

# **Lion Theresa (Tess) Leedham – A Trailblazer, Leader, and Dedicated Servant of Lionism**

## **Nominated by the Lions Club of Donnybrook**

For nearly four decades, **Lion Theresa (Tess) Leedham** made a profound and lasting contribution to Lionism in Western Australia. Beginning her service in **1986** as a Charter Member of the Lions Club of Parkerville, Tess quickly became known for her leadership, courage, and unwavering commitment to serving others.

## **Club Leadership**

Tess contributed to several Lions clubs throughout her distinguished career, each time stepping into key leadership roles and helping to strengthen her club's service and community impact.

Her club service includes:

- **Lions Club of Parkerville – Charter Member (1986)**
- **Lions Club of South Perth – Secretary**, appointed at the request of DG John Roberts for what was then an all-male club
- **Lions Club of Bunbury Wollaston – Charter President (1992)**
- **Lions Club of Boyanup – President and Treasurer**
- **Lions Club of Donnybrook – Secretary (multiple terms)**

Her leadership was marked by trailblazing spirit, resilience, and a deep belief in the value of Lionism.

## **District Contributions**

At the District level, Tess held numerous vital positions, offering stability, experience, and dedication across a wide range of portfolios. Her roles included:

- **Cabinet Secretary**
- **Region Chairman**
- **Zone Chairman**
- **District Magazine Coordinator**
- **District Children of Courage Chairman**

- **Sergeant-at-Arms – 2003 Boyup Brook District Convention**

Tess's involvement extended beyond district administration into significant statewide responsibilities:

- **Director – WA Lions Miss Personality Committee**
- **WA Lions Coordinator – National Lions Christmas Cake Committee**
- **WA Trustee – Australian Lions Children's Mobility Foundation**
- **National Secretary – Australian Lions Children's Mobility Foundation**

Her influence was felt across Western Australia and nationally through her dedication to youth support, mobility services, and Lions awareness programs.

## Honours and Recognition

Tess's outstanding service was recognised with several prestigious Lions honours, including:

- **Melvin Jones Fellowship**
- **International President's Certificate of Appreciation**
- **Two Lions Clubs International Extension Awards**
- **Australian Lions Children's Mobility Foundation Gold Award**

These awards reflect a lifetime of meaningful service and exceptional leadership.

## Beyond Lions

Tess's commitment to service extended well beyond her work with Lions. She contributed significantly through community service, professional organisations, and leadership roles, including:

- **Citizen Military Forces (CMF) – 10 years**, achieving the rank of **Sergeant**
- **Business & Professional Women's Club – National Secretary**
- **Boyanup CWA – President, Secretary & Media Officer**
- **Member – Donnybrook CWA**

Her influence reached across multiple sectors, supporting women, families, youth, and community development.

**Lion Theresa (Tess) Leedham is remembered as a pioneering leader, an inspiring mentor, and a woman whose dedication to service touched communities across Western Australia. Her legacy in Lionism and in the wider community remains a shining example of commitment, leadership, and generosity.**