharing Love and Peace”

Tuesday August 21st

The Opening Service of the 11th World Council was held at St Andrew's Pro-Cathedral Church, Tokyo at 10.00am on Tuesday August 21st 1984. The celebrant was the Rt Revd J M Watanabe, Primate of Nippon Sei ko kai, assisted by the Revd M H G Mayes, the Revd B J Imai, The Revd J N Sato and the Revd B Y Maeda. The Rt Revd J J Yamada, Bishop of Tokyo Diocese, and the Rt Revd R S Majiwara, Bishop of Yokohama Dioceses were also in the chancel.

The sermon was delivered by the Rt Revd J N Iida, Bishop of Kyushu. Through his experiences of the Hiroshima bombing, he stressed our Christian duty and efforts to build world peace.

Lunch was held at St Andrew's Hall. Chairman of Tokyo Diocesan Church Women welcomed the delegates and observers to World Council.

The participants then went to Kiyosato KEEP, in the mountains north west of Tokyo, by bus. The staff of KEEP provided a dinner party in the evening and greeted us with heartfelt welcome. Miss M Hara, Vice-President of Japan, introduced those who had previously held the office of World Chairman, Mrs Emiko Tsuji, Mrs Floris Bain, and Mrs Elizabeth Mayes and the delegates of the fourteen countries present. The day finished with Compline, which took the form of a short documentary movie about the atomic bombing of Hiroshima followed by a talk and prayer by the Revd S H Sekimoto.

NB – KEEP: Kiyosato Educational Experiment Project, established by Dr Paul Rusch, an American missionary teacher in the 1930's.

Each morning at Kiyosato KEEP except Friday August 24th began with a Meditation led by the Rt Revd J M Watanabe, Bishop of Hokaido and Primate of Japan. During these meditations, Bishop Watanabe shared his wartime and post-wartime experiences in a frank and edifying way. This meditation was followed by a service of Holy Communion, and then breakfast in the Dining Hall.

Wednesday August 22nd.

SESSION 1

Present: All participants

1) Call to order (Chairman)

2) Chairman's Message

The Chairman welcomed all the participants and requested everyone to work together under His guidance to dedicate the whole Council to the future development of Girls' Friendly Society worldwide.

3) Introduction of Staff

The Chairman, Mrs Umeyo Iwai, introduced the council staff.

Chairman	Mrs Umeyo Iwai, Japan
Vice-Chairman	Mrs Beth Mayes, Ireland
Secretary	Mrs Mari Yamamoto, Japan
	Mrs Asako Chibana, Japan
Assistant Secretaries	Mrs Michiko Ito, Japan

Miss Roslyn Williams, Japan
World Treasurer Miss Mineko Hara, Japan
Assistant Treasurer Mrs Atsuko Murayama, Japan

The Chairman then requested the Secretary to introduce the Delegates.

Australia:	Mrs Evelyn Beckenham, Miss Deidree Nixon
England:	Mrs Jean Riggs, Miss Stephanie Green
Guyana:	Miss I Chase
Ireland:	Mrs Mary Hinchliff, Miss Patricia Mathews
Japan	Miss Mineko Hara, Miss Michiko Naide
Korea:	Mrs Helen Seung Ah Park, Mrs Ruth Yang Soon Choi
Lesotho	Miss E Maleku
New Zealand	Mrs Jill Baker
Philippines:	Mrs Adeline D Lubguban, Miss Esperanza L Beleo
Sierra Leone:	Miss Alice-Maude Newstead, Miss Deidre Taylor
Sri Lanka:	Miss Anne Rita Perera Kalpage
Transkei:	Mrs Koleka Guma
USA:	Mrs Martha Killefer, Miss Kathryn Brady
Wales:	Mrs Dilys Fowler, Miss Kim Gilbert

4) Minutes of last World Council

These had already been circulated. There was an amendment to be made re the Treasurer's Report, on page two of the Minutes. The sentence beginning "Following the 1975-78 World Council period there remained \$389.04, and this was handed over to Ireland at the beginning of the present three-year period" was a mistake. It referred to the previous World Council. The Vice-Chairman asked for permission to delete that sentence, which was granted. There were no further amendments, so the Chairman signed the Minute Book.

5) Treasurer's Report, Ireland (1978-1981)

This was read out and explained by Miss Olive Ross, the former World Treasurer. It was accepted by the delegates.

6) World Chairman's Report (1981-1984)

This was read out by Mrs Umeyo Iwai (Japan), the current World Chairman.

To him who by means of his power working in us is able to do so much more than we can ever ask for, or even think of; to God be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus for all time, forever and ever! Amen (Ephesians 3:20.21)

To me, the period of the past three years, 1981-1984, is the most substantial one I have ever had. GFS has occupied so much my mind that, according to my sister, I have scarcely uttered a word without referring to the World Council recently. As you see, we have had to overcome many difficulties so far. We feel it is by your prayerful support that we have the greatest day with you all at this moment. We thank you very much. Here let me make a brief report about what we have done over these years.

1 After we returned home from the Irish Council, we immediately began to discuss how to raise the necessary funds. We made the plan of 3-year length and put it into practice in the end of 1981. It was also vital to start and grow up the movement within the National GFS towards the success of the Council in 1984. We also tried to

find opportunities to have the people of our Church know what we are doing for the Council.

- 2 On the other hand, we have made efforts to keep the correspondence between the member countries by exchanging letters and circulating World Newsletters and the orders of the World Prayer Day Service. Here, I apologise for not answering well the queries or the requests in the right time. Possibly I have made you nervous for waiting the answer in vain. Thank you for your generosity and warm thoughts upon us.
- 3 To promote our World Project, the Chicken Rearing of Transkei GFS, has been another matter of our serious concern. WE thank you, Mrs Elizabeth Nixon, England and Mrs Beth Mayes, our Vice-Chairman, for giving us timely and helpful suggestions. Japan is a partner with Transkei, but we were lacking the firsthand knowledge of our neighbours. Then the two of our executive members, Miss M Hara and Mrs A Murayama offered to visit Transkei and Lesotho during their summer vacation, 1982. I requested Mrs Nixon to send somebody to work together with them in Transkei. Miss Pamela Palmer kindly offered to come, but this was not realised because her relative's illness. They met Mrs N Lochwe, the former GRS Organiser, leaders, members, and many of the people of St John's Diocese, Umtata. They could visit Bp and Mrs Godfrey and talked with them about the Project, too. They also visited Miss Elizabeth Moleko and Bishop's wife in Maseru, Lesotho. Their experiences have benefited us a great deal. The following year, 1983, we were informed that Bp Godfrey had an idea to introduce a new scheme with the help of the ACAT (The African Cooperative Action Trust). Almost the same time Mrs Lockwe had to resign for the personal cause. We were discouraged and worried. I requested the Bishop to appoint a new organiser as soon as possible to proceed the Project forward. In February 1984, finally received a most welcome letter from Miss Kolika Guma, in which she introduced herself, saying "After four years, the Lord has called me back to do ministry of working amongst the girls again". Bop Godfrey wrote to me with his approval of her attendance at the Council as delegate and reporter of the Project. We thanked God.
- 4 The choice of the theme for the Council was another problem, because the theme should involve the program itself, what program should we share with the worldwide friends except for the sessions proper to the Council? It took us a half year before we chose the following two subjects: "Christianity and the Japanese Culture" and "What we can do for peace". The former will show you why and how Christianity introduced in Japan was oppressed by the feudal governments and that it has been forced to modify itself under the influences of traditional religions, Shintoism, and Buddhism. The letter would make us aware of the fatal damage caused by nuclear weapons which will affect generation to generation. To keep the earth as it is, how should we live and what could we do as peacemakers? We are responsible for younger generations. Thus, we chose the theme: "Together in Christ. – sharing love and peace". WE humbly wish these programs might be worth receiving your candid opinions.
- 5 I deeply appreciate your kind offer to help us in some of our programs.
 - a. Australia would prepare for lots of fun at campfire on the 23rd evening.
 - b. Ireland would do workshops on the 24th morning.
 - c. USA would produce the evening of farewell Kiyosato.
- 6 We also thank you for your cooperation in sending us suggestions to Agenda and Project. Some of them may call for hot discussion among the delegates. Regarding a next host country, the Australian offer should be meaningful and appreciated to enable smaller countries to host the Council in 1987. I also appreciate Wales's offer

to host it by themselves. I pray that these will be fruitful decisions made for the future growth of the Girls' Friendly Society as well as for the Glory of God. May God bless and help us, and His will be done through the Council in Japan.

7) **Treasurer's Report (Japan) 1981-84**

As the current Treasurer, Miss Mineko Hara, was also the Senior Delegate for Japan, the Report was read out by the Assistant Treasurer, Mrs Atsuko Murayama. It was an interim report, a final report will be given at the next Council. The currency used was yen. Regarding contributions to the World Fun, which are voluntary, only the names of the contributing countries were mentioned, not the amounts of their contribution. Only the total was given.

Sierra Leone had sent money without specifying its purpose, so that contribution did not appear on the report.

Sri Lanka had contributed money for the World Project, but the report was compiled before the money arrived.

Wales moved *"That this report be accepted"*.

This motion was seconded by Australian and CARRIED.

8) **Greetings to Council**

Greetings were received from: Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother; Archbishop of Canterbury; Archbishop Grindrod, Primate of the Anglican Church of Australia; Bishop Allin, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church of USA; Bishop Kim of Seoul, Chairman of the Anglican Church Korea; Bishop Mokuku of Lesotho; Archbishop Penman of Melbourne; Archbishop Robinson of Sydney; Bishop Rusach of Los Angeles; Bishop Coburn of Massachusetts; Bishop Ogilby of Pennsylvania; The Revd and Mrs W J D Stockdale, Australia's Chaplain, Diocese of Ballarat, Australia; Mrs K Bright-Parker OBE, World Chairman 1957-1959; Frank and Jean Cheshire, World Chairman 1969-1972; Mrs Gladys Beams, Chairman of Ballarat Diocese; Ms Gwen Hilton, Victoria, Australia; Miss Irma A Norris, St Vincent; Mrs Mary Marshall, Barbados; GFS President of Sierra Leone; GFS of Gippsland, Australia; GFS of St Philip's, Mt Waverley, Melbourne; GFS President of Sri Lanka; Sister Michaela (Mrs M Davis) England; Mrs J R Berry and Scottish GFS; Ms Eva Wright; All GFS Victoria, Australia; GFS Western Australia; GFS Barbados; GFS Guyana; GFS Ireland; GFS Korea; GFS New Zealand; GFS Philippines; GFS Wales, GFS of St Mary de Lode and St Nicholas, Gloucester, England.

The Chairman expressed gratitude for all these warm, loving, impressive greetings and asked the Delegates to take back to their own countries the Councils' gratitude.

9) **Apologies for Absence**

The Chairman informed the Council that apologies had been received from Barbados and Scotland. No news from Liberia since the time of registration. Nothing from Gambia since the last World Council. So far Newfoundland letters sent there had been returned. The Council was then informed that there is no GFS in Newfoundland.

10) **Report on World Transkei Project (1981-1984)**

This was given by the Transkei Delegate, Miss Koleka Guma. She commented on the report she had submitted, of which the Delegates had copies. The report was illustrated by slides of Transkei.

The Chairman said that there would be half an hour for questions and answers about this project before the reading of the national reports.

This concluded the morning session.

1) **Questions and Answers about the Transkei Project**

Miss Gum told the Council that she wished to move the project from the city of Umtata, where the Government will not allow any more poultry centres, to Butterworth, about 129 kilometres away and in a rural area. She wished to build a poultry farming centre at Butterworth, including a hatchery. This would avoid the problem of obtaining day-old chicks from the Republic of South Africa. The chicks currently take three days in transit, so by the time they arrive they are no longer one day old, and some of them are dead. Miss Guma asked the World Council to direct her to move the project.

This request of Mrs Guma's gave rise to considerable discussion since the delegates were not sure whether such a direction from the Council was either necessary or proper. Mrs Guma felt that as GFS England contributed towards her salary, she should refer everything she did back to GFS for approval. (She and other delegates had experienced that when organisations in other countries sent money, they generally wanted a minute account of how it was being spent) GFS England disclaimed any right to direct Mrs Guma's work. GFS England contributed money to Mrs Guma's dioceses, which has chosen to use that money for Mrs Guma's salary (The project is under the diocese).

The Vice Chairman felt that it was not for the GFS to tell the dioceses to move the project. If the Bishop wanted to do so, he could consult the World Chairman about it. Australia asked whether moving the project would also mean moving the first order of chickens. The answer was no, since these chickens had already gone out to the parishes.

Australia asked whether there was enough money in the World Project Fund to subsidise the buildings Mrs Guma wanted to construct in Butterworth. After some discussion, completed by the recent depreciation of the rand vis-à-vis the US \$ it seemed that the \$US8500 raised would cover a building with simple equipment.

NB The heading "Building Materials" in the budget received by the delegates was the amount loaned to the parishes to build chicken runs. It has nothing to do with the building Mrs Guma wished to construct in Butterworth.

Australia then moved

"That a sub-committee be formed to look into the situation".

This was seconded by Lesotho, voted on and passed.

CARRIED.

The Chairman asked one delegate each from Australia, England, the Philippines, Japan and Transkei to form the sub-committee. The Question-and-Answer session was then closed, and the Council moved on to the National Activities Reports.

2) **National Activities Reports**

These were presented in alphabetical order of countries. The Reports from England the United States were illustrated with slides, as was the Report from Korea. Each country showed us its unique features of their activities so that we could learn something new and be encouraged by one another.

The Chairman thanked all the member countries very much for their reports and their hard work. She said that each country was working very hard to meet the needs of a changing society and that GFS worldwide hoped to continue to do so, serving God and society.

The day ended with Compline, led by Father Sekimoto.

Thursday August 23

This was "Enjoy Kiyosato Day" Participants could enjoy a bus tour of the vicinity, hiking, walking, riding or just loafing and resting. A picnic lunch was provided. Everyone seemed to enjoy their chosen activities very much.

After the coffee and tea break at 3pm, National Displays were presented in St Andrew's Hall. Photographs, posters, and handmade crafts etc., were displayed on the walls of the corridors and the hall.

The evening meal took the form of an outdoor barbeque, with both Western and Japanese style food available. This was followed by a Camp Fire, organised by GFS Australia. Again, a great time was had by all, with country dancing and traditional Australian songs, on the agenda.

The evening closed with Compline, in the form of a prayer led by Bishop Waternabe.

Friday August 24

The day began with Morning Prayer which took the form of short Scripture readings followed by a pause during which anyone was free to speak or pray, if so inclined.

Session Three

Breakfast was followed by a business session for the delegates and workshops organised by GFS Ireland for the other participants.

Workshops

Ireland GFS had prepared three different workshops. Drama (Good Samaritan in pantomime), Physical Activities (dances and games) and Craft (soft toys and math-box cottages). These were given at the same time in different rooms so that each participant might take one after another during the allotted time. Japanese GFS also contributed in craft through origami and calligraphy. Many thanks to the Irish leaders!

Business Sessions:

Present: Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Delegates, Staff.

The Vice-Chairman opened the meeting with prayer in Japanese and in English, followed by national GFS Prayers spoken out loud together.

The Chairman then began the business of the meeting.

1) Report from the Sub-committee about the Transkei Project.

This report was read by the Vice-Chairman. The Sub-committee recommended that Mrs Guma put her building plan into action so that the project might be completed and become self-supporting. There is sufficient money in the World Project Fund to complete this project. \New Zealand moved

"That the Sub-Committee's recommendation be endorsed by the World Council."

The Philippines seconded the motion which was passed. CARRIED.

2) World Council Agenda Suggestions

(a) Suggestion No 1 – Ireland

"Instead of the World Chairman having to administer a World Project during her busy three years of office, would it not be more practical for her to look after the World Project in the following three years, when she would have come to know the worldwide GFS Presidents and countries, but would be free of World Council business?"

There was some discussion about the practical outworking of this suggestion. It was felt that the idea was good, but that the current World Chairman, Mrs Iwai, having already prepared a World Council and administered the Transkei Project during her term as World Chairman (1981-1984), should not have to administer another World Project. GFS England offered to administer the next World Project in her stead should the suggestion be passed.

GFS Ireland then offered to reword the suggestion, thus:

“That the World Chairman looks after the World Council and the Vice Chairman looks after the World Project (except during the 1984-1987 period)”

NB The World Chairman automatically becomes Vice-Chairman for the three years period following her three years as World Chairman.

The USA moved

“That this suggestion be passed.”

The motion was seconded by Wales and passed. CARRIED.

(b) Suggestion No 2 Ireland.

“Due to rising costs, we must face the possibility that it may not be possible to continue holding a World Council every three years. Instead, would it be possible for the World Chairman to travel, using the World Fund Money? This would mean that those countries who cannot afford to send delegates to the World Council could be much more in touch with Worldwide GFS through the Chairman.”

There was much discussion about this. Many delegates felt that it was very important that GFS leaders worldwide should meet together in one place every three years. The idea of the World Chairman travelling instead of holding a World Council was rejected. The priority for the World Fund was seen to be enabling delegates from as many countries as possible to come together for the World Council every three years.

However, between Councils, if there was enough money in the World Fund, to allow it, the World Chairman might visit just one or two countries who couldn't afford to send delegates to the Council.

This would necessitate increased contributions from member countries to the World Fund. The Delegates were asked to take this idea back to their own countries and discuss the feasibility of raising more money for the World Fund. They should then report their countries' feelings back to the World Chairman.

(c) Suggestion No 3 – Lesotho

“Involvement in and the promotion of activities which further ecumenism and organic unity of the Church.”

There was much discussion about this. It was felt that it was a good principle. For example, it would be good for GFS to work together with other Christian organisations, Anglican or otherwise, to accomplish certain things. However, the situation and the opportunities for doing this vary greatly from country to country.

Finally, the Chairman requested the delegates to take this suggestion back to their own countries, discuss it and, if possible, act on it there. Perhaps member countries could exchange leaders or materials with other denominations or organisations. If good results come of their efforts, member countries should exchange news of what they are doing in this respect through the World Newsletter (There was no formal motion)

NB During this discussion, the Philippine delegates appealed for ideas on reactivating GFS in their country. In answer to this, the Korean delegates shared their own experiences and the benefit they had received from the help and support of their link countries. It became clear that the link between GFS member countries is vitally important and that all of us can and must help one another.

(d) Suggestion No 4, Japan

“Should the theme of each World Council be reflected to some extent in the GFS activities in each member country until the following council theme is chosen?”

The delegate from Japan stated that as the council theme “Together in Christ, Sharing Love and Peace” had begun only at the council itself, GFS Japan would like to continue with it, at least for a year. Some other countries answered that they had begun to use the theme before the Council. England stated that all the participants had been so deeply impressed with the theme through the council program that it would be with

them for the rest of their lives and inevitably be continued. GFS Japan was satisfied with this. No formal motion was passed.

This concluded the Agenda Suggestions.

3) **Suggestions for the next GFS World Project**

(a) **Project Suggestion No 1 – from Lesotho**

“Would it be possible to establish a GFS Coordinating Office in Africa? What would be the best location? What problems would need to be overcome? What would be the best way of accomplishing this?”

The reason for this suggestion was that although Africa has so many countries with Anglican Church, only four or five of these are GFS member countries. If Africa has a GFS Continental Office, the office can contact the Anglican Church in various countries to get GFS well known. Perhaps African GFS member countries could even have continental meetings and form projects to make themselves more self-sufficient.

During discussion, it became clear that Lesotho meant to appoint a person rather than build an office. Her work would be carried out mainly by correspondence, with an Annual General meeting in each Anglican Province. Thus, people in other dioceses could be contacted the delegate from Lesotho had received letters asking her to help people in other provinces, but this was difficult when there was no GFS in their country. However, if April had a GFS Coordinator, she could go out of her way to explain GFS to them. The Delegate from Transkei said that a GFS African Coordinator could do good work in the Republic of South Africa, too. Such activity would give the lie to expatriates’ opinion that GFS is a dying society.

(b) **Project Suggestion No 2 from Ireland.**

“The Leprosy Mission run the Jesus Clinic at Dugu *Gargu) in South Korea and they would be very grateful if GFS worldwide would take over part of the cost of running it”. This is a new Leprosy Mission Medical Complex and includes consistent spiritual outreach. National Christians serve 20 inpatients, 1,557 outpatients and operate 10 clinics. (The Leprosy Mission prides itself on being an ecumenical organisation)

Since the suggestion was first made that GFS should slot in with other organisations to carry out certain projects, GFS Ireland had written to various societies. The Leprosy Mission suggested that GFS do something specific, such as building a new room or contributing necessary equipment to the operating room.

However, Korea pointed out that the Jesus Clinic was already receiving financial help from the Catholic Church in Korea, and so did not need help from GFS. Moreover, the Anglican Church in Korea is also running a leprosy clinic. It would seem strange for GFS, an Anglican Society, to help the Leprosy Mission clinic and not the Anglican-run clinic, especially since the Leprosy Mission clinic is already receiving help from another source. The nature of GFS’s possible contribution to the Jesus Clinic (building, equipment, etc) would be decided when and if this Project suggestion was adopted by the World Council.

(c) **Project Suggestion No 3 – from England.**

“To strengthen and help revive GFS in the Caribbean area, in particular in the islands of St Vincent and Granada. GFS work in Jamaica is now carried out under other names (as it is in Lesotho), but useful work could be carried out there too”/

The project suggestion was prompted by the success of the project in West Africa. What is wanted in many countries is expertise, and this Project suggestion aimed to provide that. At present, GFS is not strong in the Caribbean. This project suggestion would enable all GFS member countries to unite in giving, none being recipients. However, GFS England would not object to carrying out this suggestion in another part of the world, if the Council so wished.

Consultations with the Anglican Church in the Caribbean had not gone too far, in order to avoid raising false hopes. However, it seemed that this project would be acceptable to the dioceses concerned. No specific individual had been found as yet to undertake the work, but England felt that a trained teacher would be idea.

The meeting then moved to a vote by secret ballot to choose the next World Project. There were 14 countries represented, each having one vote. The results were as follows:

Project Suggestion No 1 from Lesotho	1
Project Suggestion No 2 from Ireland	1
Project Suggestion No 3 from England	12

So, project suggestion No 3 from England became the GFS World Project for 1984-1989: To strengthen and help revive GFS in the Caribbean area”.

4) **Host Country for next World Country (1987)**

GFS Australia had offered to assist financially any small country that might wish to host the next Council. If no offers were forthcoming, Australia would offer to host the Council itself. Offers had been received from Wales (June 10, 1984), Sierra Leone (June 12th), Guyana (July 2nd) and Lesotho (August 5th). The last three would gratefully accept Australia’s offer of assistance.

The Chairman informed the Council that Guyana’s offer had been withdrawn and that Lesotho, not being a regular GFS member country, was not eligible to host the Council. However, if Lesotho became a regular member country, there would be no objection to its hosting the Council.

Sierra Leone enquired how much help Australia would be able to provide. The answer was a minimum of \$AUD4000 plus any additional amounts that could be raised.

Since the offer from Wales had been received first, the Chairman invited Wales to speak. The Senior Delegate from Wales gave an effective “advertisement” for Wales as the next host country, with help from England (GFS Wales and GFS England work very closely together).

Sierra Leone then stated its willingness to host the next World Council. However, the delegate gave the meeting to understand Sierra Leone would really prefer to let Wales host the 1987 Council. This would give the Sierra Leone GFS President who was unable to come to Japan for the 1984 Council, a chance to attend a World Council in another country before hosting one in her own country, hopefully in 1990.

The USA then moved

That the Council accept Wales’s kind offer to host the 1987 World Council”.

This was seconded by Australia and passed CARRIED.

The World Chairman and Vice-Chairman then expressed the hope that the 1990 World Council could take place in Sierra Leone, with Australia’s assurance of financial support. Mrs Dilys Fowler, the Senior Delegate from Wales, expressed pride and delight that Wales had been chosen to host the next World Council.

This concluded the business session. However, GFS England proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs Iwai and the Japanese staff from the delegates only. This was given in the form of a standing ovation.

After this, the other participants, having thoroughly enjoyed the workshops organised by GFS Ireland, joined the delegates and were informed of the outcome of the business session, viz

- (1) Transkei Project. The sub-committee had recommended that Mrs Guma put her building plan into action so that the Project might become self-supporting. This was endorsed by the Council.
- (2) Of the four Agenda suggestions, only No 1 had been formally passed, namely that in future the World Project would be administered by the World Vice-chairman, not the World Chairman. The World Chairman's responsibility would be the World Council. However, since Mrs Iwai had administered both the World Council and the Transkei Project during her three years as World Chairman, GFS England had offered to administer the next World Project (1984-1987). The other agenda suggestions were to be taken back to the member countries and discussed there.
- (3) The next World Project (1984-1987) would be to strengthen and revive GFS in the Caribbean area. Each delegation had received details of the proposed scheme.
- (4) The next World Council (1987) would be held in Wales. The following World Council (1990) would hopefully be in Sierra Leone, with financial assistance from Australia.

The Chairman then read out greetings received from GFS Barbados. Mrs Dilys Fowler, the Wales Senior Delegate, then proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs Iwai, the World Chairman and Mrs Mayes, the Vice-Chairman, from all participants.

Finally, the decisions made by the Council were explained in Japanese for the benefit of the Japanese participants.

This concluded the business part of the World Council.

The afternoon began with Lecture No 2 – What Can we do for Peace delivered by Mrs Ayako Sukiya, Chairman of Tokyo YWCA and former Chairman of YWCA in Japan. Her talk was illustrated with pictures of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. She said Peace is not something that already exists but something we have to create by our efforts in Jesus taught us. At present the nuclear weapons have proliferated too much for men to control. She appealed to us to have exact knowledge about nuclear weapons and to find the way towards peace, not by means of fighting but by Christian love.

Evening Eucharist (Dedication of Selves)

Dinner Party (Sayonara Kiyosato)

Everybody enjoyed Christian fellowship as well as appreciating the wonderful hospitality of KEEP.

Mrs Opanoto, President of NSKK Church women sent greetings to us all. She had been with us since the Opening Service in Tokyo. She was greatly touched by our sincere commitment to the ministry to girls and found it important to work together with us.

Saturday August 25th

The Closing Service of the 11th World Council, including the commissioning of the new World Chairman, Mrs Dilys Fowler was held at St Agnes's Pro Cathedral of Kyoto Dioceses at 10.30am. The Celebrant was the Rt Revd S J Yagi of Kyoto Diocese, assisted by the Revd M H G Mayes, the Revd S H Sekimoto, The Rev J N Sato, the Rev J Y Bunya, and the Rev Y Sako. The Rt Revd C I Kokawada, Bishop of Osaka Diocese and the Rt Revd J N Iida were also in the chancel. The Commissioning only was celebrated by the Rt Revd J M Watanabe, Primate of Japan, who gave us the sermon, saying that to live by the theme of the Council – Together in Christ – sharing love and peace – is in other words to practise the GFS motto "Bear One Another's burdens" in our lives. There may be certain burdens we have to bear by ourselves. Those are the burdens that our Lord Jesus only would be willing to share with us if we would ask him to. Wherever we may live separately from one another, let's be steady in belief in Jesus Christ, working together for the glory of His Kingdom on this earth. Mrs Iwai, the passing chairman, dismissed the Council right after the final blessing when everyone spontaneously joined hands and burst out singing "WE Shall Overcome" in the hope of meeting again.

The World Council ended with a Farewell Luncheon at Palace side Hotel.

Mrs D Fowler, the new chairman, extended a cordial invitation to us all to attend the 12th Council – 1987 – in Wales. Mrs Iwai expressed her hearty gratitude to everyone for their support during the past three years of her office and their cooperation in the World Council. In particular she appreciated the spiritual guidance of the clergymen, especially of Bishop Watanabe, the busiest person of NSKK.

Sign (Dilys Flower, 27.7.1987)

Because of the language difficulty on Japanese side, we owed a great deal to the generosity of the overseas participants. These must have been some sorts of inconveniences they had to bear in their daily life. Honestly, I, as Chairman, could not have got through the Business Session without the most adequate and timely help of Mrs Beth Mayes, Vice-Chairman, and the warmest concern of the overseas delegates. Finally, I would like to say many thanks to the fellow leaders who had worked so hard to carry out the council.

Anna Umeyo Iwai.

GIRLS FRIENDLY SOCIETY WORLD COUNCIL

WALES

25 JULY to 5 AUGUST, 1987

Minutes of the meeting of the 12th meeting of the World Council of the Girls' Friendly Society held at Swansea and Bangor, Wales from 25 July to 5 August, 1987

Theme: "GFS in Harmony"

Saturday 25 July was arrival day for the delegates and observers. In the evening a Sherry Party was held at which a warm welcome to all was extended by the Registrar of the University College of Swansea.

Dinner followed at which the World Chairman, Mrs Dilys Fowler, welcomed everyone. The Lord Mayor of Swansea welcomed the delegates and observers to Swansea, which was proud of the opportunity to host the Council. He and the Lady Mayoress would be present at the Opening Service the following day and they were pleased to extend a welcome at the official reception afterwards. The Lord Bishop of Swansea and Brecon, the Right Revd B N Y Vaughan, also welcomed everyone to the World Council. He was sure that we would have a successful Conference and that we would be meeting the following day to ask for God's blessing upon it. Mrs Iwai, who was Chairman in Japan three years earlier, said of how pleased she was to be with us and extended hearty congratulations to the World Chairman and her team who had worked so hard preparing for the Conference. Mrs Fowler thanked Mrs Iwai and all the speakers for their kind words.

At Compline, the Right Reverend A R Jones, Bishop of St Asaph, reminded us that the Office of Compline had been in existence for several centuries. "It is a service" he said, "to complete the day's work and would be said daily throughout the Conference to complete each day's work of the World Council".

Sunday 26th July commenced with Holy Communion, Welsh Rite, celebrated by the Bishop of St

Asaph who spoke of the Gospels being a collection of truths and "GFS in Harmony" being Unity Fellowship and Peace. It was necessary to have good relations with God and with each other, but peace starts within ourselves. Peace is what Wales wanted for the World.

At .9.30am some members saw themselves on a BBC Wales television program called "This is the Day". After lunch we proceeded to the Collegiate and Parish Church of St Mary Swansea, for the Opening Service at 3pm. Here we were welcomed by the Reverend Canon D E Lewis, Rural Dean of Swansea and Vicar of St Mary's. The introduction to the service was made by Mrs Fowler. A greeting was received from the Queen Mother and was read out by Mrs Fowler.

Participating clergy were the Right Reverend A R Jones, (Bishop of St Asaph), the Reverend Canon D E Lewis (Rural Dean and Vicar of St Mary's), the Reverend Clive Southerton (Provincial GFS Chaplain), and the Reverend Peter Jackson (Swansea and Brecon Diocesan GFS Chaplain).

Other clergy present included the Bishop of Llandaff (the Right Reverend R T Davies), the Archdeacon of Brecon, (the Venerable Wynford Rees), the Archdeacon of Gower, (the Venerable O W Jones), Canon A G Mowells ((Canon Missioner), Chaplains of the College of St Mary and the Reverend D J Wilkinson.

Civic Dignitaries present included the Lord Mayer and Lady Mayoress of Swansea and the Chairman of West Glamorgan County Council, County Councillor Mr Cox and Mrs Cox.

The sermon was given by the Bishop of Swansea and Brecon, the Right Reverend B N Y Vaughan, who took the theme "Harmony".

After a most impressive service, we proceeded to the Official Reception given by Swansea City Council at the Swansea Guild Hall.

Monday 27th July. Holy Communion was celebrated by the Revd Barnabas Maeda of Japan, who used the Japanese Rite. His meditation was on "Friends".

World Council Sessions 1a,1b,and 2: In her speech of welcome, Mrs Fowler drew attention to: The lovely banners surrounding the Hall, all of which had been made by members of one Swansea Branch.

The floral arrangements attended to by members of another Swansea Branch.

And thanked them both for preparing the Hall for our use.

The lovely Altar Frontal made by an Art Design Teacher in Brecon.

The Candlesticks and Communion Vessels made in pottery especially for this World Council.

The second set of Communion Vessels, borrowed from England and also in pottery, were brought back from Taize for use by GFS England.

And finally, the Information and Daily Services Booklet – the laborious task of assembly and typing of which had been undertaken by the Revd Peter Jackson and Mr Peter Fowler.

She then introduced officially:

The Vice-Chairman Mrs Iwai from Japan, who really needed no introduction.

The Secretary Mrs Ann Jackson, who with her husband, the Revd Peter Jackson, had done such sterling work for this World Council. Mrs Fowler would never ever be able to say enough thanks to both of them.

Minute Secretary Mrs Rona Boyd, who had volunteered to do this work.

The two Treasurers were both very experienced gentlemen, Mr Adrian Parker would be attending tomorrow and Dr John Perkins we would be meeting at Bangor.

Later in the day we would be joined by Mrs Jill Baker and her husband from New Zealand.

The Revd Mary Vickers, Industrial Chaplain from England, would also be attending later in the day.

All the Welsh Diocesan GFS Chaplains would be attending daily.

The Delegates were then introduced.

Australia	Miss Patricia Byron	
	Miss Sonia Roulston	Junior Delegate
Barbados	Mrs Audrey Moore	
England	Mrs Jean Riggs	
	Miss Anne-Marie Rose,	Junior Delegate
Guyana	Miss Irma Chase	
	Miss Ava Mernerding	Junior Delegate
Ireland	Mrs Mary Hinchliff	
	Miss Lorna Beattie	Junior Delegate
Japan	Miss Agnes Hara	

	Margaret Hayami	Junior Delegate
Kenya	Miss Emily Siaga	
Korea	Miss Pauline Soon Hie Yoon	
	Miss Monica Hwa Young Kim	Junior Delegate
Lesotho	Miss Alice Mafereka	
Nigeria	Mrs Cardine Anyanwu	
	Miss Chidirma Uzoekwa	Junior Delegate
Philippines	Rosalinda Yujchengkang	
	Dr Kate Botengan	Junior Delegate
Sierra Leone	Mrs Subuola Thompson	
	Yvette Harding	Junior Delegate
Sri Lanka	Mrs Jean Withanage	
Transkei	Mrs Nobanto Makunga	
USA	Ms Patricia Henderson	
	Miss Carol Coles	Junior Delegate
Wales	Mrs Christine White	
	Miss Kathryn Southerton	Junior Delegate

Greetings to the Council were received from:

Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother; The Archbishop of Canterbury, The Archbishop of Brisbane, Australia; The Archbishop of Armagh, Ireland; The Archbishop of Dublin, Ireland; Bishop Thompson, Freetown, Sierra Leone; The Primate of NSKK, Tokyo, Japan; The Suffragan Bishop of Los Angeles, USA; The Bishop of Pennsylvania, USA; The Bishop of Massachusetts, USA; The President Bishop of New York, USA; The Bishop of Guyana; The Bishop of Jarrow, England; The Bishop of Liverpool, England; The Bishop of Lesotho; The Bishop of Seoul and Chairman of the Anglican Church in Korea; The Bishop of Guilford, England; The Bishop of Western Massachusetts, USA; The Bishop of London, England; The Bishop of Coventry, England; The Bishop of Nigeria and his wife; the Bishop of the Philippines; Bishop Tutu of South Africa; The President of the Transkei; Michaels CSU; The Rector of Emmanuel Church, Philadelphia, USA; The Rector of St James' Church, Perciomen, PA, USA; The Priest in Charge of All Saints Church, Findon Valley, SA; The Anglican Youth Movements, Grenada; The Mothers Union, Llandaff, Wales; Kay Warrington, Wales, Cicely Childs, Wales; The President and members of the Mothers Union, Monmouth, Wales; The Centre Vice-President of the Mothers Union, Wales; Beth Mayes, Ireland; Betty Truman, England; Jean Cheshire, World Chairman 1969—72, Australia; Lulu Dumezwini, Transkei; National 15-30s Chairman, England; GFS Llanidloes, Wales; Kathleen Bright- Parker OBE, Australia; The Mayer of Springfield, Massachusetts, USA; Lena Franklin, Hove, England; The Diocesan Youth Advisor, Maseno West, Kenya; GFS New Zealand; The Diocesan Chairman Elect, GFS Sydney Australia; Frank and Jean Cheshire, Melbourne, Australia; The May of North Warwickshire Borough Council, England; The May of Worcester, England; GFS Korea, GFS Liverpool, England; Merle Davies, Australia.

Minutes

Minutes of the last World Council in Japan in 1984. Mrs Iwai advised that these had been sent out last December but only Australia had replied. She requested that the name of Kathleen Bright-

Parker, OBE., Australia, should be added to the list of greetings on line 3 of page 6 of the Minutes – this request was granted.

England moved, seconded by Ireland,

“That the Minutes, so amended, be approved” and the Chairman signed the Minuter Book. There were no matters arising from the minutes.

Reports: The World Chairman, Mrs Dilys Fowler, gave her report for the last three years.

The last three years have been the busiest but the most rewarding time I have ever had. On our return from Japan in September 1984, the members of GFS in Wales were very thrilled that the net World Council was to be held here but, at the same time, very conscious of the enormous task before us. We all felt that by our own efforts and prayers and support of our members and friends around the world, we would be able to face this undertaking and prove worthy of the great trust which had been placed in us.

We set to work in the autumn of 1984 and formed a small group, representative of all parts of Wales, and began to make plans. This planning committee has worked hard; each member undertaking a specific task, everything being coordinated by our Secretary, Mrs Ann Jackson.

Our first thoughts about our theme were – after *“Together in Christ, sharing love and peace”* in Japan, we felt that 1987 in the Land of Song could have no better thought running through it than *“GFS in Harmony”*. Harmony in our meeting together and plenty of harmony music wise!

Secondly, I have tried to maintain the links between the member countries through the newsletter, which have been produced twice each year. Thank you all for your items of news; I know that sharing your experiences and activities means a great deal to our fellow members.

With regard to the World Day of Prayer – St Michael’s Day, 29 September – for our three years, we felt that Faith, Hope and Love seemed suitable thoughts on which to build our services. I am grateful to our Chaplains for producing the forms of service.

One important aspect which we had to give consideration when planning this Council was finance. We thought of many ways to raise the necessary money to fund our preparations, postage, entertainments, etc. Eventually we arrived at the following methods:

- a) A talent scheme for our own branches and members.
- b) Appeals to various trusts, the Mothers Union, the Church in Wales and the six Welsh Dioceses.
- c) Sales of souvenirs etc., to make a profit.

All these ideas proved extremely successful, and our heartfelt thanks go out to everyone who supported us so magnificently. Here I must also say a word of thanks to all our member countries for the wonderful way you have contributed to the Project Fund and the World Travel Fund. We have endeavoured to use the money in both funds prudently.

Much time has been given to the Caribbean Project; I have visited Barbados twice with Sandra Coleman, our Director of Training, and many useful contacts have arisen from these visits. A fuller report on the project will be given later in the Agenda, but one wonderful outcome has been the planning of exchange visits between young members in Wales/England and Barbados, partly funded by the Commonwealth Youth Council.

I was also invited to the Irish National GFS Leaders Conference in Dublin in 1986, this was a great joy and I hope that our Irish friends gained as much from that visit as I did. It was so full of friendship and love as well as learning together.

Thank you all for your kindness, patience and understanding; for bearing with me in my shortcomings and uplifting me with your thoughts and prayers.

May GFS Wales 1987 prove to be a worthy successor of all previous World Councils. I pray that we will truly be GFS in Harmony.

And my hope for the future? That we continue to “bear one another’s burdens” through love, prayer, cooperation, better understanding of each other’s needs, and above all by the knowledge that we can do all things through him who is our strength at all times.

Australia in replying to the World Chairman’s Report, expressed thanks to Mrs Fowler and the members of her committee who had worked so hard to ensure that the Council was well organised.

There followed, in alphabetical order of country, Reports from the Countries present, with illustrated slides from Japan and Korea and a booklet from Australia, covering GFS activities over the last three years. All reports spoke of the part played by the GFS wherever the Society is established, and the work done in the various countries in both Church and Community, especially in helping and encouraging girls and young women.

The Chairman thanked every country for their report and especially Nigeria which was a new member country where GFS had been inaugurated on 17 December 1985 and where the Society is growing rapidly in strength.

Good wishes were extended to the Lesotho Delegate, who had to leave Council for an important examination in London and who would be returning on Wednesday. This concluded the business for the day although the Agenda was not completed.

After these sessions we proceeded to a Reception given by the West Glamorgan County Council at the County Hall from where there were magnificent views of the whole of the Swansea Bay area. In the evening we were given an illustrated talk by the Ven O W Jones, Archdeacon of Gower, and the Revd Canon D G Walker on the subject “Christianity in Wales”.

Tuesday 28 July

Holy Communion was celebrated by Revd Adrian Davies using the Welsh Rite. For meditation he took as his theme our need to seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

World Council session 3a and 3b: Firstly, we had the Financial Statements:

- a) From Japan for the period 1981-1984. This was presented by the Treasurer, Miss Hara, and was in the currency of Japanese Yen. Regarding the membership dues it was explained that England covered both England and Wales together. The report was accepted.
- b) Wales. Mr Adrian Parker presented a report for the period 1 December 1984 to 16 July 1987 and stressed it was an interim report only as receipts were still to come in and the largest parts of the costs were still to be paid.

Sierra Leone raised the question of £100 (one hundred pounds) sent by them for the World Travel Fund and thought that this should have been included in the report. It was explained that this sum had been received through CMS and that the donation arrive a long time before it was discovered what it was actually for. The matter will be put right in the Final Statement which will be produced in three years' time.

World Projects:

- a) 1981-1984. The Transkei, Mrs Iwai, Deputy Chairman, in introducing Mrs Makunga of the Transkei, said how very pleased she was at Mrs Makunga's attendance as she had been very worried about this and also about the position of the project about which she gave a very full report of the correspondence between Japan and the Transkei from 1984 to 1987. The problems in the Transkei were appreciated and Mrs Iwai wrote in December 1986 suggesting to Bishop Jacob Dlamini of St John's Diocese, successor to Bishop Godfrey, that she visit the Transkei, but the Bishop preferred this visit to take place after a new GFS Director had been appointed.

All the project money had been forwarded by the former Treasurer in Japan to the Transkei and had been acknowledged by Bishop Dlamini who said the money was under strict control of the Dioceses. Mrs Iwai was very appreciative of the efforts of the Bishop of St John's over several years. The project should have been completed in six years, but it may be ongoing. The problems involved may have been aided by the GFS Directors changing three times for six years and only about two and a half years work being actually done during that time. Again, the GFS directors might not have had the experience to work the project properly. Mrs Iwai made recommendations which she asked the Council to consider, and she hoped that there would be a good outcome for the Transkei Project.

Mrs Makunga replied, to the effect, that she could only say that the instability of organisers affected the Poultry project. In her view the failure of the project was due to control being in the hands of the priests rather than the people who were supposed to be really involved. During the six years there had been two Bishops involved, three GFS Directors and attempts had been made in three parishes to get the project under way without success due, she felt, to all decision and orders being made by priests without involving the girls themselves. However, Bishop Dlamini has now appointed a priest, Revd Canon M Gabula, to be in charge of all diocesan projects including the GFS Poultry project and it is hoped that this arrangement may work out well. She referred to the political and economic position in the country and the man/woman domination which she prayed and hoped would be solved. She also gave details of the present situation of the GFS Poultry Project Trust Fund and said that the Fund was earning interest at 12% per annum. Mrs Makunga concluded by saying the Bishop and GFS members were very worried about the future progress of the GFS Poultry project but "God will guide us and by his love we will make it".

Questions from various delegates and discussions followed and it was suggested that it might be helpful if, when Mrs Iwai visited the Transkei, she has a very able communicator in English to assist her. Mrs Iwai had carried out an enormous lot on our behalf over the last three years – Japan would like a partnership with an English-speaking country to see this project through, maybe England, Wales or Ireland.

It was decided that a sub-committee be formed to try and sort out a few of the problems and to report back to Council. The sub-Committee to consist of:

Mrs Iwai, Mrs Makunga, Mrs Jean Riggs, England, Dr Kate Botengan, Philippines; Miss Patricia Byron, Australia; Mrs Subuola Thompson, Sierra Leone.

- b) 1984-1987: The Caribbean. Mrs Fowler gave a report to date on the Caribbean Project which is intended to develop and strengthen the work of the society in the Caribbean by appointing a worker for one year to promote community work and train others in this field, thinking especially of the needs of girls and young women. The World Chairman should be responsible for the project and, although England offered to take care of it, England and Wales decided they would share the responsibility.

After several attempts to contact the Archbishop of the West Indies to obtain his approval and advice, Archbishop Woodruff informed us of his pending retirement and that he would not welcome any developments in St Vincent at this time but would make no objection if other Bishops wished to avail their dioceses of our offer.

The World Chairman and Sandra Coleman (Director of Training) visited Barbados in August 1986 and had had a wonderful welcome from the Bishop, the Diocesan Youth Adviser, the YWCA, the Methodist Church and others. When asked what the greatest need amongst young women was, all gave the same answer – unemployment.

Arrangements were made for a young local girl, Roslyn Lynch, to visit the UK for experience, attended World Council and Summer School, but it later transpired that she was unable to undertake the work having been offered a Scholarship at Boston University, USA. However, Beverly Sealy was found who was anxious to do this type of work. A parish/community base was to be set up at St Patrick's Church and Beverly would be able to work from there as a "Community Worker" / with special responsibility for girls, young mothers, babies etc. A support group has been set up of GFS Officers, YWCA members, PCC members and the Revd Michael Clarke, the Parish Priest.

Regarding finance, we had aimed for £9000 to fund the project and to date over £10,000 has been raised which means we can continue to fund the work over a longer period than that agreed of one year – this the World Chairman would like to recommend we do.

Sandra Coleman reported that nothing had been done without consulting the GFS in Barbados. A lot of time was spent talking with Mrs Audrey Moore and the Vice-Presidents because it was felt that Barbados had to approve. The GFS in Barbados is small, and a strong team is needed to support Beverly.

Mrs Moore endorsed all that had been said and thanked the World Council for starting the project.

Beverly Sealy told us a little about herself and expressed her wish that the project in Barbados would be successful knowing that it had the support of the PCC and other churches within the Diocese.

World Council Session 4.

Branch Work: Mrs Jean Riggs gave an address on the subject of GFS in an Ecumenical Society and spoke of places in England where people share churches and where clergy work very closely together. Membership of GFS is not limited to Anglicans - people join because they want to enjoy themselves and they want to make a promise - but it was felt that all officers should be Anglicans or be in full communion with the Anglican Church.

Membership and leaders: Members in Korea and Nigeria all have to be Anglicans, in Kenya other denominations are accepted but not Roman Catholics, in the Transkei

Christians, other than Anglicans are accepted provided they have the permission of their Church. In all other countries, members do not have to be Anglicans. Regarding leaders, in most countries they must be Anglicans or communicant members of a church in communion with the Anglican Church. In Ireland leaders must be communicant members of the Church of Ireland or the Anglican Church; In Kenya they are hoping that in future all leaders will only be Anglicans; in Sri Lanka Christians are accepted into full membership – there are non-Christian members who, however, have no voting rights – if non-Christian members were accepted as leaders it is feared that the Buddhists would hold power, in USA leaders must be communicants of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the USA.

Joy Epton. England raised the point that in the early 1970's there were talks between Anglicans and Methodists to try and get together into full communion to which Mrs Riggs replied that unfortunately, a definite decision was not made, and the Anglican/Methodist talks failed. As regards GFS in an ecumenical society, people can be working in GFS but need not be Anglicans necessarily. "Is the work that is being done more important than the denomination of the person doing the work?" she asked. USA thought that the question was largely governed by the ecumenical position in one's own country. In GFS we should be doing everything possible to bring young girls into an understanding of the Gospel. Australia commented that members should be girls of any denomination, but leaders must be Anglicans.

Industrial Mission. A talk was given by the Revd Mary Vickers, Industrial Chaplain; on "Where do we fit in" The Industrial Chaplains are financed by the Anglican Church but work on an ecumenical basis. She gave an insight into her work in a city centre. She thanked the branches in England and Wales, and Headquarters in London, on whom the responsibility falls for funding the mission work.

Hostels: A talk illustrated with slides was presented by Julia Thoms, Hostel Warden in Birmingham. The Hostel caters for ages 17/30 years with a time limit on the stay in the Hostel of two years or until the age of 30 ears. In the past the Hostel has had eleven nationalities – Indian, Brazilian, Chinese, English, Iranian, Irish, Jordanian, Malaysian, Somalia and Welsh – all living together as one despite the varying religious beliefs such as Hindu, Sikh, Muslim and Christians of varying denominations. Harmony is seen in sharing, whether it be in the kitchen or at communal gatherings.

The GFS Prayer: The Revd Peter Jackson spoke about the possible need for an "International GFS and TF Prayer". "One of the beauties", he said, "of the Anglican Church in the past was its common liturgy – wherever you went it was always the same. That has been changed over the past sixty years or so and is best illustrated in the variety of our Holy Communion celebrations this week. We can still see the thread of Anglicanism through them but, hopefully, they also express the ethos of the particular nation or national Anglican Church which has produced them".

GFS identifies itself with the local community within the parish situation, but it must also identify itself on the international scene. It was his belief that this could best be done by the introduction of an "International Prayer". He further suggested that if we are going to have such a prayer it should reflect belief in a personal God and Lord of history, and the

acceptance of the special relationship that the Christian God has with us as shown in the work of Christ Jesus. It must begin with praise – thanksgiving, penitence and petition will follow naturally – concluding with further praise “through Jesus Christ our Lord”. Such a prayer could be

“O God our Father, we praise you for your goodness to us and all mankind. We confess that we do not live up to your expectations of us and we ask for your forgiveness. We promise to be obedient to your Word and henceforth to live our lives according to your will. We ask you to bless us and all who belong to the Girls’ Friendly Society and Townsend Fellowship throughout the world. Bind us together in love as members of one family and thus enable us to bear one another’s burdens, and to live not just for ourselves but for each other: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen”.

Uniforms: Ireland asked whether we wished to have a resolution for uniforms and said that they would like to put forward an idea on this matter to Council. They thought that it would be nice if we all had some kind of uniform that looked like GFS – possibly the same colours of navy and white with each country having its own distinctive tie or hat or something. Barbados asked about the cost of such a uniform and thought that it might be prohibitive.

Link Countries: The question was put by Mrs Fowler as to how many of us had found this useful or beneficial. The present links are:

- 1 Australia with New Zealand and Korea.
- 2 England with Barbados, Guyana and the Philippines
- 3 Ireland with Japan and the Transkei
- 4 USA with Newfoundland and West Africa
- 5 Wales with Lesotho and Sri Lanka.

USA said that they had not been able to make contact with Newfoundland, but the Revd Mary Vickers advised them that she could let them have the address of her friend there to whom they could write and try to establish a contact. Japan, being with Ireland and the Transkei, had a language problem.

World Dues: All funds should be in sterling. It was suggested that the annual contribution from each country be one pound per one hundred members, if we do increase the contribution, we must consider the rate of inflation – suggest this subject be reviewed at every World Council.

World Council Constitution: At present the World Council takes place every three years in a different country and the World Chairman is from the host country. There are two delegates from each country, one under a certain age. Delegates may make propositions and vote; observers are allowed to attend but not to vote. In some countries it may not be possible to accommodate as many as we had at this World Council.

This completed the business for today.

During the evening, in the Banqueting Hall of this University, we had a “Welsh Evening” with traditional food and entertainment in the form of a “Nosan Lawen” presented by a group of entertainers and there was much fun, fellowship and laughter. Included in the entertainment was clog dancing at which members of the World Council took part much to the amusement of the appreciative audience. To end, each country sang a traditional song, and in place of Compline, we all joined hands for the singing of “Bind us together, Lord”.

Wednesday 29th July Holy Communion was celebrated by the Revd George Hinchliff of Ireland who used the Irish Rite.

After breakfast we proceeded to Swansea City Centre where free time was spent by some going around the shops and others visiting the new maritime quarter, everyone seemed to have walked through the Market and some even tasted cockles and laver bread. Then it was off to Cardiff, the capital city of Wales and a visit to Llandaff Cathedral where we were greeted by the Dean, the Very Revd Alun R Davies, who gave us a brief account of the history of the Cathedral. We were also greeted by Mrs B E R Ridett, Diocesan Mothers Union President of Llandaff, who presented Mrs Fowler with a bouquet of beautiful flowers. Before returning to Swansea, we partook of a very welcome cup of tea and refreshments for which we were very grateful.

Thursday 30 July. The Welsh Rite was again used for the Holy Communion, which was celebrated by the Revd Gregory Cameron, who took as his theme for the meditation Psalm 133, “Behold, how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity”.

World Council Session 5a and 5b. This was a “closed session” and Mrs Fowler reminded those present that they were there as the official delegates of their respective countries.

World Council Constitution was drawn up in 1962 and needed tidying up. At present the heading is “Directives” but after discussion, Wales proposed, seconded by Barbados and Lesotho.

“That this be amended to ‘Guidelines’. CARRIED.

This was agreed, as was also that the Guidelines should be amended after this Council, a copy being forwarded to each country to be returned with any comments.

World Day of Prayer – September 29, St Michael and All Saints Day. If, as in the case of Ireland, this coincides with another festival, then it is quite in order for that country to make alternative arrangements.

Membership: “Representation at Council meetings shall be extended to two (2) from each country, one of whom shall be ideally between the ages of 16 and 21 years” England suggested, supported by Ireland, that the younger age group should be between 16 and 25 years. Another suggestion was between 16 and 30 years. Many would be established in work and better able financially to come. Sierra Leone preferred 16 and 25, saying the older people could still come. It was agreed the younger age group should be between 16 and 25 years.

Wales brought up the question of Anglican membership as in Wales we are covenanted with other churches and members of the churches within that covenant should be included; Agreed this should be considered at a later date. The Philippines suggested that the question of covenanted Church of Churches within the Anglican Community – should be left to individual countries to suit their own need.

Officers: “It shall be the responsibility of the Chairman of the World Council to arrange for the election of the country to preside over the World Council for the succeeding period, the voting to be carried out by mail. Here, Mrs Fowler point out, we could have agreed one country, but circumstances could arise preventing that country carrying out the agreement. It was passed “if necessary” be added to the voting be carried out by mail.

Voting at Meetings: “The Vice-Chairman shall also be ex-officio – agreed this should read “The Vice-Chairman of the World Council shall also be ex-officio”. Mrs Fowler mentioned that the Chairman also had a casting vote.

Minutes: The Minute book is at present passed from Chairman to Chairman and the Philippines brought up the point that there is only one copy and if the possibility of circumstances arising where this one copy may be destroyed. It was moved that a Xerox copy of the Minutes be kept in a different country to the Minute Book, the Book remaining with the Chairman.

Finance: The small amount of money received over the three years was so minute over the general budget, but it did help. Instead of the annual contribution from each country being 5/- (five shillings sterling) per 500 total membership, it was suggested and agreed that each country should pay the same amount. Proposed by Ireland, seconded by USA.

“That instead of membership this be called an Affiliation Fee, such fee to be shown in the Guidelines as a minimum fee”.

Countries could, of course send more. Agreed that an Affiliation Fee of a minimum of fifteen pounds sterling be paid by each country and that this fee to be paid within the period of three years between World Council Meetings.

The World Chairman may administer on behalf of the Council various funds, such as the Travel Fund etc.

Link Countries: Following previous discussion it became clear that

- 1 Japan would like to go with the Philippines.
- 2 England with Guyana, Barbados plus one other country, possibly the Transkei.
- 3 Wales would like to continue with Lesotho and Sri Lanka
- 4 Ireland was happy to continue as they are but pointed out that Japan is nearer to the Philippines, so they would take on Kenya, and
- 5 Nigeria would like to be linked with USA.

Thus, for the future links would be as follows:

- 1 Australia, New Zealand, Liberia and Korea.
- 2 England, Guyana, Barbados and Transkei
- 3 Ireland, Japan and Kenya
- 4 Japan, Philippines and Ireland
- 5 USA, Newfoundland, Nigeria and Sierra Leone

Uniform: USA raised the query as to whether we were speaking of uniform for attendance at World Council or not and whether this would supplant native costume. Nigeria also asked whether this should be national costume or national uniform. After discussion it was agreed that we request the countries to come to World Council in their national costume or national uniform or blue skirts and white blouses, the host country of each World Council to design a scarf or cravat.

WORLD PROJECTS

Barbados: USA hoped that there would be additional money to support the project for two years and also could any indication be given of the time when GFS will be working on the start of this program and whether there would be any plan for on-going.

Mrs Moore, for Barbados said “applications for funding had been made to the Government and the Diocese and there are probabilities of money from local sources etc. They are hoping the Anglican Church will help and that their own GFS will make this a project” Everyone will help as much as they can, and they will need on-going support as there are other areas needing this kind of help.

Mrs Fowler wished every success to the project in Barbados and Mrs Moore, in thanking Council for the grant, felt confident it would succeed. Reports would be sent out at regular intervals.

Transkei: At the request of Mrs Iwai, Mrs Riggs gave the report and recommendations of the sub-committee and stated that we did not know all the problems and conditions in the Transkei. Mrs Makunga cannot approach people until authority from the Bishop had been given. It became obvious during the debate that there are two different ways to train women in the keeping of chicken:

- 1 The establishing of a centre (ie a set of building) where the training would take place. This centre would need staffing.
- 2 The training of girls by either the Agricultural College or established and competent people who keep chickens themselves.

A third possibility came up for consideration – the provision of GFS Bursaries for women to attend courses to become competent themselves in certain skills. These skills could be chicken rearing, but handicrafts, nutrition and hygiene would give a broader base to community life if included. It would seem that the Council will need to accept two or more schemes in order of preference. The GFS branch work had suffered in image, even if not in other ways, through the instability of the position of the GFS organisers. It was important that any scheme assists, and does not harm, the rebuilding of confidence in and within the GFS branch work in the Transkei.

It is six years since the project was first conceived. In that time things like communities and needs change. The original concept may now not be the most appropriate way forward. The support of the Bishop of the Diocese for any proposed scheme is vital.

The following options were put forward for consideration.

- 1 All working out of the project is left with Canon Gabla, who has been appointed by the Bishop as from 1 January 1988. To be in charge of any project within the Diocese of St John. This was rejected.
- 2 The setting up of a centre with a Director to be appointed to work with Canon Gabula. Training would take place here but must be with the cooperation of GFS leaders. Agreed to let this stay as an option until a budget had been received.

3 Women to be trained at Agricultural College or by the Transkei appropriate technology unit. They would live in a convent while under training. They or their parish would then be given a grant to set up a local scheme to train more women.

This was regarded as being the nearest to where we had started six years ago.

4 Bursaries to be offered for training on a broader base – could include handicrafts etc., as previously suggested. The trainees would be required to return to their parishes to train others.

Council decided the order of preference would be Nos 3, 4 and 2, with Nos 3 and 4 being the most likely outcome, dependent upon research.

Council was asked “If the above schemes or combination of schemes are not acceptable to the World Council and or the Bishop, is the Council prepared to appoint and give authority to a sub-group who would investigate further and report back by post?” This was agreed; the group to consist of Japan, England and the Philippines – and the group will keep the present World Chairman informed.

General Recommendations:

Mrs Iwai must have regular reports; say at intervals of four months, from a reliable correspondent who we would like to be Mrs Makunga. She would have to obtain the Bishop’s permission for this. Outline plans of project are to be made and reported before any restart is made. Information needed would be:

- a) How much time will Mrs Makunga be able to give to the furthering of this project?
- b) Is chicken rearing still a necessary skill to be learned? Are there other pieces of training of more or equal value?
- c) If not, what would GFS leaders see as most valuable apart from assistance to run branches?
This scheme was originally an extra. We still want it to be.
- d) Outline budget.

A review date was agreed; say one year after Project restarts. If insufficient progress has been made by this time, we consider the Project in its present style to be closed. If it is decided to foreclose the project, Mrs Iwai was given guidelines as to what should happen next.

Early in 1988 there would be a visit to the Transkei by Mrs Iwai and one other who would be in a supportive capacity to Mrs Iwai.

GFS leaders should be included in the project so that they are made to feel that they “own” it.

Personnel in the Transkei at present are: Mrs Makunga, Canon Gabula, Mrs Neulala, Mrs Nebanda, GFS Leaders.

Regarding finance – any scheme must not leave the parishes with an economic burden once project support is withdrawn.

A timetable for discussion was prepared covering the period from date of this World Council until the review of the situation twelve months after the restart of the scheme, the first part of which should begin by June 1988.

Mrs Fowler thanked the Committee for their hard work. Mrs Iwai thought that she now had enough guidance and support to carry out what we wanted, and she felt she should be more confident in handling this problem.

An International GFS Prayer: The Revd Jackson stated that we were not trying to impose a prayer but only suggesting that there could be a prayer at gatherings, such as the World Council, that we would all know and say together. Delegates were asked to go home and think about it and to return to the next World Council with their thoughts.

Forward Projects: Various views were put forward for example some countries might like to have their own project with their "Link Countries", but it was eventually decided to consider the case of Kenya alongside a project put forward by Ireland. Countries were asked to give these some thought for further discussion at an extra session, to be arranged later.

Venue of Future World Council Meetings: Wales's offer to host the 1987 Council had been accepted in Japan in 1984 and it was then envisaged the World Council of 1990, would, hopefully, be held in Sierra Leone, with financial assistance from Australia (who had offered assistance to any small country who might wish to host the next World Council). Mrs Thompson for Sierra Leone said that they would be happy to host the next World Council in 1990 and asked Australia what the amount of their financial aid would be, to which Australia replied that in 1984 they had given a figure of 4,000 Australian Dollars. That still stands. At this stage, they have no authority to offer anymore but would hope to raise money during the next three years. All funds should be in Sterling, US Dollars or Japanese Yen. As second-in-line for hosting the 1990 World Council, Australia said it was not their wish to take the hosting from Sierra Leone but, in view of the drop in the value of their financial assistance, if Sierra Leone could not host the 1990 Council Australia would do so, but they would need plenty of notice as it really takes three years preparation. They could not offer to host the 1993 World Council at this time because their Primate would be changed. They stressed, however, they were not trying to take the 1990 World Council from Sierra Leone.

Mrs Thompson advised that Sierra Leone would be able to host at least one hundred people at this stage she could not say where as they were looking at various places. Thanks were expressed to Mrs Thompson and Australia. Mrs Thompson, in turn, thanked the Council for giving Sierra Leone the opportunity to host the 1990 World Council saying that it marked a very significant point in history because it showed that our Christian friends are with us. She also thanked Australia for their financial assistance.

There were no offers made to host the 1993 World Council.

As all business had not been completed at Swansea, it was agreed that a further extra session be held at Bangor, North Wales.

Thursday afternoon was "Open Day" when we greeted visitors including members from local GFS branches. Each country had set up a display stand showing some of their handicrafts and activities, all of the displays being very much admired. The afternoon ended with the Revd Clive Southerton presenting impromptu entertainment when various countries gave performances of their national singing and dancing.

Before dinner, a Reception was given by the Church in Wales, when the Archbishop, the Most Revd George Noakes, welcomed everyone. He said that "we are a small nation with a big heart; it is

marvellous to have the theme 'GFS in Harmony' but what else would you expect from the 'Land of Song'. Take back to your countries our many greetings from the Church in Wales".

At compline we had the meditation taken by the Revd Clarice Smith, who spoke on "Happiness", saying "I am sure each one of us will be giving thanks to God for the joy and happiness shared during the past week. On your journey tomorrow, you will travel through our lovely country and see the wonderful hills of Wales. As you all go to your various homelands, we in Wales will pray that happiness goes with you and remains with you always".

Friday 31 July was transfer day from Swansea, in South Wales, to Bangor, in North Wales. Three coaches left Swansea for travelling thus:

- 1) Via St David's and visiting St David's Cathedral.
- 2) Via Brecon, visiting Brecon Cathedral and Llanidloes
- 3) Via Brecon, visiting Brecon Cathedral and Newtown.

After dinner at Bangor, we had an illustrated talk showing many places of interest in South, Mid and North Wales and the Welsh Coastline.

Saturday 1 August. The Revd Berw Hughes, Bangor Diocesan GFS Chaplain, celebrated the Holy Communion using the Wels Rite.

From 10am we had an "Open Day" for visitors from local GFS branches and some from further afield, until 5pm It was a very happy and friendly day and once again there was impromptu entertainment by the various countries.

After dinner had a concert given by the Brymbo Male Choir, Ceuwen Stuart and Dafydd Muw Jones (Harpists) and Island Harmony, a ladies group from Anglesey, which was enjoyed by everyone. At the end of the day Mrs Fowler announced that the next World Council would be held in Sierra Leone with Mrs Subuola Thompson being the next World Chairman. This was received with great joy.

Sunday 2 August. After breakfast, we were taken to the Cathedral at St Asaph where we joined the regular worshippers for Holy Communion during which the Revd Barbados Maeda, GFS Chaplain, Japan, preached, His address was based upon Philippians chapter 4 and verse 4 "Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say rejoice, and the letter "R" from "Harmony" from which we get both Rejoice and Responsibility. During the service there was also a Liturgical Dance by GFS members from the Diocese of St Asaph. The intercessions were taken by Mrs Fowler.

At Prestalyn, where we had lunch, we were greeting with a banner "Croeso I Gymru" - (Welcome to Wales) World Council GFS. A performance of "Greater than Gold" was most admirably presented by GFS branches of St Asaph Diocese.

After dinner at Bangor, we held the final extra Council Session.

This was a delegates' meeting and commenced with Guyana handing over £20 from the sale of items at the Open Day. Korea had previously given £24 and Japan £41. During the meeting Miss Hara said that Japan would pay for Mrs Iwai to visit the Transkei.

GFS Prayer: Sierra Leone thought that in its present form the prayer presented to Council last Tuesday would be too long for the little ones. The Revd Peter Jackson explained that this had not been his intention – I want you to use your own country, but we need a prayer that we can use together for international gatherings and, possibly in your own country, when you want to remember the GFS Worldwide. Ireland suggested amending “all mankind” and also they would like “we promise to try to be obedient to your word. Australia pointed out that in the 1978 World Council it was agreed that the prayer of the host nation would become the prayer of the Council.

The general opinion seemed to be that more time was needed for consideration. Ireland moved, seconded by Australia

“That it be recorded in the minutes, that for the next World Council we use the prayer of Sierra Leone, which is the same as England, and we think about the idea of an ‘International Prayer’ by the next World Council”.

Future Projects: Two ideas were put forward.

- 1) Ireland suggested, after hearing a personal report by the Revd Missui Kauria on the horrifying conditions in Uganda, we assist work with women and children in the Namweribe Diocese of Uganda, particularly in relation to the Katwe Martyrs Community Centre which needs rebuilding work, equipment, drugs, transport and salaries. The CMS would provide us with information and photographs over the three-year period so that we would be fully informed about the use to which our money is being put.

To work with an already established body means that the contribution from GFS will be put to immediate use on an ongoing project. It would also be a practical and positive way of introducing GFS to the Diocese and maybe the whole of Uganda. An advantage of working with CMS is that they would claim as much as eight times the amount we raise from the EEC as part of a grant scheme with which they are involved.

- 2) Kenya. The delegate, Emily Siaga, reported on the formation of a GFS branch in the diocese of Maseno West in ST John’s School of Mission which is responsible for the pastoral program instructions in the Primary Schools of the area. She, being the only lady at the college, had seen the need to meet the pastoral needs of the girls in these schools and at present she had a group of 52 girls who attended meetings every week. Their activities were limited to Bible Study, topical discussion and indoor games. In future they hoped to extend activities into handicrafts etc., but so far this had not been possible due to lack of facilities.

Emily and the Youth Adviser, Mr Apollo Ocvhieng, are hoping to work together to establish GFS in the whole of the Diocese of Maseno West and, it was hoped the Diocese of Maseno South will join with them. In order to be successful, they need assistance support and prayers to bring together the interested young people of the Diocese. USA asked what kind of things were needed, to which Emily replied that the area was very large, very remote and that there were difficulties with communication. Help will be required next year when she will be responsible for Sunday School and GFS work. Assistance will also be required to enable her to travel in order to train other people. Sierra Leone enquired if she was asking for assistance in providing a vehicle and what type would be required. Emily said that she thought something like a Land Rover – she herself is at present unable to drive – but there would be drivers available to help. Philippines brought up their point in the Kenya Report of

assistance being needed for the improvement in activities such as handicrafts etc., and asked if this was additional to or an alternative” Wales wondered what visual aids might be required, thinking of various items for the training of Sunday School Teachers – books, films, knitting needles and other simple materials, etc.

Discussion took place as to the advisability of working through another organisation such as CMS or Mothers Union, the feeling being that we would have regular communications from them and also, they could administer the project on our behalf. This idea of working through another agency is to be investigated.

In putting forward their proposal, Ireland had stated that CMS could claim money up to eight times the amount raised. Would this apply to Kenya if we operate through CMS? Philippines advised that they get money to fund community projects from the EEC, but their requirements are very demanding. They also said that having heard of the problems in administration in the Transkei, they can appreciate working through CMS but what bothers them is that GFS will become a ‘funding agency’. The idea of working through the Diocese may be safe for the Transkei but the experience in the Philippines is that it is high time women learned to manage their own affairs, perhaps we could combine these both amicably but they would like to see a GFS member in control.

Ireland had mentioned that it is easier to raise Children’s interest round a project that is understandable to them and they can learn about the project and the country. The problem for us is how to keep the children involved and interested in an ongoing project?

The Philippines moved and were seconded by Lesotho

“That this Council approved, in principle, the project of GFS in Kenya but authorises the Executive Board to work out the details after the receipt of a program, approved by the Bishop from Emily” This proposal was CARRIED unanimously.

Because Emily had not been involved for very long with the GFS and was not very conversant with many of its procedures, it was decided to contact the Bishop, either directly or through Emily herself, to ask for firm proposals of what is required together with details of estimated costs and his consent of a needed and necessary project.

Australia proposed, and USA seconded

“That, if no specific proposal is received within six months, then we should revert to the project put forward by Ireland” All agreed.

As regards funds raised, all money for the Barbados Project will now be sent to Mrs Moore and all money for the Kenya Project should be forwarded to Mrs Fowler.

Finances for World Council in Sierra Leone The host country has been administering the account and it will take a little while to wind it up when we will know how much we will have left over (which we hope will be quite a nice sum) and then it will all be handed over to the next host country for their administration. This will take some time – Japan sent theirs at the beginning of 1985,

The finances for the World Council in Sierra Leone will be held in sterling in London. A special account will have to be opened and Mrs Thompson will let us know exactly where the account is to be held. The Travel Fund will also be dealt with through this account. We should make enquiries with the airline KLM as to whether they had any special discounts for Church Organisations.

An application form will be forwarded to each country to complete for grants. Mrs Fowler said that we must make sure that every country has a representative. Ireland agreed but said there should be no one under 16 years as they thought that this would be too young, also they should be a bona fide GFS member in their own country, USA made the point that they would be doing something specific with their "Link Countries" in addition to the World Project and also that they would work to financially support the World Council in Sierra Leone.

Mrs Fowler then said that we had had some very busy business sessions and she thanked everyone for their help, kindness and consideration in all the meetings. "I am very, very grateful to you all and I am sure you will give the same support to the next World Chairman, Mrs Subuola Thompson."

Australia moved a vote of thanks to both Mrs Ann Jackson and Mrs Rona Boyd, which was acclaimed by all present.

Before Compline, Mrs Fowler gave a short report on all the things discussed and the decisions made. There had been a large number of countries represented and all have told her GFS is working in their respective countries.

The next World Council in 1990 will be held in Sierra Leone.

Directives: The last one was compiled in 1962 and we thought it was time it was tidied up. They are now to be called GUIDELINES and are to be rewritten and forwarded to each country for approval.

Dues are now to be termed Affiliation and Will be £15 per country, to be paid during the three-year period between World Council Meetings.

Link Countries have been tidied up, including the new countries, and the geographical factor has been taken into consideration.

For all future World Councils, the host country will design a cravat or scarf, as Wales had done, to make everyone feel that they belong to each other.

GFS Prayer It was not meant to impose a prayer on anyone. Each country is going to look at a uniform prayer for use throughout the world at international events such as the World Council. Delegates are returning to their countries with this suggestion and will come back in three years' time when it will be seen if individual countries would like to have a uniform international prayer or continue as at present.

Projects:

Barbados is going alright.

Regarding a project for the next three years, we were aware that we must be careful we chose a project in which we show that GFS is moving forward and expanding in the World and also ensure that we have the support of another agency like the CMS or Mothers Union. The chosen project is HELP IN KENYA. It was passed in Japan that the World Vice-Chairman was to look after the next World Project, so Mrs Fowler will be contacting the Bishop asking for specific needs – it has been suggested that a vehicle to travel around groups for training and instruction be obtained. A time limit has been set and, if a specific list of needs is not received within six months, we will revert to a suggestion from Ireland that we support work in Uganda through CMS.

The Transkei It is six years since this was talked about so it may be that the original concept is not now the appropriate thing to do now. The decision is that the Project will be funded but before anything happens, we will require a report from the Bishop. We must have a regular correspondent who, we hope, will be Mrs Makunga. Reports must be sent to Mrs Iwai every four months or so, and GFS and women must be involved. Suggestions of ways in training women for the project included bursaries for women to go on short courses in college and then return to their parishes to train others in turn. Mrs Iwai is to visit the Transkei early next year accompanied by someone from England and Wales. Japan has said that they will be responsible for the money for Mrs Iwai's visit. A timetable has been drawn up and a review is to be made one year after the project restarts. If sufficient progress has not been made, then the Project will be closed and held over to the next World Council.

Monday 3 August. Holy Communion was celebrated by the Revd Clive Southerton using the English Rite "A. For the mediation the spoke of the three Marys:

Mary the Mother of Jesus – who knew when to let go.

Mary Townsend our Founder – meeting a need.

Mary Jones – who was determined to get her own Bible.

After breakfast we were taken on a tour of Anglesey, Caernarvon and Llonkeris.

In the evening we paid a visit to Bangor Cathedral where we were greeted by the Dean, the Very Revd J Ivor Rees, who gave a short account of the history of the Cathedral.

Tuesday 4 August. Holy Communion was celebrated by the Revd Peter Jackson using the Welsh Rite. The mediation was on the letter "O" for which the ring was taken as a symbol, endless as eternity, no beginning and no end; ne God, who us to is Father, Son and Holy Spirit. During the day "Workshops" were held and included the following: Music and Drama, Corn Dollies, Pottery, Spinning, Making Love Spoons and Folk Dancing.

Following a Buffet Supper, we led our International Evening when every country in turn presented an item of entertainment, all of which were greatly enjoyed by all.

Wednesday 5 August. After breakfast, the Closing Service of this the 12th World Council of the GFS was held in Bangor Cathedral. The Holy Eucharist was celebrated by the Dean of Bangor. Among the clergy present were:

The Archbishop of Wales, The Most Revered George Noakes; The Bishop of Bangor, The Right Revd John Cledon Mears; The Bishop of Swansea and Brecon, The Right Reverend BNY Vaughan and all the Canons of Bangor Cathedral.

The Old Testament lesson was read by the World Chairman, Mrs Fowler, the Epistle by the World Chairman Elect, Mrs Thompson and the Gospel, read in Welsh, by The Revd A Berw Hughes.

The address was given by the Bishop of Bangor who spoke on the Transfiguration which Peter, James and John were privileged to witness. "As you return to your countries, our prayers go with you. God be with you wherever you go and from wherever you have come", he said.

During the service the commissioning, by the Archbishop of Wales, of the new World Chairman, Mrs Subuola Thompson of Sierra Leone, took place.

The 'Dismissal' was said by the new World Vice-Chairman, Mrs Fowler, and the services was concluded by the Bishop of Bangor.

During lunch, Mrs Fowler thanked everyone who had helped her prepare for this World Council and also expressed her thanks to the University of Bangor. She wished everyone a safe journey home and gave a welcome to the new World Chairman, Mrs Thompson, with the hope that she would be given the same support as she (Mrs Fowler) had received. Mrs Thompson responded and looked forward, on behalf of all the GFS members in Sierra Leone, to welcome everyone to the next World Council in 1990.

Immediately after lunch the delegates and observers left for their homes in various points of the world, taking with them the fellowship, friendship, love and blessing of us all.

SD Subuola D Thompson, World Chairman 1987/1990

**GIRLS FRIENDLY SOCIETY WORLD COUNCIL
SIERRA LEONE**

28 JULY to 5 AUGUST 1990

Minutes of the meeting of the 13th meeting of the World Council of the Girls' Friendly Society held in Freetown, Sierra Leone, from 28 July to 5 August 1990

Theme: "Bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the

Lord" (Eph 6:4) Saturday 28 July

The World Council of the Society started with the registration in the Lounge of the Brookfields Hotel from 2pm to 4.30pm. Later members boarded buses for the Annie Walsh Memorial School, for the reception hosted by the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Freetown. Delegates and Observers were welcomed by the Bishop of Freetown, the Rt Revd Prince E S Thompson, who said that despite the fact that our guests had come during the rainy season and at a time when the economic climate was bleak and gloomy, the abnormal circumstances should not prevent the true Christian character from manifesting itself. He wished members a successful World Council. Guests were entertained to songs by the Kroma Family.

The last item for the day was a "Getting to Know you Evening" produced and compered by Mr Hubert Charles. The Freetown Players and the Freetown Youth Centre Drama Group, introduced Sierra Leone to participants.

Sunday 29 July

Members travelled by bus to Regent in the mountains to attend the Open Service at St Charles Church, the oldest Anglican Church in Sierra Leone. The service was well attended, despite the heavy downpour. The Old Testament Lesson was read by Mrs Joy Epton, Central President for England, the New Testament Reading and Gospel in Krio by Miss Daphne Langley and Mrs Henrietta Johnson respectively. The World Chairman led the Intercessions. Three Bishops were in attendance, the Bishop of the Diocese of the Gambia, Bishop T S Johnson, who celebrated the Eucharist; the Rt

Revd P E S Thompson and The Rt Revd Dr Michael Keili, Bishop of the Diocese of Bo, who delivered the sermon. He commented on the historical background of the church and Regent Village and remarked that our attendance at the service was a worthy contribution to a glorious heritage of the church history. Emphasis was laid on love, which had brought members with different backgrounds, languages and culture together. At the end of the service, some of the delegates including the Bishop of the Gambia were guests at a Buffet Lunch at the home of Mr and Mrs S A J Pratt and family whilst others went to the Reception organised by the GFS branch of Regent, at the Village Community Centre.

In the evening, a Reception was held in the Main Hall of the Hotel by the members of the Mothers Union. The event was chaired by the Revd J O P Lynch, Vicar of Christ Church and Principal of the Bishop Johnson Memorial School.

Each morning at the Rotary Room, the Holy Communion was administered by one of the Chaplains and the evening services were led by members from different groups of countries,

Monday 30 July

The Holy Eucharist was celebrated by the chaplain, the Rt Revd T S Johnson and the theme was "The Call".

After breakfast, participants departed from the Hotel for the Opening Ceremony at the Miatta Conference Centre in the Youyi Building at Brookfields. Music was supplied by the Male Police Band. The Conference was called to order by the Bishop of Freetown who invited Bishop T S Johnson, Chaplain to the Council, to say the opening prayers. The welcome song was sung before the World Chairman gave her welcome address.

The World Chairman's Address

And I said to the man who stood by the gate of the year, "Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown" and he replied "Go out into the darkness and put thine hand into the hand of God. That shall be to thee better than any light and safer than any known way".

These words of M L Haskins portray the thoughts which went round and round my head during the Commissioning Ceremony at a well-attended service at the Cathedral Church of St Deinid, Bangor on Wednesday 5 August 1987. I was asked the question: "Are you willing to render to our Lord Christ your entire obedience, so that you may serve him as he commands you?"

I replied: "I will serve Christ and obey him."

At that time, the task seemed colossal, but I was determined that by God's grace, I will carry out the task entrusted to my care. I will "put my hand into the hand of God" and allow him to lead me along the paths he would have me go. I can truthfully say, that in everything I have done during the past years I have depended on him for guidance.

So let me now, formally welcome all our guests to the Thirteenth World Council. I pray that for us thirteen will be a lucky number! Many of you have travelled thousands of miles over several days, to Africa and for most of you; this is the first visit to this vast continent. The places you will visit will be but a speck on the map of Africa. Nonetheless, we welcome you with open arms and we hope you will enjoy a worthwhile one.

The hosting of the World Council in Sierra Leone is a direct result of the decision taken in 1975 to base the World Project for 1975/78 in West Africa. It only materialised in 1980 when Miss Eva Hales from Belfast, dedicated ten months of her life, working with GFS leaders in Liberia, Sierra Leone and the Gambia, bringing new life into the branches. In the words of the late Archbishop Scot ".....the branches of the GFS came to life through the performance of Eva. Mrs Betty Ross had prepared the soil.....she did the sowing on the field already prepared by Mrs Ross". Of course, the successful project was planned and implemented by Mrs Floris Bain the then retiring World Chairman (who is thankfully here today) and her team in America. But it was worth waiting for. It was some of the leaders who were trained then, who spearheaded the hosting of the Council in Sierra Leone. Unfortunately, in the meantime, many of them are no longer with us – they are either dead or have left the country for one reason or another.

Before the baton was handed over to me, Mrs Umeyo Iwai, the last but one world chairman from Japan, said in a letter to me that it was going to be a difficult but rewarding task and this it has been. In the last three years, we have endeavoured to strengthen our dying branches and to restart some of those which were dead in our country and the other West African countries. We have not had the degree of success we wished for, but we are thankful to God, that the Ghanaian delegation is a testimony of the work that was done by one of our members. GFS in West Africa has been strengthened. The opportunity to host World Council has paid rich dividends.

Now we look ahead into the future. The GFS seeks to nurture young girls in the service of Society and the Church. I must confess that, in the last three years, we have not done very much of that at diocesan level, although the branches have continued the work in their own quiet way. Now that the activities involved in the planning for World Council are over, we look forward to a period of service, when we will launch out into the deep, get more and more girls involved in the process of having fun while learning and serving.

The organisation of World Council has come a long way from that of 1966 when five people – three from the United States of America, one from England and one from Ireland – travelled to Australia to attend the World Council meetings. The world seems to have grown smaller and more people are able to get together from far off places. Today there are sixty-seven non-Sierra Leonean participants as well as sixty-nine Sierra Leoneans. This is an indication of the growth which has taken place over the years and the love of the members for the society.

We pray that in the few days we will be meeting at Brookfields Hotel our discussion will produce decision that will ensure the continued development of the organisation.

Many people have contributed toward what we hope will be a successful World Council, but I cannot and do not intend to name them all here. However, few are worthy of mention, I must thank my husband, Bishop Prince for his love, patience, advice and support throughout these three years. Also, Henrietta Johnson who helped me efficiently perform the task I felt at the start was going to be the most difficult. She has quietly typed, produced and distributed the World Newsletters throughout the period. The Secretary who has given of her time, talent and treasure, as well as the patient husbands of all those who worked to bring World Council 1990 to Sierra Leone.

Once more I welcome you all!

The **Guest Speaker** for the occasion was Prof Eldred Durosimi Jones, past Principal of Fourah Bay College, the University of Sierra Leone. He emphasised the necessity for every right-thinking Christian girl throughout the world to give serious thought to her obligations to society in a way that her life would be meaningful, not only to herself but the society in which she lives. He suggested that one way by which the Girls Friendly Society could assist in education, is by either buying or collecting gifts of books for little church libraries so that young girls could have access to good reading material.

Greetings came from Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother; President Bush and wife, Barbara; Archbishop of Canterbury; the Presiding Bishop of America; Fr Franklin L Reid, Rector St Luke's Episcopal Church, Bronx, New York; David N Dunkins, Mayor of the City of New York; Bishop Rogeis S Harris, Diocese of South West Florida; the Rt Revd G P Mellick Belshaw, Bishop of the Diocese of New Jersey; the Chairman Executive and members of the Girls; Friendly Society, Diocese of North Wales; The Archbishop of Wales; The Rt Revd A C Holland, the Bishop of Newcastle, Australia; the President and members of GFS, Diocese of Los Angeles; Mrs Audrey Moore, GFS President and Revd Michael Clarke, former Rector of St Patrick's Church, Barbados; Archbishop, Church of the Province of West Africa; President of the Sierra Leone Council of Churches.

In the vote of thanks given by Mrs Alice Maude Newstead, the Secretary to the World Council, she thanked the guests for the sacrifice made to witness the ceremony, the members of the Sierra Leone Male Police Band for their musical contributions, and last but not least the Guest Speaker, who was

assured that his paper would be given deep consideration especially in areas where he had made useful suggestions. His work as an English teacher and writer has always been admired.

World Council Session 1

The session started at 3.30pm with the introduction of World Council Officers by the World Chairman.

The Vice-Chairman	Mrs Dilys Fowler from Wales
The Secretary	Mrs Alice-Maude Newstead
The Treasurer	Mrs Esther Allen.

The delegates and observers from each country were then introduced by the Senior delegate

Country	Name	Delegate
Australia	Mrs Kathleen Reynolds	
	Miss Anne Quinee	Junior
Barbados	Miss Beverly Sealy	
England	Mrs Joy Epton	
	Miss Janine Hughes	Junior
Gambia	Mrs Priscilla Johnson	
Ghana	Mrs Juliana Okine	
	Mrs Johanna Veronica Haizel	Junior
Ireland	Mrs Olein Gyles	
	Miss Hazel Codd	Junior
Japan	Miss Mary Yoshiko Miyanishi	
	Miss Mariko Ishikawa	Junior
Lesotho	Mrs Alice Ntsebeng Mafereka	
New Zealand	Mrs Joy Parkin	
Nigeria	Mrs Clarice Modu	
	Miss Grace Osuji	Junior
Philippines	Dr (Mrs) Kate Botengan	
Sierra Leone	Miss Daphne Langley	
	Ms Elizabeth Mdingi	Junior
Transkei	Mrs Nobantu Makunga	
	Ms Elizabeth Mdingi	Junior
United States	Mrs Patricia L Bryant	
	Miss Laura Detor	Junior
Wales	Mrs Carol Gardner	
	Miss Elizabeth Hancock	Junior

There were forty-four non-Sierra Leonean observers. Then followed the reports from three countries – Australia, Barbados and England.

The chairman asked the house if there were any questions or areas to be clarified. Since there was none, she expressed her gratitude to the delegates.

Financial Accounts for 1984/87

John Perkins, Treasurer of the Welsh Council, presented a report, for the period 1 December 1984-30 November 1987. She reported that in March 1985, the balance of World Fund (£6,518) was transferred to the GFS Welsh Council from GFS Japan. Total amount received, including fees, funds raised, dues etc was £82,537.34. The balance transferred to a holding account for the World Council in Sierra Leone 1990 was £10,703 (including £3,176 as World Travel monies). The Treasurer also reported that the sum of £758.40 has been withheld as a contingency reserve.

Tuesday 31 July

The Holy Eucharist was celebrated by the Rev C Southerton and the theme for the day was "Jesus the Light".

World Council 2

The Minutes of the last World Council meeting in Wales 1987

The Minutes Book which had been in use since 1972 was handed over to Mrs Subuola Thompson by Mrs D Fowler. The latter asked if there were comments to be made with regards to the minutes which had been previously circulated. Since there was none, the acceptance was moved and seconded. The jacket in which the minute's book was secured was displayed to participants. Later both the book and jacket were handed to Mrs Alice-Maude Newstead, the Secretary to the World Council.

Country Reports:

Reports were heard from Lesotho, New Zealand and Nigeria. The two first apologised for their failure to get their reports printed. Mrs Thompson wanted to know from Nigeria whether there was any possibility of establishing the GFS in other Dioceses. Mrs Modu in her reply said that it would depend on their activities, since they were being watched.

\That of the Philippines came next, after which a bag was presented to Mrs S Thompson and lovely markers made from country cloth distributed. It was suggested that the stole for Bishop P E S Thompson be given to him in person. After a few words of appreciation from Mrs Thompson, Mrs Henrietta Johnson was asked to read the report from Sierra Leone. In the absence of any question affecting the report, the Chairman requested that the account book be handed over to Mrs Esther Allen. The meeting then had a short break.

World Council 3

Mrs Subuola Thompson acknowledged the presence of Mrs Tamiko Sakamoto who had been ill since she arrived in Freetown. Prayers were offered on her behalf. The report from Transkei included that of the GFS World Council Project for 1991 and the Chicken Project. Those members who had been involved in organising the project were commended for their good work. Reports from the United State of America, Wales, Ghana and the Gambia followed, and the Chairman prayed that the GFS would spread throughout the last two countries.

The Secretary of the World Council was asked to receive the greetings that had come in late from Anglican Church in Wales; The Bishop of St Asaph in the province of the Church of Wales; The Bishop of Lincoln; Diocese of Los Angeles, California, USA; Diocese of Newcastle, New South Wales. Participants then retired for lunch.

The Afternoon session which started at 3.30pm provided an opportunity to discuss issues facing young people in the world under the theme "Bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." Eph 6:4 and the Animator was Mrs Sylvia Savage. In order to help members in their various groups, she identified areas that should be given serious consideration.

10 The responsibility of the home in Christian upbringing.

The Church's role

The contribution of the state.

Current concerns for children.

Certain questions were asked to be answered giving appropriate biblical references where necessary:

- 1) What is Christian discipline and instruction in your estimation?
- 2) Give examples of some of the ways parents can combine their everyday activities with their Christian living.
- 3) Do you believe that members of the GFS should be taught to make the spirit take effective control in their lives?
If so, give some examples of activities. If not, what would you suggest?
- 4) Should GFS activities be geared towards reducing social evils in the society? Give reasons for your answers.

Participants were divided into 6 groups in all, and the leaders

Group 1	Miss Laura Detor
Group 2	Mrs Umeyo Iwai
Group 3	Mrs Kathleen Linnegan
Group 4	Miss Patricia Franklin
Group 5	Mrs Henrietta Johnson
Group 6	Mrs Jean Riggs.

After dinner, participants listened to a talk on "Our Heritage" by Professor Maghalley Fyle. He introduced participants to a background history of Sierra Leone from the days of the settlers to the present time. He informed participants that the Krio language which is used in every part of the country is made up of different languages. Most of the cultural background, traditions and beliefs are similar to that of the Yorobas in Nigeria. For example

- (A) The Comojaday, is the ceremony in which a newborn baby is named and shown to neighbours and friends.
- (B) They believe in the power of the ancestors. Many people talk to the dead during some festive season e.g., Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

Other language groups are the Mendes in the south and east and the Temnes in the north. These two groups form about forty percent of the population. The Limba speaking people have also become prominent through political attainment.

The culture of each tribe has developed to meet the economic and social needs of the people. For example, the practice of growing rice, which is the staple food of the country. Harvest time is the time of happiness and institutions related to puberty and marriage bustle with activity. Young

people are secluded in preparation for adulthood, learning the laws of society, how to hunt and serve in the environment. Many of the trainees of the Society marry after graduation. The family concept is different from that of other areas of the World. Now you would find a cluster of houses, built with thatched roof. There is normally an individual who is the deceased. The chief's house has a large veranda where he sits to pronounce his verdicts. He is usually a dictator and the head of the organisation. Men may marry two wives and the children grow up to recognise two mothers – the biological one and the social one. Culture plays an important part in our lives. He then wished members a happy stay in Sierra Leone. The applause from the participants at the end of the talk showed their appreciation.

Wednesday 1 August

The Revd F Harada was the celebrant at the Holy Eucharist, the theme for the day being "Jesus the way". Passages were read from Col, 15-23, John 14:1-6 and Palm 23.

Delegates Conference 1

It was agreed that a birthday message be sent to Her Majesty the Queen Mother, and also thanking her for her greetings to the World Council. A greeting card was later signed by delegates.

World Council 1993.

It was reported that New Zealand had offered to host the next World Council in 1993. Transkei had offered to host it, but that of New Zealand took precedence. Transkei could come up in 1996, provided there was no other offer, but England indicated her desire to host. As a result, it was agreed that the offers made by Transkei and England be accepted, whilst waiting for a final decision to be taken at the next World Council in 1993.

Mrs Joy Parkin, the delegates from New Zealand declared that her archbishop has GFS at heart. She remarked that because the long distance and the high cost of ticket had not prevented her from attending the Conference, countries in other parts of the world were to be taken into consideration. Mrs Dilys Fowler explained that travelling World-wide is not a "must" but if the necessity arises, arrangements could be made to ease the situation.

GFS Prayer

Members felt it was necessary to have a unified international GFS prayer that would be used in World Councils, World Day of Prayer and other general meetings, whilst different countries use their individual prayers for local activities.

A Special Committee of seven was formed to write out one and present to the house on Saturday 4 August. They were requested to take into consideration the existing Australian prayer.

World Project

There were two possible projects – Kenya which had been previously presented and the Philippines. It was agreed that:

- 1) The Kenya project be shelved.
- 2) Dr Kate Botengan of the Philippines present a Project Paper at the next meeting.
- 3) World Council fund in future be used to finance a major and minor project.

Members agreed that it would be ideal for the World Projects to be presented before the Triennial Council meets.

GFS decisions over the years

The Chairman observed that for many years decision have been taken by different World Councils, but no separate record is kept of them. The young members have no source from which a comprehensive list of what has been done in the past can be found.

It was suggested that Mrs Floris Bain was the most suited person to do it. She was asked to search the minutes from 1975 and extract the necessary information. She willingly agreed.

Keeping GFS Diocesan Membership Alive

The problems of keeping up communication between the dioceses was raised. The present means of Communication is not good enough so that if the one person who acts as a link with dioceses is removed by death or other cause, there is a break in communication.

Dioceses are urged to have a Worldwide representative so that she the president and perhaps one other will keep up correspondence with other countries.

World Dues

It was suggested that £15 for three ears per country was too small for World Dues and there was need for a change.

After some discussion, it was agreed that the dues be increased to £10 per year so as to make the fund healthy. Any country willing to pay more is welcome to do so.

GFS Links

The Ghanaian delegate wanted to know if GFS had existing link relationships. She had a positive reply. The list was brought up-to-date and dioceses without links were brought into the system as follows:

Ghana joins in with Wales, Lesotho and Sri Lanka.

The Gambia to join with England, Barbados, Guyana and Transkei

Zambia to join with Ireland, Japan, Kenya and the Philippines.

Any other business

It was felt by some delegates that there was a need to change the name of the Society in view of the fact that other meanings such as "God's Friendly Sons" and "Girls for Sale" have been given to the initials GFS.

However, the house felt that the name Girls Friendly Society should be retained.

Open Day and Exhibition

At 3.30pm participants exhibited various items from their countries which were examined by visitors and GFS members. Gifts were exchanged.

Africana Night started at 7pm with Dinner, followed by a Fashion Show organised by a group of GFS members from Sierra Leone and produced by Mrs Fauda Akiwumi and Miss Lyni Jueli-Sheriff. It was a colourful evening with different types of African costumes worn by participants from all over the World. The program ended with Gumbay dance, typical amongst the Creoles. The music was attractive and moved a large number of participants to join the exercise.

Thursday 2 August

Holy Communion was administered by the Rev. Prince Decker. The theme was "Jesus the Truth". Passages were read from Philippians 2:5-12 and John 14:1-6.

After breakfast buses departed with participants for shopping and sight-seeing. A small group of delegates had an audience with the President, Dr J S Momoh at State House. He showed his concern over some of the problems faced by women and young people all over the world.

3.30pm Discussion on the theme continued and attention was focussed on its actualisation in our lives.

The Animator introduced the second aspect of the theme and asked members to consider its practical application by following to instructions in the handout:

- 1) By way of role-play, demonstrate any new dimension of Christian living which might be beneficial to your community.
- 2) Give examples of programs stating the objectives you intend to undertake in the GFS that would bring out the Christian up-bringing we have been discussing.

The groups prepared for and presented role plays under the different sub-themes.

6.30pm Evening Prayer was led by members from Nigeria and the Philippines.

Scripture passages were taken from Isaiah 25:1-6 and 1 John 1:1-7.

7.00pm Buses departed for Lumley Beach on a beach outing. The sea view was fascinating and the temperature refreshing.

Dinner was served in one of the beach restaurants called The Venue. Background music added more to the impressive atmosphere. Soon it was time to return to the Hotel leaving the wonderful scenery behind.

Friday 3 August

At about 7 am busses departed for Bo, a town which is situated in the southern province and is about 136 miles from Freetown. It was a very long coach journey, which gave members the opportunity to see some of the beautiful African countryside. On arrival in Bo, a short service was held at St Paul's Pro-Cathedral at which members of the United Church women, representing the fourteen churches in that town were present. At the service, an address was given by Bishop Michael Keioli, who also conducted the devotion.

Lunch was served at the Community Centre and GFS members of Bo entertained the group with singing and dancing. They were also seen at work with their craft. Mrs (Rev) Naomi Sam-kpa-dra, who coordinated the visit, had earlier introduced the different groups whilst the World Chairman introduced the GFS members. Hon Sam Kpakra gave a short message.

Buses departed for Freetown a little after 4pm.

Dinner concluded the day's activities.

Saturday 4 August

The Holy Eucharist was administered by Rev J Thorold. The theme was "Jesus the Life", and passages were read from Co 3:1-4, John 14:1-6 and Psalm 4:1-8. After breakfast there was a change in the program.

A Delegates Conference took the place of the Workshop.

Delegates Conference 2

The International Prayer that had been prepared by a Special Committee set up at the last meeting and chaired by Mrs Joy Parkin was presented to the house. Having been read out considered and amended, it now reads:

God, our Father. We thank you for your goodness, love and mercy to all who belong to the Girls Friendly Society worldwide. Help us to bear one another's burdens, as members of one family in Jesus Christ. We ask for your blessings on our members, that we may grow in grace through your spirit.

Help us to know in our lives the joy of your everlasting love through Jesus Christ you Son our Lord. Amen.

A motion for the acceptance of the prayer was moved by Mrs Parkin and seconded by Miss Anne Quinn. It was agreed that the above prayer be duplicated and distributed and also included in the order of service for the World Day of Prayer.

Philippine's Project

Dr Kate Botengan reported on the project to be undertaken in the Philippines an outlined its objectives as follows:

- 1) To be able to train GFS Leaders.
- 2) To produce GFS Handbook.
- 3) To ensure the stability of GFS in the Philippines.

A prepared budget giving the estimate of the project as \$22,700 was presented. A delegate from Australia moved

"the acceptance of the project as that for 1990/93"

And was seconded by a delegate from Japan. This was unanimously accepted by the house.

Children's Charter

During the discussion on the theme, the animator, Mrs Sylvia Savage had indicated that a meeting had been planned for the following September in the United States of America for discussing the plight of children in the world. Our possible contribution was considered at length and it was agreed that despite the fact that detailed information connected with the Charter was not available, yet the thought of arresting the plight of the children was most welcome and such a message was to be sent to the Conference of the Children's Charter. The message was:

"The GFS World Council is pleased that their nations are considering the plight of the world's children. It would aim to support any resolution passed at the conference that is in the best interest of children. Bes wishes for a successful conference."

It was decided that delegates were to go home, inform their members that we had sent such a resolution and try to find out the country's stand on the matter.

A message from the President of Sierra Leone

Dr J S Momoh's message was read, and it was agreed that the reply be worded as follows:

"To His Excellency the President, we the members of the GFS World Council, meeting in Freetown, wish to thank your Excellency for your kind message and the opportunity to meet you last Thursday."

It had been a pleasure to share in the life of your beautiful country and we appreciate your understanding of the needs of young women in the world and the work of the Girls Friendly Society. We wish you God's riches blessings."

Mrs Subuola Thompson thanked delegates for participating so well and for the many presents given to her, the officers and the girls. Members then dispersed for lunch.

Financial Statement – Sierra Leone.

The Treasurer, Mrs Esther Allen presented an interim report showing the statement of overseas accounts 1987-90 as receipts and payments were expected from transactions which had not yet been recorded in the bank statement. The figures shown were as follows:

£

Council fees	12,119.86
World Dues	618.10
World Travel Fund	4,887.97
World Project	1,929.08
World Fund	9,582.13
Interest Received	<u>2,676.13</u>
	31,813.59

Payments made then were £6.619.46

International Nighty

After lunch members were engaged in the preparation for the International night. This event followed dinner. Each country represented made a contribution for the entertainment of all present.

Sunday 5 August

Buses departed for St George's Cathedral at 8.45am to attend the Closing Service and Commissioning of the new World Chairman. The National Banners and dresses made the occasion very colourful. The Epistle was read by the World Chairman, Mrs Subuola Thompson and the Gospel by the World Chairman Elect Mrs Joy Parkin. The sermon was delivered by the Rt Revd Michael Nazir Ali, General Secretary of the Church Missionary Society in London.

The Intercessions were led by Mrs Priscilla Johnson delegate from Banjul.

The Rt Revd Prince E S Thompson, Bishop of the Diocese of Freetown was the celebrant; he also commissioned the new World Chairman.

The Service was followed by a farewell lunch at the hotel at 1pm.

The outgoing World Chairman thanked members for their contributions during the sessions and wished everyone a safe return home. She congratulated the new World Chairman and wished her a successful term of office. She also handed over to her a file of GFS World Council documents.

Immediately after lunch some delegates and observers left for their homes in different parts of the world. Others who had their return flights booked for various days during the following week stayed on to enjoy more of the beautiful scenery and the fellowship offered to them.

We thank you for coming.

Signed Joy M Parkin, 11 May 1993.

**GIRLS FRIENDLY SOCIETY WORLD COUNCIL
NEW ZEALAND
MAY 1993**

Minutes of the meeting of the 14th meeting of the World Council of the Girls' Friendly Society held at Samuel Marsden Collegiate School, 8 May to 16th May 1993.

Theme: "Women Helping Women Worldwide"

Saturday 8 May 1993 saw the arrival of delegates and observers to the 14th World Council of the Girls Friendly Society held in Wellington, the beautiful capital city of New Zealand. Members registered at Samuel Marsden Collegiate School, the venue for Council and were then transported by friends of GFS in private cars to the two hostels located in Karori, the Girls Friendly Society Hostel – Lucy Jervis House and Helen Lowry Hall.

A 'happy hour' preceded dinner and the World Chairperson welcomed all delegates and observers to New Zealand and thanked them for coming such a distance – for some to the other side of the world! She then introduced the World Secretary, Mrs Jean Mangan, the World Treasurer, Mrs Gillian Steel, and the New Zealand members of the GFS Council. Archdeacon Michael Small, the Chaplain to World Council and Dr John Bonifant, the honorary doctor to Council were also introduced.

The Opening Eucharist was held in the Wellington Cathedral Church of St Paul the following morning and was a moving and spectacular service with the full Cathedral Choir, the procession of official delegates, the presentation of banners from all participating countries, and many vested clergy, the preacher being the Right Reverend Dr Penelope Jamison, Bishop of Dunedin. Lessons were read by Mrs Subuola Thompson, Past World Chairperson of the GFS and the World Chairperson, Mrs Joy Parkin of New Zealand. The Eucharist was celebrated by the Primate of New Zealand and Bishop of Wellington, the Most Reverend Brian Davis who welcomed all present to the 14th World Council of the Girls Friendly Society.

After a luncheon hosted by the Wellington Diocese, visitors walked a short distance to Old St Paul's Cathedral, a magnificent historic places building, and were then taken by bus to the Wainwiamata Marae in the Huth Valley for a traditional Maori welcome, a talk on the history of the Maori and a hangi meal.

Each morning from Monday through to Saturday a Eucharist was held in the Karori Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin and these services, arranged by the Chaplain to World Council, Archdeacon Michael Small, were an inspiration and joy to all attending. Services were held in English, Japanese, Welsh and Maori and each morning representatives of various countries took part in readings, prayers and the administration of the elements. They were truly international.

Monday morning saw the Minister for Women's Affairs, the Hon Jenny Shipley, the Council's keynote speaker, given an outstanding address entitled "Women's Voice: An International Perspective". Considering the theme of Council of "Women helping women worldwide" and with special focus on "Vision with action changes women's lives" the Minister's address was topical and especially relevant. A fluent and forceful speaker her speech set the tone for the Council. Later the World Council Executive was introduced to the delegates with the ceremony of handing over the Minute Book to the World Secretary. World Reports were presented preceded by the introduction of delegates and messages from their countries to World Council.

Delegates:

Australia	Mrs Val Gribble	
	Miss Christine Loos	Junior
Cameroon	Mrs Justina Nzegu	
England	Mrs Joy Epton	
	Miss Nicola Gratton	Junior
Ghana	Mrs Julie Okine	
Ireland	Mrs Olein Gyles	
	Miss Alison Burnside	Junior
Japan	Mrs Rebecca Ida	
	Miss Kaori Suzuki	Junior
Lesotho	Miss Alice Mafereka	
Nigeria	Mrs Clarice Modu	
Philippines	Dr Kate Botengan	
Sierra Leone	Mrs Subuola Thompson	
Sri Lanka	Mrs Gris Samuel	
Transkei	Mrs Nomatembo Titus	
USA	Mrs Constance Kilgour	
	Miss Maureen Power	Junior
Wales	Mrs Carol Gardner	
	Miss Louise Parsonage	Junior
Zambia	Mrs Rose Chisenga	
New Zealand	Mrs Jean Paterson	
	Mrs Barbara Gorman	

Messages were received from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Primate of Australia, the Most Reverend K Rayner; the Rt Revd the Bishop of Chichester; the Rt Revd the Bishop of Birmingham; the Rt Revd the Bishop of Coventry; the Rt Revd the Bishop of Southampton; the Rt Revd the Bishop of Chester; the Most Revd the Primate of All Ireland; the Rt Revd the Bishop of Dublin; the Rt Revd the Bishop of Lesotho; the Prime Bishop and Metropolitan of the Philippines; the Rt Revd the Bishop of Freetown the Rt Revd the Bishop of Colombo; the Rt Revd the Bishop of St John's, Transkei; the Most Revd the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church of the USA; Mrs Dorothy Orr, President GFS, USA the Rt Revd Bishop Suffragan of Pennsylvania; the Revd G A Ash of Trinity Church, Oxford, USA; the Most Revd the Archbishop of Wales; the Rt Revd the Bishop of Newport, the Vicar of Esclaspam, Wales.

The World Chairperson's Report was then read:

It is with pleasure and privilege that I write the Girls' Friendly Society World Report for the period of which I have been your chairperson.

After the 13th World Council in Sierra Leone in 1990 and with the prayers of Mrs Subuola Thompson, I returned to New Zealand via London where I received such support and help from our GFS Office in Townsend House.

GFS New Zealand were delighted that New Zealand had been chosen to host the 14th World Council in 1993. We set to work immediately with a strategic planning meeting and made our bookings.

The Archbishop of New Zealand, the Most Reverend Brian Davis, who is also the Bishop of Wellington Dioceses, was our first place of call. His enthusiasm and encouragement gave us the means to take on the task of organising a World Council.

We had a small but very experienced World Council Executive with Mrs Jean Morgan as the World Council Secretary and Mrs Gillian Steel as the World Council Treasurer.

The Executive team gave a great deal of thought to the logo and the theme for the Council, as 1993 was to be a year in New Zealand to celebrate the Centenary of Women's Suffrage. GFS is so much a part of the history of the independent development of young women in our country. The logo, with Women helping women worldwide, Wahine Toa Te Awhina, seemed to cover what we needed. A theme of "vision with action changes women's lives" also seemed appropriate for this very special year.

We decided to ask the New Zealand Government through the Department of Women's Affairs and the Suffrage Centennial Trust, Whakatu Wahine, to help us with world travel to bring some delegates to World Council. The Trust was very generous and gave us a grant for which we are most grateful. Several sponsors were also generous with their help for us, so we were assured of a successful Council.

Communication has been again the most difficult task. As your Chairperson I have tried to keep in touch with you all and I thank those who have written to me with news of their activities and special events.

The World Project is now established in the Philippines and Dr Kate Botengan will report on this at World Council.

I have only visited Australia as your World Chairperson and what a wonderful welcome I had from Mrs Ev Beckenham. I spent a day with GFS leaders in Sydney, enjoyed a lovely meal at Ev's and talked to Mrs Val Gribble on the phone in the middle of dinner. It was truly a time I shall remember.

One of the jobs of the World Chairperson is to look with vision for the GFS worldwide family and make our Society relevant in today's changing and restructured world.

To think of all who are working in different situations, working with young women who are vulnerable, who are at risk facing uncertain futures, unemployment, breakdown of family life, communicable diseases and violent situations, many who are unaware of God's love and Christ's hand of comfort.

We have a challenge in our work as a Society to give young women a chance to grow with self-esteem and love. Not many organisations carry out work the way we do in that very special GFS way.

Our way may be stormy and our path hard but if we follow our faith in truth, simplicity and spirituality we will reach our goals. I sincerely hope that our Council will begin on this path in 1993.

It is now time in our progress as a World Council to put our Society on a strong, well-established business foundation. The Guidelines need to be clearer, and finances need to be clarified so that continuity and understanding of our aims are very clear to all. These points have been communicated to me as your Chairperson and will be on the agendas for World Council meetings at this World Council.

We have achieved a great deal to be gathering for the fourteenth time as a World Council and we can all say, "well done, true and faithful servants".

I conclude with many thanks to say not only to you all around the world who have upheld me with your prayers and love, but to all GFS members in New Zealand, especially your World Secretary, Mrs Jean Morgan, whose talents have been a shining light for the Lord and through our Society.

Your Chairperson

Joy Parkin.

The **Agenda** for the 14th Triennial General meeting the following day was then set. A Civic Reception hosted by Her Worship the Mayor of Wellington, the Hon Fran Wilde, was held in the City's Town Hall. The Archbishop of New Zealand, the most Reverend Brian Davis, with the Chaplain to World Council, Archdeacon Michael Smart, attended this Reception. In the evening a Youth Session was convened by the Chaplain and six younger New Zealanders shared their experience as young people in New Zealand and in the church. This included being a student, being in the workforce, being Maori and Pakeha, being a married couple and parents, and being ordained. All expressed the need to live up to their Christian faith in a secular society where most people saw God and the church as irrelevant.

Tuesday morning saw observers leaving for a day's visit to a kiwi fruit farm and to Lindale Farm where many aspects of farming life were shown and where many of the visitors were able to purchase woollen goods. The delegates attended the 14th World Council Triennial Meeting, and the minutes of this meeting are as under.

**The Girls Friendly Society World Council: Minutes of the Fourteenth World Council
of the Girls' Friendly Society held in Wellington, New Zealand. 11 May 1993 at
9.30am**

Present: Delegates from Australia, Cameroon, England, Gambia, Ghana, Ireland, Japan, Lesotho, New Zealand, Nigeria, Philippines, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Transkei, United States, Wales, Zambia.

Mrs Parkin, Chairperson, formally welcomed delegates and declared the meeting open.

Minutes of the Thirteenth World Council

With the following amendments and additions, the Philippine delegated moved, New Zealand seconded

"That the Minutes be accepted as a true and correct record".

Message from the Prime Bishop Richard Abellonk, Philippines was not mentioned.

Two messages from Ireland were not mentioned.

Archbishop's message from New Zealand not mentioned.

Page 4, last paragraph, eight lines from the bottom, "I felt as the start" should read "I felt at the start"

Page 9, second paragraph. "krio languages" should read "krio language".

Page 9, third paragraph, "Other languages groups" should read "other language groups".

Page 9, last paragraph, "Young people are included" should read "young people are secluded".

CARRIED

The Chairperson pointed out that the Japanese delegation were having language problems and it was agreed that the observers be allowed to stay to help with this problem.

Matters Arising

Page 11, "GFS decision over the years". The Chairperson advised that Mrs Floris Bain is undertaking this, but it has not yet been received.

Page 11 "Keeping GFS Diocesan Membership alive". The problem of communication is an ongoing problem about which many World Council Chairpersons have spoken.

The Australian delegate reported that she had received the Minutes only a week ago and that the person who attended the meeting was not at this year's Council meeting and had had little opportunity to see the Minutes. There followed much discussion on whether the Minute Book should remain with the outgoing World Chairperson or go with the new World Chairperson, and whether just the Minutes of the meeting should be included in the Book or a report of the whole session.

A motion was put

"That the Minute Book be taken home with the new World Chairperson" **which** was LOST

England Moved, Wales seconded

"That the Minutes of this meeting and the report of the whole session be circulated within one year of the triennial meeting with a recommendation that, if possible, it be done within six months"

CARRIED

Financial Reports:

The previous World Council Treasurer, Sierra Leone, presented a financial report and the report of receipts and payments of the last World Council and moved that these be adopted.

Sierra Leone formally passed the World Council account book to New Zealand. The New Zealand World Council Treasurer advised that the £7,500 to come from Sierra Leone via the bank in London has not yet been received and will be followed up. It was reported that some structure is required for financial systems as the previous World Council seems to be responsible for spending money after their term of office has ended and the current Chairperson has no knowledge of what is being spent.

Australia and England advised that they have money available for World Projects but were waiting for advice from the Philippines as to how this was to be paid.

New Zealand reported that its aim is to pass the £17,500 it received from World Funds on to the next Council.

World Travel Fund

World Travel has caused a few problems in that some of the fares have escalated. There is currently about £1,800 in the fund and subsidised travel will have cost about £14-15,000. The Travel Fund has financed five delegates and New Zealand will finance what cannot be financed by the Fund. There will, however, be nothing in the Fund to pass on. The Council had considered requests for travel in the order in which the applications were received – some tickets were issued at a far higher cost than that budgeted. Delegates were asked to travel to New Zealand by the most economical route and several went via the UK when it would have been more economical to go via Australia. This has caused a great strain on the Travel Fund. Letters were sent to delegates asking for details of travel plans but although replies were received, they did not contain answers to the questions asked. Australia reported that they approached their travel agent, found the cheapest fare and itinerary and faxed the Philippines and Lesotho and told them that this was what Australia was prepared to pay for. The ticket was available at the airport they were to travel from and there was no problem. England moved and Nigeria seconded.

"That the World Funds be made available for the past World Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer to attend the next World Council" CARRIED

Sierra Leone moved and Nigeria seconded *"That all subsidised fares to World Council be at the cheapest possible rate and that the control of the fare be in the hands of the country who is paying the account"* CARRIED.

Currency of Funds

The minutes of the World Council meeting in Wales record that the World Council's funds be in sterling, or \$US. They have been held in sterling and as they were needed, they were converted to \$NZ. It was agreed that to be fair to all countries sterling was used. In answer to comments that it was a very expensive Conference to attend, the Chairperson replied that the cost was the same as the last and had not risen for the previous three Conferences. It was agreed that the Minute recorded in Wales should continue to stand.

Duration of World Council

The Chairperson reported that, with economics as they are, it is extremely expensive to have World Council meetings every three years. Ireland proposed that is difficult financially to support them every three years and that maybe the example of the Mothers Union should be followed and Councils held every ten years, although this may be a bit too long. Sierra Leone felt three years was just right, any longer might be too long for a Chairperson to carry on, but that perhaps countries should send fewer delegates to attend. She also advised that the Mothers Union feels that ten years is too long, and they are to discuss this. England felt that five years was too long a time to maintain contact, particularly for new member countries. The Chairperson suggested that if countries are having trouble funding their travel, the World Council should be called on to help.

The United States spoke in favour of extending the time between Councils. They only send two delegates but even this has been costly. They have difficulty enough raising money for work within the country and people resent money spent on sending two people to World Council meetings out of the country. They supported extending the period to five years.

Philippines suggested explaining another possibility such as having a World Council every six years but Regional Conferences in between, ie every three years.

Australia moved and Lesotho seconded

"That we continue holding a World Council every three years" **14 for/2 against** CARRIED.

United States moved and Wales seconded

"That the duration of Council meetings be an agenda item at the next World Council Meeting".
CARRIED.

Attendance at Council Meetings

GFS in the US is asking for a representative from each Diocese to come to World Council. However, if they were not a delegate, they would not be allowed to sit in at the World Council meetings. They felt that it was unfair to delegates not to have the support of observers. They should be allowed to sit in and listen, not to have a vote but to be supportive. Nigeria felt that if observers did not have a vote and did not participate there was no reason why they could not observe. It would help the work of GFS back home to have more people understanding the work of the World Council.

Philippines noted in the Guidelines that observers may be invited to the Council and shall have the right to speak but not vote. Australia spoke in favour of having observers attending the meeting.

The US did not expect observers to speak but delegates would be able to consult with observers before voting. To have a group going home to report is far better than one or two people reporting as each person takes home their own view. Japan agreed they would like to have observers as observers only and during lunch and morning tea they could discuss items with their delegates.

England suggested that the Guidelines need a review as some things are not adhered to as set out. It was agreed to do this the following day.

The United States moved and Nigeria seconded

"That observers be permitted to observe. They will not have a vote and they will not be permitted to speak" CARRIED.

World Day of Prayer

England put forward a suggestion that countries who are not able to host World Council could prepare a form of World Day of Prayer for everyone to use (as a guide). Members would see the

way other cultures worship and their view of God. The Chairperson advised that New Zealand was responsible for 1993. US suggested that countries be asked to volunteer for the next three years at each World Council.

England moved and US seconded

“That countries offer to prepare the World Day of Prayer form of service for each of the next three years” CARRIED.

It was agreed that the Order of Service be prepared in 1994 by Sri Lanka, 1995 by Lesotho and 1996 by Zambia.

World Treasurer

For the World Council accounts to show a true picture of what has happened it is necessary for all details of transactions to be recorded, ie details from countries that have paid air fares for other countries must be recorded as an "in" and "out" transaction. The World Treasurer needs to be advised of all money handed over for World Projects. The Chairperson advised that not all countries had paid their World Dues which are £30 for three years. This money is vital for administration. England suggested that if countries are finding it difficult to find this money, they should approach their link country. Sierra Leone asked that it be known who has not paid their dues.

World Banner

England suggested that a World Banner be considered. It was suggested and agreed that each country provide a symbol, and possibly a design or two, and that the World Secretary, Mrs Morgan approach Mrs Beverley Shore-Bennett, a New Zealander, to see if she is prepared to help with it. Symbols and designs to be sent within one year.

General Business

Zambia and Cameroon applied to the World Council for membership. The Chairperson advised that although they have now made formal application, they must have a letter from their Bishop to say that he agrees and supports the application for World Council membership.

The link countries are as follows:

A	Australia	New Zealand	Liberia	Korea	Cameroon
B	England	Gambia	Guyana	Barbados	Transkei
C	Ireland	Japan	Kenya	Zambia	Philippines
D	USA	Newfoundland	Nigeria	Sierra Leone	
C	Wales	Sri Lanka	Ghana	Lesotho	

Next World Council

The Chairperson, before leaving the Chair, thanked everyone for their prayers over the past three years. It had been a tremendous task for a small group to run the World Council.

Transkei, who had been looking forward to hosting the World Council in 1996, sadly had to withdraw their invitation because of unrest in some parts of the country. They hoped to be able to host the 1999 Council and asked that members did not give up on them – they would not give up. The Chairperson tabled an invitation from the Archbishop of Canterbury to host the 1996 World Council in England. She then declared that England would be host and presented the new World Chairperson to the meeting. Philippines expressed a vote of thanks and appreciation to all the current Council officers for their leadership, work and love that went into the preparation of this Council.

The meeting closed at 2.05pm.

Tuesday evening saw a Maori culture demonstration with action songs and the art of making poi. This was instructive but provided some considerable amusement as delegates endeavoured to master the intricate poi movements.

World Project

Before the World Project was discussed on Wednesday morning Zambia and Cameroon were welcomed as new members of the Girls Friendly Society.

Reports from Wales, Zambia and New Zealand which could not be tabled on Monday, due to lack of time, were presented.

As no delegate from Barbados was able to attend, this country's report was tabled by the chairman. It was moved by the Chairman and seconded by Wales

"That all reports be adopted" CARRIED.

Guidelines

A number of modifications and revisions were made to the Guidelines agreed to at the 1987 meeting of the Council. It was moved by Ireland, seconded by Nigeria,

"That the proposed changes be adopted" CARRIED

(See annex for revised text)

GFS World Council meeting

– May 1993 World Project

1990 Project- Philippines

The Philippines delegate (Dr Kate Botengan) presented a report on the World Project which was approved by the 1990 World Council meeting. Progress was reported on the collection of information material and the workshops which resulted in the production of the "GFS Handbook of Information" and the "GFS Leaders Manual". Future planning includes organising a Leaders Training Camp in October 1993 and the production of a "Members Book". It is hoped that sufficient finance will be available to support the employment of a Coordinator for at least one year, if not for three.

Finance

Although the project was approved for implementation in the period 1991=1993, the bulk of the funds were not received through GFS until October 1992. Contribution to come from Australia, England, New Zealand and the United States should be sufficient to make up the remainder of the allocation (some \$US22,000).

Taking into account the problems of inflation (15-18%) in the Philippines and general increases in costs, the "guesstimate"

the delegate was that the total project would cost \$US261,000.

Minor Projects

The Vice-Chairman, Mrs Subuola Thompson, put forward a recommendation that a sum of between \$4000 and \$5000 be reserved as a contribution to training of leaders in countries which have recently joined GFS such as Ghana, The Gambia, Zambia and the Cameroons.

It was suggested that this money could be used to send people to the countries concerned to train leaders and could cover, for instance, airfares, out of pocket expenses and the cost of training materials while the host country would provide accommodation. The Chairman advised that this proposal would be considered by the next Vice-Chairman who would consult with members.

World Project 1993

Two proposals have been circulated to members, those of Nigeria and Kenya.

- a) Nigeria. The Nigerian Delegates (Clarice Modu) spoke of the serious problem of unemployment in her country (approximately 80% at present) which particularly affects young girls and explained the proposal to construct a centre, on land Tobe provided by the

diocese, which would aim to train girls in arts and crafts and some domestic work and enable them to gain employment.

The centre would include five dormitories for short stays for some 20 trainees, a hall or assembly area for training sessions, and a two-room unit for a resident co-ordinator. It is expected that the running expenses of the centre would be covered by the sale of the arts and crafts produced by trainees.

It is estimated that the project would cost about \$US25,000 for the construction of the centre.

- b) Kenya. The Kenyan delegate has not arrived in New Zealand and was therefore unable to speak about the proposal.

The delegate from England felt that without further explanation and clarification from a representative from Kenya, it was impossible to vote on the project at this meeting. Other Council members agreed with this comment.

The Chairman therefore proposed.

“That the World Council support the Nigerian project”.

The proposal was seconded by the Philippines delegate and CARRIED unanimously.

The Vice-Chairman recommended that the funds for this project be paid over at the earliest possible date.

Buses then took all present to the Headquarters of the Society, GFS House, in Newtown. Various activities of the work of the House were shown to members who also visited the adjacent Wellington City Mission and heard of the work of the Mission from Father John Bowles, Wellington City Missioner. Lunch was served and various tours and visits were arranged with many taking advantage of visiting the shops in the centre of the city.

The first speaker on Thursday morning was Dame Miriam Dell BNZ, DB, BL, the Chairperson of the 1993 Suffrage Centenary Year Trust, Whakatu Wahine. Her charm of manner and excellent address endeared her to all.

Following Dame Miriam's address an interesting Forum was held entitled "Women in the Church" featuring Mrs Janet Hesketh QSM, Mrs Gillian Robertson B.Com and Canon Pat Muxlow L.Th. All are very much involved in the work of the church and spoke of the different aspects of their commitment and the huge opening for women to show the various ways in which to make their presence felt and seen.

After lunch buses took all to Government House for a Vice-Regal Reception hosted by the Governor General, Her Excellency Dame Catherine Tizard. This was a most significant occasion as the first GFS in New Zealand was formed in 1883 by Lady Lucy Jervois, the wife of a former Governor of New Zealand. The national dress of many of the delegates and the wonderful setting of Government House, plus the most magnificent autumn day, made this a very special event.

In the evening the Chaplain to World Council led a Plenary Session and was assisted by the Revd Helen Jacobi, Assistant Priest at St Mary's Karori.

Archdeacon Smart began by pointing out that this Conference was occurring not only in the Centennial Year of Women's Suffrage in New Zealand, but also in the Ecumenical Decade of Churches in Solidarity with Women (1988-1988). He then introduced Helen Jacobi who spoke about the way she continues in her life the roles of wife, mother and priest. This is only achieved because she and her husband operate in a partnership of mutual support which gives them both the opportunity to explore their individual careers. She explained that her husband Stephen, was a Foreign Affairs officer and had been posted to the New Zealand Embassy in Paris where she carried

out the traditional role of a diplomat's wife – attending cocktail parties, entertaining, etc. but was also able to pursue her own interest, studying theology and participating in the service and activities of the American Episcopal Cathedral in Parish. After their return to New Zealand and the birth of their daughter, Hannah, her husband, as a Government employee was granted 12 months parental leave and looked after Hannah while Helen progressed in her career in the church. She was ordained and appointed to St Mary's Karori as Assistant Priest in 1992. Stephen has now returned to Foreign Affairs and while the couple are able to employ a nanny to look after Hannah, Stephen takes his share in caring for her at times when Helen is not able to be at home – bringing her to church on Sundays, for instance.

The partnership which Helen and Stephen share serves as a model for many young parents and families. Some women had told her that they felt able to identify with her when she was officiating at a service, thus bringing an added dimension to their worship. Helen concluded by reiterating that the mutual support and partnership which she and Stephen share meant that there was no conflict in each pursuing their individual careers.

Those present then joined in the singing of a modern hymn "Com, celebrate the women who brought the Church to birth". Michael Smart began his talk by showing two images on the screen, the first of a very young girl, the second which appeared to be an older version of the same girl, but in fact also contacted the image of an old woman. He used this as an example of the "conditioning" which consciously or unconsciously prevents us accepting new images. The Spirit comes to us to enable us to take off our blinkers of conditioning or bias or prejudice and makes us see in new ways. He then talked about the sacrament and its meaning and reminded his listeners that, regardless of who is offering it, priest or lay person, the sacrament remains the means of grace.

Speaking of the image of God, traditionally depicted as a male human being, he asked the question: Does this mean God is a Father, or God is like a Father? Traditionally again, it was accepted that it was all right for women to participate in church life, but not at the altar. However, we should be looking at the qualities of God rather than his physical form.

He referred to the three "lost" parables – the shepherd looking for his sheep, the woman searching for a lost coin – the father awaiting the return of his long-lost son. While all those present had seen pictures representing the first and third parables, it was agreed that pictures of the woman searching for her lost possession were practically unknown. We were not responding to feminine pressure; women had always been a presence in the Scriptures. He told the story of the Captain of a battleship on a collision course with what he believed to be another vessel, but which turned out to be the lighthouse, and reminded us that while it is common now for people to say "truth is what I choose it to be" we as Christians have Christ as our lighthouse and the measure of what we want to do. While he understood that there were some women's experiences that man can hear about but never fully appreciate, men and women can share in prayer, in hope, identify with each other – in other words, solidarity with women, as God is in solidarity with the whole human race. Wherever we go, we can feel we have solidarity with each other in what Christ is seeking to do. He referred to the Bible description of the Creation – the creation of "humankind" both male and female make up the totality of the image of God, and we need both parts of the image. The image of a crucified Christ in the form of a woman, from a church in Canada, was shown and discussed. Michael pointed out that Christ took upon himself the sins of the world – when women are sinned against or abused, Christ is crucified again.

The evolution of the role of women in recent years has meant that men are not necessarily threatened but have to adjust. He personally had found the experiences of working with women enriching. He expressed the hope that equality and wholeness, with the richness and beauty that each can contribute, would lead to a greater nearness on earth.

Michael then asked those present to share with each other, in small groups, their impressions and feelings of what has been happening during the week, which might be the Spirit of God working within them. Many referred to the fellowship, the sharing of worship in different languages, the

unity within diversity and felt that there were many new thoughts to reflect on and study when they returned to their home countries.

After hearing these comments Michael thanked those present and pointed out that while emphasis had been in many ways on the role of women in the church, the last thing he wanted to convey was that their ministry is about being ordained. After all, 90% of the church's ministry has always and will continue to be carried out by lay people.

Helen Jacobi brought the evening to a close with a prayer. The Chairman asked all those present to join in thanking Michael and Helen for their addresses.

An all day visit to the Wainarapa was held on Friday and members visited Martinborough where they were entertained to lunch by members of the Association of Anglican Women. Mrs Jill Baker, the wife of the Vicar, was a former President of GFS, New Zealand and was able to renew acquaintance with delegates from other countries. A visit to a paua shell factory provided members with an opportunity to purchase gifts and other farm activities were also provided.

In the evening the young delegates were asked to share what were important issues for them as young Christians in their context and culture. It was interesting to note how many common concerns were shared. Young people in all cultures test out the values of the older generations, keeping some and leaving others behind. Christian beliefs and values are timeless but have to be re-expressed for each generation.

Saturday morning saw the setting up of craft stalls and an opportunity for local shopping. Unfortunately, an incredibly wet and windy day had an effect on the attendance at the craft display in the afternoon and this was disappointing for all. However, in the evening the international entertainment was a wonderful success with so many different items and demonstrations from all the countries. At the end of the evening New Zealand members thronged the stage and after the Chaplain had offered a blessing paua shell gifts were given to every person who attended World Council. The singing of "Now is the Hour" with the sight of the Archbishop of New Zealand holding aloft the painted words made a huge impression on everyone and will be a memory to treasure by all. It was a happy and moving finale to a splendid evening's entertainment.

Sunday morning saw the closing Eucharist at the Cathedral Church of St Paul when another wonderful service of praise and thanksgiving was held. Lessons were read by Mrs Floris Bain, a Past World Chairperson from the United States of America, and Miss Christine Loos, Junior Delegates from Australia. The Holy Gospel was read by Mrs Joy Epton, World Chairperson-Elect from England. Prayers were read by the Venerable Michael Smart and delegates from various countries. Mrs Joy Epton was commissioned as World Chairman by the Archbishop of New Zealand, the Most Reverend Brian Davis who presided at the Eucharist and also preached the sermon. At the conclusion of the service the Girls Friendly Society banners were returned from the sanctuary and carried from the Cathedral. Again, the procession of robed clergy, the music, this time from the Wellington Canoris Choir – the flowers and the banners, all made for a service to remember as the 1993 143rd World Council came to a conclusion. After lunch delegates were ferried to their various points of departure and New Zealand members were left to reflect on the activities of the past week. "Women helping women worldwide" had been the theme for Council. May that theme continue in the lives of all those who had taken part.

(Copies of the sermons preached by Archbishop Brian Davis and Bishop Penny Jamieson, and the addresses by the Hon Jenny Shipley and Dame Miriam Dell were circulated to member countries at the time of Council)

Guidelines of the World Council of the Girls Friendly Society.

- 1) The organisation shall be called the World Council of the Girls' Friendly Society.
- 2) Purpose – The purpose of the World Council of GFS shall be to promote fellowship between the members of the Society throughout the world by the exchange of information and ideas. The promotion of World Assemblies, camps, exchange visits and correspondence between members shall be encouraged.
- 3) Day of Prayer. September 20th, St Michael and All Angels Day, shall be the GFS World Day of Prayer. Member countries who feel they are unable to host a Council meeting may offer to prepare the format for the Day of Prayer.
- 4) Membership. Membership shall be open to GFS in all countries whose purposes are in fundamental agreement. Each country seeking admission shall be considered separately and shall present a letter of support from the Bishop, and the policy shall be inclusive rather than exclusive. Representation at Council meetings shall be extended to two (2) from each country, one of whom shall ideally be between the ages of 16 and 25.
- 5) Officer. It shall be the responsibility of the Chairman of the World Council to arrange for the election of the country to preside over the World Council for the succeeding period, the voting to be carried out by mail, if necessary. The method of voting to be determined by each country concerned. There shall be one vote for each member country in this election.
 - a. The duration of the office of Chairman shall usually be for not less than three years and shall coincide with the term between meetings, and the Chairman shall relinquish office immediately at the conclusion of the Council meeting. The responsibility for the chairmanship of the GFS World Council shall rest on the person of the Chairman and not on the Executive Committee or Board of the country she represents.
 - b. The World Chairman is empowered to appoint her own secretary for her time of office.
 - c. The Chairman of the previous period shall be the Vice-Chairman up to and including the next meeting of the Council.
- 6) Voting at Meetings. Each delegate to World Council shall have one vote. If the President is not the Chairman, then the President of the GFS in the country concerned shall be an ex-officio non-voting member of the Council. The Vice-Chairman of the World Council shall also be an ex-officio non-voting member unless she is the chosen delegate of the country concerned. Observers are invited to the Council but shall not have the right to speak or to vote. The Chairman has a casting vote.
- 7) Agenda. Suggestions for inclusion on any Agenda shall be sent to the Chairman of the GFS World Council to reach her not less than three (3) months prior to the date of the meeting. The Agenda for a meeting of the Council should be circulated to the chairmen and secretaries of member countries as long as possible in advance to allow for discussion and suggestions.
- 8) Minutes. Minutes of each meeting shall be circulated and assigned by the Chairman of the meeting and shall be recorded in a book which shall pass from Chairman to Chairman. Further, that as a common language will be necessary for this book. English be used as the official language. The minutes shall be circulated within at least six (6) months and no longer than a year.
- 9) Newsletter. The newsletter shall, where possible, be edited by the country providing the Chairman, or by another country at the request of the country providing the Chairman. The distribution within each country shall be the responsibility of that country.
- 10) Finance. All member countries should, if possible, contribute to a common fund to help defray the expenses of the country carrying the World Chairmanship. Each country to pay the same amount as an Affiliation Fee – this to be ten (10) pounds sterling per year per country, during the period of the three years. The World Chairman may administer all World Funds.

Agreed at the 14th meeting of the GFS World Council held in New Zealand, 8-16 May 1993.
Signed Joy Epton, 24 July 1996.

**GIRLS FRIENDLY SOCIETY WORLD COUNCIL
NEW ZEALAND
MAY 1993**

Minutes of the meeting of the 14th meeting of the World Council of the Girls' Friendly Society held at Samuel Marsden Collegiate School, 8 May to 16th May 1993.

Theme: "Women Helping Women Worldwide"

Saturday 8 May 1993 saw the arrival of delegates and observers to the 14th World Council of the Girls Friendly Society held in Wellington, the beautiful capital city of New Zealand. Members registered at Samuel Marsden Collegiate School, the venue for Council and were then transported by friends of GFS in private cars to the two hostels located in Karori, the Girls Friendly Society Hostel – Lucy Jervois House and Helen Lowry Hall.

A 'happy hour' preceded dinner and the World Chairperson welcomed all delegates and observers to New Zealand and thanked them for coming such a distance – for some to the other side of the world! She then introduced the World Secretary, Mrs Jean Mangan, the World Treasurer, Mrs Gillian Steel, and the New Zealand members of the GFS Council. Archdeacon Michael Small, the Chaplain to World Council and Dr John Bonifont, the honorary doctor to Council were also introduced.

The Opening Eucharist was held in the Wellington Cathedral Church of St Paul the following morning and was a moving and spectacular service with the full Cathedral Choir, the procession of official delegates, the presentation of banners from all participating countries, and many vested clergy, the preacher being the Right Reverend Dr Penelope Jamison, Bishop of Dunedin. Lessons were read by Mrs Subuola Thompson, Past World Chairperson of the GFS and the World Chairperson, Mrs Joy Parkin of New Zealand. The Eucharist was celebrated by the Primate of New Zealand and Bishop of Wellington, the Most Reverend Brian Davis who welcomed all present to the 14th World Council of the Girls Friendly Society.

After a luncheon hosted by the Wellington Diocese, visitors walked a short distance to Old St Paul's Cathedral, a magnificent historic places building, and were then taken by bus to the Wainwiamata Marae in the Huth Valley for a traditional Maori welcome, a talk on the history of the Maori and a hangi meal.

Each morning from Monday through to Saturday a Eucharist was held in the Karori Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin and these services, arranged by the Chaplain to World Council, Archdeacon Michael Small, were an inspiration and joy to all attending. Services were held in English, Japanese, Welsh and Maori and each morning representatives of various countries took part in readings, prayers and the administration of the elements. They were truly international.

Monday morning saw the Minister for Women's Affairs, the Hon Jenny Shipley, the Council's keynote speaker, given an outstanding address entitled "Women's Voice: An International Perspective". Considering the theme of Council of "Women helping women worldwide" and with special focus on "Vision with action changes women's lives" the Minister's address was topical and especially relevant. A fluent and forceful speaker her speech set the tone for the Council. Later the

World Council Executive was introduced to the delegates with the ceremony of handing over the Minute Book to the World Secretary. World Reports were presented preceded by the introduction of delegates and messages from their countries to World Council.

Delegates:

Australia	Mrs Val Gribble	
	Miss Christine Loos	Junior
Cameroon	Mrs Justina Nzegu	
England	Mrs Joy Epton	
	Miss Nicola Gratton	Junior
Ghana	Mrs Julie Okine	
Ireland	Mrs Olein Gyles	
	Miss Alison Burnside	Junior
Japan	Mrs Rebecca Ida	
	Miss Kaori Suzuki	Junior
Lesotho	Miss Alice Mafereka	
Nigeria	Mrs Clarice Modu	
Philippines	Dr Kate Botengan	
Sierra Leone	Mrs Subuola Thompson	
Sri Lanka	Mrs Gris Samuel	
Transkei	Mrs Nomatembo Titus	
USA	Mrs Constance Kilgour	
	Miss Maureen Power	Junior
Wales	Mrs Carol Gardner	
	Miss Louise Parsonage	Junior
Zambia	Mrs Rose Chisenga	
New Zealand	Mrs Jean Paterson	
	Mrs Barbara Gorman	

Messages were received from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Primate of Australia, the Most Reverend K Rayner; the Rt Revd the Bishop of Chichester; the Rt Revd the Bishop of Birmingham; the Rt Revd the Bishop of Coventry; the Rt Revd the Bishop of Southampton; the Rt Revd the Bishop of Chester; the Most Revd the Primate of All Ireland; the Rt Revd the Bishop of Dublin; the Rt Revd the Bishop of Lesotho; the Prime Bishop and Metropolitan of the Philippines; the Rt Revd the Bishop of Freetown the Rt Revd the Bishop of Colombo; the Rt Revd the Bishop of St John's, Transkei; the Most Revd the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church of the USA; Mrs Dorothy Orr, President GFS, USA the Rt Revd Bishop Suffragan of Pennsylvania; the Revd G A Ash of Trinity Church, Oxford, USA; the Most Revd the Archbishop of Wales; the Rt Revd the Bishop of Newport, the Vicar of Esclaspam, Wales.

The World Chairperson's Report was then read:

It is with pleasure and privilege that I write the Girls' Friendly Society World Report for the period of which I have been your chairperson.

After the 13th World Council in Sierra Leone in 1990 and with the prayers of Mrs Subuola Thompson, I returned to New Zealand via London where I received such support and help from our GFS Office in Townsend House.

GFS New Zealand were delighted that New Zealand had been chosen to host the 14th World Council in 1993. We set to work immediately with a strategic planning meeting and made our bookings.

The Archbishop of New Zealand, the Most Reverend Brian Davis, who is also the Bishop of Wellington Dioceses, was our first place of call. His enthusiasm and encouragement gave us the means to take on the task of organising a World Council.

We had a small but very experienced World Council Executive with Mrs Jean Morgan as the World Council Secretary and Mrs Gillian Steel as the World Council Treasurer.

The Executive team gave a great deal of thought to the logo and the theme for the Council, as 1993 was to be a year in New Zealand to celebrate the Centenary of Women's Suffrage. GFS is so much a part of the history of the independent development of young women in our country. The logo, with Women helping women worldwide, Wahine Toa Te Awhina, seemed to cover what we needed. A theme of "vision with action changes women's lives" also seemed appropriate for this very special year.

We decided to ask the New Zealand Government through the Department of Women's Affairs and the Suffrage Centennial Trust, Whakatu Wahine, to help us with world travel to bring some delegates to World Council. The Trust was very generous and gave us a grant for which we are most grateful. Several sponsors were also generous with their help for us, so we were assured of a successful Council.

Communication has been again the most difficult task. As your Chairperson I have tried to keep in touch with you all and I thank those who have written to me with news of their activities and special events.

The World Project is now established in the Philippines and Dr Kate Botengan will report on this at World Council.

I have only visited Australia as your World Chairperson and what a wonderful welcome I had from Mrs Ev Beckenham. I spent a day with GFS leaders in Sydney, enjoyed a lovely meal at Ev's and talked to Mrs Val Gribble on the phone in the middle of dinner. It was truly a time I shall remember.

One of the jobs of the World Chairperson is to look with vision for the GFS worldwide family and make our Society relevant in today's changing and restructured world.

To think of all who are working in different situations, working with young women who are vulnerable, who are at risk facing uncertain futures, unemployment, breakdown of family life, communicable diseases and violent situations, many who are unaware of God's love and Christ's hand of comfort.

We have a challenge in our work as a Society to give young women a chance to grow with self-esteem and love. Not many organisations carry out work the way we do in that very special GFS way.

Our way may be stormy and our path hard but if we follow our faith in truth, simplicity and spirituality we will reach our goals. I sincerely hope that our Council will begin on this path in 1993.

It is now time in our progress as a World Council to put our Society on a strong, well-established business foundation. The Guidelines need to be clearer, and finances need to be clarified so that continuity and understanding of our aims are very clear to all. These points have been communicated to me as your Chairperson and will be on the agendas for World Council meetings at this World Council.

We have achieved a great deal to be gathering for the fourteenth time as a World Council and we can all say, "well done, true and faithful servants".

I conclude with many thanks to say not only to you all around the world who have upheld me with your prayers and love, but to all GFS members in New Zealand, especially your World Secretary, Mrs Jean Morgan, whose talents have been a shining light for the Lord and through our Society.

Your Chairperson
Joy Parkin.

The **Agenda** for the 14th Triennial General meeting the following day was then set. A Civic Reception hosted by Her Worship the Mayor of Wellington, the Hon Fran Wilde, was held in the City's Town Hall. The Archbishop of New Zealand, the most Reverend Brian Davis, with the Chaplain to World Council, Archdeacon Michael Smart, attended this Reception. In the evening a Youth Session was convened by the Chaplain and six younger New Zealanders shared their experience as young people in New Zealand and in the church. This included being a student, being in the workforce, being Maori and Pakeha, being a married couple and parents, and being ordained. All expressed the need to live up to their Christian faith in a secular society where most people saw God and the church as irrelevant.

Tuesday morning saw observers leaving for a day's visit to a kiwi fruit farm and to Lindale Farm where many aspects of farming life were shown and where many of the visitors were able to purchase woollen goods. The delegates attended the 14th World Council Triennial Meeting, and the minutes of this meeting are as under.

**The Girls Friendly Society World Council: Minutes of the Fourteenth World Council
of the Girls' Friendly Society held in Wellington, New Zealand. 11 May 1993 at
9.30am**

Present: Delegates from Australia, Cameroon, England, Gambia, Ghana, Ireland, Japan, Lesotho, New Zealand, Nigeria, Philippines, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Transkei, United States, Wales, Zambia.

Mrs Parkin, Chairperson, formally welcomed delegates and declared the meeting open.

Minutes of the Thirteenth World Council

With the following amendments and additions, the Philippine delegated moved, New Zealand seconded

"That the Minutes be accepted as a true and correct record".

Message from the Prime Bishop Richard Abellonk, Philippines was not mentioned.

Two messages from Ireland were not mentioned.

Archbishop's message from New Zealand not mentioned.

Page 4, last paragraph, eight lines from the bottom, "I felt as the start" should read "I felt at the start"

Page 9, second paragraph. "krio languages" should read "krio language".

Page 9, third paragraph, "Other languages groups" should read "other language groups".

Page 9, last paragraph, "Young people are included" should read "young people are secluded".

CARRIED

The Chairperson pointed out that the Japanese delegation were having language problems and it was agreed that the observers be allowed to stay to help with this problem.

Matters Arising

Page 11, "GFS decision over the years". The Chairperson advised that Mrs Floris Bain is undertaking this, but it has not yet been received.

Page 11 "Keeping GFS Diocesan Membership alive". The problem of communication is an ongoing problem about which many World Council Chairpersons have spoken.

The Australian delegate reported that she had received the Minutes only a week ago and that the person who attended the meeting was not at this year's Council meeting and had had little opportunity to see the Minutes. There followed much discussion on whether the Minute Book should remain with the outgoing World Chairperson or go with the new World Chairperson, and whether just the Minutes of the meeting should be included in the Book or a report of the whole session.

A motion was put

"That the Minute Book be taken home with the new World Chairperson" **which** was LOST

England Moved, Wales seconded

"That the Minutes of this meeting and the report of the whole session be circulated within one year of the triennial meeting with a recommendation that, if possible, it be done within six months"

CARRIED

Financial Reports:

The previous World Council Treasurer, Sierra Leone, presented a financial report and the report of receipts and payments of the last World Council and moved that these be adopted.

Sierra Leone formally passed the World Council account book to New Zealand. The New Zealand World Council Treasurer advised that the £7,500 to come from Sierra Leone via the bank in London has not yet been received and will be followed up. It was reported that some structure is required for financial systems as the previous World Council seems to be responsible for spending money after their term of office has ended and the current Chairperson has no knowledge of what is being spent.

Australia and England advised that they have money available for World Projects but were waiting for advice from the Philippines as to how this was to be paid.

New Zealand reported that its aim is to pass the £17,500 it received from World Funds on to the next Council.

World Travel Fund

World Travel has caused a few problems in that some of the fares have escalated. There is currently about £1,800 in the fund and subsidised travel will have cost about £14-15,000. The Travel Fund has financed five delegates and New Zealand will finance what cannot be financed by the Fund. There will, however, be nothing in the Fund to pass on. The Council had considered requests for travel in the order in which the applications were received – some tickets were issued at a far higher cost than that budgeted. Delegates were asked to travel to New Zealand by the most economical route and several went via the UK when it would have been more economical to go via Australia. This has caused a great strain on the Travel Fund. Letters were sent to delegates asking for details of travel plans but although replies were received, they did not contain answers to the questions asked. Australia reported that they approached their travel agent, found the cheapest fare and itinerary and faxed the Philippines and Lesotho and told them that this was what Australia was prepared to pay for. The ticket was available at the airport they were to travel from and there was no problem. England moved and Nigeria seconded.

"That the World Funds be made available for the past World Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer to attend the next World Council" CARRIED

Sierra Leone moved and Nigeria seconded *"That all subsidised fares to World Council be at the cheapest possible rate and that the control of the fare be in the hands of the country who is paying the account"* CARRIED.

Currency of Funds

The minutes of the World Council meeting in Wales record that the World Council's funds be in sterling, or \$US. They have been held in sterling and as they were needed, they were converted to \$NZ. It was agreed that to be fair to all countries sterling was used. In answer to comments that it was a very expensive Conference to attend, the Chairperson replied that the cost was the same as the last and had not risen for the previous three Conferences. It was agreed that the Minute recorded in Wales should continue to stand.

Duration of World Council

The Chairperson reported that, with economics as they are, it is extremely expensive to have World Council meetings every three years. Ireland proposed that is difficult financially to support them every three years and that maybe the example of the Mothers Union should be followed and Councils held every ten years, although this may be a bit too long. Sierra Leone felt three years was just right, any longer might be too long for a Chairperson to carry on, but that perhaps countries should send fewer delegates to attend. She also advised that the Mothers Union feels that ten years is too long, and they are to discuss this. England felt that five years was too long a time to maintain contact, particularly for new member countries. The Chairperson suggested that if countries are having trouble funding their travel, the World Council should be called on to help.

The United States spoke in favour of extending the time between Councils. They only send two delegates but even this has been costly. They have difficulty enough raising money for work within the country and people resent money spent on sending two people to World Council meetings out of the country. They supported extending the period to five years.

Philippines suggested explaining another possibility such as having a World Council every six years but Regional Conferences in between, ie every three years.

Australia moved and Lesotho seconded

"That we continue holding a World Council every three years" **14 for/2 against** CARRIED.

United States moved and Wales seconded

"That the duration of Council meetings be an agenda item at the next World Council Meeting".
CARRIED.

Attendance at Council Meetings

GFS in the US is asking for a representative from each Diocese to come to World Council. However, if they were not a delegate, they would not be allowed to sit in at the World Council meetings. They felt that it was unfair to delegates not to have the support of observers. They should be allowed to sit in and listen, not to have a vote but to be supportive. Nigeria felt that if observers did not have a vote and did not participate there was no reason why they could not observe. It would help the work of GFS back home to have more people understanding the work of the World Council.

Philippines noted in the Guidelines that observers may be invited to the Council and shall have the right to speak but not vote. Australia spoke in favour of having observers attending the meeting.

The US did not expect observers to speak but delegates would be able to consult with observers before voting. To have a group going home to report is far better than one or two people reporting as each person takes home their own view. Japan agreed they would like to have observers as observers only and during lunch and morning tea they could discuss items with their delegates.

England suggested that the Guidelines need a review as some things are not adhered to as set out. It was agreed to do this the following day.

The United States moved and Nigeria seconded

"That observers be permitted to observe. They will not have a vote and they will not be permitted to speak" CARRIED.

World Day of Prayer

England put forward a suggestion that countries who are not able to host World Council could prepare a form of World Day of Prayer for everyone to use (as a guide). Members would see the

way other cultures worship and their view of God. The Chairperson advised that New Zealand was responsible for 1993. US suggested that countries be asked to volunteer for the next three years at each World Council.

England moved and US seconded

“That countries offer to prepare the World Day of Prayer form of service for each of the next three years” CARRIED.

It was agreed that the Order of Service be prepared in 1994 by Sri Lanka, 1995 by Lesotho and 1996 by Zambia.

World Treasurer

For the World Council accounts to show a true picture of what has happened it is necessary for all details of transactions to be recorded, ie details from countries that have paid air fares for other countries must be recorded as an "in" and "out" transaction. The World Treasurer needs to be advised of all money handed over for World Projects. The Chairperson advised that not all countries had paid their World Dues which are £30 for three years. This money is vital for administration. England suggested that if countries are finding it difficult to find this money, they should approach their link country. Sierra Leone asked that it be known who has not paid their dues.

World Banner

England suggested that a World Banner be considered. It was suggested and agreed that each country provide a symbol, and possibly a design or two, and that the World Secretary, Mrs Morgan approach Mrs Beverley Shore-Bennett, a New Zealander, to see if she is prepared to help with it. Symbols and designs to be sent within one year.

General Business

Zambia and Cameroon applied to the World Council for membership. The Chairperson advised that although they have now made formal application, they must have a letter from their Bishop to say that he agrees and supports the application for World Council membership.

The link countries are as follows:

A	Australia	New Zealand	Liberia	Korea	Cameroon
B	England	Gambia	Guyana	Barbados	Transkei
C	Ireland	Japan	Kenya	Zambia	Philippines
D	USA	Newfoundland	Nigeria	Sierra Leone	
C	Wales	Sri Lanka	Ghana	Lesotho	

Next World Council

The Chairperson, before leaving the Chair, thanked everyone for their prayers over the past three years. It had been a tremendous task for a small group to run the World Council.

Transkei, who had been looking forward to hosting the World Council in 1996, sadly had to withdraw their invitation because of unrest in some parts of the country. They hoped to be able to host the 1999 Council and asked that members did not give up on them – they would not give up. The Chairperson tabled an invitation from the Archbishop of Canterbury to host the 1996 World Council in England. She then declared that England would be host and presented the new World Chairperson to the meeting. Philippines expressed a vote of thanks and appreciation to all the current Council officers for their leadership, work and love that went into the preparation of this Council.

The meeting closed at 2.05pm.

Tuesday evening saw a Maori culture demonstration with action songs and the art of making poi. This was instructive but provided some considerable amusement as delegates endeavoured to master the intricate poi movements.

World Project

Before the World Project was discussed on Wednesday morning Zambia and Cameroon were welcomed as new members of the Girls Friendly Society.

Reports from Wales, Zambia and New Zealand which could not be tabled on Monday, due to lack of time, were presented.

As no delegate from Barbados was able to attend, this country's report was tabled by the chairman.

It was moved by the Chairman and seconded by Wales

"That all reports be adopted" CARRIED.

Guidelines

A number of modifications and revisions were made to the Guidelines agreed to at the 1987 meeting of the Council. It was moved by Ireland, seconded by Nigeria,

"That the proposed changes be adopted" CARRIED

(See annex for revised text)

GFS World Council meeting

– May 1993 World Project

1990 Project- Philippines

The Philippines delegate (Dr Kate Botengan) presented a report on the World Project which was approved by the 1990 World Council meeting. Progress was reported on the collection of information material and the workshops which resulted in the production of the "GFS Handbook of Information" and the "GFS Leaders Manual". Future planning includes organising a Leaders Training Camp in October 1993 and the production of a "Members Book". It is hoped that sufficient finance will be available to support the employment of a Coordinator for at least one year, if not for three.

Finance

Although the project was approved for implementation in the period 1991=1993, the bulk of the funds were not received through GFS until October 1992. Contribution to come from Australia, England, New Zealand and the United States should be sufficient to make up the remainder of the allocation (some \$US22,000).

Taking into account the problems of inflation (15-18%) in the Philippines and general increases in costs, the "guesstimate"

the delegate was that the total project would cost \$US261,000.

Minor Projects

The Vice-Chairman, Mrs Subuola Thompson, put forward a recommendation that a sum of between \$4000 and \$5000 be reserved as a contribution to training of leaders in countries which have recently joined GFS such as Ghana, The Gambia, Zambia and the Cameroons.

It was suggested that this money could be used to send people to the countries concerned to train leaders and could cover, for instance, airfares, out of pocket expenses and the cost of training materials while the host country would provide accommodation. The Chairman advised that this proposal would be considered by the next Vice-Chairman who would consult with members.

World Project 1993

Two proposals have been circulated to members, those of Nigeria and Kenya.

- c) Nigeria. The Nigerian Delegates (Clarice Modu) spoke of the serious problem of unemployment in her country (approximately 80% at present) which particularly affects young girls and explained the proposal to construct a centre, on land Tobe provided by the

diocese, which would aim to train girls in arts and crafts and some domestic work and enable them to gain employment.

The centre would include five dormitories for short stays for some 20 trainees, a hall or assembly area for training sessions, and a two-room unit for a resident co-ordinator. It is expected that the running expenses of the centre would be covered by the sale of the arts and crafts produced by trainees.

It is estimated that the project would cost about \$US25,000 for the construction of the centre.

- d) Kenya. The Kenyan delegate has not arrived in New Zealand and was therefore unable to speak about the proposal.

The delegate from England felt that without further explanation and clarification from a representative from Kenya, it was impossible to vote on the project at this meeting. Other Council members agreed with this comment.

The Chairman therefore proposed.

“That the World Council support the Nigerian project”.

The proposal was seconded by the Philippines delegate and CARRIED unanimously.

The Vice-Chairman recommended that the funds for this project be paid over at the earliest possible date.

Buses then took all present to the Headquarters of the Society, GFS House, in Newtown. Various activities of the work of the House were shown to members who also visited the adjacent Wellington City Mission and heard of the work of the Mission from Father John Bowles, Wellington City Missioner. Lunch was served and various tours and visits were arranged with many taking advantage of visiting the shops in the centre of the city.

The first speaker on Thursday morning was Dame Miriam Dell BNZ, DB, BL, the Chairperson of the 1993 Suffrage Centenary Year Trust, Whakatu Wahine. Her charm of manner and excellent address endeared her to all.

Following Dame Miriam's address an interesting Forum was held entitled "Women in the Church" featuring Mrs Janet Hesketh QSM, Mrs Gillian Robertson B.Com and Canon Pat Muxlow L.Th. All are very much involved in the work of the church and spoke of the different aspects of their commitment and the huge opening for women to show the various ways in which to make their presence felt and seen.

After lunch buses took all to Government House for a Vice-Regal Reception hosted by the Governor General, Her Excellency Dame Catherine Tizard. This was a most significant occasion as the first GFS in New Zealand was formed in 1883 by Lady Lucy Jervois, the wife of a former Governor of New Zealand. The national dress of many of the delegates and the wonderful setting of Government House, plus the most magnificent autumn day, made this a very special event.

In the evening the Chaplain to World Council led a Plenary Session and was assisted by the Revd Helen Jacobi, Assistant Priest at St Mary's Karori.

Archdeacon Smart began by pointing out that this Conference was occurring not only in the Centennial Year of Women's Suffrage in New Zealand, but also in the Ecumenical Decade of Churches in Solidarity with Women (1988-1988). He then introduced Helen Jacobi who spoke about the way she continues in her life the roles of wife, mother and priest. This is only achieved because she and her husband operate in a partnership of mutual support which gives them both the opportunity to explore their individual careers. She explained that her husband Stephen, was a Foreign Affairs officer and had been posted to the New Zealand Embassy in Paris where she carried

out the traditional role of a diplomat's wife – attending cocktail parties, entertaining, etc. but was also able to pursue her own interest, studying theology and participating in the service and activities of the American Episcopal Cathedral in Parish. After their return to New Zealand and the birth of their daughter, Hannah, her husband, as a Government employee was granted 12 months parental leave and looked after Hannah while Helen progressed in her career in the church. She was ordained and appointed to St Mary's Karori as Assistant Priest in 1992. Stephen has now returned to Foreign Affairs and while the couple are able to employ a nanny to look after Hannah, Stephen takes his share in caring for her at times when Helen is not able to be at home – bringing her to church on Sundays, for instance.

The partnership which Helen and Stephen share serves as a model for many young parents and families. Some women had told her that they felt able to identify with her when she was officiating at a service, thus bringing an added dimension to their worship. Helen concluded by reiterating that the mutual support and partnership which she and Stephen share meant that there was no conflict in each pursuing their individual careers.

Those present then joined in the singing of a modern hymn "Com, celebrate the women who brought the Church to birth". Michael Smart began his talk by showing two images on the screen, the first of a very young girl, the second which appeared to be an older version of the same girl, but in fact also contacted the image of an old woman. He used this as an example of the "conditioning" which consciously or unconsciously prevents us accepting new images. The Spirit comes to us to enable us to take off our blinkers of conditioning or bias or prejudice and makes us see in new ways. He then talked about the sacrament and its meaning and reminded his listeners that, regardless of who is offering it, priest or lay person, the sacrament remains the means of grace.

Speaking of the image of God, traditionally depicted as a male human being, he asked the question: Does this mean God is a Father, or God is like a Father? Traditionally again, it was accepted that it was all right for women to participate in church life, but not at the altar. However, we should be looking at the qualities of God rather than his physical form.

He referred to the three "lost" parables – the shepherd looking for his sheep, the woman searching for a lost coin – the father awaiting the return of his long-lost son. While all those present had seen pictures representing the first and third parables, it was agreed that pictures of the woman searching for her lost possession were practically unknown. We were not responding to feminine pressure; women had always been a presence in the Scriptures. He told the story of the Captain of a battleship on a collision course with what he believed to be another vessel, but which turned out to be the lighthouse, and reminded us that while it is common now for people to say "truth is what I choose it to be" we as Christians have Christ as our lighthouse and the measure of what we want to do. While he understood that there were some women's experiences that man can hear about but never fully appreciate, men and women can share in prayer, in hope, identify with each other – in other words, solidarity with women, as God is in solidarity with the whole human race. Wherever we go, we can feel we have solidarity with each other in what Christ is seeking to do. He referred to the Bible description of the Creation – the creation of "humankind" both male and female make up the totality of the image of God, and we need both parts of the image. The image of a crucified Christ in the form of a woman, from a church in Canada, was shown and discussed. Michael pointed out that Christ took upon himself the sins of the world – when women are sinned against or abused, Christ is crucified again.

The evolution of the role of women in recent years has meant that men are not necessarily threatened but have to adjust. He personally had found the experiences of working with women enriching. He expressed the hope that equality and wholeness, with the richness and beauty that each can contribute, would lead to a greater nearness on earth.

Michael then asked those present to share with each other, in small groups, their impressions and feelings of what has been happening during the week, which might be the Spirit of God working within them. Many referred to the fellowship, the sharing of worship in different languages, the

unity within diversity and felt that there were many new thoughts to reflect on and study when they returned to their home countries.

After hearing these comments Michael thanked those present and pointed out that while emphasis had been in many ways on the role of women in the church, the last thing he wanted to convey was that their ministry is about being ordained. After all, 90% of the church's ministry has always and will continue to be carried out by lay people.

Helen Jacobi brought the evening to a close with a prayer. The Chairman asked all those present to join in thanking Michael and Helen for their addresses.

An all day visit to the Wainarapa was held on Friday and members visited Martinborough where they were entertained to lunch by members of the Association of Anglican Women. Mrs Jill Baker, the wife of the Vicar, was a former President of GFS, New Zealand and was able to renew acquaintance with delegates from other countries. A visit to a paua shell factory provided members with an opportunity to purchase gifts and other farm activities were also provided.

In the evening the young delegates were asked to share what were important issues for them as young Christians in their context and culture. It was interesting to note how many common concerns were shared. Young people in all cultures test out the values of the older generations, keeping some and leaving others behind. Christian beliefs and values are timeless but have to be re-expressed for each generation.

Saturday morning saw the setting up of craft stalls and an opportunity for local shopping. Unfortunately, an incredibly wet and windy day had an effect on the attendance at the craft display in the afternoon and this was disappointing for all. However, in the evening the international entertainment was a wonderful success with so many different items and demonstrations from all the countries. At the end of the evening New Zealand members thronged the stage and after the Chaplain had offered a blessing paua shell gifts were given to every person who attended World Council. The singing of "Now is the Hour" with the sight of the Archbishop of New Zealand holding aloft the painted words made a huge impression on everyone and will be a memory to treasure by all. It was a happy and moving finale to a splendid evening's entertainment.

Sunday morning saw the closing Eucharist at the Cathedral Church of St Paul when another wonderful service of praise and thanksgiving was held. Lessons were read by Mrs Floris Bain, a Past World Chairperson from the United States of America, and Miss Christine Loos, Junior Delegates from Australia. The Holy Gospel was read by Mrs Joy Epton, World Chairperson-Elect from England. Prayers were read by the Venerable Michael Smart and delegates from various countries. Mrs Joy Epton was commissioned as World Chairman by the Archbishop of New Zealand, the Most Reverend Brian Davis who presided at the Eucharist and also preached the sermon. At the conclusion of the service the Girls Friendly Society banners were returned from the sanctuary and carried from the Cathedral. Again, the procession of robed clergy, the music, this time from the Wellington Canoris Choir – the flowers and the banners, all made for a service to remember as the 1993 143rd World Council came to a conclusion. After lunch delegates were ferried to their various points of departure and New Zealand members were left to reflect on the activities of the past week. "Women helping women worldwide" had been the theme for Council. May that theme continue in the lives of all those who had taken part.

(Copies of the sermons preached by Archbishop Brian Davis and Bishop Penny Jamieson, and the addresses by the Hon Jenny Shipley and Dame Miriam Dell were circulated to member countries at the time of Council)

Guidelines of the World Council of the Girls Friendly Society.

- 11)** The organisation shall be called the World Council of the Girls' Friendly Society.
- 12)** Purpose – The purpose of the World Council of GFS shall be to promote fellowship between the members of the Society throughout the world by the exchange of information and ideas. The promotion of World Assemblies, camps, exchange visits and correspondence between members shall be encouraged.
- 13)** Day of Prayer. September 20th, St Michael and All Angels Day, shall be the GFS World Day of Prayer. Member countries who feel they are unable to host a Council meeting may offer to prepare the format for the Day of Prayer.
- 14)** Membership. Membership shall be open to GFS in all countries whose purposes are in fundamental agreement. Each country seeking admission shall be considered separately and shall present a letter of support from the Bishop, and the policy shall be inclusive rather than exclusive. Representation at Council meetings shall be extended to two (2) from each country, one of whom shall ideally be between the ages of 16 and 25.
- 15)** Officer. It shall be the responsibility of the Chairman of the World Council to arrange for the election of the country to preside over the World Council for the succeeding period, the voting to be carried out by mail, if necessary. The method of voting to be determined by each country concerned. There shall be one vote for each member country in this election.
 - a.** The duration of the office of Chairman shall usually be for not less than three years and shall coincide with the term between meetings, and the Chairman shall relinquish office immediately at the conclusion of the Council meeting. The responsibility for the chairmanship of the GFS World Council shall rest on the person of the Chairman and not on the Executive Committee or Board of the country she represents.
 - b.** The World Chairman is empowered to appoint her own secretary for her time of office.
 - c.** The Chairman of the previous period shall be the Vice-Chairman up to and including the next meeting of the Council.
- 16)** Voting at Meetings. Each delegate to World Council shall have one vote. If the President is not the Chairman, then the President of the GFS in the country concerned shall be an ex-officio non-voting member of the Council. The Vice-Chairman of the World Council shall also be an ex-officio non-voting member unless she is the chosen delegate of the country concerned. Observers are invited to the Council but shall not have the right to speak or to vote. The Chairman has a casting vote.
- 17)** Agenda. Suggestions for inclusion on any Agenda shall be sent to the Chairman of the GFS World Council to reach her not less than three (3) months prior to the date of the meeting. The Agenda for a meeting of the Council should be circulated to the chairmen and secretaries of member countries as long as possible in advance to allow for discussion and suggestions.
- 18)** Minutes. Minutes of each meeting shall be circulated and assigned by the Chairman of the meeting and shall be recorded in a book which shall pass from Chairman to Chairman. Further, that as a common language will be necessary for this book. English be used as the official language. The minutes shall be circulated within at least six (6) months and no longer than a year.
- 19)** Newsletter. The newsletter shall, where possible, be edited by the country providing the Chairman, or by another country at the request of the country providing the Chairman. The distribution within each country shall be the responsibility of that country.
- 20)** Finance. All member countries should, if possible, contribute to a common fund to help defray the expenses of the country carrying the World Chairmanship. Each country to pay the same amount as an Affiliation Fee – this to be ten (10) pounds sterling per year per country, during the period of the three years. The World Chairman may administer all World Funds.

Agreed at the 14th meeting of the GFS World Council held in New Zealand, 8-16 May 1993. Signed Joy Epton, 24 July 1996.

**GIRLS FRIENDLY SOCIETY WORLD COUNCIL
ENGLAND
JULY 1996**

Minutes of the meeting of the 15th meeting of the World Council Business Meeting of the Girls' Friendly Society held from 22 to 30 July 1996.

Theme: "A Task with a Vision, Hope for the World"

The first business session of the World Council opened with prayers at 9.30am and was followed by general admin and information about the week.

Official Presents – Countries asked whether there was an "official present giving" session, some discussion was held.

It was decided that time would be set aside for anyone wanting a formal official presentation.

Grace - each country was allocated a meal before which they would do a grace of their choosing.

Chaplains - all chaplains present left with Bishop Bill Ind – World chaplain to discuss the services for the week.

Agenda – Joy Epton, World Chairman then talked through the Agenda outlining the topics for discussion.

After the official photo session and lunch everyone met in their country groups to discuss the forthcoming issues on the Agenda.

The 15th World Council of GFS was opened at 3.15pm on Wednesday 24 July 1996 with an official welcome to everyone from Mrs Joy Epton, the World Chairman.

Joy expressed her thanks to the committee in England and explained the committee to the Council.

Present: Members from Australia, Barbados, Cameroon, England, Gambia, Ghana, Ireland, Japan, Kenya, Lesotho, New Zealand, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, South Africa (Transkei), USA, Wales, Zambia (see Appendix 1)

Not present: Korea, Philippines.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the World Council held from 8-16 May 1993 were presented by Ms Joan Morgan to Mrs Alison Carter, World Secretary.

It was proposed and agreed that the Minutes be signed as a true record.

Matters Arising:

Currency: At previous meetings it had been decided that the currency used should be sterling, yen

or US dollars. All delegates were happy for this to stand. It was asked should all transactions be in these currencies or just conference fees. It was decided that the host country would do local transactions in their own currency and hold funds in one of the three currencies.

Attendance: There was some upset at the meeting in New Zealand that observers were not allowed into closed meetings. Joy encouraged everyone to attend all meetings at this council. There was further discussion about who could attend meetings and who could vote. As the “guidelines to World Council meetings” was on the Agenda later it was decided to leave any further discussion until then.

World Banner: Joan Morgan reported that only one design for a logo had been received from Sri Lanka. An example of this on a banner was produced for Council to see. Council was asked to think about it and also whether they thought that a World Banner was needed.

ACCOUNTS:

The accounts for the World Fund, World Travel Fund and the World Project were presented by Gillian Steel.

It was proposed

‘that the accounts be accepted’. Proposed Australia, Seconded USA, Vote Agreed unanimously. Therefore, the motion was carried.

REPORTS

After tea the report from each of the following countries was presented and formally accepted. Australia, Barbados, Cameroon, England, Ghana, Ireland, Japan, Lesotho, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka.

Nigeria would report later within the World Project report.

Kenya didn’t report officially but Madeleine Muramba spoke of what it meant to her to be at World Council.

The business meeting then closed the day.

Thursday 25 July

The second day of business opened with prayers followed by the official reports from South Africa (Transkei), USA, Wales, Zambia. These were all formally accepted.

Transkei asked that Council now recognise their country as South Africa and their Church as the Church of Southern Africa. Council agreed.

Joy Parkin, World Vice-Chairman gave her formal report and stressed the problems about the projects, etc.

Joy Epton gave her formal report explaining the theme and why she chose it.

GUIDELINES FOR WORLD COUNCIL MEETINGS.

There was a lot of discussion about membership, attendance and voting at World Council meetings. Various amendments were made to the Guidelines.

GUIDELINES FOR GFS WORLD COUNCIL MEETINGS.

- 1 The organisation shall be called the World Council of the Girls Friendly Society.
- 2 Purpose. The purpose of the World Council of GFS shall be to promote fellowship between the members of the Society throughout the world by the exchange of

information and ideas. The promotion of World Assemblies, camps, exchange visits and correspondence between members shall be encouraged.

3 Day of Prayer. September 29, St Michael and All Angels Day, shall be the GFS World Day of Prayer.

4 Membership. Membership shall be open to GFS in all countries whose purposes are in fundamental agreement. Each country seeking admission shall be considered separately and shall present a letter of support from its Bishop, and the policy shall be inclusive rather than exclusive.

5 Officers. It shall be the responsibility of the Chairman of the World Council to arrange for the election of the country to preside over the World Council for the succeeding period, the voting to be carried out by mail if necessary. The method of voting to be determined by each country concerned. There shall be one vote for each member country in this election.

a. The duration of the office of Chairman shall usually be for not less than three years and shall coincide with the term between meetings, and the Chairman shall relinquish office immediately at the conclusion of the Council meeting. The responsibility for the chairmanship of the GFS World Council shall rest on the person of the Chairman and not on the Executive Committee or Board of the country she represents.

b. The World Chairman is empowered to appoint her own secretary for her term of office.

c. The Chairman of the previous period shall be the Vice-Chairman up to and including the next meeting of the Council.

6 **Attendance:** Representation at Council meetings shall be extended to two () from each country, one of whom shall ideally be between the ages of 16 and 25.

7 **Voting at Meetings.** Each delegate to World Council shall have one vote. If the president of the country hosting World Council is not the world Chairman, then the president of the GFS in the country concerned shall be an ex-officio non-voting member of the Council. The Vice-Chairman of the World Council shall also be an ex-officio non-voting member of the Council. Observers are invited to the Council but shall not have the right to speak or vote. The Chairman has the casting vote.

8 **Agenda.** Suggestions for inclusion on any Agenda shall be sent to the Chairman of the GFS World Council to reach her not less than three (3) months prior to the date of the meeting. The draft Agenda for a meeting of the Council should be circulated to the Chairman and secretaries of member countries as long as possible in advance to allow for discussion and suggestions.

9 **Minutes.** Minutes of each meeting shall be circulated and signed by the Chairman of the meeting and shall be recorded in a book which shall pass from Chairman to Chairman. Further, that as a common language will be necessary for this book, English be used as the official language. The minutes shall be circulated by the host country no later than a year from the council meeting.

10 **Newsletter.** The newsletter, where possible, be edited in the country providing the chairman, or by another country at the request of the country providing the Chairman. The distribution within each country shall be the responsibility of that country.

- 11 **Finance.** All member countries should, if possible, contribute to a common fund to help defray the expenses of the country carrying the World Chairmanship. Each country to pay World Dues of ten (10) pounds sterling per year per country, until the next World Council. The World Chairman may administer all world funds.

Agreed at the 15th meeting of the GFS World Council held in England 22-30 July 1996.

NEWSLETTER

There was a suggestion that the newsletter be done by different countries like the World Day of Prayer. Council would think about this.

WORLD PROJECT

Clarice Modu presented her report about the work in Nigeria and the World Project. Unfortunately, a video showing the work was incompatible with the video recorder, but financial statements and building plans were put on display for everyone to view. A letter was also displayed from the Mothers Union in Nigeria to the Mothers Union in England praising the GFS work in Nigeria.

Joy Epton reported that we had received approximately £10,000.00 for the project, contributions being made from Japan, Ireland, USA, New Zealand, Australia, England and Wales.

Various suggestions were made as to how everyone could contribute to the World Project Fund. It was agreed by Council that all World Day of Prayer service collections should go to the World Project; however, because of the rates of exchange problems it would be better if some countries brought 3 years of donations with them to World Council.

The Philippines Project was giving great cause for concern as it had not yet started, and no one had been able to contact Kate to see what was happening.

Within the money raised for the Philippines project was the money for the Kenyan Project – approximately £13,000.00 plus – this was all unaccounted for at present.

Members were upset that the money was not being used for the purpose it was intended and felt that it should be returned.

After much discussion it was proposed that

“Money that had been collected for Africa prior to the Philippines Project should be returned to the World project fund now”.

Proposed New Zealand, Seconded USA, Vote Unanimous. Therefore, the motion was carried.

Prayer and support are needed for the Philippines especially as they are not represented. It was hoped that Japan might be able to help through their contact with the Philippines.

Joy would also ask Kate what her plans are for the money collected that she still has for the Philippines Project.

World Project for 1996-1999.

No new suggestions for projects had been sent in. It was proposed

“That we continue to fund the Nigerian Project for the next three years, working hard to try and finish it within that time.”

Proposed USA, Seconded England, Vote Unanimously agreed. Therefore, the motion was carried.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP TO WORLD COUNCIL

A letter from the Archbishop of Papua New Guinea had been received asking for Papua New Guinea to be admitted as a member to World Council.

It was proposed

“That whereas a representative of Papua New Guinea is present, at the 15th World Council, now in session at Swanwick, England and whereas a letter has been received from the Bishop supporting the work of the Girls Friendly Society in Papua New Guinea, and its inclusion in formal membership at World Council, be it resolved that Papua New Guinea be accepted into full membership of the World Council effective at this 15th World Council, July 22-30, 1996”.

Proposed USA, Seconded Sierra Leone, Vote Unanimous. Therefore, the motion was carried.

LINK COUNTRIES

The question of “Why are we linked” and “What is the purpose of the link” were asked. After some discussion it was decided that it was

- 1 Mutual communication
- 2 Mutual support and help (not necessarily financial_
- 3 We must work hard at maintaining our links.

The links were then rearranged forming a sixth group

- A Australia, Liberia, Korea, Cameroon.
- B England, Gambia, Guyana, Barbados, South Africa
- C Ireland, Kenya, Zambia, Philippines
- D USA, Nigeria, Sierra Leone
- E Wales, Sri Lanka, Ghana, Lesotho
- F New Zealand, Japan, Newfoundland, Papua New Guinea.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

It was agreed that we would keep this on 29 September. It was noted that Zambia’s 1996 World Day of Prayer had been distributed.

Three different countries were needed to prepare the World Day of Prayer – not just the countries who can’t host World Council. These should be sent to the new Chairman to be distributed.

The following countries agreed – 1997 Ireland, 1998 Ghana, 1999 Nigeria.

TIME BETWEEN COUNCILS

There was a lot of discussion about this, and various suggestions were made.

It was proposed

“That the time between councils should remain at three years”.

Vote: For 17, Abstentions 1, Therefore the motion was carried.

HOST FOR THE NEXT TWO COUNCILS:

Two offers were made – Australia and South Africa.

A break for tea was held for countries to discuss the offers. Australia then withdrew their offer and gave their support to South Africa as they felt it was a way forward for South Africa. There then followed a lot of discussion especially as the Bishop elect of South Africa was not in post. It was then proposed

“That the World Council in 1999 be held in South Africa”.

Proposed Australia, Seconded USA, Vote – For 9, Against 0, Abstentions 8

Therefore the motion was carried.

It was then discussion that if the Bishops of South Africa did not accept World Council, then it would be held in Australia.

World Council 2002

There was a discussion as to whether the venue for 2002 should be decided now.

It was then proposed

“That the venue for 2002 should be chosen”.

Vote: For 7, Against 10, Abstentions 0. Therefore, the motion was lost.

CONSTITUTIONS

Each country was asked to report the current standing of their constitutions.

Australia – needs updating, Barbados – needs signing by Bishop, Cameroon – based on Ghana, to be ratified with Council and Bishop, England – Just been reviewed, Ghana – needs to be taken to Council and signed by Bishop, Ireland – needs reviewing, Japan – to be signed by Bishop, Kenya – needs to be looked at again, Nigeria – needs to be signed, New Zealand – treaty at present, a proper constitution needs to be drawn up, Papua New Guinea – asked for copy for guide, Sierra Leone – still to be signed, Sri Lanka – Bishop needs to sign it, South Africa – it needs sorting, USA – fine at present, Wales – as England, Zambia – needs ratifying and signing by Bishop.

It was requested that a signed copy of each country’s constitution be sent to Townsend House. The Chairman would contact those countries not present.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Newsletter. South Africa stated that they would take on the newsletter and it was unnecessary to spread it out to other countries – but please write the articles.

Recipe Book. Would this be available – Joy would ring the GFS office to clarify the situation.

Formal Thanks. Clarice formally thanked Council for extending the project in Nigeria.

Fax Numbers: It was requested that a list be drawn up of fax numbers and telephone numbers and circulated for easier contact.

World Banner: It was finally decided that this was not needed. However, Zambia, Papua New Guinea and Kenya needed a banner. The Junior Delegates, Japan and Ireland offered to make them.

Travel for World Secretary and Treasurer

It was asked why the former Secretary and Treasurer were paid for by the World Council Fund as it makes it expensive. There followed some discussion. The Chairman asked that because of the lateness of the day this matter be put on the Agenda of the next meeting.

New Zealand formally thanked Joy for her Chairmanship of the meeting and the meeting closed at 5.55pm.

Monday 29 July.

Because of a few loose ends an extra meeting was called. The session opened with prayers.

Joy thanked all the members from England especially Pauline Searle and Emma Rowson. She also formally welcomed Priscilla Johnson from the Gambia who had arrived at the weekend.

Joy went on to discuss the various problems of running a World Council offering helpful hints and suggestions for the future.

She expressed her thanks that England had allowed her a travel fund to visit various countries and stressed that no fund was available from World Council for the World Chairman to travel. It should be noted that the World Travel Fund needs rebuilding.

There was also some discussion about whether a new World Chairman would be commissioned. It was also felt that someone needed to be commissioned from a communication point of view. It was agreed unanimously to commission a new World Chairman.

South Africa nominated Nobantu Makunga as World Chairman. Congratulations were given to Nobantu.

World Project

Where should money sent? Money for the World Project should be sent to England where it will be banked and sent on to Nigeria.

Nobantu then thanked Council for the task; it is a growing gift of hope for the future. She welcomed everyone to South Africa. Nobantu then thanked Joy and the English delegation for all their support. Nobantu finished with a song of thanks to Joy and England.

The session ended at 11.10am.

APPENDIX 1

In attendance were:

Chairman Joy Epton
Secretary Alison Carter
Chaplain Rt Revd Bill Ind
Vice-Chairman Joy Parkin.

Delegates:

Australia	Jan McNamara, Leanne Tait
Barbados	Mary Marshall
Cameroon	Justin Nzegwu
England	Pauline Searle, Emma Rowson
Gambia	Priscilla Johnson
Ghana	Juliana Okine, Christine Adjei
Ireland	Maeve Hannon, Tanya Woods
Japan	Mariko Yanagida, Meiko Negishi
Kenya	Madeleine Muramba
Lesotho	Alice Mafereka, Matseliso Tse'phe
New Zealand	Liz Lowry, Anne Town
Nigeria	Clarice Modu, Sussan Ada Ebo
Papua New Guinea	Lucille Haembo
Sierra Leone	Henrietta Johnson, Angela Jackson

Sri Lanka	Gris Samuel
South Africa	Nobantu Makunga
USA	Dorothy Orr
Wales	Katherine Worrington, Philippa Stephens
Zambia	Beatrice Zulu, Grace Kooma.

APPENDIX 2

Greetings were received from:

Australia	Bishop of Tasmania, Bishop of Wangaratta, Juniors and Members, Rockhampton GFS.
Barbados	Bishop of Barbados, Rector of St Paul's Church, Barbados
Cameroon	Presiding Bishop of Cameroon
England	Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, Archbishop of Canterbury,
Ghana	Bishop of Koforidua
Ireland	Archbishop of Dublin, Archbishop of Armagh
Japan	Bishop of Tokyo, Bishop of Okinawa, Bishop of Kita Kanto, Chairperson GFS Nippon Sei Ko Kai
Kenya	Bishop of Mombasa
Lesotho	Bishop of Lesotho
Nigeria	Bishop of Orlu
New Zealand	Archdeacon of Ohariu, Archbishop of New Zealand
Papua New Guinea	Bishop of Popondota
Sierra Leone	Vicar General of Freetown, Bishop of Bo
South Africa	Bishop of Natal
USA	Presiding Bishop, The Episcopal Church, Bishop of Connecticut President of Episcopal Church Women, Bishop of Los Angeles, Bishop of Pennsylvania
Wales	Archbishop of Wales, President of Wales GFS.

The Minutes of the 15th World Council

Monday afternoon saw the arrival of most of the delegates and observers and after finding bedrooms and unpacking everyone sat down for an evening meal.

The conference started with an official welcome from Joy Epton, the World Chairman.

Information packs were distributed, and the coming week was explained to everyone including our theme "A Task with a Vision. Hope for the World".

The official greetings were then received from each country (app2) Thanks were also given to Sri Lanka, Lesotho and Zambia for the World Day of Prayer. The day ended with a service of Compline led by the Chaplain to World Council, Rev Bill Ind.

After breakfast it was on to the coaches for a 9.30am start to Liverpool Cathedral for our Opening Service. As we approached Liverpool, we were greeted with road signs showing us the way to World Council. On arrival each country set up their stalls for the open day.

Our Opening Service followed with a procession of banners from England branches and dioceses and then the colourful array of each country's banner. This then led onto the open day. After a well-deserved tea provided by Liverpool GFS it was back onto the coaches for our journey home.

Unfortunately, one coach was a bit delayed due to a puncture, but all returned safely. Our day was rounded off by a Taizé style service led by Joy Epton.

After morning worship and breakfast Wednesday was the first of our business days. This was interrupted after morning break for the official photo session.

Our evening entertainment was provided by the Ricklins Brass Band who treated us to our own “Night of the Proms”. This was followed by evening worship.

Thursday morning worship was led by Japan and after breakfast four ex-World Chairman – Floris Bain, Anna Iwai, Joy Parkin and Subuola Thompson were waved off in their chauffeur driven Rolls Royce to a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace. Then it was back to “work” for everyone else for the second day of our business.

Our entertainment this evening was a talk and display by the Robin Hood Society and our worship was an evening worship from Iona led by Ireland.

Friday dawned bright and after worship and breakfast it was on to the coaches to start our day trip. Our first stop was at Stratford-upon-Avon where we had lunch and then it was on to Honnington, home of Mary Townsend. Whilst we were there, we planted five roses around her grave and held an evensong in the Chapel. It was then on to Shipston for tea. After arriving “home” it was a quick exit for the young delegates and observers for their fun weekend. The rest of us went into our evening meal where we were joined by the England Membership Conference.

Our evening was led by guest speaker Elizabeth Sharples who spoke about tolerance and the theme of World Council. The day ended with Compline led by Bishop Bill.

Saturday started with worship led by Australia and after breakfast we sat down to some Bible Study led by our Chaplain. The theme was “A Call to God”: with reference to Mary and Jeremiah. We split into groups to discuss various questions.

After coffee it was thanks to Elizabeth Sharples and then on to a presentation about the Gt Yarmouth Project. This was led by Karen Haravbey and Carole Riley the two workers from the Project along with Jodie and Josie two girls who have received help and support from the project and are now helping to try and prevent others from going through their problems by talking in schools, etc.

The Gt Yarmouth Project is a project which helps young women who find themselves homeless and pregnant.

After lunch it was time to feedback on our Bible Study questions and then onto our craft afternoon. This was a chance for everyone to have a go at making something they’d never done before – with some very clever results.

After our evening meal we were treated to the musical “Candle in the Dark” written performed and produced by Athelstone GFS branch about the life and work of Mary Townsend. We then drew the raffle for the quilt. Our worship this evening was about Women of Note and was led by the Membership.

After breakfast on Sunday, we had a full communion service during which the Lord's Prayer and blessings were said in everyone's own language. Our preacher was Christina Baxter after coffee we finished off reporting back our Bible Study questions which tied up with Christina's sermon. There then followed questions and answers with Christina and Bishop Bill. After lunch it was time to relax with displays from the Ripley Morris men and Amber Valley Gymnasts followed by free time and evening prayer. Our evening meal was followed by the "International Evening"!!

Worship the morning was led by Africa and after breakfast the final business session was held. After this there was a chance to hear about the history of the conference Centre and visit the Danby Pottery Centre. The afternoon was spent packing ready for our departure tomorrow morning. It was then time for our Service of Light led by Bishop Bill. Monday evening was time to let our hair down at the Barn Dance with the USA also teaching us some line dancing!

Early morning chaos started our final day as we breakfasted and departed by 8.00am. We arrived at St Pauls Cathedral to see a sea of blue on the steps. GFS had taken over London. Our final service took place during which Nobantu Makunga from South Africa was commissioned as the new World Chairman. Everyone then departed either for their homestays or for their flights home.

The above minutes were agreed at 16th World Council in South Africa

Signed: Nobantu Makunga – 3 July 1999.

**GIRLS FRIENDLY SOCIETY WORLD COUNCILSOUTH
AFRICA
JULY 1999**

Minutes of the meeting of the 16th meeting of the World Council Business Meeting of the Girls' Friendly Society held from 2 to 11 July 1999, FIRSTLY IN Port Elizabeth and then in Umtata.

The Council convened at 2.15pm in the Conference Room of the Edward Hotel, Port Elizabeth, under the Chairmanship of Mrs Nobantu Makunga and in the presence of two former World Chairmen, Mrs Subuola Thompson and Mrs Joy Epton, World Vice-Chairman.

Members present:

Australia:	June Hillier	Senior Delegate
	Cyrrilla Wellings	Junior Delegate
Cameroon	Justina Nzegwu	Senior Delegate
England	Pauline Searle	Senior Delegate
	Elaine Sawford	Junior Delegate
Ireland	Maeve Hannon	Senior Delegate
	Anne Healy	Junior Delegate
Japan	Grace Negishi	Senior Delegate
	Wakaha Yamada	Junior Delegate
Korea	Juliana Lee	Senior Delegate

	Maria Cho	Junior Delegate
Lesotho	Alice Mafereka	Senior Delegate
New Zealand	Liz Lowry	Senior Delegate
Nigeria	Clarice Modu	Senior Delegate
	Jane Umeh	Junior Delegate
Papua New Guinea	Lucille Haembo	Senior Delegate
Sierra Leone	Henrietta Johnson	Senior Delegate
USA	Patricia Bryant	Senior Delegate
	Angelica Ward	Junior Delegate
Wales	Adelaide Morgan	Senior Delegate
	Vanessa Williams	Junior Delegate
Zambia	Beatrice Zulu	Senior Delegate
	Bualya Mukupa	Junior Delegate
South Africa	Nomathemba Titus	Senior Delegate
	Bathalile Nokwe	Junior Delegate
World Secretary and Secretary to the Council		Mrs Hazel Braun

Apologies were received from Barbados, Gambia, Philippines, and Sri Lanka.

It was hoped that the delegate from Ghana, Christine Adjei, would arrive as she was fully prepared to travel but was still awaiting a visa. This was also true of the Junior Delegate and an observer from Sierra Leone (in the event none of these three was granted a visa)

Observers One Hundred and ten were present. Full list of those present is found in the Conference Book.

Welcome: Mrs Nobantu Makunga welcomed all present and expressed a special welcome to the Koreans who had not been able to attend the last three World Councils. Nobantu gave the condolences of the Council to Mrs Liz Lory on the recent death of her husband, Murray, who had

planned to accompany Liz to the Council. Nobantu then invited Pat Franklin from Australia to lead the Opening Prayers (this left a good feeling as Pat's final destination became 1999 South African World Council and she passed to the greater glory on Sunday 8 August 1999 whilst still in South Africa).

Greetings to the Council were given from many around the world as in the attached list. The members were especially pleased to hear of the greeting from Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Archbishop of Cape Town, and former World Chairmen.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting of the Council held 2-10 July 1996 in England were presented by Mrs Alison Carter, former World Secretary. With just one amendment from the Minutes as circulated – that Kenya be removed from "Not Present" - it was proposed by Pauline Searle and seconded by Subuola Thompson.

"That the minutes be accepted".

This was agreed unanimously, and the Chairman signed the Minutes. The Book of Minutes of previous Councils was handed to Mrs Hazel Braun for safekeeping.

Council theme Nobantu explained the theme for the Council "CONTINUITY in touch with Global Development while focusing on the Cross" and the theme for Day 1 was "Touch us, heal us, forgive us" and spoke about dedication, praying for our brothers and sisters from Sierra Leone, Lesotho, and other countries with problems.

Matters arising from the Minutes:

Philippines: Mrs Joy Epton advised that Dr Kate Botengan had assured her the money was being used to train leaders and/or GFS work. There had been no correspondence so Joy considered she should possibly visit to establish if money was in a Bank Account.

Minutes of Council Meetings: It was agreed the Minutes be sent in advance of following Council.

World Banner: Mrs Liz Lowry reported that New Zealand had done no further work on this since last Council due to the limited interest shown. It was agreed that a World Banner was not necessary. She also commented with regard to the Constitutions that it should be noted that New Zealand had Trustees.

Reports to the Council of the Member Countries Each country presented the report on GFS work speaking to written copies. A copy of each report was given to each delegate.

Additional highlights:

Australia – a special note is developing of Kids Plus Ministry and National Camps to be held every three years. GFS Australia were in the process of changing the Constitution to be modern and user-friendly and would include the incorporation under the National Incorporation Act.

Korea – offered to host World Council in 2005.

Lesotho experienced a very difficult year. Lesotho still has status of a country whilst in the Province of Southern Africa.

New Zealand had endeavoured to make contact with GFS in Newfoundland but to no avail.

Papua New Guinea. Lucille Haembo thanked Australia for making it possible for her to attend Council and for the sewing machines provided.

Sierra Leone – Nobantu advised at this point that she had always wanted Mrs Subuola Thompson to be with us as she felt all former World Chairmen need to be afforded recognition.

South Africa – present membership is 3500.

Wales – GFS started in Wales in 1878.

Zambia – GFS were focusing on three concerns of Education, Spirituality and Service. Thanks were extended to Mrs Dorothy Clay, World Council and GFS Australia. The future of GFS Zambia looked a challenging one. The Chairman endorsed Zambia's appreciation of the relative closeness of Zambia

to South Africa was the only reason it had been possible for such a good number of members from Zambia to be present.

Each report was in turn accepted by the Council.

Keynote Speaker:

Mrs Maureen Sithole who holds a top position in the Mpumalanga Government was introduced to the Council.

Mrs Sithole is the Lay representative for the Province of the Church of Southern Africa on Anglican Consultative Council.

Mrs Sithole thanked the Council for the invitation. How do we actually try to get the Anglican community to get the girls to know more about this wonderful society, GFS? With this as the starting point Mrs Sithole gave a wide ranging and challenging address covering Role of Women in today's society, potential of women, health issues, employment and many other items. Pointers were that she had a son-in-law who is an Anglican Priest and she promised to "tell" him what to do to promote GFS. Most important for us as women is to improve the situation and quality of life of all women. Women have no rights to success and are told they must have a child. She urged everyone present to put projects into practice and attain those objectives. Nobody is a stranger and to keep in touch with global developments we need each other so we can be in touch with all developments.

Patricia Bryant, the USA Senior Delegate, expressed vote of thanks in a prayer form.

Accounts of World Council 1996 were presented by Mrs Joy Epton. Copies were distributed to each delegate.

a) **Income and Expenditure Account.**

Joy explained the Financial Statement in detail. Joy stressed the importance of having funds to transfer from one World Council to the next. Of real assistance was a donation of £1895.50 from GFS members in England. Use of St Paul's Cathedral had been £4500. The Income and Expenditure showed a surplus of £7746.97. £14,439.13 was passed to South Africa, England having received £9890.42 from New Zealand.

Joy advised that since completion of the accounts, the Conference fee shown for Cameroon had been forwarded to South Africa for the current Council. At the New Zealand Council, it had been decided money should be allocated from the World Fund to pay for World Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer to attend the next World Council. It was agreed a decision should be taken later in the Agenda re allocation of funds for World Chairmen, Secretaries and Treasurers to attend future Councils.

The income amount of £1075, 74 in the Income and Expenditure Account under World Project was queried. Joy pointed out that there was a payment from the account to the World Project. Joy requested that when money is sent it should be a Bank Transfer. A covering letter and a copy of the bank document should be sent detailing exactly what the money was for.

Pauline Searle proposed and Patricia Bryant seconded

"That these accounts be accepted" **ALL IN FAVOUR**

b) **Travel Fund.**

It was noted that the donation from Australia had been for the fare for the delegate from Papua New Guinea. It was proposed by Maeve Hannon and seconded by Grace Negishi

"That the account be accepted" **ALL IN FAVOUR**

Reports of World Project:

- a) **South Africa Poultry Project:** (This had been the project voted on in 1981 but for a variety of reasons had not come to fruition until 1988) Nomathemba Titus reported: It is a

conspicuous contribution that is unforgettable in our Diocese. It has been proved that the normal process of breeding and rearing is too slow to cater for our families and communities. We are so grateful for this project. After a number of years of this project we are thinking of converting the buildings to either a sewing centre or a private pre-school. We envisage a pre-school that will be multi-raced, as we are now a free, democratic South Africa. We are one = more so in the face of God.

- b) Philippines. Joy Epton reported amount remitted to the Philippines was £8589.85 which is hopefully on deposit and earning interest. Joy thought Dr Kate Botengan published a Leader's Manual (no copy seen) and held Leader's Weekends. A letter to be sent to Kate stating our hope that now her husband is the Bishop she has no problems and able to do this work herself and in due course we shall receive information of progress of the project. Australia supported Joy and said Perth Diocese had a close relationship with Kate and there were many people prepared to write to her.
- c) Nigeria. Joy Epton explained a building offering accommodation to members was needed as they needed to stay over. Amounts as in the circulated account had been sent to assist with building and furnishings. A very full, written report of progress and expenditure was presented by Clarice Modu. The Council was appreciative of the quality of the report and Clarice was thanked and continued to have the support of the Council in the working out of this project. Joy was looking forward to attending the official opening and blessing in January 2000. Building may be used for the local church.
- d) Comments. Nigeria asked if everyone had received the project report and commented that observers should be briefed before Council on agenda items. Mrs Thompson queried the South African Project asking if there had been an assessment of the poultry project because mention was made of a pre-school. South Africa replied that the project had been so successful that many people had copied it. Mrs Thompson thanked Australia for suggesting a policy whereby a time limit exists.

Motion from England

"That the name be changed from World Chairman to World President".

Pauline Searle spoke to the motion saying that it seemed more appropriate in today's world to use the term "President" than "Chairman".

Future World Projects

- a) Papua New Guinea. Lucille Haembo presented a detailed plan and budget. Australia supported the proposal. A letter had been received from the Bishop expressing his support. It was agreed that Lucille was the right person, who in turn advised that travel in Popondetta was very difficult. Val Gribble commended the project to World Council and added mail between Popondetta and Queensland took three weeks. Voting revealed all in favour with the abstention of Kenya.
- b) Kenya has a project that needed guidelines and assistance in presentation. It was AGREED that Kenya should proceed to get a plan for presentation to future Council. New Zealand had idea of needs of Kenya. Revd Jillian Cossar commented that this was the strongest church in area and only part of Kenya where GFS had taken root so request for a project should be followed up, investigated, and given support. Ireland offered support of Project.

Link Countries:

The Chairman referred to Page 5 of 1996 Minutes for existing links. After discussion, the following position was agreed:

Group A Australia, Cameroon, Liberia, Papua New Guinea
Group B Barbados, England, Gambia, South Africa

Group C	Ireland, Kenya, Zambia – no contact with the Philippines.
Group D	Nigeria, Sierra Leone, USA
Group E	Ghana, Lesotho, Sri Lanka, Wales
Group F	Japan, Korea, Newfoundland, New Zealand.

Wales said that they had contributed money to enable a delegate from Sri Lanka and Ghana to be present but as no delegates from either country had been able to be present, they do not want money returned but kept in Travel Fund or used for another necessary purpose. New Zealand advised that Joy Epton had a contact in Newfoundland so new of GFS is awaited. After further discussion it was decided to leave final decisions until Junior delegates were present (The Junior Delegates were on a familiarisation visit to Walmer Township and St Augustine's Church)

Presentation to Former World Chairmen: Nobantu presented World Council T shirts to the former World Chairmen who were present and respective delegates were given T shirts and Council bags for Former World Chairmen not present and our Patron, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, and the Archbishop of Canterbury.

World Day of Prayer: It was agreed that the Service for the next three years be produced as follows. – 2000 Zambia, 2001 Lesotho, 2003 Kenya. Joy said the advantage of this system was that there are countries that are unable to host World Council and that cannot send many members to Council, but who can offer a positive contribution by compiling the service.

World Newsletter: Nobantu emphasised the need is to have news of each country to include in the newsletter. Council was reminded that Newsletter should be published twice a year. Mrs Subuola Thompson suggested there should be a follow-up quarterly report.

World Council Guidelines:

- a) World Travel Fund. Mrs Thompson apologised for reverting (? – correct reading of handwriting) to the World Travel Fund as she was concerned that when she took over as World Chairman, she was handed three sets of money, - 1 World Dues, 2 World Travel, 3 World Project and told the World Travel Fund was used to help those unable to meet full costs of travel. World Project Fund was specific for World Project chosen by World Council. She had handled negotiations with each country which requested assistance and endeavoured to use Travel Fund as equitable as possible. General discussion followed and Wales considered a ruling should be made that money raised be paid into the Travel Fund. They were not in favour of practice of stipulating which people should be paid for. The Chairman commented on how expensive it is to travel and if it is decided to subsidise costs, as we want a good attendance, we have to decide we are going to raise the money. Nigeria considered that if a link country suggested sending money for a delegate to travel, the delegates be told the amount and advised she provide the difference. Chairman agreed that in the above manner the delegate is aware that there is some money for assistance and should be advised as early as possible. Australia advised that in their Minute Book there was a motion in place for funding the World Travel Fund. USA proposed
" that all funds for travel are sent to the World Chairman and people apply to her for assistance. The World Chairman to use her discretion to use funds as she deemed fit." Wales seconded the motion.

Mrs Val Gribble referred to a problem of paying two expensive airfares and at that stage Australia elected to pay airfare of country they chose. This topic should be for next World Chairman to decide.

It was agreed that the motion was a good suggestion and there should be a time limit. Money should be paid within next two years. Deadline should be nine months before World Council and if considered necessary, people can do fundraising for their fare. USA advised their Chairman decides who should attend and also thinks of their Link country. Joy Epton said the Guidelines should be looked at and considered.

The motion was put and ALL WERE IN FAVOUR with no abstentions.

Australia proposed

"That future new Chairman in the next term develop Guidelines for how accommodation costs for World Council might be covered by the World Travel Fund".

Seconded by England.

USA asked if these Guidelines would be used for each World Council. Joy Epton advised that the World Travel Fund would be administered according to these guidelines.

The motion was put AND ALL WERE IN FAVOUR with no abstentions.

- b) **Travel of World Council Officers.** Referring to the earlier discussion Joy Epton advised that she was quite certain the current Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer would be able to attend next Council. Discussion followed.

Australia said host country needed to be considered and proposed

"In all cases the World Vice-Chairman goes to the next World Council, her expenses being paid by World Fund, and requested clear Guidelines".

Wales seconded the motion.

We are not in favour of funding World Secretary and Treasurer, only the World Vice-Chairman has her fare and conference fee paid to attend Council.

The motion was put with only ONE vote against and no abstentions. The motion was CARRIED (see later comment about when this would become operative.)

- c) **Participation of Observers in Council Business.** USA was concerned that only delegates were allowed to speak, and observers had to speak through the delegates, and some ideas could be wrongly interpreted. The Chairman declared the floor open for any comments, as there are often topics of general interest to delegates and observers. Joy Epton mentioned that this time, including whether former World Chairmen should speak, had been discussed in 1996. It could result in many comments from the floor. Chairman said there should be "open" and "closed" sessions so that everybody is accommodated and feel part of the Council.

Motion

"That Clause 7 of the Guidelines for GFS World Council be amended by deleting "observers are invited to the Council but shall not have the right to speak or vote" and inserting "observers are invited to Council. The World President may open and close discussion on any Agenda item to include observers at her discretion."

Proposed by USA, seconded by Australia. Motion was CARRIED with all in favour.

Former World Chairmen

The Chairman thanked former World Chairmen, Mrs Subuola Thompson, and Mrs Joy Epton for their views and input. Important we keep in touch with former World Chairmen and advised whereabouts.

Joy advised she had a list of former World Chairmen who would receive newsletters as well as Christmas cards and any information sent to delegates. Each World Chairman (President) should receive detailed list of former World Chairmen (A complete list is found inside cover of Minute Book) Nigeria moved.

“That greetings should be sent to Past World Chairmen not present at World Council and also to our Patron.”

Motion seconded by Japan and CARRIED. All in favour.

Sierra Leone enquired when the motion re who should travel to next Council (Chairman, Secretary etc) would be effective. Australia considered when the motion went into the books that the motion would be operative from this time.

Link Countries:

Lesotho reminded the meeting of need to return to Link Countries. The Chairman explained the decision to hold over final decision until Junior Delegates were present. There were no objections or comments from Junior Delegates re following Arrangement.

Group A	Australia, Cameroon, Korea, Papua New Guinea
Group B	Barbados, England, Gambia, Guyana, South Africa
Group C	Ireland, Kenya, Philippines, Zambia
Group D	Nigeria, Sierra Leone, United States of America, Liberia
Group E	Ghana, Lesotho, Sri Lanka, Wales
Group F	Japan, Newfoundland, New Zealand.

The Chairman and England and South Africa would do utmost to establish contact with Barbados. Perhaps too the Bishop of the Gambia should be asked to locate last Council's delegate. New Zealand was keen to know on what basis each GFS organisation operates and would welcome ideas.

Kenya enquired if it was possible to have an office in England where GFS started. Mrs Thompson said that as time goes on lots of material is collected at World Council and information, copy of each newsletter etc., should all be kept in safe custody.

The Chairman said all members need to agree on and support Mrs Thompson's idea to safeguard our memorabilia and should a country offer, we will accept.

Joy Epton urged members not to throw anything away and England was there for everyone as they too had a wealth of memorabilia.

Venue of next World Council

At 1996 Council, Australia had kindly withdrawn to allow South Africa to host 1999 Council and consequently they would be happy to host 2002 Council. Australia was warmly accepted with a unanimous vote.

US offered Council hospitality in 2005 and Korea also offered.

World President for 1999-2002 would be Mrs June Hillier. June was welcomed and warmly congratulated. In her response, June thanked everyone for their support and realising the mammoth honour she knew she could accomplish it with the Lord's help and everyone's support.

With the exception of the Commissioning of the new World President at the Closing Service in Umtata, the Chairman declared the end of Business sessions of World Council on July 7 at 3.30pm.

Votes of thanks were expressed to Nobantu, Hazel, Revd Ben Durham and all others who had facilitated the Council.

The above minutes were agreed at the 17th World Council in Australia, Signed, Nobantu Makunga, 27 September 2002.

Greetings were received from:

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother – Patron of the Society.

Most Revd George Carey, Archbishop of Canterbury

Most Revd David Hope, Archbishop of York

Most Revd R Goodhew, Archbishop of Sydney, Anglican Church of Australia

Most Rev Robin Eames, Archbishop of Armagh, Church of Ireland

Most Revd John Nakoto Takenda, Bishop of Tokyo, Primate of Nippon Sei Ko Kai

Most Revd Matthew Cheung, Bishop of Seoul, Primate of Anglican Church of Korea.

Most Revd Frank Griswold, Presiding Bishop, Episcopal Church in the USA

Most Revd Rowan Williams, Bishop of Monmouth, and Acting Primate of Church in Wales.

Rt Revd David Farrer, Bishop of Wangaratta, Anglican Church of Australia

Rt Revd David McCall, Bishop of Willochra, Anglican Church of Australia

Rt Revd R F Stone, Bishop of Rockhampton, Anglican Church of Australia

Rt Revd John Gladwin, Bishop of Guildford, England

Rt Revd Julius Kalu, Bishop of Mombasa, Anglican Church of Kenya

Rt Revd Andrew Duma, Bishop of Lesotho

Rt Revd Tom Brown, Bishop of Wellington, Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia

Rt Revd Julius Lynch, Bishop of Freetown, Sierra Leone

Rt Revd Orris G Walker Jr, Bishop of Long Island, Episcopal Church in USA

Rt Revd Eric Pike, Bishop of Port Elizabeth, Church of the Province of Southern Africa

Rt Revd Zambuhle Dlamini, Bishop of St John's Church of the Province of Southern Africa

Jean Cheshire, Former World Chairman 1969-1972

Umayo Iwai, Former World Chairman 1981-1984

Joy Parkin, Former World Chairman 1990-2003

Ebe A Kingston, Mayor of Epsom and Ewell

Pauline Tibbits, GFS Secretary, Perth Diocese, Australia

Noeleen Beer, Chairman GFS Sydney, Australia

Parish of St Augustine, Shepparton with St Luke Dookie and St Mary Katandra West, Australia

Mary Marshall, Chairman GFS Barbados

Olein Gyles, former All Ireland GFS President

Janet Nunde MU Diocesan President, Zambia

Revd M Mbenuka, GFS Chaplain, Zambia.

Verbal greetings were received from each country present.

The 17th World Council meeting was held in Australia. The Australian 19th Council met at the same time using the same venues enabling all attendees to observe both meetings.

FRIDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 2002 – SESSION 1 – 9.00AM TO 12.00 Noon

The 17th World Council meeting commenced at 9.30am n Friday 28September 2002 at the Townsville Grammar School, Townsville, Australia.

1.1 Official Opening and Welcome

June Hillier, the GFS World President, welcomed all present to the 17th GFS World Council Meeting. June expressed a special welcome to the delegates and former World Chairman, Joy Parkin (1990-1993), Joy Epton (1993-1996) and Nobantu Makunga (1996-1999).

The members of the World Team, who worked with June for the past three years were then introduced – Janice Doyle (Secretary and Treasurer), Jennifer Buckby (GFS Australia Chairman) and Cyrilla Eastwood (Youth Officer).

Also introduced were Jan McNamara as the World Council Hostess, and the Venerable Michael Hillier a the World Council Chairman.

1.2 Opening Prayers

Father Michae Hillier led the Worldwide GFS Prayer and then offered prayers and a blessing for the World Council meeting.

1.3 Apologies

Were received from Grace Hatsumi (Japan) Hazel Braun (former World Secretary, South Africa), Hazel Mangola (?), Henrietta Johnson (Sierra Leone), Phoebe Odette (Sierra Leone) Jan Onyeama (Nigeria) and Floris Bain, (Former World Chairman , USA)

1.4 Introduction of Delegates and Observers

The delegates were4 asked to introduce themselves by informing the meeting of (who they are (2) where they live, (3) their role in GFS and (4) their time of membership in GFS. Countries and the delegates who attended the Council meeting were –

AUSTRALIA	Jennier Buckby	Senior Delegate
	Tanya Cameron	Junior Delegate
CAMEROON	Asnath Ruhumuliza	Delegate
ENGLAND	Pauline Searle	Senior Delegate
	Alice Hanny	Junior Delegate
GHANA	Julianna Okine	Senior Delegate
	Christine Adjei	Delegate
IRELAND	Emilia Corrigan	Senior Delegate
	Suzanne Henry	Junior Delegate
JAPAN	Junko Nakamura	Senior Delegate
	Riko Ogawa	Junior Delegate
KENYA	Madeleine Muramba	Senior <u>Delegate</u>
	Veronica Mutua	Delegate
KOREA	Ruth Choi	Senior Delegate
	Prisca Yi	Junior Delegate
SOUTH AFRICA	Monica Kuse	Senior Delegate
	Nobantu Makunga	Delegate
SRI LANKA	Rita Kalpage	Delegate
NEW ZEALAND	Janet Waite	Delegate
NIGERIA	Clarice Modu	Delegate
PAPUA NEW GUINEA	Lucille Haembo	Senior Delegate
	Alison Barowo	Delegate
WALES	Kay Warrington	Senior Delegate
	Wendi James	Junior Delegate

USA

Dorothy Orr
Megan Pearson

Senior Delegate
Junior Delegate

OBSERVERS who attended are listed in the Conference Book

1.5 – Greetings and Correspondence

The President informed the meeting the following Greetings and messages were received. The greetings were displayed during the meeting (see Attachment 1)

It was with sadness that the recent death of Gris Samual (Sri Lanka) was noted. Gris was the delegate from Sri Lanka for many years and a devoted GFS member. A card of sympathy, to be sent to Gris's family, was available to be signed by her many friends present at this Council.

1.6 Meeting Procedure

June Hillier explained of the procedure of the meeting as listed under Section 6 of the Guidelines of the World Council of the Girls Friendly Society (see page 13 of World Council Book).

1.7 Minutes of the 16th World Council

Nobantu Makunga, the World Vice President, presented the Minutes of the 1999 World Council meeting held 2 – 11 July, 1999, in South Africa.

It was moved by Nobantu Makunga that the minutes be accepted subject to

- The removal of the name of Jane Umeh as a delegate for Nigeria.
- Correction of the spelling of Patricia Bryant's name.
- And on page 9 under World Guidelines the word "how" to be added in the last line of the second paragraph between the words 'decide' and 'we'.

Seconded by Clarice Modu (Nigeria). *Carried.*

The President signed the minutes of the 16th World Council meeting and the Book of Minutes was given to Janice Doyle for safe-keeping until it is handed over at the 2005 World Council Meeting.

1.8 Business Arising from the Minutes.

- 1 **Philippines World Project Funds.** Joy Epton advised the meeting that she had spoken to Kate Botengan, but had not been able to clarify if a bank account had been established. Jan McNamara reported she had seen a Leadership Training Book printed by GFS Philippines.
- 2 **Minutes.** GFS Australia will endeavour to forward minutes before the next meeting.
- 3 **Newfoundland.** One GFS group meets and an email contact has been made with the GFS Leader, Frances Sweetland. GFS Japan through Wakaba Yamada has also made contact.
- 4 **Nigerian World Project Centre.** The official opening and blessing was held in January 2000. The centre is in use but further funds are required to complete the building.
- 5 **The Guidelines for the World Council of the Girls Friendly Society** has been amended to change the name of the World Chairman to World President.
- 6 **Patron** - GFS World does not have a patron. The Queen Mother is the Patron of England and Wales only.
- 7 **World Day of Prayer.** A thank you was expressed to Zambia, Lesotho and Kenya for the past three World Day of Prayer services which were distributed to all countries.
- 8 **World Travel Fund.** The President report that all funds were received through the World President for this World Council meeting.
- 9 **Accommodation and Travel Costs.** The President recommended this become an agenda item to be discussed later in the meeting.

- 10 **Guidelines for the World Council.** The role of observers at World Council meeting has been included in the new Guidelines for the World Council to discuss later in the meeting.
- 11 **Communication with Barbados and Gambia.** The President reported that no contact had been made with Gambia. In Barbados the membership is aging, and the new President is Beverley Sealy-Knight, but no recent correspondence has been received.
- 12 **World Archives.** This item to be discussed as a general business item later in the meeting.

1.9 World President's Report

June Hillier presented her report, and a printed copy was distributed for all present. Her theme was "Making Connection with God, Self and others that will enable GFS Worldwide to continue proclaiming the Gospel into the 21st century. Some points included in the report.

- June worked with a World Team of five people from Australia.
- Ten countries elected new President/Chairman during the last three years (1999-2002)
- The GFS world community was saddened by the deaths of Pat Franklin (Australia), Rose Chisenga (Zambia), Olive Ross (Ireland), Gris Samuels (Sri Lanka), Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother and the events of 11 September 2001 in the United States of America.
- Visited New Zealand, Australia and Papua New Guinea.
- Established a World Census and produced a GFS World Directory.
- Produced a regular newsletter to GFS Presidents by way of the President's Connection and a World Newsletter three times a year.
- Encouraged countries to support the World Project in Papua New Guinea and working with Val Gribble with leadership training and planning for the building of GFS House.

June Hillier moved the adoption of her report, seconded Jenny Buckby (Australia) Carried Jenny Buckby thanked June for her work and report. The meeting responded with applause. Copies of the GFS World Directory were distributed to all the people attending the World Council.

1.10 Financial Statement

The World Vice-President, Nobantu Makunga (South Africa), presented the GFS World Council "Financial Statement to 14 September 2022". The balance of world funds transfer to GFS Australia was 10,871.14 Pounds Sterling, which included 1424.67 Pounds Sterling being held for the GFS World Project in Nigeria. These are to be forwarded to the GFS World Project Fund in Nigeria.

Nobantu Makunga (South Africa) moved the adoption of the Financial Statement, seconded Janet Waite (New Zealand), Carried.

Thanks were expressed to Nobantu for her work in finalising the business of the 16th GFS World Council.

1.11 Reports from each country

The President advised the 'Reports' from each country had been printed in the GFS World Council booklet. She asked everyone to read the reports and prepare comments or questions to be addressed at a forum to be held later in the meeting. Reports would not be presented verbally at this meeting.

1.12 GFS World Council Guidelines

Nobantu Makunga (South Africa) moved that the amended guidelines as agreed (see attachment 2) at the 16th meeting of the GFS World Council be accepted. Seconded Tanya Cameron (Australia).

Pauline Searle (England) advised the meeting that the clause giving any past President the right to speak but not to vote had been accepted at the 16th meeting of the GFS World Council but has not been

included in the amended guidelines (Attachment 2)

Pauline Searle (England) moved amendment to the motion to read “That the amended guidelines as agreed (Attachment 2) at the 16th meeting of the World Council have included “any past World President may be invited by the current World President to speak to the Council but may not vote’ be inserted at the end of clause 6. Seconded Kaye Warrington (Wales). The motion was put to the meeting and was lost.

The amendment became the motion and was carried. (See attachment 3)

1.13 World Council 2005

June Hillier advised the meeting that the USA, Ireland and Korea had offered to host the World Council in 2005. Each country then presented information about their proposed plans.

USA A musical presentation of the theme to be “Weave us together’ was presented.

IRELAND The theme would be “Communication” reaching out to the Anglicana church and the community. Meeting would probably be held in Dublin.

KOREA Korea has attended the World Council for eight times and would like to host because it would strengthen GFS in Morea. An opportunity to explore Asian spirituality.

Delegates and observers were asked to prayerfully consider these presentations and advised Voting would be held later in the meeting.

1.14 World Travel Fund

June Hillier explained that Australia had not developed fully the World Travel Fund Guidelines because we did not have the experience at this stage.

A sub-committee was formed. The members were Janice Doyle (Australia), Dorothy Orr (USA), Joy Parkin (NZ Past Chairman), Joy Epton (England, Past Chairman), Ruth Choi (Korea), Nobantu Makunga (South Africa, Past Chairman).

1.15 Election of GFS World Council Host Countries for 2005 and 2008.

Dorothy Orr (USA) moved that the World Council select the Host Country for World Council 2005 and 2008 host country. Seconded Pauline Searle (England)

The reasons for this motion included the need to book venues in advance, budgeting, time for the World President to prepare. Ireland raised the issue of offering to host when the President of that country was not yet elected.

June Hillier encouraged delegates to discuss this motion and the voting would be held at a later time.

Session 1 – closed at 12.00 noon.

SUNDAY 29 SEPTEMBER 2001 – Session 2

2.00 to 3.15pm

2.1 Reports from member Countries

June Hillier invited the delegates and observers to make comments and request clarification on the reports presented in the Conference booklet.

- Hazel Crompton (England) commented on the number of questions in relation to family issues and challenged the delegates to take up the issues with the United Nations or local Synods. Janet Waite (New Zealand), Alice Hanny (England), and Nobantu Makunga (Sout Africa) also agreed, and the suggestion was made that this subject be included on the agenda for the next World Council meeting.

- Jean Riggs (England) reported that Sierra Leone very rejected and in pain because they were unable to get a visa to come to Australia.
- Dorothy Orr (USA) thanked everyone for their prayers and letters of support during the difficult time following September 11, 2001.
- June Hillier thanked all for their comments and encouraged delegates and observers to discuss the issues in the reports outside of the business meeting as a way of showing support for each other.

2.2 1996 to 1999 World Project Update – Nigeria

(Full report recorded in the Conference Booklet)

Clarice Modu (Nigeria) reported further work had been completed including the installation of 37 doors and 60 windows, plastering of the walls and flooring of the upper level. A new building committee had been appointed, following the election of a new bishop (Bishop S C Ebo) and the creation of a new diocese.

The funds in hand will cover the cost of the completion of the flooring and further installation of doors

and windows but another \$US8000 is still required to complete the building. GFS Nigeria plan to source the extra funds locally but this is difficult because of the dismal economic conditions. Clarice Modu (Nigeria) moved the adoption of the report. Seconded Mrs Julie Okine (Ghana). Carried

2.3 1999-2002 World Project Report – Papua New Guinea

(the full report is included in the World Council Conference Booklet)

Val Gribble (Australia) presented (by way of a Power Point presentation) the report on behalf of the World President and GFS Australia. This project included erecting a building for Leader Training, and providing leadership training.

- Three visits have been made to Papua New Guinea by GFS Australian members and training sessions have been successful held each time. On each occasion the training was planned for GFS leaders, but many parish families including Parish Priests and MU members attended.
- Land, plans, permission to erect the building and the funds have been obtained. Rotary International is prepared to assist with the construction of the building. Security of building materials is still to be worked out. The building will probably commence in 2003.
- Promotion of GFS in New Guinea will continue with other visits planned in 2003 by GFS Australia. The Bishop of Popondota Diocese, who has provided strong support for GFS, has recently retired, so it is planned to strongly encourage the new bishop once elected.

Lucille Haembo (Papua New Guinea) spoke to the report and thanked the World countries for supporting the Papua New Guinea World Project.

Lucille Haembo (Papua New Guinea) moved the adoption of the report. Seconded Tanya Cameron (Australia) Carried.

Eunice Gibbon (England) reported she and Sharon Holland (England) were privileged to travel to Papua New Guinea on their way to World Council. Eunice expressed the importance of other members of the Worldwide GFS to visit Papua New Guinea and experience GFS there.

Francis Kerr (Ireland) congratulated Val Gribble on the very clear report and suggested that in the future all reports should be presented in visual manner at future World Council meetings.

Session 3 closed at 3.15pm.

MONDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER 2002 – Session 3

9.35 to 11.00am

3.1 GFS World Project in Papua New Guinea

As the goals of the current World Project for GFS in Papua New Guinea have not been met particularly

In regard to the erection of the Training Centre – Jennifer Buckby (Australia) moved that “GFS Australia continues to administer the project funds and provide the necessary people support in the next term. The responsibility for this support is with the next Vice-President’ Seconded Dorothy Orr (USA) Carried.”

3.2 Election of GFS Council Host Countries for 2005 and 2008

Dorothy Orr (USA) moved that the World Council select the host country for the World Council 2005 and

also the 2008 host country. Seconded Jennifer Buckby (Australia) Carried.

3.3 World Project – Two countries at the same time.

Beatrice Zulu (Zambia) moved that two World Projects at a time be considered, a major one and a minor

project. The motion was not seconded. Motion was lost.

3.4 Clarification of Ownership of World Projects.

Clarice Modu (Nigeria) suggested that the World Council include the clarification of the policy governing

the ownership and use of World Projects.

It is important for delegates to take home a policy statement on that issue for circulation to all the GFS

Dioceses of each country in which a project is located.

Joy Epton (Former Chairman) suggested a letter be drawn up by a lawyer to confirm GFS Worldwide has provided the building for GFS to own.

Delegates were asked to give this further consideration to be discussed later in the meeting.

3.5 Applications for 2002 to 2005 World Project

June Hillier reported she had received requests from two countries for the 2002-2005 World Project. Each country presented a report on their proposed project. (Full details of each proposal can be found in the Conference booklet).

Kenya – presented by Madeleine Muramba and Veronica Mutua.

The project is partly to fund a multi-purpose building, including a large hall, meeting room, offices and toilets for GFS use. This will be built on land owned by the diocese. At present there is no where for GFS to meet. There is a growing need because of the growth in the Moslem faith to encourage the Christian faith. The building will be used for training and meetings and would generate income from the hire of the hall.

The total cost is 83,640 pounds sterling.

Zambia – presented by Beatrice Zulu

The project is to be known as the Girls Friendly Society Training Centre.

Phase One would be to empower girls and women and teach them agriculture ie poultry, gardening, piggery and tailoring. The completed proposal includes erecting a building, furnishings, acquisition of land, office equipment. The estimate of costs is 40,000 pounds sterling for the building only.

Beatrice Zulu (Zambia) expressed that the high level of unemployment causes the girls to suffer the most. She thanked June Hillier and Dorothy Clay who established GFS in Zambia for their support in planning this project.

Joy Epton (former World Chairman) brought to the attention of the meeting the total costs of each project.

Nobantu Makunga (South Africa) suggested that in the future a limit be placed on projects and this would enable the project to be achievable.

3.6 Election of next World Country 2002-2005

June Hillier (World President) announced the voting for the 2005 World Council would take place and asked for any further offers. No further offers were received. Delegates were asked to vote in preference for the countries of the United State of American, Ireland and Korea.

June Hillier announced that the 2005 Host country would be USA and 2008 Host country would be Korea. Ireland was thanked for their offer.

Dorothy Orr (USA) introduced Adele Ray (USA) as the next World President. The meeting welcomed the USA and Adele with acclamation. Adele shared with the meeting about joining GFS at the age of eleven and attending her first World Council in Melbourne, Australia in 1972. The theme for her ter would be "Weave us together in unity and love".

3.7 World Council Minutes

Pauline Searle proposed that the completed minutes be forwarded to the next host country within six months of the end of this council meeting. Seconded Clarice Modu (Nigeria) Carried.

Session 3 – closed at 11.00am

TUESDAY, 1 OCTOBER 2002 – Session 4 - closed at

**9.00 to 9.45am and
10 to 10.45am**

4.1 Pat Franklin Foundation

June Hillier (President) announced that GFS in the Melbourne Diocese, Australia, had established "The Pat Franklin Foundation". The purpose is to provide financial assistance for GFS members worldwide to attend conferences for study and leadership training programs. Donations to the Foundation may be sent to the Treasurer, GFS – An Anglican Ministry, 80 Chetwynd Street, North Melbourne, 3051, Australia.

4.2 Clarification of Ownership of World Projects.

Clarice Modu (Nigeria) moved that GFS World Council develop a policy on GFS World Projects, after seeking legal advice regarding ownership of the venture. Seconded Juliana Okine (Ghana) Carried

4.3 Draft World Guidelines

Val Gribble advised the meeting that the Australian World Team found difficulty operating with the World Guidelines (Attachment 3). GFS Australia ask that the draft guidelines be accepted as a working document to replace the existing World Council Guidelines.

Following discussion several clauses were changed –

1.3 Membership (Refer 2.3) added to the second dot point.

1.4 Officers – four dot points were added

- Overseeing the World Travel Fund
- Present a report to the World Council meeting
- Carry out World Census halfway through the term of office and collate results
- Update the World Directory.

2.3 change ages to 16 and 30

2.10 World Project – Alter the wording English pound to pounds sterling and add a dot point 16

- World countries should be regularly updated with progress reports of current World Projects.

2.11 four additional dot points were added

- Tickets may be purchased by the host country or monies submitted to the country applying.
- Applications for World Travel Fund should be made in writing at least one year prior to the World Council meeting. It may not be necessary to name the delegate at this stage.
- Tickets should be purchased in advance in order to get the most economical rate.
- Grants will be made up to 90 days before the meeting.
- Grants will only be made to people who have registered to the World Council meeting and paid a deposit.

Janet Waite (New Zealand) moved the adoption of the draft GF World Guidelines (Attachment 4). Seconded Megan Pearson (USA). Carried.

4.4 World Archives

Pauline Searle (England) proposed that the GFS World Council Archives be kept with those for England and Wales, in a properly maintained and supervised archive library. Seconded Taya Cameron (Australia) Carried.

Pauline Searle commented this is likely to be the Women' Library in London that has been newly purpose built and is administered by Fawcett Society.

4.5 The Gambia

Clarice Modu moved we accept Julie Okine's (Ghana) offer to try to reconnect with GFS in Gambia and report to the World President. Seconded Nobantu Makunga (South Africa) Carried.

4.6 Desk Flag Display

It had been noted that the World Desk flag display was missing the Korean and New Zealand flags. The delegates from the USA were requested to update the flags for the next World Council.

4.7 World Day of Prayer Countries

The following countries accepted to prepare the World Day of Prayer Services for

2003	Ghana
2004	Papua New Guinea
2005	South Africa

Pauline Searle moved that all countries prepare the World Day of Prayer Service on a rotation basis

Seconded Madeleine Muramba (Kenya) Carried.

4.8 The Philippines

Kaye Warrington (Wales) moved that the 1900-93 World Project in the Philippines be officially signed off at this meeting. Seconded Alice Hanny (England) Carried.

4.9 Promotion Fund

Jennifer Buckby (Australia) moved that a promotion fund be created specifically for the purpose of developing GFS in countries where there is no GFS and where an opportunity for development occurs. Seconded Beatrice Zulu (Zambia)

Janet Waite (New Zealand) spoke about the unrealistic figures requested for support and the meeting should consider looking for a smaller, less financially demanding projects.

Val Gribble (Australia) spoke about the need to have a promotion fund to enable GFS to grow

around the world.

Pauline Searle (England) agreed with the idea, in principle. She pointed out the great difficulty to raise funds for the World Project because of the recession.

The motion was put to the meeting and was Lost

June Hillier (President) commented that the World Project was originally called the Mission Project. June also said that GFS Worldwide does not have any advertising material to use to promote GFS.

Janet Waite (New Zealand) moved that the incoming Chairman continue to explore ways GFS Worldwide can promote itself. Seconded Rita Kalpage (Sri Lanka) Carried.

4.10 GFS in the Solomon Islands

Tanya Cameron (Australia) advised the meeting that Australia would withdraw the motion that GFS Australia requests monetary assistance to follow up the opportunity to develop GFS in the Solomon Islands.

4.11 World Project 2002 to 2005

June Hillier advised the delegates that the voting for the World Project 2002-2005 would take place. Jo Epton and Joy Parkin (former World Chairman) were appointed as scrutineers. Concern was raised at the costs of both projects. It was suggested that the funds be shared for the next three years.

The meeting agreed to enable a project to be completed only one project would be supported. The voting was held.

June Hillier announced the 2002-2005 World Project would be Kenya.

Jennifer Buckby (Australia) moved that the World Project 2002-2005 (Kenya) would be managed by the incoming World President. Seconded Meagan Pearson (USA) Carried.

4.12 Link Countries

The meeting agreed to leave the link countries as per the 1999 World Council Meeting agreement.

Group A	Australia	Cameroon	Korea	Papua New Guinea	
Group B	Barbados	England	Gambia	South Africa	Guyana
Group C	Ireland	Kenya	Philippines	Zambia	
Group D	Nigeria	Sierre Leone	USA	Liberia	
Group E	Ghana	Lesotho	Sri Lanka	Wales	
Group F	Japan	Newfoundland	New Zealand		

4.13 17th World Council Information

The President advised the meeting that the World Council Booklet and papers would be forwarded to countries not represented at this meeting.

The President, June Hillier, expressed her thanks to all for their participation and persistence in working through, and completing, the business of this World Council meeting.

The 17th World Council meeting of the Girls Friendly Society was closed at 11.00am.

Signed by J Hillierm, 25 July 2005.

Attachment 1
Greetings received at World Council

- 1 GFS, Bath and Wells Diocese UK
- 2 City of Gloucester UK – Councillor Pam Tracey, MBE
- 3 The Bishop of Gloucester, UK, Rt Revd David Bentley
- 4 The Archbishop of York, YK, The Most Reverend, Dr David Hope
- 5 President of GFS USA, Mrs Dorothy S Orr
- 6 The Bishop of Guildford UK, The Right Red John Gladwin
- 7 GFS Platform UK, Central President, Miss Pauline Searle
- 8 Archbishop of Canterbury UK, The Most Revd George Carey

- 9 The Episcopal Church USA, The Most Revd Frank T Griswod
 10 The Episcopal Diocese of Connecticut USA, The Right Revd Wilfrido Ramos-Orench
 11 Girls Friendly Society, Ireland, Central President Emila Corrigan
 12 Patron of GFS Ireland Archbishop, The Most Revd Walton N F Empey
 13 Former World Chairman 1975-78, Mrs A Floris Bain
 14 Archbishop of Ghana
 15 Holy Trinity Church, Pot Elizabeth, S. Africa, The Revd David Stansbury
 16 Former World Secretary 1999-2002, Mrs Hazel Braun
 17 Church of Nigeria, The Rt Revd Godson C Echefu
 18 Former GFS World Chairman 1984-1987, Mrs Dilys Fowler
 19 MU Wales, Ann Jackson Wales
 20 Archbishop of Wale, The Most Revd Dr Rowan Williams
 21 Epsom and Ewell Borough Council UK Mayor Keith Mann
 22 Chaplain, GFS-USA, The Revd Phyllis Taylor
 23 Bishop of Seoul, Korea, The Rt Revd Matthew Chung
 24 The Bishop of Port Elizabeth, South Africa The Rt Revd Bethlehem Nopece
 25 St James Episcoral Church, Collegeville, UA, The Revd Sunny Hallanan McMillan
 26 Diocese of Wangaratta, Australia, The Right Reverend David Farrer
 27 Diocese of New Jersey USA, The Rt Revd David B Joslin
 28 The Diocese of Los Angeles, USA, The Right Revd J Jon Bruno
 29 Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania. The Right Reverend Charles E Bennison
 30 Diocese of Wellington, N, The Right Reverend Dr Thomas J Brown.

Attachment No 2
Guidelines of the World Council of the Girls Friendly Society

- 1 The organisation shall be called the World Council of the Girl's Friendly Society.
- 2 *Purpose* The purpose of the World Council of GFS shall be to promote fellowship between the members of the Society throughout the World by the exchange of information and ideas. The promotion of World Assemblies, caps, exchange visits and correspondence between embers shall be encouraged.
- 3 *Day of Prayer*, September 29, St Michael and All Angels Day shall be the GFS World Day of Prayer. There shall be offers from countries to prepare the service.
- 4 *Membership* shall be open to GFS n all countries whose purposes ae in fundamental agreement. Each country seeking admission shall be considered separately and shall present a letter of support from their Bishop and the policy shall be inclusive rather than exclusive. Representation at Council meetings shall be extended to two (2) from each country, one of whom shall be ideally between the ages of 16 and 25.
- 5 *Officers* It shall be the responsibility of the Chairman of he World Council to arrange for the election of the country o preside over the World Council for the succeeding period the voting to be carried out by mail, if necessary, the method of voting to be determined by each country concerned.
- a. The duration of the office of chairman shall usually be for not less than three years and shall coincide with the term between meetings, and the chairman shall relinquish offic

- immediately at the conclusion of the Council meeting. The responsibility for the chairmanship of the GFS World Council shall rest on the person of the Chairman and not on the Executive Committee or Board of the country she represents.
- b. The World Chairman is empowered to appoint her own secretary for her term of office.
 - c. The Chairman of the previous period shall be the Vice Chairman up to and including the next meeting of the Council.
- 6 *Voting at meetings.* Each delegate to World Council shall have one vote. If the President is not the Chairman, then the President of the GFS in the country concerned shall be an ex-officio non-voting member of the Council. The Vice Chairman of the World Council shall also be an ex-officio non-voting member unless she is the chosen delegate of the country concerned. Observers are invited to the Council and shall have no right to speak and no right to vote. The Chairman has a casting vote.
- 7 *Agenda.* Suggestions for inclusion on any Agenda shall be sent to the Chairman of the GFS World Council to reach her not less than three months prior to the date of the meeting. The agenda for a meeting of the Council should be circulated to the chairman and secretaries of member countries as long as possible in advance to allow for discussion and suggestion.
- 8 *Minutes.* Minutes of each meeting shall be circulated within at least six months and not more than twelve months and signed by the Chairman of the meeting and shall be recorded in a book which shall pass from Chairman to Chairman. Further, that as a common language will be necessary for this book, that English be used as the office language.
- 9 *Newsletter.* The Newsletter shall, where possible, be edited by the country providing the Chairman, or by another country at the request of the country providing the Chairman. The distribution within each country shall be the responsibility of that country.
- 10 *Finance.* All member countries should, if possible, contribute to a common fund to help defray the expenses to the country carrying the World Chairmanship. Each country to pay the same amount as an Affiliation Fee – this to be 10 English pounds per year per country. The World Chairman may administer all the World funds.

Agreed at the 14th Meeting of the GFS Council held in Wellington, New Zealand 8-16 May 1993.

Attachment No 3 **Guidelines of the World Council of the Girls' Friendly Society**

- 1 The organisation shall be called the World Council of the Girl's Friendly Society.
- 2 *Purpose.* The purpose of the World Council of GFS shall be to promote fellowship between the members of the Society throughout the World by the exchange of information and ideas. The promotion of World Assemblies, camps, exchange visits and correspondence between members shall be encouraged.

- 3 *Day of Prayer*, September 29, St Michael and All Angels Day shall be the GS World Day of Prayer. There shall be offers from countries to prepare the service.
- 4 *Membership* shall be open to GFS in all countries whose purposes are in fundamental agreement. Each country seeking admission shall be considered separately and shall present a letter of support from their Bishop and the policy shall be inclusive rather than exclusive. Re presentation at Council meeting shall be extended to two (2) from each country, one of whom shall be ideally between the ages of 16 and 25.
- 5 *Officers* It shall be the responsibility of the Chairman of the World Council to arrange for the election of the country to preside over the World Council for the succeeding period, the voting to be carried out by mail if necessary, the method of voting to be determined by each country concerned.
 - a. The duration of the office of chairman shall usually be for not less than three years and shall coincide with the term between meetings, and the chairman shall relinquish office immediately at the conclusion of the Council meeting. The responsibility for the chairmanship of the GFS World Council shall rest on the person of the Chairman and not on the Executive Committee or Board of the country she represents.
 - b. The World Chairman is empowered to appoint her own secretary for her term of office.
 - c. The Chairman of the previous period shall be the Vice Chairman up to and including the next meeting of the Council.
- 6 *Voting at meetings*. Each delegate to World Council shall have one vote. If the President is not the Chairman, then the President of the GFS in the country concerned shall be an ex-officio non voting member unless she is the chosen delegate of the country concerned. Any past World President may be invited by the current World President to speak to the Council but not to vote. Observers are invited to the Council and shall have no right to speak and no right to vote. The Chairman has a casting vote.
- 7 *Agenda*. Suggestions for inclusion on any Agenda shall be sent to the Chairman of the GFS World Council to reach her not less than three months prior to the date of meeting. The agenda for a meeting of the Council should be circulated to the chairman and secretaries of members countries as long as possible in advance to allow for discussion and suggestions.
- 8 *Minutes*. Minutes of each meeting shall be circulated within at least six months and not more than twelve months and signed by the Chairman of the meeting, and shall be recorded in a book which shall pass from Chairman to Chairman. Further, that as a common language will be necessary for this book, that English be used as the official language.
- 9 *Newsletter*. The Newsletter shall, where possible, be edited by the country providing the Chairman, or by another country at the request of the country providing the Chairman. The distribution within each country shall be the responsibility of that country.
- 10 *Finance*. All member countries should, if possible, contribute to a common fund to help defray the expenses of the country carrying the World Chairmanship. Each country to pay the same amount as an Affiliation Fee. This to be 10 English pounds per year per country. The World Chairman may administer all the World Funds.

Draft Working Document

Girls Friendly Society Guidelines for World Council and World Council meetings.

1 World Council

1.1 The organisation shall be called the World Council of Girls Friendly Society.

1.2 The Purpose of the World Council of GFS shall be to promote, support and encourage

- Fellowship between the members of the organisation throughout the world by the exchange of information and ideas.
- The growth of GFS in countries where there is no GFS ministry,
- World gatherings, camps, exchange visits and correspondence between members.
- The observance of September 29, the Feast of St Michal and All Angels, as the GFS World Day of Prayer each year.
- The system of Link Countries ensuring further prayer and practical support.
- The GFS World Project through financial donations and prayer.

1.3 Membership

Membership shall be open to a country in which GFS currently operates or a country with a currently operating organisation, which aligns with the values, beliefs and principles. It is acknowledged that the organisation is now known by other names throughout the world and that some countries include male membership.

- A country can seek admission by written application to the GFS World President at least six months prior to the next scheduled World Council Meeting.
- A country accepted for membership is entitled to be represented by two (2) members (delegates) at the meetings of the GFS World Council. (see 2.3)

1.4 Officers

World President

- Shall be elected at the World Council Meeting (see below)
- The duration of the office of President shall usually be for not less than three years and shall be relinquished immediately at the conclusion of the Council at the end of the term.
- The responsibility for the Presidency of the GFS World Council shall rest on the person of the President and not on the Executive Committee or Board of the country she/he represents.
- The World President shall appoint a Secretary and Treasurer for the term of office.
- The duties of the World President shall include:
 - The leadership of the GFS World Council
 - Ensuring that the purposes of the World Council is carried out during the triennium
 - Regular communication with member countries
 - Convening a World Council meeting to conclude the term of office.
 - Arranging for the election of the country to present over the World Council for the succeeding term.
 - Overseeing the World Project and the World Travel Fund.
 - Present a report to the World Council meeting.

- Carry out World Census halfway through the term of office and collate results.
- Update the World Directory.

Vice President

The immediate past President shall be the Vice President up to and including the next meeting of the Council.

2 World Council Meeting

2.1 This will be a meeting of the World Council of Girls Friendly Society, which is to be held not less than every three years.

2.2 The World President will set the date for, and chair the Council meeting, ensuring that representation, voting, agenda, guidelines and minutes are followed correctly.

2.3 Representation at Council meetings shall be extended to two (2) members nominated from each country (termed Senior Delegate and Junior Delegate) one of whom shall ideally be between the ages of 16 and 30.

- The World President may not be a Delegate for her own country.
- The Vice President of the World Council shall also be an ex-officio non-voting member unless she is the chosen delegate of her own country.
- Observers are invited to the Council but shall not have the right to vote. The World President may open and close discussions on any agenda item to include Observers at the World President's discretion.

2.4 Voting at Council Meetings.

- Each Delegate of World council shall have one vote.
- The President has the casting vote.

2.5 Minutes

The Minutes of Council Meetings shall be

- Recorded in a book, which shall pass from World President to World President.
- Recorded in English as the official language, as a common language.
- Circulated by the President of the meeting no later than a year from the Council meeting to all member countries.

2.6 Agenda

- Agenda items shall be sent to the President of the World Council to be received not less than three (3) months prior to the date of the meeting.
- The draft Agenda for a World Council meeting should be circulated to the President and Secretaries of member countries as long as possible in advance to allow for discussion and suggestion.

2.7 Financial

- All member countries should, if possible, contribute to a common fund to help defray the expenses of the country carrying the World Presidency. Each country to pay World Dues of ten (10) pounds sterling per year per country, until the next World Council.
- Travel expenses for the Vice President to attend the Council in her period of Vice Presidency shall be paid from the World Fund.
- A detailed and audited financial statement shall be presented at each World Council by the Vice President to account for all monies which have been received and expended on behalf of the GFS Council during the period under review.

2.8 Election of a Country to Host World Council.

- Each country wishing to nominate as the country to preside over the World Council shall present a submission to the World President at least 6 months prior to the next scheduled Council Meeting.
- The submission shall include a letter from the responsible Bishop or Archbishop of the nominating country, supporting the nomination.
- If elected, a country shall nominate a person as the next World President. The World Council meeting shall ratify that nomination.

2.9 World Day of Prayer

- At each World Council meeting member countries are nominated to prepare the format for the Day of Prayer for each of the following three years.

2.10 World Project

- The purpose of the World Project Fund is to assist GFS members with funding of new initiatives and to promote GFS in new countries.
- Submission should include all costing for the project (converted to US dollars and Pounds Sterling) and must include a letter of support from the responsible Bishop/Archbishop of the country making the submission.
- More than one project could be chosen for any one period.
- World Countries granted a project are required to present a details, audited, financial statement at the next World Council and will be required to submit annual reports to the World President on the progress of the project.
- World countries should be regularly updated with progress reports of the current World Project.

2.11 Travel Fund

- The World President will be responsible for promoting and managing this fund and seeking monies to assist with the travel costs for delegates to attend World Council.
- Only one delegate from any country seeking assistance will be supported and only to the level of funding as decided by the World President. Delegates receiving assistance will be required to seek the most economical route of travel.
- The fund will only be available for travel costs. The delegate must meet the financial costs associated with attendance at the World Council (eg accommodation).
- Tickets may be purchased by the host country or monies submitted to the country applying.
- Applications to the World Travel fund should be made in writing at least one year prior to the world council meeting. It is not necessary to name the delegate at this stage.
- Tickets should be purchased in advance in order to get the most economical rate.
- Grants will be made up to 90 days before the meeting.
- Grants will only be made to people who have registered to the world council and paid a deposit.
- All applicants to the Travel Fund will be advised 6 months prior to the World Council meeting.

2.12 Link Countries

- Member countries are to be “linked” to further prayer and practical support. The groupings may be changed after discussion at each World Council.

Accepted as a working document at the 17th World Council Meeting held in Australia 2002.

**GIRLS’ FRIENDLY SOCIETY
18TH WORLD COUNCIL
MINUTES
JULY 23, -31, 2005
VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY, VILLANOVA PENNSYLVANIA
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

The 18th World Council Meeting of the Girls’ Friendly Society was held in the United States of America from July 23rd to July 31st, 2005. The meeting was held at Villanova University, Villanova, Pennsylvania.

An informal gathering was held on July 23rd, 2005 in St. Mary’s Auditorium. The delegates and observers were welcomed, and introductions of officers and key people were made. Lois Frankforter, President of GFS/USA greeted the gathering and Kaitlyn Geliebter, Junior Delegate of the Diocese of Pennsylvania, read greetings on behalf of the President Gwen Linton.

All Senior and Junior Delegates signed in for Session one. (See page two for list) The 18th World Council Meeting began at 9:15 am on Monday, July 25th in the Cinema of Villanova University.

Official Opening and Welcome

Adele Ray, the GFS World President, welcomed all present to the 18th GFS World Council Meeting. Adele welcomed the delegates and former World Presidents, Joy Epton (1993 -1996), Nobantu Makunga (1996 – 1999) and June Hillier, (1999-2002).

The World Officers for the past three years were then introduced – Dorothy Orr, Secretary, Wendy Waer Rainey, Treasurer, June Hillier, Vice President, and The Very Reverend Phyllis G. Taylor, World Council Chaplain.

Opening Prayers

The Rev. Phyllis Taylor opened the Council with prayer. Everyone was asked to focus on the theme for the day, Unity in Prayer, and time was allowed for discussion among the delegates and observers. Following the theme discussion, an altar cloth that was made by Jacquie Longacre, using the pieces of fabric that were sent in by the member countries, was blessed. This cloth will be used on

the Communion table for all the remaining services of World Council.

Regrets

Adele Ray mentioned with regret that several countries were unable to send delegates to the 18th World Council due to the denial of Visas to travel. The following countries are not represented due to these circumstances, Cameroon, Ghana, Liberia and other observers from Nigeria and Sierra Leone. She explained that the visa issues were very difficult and that many requests were made to help in getting these papers. This process is time consuming, costly and very involved, especially in the African Countries.

Introduction of Delegates and Observers

The delegates were introduced at the informal meeting on Saturday evening. Each Country was seated behind the sign of their country.

Countries and the delegates who attended the 18th World Council Meeting were:

AUSTRALIA	Lesley Briggs Bettrys Lowe	Senior Delegate Junior Delegate
ENGLAND	Carol Gardner Ceridwen Short	Senior Delegate Junior Delegate
IRELAND	Emila Corrigan Elaine Grothier	Senior Delegate Junior Delegate
JAPAN	Chuzuko Kiragami Ayumi Okagaki	Senior Delegate Junior Delegate
KENYA	Veronica Mutua	Senior Delegate
KOREA	Ruth Choi Youn Mi Choi	Senior Delegate Junior Delegate
NEW ZEALAND	Janet Waite	Senior Delegate
NIGERIA	Clarice Modu	Senior Delegate
PAPUA NEW GUINEA	Lucille Haembo	Senior Delegate

SIERRA LEONE	Jane Godwin	Senior Delegate
	Angela Jackson	Junior Delegate
SOUTH AFRICA	Monica Kuse	Senior Delegate
	Thelma Pama	Junior Delegate
SRI LANKA	Jeanne Withanage	Senior Delegate
USA	Barbara Belden	Senior Delegate
	Kirstin Auletta	Junior Delegate
WALES	Kay Warrington	Senior Delegate
	Rhiannon Wynne	Junior Delegate
ZAMBIA	Beatrice Zulu	Senior Delegate
	Florence Phiri	Junior Delegate

OBSERVERS who attended this council are listed in the program booklet by country.

Greetings and Correspondence

The President informed the meeting that the following Greetings and messages had been received. The Greeting from The Most Rev. Frank T Griswold, Presiding Bishop and Primate of the Episcopal Church in the United States of America was read. Greetings from the other countries and former World Presidents were read throughout the course of the meeting. A list of these greetings is included with these minutes. (See Attachment 1)

Meeting Procedure

Adele Ray explained the procedure for the meeting is listed on Page 4 and 5 of the agenda booklet and item 2.6 of the Guidelines of the World Council of the Girls' Friendly Society on page 20 of the World Council Agenda Book.

Minutes of the 17th World Council

June Hillier, the World Vice President, presented the Minutes of the 2002 World Council Meeting held September 23 to October 1, 2002 in Australia.

June moved to accept the minutes, subject to corrections.

- 1.1 add the name of Val Gribble, Media Officer to the World Team
- 1.4 Add the Country Zambia and Beatrice Zulu as Delegate
- 1.4 Correct spelling Kay Warrington, Wales

- 1.4 Correct spelling Emila Corrigan, Ireland
- 1.4 Clarice Modu Senior Delegate from Nigeria
- 1.6 delete “of” before “the procedure” in first line of paragraph
- Last line of page 8 change “_word_” to “_world_”
- 1.8 Number 10 add “_s_” to the word “_meeting_”
- 1.8 Number 11 correct spelling “ageing”
- 1.9 add the word “a” before “new”
- 1.9 Bullet point three correct title for the Queen Mother, Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth, Queen Mother
- 1.9 Bullet 7 use “Encouraged” instead of “_encouraging_” and “worked” instead of “_working_”.
- 1.10 Change transfer to transferred in the third line
- 1.11 Add the word “that” before “the” in the first line
- 1.12 In the second paragraph delete “a” before “clause” and “the” before “any” in first line. Also add “world” after the word “past”
- 1.13 change “pray fully” to “prayerfully” and add “s” to “_presentation_.”
- 1.15 change was not ‘year’ but “yet” to have been elected _____
- 1.15 and 3.2 are the same motion but have different seconders. The 1.15 motion was carried, and 3.2 motion can be eliminated.
- 2.1 Bullet 1 add the word “of” before “_questions_.”
- 2.1 Bullet 2 to read “that GFS was very rejected and in pain.”
- 2.2 Clarice Modu is from Nigeria, not Kenya.
- Numbering is wrong as there is no 2.3.
- 2.4 line one change “is” to “in”
- 2.4 Bullet 1 change “successful” to “successfully” and add “_members_” after the word “family”
- 2.4 bullet 3 change “other” to “another”
- 2.4 correct spelling of “Popondota” diocese
- Session 3 should be Session 2 at the end of 2.4
- Correct spelling of Gibbon to Gibbons on page 12
- 3.1 Add “New” after “_Papua_” in Paragraph title
- 3.5 Add “to” after “is” in the second line, in fourth line “no where” is to be “nowhere.”
- 4.9 Delete the word “a” in front of smaller project.
- 4.10 Pauline Searle is from England, not Australia fourth paragraph.
- 4.11 add a period after completed and begin the next sentence with uppercase for “Only.”
- 4.12 Joy Epton and Joy Parkin, former World Chairs, were appointed as scrutineers.
- Closing date of the council Tuesday, October 1, 2002

A short break followed to sort out 1.12 of the minutes concerning the guidelines and the past World Presidents right to speak at a meeting.

The motion by Pauline Searle, England, stated that in previous guidelines, that the past World Presidents may be invited to speak, but may not vote at the World Council meeting and that it be added to the guidelines for this council (2002). As it is stated in the minutes for 2002 the amendment is correct.

June Hillier (Australia) again moved that the minutes be accepted with the corrections that were made. Clarice Modu, Nigeria seconded the motion, and it was carried. 25 yes, 0 No

June Hillier signed the minutes of the 17th World Council Meeting and the Book of Minutes was given to Adele Ray for safekeeping until it is handed over at the 2008 World Council Meeting.

Financial Statements for the 17th World Council

June Hillier, World Vice-President presented the Financial Statement for the 2002 World and Australian Councils. An audited report of the council was received and is attached to these minutes. (Attachment 2)

June then moved the Account of Income and Expenses for 2002-2005. The following notes are to be added to the statement.

Note 2 England and Wales are to be included in the list of having paid their dues.

Note 2 New Zealand total within the World Dues is for 1999=2002, and for 2002-2005.

Note 2 World Dues for South Africa are included in the income, but not defined, until we can follow up this with the treasurer.

Note 3 England refers to both England and Wales, and the amount of \$13,754.75 AUD, includes the World Dues for England, and Wales. The dues are listed under World Project in this report.

Clarice Modu (Nigeria) had a question about the final payment to Nigeria. She will speak to Joy Epton (England) concerning this payment.

It was requested that additional copies of the financial statement be made available. They will be available for the next business session. The vote on the financial statement will be postponed until the next business session.

World President's Report

Adele Ray presented her report, and a printed copy was distributed to all present. Her theme was 'Weave us together in Unity and Love', a song by Rosemary Crow. Some points included in the report:

- Adele worked with World Officers, Dorothy Orr, Wendy Rainey and The Rev. Phyllis Taylor and many other individuals and committees.
- Information was received by Australia of a new branch in the Solomon Islands. There was also a request for information from The Sudan.
- The World Project had been off to a slow start. The Rev. Jillian Cossar had visited Mombasa and had offered help and support wherever she could.
- Produced 6 newsletters to GFS Presidents by way of the President's Connection and six World Newsletter during the past three years.
- World travel fund was able to pay for all the requests for assistance to date.
- There were many that wished to attend this Council who were denied visas to enter the USA.
- GFS Worldwide should continue sharing, encouraging and supporting the GFS ministry around the world.

Adele Ray moved the adoption of her report. This was seconded by Barbara Belden (USA) and carried. 25 yes, 0 no

The meeting responded to this report with applause. (Attachment 3)

Copies of the GFS World Directory were distributed to all the people attending the World Council. Any additions or corrections should be given to the Secretary.

Session 1 recessed at 12:05 P. M.

Monday Afternoon Session 2 **Guest Speaker**

The Rev. Anne Kitch who spoke on Prayer and praying with children.

Tuesday, July 26th, 2005 Session 3 9:45 A.M. To 12:15 P.M.

Dorothy Orr, World Secretary, opened this session with prayer. The Rev. Sonia Roulston, Australia, led the reflection of the theme for the day, Unity in Concern. This followed with discussion and prayer.

The Financial Statement was again reviewed. Clarice Modu spoke with Joy Epton concerning her questions about the Nigerian Project and understands that final distribution of money is complete. The money listed in the 2002 report was from Japan and was given at the 2002 Council in Australian dollars and then transferred

to pounds sterling. Joy Epton will send a statement and have it placed in the 2002 minutes.

The World Project in Papua New Guinea had received the balance of funds from the 2002 Council and was looked after by Australia to seek completion of the building. (A report was given at a later time at this council and is highlighted in the minutes.)

June Hillier (Australia) moved that the Council accept the financial statement with the notes. This was seconded by Carol Gardner (England) and carried. 25 yes, 0 no

The council expressed thanks to June Hillier for the reports finalizing the business of the 17th GFS World Council.

Country Reports

The President stated that reports from each Country had been printed in the GFS World Council Agenda Booklet. She asked everyone to read the reports. Each Country was asked to briefly speak about their report. These reports were given throughout the following business sessions.

Business Arising from the Minutes

Minutes– The World President will endeavour to forward minutes no later than one year after the close of this council as stated in the guidelines.

Countries that have not stayed in contact with the World President-

Adele reported that there had been no response to her emails or letters from the following countries, Barbados, The Gambia, Lesotho, and New Foundland. Val Gribble (Australia) suggested that the current World President contact the Archbishop of each of these countries to learn of the status of GFS and encourage those who may still be working with the organization. She is to report back to the 2008 Council on these countries.

The Guidelines for the World Council of the Girls' Friendly Society

This council is working under guidelines that were approved at the 2002 Council.

World Day of Prayer – A thank you was expressed to Ghana and Papua New Guinea for the past two World Day of Prayer Services, which were distributed to all countries. The 2005 service will be prepared by South Africa and will be distributed upon completion. A motion was made at the 2002 Council that all countries be given the opportunity to prepare the World Day of Prayer service.

After discussion it was moved that the rotation of countries be in alphabetical order beginning with the 2006 service. *This was moved by Lesley Briggs (Australia), seconded by Emila Corrigan (Ireland) and carried, 25 yes, and 0 no*

World Travel Fund – The President reported that all funds for travel were received through the World President for this World Council Meeting. Several countries at the beginning of this Council had given additional money. It was noted that if all countries were represented, there would not have been sufficient money to pay for the travel expenses of one person from the ten countries that would have requested help. Money has been given to seven countries to assist with their travel to World Council.

World Archives – England reported that they had placed their archives with the Women’s Library in London. They felt that all the World information could also be placed there. The former World Presidents are to compile a list of items that should be sent to the archives after each World Council.

Desk Flags England was thanked for obtaining all the flags that were needed to represent all the World member countries in the Desk Flag set.

Ownership of Property Clarice Modu, (Nigeria) stated that there were seven dioceses in Nigeria. Only two dioceses have GFS and the Diocese where the building is built is claiming the building. The question was raised as to the ownership of the building. Lois Frankforter (USA) stated that the ownership could be defined in the projects and worded that it would include all of GFS and not just those where the building is located, Joy Epton, (England) will help to clarify this for Nigeria. The council then referred to the agreement between the World GFS and the Anglican Diocese of Popondota, Papua New Guinea. The Rev. Dr. Guma (South Africa) stated that legally the dioceses own all property but can specify the use.

In the future World Council projects should incorporate a Memorandum of understanding of the use and purpose of the building.

World Council 2008- Adele Ray advised the meeting that Korea had been elected in 2002 to host the World Council in 2008. The Council acknowledged this with applause.

World Council 2011- One invitation had been received to host the Council in 2011. Emila Corrigan (Ireland) extended an invitation from GFS Ireland and a letter was received from the Archbishop of Dublin and Bishop of Glendalough, the Most Reverend Dr. John R.W. Neill, Primate of Ireland and Metropolitan, supporting the invitation. This invitation was accepted by acclamation of the Council.

Nigerian Project An update of the project was included in the agenda booklet.

Solomon Islands A brief report on GFS in the Solomon Islands is also included in the agenda booklet. GFS Australia has been communicating with this country and has offered support with structure and training. Members from the Solomon Islands are hoping to visit Australia to become familiar with the GFS program.

As a point of order, Kay Warrington (Wales) asked for a timetable for each day's agenda to be distributed and suggested that some of the free time be used to conduct the business of the council. Nobantu Makunga (South Africa) also suggested that a time frame be given out each day. This suggestion will be taken into consideration. Val Gribble (Australia) spoke to the group about being critical and the purpose of the Council.

Before closing this business session, the Bishop of the diocese of Pennsylvania, The Rt. Rev. Charles E. Bennisson, greeted the Council and formally welcomed everyone to the Diocese of Pennsylvania.

Session 3 recessed at 12:15 P.M.

Tuesday afternoon, Session 4 1:45 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.

A Presentation on HIV/AIDS was requested at the 2002 World Council Alicia Beatty Director of the Circle of Care, USA, and Florence Phiri representing Craids, Zambia and Joyce Hamilton, USA who has been living with HIV/AIDS for the past nineteen years worked together to make this presentation to the 18th World Council.

Val Gribble and Lucy Haembo presented a power point report on the World Project in Papua New Guinea. A final audited report of accounts was presented, stating that the project was completed, and the remaining balance of \$ 2,508 AUD was transferred to Australia-PNG Outreach Ministry *The report was accepted on a motion by Lesley Briggs, (Australia) seconded by Barbara Belden (USA) and carried. 25 yes, 0 no*

Val and Lucy were thanked for their presentation and report on this project. (Attachment 4)

Session 4 recessed at 4:00 P.M.

Thursday, July 28th, 2005 Session 5 9:35 A.M. to 11:15 A.M.

This session was opened with prayer led by Wendy Rainey, World Treasurer. The Rev. Phyllis Taylor (USA) led the reflection on the theme One Family of God. Time was spent in discussion, prayer and reflection. Jeanne Withanage (Sri Lanka) offered the concluding prayer.

All remaining Letters of Greeting were read, and the Country Reports were continued until all were completed. Adele offered regrets from the countries that had sent reports but were not able to attend the council. (Attachment 5)

Jeanne Withanage reported to the Council on the effects of the Tsunami in December of 2004 on the Women and girls in her country. Many requested copies of her report. This will be typed and sent out to the delegates of each country to share with our GFS family. A copy is attached with these minutes. (Attachment 6)

Link Countries- June Hillier (Australia) spoke about the purpose of Link countries and the need to reorganize and reenergize our thinking about the way countries are linked. At present, we have multiple countries linked together. It was suggested that the grouping might be smaller and that we be more closely linked in prayer, correspondence and planning. Time was given to think about this and will be discussed again at the next business session.

GFS World Council Guidelines

Copies of the current guidelines were available for Delegates to look over and discuss. Recommended changes are in italics. These will be voted at the next business session.

Session 5 recessed at 11:20 A.M.

Thursday, July 28th, 2005 **Afternoon Session** The afternoon was devoted to International Day Activities.

Friday, July 29th, 2005 Session 6 9:30 A.M.-12:25 P.M.

This session was opened with prayer led by Adele Ray, World President. The Rev. Phyllis Taylor (USA) led the reflection on the theme One in Spirit Discussion and prayer followed. Lucy Haembo (Papua New Guinea) offered the concluding prayer.

Link countries were again discussed. The question of how-to pair was raised. It was decided that drawing the names out of a hat was not a good idea. Jennifer Buckby (Australia) volunteered to meet with anyone interested in developing new

links during the break and will report back with the new alignment of countries.

World Project 2002-2005 Kenya Report Veronica Mutua reported on the progress of the project. To date the project has not been started and the funds that have been sent, \$3500.00 US. are still in the bank. There was much discussion about this project, and many were unclear as to what Kenya was proposing. It was noted that \$65,000.00 US was needed to complete a room for GFS. Council's understanding of the project in 2002 was that GFS was to have a room within a building, not the room to be a building itself. The project, as seen now, is that GFS would be responsible for the building, would use it and would allow others to use paying a rental fee. GFS would be responsible for the upkeep of the building. Veronica explained that the room had the approval of the government, diocese, and synod. It was explained to Veronica that she would not be taking the money for the project back to Kenya with her. It is necessary for updated reports to be sent. It was also stated that the most that could be raised towards this project would be about \$20,000 US.

Kay Warrington (Wales) moved that World GFS in the USA hold the money until satisfactory progress is made on the building. The diocesan commitment to build should be confirmed in writing to the World GFS as a partnership in the project. All expenditures of funds raised by GFS will be paid on receipt of an invoice. This was seconded by Lesley Briggs (Australia) and carried 25 yes 0 no

This project has been the responsibility of the 2002-2005 World President. It was stated that since the World President was familiar with what had or had not taken place that she should continue in her role as Vice President to oversee Kenya and the work that will take place for this project. *Joy Epton (England) moved that Adele Ray be the contact person for this project. This was seconded by Lesley Briggs (Australia) and carried. 25 yes 0 no.*

Veronica stated that whatever money GFS World sends for the project, it will be used to establish a room with a bathroom. GFS Kenya will raise additional funds for this project. The approximate amount of money raised to date is \$19,474.00 US. (Attachment 7)

New Business

Proposals included in the Agenda Booklet.

Ireland- GFS Ireland suggested that proposals for future World Projects be submitted at least 6 months before the World Council. It also recommends that guidelines regarding funding be available for proposed projects. Included in the proposal for the World Project should be the aim and purpose of the project and

details of the phases of the project.

This proposal was moved by Emila Corrigan (Ireland), seconded by Kay Warrington (Wales) and carried 25 yes 0 no

England -The proposal that was submitted by Jean Riggs, concerning the devaluation of currencies of countries hosting Council and not using the pound sterling or US dollars, was discussed but no action was taken.

Australia - Lesley Briggs stated in light of the high costs and problems associated with Capital building cost, all future World Project applications will only be accepted for Ministry cost. It was recommended that we be good stewards of what we have, and Ministry can help us achieve results just as well as complicated buildings. After a brief discussion, the thought was stated that each project was unique and might require that a room be furnished, or equipment provided to carry out the ministry. The Delegates were asked to vote.

Lesley Briggs (Australia) moved that the future projects be funded for ministry costs. This was seconded by Florence Phiri (Zambia). The motion was 4 Yes. 21 no. The motion was defeated.

Korea – Ruth Choi, (Korea) presented a proposal that was related to linking GFS worldwide. It suggested that networking between countries to promote friendship, cooperation and mutual support needs to be established. This could offer support for someone who might be travelling or studying in a foreign country with accommodations or transportation. This is intended for those of college age or older. A small committee would be needed to begin to form a network. *Ruth Choi moved to create a network between juniors worldwide to promote communications. This was seconded by Rhainnon Wynne (Wales) and carried. 25 yes 0 no*

Sierra Leone- The World President was saddened by the fact that many could not attend Council because they were denied Visas for entry into the United States. Many had to travel to another country to try to obtain Visas. Sierra Leone thanked all for their support and realized that many of the issues were out of our control. This also was not a problem unique to the USA. It is a political situation, and it was suggested that those in the USA write to their representative in Congress and make people aware of these issues. It was also stated that this should be brought to the attention of the Episcopal Policy Network. *No vote was taken on this proposal.*

Link Countries - Jennifer Buckby reported back to Council on the recommendations of the group that had met to discuss the linking of countries. They did include the five countries that were not active. The committee

recommended that these countries would be partnered in their spiritual life, prayers, finances and closeness of the countries to each other.

**Link Countries for 2005-2008: Each line across represents countries
workingtogether.**

Australia	Papua New Guinea	Nigeria	The Gambia
New Zealand	Solomon Islands	Cameroon	The Philippines
England	Korea	Guyana	Zambia
Ireland	South Africa	Sri Lanka	Lesotho
USA	Kenya	New Foundland	Barbados
Wales	Sierra Leone	Ghana	Japan

The link country alignment for 2005-2008 was moved by Barbara Belden (USA), seconded by Carol Gardner (England) and carried. 25 yes 0 no

Session 6 recessed at 12:10 P.M

Friday afternoon Workshops 1:30 P.M.-3:30 P. M

Five different workshops were offered for enrichment and learning. Information on workshops is included in Program Booklet.

Friday July 29th, 2005 Session 7 began at 3:45 P. M.

World Project Proposal for 2005-2008

Florence Phiri (Zambia) presented a power point presentation on GFS Empowerment and HIV/AIDS awareness campaign. The Project is an initiative of the GFS within the Anglican Church and shall be undertaken for the purpose of contributing to the long-term empowerment of the youth and young women within the church and community. This will include.

- Acquiring skill in agriculture, i.e. poultry and gardening
- Tailoring skills i.e. dress making and knitting etc.
- Offering counselling and restoration services
- Position of HIV/AIDS information and life skills that is likely to lead to healthy lifestyles and self-sufficiency in targeted population groups.
- The major purpose is to ensure that informed HIV/AIDS education and skillsbuilding for making healthy choices the easier choice.

The amount that was required to fund all phases of the project was \$ 50,000.00. US. CRAIDS will give \$20,000.00 towards the project. It is hoped that other money will be raised by GFS and Zambia. The program will involve the bishops, priests, community and GFS. A board of directors will manage the money.

Questions were raised as to what would happen if the additional \$30,000 was not raised. This was mentioned as we have raised about \$20,000 for the last two projects. It was explained that parts of the proposal could be downsized based on what money is available. The proposal can be prioritised and down sized if and where needed.

Florence Phiri (Zambia) moved that the GFS 18th World Council adopt the Zambian GFS Empowerment of Girls and Young Women project to achieve the set of objectives with the amount received over the next three-year period. The motion was then amended that the project be funded with the expected funds to be raised at \$20,000.00.USD. This was seconded by Thelma Pama (South Africa) and carried. 25 yes 0 no (Attachment 8)

GFS Australia presented a paper for discussion on the structure of the World Body of GFS. For consideration were the following items

- World Council would elect the World President and a Vice President rather than a host country.
- Directives to be flexible and developed according to cultural needs.
- Some countries would not be able to host the Council due to lack of funds and/or people to work on the project.
- Funds could be made available to help the countries host the council.
- Numbers of members are dropping and limited funding available.

This would give encouragement to some countries but not the resources for hosting the council. The Council was asked to take this back to each country to brainstorm and discuss over the next three years and to have this placed on the Agenda for the 2008 Council. *Lesley Briggs, (Australia) moved that this discussion paper be placed on the 2008 World Council Agenda. This was seconded by Kirstin Auletta (USA) and carried 25 yes, 0 no*

World Council Guidelines The 18th World Council of GFS operated under the guidelines adopted in 2002 in Australia. Several items in the guidelines were considered for clarification. Copies of the working guidelines were distributed, and the proposed changes are in Italics and bold printing.

1.4 Officers Point 4 the words "***and other chairs as deemed necessary***" were added.

This was moved by Lesley Briggs, (Australia) seconded by Emila Corrigan (Ireland) and Carried 25 yes, 0 no

1.4 Vice President "***The Vice President shall be responsible for communicating and overseeing the World Project initiated during her term of office as World President. The Vice President shall make sure that the Project country sends updates, at least every three months on the progress of***

the project and on the income and expenses.” This was moved by Bettrys Lowe, (Australia) Seconded by Clarice Mode (Nigeria) and carried. 25 yes, 0 no

2.4 Voting at Council Point 1 each “**country**” to World council shall have one vote. This was moved by Lesley Briggs (Australia) seconded by Carol Gardner (England) and carried 25 yes, 0 no

Point 2 was voted to be stricken from the recommendations, **that in the case of an equal vote the President will always vote in the negative**, on a motion by Carol Gardner (England), seconded by Barbara Belden (USA) and carried 25 yes. 0 no

Point 3 was voted to be stricken from the recommendations, **that the President shall have a personal deliberative vote**, on a motion by Jeanne Withanage (Sri Lanka), seconded by Emila Corrigan (Ireland) and carried. 25 yes. 0 no

2.5 Minutes Point 2 was removed, as it was a repetition of point 5. Point 5 became point 4 and stated that a copy of the minutes from the World Councils held in prior years shall be given to the World President at the conclusion of the World Council. **All minutes will be recorded electronically as well as in the Minute book** on a motion by Lesley Briggs, (Australia) seconded by Ceridwen Short (England) the motion was carried. 25 yes 0 no

2.8 Finances In the revised (2005) guidelines Dues is to come under Finances and will be the first bullet point. **Finances will be 2.7**

The second bullet point adds the word “**only**” after travel expenses. This was moved by Lesley Briggs, (Australia) seconded by Rhiannon Wynne (Wales) and carried 25 yes, 0 no Point 2 the words “**during her term of office**” were added at the end of the sentence. This was moved by Bettrys Lowe (Australia) seconded by Elaine Grothier (Ireland) and carried 25 yes, 0 no

Point 3 was added “**An itemized income/expense statement shall be provided to the next host country within one year after the close of the Council**”. This was moved by Bettrys Lowe (Australia) seconded by Elaine Grothier (Ireland) and carried 25 yes, 0 no

Point 4 a list will be compiled of what monies can be spent for the World Account and what the World Council Operating Account should cover. Kirstin Auletta (USA) seconded by Clarice Modu (Nigeria) and carried, 25 yes, and 0 moved this no

Point 5 all financial reports should be in a form that **is a generally accepted accounting practice**. This was moved by Barbara Belden, (USA) seconded by Janet Waite (New Zealand) and carried 25 yes, 0 no

2.9 World Day of Prayer Add to point one “**on a rotating basis and all countries be given the opportunity to prepare the service.**” This is in keeping with the motion that was passed earlier concerning the World Day of Prayer Service

2.10 Point 2 “6 months Prior to “to be added to keep with the motion by

Ireland on future world project.

A recommendation was made that the entire guidelines be reviewed, and that inclusive language be in place. *This was moved by Bettrys Lowe, (Australia) seconded by Janet Waite (New Zealand) This motion was defeated 8 yes, 15 no*

2.11 Travel Fund Last point to be added” ***Money for assistance will be determined by amount donated and will be divided equally among those requesting aid for travelling to the Council.*** This was moved by Lesley Briggs, (Australia) seconded by Carol Gardner, (England) and carried, 25 yes, and 0 no (Attachment 9)

Session 7 recessed at 5:40 P. M.

Saturday July 30, 2005 Session 8 9:50 A.M.

The Meeting was opened with Prayer led by The Very Rev. Phyllis G. Taylor.

Bettrys Lowe (Australia) presented a proposal to facilitate communication between Countries. This proposal included setting up a Worldwide Web page that would incorporate events from the various countries, posting of the World Newsletter and promotion of the World Project. The estimated cost of designing and hosting the site, plus the purchase of a domain name would be \$835.00 US. There is an offer from Australia to set up and maintain the web site in consultation with the World President. *This proposal was moved by Bettrys Lowe (Australia) seconded by Beatrice (Zulu (Zambia) and carried, 25 yes, 0 no*

A discussion was then held on funding this site. *It was moved by Carol Gardner (England) that additional 5 pounds sterling would be paid for the World Dues for the next three years to cover startup costs. (Dues would now be 15 pounds sterling) This was seconded by Elaine Grothier and carried. 25 yes 0 no*

A Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of the delegates to the 18th World Council was given to the World President, Adele Ray, by Barbara Belden (USA) The gathering showed their appreciation to Adele Ray with their applause.

The President advised the meeting that the World Council Booklet and papers would be forwarded to countries and former World Presidents not represented at this meeting. Some delegates offered to take these back to their countries to the past World President.

The President, Adele Ray, expressed her thanks to all for their participation and persistence in working through, and completing the Business of this World Council Meeting. She also expressed her thanks to all who had a part in the planning and

facilitating of this council.

Before the closing of Council, the Junior Delegate from England, Ceriwden Short, raised a cause for concern about the Junior Delegates not having a vote in the future. She felt that the Junior Delegates should be involved in the meeting and that the Agenda for the 2008 World Council include the change of vote in the guidelines to each Delegate and not each country.

Agnes Lee, President of GFS Korea, presented to the Council the next World President, Ruth Choi. Adele then passed the gavel to the World President Elect for 2005-2008.

The 18th World Council Meeting of the Girls Friendly Society was adjourned at 10:20 A.M. on July 30th, 2005.

Dorothy S. Orr World Secretary

**GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY 19TH
WORLD COUNCIL MINUTES
August 8-17, 2008
Olympic Parktel, Seoul
Republic of Korea**

The 19th World Council Meeting of the Girls' Friendly Society was held in the Republic of Korea from August 8th to 17th, 2008. The meeting was held at Olympic Parktel, in Seoul, Republic of Korea.

Informal gatherings such as Reception and the 1st orientation followed by Juniors' and Chaplains' meeting was held on August 8th, 2008 in Olympic Parktel. The Opening Service and Celebration were held at Seoul Cathedral on the 9th of August. Everyone made one's choice to visit different congregations and organizations on Sunday, the 10th of August.

Monday, August 11th 2008 Session 1 (9:30 am -12:00 pm)

Senior Delegates from all countries that have registered for the World Council 2008, except for Cameroon and Sierra Leone, attended Session One. Also, Junior Delegates from Australia, England, Ireland, Japan, Korea, South Africa, U.S., and Wales attended Session One. (See the next page for the list) The 19th World Council Meeting began at 9:30 am on Monday, August 11, 2008 in the Olympia Hall, Olympic Parktel.

Official Opening and Welcome

Ruth Choi, the GFS World President (2005-2008), welcomed all to the 19th GFS World Council Meeting. Ruth expressed her thanks to all from far and near, and defined this council as to begin another new history of Girls' Friendly Society.

Opening Prayers

The Rev. Amos Kisuk Kim, the Chaplain of the World GFS, opened the Council with prayer. Rev. Kim emphasized the perfection of Koinonia of the GFS members through reconciliation with different groups of people in thought, language, and lifestyles. The Rev. Kim welcomed all the delegates from around the world as well as the observers who were assembled and asked them to especially consider the theme of GFS World Council 2008, prospecting harmony and hope in serving.

Introduction of Delegates and Observers

Each delegate was seated behind the sign of their country. Ruth Choi asked all the delegates to introduce themselves giving their name and the country they were representing. Also, all the observers from each nation stood up as groups to be greeted with applause.

. The Senior Delegate from Papua New Guinea could not attend the council thus Val Gribble from Australia, was the representative of Papua New Guinea with the permission of the Bishop of Popondetta Diocese

Ruth Choi mentioned with regret that Cameroon was unable to send delegates to the 19th World Council. Delegates from Sierra Leone could not attend at the first session however they will be coming as they get Visas.

Countries and the delegates who attended the 19th World Council Meeting were:

AUSTRALIA	Debra Wadeson Karen Winsemius	Senior Delegate Junior Delegate
ENGLAND	Carol Gardner Emily Clarke	Senior Delegate Junior Delegate
GHANA	Christine Adjei	Senior Delegate
IRELAND	Florence Higgins Isla Poyntz	Senior Delegate Junior Delegate
JAPAN	Michiyo Uematsu Anna Furuta	Senior Delegate Junior Delegate
KENYA	Veronica Mutua	Senior Delegate
KOREA	Helen Noh Ji Ho Yi	Senior Delegate Junior Delegate
LIBERIA	Georgiana T. Williams	Senior Delegate
NEW ZEALAND	Janet Waite	Senior Delegate
NIGERIA	Clarice Modu	Senior Delegate
PAPUA NEW GUINEA	Val Gribble	Senior Delegate
SIERRA LEONE	Jane Godwin Jennifer John	Senior Delegate Junior Delegate
SOUTH AFRICA	Thembeke Pama Gladys Hlazo	Senior Delegate Junior Delegate
SRI LANKA	Jeanne Withanage	Senior Delegate
USA	Lois Frankfurter Ashley Tillman	Senior Delegate Junior Delegate
WALES	Carole Jacob Frances Payne	Senior Delegate Junior Delegate

ZAMBIA

Beatrice Zulu

Senior Delegate

OBSERVERS who attended this council are listed in the GFS World Council 2008 Programbooklet by country.

Greetings and Correspondence

The President informed the meeting that Greetings and messages had been received. The following are those who sent greetings:

1. Right Rev. Derek G. Kamukwamba, Bishop of Zambia
2. Right Rev. Julius R. K. Kalu Bishop of Mombasa, Kenya
3. The Most Rev. Alan Harper, the Archbishop of Ireland
4. The Most Rev. Dr. John Neill, the Archbishop of Dublin, Primate of Ireland
5. The Most Rev. Roger Herft, the Archbishop of Perth, Australia
6. Mother Estelle Dibo from Cameroon
7. The Most Rev. Dr. Barry Morgan, Archbishop of Wales
8. The Most Rev. Francis Park, the Archbishop of Anglican church of Korea
9. Right Rev. Paul Kim, Bishop of the Diocese of Seoul, Korea
10. Right Rev. Michael Kwon, Bishop of the Diocese of Daejeon, Korea
11. Right Rev. Solomon Yoon, Bishop of the Diocese of Busan, Korea
12. The Most Rev. Katherine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop of Episcopal Church U.S.A.
13. Right Rev. Andrew Smith, Bishop of the Diocese of Connecticut, U.S.A.
14. Right Rev. Allen L. Bartlett Jr. Assisting Bishop of the Diocese of Pennsylvania, U.S.A.
15. Right Rev. Tom Brown, Bishop of the Wellington, New Zealand
16. The Most Rev. Nathaniel M. Uematsu, Primate of Japan, Bishop of Hokkaido, Japan
17. Right Rev. Dr. John Sentamu, Archbishop of York, England
18. Her Royal Highness, the Duchess of Cornwall, Patron of England and Wales
19. Joy Epton, the Past World Chair of England
20. Jean Cheshire, the Past World Chair of Australia
21. Rosemary McDonald, Wales
22. Magda Acklin, the Diocese Secretary of GFS Perth, Australia
23. Rita Kalpange, the past President of Sri Lanka
24. Right Rev. Paul Cheon Hwan Lee, The first Korean Bishop (greetings by phone), Korea

Rules of order for meeting

Ruth Choi explained the procedure for the meeting listed on page 3 and page 5 of the GFS World Council 2008 Agenda booklet. Ruth Choi also suggested referring to Page 24-28 for the GFS Guidelines for World Council and World Council Meetings.

Carol Jacob from Wales asked about the voting age of Junior Delegates.

GFS World President Ruth Choi suggested this issue be raised again during one of the NewBusiness Session.

Minutes of the 18th World Council

Adele Ray, the GFS World Vice President presented the Minutes of the 2005 World Council Meeting held during July 23-31, 2005 in the United States of America. Adele mentioned that she had emailed the Meeting minutes to the representatives that had attended the GFS World Council 2005 to check if there were any corrections to be made. 2005 World Council Meeting Minutes are printed in the Agenda booklet.

There were no additions or corrections suggested during the meeting.

Janet Waite, New Zealand moved that the minutes be accepted as it is without any corrections. Clarice Modu, Nigeria seconded the motion, and it was carried. 16 yes, 0 No

Adele Ray signed the minutes of the 18th World Council Meeting and the Book of Minutes was given to Ruth Choi for safekeeping until it is handed over at the 2011 World Council Meeting.

Financial Reports for the 18th World Council 2005

Dorothy Orr, the GFS World Secretary (2002-2005) presented the Financial Report of 18th World Council of GFS. Dorothy Orr also provided the GFS members with the hard copy of the Financial Report. (See Attachment 1)

Dorothy noted that a hard copy of additional notes on Financial Statement since the last statement from May 31, 2008 can be provided as a separate sheet. (See Attachment 2)

There were no additions or corrections suggested during the meeting.

Val Gribble, Papua New Guinea moved that the Financial Statement be accepted as presented without any corrections. Debra Wadeson, Australia seconded the motion, and it was carried. 16 yes, 0 No

Val Gribble, Papua New Guinea congratulated the careful and successful caring of the money.

Business Arising from 2005 World Council Minutes

Countries not in contact with World President (Adele Ray)

Adele Ray, the GFS World Vice President announced to the Delegates and the observers that she has been sending letters and emails to countries with GFS membership that had no contact with the World body several times to ask their activity status from 2005-2008. These

countries however have been inactive and unresponsive in keeping contact with the World Council and paying membership dues. These countries include Barbados, Gambia, Lesotho, New Foundland and Philippines.

Kenya Final Report (Veronica Mutua)- 2005-2008 World Project Report (Kenya)

Veronica Mutua, Kenya, thanked the GFS World President for accommodating the 2008 GFS World Council. Veronica presented the project report which is also in the Agenda booklet. (See Page 60 of GFS World Council 2008 Agenda booklet)

Adele Ray, the GFS World Vice President thanked Veronica Mutua (Kenya) for her hardworking, exciting, and sincere heart for GFS Kenya. She asked for a handclap encouragement for the completion of Kenya's Project. The Delegates and observers applauded in response.

World President's Report

Ruth Choi presented her report, and a printed copy was distributed to all present. As GFS 2008 World Council's theme was "Harmony and Hope in Serving," Ruth's report started with a Bible verse from Psalm 18:32, "It is God who arms me with strength and makes my way perfect." Some points included in the report were:

- Ruth Choi completed a task to create a team to assist the President. Martha Cha and Dorothy Yum accepted the position as the World Secretary and Maria Won accepted as Treasurer. Rev. Amos Kim accepted the position of World Chaplain and as Ruth Choi's advisor. Naomi Han also accepted the position as the World Secretary for English.
- Ruth Choi worked with World Officers for the 2008 GFS World Council. "Harmony and Hope in Serving" was chosen as the theme of the 19th World Council. The World Officers as well as the GFS Korea members have done much work to commence the World Council in Korea
- Five Newsletters were produced, and the letters and emails were sent to all Presidents or contacts in the 22 countries.
- In 2007, received a request from the Solomon Island for a new membership. Further steps are needed to be taken during the 2008 World Council; however, Ruth is afraid that this issue has to be brought up during the next Council.
- The World Project-Zambia Project: GFS Empowerment and HIV/AIDS Awareness was launched by the District Commissioner Mrs. Chileche on the 29th of October 2005.
- Beatrice Zulu operated Chicken Run first and managed to receive government funding in the amount of USD 12,000. A GFS branch in Kabwe received this fund and supported the project "Support to Orphans and Vulnerable Children and Widows."
- The World Day of Prayer services support the Zambia Project. The service in 2006 was prepared by Australia and in 2007, Cameroon.
- 2008 GFS World Council was able to afford all tickets as needed. Ruth Choi shared regrets for Ann Osei from Ghana who was denied a visa to enter Korea.
- In the process of preparing for 2008 GFS World Council, GFS Korea was encouraged and

found new hope and passion for GFS.

Ruth Choi moved the adoption of her report. This was seconded by Debra Wadeson, Australia and was carried. 16 yes, 0 no

(See Attachment 3 for the World President's Report

Business Arising from 2005 World Council Minutes

World Travel Fund

The President reported that all funds for travel were received through the World President for this World Council Meeting. Several countries at the beginning of this Council had given additional money.

Copies of the GFS World Directory were distributed to all the people attending the World Council. Any additions or corrections should be given to the Secretary.

Session recessed at 10:20 am for teatime.

Resumed Session One at 11:00 am

Country Report

The President stated that reports from each Country had been printed in the GFS World Council 2008 Agenda Booklet. She asked the Delegates and observers to refer to the reports and reading in the booklet. Each Country was asked to briefly speak about their report at the beginning of each session.

Announcements:

GFS World president announced that no applications were received to host World Council for 2014. Ruth Choi suggested that delegates from each country consider and discuss this, then the issue will be brought up again during the meeting at the time of New Business.

Miscellaneous announcements:

1. Dorothy Orr's birthday: All present sang a birthday song, and a birthday cake was given. Dorothy was presented a birthday gift from GFS Korea.
2. Leslie Briggs (Australia) collected money on August 10th (yesterday) for the Shalom House. It was suggested that others have the opportunity to contribute if they so desired. It was decided that the offering would be given to Shalom House at a later time.
4. Clarice Modu (Nigeria) commended the World Council in Korea for the amazing work for the communities, which is something everyone at the World Council should take home.

The World President noted that GFS. Korea has been supporting Shalom House

since 2002, especially for the illegal women immigrant workers.

Session 1 recessed at 12:05 pm

Monday Afternoon Lecture 1 (2:00 pm- 3:45 pm)

Keynote Speaker: Professor at Sung Kong Hoe University Young Sil Choi gave a lecture about adding to people's lives by serving. Professor Choi referred to John 2:1-11 and a novel "Baridaegi" written by Suk Young Hwang. There was also a Question-and-Answer session following the presentation)

Monday, August 11th 2008 Session 2 (4:05 pm- 5:00 pm)

Ruth Choi, the World President resumed Session 2.

Country Report

The delegates and observers were asked to refer to the GFS World Council 2008 AgendaBooklet.

Business Arising from 2005 World Council minutes

As it had been previously brought up by Carol Jacob (Wales), the issue about the GFS Guidelines for World Council Meetings item 2.4 was discussed by both the Senior and JuniorDelegates. The following issues were mentioned:

- The voting rights for Junior Delegates (Junior Delegate's voice being heard)
- The number of votes each country is given
- Suggestion of holding a separate session for Junior Delegates at World Councils.
- Suggestion of each country having a proxy vote.
- Last World Council's history of mentioning about the same issues.

World Day of Prayer

The World President confirmed with the Senior and Junior Delegates about which country is holding the World Day of Prayer Service for each year. It was confirmed like the following: Year 2008: England

Year 2009: Ghana

Year 2010: Ireland

Year 2011: Japan

Session 2 recessed at 5:05 pm

Monday evening session: Guest Speaker: The Rev. Margaret Rose, U.S.A.Spoke on Women's Organizations of Anglican Communion.

Wednesday, August 13th 2008 Session 3 (10:00 am -12:00 pm)

Ruth Choi, the World President, opened the Session 3 at 10 am.

The President welcomed the following delegates who have arrived late in Korea and joined the World Council Session 3:

- Jane Godwin, Senior Delegate from Sierra Leone
- Jennifer John, Junior Delegate from Sierra Leone

Hard copies of the following were distributed to all present at the beginning of the

session: Junior Agenda for New Business
Addition to <Agenda> p.34 from
Ireland Country Report from Papua
New Guinea

Consultation on World Structure of GFS.

Val Gribble (Australia) presented a summary of what GFS Australia had done since the last World Council in 2005. Val also presented issues about the world structure of GFS that need to be talked about. June Hiller (Australia) facilitated a discussion of the issues brought up during the presentation. Small groups of 4-5 were created to discuss the issues. (See Agenda Page 30)

The groups were switched with different topics every 10 minutes. June Hiller announced that the discussion papers considering world structure of GFS will be collected and the content will be presented at a later time during the World Council.

**Session recessed at 10:50 am for a teatime.
Resumed Session 3 at 11:00 am**

Country Reports

The President stated that reports from each Country had been printed in the GFS World Council Agenda Booklet. She asked Delegates and observers to read the reports. Each Country was asked to briefly speak about their report and the reports were given to the Council at the beginning of each session.

Business Arising from 2005 World Council minutes

World Travel Fund

The World President reported that all funds for travel were received through the World Treasurer for this World Council Meeting. Several countries at the beginning of this Council had given additional money. Countries that have contributed to the World Travel Fund to date include Australia, Ireland, England, Japan, Korea, United States of America, and Wales. Seven countries applied for assistance from the travel fund: Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Africa, and

Zambia. The World President reported that the 2008 GFS World Council had enough money to assist all the countries that have applied for the World travel fund.

Ghana: US\$ 1,898.00,	Kenya: US\$ 2,000.00	Liberia: US\$
1,017.00	Sierra Leone: US\$ 3,285.00	South Africa : US\$
1,769.00		
Sri Lanka: US\$ 958	Zambia: US\$ 2696	Total: US\$ 14,523.00

World Archives (England)

Carol Gardner (England) reported that the Women's Library in London has no place or space for further information to be stored. Due to the time limit, the President called this issue to be discussed after lunch.

Session 3 recessed at 11:50 am

Wednesday, August 13th 2008 Session 4 (2:10 pm -5:00 pm)

The World President resumed Session 4 at 2:10 pm.

Country Report

The delegates and observers were asked to refer to the GFS World Council 2008 AgendaBooklet.

Business Arising from 2005 World Council minutes

World Web

The World President read the letter from the world web master, Bettrys Lowe (See Attachment 4 -W. Newsletter 5) a hard copy of the letter was distributed.

The Delegates discussed about the following issues on World Web:

- Adding a youth forum tab to the website- will be brought up again during New Business
- Need to have links to each country's website on the World Web
- Require more than one person to work on the World Web
- New Zealand does not have a website- there is a way and space for each country in WorldCouncil to put up the information on the current World Web

World Archives (England)

Continuing from the previous session, the President asked for ideas on the issue of storing theWorld Archives. The Delegates had a discussion about a few options for the Archives to be stored as well as kept in different forms other than the Archive book. June Hillier (Australia) volunteered to form a separate committee to discuss the issue and bring a report on Friday.

Session recessed at 3:20 pm for a teatime.

Resumed Session 4 at 3:45 pm

World Archives (England)

The following members have volunteered to be a part of the World Archive committee: Emily Clarke (England)
Dorothy Orr (USA)
Georgiana Williams
(Liberia)

Helen Noh (Korea)
Nobantu Makunga (South Africa)

June Hillier (Australia) announced that there would be a meeting for the World Archivecommittee after Session 4.

GFS Solomon Islands

Archbishop Sir Ellison L. Pogo applied for consideration of the Solomon Islands to become a member of GFS World Council. Everyone present was handed out a hard copy of his letter.

After a discussion about the issue, Carol Gardner (England) made a formal motion: The GFS World Council will reply to the application from the Solomon Islands for membership returning them any information that they have requested. They should be encouraged over the next three years and invited to attend the next Council in Ireland when a decision will be made.

Carol Gardner, (England) moved and Janet Waite, (New Zealand) seconded the motion and it was carried. 16 yes, 0 No

Project Report USA: Culture Wear

With an introduction by Lois Frankforter, Professor Kyunghee Kim from Sungshin University presented a joint project done by GFS USA and Fashion Design Department of Sungshin University. (See Attachment 5- for brochure)

World Finance

The following money was received:

-53,800 dollars from USA as seed money
-10,580 dollars for World project
-18,500 dollars for World travel
-1035 dollars for World due

New Business

1. Change the date of World Day of Prayer

Florence Higgins, Ireland moved that the 29th of September continue to be marked as the GFS World Day of Prayer around the World, but flexibility be given to any country who wishes to hold this service on the Sunday nearest the 29th of September.

Florence Higgins, Ireland moved and Jane Godwin, Sierra Leone seconded the motion, and it was carried. 14 yes 3 no

2. Junior Agenda

Florence Higgins, Ireland moved to extend the voting rights to Junior Delegates, thus allowing both Senior and Junior Delegates the right to vote on matters of Council business. The English Junior Delegate had raised a point at the last World Council in 2005.

Florence Higgins, Ireland moved Thembeke Pama, South Africa seconded the motion, and it was not carried. 0 yes 16 no

3. Junior Agenda

Lois Frankfurter, USA moved to clarify the World Guidelines Section 2.4 Voting at Council Meetings:

- Each country to World Council shall have one vote which may be cast by either the senior or junior delegate of that country. At the beginning of each business session each country shall designate the voting delegate for that session.
- The President has the casting vote.

Lois Frankfurter, USA moved and Frances Payne, Wales seconded the motion, and it was carried. 15 yes 1 abstention

4. Junior Agenda

Karen Winsemius, Australia moved that an Online Secure Youth Forum be created, to be linked with the GFS World Website.

Karen Winsemius, Australia moved and Ashley Tillman, USA seconded the motion, and it was carried. 16 yes 0 no

5. Junior Agenda

Karen Winsemius, Australia moved that during future World Councils, a separate time is to be allocated for business meetings be held specifically for junior delegates and junior observers.

Karen Winsemius, Australia moved and Ashley Tillman, USA seconded the motion, and it was carried 15 yes 1 no

Session 4 recessed at 5:55 pm

Wednesday evening lecture 2 (7:00 pm -8:45 pm)

Keynote Speaker:

Mrs. Miryong Magdalena Kim, The Leader of the Women Survivor's Community, gave lecture about Living as a woman in Asia. Dance for liberation of spirit was followed by the wounded healer.

Friday, August 15th 2008 Session 5 (9:20 am -10:20 am)

Session 5 began at 9:20 am. Ruth Choi, the President asked Adele Ray, the Vice President to introduce Beatrice Zulu (Zambia) to report on the GFS World Project-Zambia Project.

2005-2008 World Project Report-Zambia

The approved total amount of World Council Funding for GFS Zambia was corrected from USD 30,000 to USD 20,000.

A question was brought up about how the money that was used did not amount to the fund that was previously given. The Vice President noted that it was because the fund had been sent just very recently such as those from Korea.

The President reported the amount of fund Korea was able to raise which amounts to 36,000 US \$ (42,000,000 Korean Won)

The Vice President asked for motion for the GFS Zambia Project Report to be accepted.

Jane Godwin, Sierra Leone moved that the GFS Zambia Project Report be accepted. Thembeke Pama, South Africa seconded the motion, and it was carried 16 yes, 0 No

Acclamation.

Application for 2008-2011 World Project

All present were told to refer to the GFS. World Council Agenda Booklet for the GFS.PNG World Project Proposal.

Papua New Guinea

Proposal (Page 64)

Proposal presented by Val Gribble was for USD 8,500 for preparing and writing a weekly resource for church schools throughout PNG. Australia will write the first six months then PNG will take over providing the resources. GFS Australia will provide the training for the project. The aim is to provide resources beginning Advent I 2008.

A question from Clarice Modu, Nigeria was raised asking if this project would be for evangelism of Christianity or expansion of GFS? Val Gribble, PNG answered that it will be for both and knowing the Bishops in PNG, they will be fully supportive.

Lois Frankfurter, USA asked if there would be any other potential source of funding for this project. Val Gribble, PNG responded that PNG has no money at this point. Val also commented that Australia has been supporting PNG. However, Australia has now exhausted their funds.

Korea

Proposal (Page 75)

Proposal presented by Helen Noh was for USD 36,200 for the following purposes:

1. Aims to provide on/ off supporting place for North Korean refugees
2. Establish a global network with World GFS.
3. Make balance and harmony between the regions through strengthening the competency of Asian GFS.

Helen Noh clarified the budget for the business plan in words:

1. Helen Noh made a correction that the proposal written in the Agenda Page 78 item V.Budget (2008. 7- 2009. 6) be changed to V. Budget (2008. 7- 2011. 6)
2. There will be two stages to this project. The first stage of the project will be fully dependedon GFS Korea. The second stage of the project will be funded by the World GFS. The total expenditure expected is USD 51300. However out of the total amount, USD 36200 will be applied for foreign fund. The rest of the fund will be raised by GFS Korea.

England
(Page 29)

Proposal be Carol Gardner (England) was that GFS consider the possibility of working in partnership with other organizations and charities who may already be working on the ground in the particular country the World Project is being practiced.

It was also recommended by Carol Gardner (England) that due to the time limit during the World Council, the proposal be taken back to each country to discuss and be a formal item for the next agenda during the World Council in Ireland.

All delegates answered that the proposal is agreeable.

**Session recessed at 10:50 am for a teatime and discussion for voting on the World Project Proposals.
Resumed Session 5 at 11:20 am.**

Voting for New World Project

Carol Gardner (England) moved that World Council accepts both projects as presented. We accept PNG as a lower value project and therefore achievable. We accept Korea's project with full intention of raising the total required but should this nor happen for whatever reason then Korea will modify their project or raise the funds within Korea.

Carol Gardner, England moved that the proposal be accepted. Lois Frankfurter, USA seconded.

Then an amendment was proposed by Debra Wadeson, Australia:
That World Council accepts both projects as presented and that we fund them both on a 1 to 4basis over the three-year period.

Debra Wadeson, Australia moved that the amendment be accepted. Thembeke Pama, SouthAfrica seconded. The motion was carried. 9 yes 4 no 1 missing 1 abstention

Report of Committee of World Archives

Emily Clark, Georgiana Williams, Nobantu Makunga, Dorothy Orr, and June Hillier

- Suggested Entry into the World Guidelines at 2.13
 1. World Archives up to be lodged with the Women's Library in London
 2. After each World Council the following items will be lodged with host country

- A Complete Set of Minutes
- A Set of Financial Statements
- A Complete list of Greetings received.
- Other World Council Items
Previous World Presidents are asked to lodge World Council items other than ones mentioned above with their countries archived materials.

The following item was rejected by the World Council Meeting:

- Recommendation: The current World Council Minute Book be archived after this Council

Announcement

The President, Glenys Payne from Wales extended an invitation to host World Council in 2014 in Wales. Wales will bring the official permission letter from the Archbishop of Wales to the next World Council.

Proposal from English Junior Delegate

Emily Clarke (England) moved that for each (subsequent) GFS World Council, an online collection of the minutes, reports and greetings be kept on the secure GFS World Website; in order to promote the work of GFS at World Council, particularly for those unable to attend.

Emily Clarke, England moved that the amendment be accepted. Janet Waite, New Zealand seconded.

Karen Winsemius (Australia) made a motion to amend the motion:

That for each (subsequent) GFS World Council, an online collection of the minutes, reports and greetings be kept in order to promote the work of GFS at World Council, particularly for those unable to attend.

Karen Winsemius, Australia moved that the amendment be accepted. Georgiana T. Williams, Liberia seconded. The motion was carried. 14 yes 1 missing

Proposal from Papua New Guinea

Val Gribble, Papua New Guinea moved that a Communication Working Party be formed at this Council to work with the incoming World President to:

- Develop more effective lines of communication with
 - World Members
 - Mothers Union
 - The Wider Anglican Communion

And

- Ensure the web page as an effective communication and promotion tool worldwide.

*Val Gribble, Papua New Guinea moved that the proposal be accepted.
Debra Wadeson, Australia, seconded the motion. The motion was carried.
14 yes 1 missing*

Applause

Report and Consultation on World Structure

June Hillier reported that the Communication Team has been created as an outcome of the Consultation. June encouraged that an ongoing conversation and discussion about the issues raised in the Consultation be active until the next World Council 2011. Also, June Hillier noted that the Consultation could come under Communication Team.

There were no further business items raised.

Lois Frankfurter, USA moved that Ruth Choi, The World President be thanked for a fantastic job for the GFS World Council.

The 19 World Council of the Girls' Friendly Society was adjourned at 12:15 pmon August 15th 2008

Ruth Choi declared the closing of the 19th World Council of GFS. at the end of the International Day which was held in the rest of the day, August 15. The gavel was passed to the World President Elect, Emila Corrigan, Wales for 2008-2011. The Candle Service followed to conclude the 19th World Council.

Naomi Han
World Secretary.....

Comment [EC1]:

GIRLS FRIENDLY SOCIETY 20TH

WORLD COUNCIL MINUTES

24th JUNE – 4th JULY 2011

THE KINGS HOSPITAL, PALMERSTOWN, DUBLIN IRELAND

28

The 20th World Council Meeting of the Girls Friendly Society was held in Ireland from 24th June to 4th July 2011. The conference was held in Kings Hospital, Palmerstown, Dublin.

Friday 24th June 2011

Session 1 5pm – 6pm

WELCOME.

World President, Mrs Emila Corrigan welcomed everyone to the 20th GFS World Council and wished them a pleasant and happy stay in Ireland.

Headmaster of Kings Hospital, Mr Michael Hall and school Chaplain, Rev Peter Campion addressed the meeting. Mr Cormac d’Bruin outlined the health and safety rules.

SENIOR AND JUNIOR DELEGATES

The following countries were represented as follows:

COUNTRY	SENIOR DELEGATE	JUNIOR DELEGATE
AUSTRALIA	Kate Brewer	Lauren Jankovic
ENGLAND	Carol Lee	Poppy Winks
GHANA	Christine Adjei	
IRELAND	Florence Higgins	Jane Cairns
JAPAN	Haruko Mizutani	Izumi Takagi
KOREA	Soom Ok Cha (Martha)	Christine Hana Cho
NEW ZEALAND	Helen Allen	
PAPUA NEW GUINEA	Mary Bagu	
SOLOMON ISLANDS	Joan Haeta	
SOUTH AFRICA	Susan Gijana	
SRI LANKA	Jeanne Withanage	
USA	Llyn Evans Carter	Laura E W Kriss
WALES	Glenys Payne	Hannah Charlesworth
ZAMBIA	Beatrice Zulu	

The observers are listed in the directory.

GENERAL WORKINGS OF COUNCIL.

Hazel Corrigan, World Secretary explained the housekeeping rules as outlined in the World Council Book.

LETTERS OF GREETING.

Elizabeth Andrews, World Secretary read the many greetings which had been received from the following:

Mrs Mary McAleese, President of Ireland

Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall

The Most Rev AET Harper, Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland Archbishop

Michael, Dublin & Glendalough, Ireland

Joy Parkin, World Chair 1990 – 1993

Beth Mayes, World Chair 1978 – 1981, Ireland Clarice

Modu, Nigeria

Olien Gyles, Ireland

Rt Rev Garth Q Counsell, Bishop Suffragen, Anglican Diocese of Cape Town Most Rev

Barry Morgan, Archbishop of Wales & Bishop of Llandaff

Most Rev Dr Makgoba, Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town

Archdeacon Tom, Diocese of Port Elizabeth

Subuola Thompson, Past President, Sierra Leone

Archbishop of York

Bishop of Gloucester

Bishop of Tewkesbury

Denise Elvish, Diocesan President, Perth

Archbishop of Melanesia

Debbie & Philip Wadeson, Australia

Margery McElhanney, National President, Girls Brigade, Er &

Norm Beckenham, Australia

Annsli & Ken Stovall, Australia

Most Rev Andrew Y Ohata, Bishop of Tokyo

Rt Rev Charles E Bennison, JR, Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania, America Most Rev

Katherine Jeffers Schor, America

Most Rev Dr Philip Aspinall, Primate of Australia Most Rev

Roger Herft, Archbishop of Perth, Australia

Most Rev Nathaniel M Uematsu, Primate of Japan and Bishop of Hokkaido Most Rev

Paul K Kim, Bishop of Seoul and Primate of Korea

Rt Rev Jonathan B Hart, DD Bishop of Liberia

Rt Rev Dr Thomas J Brown, Anglican Church, Diocese of Wellington, New Zealand Rt Rev Julius

O P Lynch (GCOR) Anglican Bishop of Freetown, South Africa

Rt Rev Elistan Patrick Glover BA (Rhodes) MA, Bishop of the Free State, South Africa The meeting

recessed at 5.40pm

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FROM THE SOLOMON ISLANDS

An application for membership from the Solomon Islands was presented by Gail Orchard (Australia), who invited Joan Haeta, Co-ordinator of GFS in the Solomon Islands to give an insight into GFS in her country. With the aid of a power point presentation Joan outlined their strengths which included the volunteers, the support from the clergy and the Mothers Union and their weaknesses, such as lack of communication, finance, travel difficulties and also the fact that all their administration work had to be carried out in the Mothers Union offices. The future plans of GFS in the Solomon Islands are:

1. To assist in the development of young girls in such things as literacy
2. Improve leadership skills.
3. Raise awareness of health issues.
4. To extend the programme

Joan thanked all those who had supported and helped GFS in Melanesia.

Gail Orchard reported that an application for consideration for the Solomon Islands to become a member of GFS World Council had been put forward at the last World Council in Korea, but it had been agreed that a decision would be taken in Ireland.

Kate Brewer, (Australia), moved the following motion:

I wish to move a motion for this 20th World Council of the Girls' Friendly Society to accept the membership application from the Solomon Islands.

Carol Lee, (England), seconded the motion and it was carried Yes 14 No 0 .

World President, Emila Corrigan welcomed the Solomon Islands and thanked them for their presentation.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING – KOREA 2008

Ruth Choi presented the minutes of the 19th World Council Meeting held in Korea 8th –17th August 2008, which were accepted.

Carol Lee, (England) proposed the adoption of the minutes of the 19th World Council and this was seconded by Carol Jacobs, (England).

Ruth Choi signed the minutes, and the minute book was given to Emila Corrigan.

FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE 19TH WORLD COUNCIL

The financial report was presented, and the adoption of the report was proposed by Dianne Asquith, (Wales) and seconded by Helen Allen, (New Zealand). Copies were distributed and it was agreed that the report be discussed later on the agenda. (Copy attached).

The meeting recessed at 8 pm.

Saturday 25th June 2011

The Opening Service of the 20th GFS World Council was held in St Patricks Cathedral, Armagh, Northern Ireland, followed by dinner in the City Hotel, Armagh.

Sunday 26th June 2011

Delegates and observers attended church services in Dublin.

Session 3 – commenced at 2.40pm.

Before the commencement of this session, Hazel made several announcements and Elizabeth clarified the procedure which applies to voting.

PRESIDENTS REMARKS

Emila Corrigan presented her report and copies were distributed. Her theme was 'Challenges and Change – A Time for New Thinking'.

Some points included in the report:

Emila formed a committee to oversee the organising of World Council.

Hazel and Elizabeth took on the role of secretaries, whilst Elizabeth also organised the Opening Service, Gloria as treasurer, Elaine produced the Newsletters, Isla organised activities for the Junior delegates and young observers, Helen took charge of the closing service and Florence provided the floral displays. Every diocese in Ireland helped with the fundraising.

Chaplain to the World President, Rt Rev Bishop Empey was unable to attend Council due to illness.

Emila thanked all countries for their financial help towards the two World Projects. Five countries received assistance from the World Travel Fund.

Emila expressed her disappointment that so many people were unable to obtain their visas. There has been no contact with Nigeria over the last 3 years, but contact has been made with Clarice Modu, who now lives in USA, however she has no contact either. Contact was made with Estelle Dibo in Cameroon. Unfortunately, she was unable to attend Council due to visa problems.

Emila welcomed the Solomon Islands to World Council.

Emila and Hazel travelled to London to meet Mrs Rosemary Kempell, Worldwide President of the Mothers Union.

World Newsletters have been regularly sent to Rosemary Kempell and the Archbishop of Canterbury.

The theme for council is Challenges and Change – A Time for New Thinking.

GUEST SPEAKER – MRS MARGARET KINGSTON

Mrs Margaret Kingston spoke on the theme – 'Challenges and Change – A Time of New Thinking'.

World President, Emila Corrigan thanked Margaret for her inspiring talk.

COUNTRY REPORTS.

Reports were given by delegates from Australia, England and Ghana. All reports were printed in the World Council Book.

The meeting recessed at 5.40pm.

The Opening Banquet was held in Kings Hospital.

Monday 27th June 2011

Session 4 – commenced at 9.15am

A HARMONIOUS WORLD: THE CHALLENGE OF GIRLS FRIENDLY SOCIETY.

Christine Adjei, Ghana, spoke at length about the challenges of the Girls Friendly Society. Report attached.

Emila Corrigan thanked Christine for her powerful presentation.

ALTERNATIVE WORKSHOP – 10.00am – 12 noon

Wild Irish Crafts facilitated a workshop for the observers, on the making of pictures using dried flowers.

MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS WORLD COUNCIL MEETING.

The following points from the previous World Council minutes were clarified:

- Junior Agenda – An online secure forum be created, to be linked with the GFS World Website - this had been set up but is not being used.
- During future World Councils, a separate time is to be allocated for business meetings that are held specifically for junior delegates and observers - Isla has already held a meeting and Jane Cairns will report on this later.

REPORT OF THE COMMUNICATIONS WORKING PARTY – report included in World Council book.

Kate Brewer, Australia moved a motion that Val Gribble open the report of the working committee for discussion at the conference. Florence Higgins, Ireland, seconded and the motion was carried Yes 14 No 0.

Val Gribble reported that it had been difficult to chair this working party through lack of communication and the very limited responses.

Emila Corrigan thanked Val for all her work and proposed that country groups meet later in the afternoon to discuss the recommendations within the document prepared by the communications working party.

WORLD TRAVEL FUND

Emila Corrigan reported that it had been impossible for every country to attend the conference due to visa problems. Emila stressed that it was the responsibility of the delegate to apply for their visa. Five delegates had received travel expenses to allow them to attend council. The fund amounted to a total of €16,354.80 which included a transfer from Korea.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

The World Day of Prayer service for 2011 was produced by Japan, with Kenya in 2012, Liberia in 2013, New Zealand in 2014 and Korea in 2015.

LINK COUNTRIES

Emila Corrigan spoke about the fact that some countries are no longer in contact. Australia asked if these links were still being used. Ireland reported that contact is always made with their links but often with no response. South Africa requested guidelines regarding link countries, however it was stated that the guidelines are very clear in item 2.12 in the World Council Guidelines. Following much discussion, the WorldPresident asked that each country meet to discuss the listing of countries and their links for the next 3 years and report back to the meeting.

Emila Corrigan asked that all countries meet from 2pm – 4pm to discuss the following:

1. GFS World Promotion/Marketing Officer.
2. Draft statement of purpose for GFS
3. Information from the current Webmaster to help with the way ahead.

COUNTRY REPORTS.

Reports were given by delegates from Ireland, Japan and New Zealand. Emila Corrigan read a report from Kenya in the absence of the delegate. Reports are included in the World Council Book. Izumi Takagi (Japan) also spoke about the challenges her country is facing following the tsunami and the impact it is having on GFS members and in particular young women. Following this very emotional report and request for prayer, Rev Liz Colton, Chaplain USA prayed as everyone present held hands. (Report on earthquake attached).

The meeting recessed at 11.45am.

Delegates met from 2 – 4pm. ALTERNATIVE

WORKSHOP 3 – 5 pm

Scott Evans from Elymental Youth Group, facilitated a workshop for observers.

Session 5 commenced at 4pm

RESULTS FROM THE DISCUSSION GROUPS

Australia and New Zealand.

Promotion/Marketing Officer – they felt that this was really done by the WorldPresident.

Website/Webmaster – They felt that a webmaster was more important to consider at this time as you need a webmaster to have a webpage. They also felt that this is very expensive, unless a country had someone with the expertise who would do this and that a budget would need to be put in place to cover maintenance etc. At present the webmaster who is Australian, has funded the maintenance of this herself, at a cost of

\$200 per year, which it was felt should be reimbursed.

Statement of Purpose – With the exception of the word ‘executive’ being changed to ‘team’

Australia agreed that the statement be put forward with no other changes.

England and Wales.

Promotion/Marketing Officer – They felt it was too much for 1 person and would need to be promoted within their own country with a World Co-ordinator and each country having a marketing officer. With each country providing a contact, this would be a small step towards what we want.

Website/Webmaster – Website most important. They asked if the extra £5 which had been added to the world dues for the web, was enough to cover the costs.

Vision Statement – They felt that it should be something 'short, sharp, shock' such as 'Working with girls and young women where they are'.

South Africa and Ghana.

Promotion/Marketing Officer – South Africa and Ghana were in favour of a Marketing Officer who they felt should liaise with higher authorities and other countries to promote GFS and get recognition and support to strengthen the organisation. The Officer should collect new items, liaise with embassies, keep statistics and report to the World President who in turn would report to Council. They felt that it might be too much work for one person and that perhaps each country should have a marketing officer.

Website/Webmaster – As many don't use the internet these countries did not favour this and reported that they would not have anyone suitable to act as webmaster.

Ireland.

The following are the recommendations from a Central Council meeting in Ireland: Webpage – It was felt that this is the way forward.

Marketing Officer – Supportive of this to a certain degree, but favour the webpage providing it is working satisfactorily.

Mission Statement – Ireland supports the mission statement as was presented.

Webmaster/Website – They are not aware of the use of technology.

Mission Statement – They proposed that words that offer help should be used in the statement.

Sri Lanka, Papua New Guinea and The Solomon Islands.

Website/Webmaster – A webmaster would be useful but Papua New Guinea and The Solomons don't have access to the internet.

Promotion/Marketing Officer – This would be a good way to promote GFS around the world.

Mission Statement – Although they felt the statement was good, they suggested that it would be better if it was shorter and simpler, thereby making it easier to remember.

Korea.

Promotion/Marketing Officer – It was felt that it was highly unlikely that many countries could afford this.

Website/Webmaster – We already have a world webpage which could be updated and that there was no need for a webmaster.

United States of America.

Promotions/Marketing Officer – Favour the Promotion Officer but felt that it may work better as a Co-ordinator.

Website/Webmaster – Do see the value of a webmaster but concerned that they would not be able to reach all countries, however felt that a Promotion Officer would be in a position to identify what communication would best suit a particular country.

The meeting recessed at 4.50 pm.

Session re-commenced at 5.15 pm.

GUEST SPEAKER – MRS MARJERY McELHENNY.

Mrs Marjery McElhenny, National President of the Girls' Brigade in Ireland spoke about the organisation.

GUEST SPEAKER – MR PHILIP DALEY

Mr Philip Daley, Boys Brigade spoke on the formation and development of the Boys Brigade.

Emila Corrigan thanked both guests for their interesting talks.

The meeting recessed at 6 pm.

Tuesday 28th June 2011

All delegates and observers travelled to Powerscourt, Glendalough and Donoughmore.

Session 6 commenced at 8.10pm

LINK COUNTRIES

A meeting of all senior delegates and the World President was held at 8.10 pm to discuss the link countries.

The following are the recommendations:

Australia – have no contact with Nigeria and The Gambia but enjoy good contact with Papua New Guinea and the Solomons who they felt it was logical to have as a link. Link countries is a good model but felt it is not being used.

Val Gribble suggested that the Solomons could be linked with New Zealand if they were to have different countries.

Jan McNamara said that the countries are there as a support, to be concerned and interested in what the other country is doing.

USA – propose that the inactive countries should be a priority for the Promotions Officer. We need to look for ways to reach out to these countries.

England – Carol Lee said that we should be praying for everyone, not just our link countries and work together, getting rid of link countries. Was in favour of a prayer card.

South Africa – Nobantu suggested that all inactive countries be placed in a pool to be dealt with by the Promotion Officer. She said that Australia and the Solomons should

not be linked as finances are already there between them but that they should be independent.

Louis Frankforter felt that it gave the opportunity to get together over issues and that we could help each other.

Wales – reported that Mothers Union have links, liked the prayer cycle and would like it to continue.

Ireland – As links are not effective it was felt that linking closer countries might be of more benefit. If effective they thought the prayer card was a good idea.

South Africa – agree with links.

Emila felt that it was a means of communication.

YOUTH MEETING.

Junior delegates and young observers met with Isla Poyntz.

Session recessed at 9 pm.

WEDNESDAY 30TH JUNE

Session 7 commenced at 9 am.

COUNTRY REPORTS.

Reports were presented from Papua New Guinea, South Africa and Korea. Reports included in the World Council Book. No report had been received from Sierra Leone.

CULTURE WEAR.

Lois Frankforter (USA) outlined the progress of the project 'Culture Wear' which had been set up to give girls the opportunity to investigate their identity and culture through fashion.

Workshop. Hands on work for a fashion show and luncheon where they looked at three countries including Korea. A sample of their work was modelled – denim jeans made into a waistcoat and skirt with striped Korean material being used.

A slide presentation was shown of the girls working towards the making of clothes with a Korean twist.

Impact. A positive and significant impact was made on everyone taking part. They were encouraged to take notice of and learnt about other cultures with each culture taking great pride in what they did. The young people used gently used clothes to make fashionable clothing.

Delores Alleyne reported that the girls participated in a fun way to learn about themselves and other people and so open their eyes to other cultures. Delores spoke passionately about this project which she said was a wonderful experience which will stay with her forever.

At a conference in The National Museum of Ethnology in Osaka, Japan a report was given on the working of this project. Report attached.

GFS WORLD CENSUS.

Elizabeth Andrews outlined the GFS census as recorded in the World Council book.

Hazel Corrigan read an email from Somalia, who are up and going, applying for membership to the Girls' Friendly Society. It was agreed that this was a job for the Promotion Officer.

ALTERNATIVE WORKSHOP.

10.00am – 12.00noon.

A workshop on the making of St Brigid's crosses and small gift boxes was facilitated by GFS members from the Diocese of Cashel & Ossary. This was for observers.

The session adjourned at 10.20 am

Session re-commenced at 11.45 am

WORLD PROJECT REPORT - SOUTH KOREA (Financial statement attached)

A very concise report on U-Mul-Ga (A Well side) project was presented, being the project, which had been supported in Korea over the last 3 years. A copy of this report was included in the World Council Book.

Ruth Choi informed the conference that she had received a monthly report on the project and sincerely thanked Maria Park, Director of the Project for all her work, Emila Corrigan for collecting the money and everyone for their prayers. Ruth Choi asked that the report be accepted but that the financial statement which at present does not include the last of the money be included in the next council. The motion to accept the report was moved by Florence Higgins (Ireland) and seconded by Kate Brewer (Australia) and carried Yes 14 and No 0. (Financial report to date is attached).

WORLD PROJECT REPORT – PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Val Gribble on behalf of Papua New Guinea presented the report on the project 'Gutnuis for PNG'. Val reported on this project which had been submitted by Australia, on behalf of Papua New Guinea, to provide a Children's Ministry resource and training in 2 Dioceses of PNG.

Val paid tribute to Rev Cheryl Selvage, in her absence, who had been responsible for the success of the project. Val reported that an invitation from a third Diocese had been received, and it was hoped, if money was left over, that this project would be continued for the next year. Audited accounts were not available as money was still being received for this project.

A power point presentation concluded the report.

Carol Lee (England) moved that the report be accepted, Kate Brewer (Australia) seconded, and it was carried Yes 14 and No 0.

Emila Corrigan congratulated both countries on their successful projects. Both reports are included in the World Council Book.

APPLICATION FOR WORLD PROJECT 2011 -2014

Val Gribble presented an application on behalf of the Solomon Islands for consideration for the world project for 2011 – 2014. The project entitled 'Makem Strong GFS' is printed in the World Council Book.

The delegates and observers had been touched by the plight of the members in Japan who had suffered so much during the tsunami and subsequent nuclear threat that it was felt that perhaps as had happened during the past 3 years, we support two projects. Izumi Takagi, Japanese Junior delegate, with the help of an interpreter, advised that although they were very grateful for the consideration of financial help, they were in fact in great need of prayerful support and were not in a position to put forward a proposal for the World Project at this time. Following much discussion, it was agreed that contributions could be made to Japan through their 'Walk with Me Project', details of which is on the website and that such disasters should be supported through a world emergency.

Korea felt that there should be principles before a country can propose their World Project application to World Council. As Solomon Islands have just joined the World Council this year, and although their proposed world project is important and valuable, they felt that maybe it is too soon to propose their project. GFS Korea moved a motion that a new country (who has just joined the World Council) should participate in at least one World Council (3-year term) before they can propose for the World Project at the World Council.

Kate Brewer made a proposal to move the motion that the Solomon Island proposal be accepted as the World Project for 2011 – 2014, this was seconded by Florence Higgins and carried Yes 13 No 1. Some discussion ensued regarding the formation of a disaster fund with Kate Brewer proposing a motion that the incoming World President, as a matter of priority, prepare guidelines to set up a GFS World Emergency Fund. Until this fund is set up, it is to be encouraged for specific gifts to be given to this fund through the World President for emergency relief, in the first instance to GFS Japan. This was seconded by Carol Lee. A vote was not taken at this time but following further discussion it was agreed that the following delegates and observers should meet to discuss the guidelines for the Emergency Fund, Glenys Payne, Llyn Carter, Poppy Winks, Lauren Janovic, Beatrice Zulu, Kirsten Alleyne, Lois Frankforter, Bishop Kay Goldsworthy, Agnes Young, Susan Gijana and Emila Corrigan. The proposal was withdrawn at this time to allow guidelines to be drawn up.

Ruth Choi amended the motion put forward by Korea, explaining that Korea did not oppose the project proposed by Solomon Islands but felt that guidelines should be put in place.

Meeting recessed at 1 pm

Session 8 commenced at 2pm

ALTERNATIVE WORKSHOP.

3 – 5pm

A jewellery workshop for observers, was facilitated by GFS members from Killaloe

MOTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE – Val Gribble

Val reported on the changes which had been made to the 'statement of purpose'. A lot of discussion ensued regarding the inclusion of 'Mothers Union' and the words 'men and boys'. It was proposed to remove the words 'Mothers Union' with the resulting vote being Yes 10 No 4 and the proposal carried.

Kate Brewer (Australia) moved the motion that we accept this mission statement for GFS, and this was seconded by Helen Allen (New Zealand).

Val Gribble read the amended statement and the delegates voted Yes 14 No 0 to accept this statement.

WEBSITE.

Lauren Jankovic (Australia) reported on the GFS World Website which had been set up by Bettrys Lowe and moved a motion that a letter from Emila Corrigan be sent as a vote of thanks to Bettrys Lowe for her work on the GFS World Web. This was seconded by Helen Allen and carried Yes 14 No 0. Kate Brewer further reported that Bettrys had been maintaining the website for the past 6 years at her own expense and moved that Bettrys Lowe be reimbursed for all expenses incurred over the 6 years in maintaining the Global website. This was seconded by Beatrice Zulu.

Questions were raised regarding the funding of the website and the reimbursing of the expenses already incurred by Bettrys. Emila Corrigan read from the minutes of the World Council in USA, where it stated that the World dues be increased by £5 sterling to cover the start-up costs of the web page. It was then agreed that Bettrys be given a gift amounting to £420, this being £5 per country for 6 years.

Kate Brewer amended the motion as follows: We move that Bettrys Lowe be given, as a gift, the sum of £420 in appreciation and thanks for all her hard work and expense incurred in maintaining the website. This was seconded by Lauren Jankovic and carried Yes 14 No 0.

INTERNET

Kate Brewer reported that from the discussion previously held, regarding the use of the internet, it was acknowledged that it is not a tool accessible to everyone, but however for those who can utilise it, it is a very useful. Kate moved that Guidelines be established to outline the dual responsibilities of the GFS World Council and the member countries in ensuring that the website remains professional, relevant and current. This was seconded by Helen Allen.

Emila stated that finances are needed to maintain the website, and someone is needed to take responsibility for it. Rev Payne felt that guidelines were needed. Kate informed the meeting that there was someone in Australia willing to take on the responsibility but asked if any other country would like to nominate someone – no offers were forthcoming.

Kate moved the following motion which included that already moved earlier in the discussion: We move that: 1. Guidelines are established to outline the dual responsibilities of the GFS World Council and the member countries in ensuring that the website remains professional, relevant and current. 2. "GFS World Executive allocate funds for the continuing financial commitments necessary to maintain the GFSWorld Website including – a. Domain hosting, web name listing, and monthly fee associated with the web hosting commencing from July 2011. b. A webmaster who will maintain and update the website. This was seconded by Helen Allen New Zealand and carried Yes 14 No 0.

PROMOTIONS OFFICER.

Val reported on the discussions regarding the Promotions Officer and stated that it was felt that a webmaster was more necessary as many of the duties which would have been undertaken by the Promotions Officer are already held by the World President.

Session adjourned at 2.50 pm to allow delegates time to discuss link countries

COUNTRIES.

Each country met to discuss the following questions regarding the way forward with link countries:

1. In principle do you agree it is a good idea to have link countries?
2. To what extent are link countries working for your country?
3. How often do you contact your link countries?
4. How often are you contacted by your link countries?
5. Would you agree that inactive countries be put together in a pool?
6. Would you prefer that countries are linked within continents?
7. Would you be in favour of the prayer cycle?

Session re-commenced at 4.00 pm

The following are the findings of each country:

England, Wales and Ghana.

These countries were in favour of link countries but not being linked by continent. Contact was made twice a year with their link countries. They agreed with the prayer cycle.

America.

They agreed with the principle but unfortunately, they had been linked with two inactive countries and would appreciate a list change. Lyn said that Adele Ray, Link Chairperson, reported at all their board meetings. They felt that inactive countries should not be put in a pool, nor that they be linked by continent. In favour of the prayer cycle.

Zambia and Sri Lanka.

These countries were in favour of link countries but have had very little success. They were not in favour of putting inactive countries together but liked the idea of the prayer cycle.

Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands.

Mary reported that Solomon Islands did not wish to make any recommendations as they had just joined. Papua New Guinea were in favour of link countries as it has been so successful for them, being linked with Australia. They wished the list to be kept, inactive countries included and linked by continent for the ease of travel. Also, in favour of prayer cycle.

South Africa.

South Africa were in favour of link countries, but do not make regular contact with their links. They wished the list to continue but not to link by continent. They too were in favour of the prayer cycle.

Korea

Korea felt that the present system was not efficient as they have not had any contact in two years but agreed with link countries in principle. They reported that they are infrequent contact with Japan. They too were in favour of the prayer cycle.

Australia and New Zealand.

Agreed with link countries to strengthen bonds. Felt that inactive countries be put together in a pool and that the World President should try to make contact with them and report at World Council. They were in favour of linking within continents. Agreed with the prayer cycle but would like to include disasters etc.

Japan.

They were not in favour of link countries and suggested that countries should link with their neighbours. They enjoy contact with South Korea. Not in favour of a list but agree with the prayer cycle.

Ireland.

In favour of link countries but unfortunately, they have practically no contact, although they continue to send greetings etc. They felt the list needs to be changed and that inactive countries be put together in a pool so that the World President could follow them up. Agree with linking by continent and the setting up of a prayer cycle.

Emila Corrigan said that following the results of the findings, the list of link countries needed updating and Glenys Payne agreed to undertake this.

Following a discussion regarding the inclusion of inactive countries, the following was ascertained:

Newfoundland's one remaining branch is now closed, Barbados no longer functioning due to the age of the leaders, Gambia has girls but need leaders, Nigeria met at their conference, Philippines had been contacted by Korea, Gambia had been in contact with Christine Adjei, Guyana is not operating, Mrs Guma agreed to try and contact Lesotho and asked that Cameroon and Liberia be included in the list.

Meeting recessed at 5.30 pm

Thursday 30th June Session 9 commenced at 10.50am Meeting

commenced later to allow discussion groups to meet.

Country reports.

Reports were given on behalf of Sri Lanka, USA, Wales and Zambia as printed in World Council Agenda Book.

Zambia World Project – Financial report. Attached.

Ruth Choi outlined the financial report for the World Project undertaken by Korea.

Application to host World Council 2017. No proposals had been forwarded.

Recommendations regarding the Emergency Fund.

Lois Frankforter reported that there had been a very productive meeting at which the draft guidelines for the formation and working of such a fund had been discussed. Lois presented the draft to the meeting and following much discussion it was agreed that this would be clarified later in the council.

Link Countries

Glenys Payne reported on the recommendation for the linking of countries. Carol Lee moved a motion to accept the link countries and a prayer diary be prepared for the next 3 years. This was seconded by Llyn Carter. Following requests by several countries for a change to their links Carol Lee moved to amend her original motion to include the changes that had been requested, this was seconded by Llyn Carter and carried Yes 14 No 0.

Link Countries for 2011 – 2014 – Each line across represents the linked countries.

Australia	PNG	Solomon Is	New Zealand
S Africa	Liberia	Lesotho	Kenya
Japan	Korea	Sri Lanka	Philippines
USA	Zambia	Cameroon	Sierra Leone
Wales	Ghana	England	Ireland

Church of Ireland Press Release.

Emila Corrigan showed a press release from the Church of Ireland about the GFS World Council in Ireland.

Motions and Recommendations.

Promotions Officer

Kate Brewer moved a motion that the role of promoting GFS is the responsibility of the World President for the next 3 years and that it will be an item for discussion at the 2014 World Council in Wales. This was seconded by Christine Adjei and carried Yes 14 No 0.

Finance.

Kate Brewer reported that in working through the recommendations being made to this World Council (from the Communications Working party) it has been highlighted (by a number of past World Presidents and their teams) that there are inadequate funds available for the progression of their work and it seems that the funds transferred

from country to country are mainly earmarked for “World Council expenses”. Therefore, the major task of the World Team is currently the preparation for the next World Council and there is little money available for what should be the major focus of the world team in communication, promotion etc.

The host country usually provides much of the finance and this inhibits countries being able to apply as host country and nominating a World President. There is strong evidence that personal monies are often used for world expenses by the members of the world team.

The web page is considered a major focus for communication but in the past two terms the web master has paid all expenses herself \$400 (£200) per year.

This motion is to encourage world countries to consider setting up a fund for investment in a designated country (with a strong economy and currency) with the interest made available to the current world team. The country which manages this fund would not necessarily change from term to term to enable stability of currency. However, it would be held in an investment account and could be reviewed at each council and the account would be audited in the same manner as any other world fund. The world team would be required to prepare a budget for their three-year work. Australia is well aware that this motion needs much more work, and it is put forward in its present wording as a discussion point. The figures are suggested figures only.

Australia would be willing to manage this fund on behalf of the World Executive. Kate moved ‘that a World Development fund be established to provide funds for the world team to improve communication and promotion during their term with:

- A capital of \$US30,000 held in an investment account in a designated country which has a stable economy and currency and only interest made available to the world team.
- England, Wales, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, USA, Korea and Japan providing \$US4000 each to the fund.
- All other countries setting a target for a gift to this fund within the next three years.
- Authorisation for the management of the account to rest with the World Executive.
- A budget prepared by the World Executive within the first three months of their term and provided to the World President/Chairman of each GFS country.
- The account to be audited at the end of each three-year term under the same requirements as for all World Council funds.

Although it was felt that this was an important issue, many delegates felt that they could not commit to this on behalf of their country. Emilia suggested that each country discuss it at their country council meeting.

The motion was left on the table.

Session adjourned at 11.45 am

Session recommenced 12.30pm

GUEST SPEAKER – BISHOP MICHAEL BURROWS

Bishop Michael Burrows, Bishop of Cashel & Ossary gave a very inspiring talk to the delegates.

Meeting recessed at 1.05pm

The afternoon was spent touring Dublin City centre, St Patricks Cathedral and the Guinness Storehouse, followed by late night shopping.

Friday 1st July

The morning was spent visiting Dublin Zoo.

Session 10 commenced at 2.30pm

ALTERNATIVE WORKSHOP – 3 – 5pm

Rev Janice Aiton, Central Chaplain in Ireland, facilitated a workshop for the observers.

Youth Report – Jane Cairns, Junior Delegate, Ireland.

Jane reported that 9 Junior delegates from Ireland, Wales, England, USA, Korea, S Africa and Australia attended the first Junior delegate meeting which was chaired by Isla Poyntz. Following prayers Isla explained to those present that the meeting was being held for junior delegates and observers as the result of an idea which had been put forward in Korea, to enable them to discuss the council and the future of GFS. This meant they could have a voice and think about where they see GFS going and the future of the organisation. Isla also explained that after the World Council in Korea, a secure forum had been set up and an awareness was made about it, but it is not being utilised to its best, so it was decided that this group would think about this further.

Other discussions included such things as: what is seen as the best things about GFS in each country, if they would still be involved in GFS in 5 – 10 years' time and if so in what capacity, their role in GFS, their role as Junior delegate and their expectations of World Council.

It was agreed that it was very beneficial to have separate time for the younger delegates and observers as it enabled them to get to know each other better and have fun together.

Korean Financial Report.

Having already been tabled and following an explanation to a query from Kate Brewer regarding a donation which had been received from the Korean church, the financial report was accepted Yes 14 No 0.

Presentation of Scarves.

Emila requested permission to wear a scarf which had been presented by Christine Adjei to be worn by all World Presidents during World Council. This was granted.

World Development Fund.

Kate Brewer forwarded an amended motion regarding the World Development Fund as follows: That a World Development Fund be established to provide funds for the administration expenses of the world team, excluding the costs relating to the hosting of World Council with

- A capital fund established.
- All countries set a target for a gift to this fund within the next three years.
- Authorisation for the management of the account to rest with the World Team.
- A budget prepared by the World Team within the first three months of their term and provided to the President/Chairman of each GFS country.
- The account to be audited at the end of each three-year term under the same requirements as for all World Council funds.

These changes were seconded by Helen Allen, New Zealand and carried Yes 12 Abstention 1 and Absent 1.

Kate Brewer further moved that a Working Party be formed at this Council to prepare a proposal for a new membership fee structure to be presented at the 2014 World Council and that a 1 off payment be made until next term to the World Development Fund. This was seconded by Helen Allen, New Zealand and carried Yes 13 Absent 1.

The following to be on the Working Party – Glenys Payne, Carol Lee, Nobantu , Dorothy Orr, Ruth Choi, Val Gribble, Emila Corrigan, David Payne and Gloria Good.

Several delegates withdrew from the motion regarding the increase in fees and Glenys Payne moved that the guidelines be changed to a minimum of £15 per country be paid. This was seconded by Florence Higgins and carried Yes 13 Absent 1.

World Emergency Fund.

Glenys Payne suggested that we start this fund at this Council and Lesley Briggs very kindly agreed to collect any donations given. Eunice Gibbons proposed that everyone present donate €10 to start the fund. The collection at both the Opening and Closing Services to be given to Japan.

Application for acceptance as GFS Host Country.

Kate Brewer moved a motion to accept the draft application form to host World Council (Attachment D in the World Council Book) and this was seconded by Susan Gijana.

Meeting adjourned until 4.30pm

World Emergency Fund update.

€415 collected at this time.

Application for acceptance as GFS Host Country.

Following much discussion regarding the use of this form, voting on the motion to accept Attachment D was Yes 5 No 8, rejected.

SUGGESTED NEW STRUCTURE FOR A GFS WORLD EXECUTIVE.

Carol Lee proposed that we forget the guidelines on the new structure as per Attachment A in the World Council book and this was seconded by Llyn Carter.

Glenys Payne said that all the work that had been done on this document must not be forgotten and it was agreed that many of the issues which have been discussed were as a result of these guidelines. Val Gribble stated that she had been asked to do a job which she had done with very little help, but a decision would have to be taken as to whether the Working Party ceased, or the work was to continue.

Kate Brewer moved that a closure of the previous working party be passed, with thanks to Val Gribble. Carol Lee amended the motion as follows: closure of the Communications Working Party and the ending of discussion on this document at this World Council and acknowledge the work of the Working Party. This was seconded by Llyn Carter and carried Yes 11 and No 2.

Helen Allen proposed a vote of thanks to the Communications Working Party and this was seconded by Kate Brewer.

Webmaster

Carol Lovejoy proposed that Noeleen Stewart be webmaster for 6 months and this was seconded by Kate Brewer who spoke on her great ability. Glenys Payne accepted the proposal.

Helen Allen asked for applause for Val Gribble who had put so much work into the Communications Working Party. Emila Corrigan thanked Val and said that there was a lot in the document to go forward with.

WORLD EMERGENCY FUND UPDATE.

Lesley Briggs reported that the fund had now reached €555.

GUEST SPEAKER – MRS ROSEMARY KEMPSSELL.

Emila Corrigan welcomed Mrs Rosemary Kempshell, World-wide President of the Mothers Union and Mrs Ruth Mercer, All-Ireland President. Mrs Kempshell, with the aid of power-point gave a presentation on the work of the Mothers Union.

Meeting recessed at 5.35 pm

Saturday 2nd July 2011
International Day.

Sunday 3rd July 2011

Session 11 commenced at 10 am

Prayer Cycle.

Vivian Evans, New York, USA, volunteered to undertake the arrangements for the prayer cycle.

GFS World Emergency Fund.

Following much discussion and clarification the Emergency Relief Fund was drawn up and presented as follows:

- The purpose of the World Emergency Relief Fund is to assist GFS member countries with funding of emergency relief efforts in their countries in times of crisis, extreme circumstances, or natural disaster.
- Funds can be disbursed in response to a request from a member country in need, or at the discretion of the World President in consultation with her World Team.
- Requests must be made in writing by a member country GFS President/Chairperson in liaison with their appropriate Bishop. The request shall include a description of the need and relief sought. All requests are to be received by the World President. Others who see a need are encouraged to contact their country's GFS President/Chairperson who can in turn contact the World President.
- The account will be funded by donations. Up to 50% of the fund can be accessed for any single request until the funds are replenished. Upon replenishment, additional funds can be disbursed.
- Upon disbursement, the World President will advise all member countries of the need and the opportunity to donate to the fund.
- The World President/World Treasurer shall disburse the funds to the GFS member country's President/Chairperson in conjunction with their Treasurer.
- Member countries given emergency relief funds shall provide a written acknowledgement of the receipt of the funds and a description of how the funds were used. Countries receiving funds will present a brief report during the next World Council.

Florence Higgins (Ireland) proposed the acceptance of the proposal, this was seconded by Susan Gijana (S Africa) and carried Yes 12 Absent 2

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Elaine Grothier (Ireland) outlined the need to change the guidelines to include meeting time for Junior delegates as had been agreed at World Council in 2008.

DIRECTORY OF DELEGATES AND OBSERVERS

This was distributed.

GREETINGS

Greetings were received from Georgiana Williams, Liberia and Jane Goodwin, Sierra Leone.

MOTION IN RESPECT OF APPLICATION FOR WORLD PROJECT.

Glenys Payne informed the meeting that the Korean delegates will be putting forward a motion at the next World Council with regard to applying for the World Project.

THANKS

Llyn Carter moved a resolution of thanks to Ireland World Executive for all their work in producing this marvellous world council.

A standing ovation was received from all the delegates and observers.

The business of the 20th World Council closed with everyone holding hands and singing 'Bind us Together' followed by the saying of the Grace, led by Bishop Kay Goldsworthy.

World Council meetings finished at 10.50am.

The Closing Service of the World Council was held in Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin followed by a closing banquet in Springfield Hotel, Leixlip.

Girls Friendly Society

21st World Council 25th July - 4th August University of Swansea, Swansea, Wales

Minutes

Friday 25th July – Welcome

World President, Rev. Glenys Payne welcomed everyone to the 21st World Council meeting in Swansea. Glenys said that Kate Brewer and Jan McNamara from Australia are responsible for Wales hosting this council as six years ago in Korea they encouraged Glenys and the Welsh contingent to offer to host this Council.

Glenys introduced the delegates from the 17 countries who are represented here. Unfortunately, several people from Kenya and Sierra Leone are unable to attend as they did not get visas. She also introduced the 'team' who had helped with the preparations for Council and who would be on hand to help with any problems or questions during Council.

Senior & Junior Delegates:

AUSTRALIA
ENGLAND
GHANA

Julie Smith
Hazel Crompton
Christine N. Adjei

Tegan Hudson
Natasha Moore

IRELAND	Sylvia Quinn	Michelle Armitage
JAPAN	Asako Yonamine	Emiri Nakamura
KENYA	Carolyn Wachuka Kiarie	
KOREA	Miriam Kwon	Helena Choi
NEW ZEALAND	Helen Allen	
PAPUA NEW GUINEA	Mary Bagu	
PHILIPPINES	May Y. Tanhuanco	Sarah May Tanhuanco
SIERRA LEONE	Alberta E. Bindi	
SOLOMON ISLANDS	Anne Sade	
SRI LANKA	Jeanne Withanage	
SOUTH AFRICA	Thembeke Pama	
WALES	Carol Gardner	Sarah Charlesworth
ZAMBIA	Beatrice Songwe Zulu	Mandy Malambo
U.S.A.	Delores M. Alleyne	Autumn Buck

Sunday 27th July

Session 1 – 3pm

World President Rev. Glenys Payne welcomed everyone to the opening session of the 21st World Council. She introduced the theme – Inspirational Learning Together. She reminded us that we receive inspiration from others, and we can learn from each other.

Glenys outlined the workings of the meetings. At closed meetings only delegates can speak and only through the chair. At open meetings the discussion will be open to the floor. Only delegates can vote and there is only one vote per country.

1. *Greetings*

Rev. Kay Warrington, World Secretary read out the many greetings:

H.R.H. Duchess of Cornwall, Patron of GFS England and Wales Most.

Rev. Dr. John Sentamu – Archbishop of York

Most Rev. Richard Clarke – Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland Most. Rev

Michael Jackson – Archbishop of Dublin and Bishop of Glendalough

Most Rev. Roger Herft, Archbishop of Perth and Metropolitan of the Province of Western Australia. Most Rev.

Philip Aspinall – Primate of Australia

Rt. Rev. Bethlehem Nopece – Bishop of Port Elizabeth

Rev. Mark Birth, Priest in Charge – St. Paul's Anglican Church, Port Elizabeth Rt. Rev.

Dixie Taclobao – Episcopal Diocese of Central Philippines

Rt. Rev. Thomas Wilson – Diocese of Freetown (Sierra Leone), Church of the Province of West Africa. Rt. Rev.

Justin Duckworth – Bishop of Wellington, Anglican Diocese of Wellington

Most Rev. Clyde Igara – Archbishop of Papua New Guinea Rt.

Rev. David Bannerman – Bishop of Highveld

Most Rev. Dr. Katherine Jefferts Schori – Primate & Presiding Primate, Episcopal Church of USA Rev. Canon

Libbie Crossman – Provincial President of MU, Australia

Joy Parkin – New Zealand, World Chair 1990 – 1993

Most Rev. Paul Kim – Bishop of Seoul & Primate of South Korea John

Perkins – Wales Former GFS World Treasurer 1984 -1987 Agnes Young

– GFS Ireland

Dilys Fowler – Wales, World Chair 1984 – 1987

Wilson Graham Sumalii – General Secretary Zambian Anglican Church

Rt. Rev. Lindsley Ihove – Bishop of Popondota, The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea.

2. *Minutes of the World Council Meeting held in Ireland in 2011.*

The minutes of the 20th World Council meeting held in Ireland 24th June to 4th July 2011 were presented by Emilia Corrigan (Vice President)

New Zealand proposed the acceptance of the minutes of the 20th World Council.

Seconded by Wales.

All in favour.

Emila Corrigan signed the minutes.

3. *Financial Report*

The Financial report of the 19th World Council was presented by Gloria Good, World Treasurer for Ireland.

Lynn Carter (USA) asked what currency the report uses. Gloria replied that the report is in Euros.

Australia asked for clarification on what 'Fund' meant in the income. Emilia replied that once Ireland knew they would be hosting World Council each Diocese started to fund raise. Central Office (Ireland) also donated 2000 Euro per year towards costs.

England proposed the acceptance of the accounts.

Seconded by Wales.

All in favour.

Emilia wished to express her thanks to Gloria for the wonderful job she had done keeping the accounts.

4. Matters Arising not on the Agenda.

There were no matters arising not on the agenda,

5. Country report from New Zealand

As printed in the World Council booklet,

Unfortunately, Janet Waite (GFS New Zealand President) was unable to attend this Council as her husband is unwell and undergoing treatment. Helen Allen, currently resident in the UK was able to attend for a few days.

6. Statement of Purpose of the Girls Friendly Society (GFS)

The following was decided upon at World Council in Ireland but not formally accepted into the Guidelines.

History

The Girls Friendly Society (GFS) commenced in 1875 in England (within the Anglican Church) to offer spiritual and physical support and friendship to young women away from home who had no local support especially in "at risk" situations.

The society spread quickly around the world as women who in moving to other countries, wished to share this vision with those around them.

GFS now works in under many different names in many countries within the Anglican Communion, encouraging, as its main purpose, a continuing relationship with Christ for its members.

The motto of GFS is "Bear one another's burdens and so fulfil the law of Christ." (Galatians 6:2) and this "service" element within the calling of Christ is a central focus of the Society.

GFS offers programs for evangelism, support, empowerment, education and encouragement, sometimes in partnership with both secular and sacred organisations. Membership in some countries is now open to male as well as female. In many countries there is a strong link with Mothers Union and link organisations within the Anglican Communion.

The World Body is governed by a set of guidelines with each GFS country operating under their own constitution / rules but adhering to the basic purpose of bringing others to Christ and service to others

through the various programs offered.

The World Body meets every three years in the country of the World President, where delegates from each GFS country (and observers) meet together to review and share their work. A World Project/s is chosen for the coming three years, concentrating on growing and strengthening GFS in developing countries, with particular emphasis on programs for young women and children.

Mission Statement

GFS Worldwide aims to:

- Promote and support the ministry of GFS around the world through the provision of ministries through the provision of ministries to children, youth, families and adults in a safe and accepting environment where Christ's love is evident, and the Gospel is proclaimed.
- Through GFS programs and through the specific World Projects:
 - ⑩ respond to human need by serving others through the motto 'Bear one another's burdens.'
 - ⑩ seek to transform unjust structures of society (particularly for women and children)
- Work with other organisations within the Anglican Communion to strengthen the body of Christ.
- Through a World Executive / Team provide a central focal point for GFS ministries by
 - ⑩ Receiving and disseminating information
 - ⑩ hosting a regular gathering of the world family to share interests, joys and concerns and setting future objectives.

GFS IS WORKING WITH GIRLS, BOYS, WOMEN AND MEN – WHERE THEY ARE.

South Africa proposed that this be accepted.

Seconded by Zambia

All in favour.

7. *World Project 2008 – 2011 Papua New Guinea*

Val Gribble presented the unaudited accounts of the World Project - Guitnius for PNG. The project had been oversubscribed so a 4th visit had been made to PNG. She stated the response to the project has been overwhelming and expressed the thanks of GFS Australia and GFS PNG. GFS Australia had retained their own giving to the World Council to reduce the costs of currency exchange. As monies were received in Australia for the two World Projects of this period 1/5 was retained for the PNG project and 4/5 transferred to Ireland for the Korean Project.

The program has been a very successful promotional tool for GFS in PNG and GFS is now an important part of ministry there,

Glenys and David visited Papua New Guinea in 2012 and saw the fruits of this project. Val will

forward the audit certificate for this project when she receives it.

New Zealand proposed the acceptance of this report.

Seconded by Zambia

All in favour

The session finished at 4.20pm

Monday 28th July

Session 2 - commenced at 9.30am

Glenys Payne opened the session by speaking about communication. Important and good that there are now many ways to communicate so people are not isolated but often there is not enough time for personal contact.

How much time is there to communicate with God? Walking with God in prayer is important.

1. Japan Reach Out project to the survivors of the Great East Japan Tsunami Disaster.

Report received from Asako Yonamine about Japan's recovery from the Tsunami disaster in 2011 which occurred just before World Council.

GFS Worldwide was thanked for its support through the setting up of an Emergency Fund which has helped GFS Japan to provide support for families of the victims.

GFS launched two projects: -

- Provision of sewing machines to women's groups in the affected areas. This enabled the women to provide for their own needs and also to start businesses or fund raise.
- Volunteering at the Tsukishima Kids Day. Supporting families where the women and children have moved to Tokyo, by providing a place where they can get together, socialise and share information.

The full report is included in the World Council booklet.

2. Matters Arising from the minutes of the 20th World Council.

1. **Emergency Fund.** This was agreed at 2011 World Council but needs to be accepted to go into the guidelines.

Delegates were reminded of the agreed wording: -

- The purpose of the World Emergency Relief Fund is to assist GFS member countries with funding of emergency relief efforts in their countries in times of crisis, extreme circumstances, or natural disaster.
- Funds can be disbursed in response to a request from a member country in need, or at the discretion of the World President in consultation with her World Team.
- Requests must be made in writing by a member country's GFS President/ Chairperson in liaison with their appropriate Bishop. The request shall include a description of the need and relief sought. All requests are to be received by the World President. Others who see a need are to be encouraged to contact their country's GFS President/ Chairperson who can in turn contact the World President.
- The account will be funded by donations. Up to 50% of the fund can be accessed for any single request until the funds are replenished. Upon replenishment additional funds can be disbursed.
- Upon disbursement, the World president will advise all member countries of the need and the opportunity to donate to the fund.
- The World President/ World Treasurer shall disburse the funds to the GFS member country's President/ Chairperson in conjunction with their Treasurer.

- Member countries given emergency relief funds shall provide a written

acknowledgement of the receipt of the funds and a description of how the funds were used. Countries receiving funds will present a brief report during the next World Council.

Australia proposed the acceptance of this into the guidelines was proposed.

Seconded by Ireland.

All voted in favour.

Emergency Fund Financial Report.

Funded by a collection during the 2011 World Council and at the closing service.

£1,110.00 was sent to Japan and acknowledged. The fund currently stands at £3161.18. The need to make everyone aware of the fund was stressed.

Australia advised that they had raised money since 2011 World Council but had transferred it directly to Japan to cut down on currency exchange costs.

1. **World Development Fund.** For the administration and expenses of the world team.

This was agreed at the 2011 World Council but needs to be accepted to go into the guidelines. The

wording to go into the guidelines: -

That a World Development Fund is established to provide funds for the administration expenses of the world team, excluding the costs relating to the hosting of World Council with: -

- A capital fund established.
- All countries set a target for a gift to this fund within the next three years.
- Authorisation for the management of the account to rest with the World Team.
- A budget prepared by the World Team within the first three months of their term and provided to the President/ Chairman of each GFS country.
- The account to be audited at the end of each three-year term under the same requirements as for all World Council funds

England propose acceptance of this into the guidelines.

Seconded by Australia.

All voted in favour.

The fund currently stands at £750.78.

In response to a question by Lois Frankforter it was confirmed that no monies had been received since the collection at the 2011 World Council and that the fund had not been used by the current World Team.

Guidelines

During the debate about the previous item, it was acknowledged that the World Council booklet contained the wrong guidelines and that copies of the correct ones would be provided.

3. Promotions Officer.

At the 2011 World Council a proposal was made that the role of promoting GFS be the responsibility of the World President. It was agreed that the matter would be debated further at the 2014 World Council.

Glenys Payne expressed the opinion that it would not be possible for the World President to do it all and that it is for all countries to promote GFS.

Countries to consider further and report back later in Council.

4. Country Report. Given by Australia – see World Council booklet.

Session 3 - commenced at 11.30am.

5. World Project Report and Proposals.

Julie Smith and Gail Orchard (Australia) presented a report of a visit made to the Solomon Islands in October 2013. Report printed in the World Council Agenda Book.

GFS Solomon Islands has a strong relationship with, and its structure is provided by the Mother's Union. The goal for GFS Solomon Islands is for it to establish its own structure as an independent organisation. Recommendations put to World Council: -

- GFS Australia continues to act as mentor and supporter of GFS in the Solomon Islands and work in consultation with Solomon Islands GFS members through their GFS coordinator to assess their needs.
- GFS Australia continues to hold their funds, currently in GFS Australia accounts, raised to assist in the world project and to administer any further funds that have been raised over this current 3-year period now ending. (Money was loaned from a GFS Australia diocese to allow the project to begin without waiting for funds to arrive).
- In consultation with GFS (and MU) in the Solomon Islands we should aim to support the establishment of a separate body to administer GFS as planned in the MU strategic plans with a governing structure including a GFS Chairman.
- If it is possible when stage three training is offered, it should ideally be taken to the outer island dioceses and not necessarily be centered solely on Honiara. It would be hoped that this training, with GFS Australia personnel, be undertaken within the next 3 years.

A conference has been planned to take forward the plans, originally for June 2015 but it will now be a later date.

Only the money loaned by GFS Australia has been used to date with \$AUD8,000.00 remaining available in the GFS Australia account.

It was noted that although it is the GFS World Vice President's role to oversee World Projects, Emila Corrigan has been happy for GFS Australia to take the lead in this.

Delegates were asked to discuss the recommendations in their country meetings.

Outline of Session 4 agenda.

Male Membership and Subscription Working Party.

Julie Smith (Australia Senior Delegate) advised that the Male Membership matter stemmed from a move to tidy up the Guidelines to remove words that were gender specific.

Val Gribble (Australia) stated that the intention was not to promote male membership and regretted that it had become a big issue.

Val also pointed out that the 2005 Guidelines already uses the terminology she/he in connection with

the Presidency of the GFS World Council - para. 1.4 bullet 3 refers.

Session 4 – commenced at 2pm.

Glenys opened the afternoon session. She said that the report of the World Subscription Working Party and Male membership issues would be introduced in the first part of the afternoon. Countries would then be able to discuss issues relating to these items plus the recommendations from Australia re the World Project in the Solomon Islands in the second part of the afternoon. The groups would then report back tomorrow.

1. Male Membership Issues

GFS Ireland and GFS USA have submitted written responses to the statement from GFS Australia to accompany proposed changes to the World Guidelines and in particular Item 4. See Appendix 1

Changes throughout the document to remove gender specific terms considering that a number of countries now have male members who may be eligible to seek office at world level.

Guidelines have used male / female terminology and it is suggested that gender specific terms be removed.

After some discussion Autumn Buck from USA proposed that each country or group of countries if they wished to join together discussed the following:

1.4 The World President shall appoint a Secretary and Treasurer and other officers as deemed necessary for the term of office.

All World Officers (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer) shall be female.

2.3 Representation at Council meetings shall be extended to two (2) members nominated from each country (termed Senior Delegate and Junior Delegate) one of who shall ideally be between the ages of 16 and 30. **Both Delegates to be female.**

Sylvia Quinn, Senior Delegate from Ireland asked that the sentence:

GFS IS WORKING WITH GIRLS, BOYS, WOMEN AND MEN -WHERE THEY ARE.

be amended to put more emphasis on the work we do with Girls and Women.

2. World Project – Solomon Islands

There seemed to be some confusion about the World Project Fund and any money owing to Australia who have overseen the beginning of the project. Lois Frankforter. from GFS USA asked how much money had already been given to the Project. Hazel Crompton from England stated that money given to the Solomon Islands project must be used there even if Australia is to administer the money.

Money raised or donated in Australia for the World Project Fund has been used by Australia rather than transferring it to the World Project Fund currently held in Wales. This avoids the expense of

transferring money. Money donated by the rest of the World to the Project Fund amounts to £6515.02 and will be transferred to Australia in one lump sum.

It is suggested that Australia continues to hold funds for this project until the GFS in the Solomon Islands has its own constitution, at present it is governed by the MU.

Nobantu suggested we need clarity about the amounts spent on World Projects as given on page 23 of the booklet – Accounts of GFS World Council 2011 Ireland.

Maggs Hughes explained these referred to monies Ireland dealt with and are nothing to do with the current World Project. Gloria said she did have copies of the breakdown of the World Project Fund which she would leave with Emilia.

3. *World Subscription Working Party.*

Carol Lee (England) presented the report of the Subscription Working Party which had been formed following the 2011 World Council to prepare a proposal for a new membership structure. Carol explained that the work had been carried out by email and she wished to thank all who had been involved.

The working party decided to send out a simple questionnaire to all Presidents to get a response from their country. The questionnaire was sent out in June 2012 with a request for response by 30th September 2012. After several reminders only 10 responses had been received by January 2013. Carol stated that this shows how the problems of communication between countries and the difficulty in getting responses.

From the responses a number of recommendations are being made:

Recommendation 1

Subscriptions be set at £100 (or the equivalent) for three years and be paid in advance. Most countries agreed with this but there was concern that countries with poorer economies may find this difficult.

If accepted there would need to be discussion and agreement on when and how this starts, It is suggested that once in place a request for payment be made when documents for World Council are sent out and that payment be made with payments for Council or at the Council.

Some countries need such a request for accountancy purposes.

Recommendation 2

That each country has a nominated person to collect and send monies, to collate names and information of those attending World Council and ensuring that only GFS members, associates etc. attend.

This was agreed by all countries responding and is primary to reduce costs of transferring money and to ease administration for the organisers of World Council.

Recommendation 3

Guidelines be produced to aid the new World President and her team in day-to-day administration. These would include costs and when payments are due (e.g. website), Newsletter and World Day of Prayer timings and any other pieces of advice on what happens, when etc.

It is suggested that a document be produced and added to by each successive World President and her team so it can be passed onto the next World President.

Recommendation 4

Draft Accounts and Minutes be sent to the next World President and her team as soon as possible and within 6 months.

This caused the greatest amount of disagreement, but it was felt that it needed to be 6 months.

As the new World President takes over immediately there needs to be discussion of how the new World Team operate with no money but a requirement to produce newsletters etc. Should some money be immediately transferred and be available and a final amount be transferred once the accounts have been completed?

The biggest problem is the cost of transferring money and no solution to this was found apart from delaying money until a significant amount can be transferred- this may mean that there are delays in receiving money for the World Project etc.

Glenys thanked Carol for leading the working party and producing the recommendations.

She then asked countries to go and discuss the issue surrounding male membership and the subscription party recommendations.

It was suggested that countries with a small number of attendees might like to join together for discussions. It was left up to individual countries to decide what to do.

The meeting finished at 3.10pm.

Tuesday 29th July

Session 6 - commenced at 9.30am

Session opened with prayer.

1. Subscription Working Party.

Delegates agreed that feedback from country discussions would be heard for each proposal before a vote taken.

Proposal 1.

- Australia: felt £100 too much for countries with poor economies.
- Sri Lanka, Kenya, Ghana, Sierra Leone, South Africa and Zambia: agreed £100 appropriate on condition it is a standing item on each World Council agenda.
- Ireland: felt that countries that couldn't afford a lump sum could open a bank account and pay instalments into it then hand the money over at World Council.
- Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands felt that for them £100 is a lot but would do their best and would pay by instalments.
- Philippines: £100 high for them and queried where countries got money from – advised each country raised the money.
- USA: felt that countries that can pay in advance should and those that can't. Possibly consider a scale according to country size.

Carol Lee advised that working party considered a scale but felt that every country should be treated

equally.

Proposal that subscriptions are paid at World Council would save on transfer costs.

Question raised: are we paying in arrears or advance? Nobantu Makunga (ex-World President) stated that the £45 collected now would be for Australia and £100 collected in 2017 would be for 2020 Council.

Proposal:

Subscriptions should be set at £100 (or equivalent) for 3 years and be paid in advance.

That a request for payment be made when documents for World council are sent out and that payment be made with payments for Council or at the council.

This to start for the world Council 2017.

Proposed by Wales.

Seconded by South Africa.

All in favour.

Glenys asked any country in financial difficulty with regard to the subscription to tell the World President.

Proposal 2.

It was felt that on-line registration had caused some problems. Glenys stated that even if on-line registration is used in future countries should nominate one person to co-ordinate.

Proposal: That each country has a nominated person to collect and send monies, to collate names and information of those attending World Council and ensuring that only GFS members, associates etc. attend.

Proposed by Australia. Seconded by Zambia. In favour: 16

Against: 0

Abstention: 1

Proposal 3.

Original wording referring to guidelines was queried as guidelines already exist. Carol Lee advised that the working party intended this to be a guide for day to day running of a World Council.

Suggestions received that the word 'guidelines' should be replaced by either manual (by Australia) or document (by Ireland).

11 delegates in favour of 'manual' and 4 delegates in favour of 'document'

Proposal: A manual be produced to aid the new World President and her team in day-to-day administration. These would include costs and when payments are due (e.g. website), Newsletter and World Day of Prayer timings and any other pieces of advice on what happens, when etc,

This be produced and added to by each successive World President and her team so it can be passed to the next World President.

Proposed by New Zealand.

Seconded by Ireland.

All in favour.

Proposal 4.

Comments made: -

The residue of money should be sent to the next host country within 6 months of the end of World Council. That it was not possible for the accounts to be completed within 6 months due to the need to have them audited - Carol Lee clarified that the proposal referred to draft accounts.

It was clarified that draft accounts are accounts that have been completed by the World Treasurer but not yet audited.

An amendment to the proposal as detailed below was requested and the amended proposal voted on.

Proposal: Minutes of the World Council and draft Financial Accounts be sent to the next World President and her team as soon as possible and within 6 months

Proposed by Australia.

Seconded by England.

All in favour.

2, Country Report. Given by Ghana as printed in the World Council booklet.
Christine Adjei also reported the death of Juliana Okine former President of GFS Ghana.

3, Country Report. Given by England as printed in the World Council booklet.

4. Youth Exchange Scheme

Presentation given by Thembeke Pama (South Africa) and Sara Rademacher (USA).

Objectives

- The exposure and experiential learning.
- Understanding of cultures in other countries.
- Knowledge exchange on areas of common interest.
- Better understanding of what it is to be a young girl and Christian values within the Anglican church.
- Opportunity to worship together and celebrate the fellowship of GFS.
- Opportunity to share one another's burdens and establish long term relationships.
- Build trust, care, sisterhood and friendship for the group and communities.
- Gain life skills on how to support each other, find solutions to problems, and become self-led leaders.

Framework

The GFS World Deputy President should remain the world coordinator and overseer of the exchange program.

- Identification of participating countries.
- Establishment of country coordinators for the exchange program.
- Compilation of briefs on countries to be visited.

Accreditation Criteria for host countries.

- Appointment of host country organiser who is member of the executive committee.
- Establishment of host country exchange program team (example of member): -

- *Special project officer
- *Family relation officer
- *Research-marketing and stakeholder relations officer
- *Administrator = transportation, accommodation
- *Daily operations officer

- Established relation with country consulates
- Determination of sending country application fee structure (relevant to host countries to be visited)

Country exchange program profile

Compilation of family profiles (where there will be home stays)

Target Group

- Young Anglican girls ages ranging from 18 – 25 + years.
- Girls that have displayed maturity, responsibility and willingness to learn and grow.
- Obtained approval and consent from parents.
- Come from a *well-structured family* (clarified that this means where support to grow the child would be given by the family)

Activities and programs:

- Camps
- Special projects in support of most vulnerable young women
- Fellowship group meeting
- Life skills training sessions
- Voluntary work

Associated Costs:

- Sending Country
- ⑩ Travelling costs
- ⑩ Visa and Insurance
- ⑩ Subsistence allowance (groceries, entertainment etc.)

- Host Country
- ⑩ Accommodation (home stay)
- ⑩ Transport

- Alternative
- ⑩ Host and sending countries to bear the costs of the program.

Sara raised the possibility of this idea being turned into a World Project application – to raise funds to enable girls to participate.

Poppy Winks was asked to meet with the young people present at World Council and report back with their feelings and ideas at a later session.

5. Country Report. Given by Ireland as printed in the World Council booklet.

Session 7– commenced at 2pm.

1. Country report given by Japan as printed in the World Council Booklet

2. Website Guidelines

David Payne (World Chaplain and Treasurer) reported that the former World website had been hacked and people were being directed to a gambling website, so he pulled the plug and stopped paying the fees.

Julie Smith (Australia) outlined guidelines for the management of a World Website.

1. As agreed at the 2011 World Council meeting in Ireland, the World Council will manage and maintain a GFS world web site.
2. The purpose of the GFS world web site is:
 - ⑩ to promote GFS with information about its history, structure, guidelines and policies and current activities.
 - ⑩ To encourage new membership with a secure link to the World President for further information
 - ⑩ to provide a link between current GFS countries with prayer information, newsletters and dissemination of information
 - ⑩ to provide access to web pages of GFS countries
3. The World Council will maintain a domain host, list a web name and pay all costs to maintain the website.
4. The responsibility for maintaining the website will rest with the current World President but may be delegated to another country with the skills to maintain the website. This decision will be made between the current World team and the incoming World President when the next host country is approved.
 - a. From 4 August 2014 to 19 July 2017 the registered domain will be www.gfsworld.org and will be managed through GFS Australia Inc.
5. The host country or the country maintaining the website on behalf of the host country will appoint a Webmaster who will hold the necessary skills to maintain the website. Such appointment must be approved by the current World President.
6. The member countries of the World Council have an obligation to ensure that any information on the website pertaining to their country is kept up to date. They should appoint a member within their own country to liaise with the World Webmaster to ensure that there is a regular review of the information relating to their country.
7. Any photos of children (under the age of 18) will only be posted to the website if the President of the country providing the photo can assure the World Webmaster that permission to post the photo has been obtained from the parent or guardian of the child/children. A process should be in place in each country to ensure this permission.
8. As the World newsletter is posted to the World Web page the permission to use a photo of a child/children should also be included when submitting articles and photos to the World President for use in the World newsletter

Proposal: That these guidelines be added to the current World Council Guidelines. Proposed by

Australia.

Seconded by Ireland. All in favour.

Val Gribble introduced the new world website – www.gfsworld.org – and explained to Council that the incoming World Team had looked into setting up a new website and following consultation had decided to employ a company with knowledge of the church. The cost of setting up the website had been 1500 \$AUD

(£750) which has been paid by Australia. Tania Brown will be the World Webmaster.

Val had asked each country to provide two photos, some information about GFS in their country and contact details. She is still waiting for information from Ghana, Liberia, South Africa and Canada.

Work is still being done on the website and countries will be informed when the website goes live.

The World Website will be discussed at the 2017 World Council meeting to see how it has worked and if any changes need to be made.

3. Country report given by Papua New Guinea as in the World Council Booklet

4. Country report given by the Philippines as in the World Council Booklet.

Session 8 - commenced at 4pm.

1. Male Membership Issues

Delegates had met with their countries to discuss this issue. Some countries had joined together for discussion. Glenys asked for feedback before voting on a proposal.

GFS USA:

Delores Alleyne stated that GFS in the USA is for girls and women only. They realise that boys and men are members in other countries which is the choice of each country. Women and girls need a place where they can nurture relationships in a way that feels comfortable. It gives a platform to be ourselves and openly share with one another. GFS has taught young girls and women to be leaders and to rely on themselves for empowerment. It gives us a platform to work as women, with women. In many countries women are subservient to men and we don't want to see women having their voices taken away. Women should be empowered to speak for themselves representing the female majority of their group. We fear if men in some cultures take on leadership roles, we will lose our autonomy. The reasons GFS started will be lost. We cannot vote in favour of men having leadership roles in any capacity in the World Council structure.

IRELAND:

Sylvia Quinn began by saying they did not want to offend any men and that we rely on the support of male family members. GFS is a safe haven for girls and women and female leadership provides inspiration of them. If men were to take on leadership roles it could lead to a change in the name of the society. There are also concerns over safeguarding issues.

ENGLAND & WALES:

Hazel Crompton spoke on behalf of England and Wales and said they suggest there were no male officers of GFS World Council EXCEPT in special circumstances it may be necessary to appoint a male treasurer. Specific skills are needed by the treasurer of any organisation and if the only suitable person is a male then he should be appointed. This has happened in England and Wales.

The group also agreed that both delegates should be women. They also suggested removing the strapline GFS IS WORKING WITH GIRLS, BOYS, WOMEN AND MEN – WHERE THEY ARE.

The constitution of GFS England and Wales states the organization can only work with girls and women.

AUSTRALIA:

Julie Smith said that they believed it would be a backward step to insist that males cannot hold office. The Secretary and Treasurer are appointed by the World President and allowing males to hold these offices would allow for the appointment of a person with the most appropriate skills. Skills may be more important than gender. They suggested that only a female could be appointed as President and therefore as Vice President. The President then has the freedom to choose who she appoints as Secretary and Treasurer depending on the skills available. Also there should be female only delegates.

She suggested that these guidelines could be for a limited time, subject to review as necessary.

SRI LANKA, KENYA, GHANA, SIERRA LEONE, ZAMBIA & SOUTH AFRICA

These countries discussed the issue together and appointed Nobantu (South Africa) to speak.

In the mid 1970's in South Africa boys began to be included in GFS groups. Guidelines for including boys were drawn up and GBFS – Girls and Boys Friendly Society groups were formed. Boys are associate members and men do not hold office.

Discussion followed and it was pointed whilst some countries have no issue with males being members other countries choose a different path. This discussion is at present at World level and the decision made here need not directly affect each individual country's own by laws and current practices.

Several felt that GFS should remain a female led organisation as it always has been as this presents a good role model for girls and women that they too can aspire to leadership and can be trained to use their skills as future leaders not just in GFS but in society as a whole.

Many acknowledge the support they have from husbands and sons.

It was also suggested that the World President would wish to choose the office bearers and she naturally chooses people who are compatible with one another and work well together and that if the right person for the job is male this should be acceptable. It was felt that it is important to choose the right person for the job. Suggestion was made that perhaps a limit of one male officer in World Council.

Everyone agreed that there was no problem having a male chaplain.

Julie Smith (Australia) pointed out that for the last three years there has been a male World Treasurer and that this had not had any detrimental effects.

Glenys said that David had been appointed as the person best qualified for the role and the committee had agreed to his appointment.

She asked the USA to state their proposal.

GFS USA proposes that all Officers of World Council be female. This includes President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Seconded by Zambia.

Australia asked for an amendment to the proposal be made that this would take effect from 2017 as GFS Australia are trying to find a World Treasurer and at this point are not sure who it may be.

This was seconded by Papua New Guinea.

It was decided that if the first amendment be accepted then it could not be postponed but would have to be brought into force immediately.

Ireland suggested that if there were extenuating circumstances then Council could be aware of them and something would be sorted out.

Carol Gardner (Wales) pointed out that nowhere in the guidelines does it say that officers need to be members. She went on to say that the biggest problem is finding someone willing to be Treasurer who is capable of doing the job really well.

At this point the USA withdrew their original proposal and suggested each officer in turn is considered.

GFS USA proposed that the World President shall be female.

Seconded: England

All in favour.

It therefore follows that the Vice-President shall be female.

Australia then proposed that The World President shall appoint a Secretary and Treasurer and other chairs as deemed necessary for the term of office.

Hazel (England) said that the situation in each country will be different and that Council has to trust the World President to appoint appropriate officers as she is aware of the situation in her own country.

Japan stated that sometimes the World President may find difficulty in appointing a female officer and may have to appoint someone appropriate to carry out the work,

USA suggested an amended proposal:

The President shall appoint a female Secretary and a female Treasurer and other female chairs as deemed necessary for her term of office.

Seconded: Zambia

for the proposal: 11

Against: 5

No abstentions.

As this point David stated that he felt his position as World Treasurer was untenable and left the meeting.

Sylvia Quinn stated that tribute be paid to David for his work during the last three years.

Before the meeting closed Glenys asked Cheryl The Revd Cheryl Selvage to lead us in prayer as we considered the future.

Meeting ended 5.30pm.

Thursday 31st July

Session 9 - commenced at 9.30am.

The session opened with prayer.

1. Feedback on Youth Exchange Scheme

Poppy Winks reported that the youth thought the scheme was a brilliant idea and all wanted to be involved but they are also realistic and aware that the scheme needs more thought about how it will work, in particular how finances will be worked out between host and sending countries.

Tegan Hudson added that the scheme would be a good way of promoting GFS in countries that are having a hard time keeping people in the young adult age bracket.

Other comments were positive and included the need to make young people first in our priorities, how to maintain continuity between Junior Delegates from one World Council to the next.

The team for the Australian World Council includes a World Youth Officer who can be instrumental in making the scheme happen.

The scheme was considered further during session 14.

2. Country Report. Given by Sierra Leone as printed in the World Council booklet.

In response to a question about the age range of members attending their camps, Alberta responded that it is age 7 upwards.

Glenys added that transport is difficult in many countries and in particular when GFS is asked to establish GFS in more remote areas.

Session 10 – commenced at 11am.

3. Guest Speaker: Revd Rose Hudson-Wilkin. Chaplain to the Queen & Speaker's Chaplain.

4. Country Report. Given by Solomon Islands as printed in the World Council booklet.

Julie Smith (Australia) spoke about some queries raised – it is not possible for a bank account to be set up in GFS' name in the Solomon Islands, so money is held in Australia.

Julie presented the GFS Australia accounts for the Solomon Island's World Project and requested that this be added to the money held in the worldwide fund to be used to further the work started in the Solomon Islands. This generally met with approval, but comment was made giving concern about lack of details of how World Project funding is used and asking in future that each project has a detailed scope and a time frame showing start and completion dates.

Proposal made by Wales: -

That Australia's proposals recommending the continuation of the Solomon Island's project until such time as funds run out are accepted.

Seconded by Ireland.

All in favour

Friday 1st August

Session 11 – commenced at 9.30am.

The World Chaplain opened the session by asking Council to stand for a minute's silence in memory of Lyn Calvert (Australia) who had sadly passed away that day. Lyn was to be the World Secretary for the coming term.

The opening prayers were then led by Rev. Rowena Kemp (USA)

1. Point of Governance.

Glenys asked Carol Gardner (Wales) to introduce this.

Carol said that following the decision on Tuesday that there should only be female officers she wished to remind members of Council that GFS is a voluntary organisation and a charity and that its affairs must be open and transparent. The main area of public scrutiny is an organization's accounts, and the role of Treasurer is becoming ever more complex especially at World level where transfer of money between countries is involved. It is therefore vital to have a qualified and skilled person as Treasurer. Carol pointed out that when World Council was last held in Wales in 1987 there was also a male treasurer.

Carol therefore proposed that there be an addition to the decision made on Tuesday. She proposed that **in special circumstances a suitably qualified and skilled person of either gender may be able to hold the position of World Treasurer to be able to meet our governance responsibilities.**

Seconded: Ireland

All in favour.

2. **Country report** given by South Africa as in the World Council Booklet
3. **Country report** given by South Korea as in the World Council Booklet

Session 12 – commenced at 11am.

4. Guest Speaker: Right Rev. John Davies, Bishop of Swansea & Brecon

Saturday 2nd August

Session 13– commenced at 9.30am.

Glenys opened this session with prayer.

1. **Country report** given by United States of America as in the World Council Booklet

2. Promotions Officer

Following further discussion on this role the following proposal was made from the Chair (by the World President)

Whilst recognising that the role of the World President is to promote and support GFS Worldwide it is not possible for her to take on the role of promoting the work of GFS in

individual countries.

Each GFS country should be responsible for their own promotion using the GFS website wherever possible.

Seconded; South Africa All agreed.

3. Country report given by Wales as in the World Council Booklet

4. Country report given by Zambia as in the World Council Booklet

5. Guest Speaker: Lynne Tembey, Mothers' Union Worldwide President.

6. World Guidelines

Julie on behalf of GFS Australia presented a statement to accompany suggested changes to the World Guidelines.

The current World President on her visit to Australia, discussed the difficulties of making formal decisions in between World Councils for the good of GFS countries.

Australia offered to draft some changes to the World Guidelines for distribution to world countries. While addressing the original request of the World President other minor changes have been suggested.

Outline of changes made:

1. The statement of purpose which was adopted at the 2011 World Council is now attached as an Appendix and noted in 1.1
2. 1.2 There is no clause in the current guidelines that states that one of the purposes of World Council is to make decisions which would be considered a major role of the World Council, therefore a change has been suggested to include this as one of purposes of the world council.
3. 1.4 allows the commissioning of a world team, rather than only the World President. Slight changes have been made to relate to the current practice of choosing a host country two terms ahead. Some changes to grammar.
4. Changes throughout the document to remove gender specific terms considering that a number of countries now have male members who may be eligible to seek office at world level.
5. 2.5 has been added as the new clause to allow decision making between World Councils.
6. 2.8 A new dot point to allow for the host country to be chosen two terms ahead.
7. Guidelines have been renumbered.,

Australia would suggest that these changes are now circulated to world countries to be adopted prior to the next World Council following the suggested process for voting in such a situation. (2.5)

Glenys said that decision making between World Councils is the main thing to be discussed here. Australia proposed that:

Decision making between meetings of the World Council.

Matters which are brought to the notice of the world President in their term either as motions or discussion items can be referred to member countries for a decision between meetings of the World Council.

The President/Chairman/Leader of GFS in each member country will be responsible for returning one vote from their country in the time frame designated by the World President with at least 2/3 of the member countries submitting a vote before a decision can be made.

The World Secretary shall record all such discussions and decisions as business proceedings and provide each member country with a copy of the proceedings within one month of the decision. The documents will become part of the World Council minutes.

Any decision made will come into effect immediately.

Seconded: Ghana

Discussion then followed on the possible problems with communication and ensuring that all countries are allowed their say. There may be a problem with information reaching some countries and perhaps a system needs to be in place to ensure this.

It was also suggested that it would be necessary to establish how many countries are involved and to establish a quorum which may change from Council to Council. Discussion centered on whether the baseline should be the total number of member countries of GFS at present (ie 23) or the number in attendance at this council (17).

Concern was also expressed about what matters may need to be considered between Councils and suggestions were made that the word 'urgent' be inserted into the proposal to ensure that it was decisions that couldn't wait until the next Council that would be sent out for consideration. What constitutes 'urgent' would be at the discretion of the World President.

Val said there are many issues around the Guidelines that need to be sorted out. The updated version of the existing guidelines needs to be sent out with the minutes.

Many people felt that the Guidelines needed to be discussed at Council and that urgent matters are things that need dealing with immediately,

An amended proposal was then put forward:

Decision making between meetings of the World Council.

Any urgent Matters which are brought to the notice of the world President in their term either as motions or discussion items can be referred to member countries for a decision between meetings of the World Council.

The President/Chairman/Leader of GFS in each member country will be responsible for returning one vote from their country in the time frame designated by the World President with at least 2/3 of the member countries submitting a vote before a decision can be made.

The World Secretary shall record all such discussions and decisions as business proceedings and provide each member country with a copy of the proceedings within one month of the decision. The documents will become part of the World Council minutes.

Any decision made will come into effect immediately.

Proposed: Australia

Seconded: Ghana All
in favour.

7. Philippines Project

The Philippines is holding funds from the 1987-1990 World Project and are asking permission to use the funds to re-establish the project.

Julie Smith (Senior Delegate, Australia) made the proposal that

GFS in the Philippines be congratulated on the safe keeping of the 1987- 1990 World Project monies and that this World Council give approval for the World President to liaise with the GFS and existing Bishop in the Philippines to re-establish the project with the existing funds held in their account and to report to the 2017 World Council with a full audited financial and progress report.

Seconded: Wales

All agreed.

8. World Project 2014 – 2017 – Japan.

Lynn Carter (USA) began by saying that at everyone attending both this and the last Council has been moved by Japan's report on their outreach project to help the survivors of the great East Japan tsunami and earthquake disaster. A number of people have asked the Japanese delegates what we can do to help. With this in mind the following proposal has been submitted for consideration.

As no proposal for a World Project has been submitted for consideration, we have decided to ask your indulgence to consider a late proposal for financial assistance to continue our Outreach project to the survivors of the great East Japan tsunami disaster.

Background

Three years have passed since a 9.0 magnitude earthquake followed by 39-metre-high tsunami struck the north eastern region of Japan. As of March 2014, the National Police have reported that 12, 884 people have died and 2, 640 people are still missing. Many survivors are still living in temporary housing was set up by the government and they are still struggling to get their lives back.

The earthquake also destroyed the 1st Fukushima nuclear plant, causing a meltdown. As a result, about 140,000 people had to leave their homes to escape the ill effects of radiation. People around the world rallied to support the victims. The Japanese people themselves came together to help. We, the members of the Girls' Friendly Society in Japan, joined in the outreach effort of the Nippon Sei Ko Kei, the Anglican Church in Japan. The task is so overwhelming that we just find ourselves praying for guidance every moment of the way,

After careful evaluation of the survivors needs, GFS Japan launched two projects.

1. We provided sewing machines to women's groups in the affected areas.
2. We volunteer monthly at the Tsukishima Kid's Day.

Objective for the next three years: 2014 -2017.

1. To evaluate the ongoing needs of the Sewing Machine Project and to supply sewing machines, fabric, thread and other sewing notions where there is a critical need.
2. To assist the women of the Sewing Machine Project to market their handiwork.
3. To continue to support the monthly Tsukisima Kid's Day with refreshments and activities.

Budget: \$10,000 USD £5895 GB 1020350JPY

Sewing Machines (3 large industrial machines	\$2000
Sewing supplies (fabric, thread etc,)	\$3000
Activity Supplies for Kid's Day	\$1000
Refreshments for Kid's Day	\$500
Travel for Kid's Day	\$3000
Communication (fliers, newsletters, postage etc)	\$500

Person(s) Responsible:

Asako Yonamine, National President GFS Japan and Senior Delegate

We are very grateful to the GFS World Council for considering our proposal for assistance that will help us to continue our Outreach Project to the survivors of the great East Japan tsunami disaster. With your help we will be able to support the women and children in the Tohoku Region to resume a more normal lifestyle.

Session finished 12.45pm

Session 14– commenced at 2pm

Lynn Carter said that during the lunch break she had learnt that the infusion of funds in the World Project account exceeds the amount in the budget so she suggested that the budget figures given this morning should be doubled.

It is hoped that with good communications and possibly using a Facebook page it will be possible to sell the goods being made on this project.

The proposal is that the World Project 2014 -2017 be to support the continuation of the Outreach project to the survivors of the Great East Japan tsunami and that the budget be \$20,000. Glenys thanked Japan for putting the proposal forward and to Lynn for her help with it.

Wales proposed that we accept the above as the World Project for 2014 -2017.

Seconded: Australia

All in favour.

Glenys, as World Vice President will oversee the project.

9. Country report given by Sri Lanka as in the World Council Booklet

10. World Council 2017

This is to be held at Swanleigh Conference Centre, Perth Western Australia from 10th - 19th July 2017. It will be winter in Australia and it may be wet!

Swanleigh is an Anglican conference centre that sleeps 243 in variety of bedroom configurations, but none are ensuite. It is close to the airport in a rural setting.

They are also investigating the possibility of home stay.

11. *World Council 2020.*

Thembeke read out the following:

To the World President of the Girls' Friendly Society and the Council

Greetings to you all in the name of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

After much prayer and thoughts, we would like to extend an invitation to the World Girl's Friendly Society to have their 2020 Council held in Southern Africa. The Church in Southern Africa was greatly enriched by the previous visit to our Country when we hosted the 1999 GFS Conference. If our invitation is accepted the contact and coordinating person will be Mrs. Thembeke Pama, email address is thembekapama@gmail.com

We send you our warm greetings and prayer for your conference.

Stephen Matlosane

Rt. Rev. Stephen Diseko

Liaison Bishop for Young People's Organisation in ACSA Province. The

invitation was accepted by Council.

Thembeke went on to thank Council for this opportunity for South Africa and said that it would be a challenge which they were willing to accept with the prayers of all at Council and throughout the world. God assists us all as true Christians to bear one another's burdens. We are one family, and we can strengthen one another and together we can more for our countries.

12. *Youth Exchange Scheme*

Following the introduction of this in session 3 on Tuesday the junior delegates and other young women had met to discuss this.

Tegan Hudson (Junior Delegate from Australia) made the following proposal:

A GFS Youth working party is formed primarily to develop the Youth Exchange Program in order to bring the proposal forward to World Council in 2017.

This will be facilitated by the World Youth Officer and will consist of all current Junior Delegates and other skilled members as deemed necessary (including senior members to bring experience to our group) [See list below]

Each Junior Delegate will be responsible for contacting relevant GFS members in their country and conveying the opinions and ideas of these members to the working party.

LIST OF JUNIOR DELEGATES & OTHERS:

World Youth Officer: Tegan Hudson

England: Natasha Moore

Ireland: Michelle Armitage

Japan Emiri Nakamura

Zambia: Mandy Malambo

Korea: Helena Choi

Wales: Sarah Charlesworth
USA: Autumn Buck
Philippines: Sarah May
Tanhuanco
USA Sara Rademacher
Esther Lee – Korea Poppy
Winks – England

They also suggested the possibility of running a pilot program before the next World Council. This scheme could not be a World Project as it would be ongoing and not time limited.

Seconded: England
All agreed.

(a) Facebook Page

Tegan then put forward a proposal for a GFS World Facebook page.

A GFS World Young Adult Facebook page be established for worldwide teens (above the age of 15) and young adults involved in GFS. This would be run by the World Youth Officer.

She asked us to remember Hebrews 10:24 “And let us consider how we may spur one another on towards love and good deeds”.

The Facebook page could provide

- ⑩ updates on activities around the world
- ⑩ correspondence by current junior delegates
- ⑩ connection to a global family
- ⑩ promotion of GFS

The Facebook page could help with communication and keep ongoing the spirit and friendship of GFS between World Councils.

Discussion followed on this focused on any age limit for users and whether it should be an open or closed book. It was also suggested that any countries with a social media policy share it with others as it is always useful to pool resources.

Lynn Carter (USA) suggested that we start with a closed group of all the junior delegates and that can invite others to join and so build the group.

Proposal: Australia
Seconded: USA

All agreed.

A set of guidelines for Facebook site and use of photos will be developed.

Session ended 4pm.

Sunday 3rd August

Session 15 Summing up - commenced at 9.30am.

Glenys Payne spoke about a stole made by a GFS member in Melbourne for use by the World Chaplain which would be blessed during the closing service.

Lynne Tembey gave her thanks for the love offered to her and answered questions about how people can join Mothers Union.

David Payne thanked all clergy who had celebrated the Eucharist and to countries that had taken evening worship. Also, Kay Warrington for putting the services together.

World President's Report

Glenys spoke about the privilege of being World President and of visiting Australia, Papua New Guinea and Ireland, being welcomed and sharing. It has made her think that the only way to learn about each other is to live with others and share. That thoughts about the Youth Exchange Scheme will be exchanged and that an offer has been made for a pilot scheme to take place.

She thanked her team – fun, fellowship and faith kept them going, time together is needed in our world today. During council we were blessed by sharing each other's reports and the message of what is happening in other countries. She welcomed the new World Project in Japan as a wonderful thing and stressed the importance of putting plenty of resources onto the World Website.

Thanks were given to our inspirational speakers, Rose Hudson-Wilkin, Bishop John Davies and Lynn Tembey.

Glenys' prayer is that all of us should be inspired as we go out into the world and to our branches.

Glenys wished Val Gribble and her team well as they prepare for World Council in Australia. The minute book was handed over to Val.

Sarah Charlesworth presented Glenys with a gift of the 2014 Royal Doulton figurine and Kay Warrington thanked Glenys on behalf of everyone present for leading us sensitively and with fun. At 10.15 Glenys declared the 21st World Council closed

Closing service

2.00pm: The Closing Service and Commissioning of the World President and the World Team was held at St Mary's church, Swansea. The preacher was The Most Reverend Barry Morgan, Archbishop of Wales.

The following were commissioned:

World President:	Val Gribble (Australia)
Deputy World President:	Kate Venables (Australia)
World Chaplain:	Father Isaiah Masida (Papua New Guinea)
Assistant World Chaplain:	The Revd Cheryl Selvage
World Secretary and Webmaster:	Tania Brown (Australia)
World Youth Officer:	Tegan Hudson (Australia)
World Project Officer:	Julie Smith (Australia)
World Project Officer:	Christine Rooney (Australia)

A reception given by the Lord Mayor of Swansea preceded the Gala Dinner at which the World President introduced her theme '**YOU** are called to serve through GFS''.

21st World Council
25th July - 4th August
University of Swansea, Swansea, Wales

Outline of Events

Friday 25th July – Welcome

Glenys said that there would be a book for people to enter names of GFS members who have died since the last Council and those members who are unwell.

Our World Chaplain, The Revd David Payne asked everyone to stand for a minute's silence in memory of those who have died.

Glenys asked people to let Hannah know if there were any birthdays or anniversaries during World Council.

Glenys then gave housekeeping notes and explained about the buildings we would use. She apologised for the building work going on around Fulton House. She also explained what was in the conference bags and how to obtain World conference t-shirts.

Information was given about the arrangements for the journey to Brecon and for the Opening Service. Glenys also explained what would be happening on Sunday morning. Service times for local churches were available if anyone wished to attend these services.

An informal meeting for the Delegates took place when the delegate packs were handed out and Glenys briefly explained how Council sessions would be run.

The young people present meet with Poppy Winks, Frances Payne and Hannah Charlesworth to talk about events during Council.

Evening Worship was led by the World Chaplain, The Revd David Payne.

Saturday 26th July

Opening Service

All present travelled by coach to Brecon Cathedral for the opening service of the 21st Council. The celebrant and preacher was The Rt Revd John Davies, Bishop of Swansea & Brecon.

Evening

A Welsh evening of entertainment was organised by Nerys & Nia plus friends who provide entertainment at banquets at Cardiff Castle.

Evening Worship was led by the World Chaplain, The Revd David Payne.

Sunday 27th July

Morning Eucharistic Worship was led by Australia with The Revd Cheryl Selvage, as celebrant. There was free time before the first Session of Council at 3pm

Evening

Entertainment was provided by Tipyn o Bopeth (Welsh Folk Dancers). As well as demonstrating various dances they also encouraged everyone to take part.

Evening Worship was led by England.

Monday 28th July

Morning Eucharistic Worship was led by Papua New Guinea with Father Isaiah Masida as celebrant.

Session 2 & 3 held in the morning.

Session 4 held after lunch.

Session 5 Discussion Groups

Evening

A disco with photos of previous World Councils and Scenes of the area.

Evening Worship

Tuesday 29th July

Morning Eucharistic Worship was led by Australia with Bishop Kay Goldsworthy as celebrant. AM

– Sessions 6

PM – Sessions 7 & 8

Evening Worship was led by Sri Lanka.

Wednesday 30th July

Morning Eucharistic Worship was led by The Revd Tim Williams, Conference Chaplain as celebrant.

Delegates and Observers travelled to Cardiff to visit the Senedd the home of the Welsh Assembly. The visit was sponsored by Ann Jones who was unable to be present due to illness. The Children's Commissioner for Wales, Mr. Keith Towler addressed the group and talked about his role. The young people then had a tour of the Senedd building.

Afterwards the group went to the Museum of Welsh Life at St. Fagans. In the evening groups of delegates visited Felinfoel, Penllergaer, Gorseinon and Killay where food and entertainment were provided.

Thursday 31st July

Morning Eucharistic Worship was led by USA with The Revd Rowena Kemp as celebrant.AM

Session 9

Session 10 **Guest Speaker: The Revd Rose Hudson-Wilkin.**

Rose spoke about her childhood in Jamaica where she was a GFS member and that from age 14, she had an overwhelming sense of being called to ministry.

She came to England to study as a Church Army Officer and became a Lay Evangelist.

One of the influences in her life was a poster "Do not go where the path leads. Go where there is no path and leave a trail".

Ordained in the Lichfield Diocese she moved to London where she received opposition in her first parish. Having made it clear that she was there to stay the congregation started to grow in numbers.

In addition to being a priest ministering to two congregations she is Chaplain to the Queen and Speaker's Chaplain to the House of Commons.

Her message to GFS: what we must do to engage young people in a world where we compete with e.g. internet, what is the GFS Unique Selling Point, what are the issues faced by the age group that will connect them to us.

We must listen to the next generation and not impose our ideas, helping them to face the issues of the day. We must teach them to think about others, not just themselves, to think about what is happening to children in the trouble spots of the world. To make our young people aware of the importance of having an education – lobby MPs to speak out about countries where girls are not educated. To include boys in our conversations to help them see what it is like to be a young woman and how to treat them, to teach boys self-restraint and self-respect. To speak out about female genital mutilation and arranged marriages at a young age.

Our responsibility is to teach young women how to bear themselves, making the vision of women being equal happen so that seeing a woman in high positions is not seen as exceptional and to be applauded.

We must consider what GFS is doing between World Councils in our local organisations. How we can keep in our vision the stories of young girls and make them our stories.

"No limitations rule my efforts. I will achieve. I will excel. I will overcome obstacles and I have the potential for greatness".

PM – free time

Evening

Each country took their turn to entertain at the Skit Night.

Evening worship was led by The Revd Tim Williams, conference Chaplain.

Friday 1st August

Morning Eucharistic Worship was led by Australia with The Revd Sonia Roulston as celebrant. Session 11

Session 12 4. Guest Speaker: The Rt Revd John Davies, Bishop of Swansea & Brecon

Bishop John had celebrated and preached at the Opening Eucharist in Brecon Cathedral.

Bishop John talked about sowing seed. He mentioned Psalm 126 and that sowing the seed and harvesting are hard work. He then went on to talk about the Parable of the Sower and the need for careful preparation for sowing the seed. Seed is valuable and has great potential.

We need to pay careful attention to each other and remember that we all Christian people come from the same stable.

As members of GFS, we should consider ourselves as sowers. If we look at the origins of GFS, we see that Mary Townsend was a woman of faith and her vision led her to do great things. This work bore great fruit. The organisation has accomplished much.

Like the sower the GFS breaks new ground and tries to remove obstacles and allow growth. Great work is yet to be done – possibly with other organisations.

He concluded by praying that GFS would be fruitful, careful, prayerful and loving in all we do. Glenys thanked Bishop John for giving us much food for thought.

The **International Day** was held in the afternoon.

Evening

Entertainment was provided by Dunvant Male Voice Choir with Elizabeth Bevan (Soloist)

Evening worship was led by the Young People.

Saturday 2nd August

Morning Eucharistic Worship was led by Zambia with The Revd Robert Shibuwa celebrating.

5. Guest Speaker: Lynne Tembey, Mothers' Union Worldwide President.

Lynne started by thanking GFS for the invitation to speak and for starting her journey of faith as she had been a member of GFS as a girl.

She told us about her journey with the MU which began when newly married. Someone from the MU talked to her about the organisation and she thought about joining. Although she thought the MU sounded like a brilliant group, she was reluctant to go to the meeting but was encouraged by her husband and has been a member ever since. The MU has given her amazing opportunities and has opened many doors. She said the golden thread throughout her life has been God being there.

When she became World President her 7-year-old granddaughter said that Nana has the whole world in her hands! Lynne said she does have some help from friends!

Lynne explained that there are 16 people plus herself on the MU Trustee Board. Six of these trustees represent different areas of the World. The board meets twice a year for five days to discuss strategy and activities. Later this year 34 Provincial Presidents will meet for 7 days.

Mary Sumner who founded the MU in 1876 saw a need in the society of her time and put faith into action which is what MU members still do today.

MU members are involved in many different projects including

- ⑩ Providing virtual babies for use in schools in Salisbury diocese
- ⑩ Bye Bye Childhood Campaign
- ⑩ Literacy and Financial Development Program in Burundi, Ethiopia, Malawi, Sudan and South Sudan
- ⑩ AFIA (Away from it all holidays)
- ⑩ Family Life Program in Uganda
- ⑩ and many, many more

Lynne said that the MU had a voice at the UN which helps to make some governments realise that women need to have a voice.

The MU website shows what work is done around the world.

Val Gribble thanked Lynne for talking to us and expressed the thought that GFS and MU should work closely together.

Nobantu suggested that once a member of GFS you are always a member and that many are members of both organisations. When she moved to Port Elm there was no GFS, so she joined the MU and was then able to start a GFS branch. She ended by saying there is no conflict just partnership in Christ.

Glenys thanked Lynne for not only coming to talk to us but also for joining us and being part of our fellowship for a few days.

Evening

Entertainment was provided by Saxophone Group.

Evening worship was led by Ireland.

Sunday 3rd August

Morning Eucharistic Worship was led by Australia with Archdeacon Michael Hillier as celebrant.

Closing service

2.00pm: The Closing Service and Commissioning of World President was held at St Mary's church, Swansea. The preacher was The Most Reverend Barry Morgan, Archbishop of Wales.

A reception given by the Lord Mayor of Swansea preceded the Gala Dinner.

Monday 4th August

Morning Eucharistic Worship was led by Wales with The Revd David Payne as celebrant.

Male Membership of GFS - response from GFS Ireland:

With reference to the statement from GFS Australia to accompany suggested changes to the World Guidelines GFS Ireland would like to refer to item point 4 in this document:

“Changes throughout the document to remove gender specific terms considering that a number of countries now have male members who may be eligible to seek office at world level.”

GFS in Ireland has concerns with this statement especially the final wording underlined.

We disagree with this statement for the following reasons:

- (a) Putting this statement in writing automatically opens a channel that might be abused.
- (b) Men becoming heavily involved at World level could result in the Society's name being altered.
- (c) In the interest of Safeguarding Trust, men working with girls could prove problematic.
- (d) It could be dangerous if men gained authority at Diocesan, Nation or

World level. **

*** At the moment GFS members worldwide are Christian people – in the event of this changing through intermarriage or some other misadventure men in authority could prove dangerous in countries where women are under threat and experience abuse. GFS at the moment may be a safehaven for some women in these situations.*

Note:

- (a) GFS in Ireland is aware that men are welcome in suitable situations in some countries. However, we feel it important women remain in management. The Society is for the empowerment of women, particularly in countries where women are looked down on.
- (b) GFS was started by a woman; Elizabeth Townsend and the Society has been run successfully by women for nearly 140 years. We would like to see this situation remain.

The Girls Friendly Society in the United States of America Proposal for inclusion on World Council Agenda

Position on males in leadership roles.

On behalf of the **Girls Friendly Society in the United States of America** we are responding to GFS World Council Guidelines drafted by Australia in 2013.

Our position in the United States as a GFS organisation is that we cannot give an affirmative vote to men having any leadership role in any capacity in the GFS World Council structure.

The Girls' Friendly Society in the USA is an organisation just for girls and women. Boys and men are not

permitted to join the organisation under our by-laws.

In the United States we strongly believe that it changes the whole dynamic of the organisation allowing men to hold a leadership role within the GFS World structure.

For males to represent the views of girls and women, which our organisation has stood for from the beginning. One hundred and thirty-seven years and still very relevant today. Women need a place where they can nurture relationships in a way that feels comfortable.

In many countries, women are subservient to men and we certainly do not want to see these women having their voices taken away. These women should be empowered to speak for themselves representing the female majority in their group. It gives us a platform to work as women, for women and with women. We fear if males in some cultures begin taking leadership roles away from the women, we will certainly lose our autonomy and lessen our role as women, which the organisation for girls was established so long ago.

It gives us a platform where we can be ourselves and openly share our feelings with one another. GFS has taught young girls and women to be leaders, to be strong, and rely on themselves for empowerment. The inclusion of boys and men would destroy their status and diminish their importance in many of our member countries. GFS would lose its purpose to promote the status on women in the world. The reason that GFS was started will be lost.

Submitted on behalf of GFS in the United States of America. Delores M. Alleyne GFS/USA President.

**MINUTES OF THE 22ND WORLD COUNCIL OF GIRLS FRIENDLY SOCIETY
HELD IN PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

11-21 JULY 2017

The theme of the Council was “Serving Through GFS”.

The World Team were:

COUNTRY	POSITION	NAME
Australia	World President	Canon Val Gribble
Australia	World Vice-President	Ms Kate Brewer
Papua New Guinea	World Chaplain	The Revd Fr Isaiah Masida
Australia	Assistant World Chaplain	The Revd Canon Cheryl Selvage
Australia	World Secretary	Mrs Tania Brown
Australia	World Treasurer	Mrs Ros Lumsden
Australia	World Youth Officer	Mrs Tegan Gillie
Australia	World Project Officer	Mrs Julie Smith
Australia	World Project Officer	Mrs Christine Loos

The following were the delegates to World Council:

COUNTRY	SENIOR DELEGATE	JUNIOR DELEGATE
Australia	Mrs Gail Orchard	Ms Abuok Majuk
Cameroon	Mrs Estelle Dibo Elango	
England	Mrs Margaret Winks	Ms Jade Clarke
Ghana	Mrs Christine Adjei	

Honduras	The Revd Canon Connie Sanchez (present from 16/7/17)	
Ireland	Mrs Sylvia Quinn	Ms Tamara Mackenzie
Japan	Ms Ayumi Ogagaki	Ms Mayu Murata
Kenya	Ms Veronica Mutua	Ms Winnie Wichjira
Korea	Ms Maria Won	Ms Heather Loh
Melanesia	Mrs Betty Kesaka	Ms Maedy Hauritiasi
Mozambique	Ms Veronica Pombe	
New Zealand	Mrs Janet Waite	
Papua New Guinea	Mrs Mary Bagu	
Rwanda	The Revd Winnie Agaba	
Sierra Leone	Mrs Hannah Broderick	
South Africa	Mrs Bekiwe Gijana	Ms Tecla Mitikiti
Sri Lanka	Mrs Jeanne Withanage	Ms Michelle Mervyn
Wales	Mrs Catriona Charlesworth	Ms Katherine Charlesworth
USA	Ms Lois Frankforter	Ms Juanita Miller
Zambia	Ms Thelma Lumbeta	Ms Mandy Malambo

There were 180 observers at World Council and who are listed in the documents attached to these minutes and held in a separate file. There were 13 ordained members present at the council of which 10 were females.

The following were refused visas to attend World Council or approved too late for travel: Ghana:

Junior Delegate

Sierra Leone: Junior Delegate

Liberia: Senior Delegate (approved too late for travel)

Junior Delegate and two observers

Rwanda: Junior Delegate

Uganda: Senior Delegate

12 July 2017 FIRST SESSION:

The World President open the session at 10.45pm.

1 Formal greetings were received from:

By Video link (Vice-President) The Revd Glenys Payne, Diocese of Mombasa, Archbishop of Brisbane, Bishop of Colombo, Archbishop of Church of Ireland, Presiding Bishop USA, Bishop of Freestate, Bishop of Wellington, World Wide President of MU, Bishop of Limbobo, Archbishop of Melanesia, Bishop of Seoul, Commissar of Newcastle, Bishop of Diocese of Pennsylvania, Bishop of Port Elizabeth, Bishop of Tokyo, Bishop of Osaka, Bishop of Cameroon, Mrs Adele Ray, Mrs Emila Corrigan, Mrs Joy Parkin (Past World Presidents). Mrs Carol Johnston, Gippsland, Australia, GFS Philippines, Ms Delores Alleyne USA, Mrs Georgiana Williams, Liberia, International Anglican Women's Network.

2 Admission of new countries:

Four new countries were eligible to be admitted but as the only delegate from Uganda was not able to be present because of the refusal of her visa it was decided that Uganda would be admitted although not present at Council. The Delegate for Mozambique was warmly welcomed to Council.

It was moved by **Wales**, seconded by **Kenya**

"That GFS, Mozambique, be admitted as a full voting member of the GFS World Council".

Carried.

It was moved by **USA**, seconded by **Melanesia**

"That GFS, Uganda, be admitted as a full voting member of the GFS World Council".

Carried

3 World President's Report:

Canon Val Gribble present her report which can be viewed in a separate file now passed to each World President.

4 Minutes of World Council meeting held in Wales in 2014.

An amendment to Session 8, second last paragraph to read "The Red Cheryl Selvage then led us in prayer to consider the future" was accepted by all delegates.

Australia moved **South Africa** seconded

“That the Minutes of the World Council of Wales, 2014, with the agreed change, be signed as a true record.”

Carried

5 Business Arising from the Minutes:

- a PNG Project Audit Certificate. Now received and placed in Financial records.
- b Emergency Fund. Has not been used in this term despite offers being made to Japan (southern earthquake) and Solomon Islands.
- c World Development Fund: (to be discussed with presentation of Financial Statement).
- d Accounts for World Dues: Have been sent to all countries. Countries not paid world dues - Ghana.
- e Solomon Islands Project: Report will be presented.
- f Manual for World President: Will be presented later in Agenda
- g Guidelines for use of Social Media and photos, etc. Not Prepared. Most countries have their own.
- h Youth Exchange Program: Discussed later in Agenda.

6 Country Reports:

The Reports of those countries not present were discussed and the President added any further information she had, either from communication or personal experience. The reports of Canada, Philippines, Uganda, Liberia were those countries not represented.

7 Pat Franklin Foundation:

Leanne Kapertanovski (Australia) presented information on the Pat Franklin Foundation which had given considerable financial support to a number of countries to attend World Council. A postcard was provided to each delegate explaining the reason for the fund and the way in which it can be accessed. It is not only for World Council, but applications can be made for any suitable GFS activities around the world. The fund has been considerably reduced after this council and needs to be built up again.

SESSION ONE CLOSED AT 11.55AM

13 July 2017 SECOND SESSION opened at 1.15pm.

The Revd Winnie Agaba (Rwanda) was warmly welcomed to Council, arriving late because her visa was approved too late for her to meet the scheduled flight.

8 Admission of new Countries

It was moved by **Australia**, seconded by **Zambia**

“That GFS, Rwanda be admitted as a full voting member of the GFS World Council”.

Carried

5 Reports:

Japan presented their country report and then presented the report of the **Japan World Project**. As there are ample funds for Japan to continue with this project

It was moved by **Sierra Leone**, seconded by **New Zealand**

“That GFS Japan be given approval to change their budget for completion of the project”.

Carried.

Reports were received from Australia, Cameroon and England

In relation to the report from England the World President advised that she had written to the Trustees of England and Wales to comment on their new web page and that the page information gives no indication that GFS is a Christian organisation. England advised that they had corrected this information. However other than in the history of the organisation the web page still does not indicate that GFS is a Christian organisation and this has caused concern amongst some GFS branch members and their leaders.

6 Financial Statement

It was moved by **Wales**, seconded by **Ireland**

“That the Financial Statement for GFS World Council – 2011-2014 be accepted”.

Carried

7 Further financial matters

a Opening of World Account in South Africa

It was moved by **Ireland**, seconded by **Melanesia**.

“That this World Council gives authority to GFS South Africa to open an account in South Africa named GFS World Council Account with the signatories to be two of either the World President, World Secretary **and** World Treasurer”. **Carried**

Later Amendment

With the agreement of Ireland and the USA an amended motion was put

“That this World Council gives authority to GFS (Girls Friendly Society) South Africa to open an account in South Africa named GFS World Account with the signatories to be the World President and either the World Secretary or the World Treasurer”. **Carried**

b Note to add to Financial Statement

It was moved by **Australia**, seconded by **New Zealand**

“That the following note be added to the Financial Statement from 2011-2014:

With the agreement of the then World Treasurer, GFS Australia was authorised to use the monies donated by Australian dioceses and individuals to the World Travel fund and held in their account to purchase air tickets for Melanesia, PNG, Philippines and Sri Lankan Senior Delegates to travel to the 2014 World Council. The total cost of these tickets was

\$AUD18534 and the remaining balance of \$AUD6667 was transferred to the current World Account (held in Australia) in February 2015. This agreement was made to save costs on exchange fees”.

Carried

c Unaudited Statement of Income and Expenditure – 2014-30/5/17

GFS Australia Ltd presented an unaudited statement for the above period to explain the current status of the world funds. The World President made the following observations:

- 1 Australia has contributed 74% of the total funds received in the above period (excluding the return of the Philippines Project money) and she was not able to comment as to whether GFS Australia could continue this level of funding.
- 2 The Travel Fund for grants to attend World Council were extremely low due to the increasing number of countries belonging to GFS World Council.
- 3 The only income for general funds was from the World Fee of one hundred English pounds each three years.

There was much discussion in country groups with many comments and suggestions put forward.

If there is no Travel Fund, few would be able to attend from developing countries.

Propose a World Project for building up Travel Fund.

Keep all finances in Australia to receive the best interest.

Open a World President's Travel Fund.

Limited grants to be made available for Travel Fun at discretion of World President.

Raise fees.

Every country (including Developing countries) to give monies to Travel fund each year.

Seek sponsors from link countries for travel.

Use World Day of Prayer funds for world funds, not just for World Project.

Add extra fee to World Council registrations.

Partner with other countries to collaborate on giving to world funds.

Excess monies after full subscription to World Project could be used for World Travel fund.

England committed to three fundraising events during the next three years for the Travel Fund and one for the World Project.

Korea committed \$US500 for the next three years.

No firm decisions were made but the incoming World President will consider these suggestions/comments and bring a new paper to the 2020 World Council.

d World Development Fund:

This fund had been set up in 2011 to provide monies for administration. As the General ledger is now stable there is no need for this fund.

It was moved by **New Zealand**, seconded by **Papua New Guinea**

“That the World Development fund be closed, all expenses for administration be included in the Budget for the new term and general funds be used for this term”.

Carried

As Sri Lanka had promised monies to this fund, they asked that their gift be now given to the World Travel Fund.

e Retaining of Philippines money in Australia:

GFS in the Philippines returned \$ADU39,756 in early 2015 which were monies received for a World Project in the early 1980s. They were unused as the leader of GFS in the Philippines and leader of the Project (to train GFS leaders in the Philippines) moved to another country. The monies had been carefully invested by GFS in the Philippines. They requested that the funds could be used for new countries or for special grants and have now asked that GFS

Australia send a team to the Philippines to train new leaders and to assist with the renewal of GFS in their country.

It was moved by **Ireland**, seconded by **Ghana**

“That in the light of the request of GFS in The Philippines for an Australian GFS team to travel to the Philippines to assist in re-establishing GFS and to train leaders, that the monies returned by The Philippines from their unused World Project funds be retained in investment in Australia as part of the World funds with regular reporting to the World President by the Vice-President on their use”.

This motion was not put to the vote and was replaced by the following motion.

It was moved by **USA**, seconded by **Wales**

“That

- 1 The monies returned by the GFS in the Philippines be retained and invested by GFS Australia as part of the world funds.
- 2 That the request of GFS Philippines for assistance in restructuring, expanding and strengthening GFS and training leaders be explored.
- 3 That the funds be held for the above purpose.
- 4 That if the GFS Philippines request is not feasible, then the funds be used for a similar purpose, is training GFS leaders in other countries.”

f Retaining Emergency Funds in Australia

Discussion was held on the benefits of retaining the Emergency Funds (currently \$AUD20,000) in Australia for a secure investment rate and for the ability to transfer monies quickly in the event of an Emergency. The World President noted that the current clauses in the Guidelines are restrictive for any host country to transfer monies quickly and a draft revision should be presented to the 2020 World Council.

It was moved by **USA**, seconded by **England**

“That the Emergency Funds remain in investment in Australia for the next three years (to attract the best interest rate and to be readily available) as part of the World funds with regular reporting to the World President by the Vice-President on the growth of the investment”. **Carried**

h World President’s Travel Fund

\$AUD10,000 has been allocated in the Budget yet to be presented. General discussion was that countries received a boost to receive a visit from the World President.

It was moved by **Sri Lanka**, seconded by **Ireland**

“That a fund be set up for the World President’s Travel”.

Carried

Session finished at 5.00pm

SATURDAY 15 July.

Session opened at 10.00am

Reports were received from Ghana, Ireland and Kenya

i Budget for 2014-2017

Draft budget for World Council 2017 to 2020

Income – World Dues x 18 countries @ £100 and World Dues x 4 countries @ £75 = £2100

(exchange rate as at 20.1.17) = R35,000

= \$US2500

= \$AUD3424

Expenses	\$AUD	Rand	\$US	£
Telephone and Data	1,000	10,250	750	610
Stationery, Postage	700	7,175	525	427
Promotional Brochures	1,000	10,250	750	610
	\$AUD11	Rand	\$US	£
World President's Travel	10,000	102,500	7,500	6,100
Web Maintenance	1,200	12,300	900	732
Appreciation gifts (during travel, etc)	700	7,175	525	427
Travel for Vice President to 2020 WC	1,700	17,425	1,275	1,037
Incidentals	700	7,175	525	427
	<u>17,000</u>	<u>174,250</u>	<u>12,750</u>	<u>10,370</u>

The Draft Budget was discussed. This was the first time a budget had been presented.

It was moved by **Australia**, seconded by **Wales**

“That the proposed budget for 2017 to 2020 as presented above be approved”.

South Africa then pledged £100 to the World Travel Fund.

Session closed at 12 Noon. SUNDAY

16TH July 2017

Session opened at 2pm.

The Revd Canon Connie Sanchez was warmly welcomed to World Council, having other commitments involving her Youth commitments in Honduras (at a Conference in the USA) and arriving late at Council.

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8 Admission of new Countries:

Motion:

Moved **USA**, seconded **South Africa**

“That GFS Honduras be admitted as a full voting member of GFS World Council”.

Reports were received from Korea, Melanesia and Solomon Island’s Project.

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In relation to the Solomon Island’s Project the monies continue to be invested and managed in Australia (as agreed at the 2014) World Council and the original project will be amended to meet current requirements.

9 Major Guideline Changes.

The draft changes to the current “Guidelines” had been circulated well before World Council to all GFS countries. The President worked through each change with an indication of YES/NO from delegates on the various suggested changes.

There was major discussion on changing the name from “Guidelines” to a stronger title. It is increasingly difficult for a host country to open a World Account as GFS World Council does not have a Constitution. Banking institutions are not willing to accept a document which is only a “Guideline”. The voting on changing the name to “Rules” was 8 YES and 8 NO with one abstention. The President voted YES with a casting vote. (It was realised later that a few countries were unsure of the discussion and were of the opinion that World Council was attempting to change the name of the organisation not the “Guidelines”, hence the close vote).

Draft document:

1.2 and 1.3 – Key functions expanded.

1.4 not changed – the roles have been explained in more detail. 1.5, para 4, remove “or another World Team Role”.

Remove any place where the requirement for World Team members to be “female” has been mentioned twice.

2, not changed but with different headings

3.2 Signatories to be the World President and either the World Secretary or the World Treasurer.

3.4 Change the name “World dues” to “Country membership fees”.

3.5 New clause regarding financial reporting to countries

3.8 World Council costs – removed dot point 3.8.

8 World Travel Fund, Further work was done on this clause and presented later in Council.

Motion:

Moved **Cameroon**, seconded **Papua New Guinea**

“That the current Guidelines of the Girls Friendly Society (GFS) for World Council and World Council meetings be changed to Girls’ Friendly Society (GFS) Rules for the management of World Council and GFS World Council meetings”.

Carried

The session closed at 5.45pm

MONDAY 17 July 2017

Session opened at 1.30pm

Reports were received from Mozambique, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda

10 Logo Competition

The President explained that the world logo was last used in 2005 by GFS USA at the World Council and is now considered an outdated logo. A competition was held in 2015 for a new design. Two entries were received. Not enough countries voted, and the matter was brought to this council. Delegates were advised that they were to vote Yes or No as to whether we needed a new logo and then if the vote was YES to decide on either of the two entries.

Voting: The voting was 18 YES and 1 NO to the need for a new logo
The design below was chosen as the majority decision by delegates.



Motion:

Moved **Australia**, seconded **Cameroon**

“That the Logo design chosen through a world-wide competition be adopted as the GFS World Logo and that Mrs Cyrilla Eastwood (Australia) the winner of the competition be asked to prepare a style guide to distribute through the World President to all countries.”

Carried

11 World Project Proposal – Sri Lanka – English for Employment Prospects (EEP)

Motion:

Moved **USA**, seconded **Zambia**

“That the World Project Proposal from Sri Lanka (English for Employment Prospects) be accepted as the GFS World Project from 2017-2020”

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12 Further motion re future World Project Proposals

Motion:

Moved **Australia**, seconded **New Zealand**

“That in the triennium commencing in 2020:

- 1 The GFS World Council changes to funding a World Project in each year of the next triennium, without a specific target for the project.
- 2 Each country would contribute to the project of each year with the contribution provided to that country at the completion of each 12-month period.

This motion was presented after discussion on the many small projects that could become World Projects, as country reports were presented.

A working party of Lois Frankforter (USA), June Hillier (Australia), Thembeke Pama (South Africa) were asked to consider the motion and to bring back further ideas.

Several suggestions were put forward:

- Create more detailed forms for the applications.

- Create a resource bank for people willing to work with other countries to draft proposals.
- Build in flexibility for the project.
- Place a cap on the fund once the amount is reached.
- Allow project applications between world councils.
- Create a PayPal type donation funding on website and the money linked directly to the country with the current project in place.

It was decided that the current information on World Projects in the World Council Rules remain and the next World President and her team put forward a revised application form during the current triennium building in some of the ideas put forward.

The motion was not **PUT**.

13 140th Celebrations of GFS in Diocese of Los Angeles

Margaret Nolde (USA) thanked everyone for their greetings for this important anniversary and presented a copy of the Celebration Booklet to World Council.

14 Gender Violence Discussion

Following a Panel Discussion and Workshop on this issue, presented by Anglicare WA, the following motion was discussed:

Motion:

Moved **USA**, seconded **England**

“That the members of GFS World Council adopt a campaign to address issues of gender violence facing women and girls around the world. The campaign would endeavour to incorporate three broad initiatives:

- 1 Continuing Education – identify organisations that are working in these areas that GFS members could contact for more information and for programs in which to become involved.
- 2 Raise Awareness – pledge to participate in or hold events, for example hosting a guest speaker, participate as “GFS” in another organisation’s event, or hold fundraising campaigns to contribute to organisations working in these areas.
- 3 Publicity – appoint a GFS World Social Justice Coordinator who would coordinate initiatives, provide ongoing articles and emails on the topics, and share information on the GFS events held.

Each member country commits to preparing a plan to follow through on the three broad initiatives within their own organisation and to inform the World Social Justice Coordinator of the plan”.

Carried

Motion:

Moved **Ghana**, seconded **Zambia**

“That GFS World Council appoints Lois Frankforter (USA) and The Revd Rowena Kemp (USA) as World Social Justice Coordinators for the period of 2017 to 2020”.

Carried

Discussion was held on other proposals which were put forward in the original motion from the USA. Some of these proposals are not always suitable for a number of countries. The incoming World President is, within three months of her term, to follow up on how the following points would be addressed.

Specifically, members of GFS World pledge to participate in the following:

A Education: Share the Gender Violence presentation and information learned during the panel discussion with their members at their next diocesan, regional or national meetings. B Raise

Awareness: Create a Prayer Booklet directed at addressing Gender Violence issues to be shared during the International 16 days of Activism Against Violence and Abuse in the latter part of November and the first week of December. Each member country will submit a prayer to be shared with all GFS members worldwide and shared via social media during each of the 16 days.

Make the 25th day of every month "Orange Day", a day to raise awareness of and if possible, to take action to end violence against girls and women. Wear "Orange" to symbolise that we stand together in preventing and ending violence against girls and women, not only once a year on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, November 25th, but every month of the year.

Light a candle three times a year and pray:

Loving Lord, we light this candle to remember all who are affected by gender-based violence, and as a symbol of hope as we pray for a world which is free from all forms of violence and abuse.

- In September, light a blue candle as we celebrate GFS World Day of Prayer to represent our faith.
- In Advent, light a purple candle for hope,
- In Pentecost, light a red candle to symbolize strength.

C Publicity: Select at least one member from each member country to report to the GFS World Social Justice Coordinators.

The session closed at 5.30pm

TUESDAY 18th JULY

Session opened at 9.00am

15 Youth Exchange Program:

The World Youth Officer, Mrs Tegan Gillie (Australia) introduced the draft program. Fund of £2500 has been given by GFS England many years ago for a suitable memorial to Canon Joy Epton MBE, a past World President. It is suggested that the Youth Exchange Program be named the Joy Exchange. There was much discussion on the draft and a further document was to be presented the next day. The general opinion was that there should be a pilot program in the coming term.

The revised draft program was presented later at Council and the document is attached to these minutes. It was agreed that there was enough information in this document to implement a Pilot Program. GFS Australia is to complete the required forms for the Exchange.

16 Application to host World Council 2020-2023

Motion:

Moved **USA**, seconded **Wales**

"That the Application from the USA to host GFS World Council 2020-2023 be accepted".

17 150th Celebrations of commencement of GFS

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Motion:

Moved **South Africa**

“That this Council considers appropriate 150th celebrations for the commencement of GFS and requests that England considers being host country from 2023-2026 with the World Council being held in England in 2025”.

England had advised the World President that they agreed in principal but would prefer to reconsider it at the 2020 World Council.

As there was no Secunder for the motion, the motion **LAPSED**.

The session closed at 10.45am

WEDNESDAY 19TH JULY

Session opened at 9.00am

Reports were received from Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, USA, Wales and Zambia, Honduras

18 Link Countries:

Motion:

Moved **Australia**, seconded by **Papua New Guinea**

“That the following countries be linked for the next three years

Australia	-	Papua New Guinea	-	Melanesia	-	New Zealand
South Africa	-	Mozambique	-	Lesotho	-	Zambia Japan
	-	Korea	-	Sri Lanka	-	Philippines
Rwanda	-	Uganda	-	Kenya		
Wales	-	England	-	Ireland	-	Ghana
USA	-	Canada	-	Honduras	-	Dominican Republic
Cameroon	-	Sierra Leone	-	Liberia”		

Carried

Puerto Rico, Swaziland and Tanzania to be included when they make a request for membership of World Council. It was noted that there are no criteria to linking countries.

19 How to Grow GFS

There was a short discussion on how to grow GFS around the world with emphasis on countries contacting neighbouring countries. The USA through their episcopal link with Latin America countries and South Africa with their episcopal link to a number of African countries have been able to expand GFS through promotion at gatherings of provinces. Countries are encouraged to look at neighbouring countries where GFS is not active, with a commitment to promotion.

20 Country Reports:

Motion:

Moved **Japan**, seconded **Cameroon**

“That the reports as presented at this Council be accepted”

21 Motion:

Moved **Honduras**, seconded **England**

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“That the amendments to the Draft Rules for GFS World Council and World Council meetings as presented at this Council be approved as the Official Rules of GFS World Council”.

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arried The new document “Girls’ Friendly Society (GFS) Rules for the management of World Council and GFS World Council meetings” is attached to these Minutes.

22 Presentation of Minute Book

The World President presented Mrs Thembeke Pama (as the incoming World President) with the Minute Book. This book contains the minutes of every World Council meeting since its inception in 1955.

23 Closure of World Council Meeting

The World President closed the Business sessions at 3.20pm and declared the World Council business finalised.

Mrs Estelle Elango Dibo (Cameroon) thanked the World President and her team for the work that had been achieved during the Business sessions. This was carried with acclamation.

24 Commissioning of new World Team

At the Closing Service the following World Team members were commissioned. World President: Mrs Thembeke Pama (South Africa)
World Vice-President: Canon Val Gribble (Australia) World Secretary: Ms Pumeza Magona (South Africa) World Organiser: Ms Bekiwe Gijana (South Africa) World Treasurer: Ms Nokwanda Benya (South Africa) World Youth Officer: Ms Tecla Matitiki (South Africa)

25 New World Theme:

Ms Pama announced her theme at the Final Dinner.

“Growing GFS together in prayer and action”

and introduced her logo



MINUTES OF THE 23rd WORLD COUNCIL OF GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY
Held Virtually – Hosted from South Africa
July 16-18, 2021

The theme of the Council was “Growing GFS Together in Prayer and Action”

The World Executive was:

POSITION	NAME	COUNTRY
World President	Thembeke Pama	South Africa
World Vice-President	Canon Val Gribble	Australia
World Secretary	Pumeza Magona (Not attended)	South Africa
World Treasurer	Nokwanda Benya	South Africa
World Council	Bekiwe Gijana	South Africa
Acting Secretary	Lois Frankforter	USA

For the Countries and delegates in attendance – see *Attachment #1: List of Countries and Delegates*.

FIRST SESSION – July 16, 2021:

1. OPENING ANTHEM, PRAYER AND HYMN

The meeting opened at 11:57 am with a video of the National Anthem of the Republic of South Africa and hymn, *Ndikhokhele Bawo*, sung Mzansi Youth Choir and produced by the Green Anglicans (The Anglican Church of Southern Africa Environmental Network). This was followed by an opening prayer by The Most Revd. Samuel Inosa (Archbishop of South Sudan). Remembrance of GFS members and all who succumbed to COVID 19 and a moment of silence was given. Princess Ntando Moyo lead all in the GFS World Prayer.

2. ROLL CALL AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The World President welcomed all the newly formed GFS countries and all who were in attendance. She introduced the program – *See Attachment #2: Business Agenda*.

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 2017 WORLD COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of World Council 2017 were presented – *See Attachment #3: Minutes of the 22nd World Council of Girls Friendly Society, Held in Perth, Western Australia, 11-21 July 2017*.

An amendment to page 11, after section #13 to read:

“That the minutes be amended to add ‘Section 13a: GFS World members acknowledge that GFS Ireland celebrated their 140th year anniversary in 2017.’”

Motion to accept minutes as amended, Moved Australia, seconded USA.

CARRIED

4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 13, 2021, GFS WORLD ON-LINE MEETING

Motion to accept minutes, Moved Liberia, seconded Cameroon

CARRIED

5. ADMISSION OF NEW COUNTRIES:

Seven countries were eligible to be admitted but only Tanzania did not submit a video report in support of their admission.

It was moved by Australia, seconded by Kenya:

“ That the GFS of Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo, Malawi, Eswatini (formerly known as Swaziland), South Sudan, and Zimbabwe, be admitted as full members of the GFS World Council.”

CARRIED

***Entertainment Break – videos provided by GFS Korea:

6. WORLD PRESIDENT REPORT:

Thembeke Pama presented her report – See *Attachment #4: World President Report by Thembeke Pama*. Ms. Pama spoke of the three programs initiated during her term aimed to address: climate change; greening projects and gardens for food security; to end gender-based violence and Spiritual growth

It was moved by USA and seconded by New Zealand:

“That thanks be expressed to Thembeke Pama for her extraordinary, amazing leadership both before and through the pandemic.”

CARRIED

7. FINANCIAL REPORTS BY SOUTH AFRICA AND AUSTRALIA:

GFS World Treasurer Nokwanda Benya explained that following the 2017 World Councils some funds were transferred to GFS World in South Africa and others were continued to be held in Australia. Ms. Benya presented the financial report of the funds World Executive in South Africa – See *Attachment #5: World Council GFS Financial Statements Sept 2017-Jan 2021*. Ms. Benya explained the expenses of the World President Travel fund. A question was raised regarding funds received from Korea as to whether the funds were all donations to the world project or the world president travel fund. Clarification will be made later in the Council. Acknowledgement was made to those countries that made donations to the World President Travel fund. Ms. Pama explained that all world project funds were sent directly to the country where the project was (Sri Lanka) to avoid incurring fees from the double transfer.

Bishop Brighton (Malawi) expressed his thanks for the presentation and detailed report, to all who donated, and to the World Executive for their prudent stewardship. GFS World Vice President Canon Val Gribble presented the audited GFS World Council Financial Statement 2015-2017. – See *Attachment # 6: GFS World Council Financial Statement 2015-2017*. Canon Gribble also presented an unaudited statement of income and expenditure report of the funds held by GFS Australia for the World Emergency Fund, Philippines Money, Bank fees/Web Fees, World Travel Fund and Joy Epton Program as of January 31, 2021 – See *Attachment #7 GFS World Monies held by GFS Australia as at 31.1.2021*.

It was moved by Australia, and second by USA;

“That the financial reports be accepted as presented.”

CARRIED

Rev Siyabulela Tshatshu (Port Elizabeth, South Africa) applauded the leadership and financial stewardship of the world finances by the GFS World Executive in South Africa.

8. 2017-2020 World Project Report

GFS National President of GFS Sri Lanka Mrs. Jean Withanage presented a slide show and report of the world project – See *Attachment #8: World Project 2017-2020 Report and slideshow*. Mrs. Withanage explained the project had two goals: to teach English to assist young women in gaining employment; and to expand GFS in Sri Lanka. GFS Sri Lanka is determined to expand continue the project. The American College is willing to continue

the language courses in cooperation with GFS. Also during the project GFS Sri Lanka has welcomed 10 new branches. The project has changed the life of GFS Sri Lanka dramatically. It was moved by South Sudan, seconded by Australia:

“ That GFS Sri Lanka be congratulated on the good work that they are doing and the success of the project.”

CARRIED

9. Closing Prayer

The Right Revd Brighton Vitta Malasa (Malawi) provided a closing prayer.

SECOND SESSION – July 17, 2021:

10. Welcome, Hymn. Opening Prayer, Letters of Greeting from Bishops, and Recap of Yesterday’s Agenda

The World President welcomed everyone to the second day of the on-line World Council.

A hymn video was shared. Arch Bishop Samuel Peni (South Sudan) led the opening prayer. A video of the hymn, *I the Lord of Sea and Sky*, produced by Green Anglicans, was shared. Ms. Pama also shared an opening prayer.

Letters of greeting and support were shared by GFS Liberia from the Archbishop [Jonathan Bau-Bau Bonaparte Hart](#), the Episcopal Church of Liberia Office of the Presiding Bishop and Liberia, and by GFSUSA from the Most Revd Michael B. Curry the Presiding Bishop and Primate of the Episcopal Church. See [Attachment # a & b – Letters of Greeting](#)

GFSUSA National President Lois Frankforter presented a recap of the previous day’s agenda.

11. World Project: Trial of Short Term and Long Term Projects

At the last World Council there was a discussion of changing the World Rules of Management for World Council and World Council Meetings to provide for the adoption of both a short term (one year) and long term (three year) world project.

It was moved by GFS Australia, seconded South Africa:

“That the trial of a short-term world project application (as considered at the 2017 World Council and trialled in the following term) be authorized for use for any applications for the 2021-2023 World Council.

And that the World Executive work on revising the World Project clauses in the GFS World Council Rules of Management and present them to the 2023 World Council for consideration.”

CARRIED

12. World Project 2020-2023 Proposal #1 by GFS Cameroon

The National President of GFS Cameroon, Mrs. Dibo Elango Estelle Bedie presented the proposal titled “GFS Skills Acquisition for the Disadvantaged Young Women” – See *Attachment #9- GFS Cameroon World Project Application*. Mrs. Dibo explained that currently the crisis in her country has resulted in an increase in destitute girls. The project is designed to help 50 girls in the first year and 50 girls in the second year by providing training in a marketable and entrepreneurial skills (sewing and owning their own business) to improve their livelihood along with moral-faith based and health education (HIV, unwanted pregnancy and sexual activity). The project will also be a platform to increase GFS membership and make GFS more well known in the country. The program provides for hiring administrative personnel (secretary, cashier & coordinator) who will be GFS leaders,

trainers some of who will be GFS leaders and a security guard who will not be a GFS member. The participants will pay a minimal fee (approximate \$20.00 USD) to foster a commitment from the girls and incentivize the parents and sponsors. GFS Cameroon plans to monitor the progress, stay in close contact and fully engage with the graduates of the program.

The Senior Delegate of GFS Cameroon, Victoria Chianumba, also expressed her gratitude for the privilege of presenting this proposal and expressed the impact this program will have on changing the live of the young women they serve.

13. World Project Proposal 2020-2023 Proposal #2 by GFS Papua New Guinea

A short term world project proposal was submitted by GFS Papua New Guinea titled “GFS Feeding and Life Skills Program, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea” – See *Attachment #10 – GFS PNG Port Moresby World Project Application*. The Senior Delegate from GFS PNG, Girika Sanata, had difficulty connecting so, It was moved by Ireland, seconded by New Zealand:

“That Canon Val Gribble be permitted to introduce the short-term world project proposal.”

CARRIED

Canon Gribble explained that she and Rev. Cheryl Savage are GFS Australia’s consultants to GFS PNG. The proposal is for a one-year project with a proposed budget of \$3,500.00 USD. In response to the plight of children living on the streets, the young males of the new GFS branch in Port Moresby decided to begin a ministry to bring food and clothing to the children and talking to them about the gospel. They started with financial support from GFS Australia. From this they have grown a reasonably sized male membership of GFS, enrolling 30 young men in the program in the last two years. The feeding ministry program also provides opportunities for the young men, many of whom are unemployed, to grow and develop skills to be employed along with developing a greater understanding of the needs of the children. They have no funds and are now submitting this application to continue the feeding ministry, and to bring in the participation of the local parishes. The proposal also includes funding to set up a legal foundation because the government will not assist until there is a legal organization that they can liaise with. The project would also aid in the growth of GFS in ports Moresby and greater recognition by the church. Girika Santana is the leader of GFS in Port Moresby and her son, Collins Santana, is running the feeding ministry program. GFS in Ports Moresby began as a woman and girls’ group, and then Collins Santana took up the issue of the children and involved the men. The young men are working on the feeding program and taking the food into the city. It is too dangerous for the young girls of GFS to go to these areas. The girls are still part of the group and help prepare the food. Part of the project is to work with and build up young women and girls as second-class citizens in PNG society.

Before the discussion ended, Ms. Santana was able to connect and shared many of the same points above. She further explained her son Collins Santana is the Treasurer. They are hoping to establish a GBFS foundation to roll out to other provinces and establish branches in all their parishes. There are plans to engage professionals who can assist with educational and job skill training certificates, to arrange a camp or open forum to address all gender and related problems, and establish a working committee to work alongside GBFS Foundation because it is not safe for young women to move around so they need assistance of male counter parts.

*** Break: Entertainment – videos were played

14. COUNTRY REPORTS

Country video reports were presented by: Angola, Cameroon, DRC, Ireland, Mozambique, Rwanda, Sierra Leon, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Eswatini (formerly known as Swaziland), USA, Zambia and Korea – See *Attachment #11 – disc of Country Video Reports*.

Live reports were presented by New Zealand and Malawi.

Written reports were also submitted by all countries and have been combined for distribution. – See *Attachment #12 – written Country Reports*.

It was clarified the GFS PNG does not have a national president. There is GFS in two dioceses in PNG. Girika Sanata is the President of the GFS in the diocese of Port Moresby and the senior delegate from PNG.

***Break: Entertainment – videos were played

14. Closing Prayer

The Right Revd Mwale Subi Bertin provided a closing prayer.

THIRD SESSION – July 18, 2021:

15. Welcome, Opening Prayer, and Recap of Yesterday's Agenda

The World President welcomed everyone to the third day of the on-line World Council.

An opening prayer was provided by The Very Revd Ms. Thandeka Vikilahle (South Africa)

Ms. Pama advised that it was Nelson Mandela's birthday and wished a happy birthday to Madiba.

GFS Sri Lanka National President Jeanne Withanage presented a recap of the previous day's agenda.

16. Country Reports

Country video reports were presented by: Kenya, Zimbabwe, Liberia, Uganda and Malawi - See *Attachment #11 – disc of Country Video Reports*.

17. Presentation of New Budget (2021-2023)

GFS World Vice President presented the proposed budget for GFS World for 2021-2023. A discussion was held about the timing and method of the payment of world fees, prompted by the World Treasurer comment regarding the need invoice countries earlier for their world fees so the financial support is received earlier and highlighted that one never knows when the fees will be paid. Ms. Pama advised countries which have bank challenges in sending money to use Western Union to send funds to GFS World in South Africa and indicated that she may organize another meeting to discuss the issues of fees and payment. There was also a discussion of fundraising in general and ways to raise funds for the world project.

It was moved by Australia, seconded by New Zealand:

“That the proposed budget for 2021-2023 be accepted as presented.”

CARRIED

18. Key Note Address: “The Moral Vision of Nelson Mandela - The World Responds”

Former World President Nobantu Makunga (South Africa) introduced the keynote speaker, The Revd Canon Dr. Mongezi Guma— See *Attachment #13 - “The Moral Vision of Nelson Mandela - The World Responds”* by The Revd Canon Dr. Mongezi Guma.

19. Curbing of Climate Change – speaker and panel discussion

The Revd. Canon Dr. Rachel Mash, the Environmental Coordinator at Anglican Church of Southern Africa, presented climate change – its impact on Africa and young women and the need to curb climate change, and shared a power point presentation. *Attachment #14 – Climate change presentation by The Revd. Canon Dr. Rachel Mash.*

Then video reports were presented by three GFS representatives. Alison Bailey, Junior Delegate of GFS Ireland spoke on their climate action plan which included the development of a new badge with project ideas such as wildflower areas and gardens at their local churches and upcycling/recycling projects and crafts. The National President senior delegate of Kenya presented and identified their priorities for addressing natural disaster responses, food and nutrition insecurity, water and blue economy and waste management in settlements. GFS young leader Princess Montsoe Packies of South Africa spoke on cleaning the environment and using greening projects (planting and gardening ministries) and partnering with Green Anglicans. She shared plans to expand the greening projects to include economic development. See –*Attachment #15: video presentations on climate change by GFS representatives.*

20. World Project Selection

a. GFS PNG World Project Proposal – Questions and Discussion

As the presentation of PNG Project was presented by 2 countries Australia and PNG because PNG leader experiencing challenges of network, the chairperson reopens the floor for questions and discussion immediately the PNG leader was able to connect and that gave the delegates a platform to ask questions that are linked to Rules of the Council management, in connection to the award of the GFS World Project. One of the GFS USA delegate question was “Does the PNG World Project comply with the GFS World Rules of Management procedures which require that the proposal be submitted by a GFS applying country, the form be signed by the country GFS President and must include a letter of support from the responsible Bishop/Archbishop of the country making the submission”. – See *Attachment #16 – PNG World Project Proposal – Question Submitted by GFSUSA.* After the questions The World Project proposal was withdrawn by PNG GFS delegate.

b. GFS Cameroon World Project Proposal

It was moved by GFS Cameroon supported by South Africa, seconded by Ireland:

“That the proposal submitted by GFS Cameroon be accepted as the World Project for 2021-2023.”

CARRIED

21. World Program Themes for 2021-2023

Ms. Pama shared that three world program themes will continue for the next three years:

- Support of Orange Day to end gender based violence.
- Curbing Climate Change
- Spiritual Growth through worship and other means

22. Introduction of the World Executive for 2021-2023

The Worldwide President T Pama expanded her Executive team because her World secretary new employment to a more demanding Government office, added USA National President who have been assisting her during the World Secretary in availability. She introduced the World Executive team for 2021-2023 who she will work with in her new term, which will be followed by World Council 2026 in Sri Lanka and World Council 2029 in USA.

POSITION	NAME	COUNTRY
World President	Thembeke Pama	South Africa
World Vice-President	Canon Val Gribble	Australia
World Secretary	Pumeza Magona	South Africa
World Vice Secretary	Lois Frankforter	USA
World Treasurer	Nokwanda Benya	South Africa
World Organiser	Bekiwe Gijana	South Africa
Incoming World President	Jeanne Withanage	Sri Lanka

23. Clarification of Financial Report

Ms. Benya advised that she received clarification from GFS Korea that the funds referred to in her earlier financial report were for the World President travel fund, not the World Project.

24. Vote of Thanks

Ms. Pama expressed a vote of thanks to all and her intention that going forward World Councils will be a hybrid format of both in person and online so that more people will be able to participate. Ms. Frankforter expressed her thanks to Madam President Thembeke Pama for all her hard work from 2017 to the present and congratulations to her and the entire world team for a very successful first on-line world council. Ms. Withanage expressed her thanks to Madame Thembeke Pama for the smooth running of World Council and managing the technology of the on-line event.

GFS Melanesia, who were gathered together for World Council, expressed their thanks and congratulations to Madam President Thembeke Pama and the Vice President Canon Val Gribble and all the members of the Executive on a well-managed team from 2017 to date and for a job well done. They also expressed their thanks to GFS Australia for the support they have given from 2017 to date with the challenges and difficulties of the pandemic. They shared that they have gone through with plans and activities despite the pandemic. They thanked Ms. Pama for her continuing support.

25. Greetings, Closing Remarks and Closing Prayer

The Provincial Youth Liaison Bishop, The Right Revd. Dintoe Stephen Letloanyane (Anglican Church of Southern Africa) expressed his greetings, shared his thoughts on COVID – Christ Offers Victory in Desperation, Disease, Death, and provided a closing prayer.

The World President closed the World Council 2021 at 5:00pm.