

17.1 UNITING CHURCH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MANDATE

17.1.1 The UC Historical Society is responsible:

- a. To assist the Synod in fulfilling its responsibilities to preserve archival and historic records.
- b. To promote the collection, preservation and exhibition of historical documents and records.
- c. To preserve and store adequately the artefacts and documents which are not required by the Synod to be lodged at the State Library of South Australia.
- d. To arouse interest in and to promote the study and discussion of the history of the Uniting Church particularly in South Australia and of the three churches existing prior to union.
- e. To publish historical articles, lectures, and other such materials conducive to preserving the historical record of the Church.
- f. To promote the interchange of historical information by lectures, forums, workshops, readings and discussion.
- g. To co-operate with other societies interested in South Australian history and/or the history of the Uniting Church and the bodies from which it was formed.
- h. To record the owner, so far as is practicable, of the copyright in all primary source material deposited with the Society.
- i. To do all such things as are conducive and incidental to the attainment of any, or all the above objects.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

17.1.2 Membership of the Society shall be open to persons, congregations and organisations agreeing with the objects of the Society and paying the prescribed subscription. The subscriptions for the various categories of membership shall be determined from time to time by the Council.

The following shall be the categories of membership:

- a. Life members.
- b. Ordinary members.
- c. Other members as the Society may from time to time determine.

MEETINGS

- 17.1.3
- a. The Annual General Meeting shall be held between the first day of January and the thirtieth day of June.
 - b. Special General Meetings may be called at any time by the Secretary of the Council within thirty (30) days of the receipt by the Secretary of a requisition signed by ten (10) members in which the objects of the meeting shall be specified.

COUNCIL

- 17.1.4
- At the Annual General Meeting a Council of at least ten (10) and up to a maximum of sixteen (16) members shall be elected by those present at the meeting. These elections shall also include the appointment of the following Officers:

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Editor

and who shall be the executive of the Council.

These appointments will become effective from the date of their endorsement by the Presbytery and Synod Standing Committee.

Appointments to the Society Council will be for a term of three (3) years with the opportunity for re-appointment for a further two terms. Appointments to the Executive of the Council shall be for a term of three years with the opportunity of re-election.

Unfilled and casual vacancies may be filled for the unexpired portion of the term by the Council.

The administration of the Society shall be in the hands of the Council.

Greater than 50% of the elected members at any Council meeting shall form a quorum.

PROPERTY

- 17.1.5 Property can be held by the Society as beneficial custodians on behalf of the Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust (S.A.). This custodial role includes responsibility for any necessary maintenance and upkeep of property. Property includes all historical records and memorabilia where custody has been assigned to the Society. Property may also include copyright where it is owned by the Church or has been assigned to the Society.

FINANCE

- 17.1.6
- a. All moneys received shall be deposited in the Society's bank account(s).
 - b. The Council shall have the power to invest any bequests, endowments, legacies and surplus income in securities authorised by the Trustees Act of South Australia
 - c. A statement of income and expenditure, and a balance sheet for the previous calendar year together with an auditor's report, shall be presented at the Annual General Meeting and a copy of such statements shall also be forwarded to the General Secretary of the Synod.
 - d. The income and property of the Society shall be applied solely to the promotion of the objects of the Society.

AMENDMENTS TO THE BY-LAWS

- 17.1.7
- a. The By-laws may be amended by a three-fifths majority of the votes cast by members present at an Annual General Meeting of the Historical Society and subject to the approval of the Synod or its Standing Committee.
 - b. Notice of a proposed amendment shall be sent to the Secretary twenty-eight (28) days prior to the Annual General Meeting, and all members shall be advised in writing of the proposed amendment at least fourteen (14) days prior to the date of the meeting.

REPORT TO SYNOD

- 17.1.8 A report of the activities of the Society shall be forwarded annually to the General Secretary of the Synod, to be presented to the Synod or its Standing Committee.