

Dawn Lillian Ferguson OAM

(nee Proctor)

1926 –2024

Dawn Ferguson was a member of GFS for 64 years.



Dawn was born in Manly and the family moved to Roseville but during the early war years she lived with her mother and sister at her Uncle and Aunt's place in Grenfell. At 18 years of age, she commenced nursing training at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital. She married Doug, a radiologist she met at the hospital, in 1949 and they moved to Sutherland. Dawn raised a family of 4 and one foster child. In 1965 the family moved to Cheltenham. Her volunteer work included supporting Beecroft Public School, Cheltenham Girls High School and Beecroft Brownies and she started the Girl's Friendly Society in St John's Church Beecroft. She was, up until her death, a current member of the GFS Sydney Board. She is a life member of the Linnet Girls' Choir and she has been awarded an OAM in 1998 for services to GFS and the Linnet Girls' Choir. She was the District

Leader of Anglicare Disaster and Recovery for the Hornsby-Ryde area and received the Centenary Medal in 2000 for this work. Dawn was chosen to run with the 2000 Olympic Flame in Pennant Hills and greatly enjoyed being a volunteer for the archery at the Paralympics in 2000. More recently she was made a "Beecroft Rotary Living Treasure" in 2020.

Dawn and GFS

When Dawn was living in Sutherland, her oldest daughter Rowena joined the Girls Friendly Society and not long after Dawn became involved as a leader. She has continued to be a member of GFS until her death - 64 years. Her long history of service includes starting the Beecroft Branch and running it as Leader-in-Charge for over 50 years.

Dawn has a real "way" with people and has given of herself in many areas. Her gentle manner quietly nurtures

leaders. This was evident during her role as Chairman of the North Western District and later to become the Northern District. In this role she enthused many to take up positions within the diocese.



In the early days she was a member of Gwen Strong's Day Camp committee and served on the Hostel committee. She has been involved in Sports Days, Camps, World Day of Prayer Services, the Hostel and the Cavalcade of Blue and White - our Centenary celebrations in 1979. In fact, almost anything GFS has done, Dawn has been there.

Her many talents have been used at all times to extend God's Kingdom and for the progress of GFS. Dawn has served on Executive initially as an Executive member and then later as Vice Chairman of Sydney Diocese. Here her wisdom and loving approach helped with the selection of a new Director who facilitated the growth of GFS in the '70s.

She has represented our society to other organisations such as from 1999 to 2010 as Diocesan Delegate to the National Council of Women and from 1995 to 2003 as GFS Sydney Representative on the NSW Council for Children's Film & Television.

Dawn's Christian witness has been an inspiration to us all and she continued to show us that with Our Lord Jesus Christ all things are possible, so we say God bless you.

May His richest blessings be upon you now
as you share eternal life with our Lord.



GFS Sydney members thank you for your faithful service with our respect and our love.