

**lions australia**  
we serve



# ADELAIDE

74TH MULTIPLE DISTRICT 201 CONVENTION  
**22-25 May 2026**

**INSPIRE SERVICE  
2026 & BEYOND**



# Welcome to Adelaide, South Australia, and to the Adelaide Showground, in the heart of the City of Unley.

This convention has been a long time coming. Following the cancellation of the 2020 Adelaide Convention, and in the midst of ongoing global challenges, it is especially meaningful to come together over the next four days. Your presence is sincerely appreciated, and I thank each of you for making the commitment to attend.

The organising committee has worked diligently to deliver a convention that is inspiring, informative, and engaging, one that we trust will reward your time and commitment. This year's program has been designed with multiple streams, providing you with the opportunity to tailor your experience through a diverse range of sessions. These include inspiring keynote presentations, practical and thought-provoking workshops, live demonstrations, and updates on our Global Causes and Foundations.

In addition, a dedicated program for Leos and young Lions ensures a meaningful and engaging experience for all participants. We are proud to offer a convention where there truly is something for everyone.

Throughout the convention, you will also have the opportunity to take part in hands-on service projects in the breakout area. You can contribute to initiatives such as creating comfort items for the Hear Me Roar! Project, assembling toys for Lions Assistance Dogs, or preparing care packs for those in need. We warmly encourage your participation in these meaningful activities.

From a social and fellowship perspective, the convention provides numerous opportunities to connect with fellow Lions and Leos. Join us in the breakout area following the final sessions on Friday and Saturday evenings before enjoying the many dining and entertainment experiences Adelaide has to offer. A highlight of the convention will be the dinner at Adelaide Oval—a truly memorable evening. With a relaxed, sporting theme, guests will enjoy entertainment from a big band spanning a variety of musical styles, along with a silent auction featuring unique and valuable items. We encourage you to participate and enjoy the evening.

Events of this scale are only possible through the generous support of our sponsors. I extend our sincere thanks to our principal partner, the Government of South Australia, as well as our corporate sponsors. We also gratefully acknowledge the support of the Lions Clubs of District 201C1, Richmond, City of Adelaide, Clare, and Onkaparinga, along with the many donors who have contributed to our silent auction.

Finally, I would like to extend my personal thanks to the members of the convention committee: Sandy, Petrea, Andrew, Annette, Zig, Lance, Julie, Anne-Marie, Rosemary, and Ray. Your dedication and hard work have made this event possible.

I encourage you to make the most of your time in Adelaide, participate fully, connect with fellow attendees, and return to your clubs inspired to continue your service in 2026 and beyond.

*PDG Rob Royal*  
Committee Chairperson



## *The Adelaide Convention Committee*

Chairperson	PDG Rob Royal
Secretary	Sandy Royal
Treasurer	PDG Rosemary Gale
PR & Marketing	Petrea Stacey
Program	Andrew Stacey
Committee Member	PDG Lance Leak OAM
Committee Member	Anne-Marie Fawcett
Committee Member	Julie Pickles
Committee Member	C1 DG Ray Najar
Committee Member	PDG Zig Osis
Committee Member (Leo Program)	Annette Slater

# INSPIRE SERVICE 2026 & BEYOND



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We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land, the Kaurna people. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging. We acknowledge the traditional owners of all the lands throughout Australia, where Lions serve.

**lions australia**  

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*we serve*





*Welcome from...*

**MD 201 COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON  
RICHARD WILLIAMS**

It is a pleasure to welcome you, on behalf of the Council of Governors, to the 74th Multiple District Convention. We hope that spending time with Lions, Leos and other guests will help you enjoy and learn from the convention, and give you ideas for your club's operation and service.

I hope the convention makes you proud of how much our Multiple District achieves, and your part in that achievement. Thank you for all you do to make a difference in your community, and enable your community to contribute to broader programmes. A community with a strong Lions Club has many advantages!

It is also an opportunity to put into practice International President AP Singh's theme 'Lead to Serve, Serve to Lead' by inspiring you to take additional projects to your community, and making them a success by capturing the heart, head and hands of prospective and current members.

In addition, you will have the opportunity to hear from and speak with people and find new ways of streamlining your club's communication, meetings and administration, making them more appealing to prospective and current members, and increasing the time we have to serve.

I acknowledge the efforts of the Convention Committee led by Rob Royal who have worked hard to make this event happen. There are so many moving parts that it can feel like getting an octopus into a string bag, but I believe they have put together an interesting mix of speakers, entertainment, activities and presentations for us all. I congratulate them too on trying some new ideas.

We wish you an educational, enjoyable and memorable convention!

For the MD 201 Council of Governors



*Welcome from...*

INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT A.P. SINGH



Lions International

300 W. 22nd Street  
Oak Brook, Illinois 60523-8842 USA  
+1-630-571-5466

Multiple District 201  
Australia

Dear Lions,

Congratulations on your 74th Annual Multiple District 201 Convention held May 22-25, 2026, in Adelaide, South Australia!

Your dedication and commitment make you outstanding examples of what it means to be Lions — to your family, your friends, your community and to Lions around the world. Your incredible accomplishments honor our association's motto, "We Serve," and show the people around you how you lead to serve and serve to lead.

Your contributions make a real difference in your district and throughout your communities. Your kindness is not only changing lives — it is inspiring others to do the same. It is through your commitment to service that you are ensuring that many more lives will be positively impacted in the years to come.

As we look to the future, I know you will continue to work together to deliver the life-changing service for which Lions and Leos are known. Thank you for reminding Lions that we must all lead to serve, and serve to lead.

Congratulations and best wishes.

Together we serve,

A.P. Singh  
International President

Serving a world in need.

[www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org)



*Welcome from...*



**MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER**

**LIONS AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CONVENTION 2026**

No matter how much things change around us, one enduring source of reassurance is that the spirit of the Lions remains the same.

When bushfires, floods or cyclones strike communities, Lions are there to help.

Where there's a need to find a cure or provide better care for the unwell, Lions rise to the call.

Wherever people are in difficulty across this wonderful country of ours, Lions are there to lend a hand. And every time you do, you embody the greatest aspects of the Australian character.

As Lions gather from around the country and beyond for this year's National Convention, the lasting admiration and gratitude of the Australian people goes with you.

Without the work you do, the time you give, and your endless generosity, energy and dedication, our communities would not be as strong as they are.

So thank you for all you do to make us a better nation.

I wish you all a very successful convention.

The Hon Anthony Albanese MP  
Prime Minister of Australia



*Welcome from...*

## INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR GRAEME WILSON

It is a pleasure to extend a warm welcome to all Lions, Leos, and guests attending the 74th Multiple District 201 Convention here in Adelaide. This annual gathering is a highlight of our Lions calendar — a time to reconnect, reflect, and reaffirm the values that unite us in service.

Our theme, Inspire Service – 2026 and Beyond, invites us to look forward with purpose. The needs of our communities continue to evolve, and Lions must evolve with them. Inspiration is not passive; it is a spark that moves us to action, strengthens our resolve, and reminds us that every act of service has the power to change a life.

Across Constitutional Area 7, I have seen remarkable dedication and creativity. Lions are leading projects that build resilience, support families, empower youth, and strengthen communities. This convention gives us the opportunity to share those successes, learn from one another, and explore new ways to serve with impact.

A convention is also a place to be energised. Over the coming days, you will listen to inspiring speakers, engage in meaningful discussions, and gain fresh perspectives that will help shape the future of service in your clubs and communities. I encourage you to take full advantage of these moments — they are catalysts for growth, innovation, and renewed commitment.

Adelaide, with its warmth and hospitality, provides a wonderful setting for this gathering. I hope you enjoy the fellowship, the learning, and the shared sense of purpose that defines who we are as Lions.

Thank you for the passion and dedication you bring to our organisation. May this convention strengthen your spirit, broaden your vision, and inspire service — in 2026 and well beyond.

Yours in service,

International Director Graeme Wilson



*Welcome from...*

HER EXCELLENCY  
THE HONOURABLE FRANCES ADAMSON AC,  
GOVERNOR OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

It is my great pleasure to welcome members of Lions Clubs, Leos, Cubs, and distinguished guests to South Australia for the Lions Australia MD 201 National Convention.

Lions are an integral part of communities across South Australia.

For decades, Lions volunteers have made a lasting contribution by supporting people in need, strengthening local connections, and delivering practical initiatives that improve the wellbeing of others.

Across towns, suburbs, and regional centres, their work is both significant and deeply valued.

Hosting the National Convention in South Australia is an opportunity to recognise the extraordinary work undertaken by Lions, and to acknowledge the dedication of volunteers whose commitment continues to make a difference to the lives of others.

With 54 Lions Clubs in C1 District, plus Leo and Cubs Clubs, South Australian Lions contribute to a rich and diverse program of service.

In collaboration with C2 District Clubs, Lions run the Skin Cancer Screening Program with the Lions Medical Research Foundation of South Australia, bringing free checks and referrals directly into communities, particularly in regional and rural areas, to improve early detection and save lives.

As I have witnessed during my travels around South Australia, members also support people experiencing hardship through food relief, meal services, and other practical assistance.

In regional South Australia, Lions respond quickly to community challenges, including drought, emergencies, and natural disasters, providing hands-on support where it is needed most.

South Australia is also home to the Lions Assistance Dogs training centre in Verdun, which trains and places highly skilled dogs to provide independence, confidence, and security to Australians living with disability or health challenges.

As an Honorary Member of the Lions Club of the City of Adelaide, I have been privileged to host the Lions Children of Courage Awards at Government House each year, celebrating young people whose strength and resilience reflect the impact of Lions' service in our communities.

The National Convention is an important part of sustaining this work.

It brings Lions together from across Australia to share ideas, learn from one another, celebrate achievements, and strengthen the movement so it can continue to meet the needs of communities locally, nationally, and internationally.

On behalf of the people of South Australia, I thank every Lion, Leo, and Cub for your dedication, leadership, and service.

Your work enriches communities across our State, Australia, and the world.

I wish you a rewarding and successful Convention.



*Welcome from...*

LORD MAYOR OF THE CITY OF ADELAIDE  
DR JANE LOMAX- SMITH

On behalf of the City of Adelaide, I am delighted to welcome Lions members and delegates to the Lions Australia National Convention.

Lions have a proud and enduring connection with Adelaide. The Club's first Charter Presentation Dinner in 1961, held at the Myer Apollo Restaurant in the former John Martin's Department Store, remains a wonderful reminder of how deeply Lions history is woven into the fabric of our city.

From those early beginnings in one of Adelaide's most iconic retail landmarks, Lions have gone on to make an extraordinary contribution to South Australia.

For decades, Lions clubs across our state have exemplified the spirit of service. Through tireless volunteering and generous fundraising, Lions have supported hospitals, community groups, emergency services, youth programs and countless local organisations.

Their impact is felt not just in dollars raised, but in lives improved, communities strengthened and people brought together in times of need.

Hosting the Lions Australia National Convention is a fitting opportunity to celebrate this legacy while also looking forward to the next chapter of service and leadership.

Adelaide is a city that values equity and community, values that align closely with the Lions' mission.

While you are here, I encourage you to explore all that our city has to offer.

Take time to visit the cultural institutions along North Terrace, experience the colour and flavour of the Adelaide Central Market, and enjoy our vibrant restaurants, bars and laneways.

I wish you a rewarding and memorable convention and thank you for the invaluable work you do for all of our communities across the nation.

Dr Jane Lomax-Smith  
Lord Mayor of the City of Adelaide



*Welcome from...*

**MAYOR OF THE CITY OF UNLEY  
MICHAEL HEWITSON AM**

The City of Unley is pleased to welcome the Lions Australia National Convention to our community this year. It is wonderful to have such a dedicated group of volunteers, leaders, and service-minded individuals gathering in our local area.

Lions are driven by the heart of volunteers, individuals motivated by compassion, empathy and a genuine desire to support their community. Their strength comes from this willingness to step in, lend a hand and respond to local needs with flexibility and care. I commend Lions. Their greatest strength is found in community-led initiatives guided by voluntary dedication, flexibility and the genuine, informal spirit that sets them apart amid the many formal organisations of today.

The organisation's legacy of innovation and humanitarian leadership is equally remarkable. Lions have supported major medical breakthroughs and improved lives around the world. Their commitment to future generations is also significant, with five million dollars invested each year into youth programs that inspire, empower, and equip emerging leaders.

From stepping up in times of natural disaster to championing environmental initiatives, promoting wellbeing, and offering care where it is needed most, Lions members embody the values of compassion, resilience, and community spirit. These values strongly align with those of the City of Unley, where we strive to enhance the lives of our community through connection, collaboration, and a shared commitment to creating a progressive, inclusive and thriving city. Together, we recognise the important role that volunteers and community organisations play in strengthening social wellbeing and building a sense of belonging.

The City of Unley acknowledges the dedication of all Lions, volunteers, and visitors taking part in this event. Their service and generosity continue to have a meaningful impact throughout Unley, South Australia, and the wider nation.

We extend our best wishes for an inspiring and successful event and look forward to the positive outcomes and strengthened connections it will bring.

Warm Regards,

Michael Hewitson AM  
Mayor, City of Unley



*Welcome from...*

## MD 201 C1 DISTRICT GOVERNOR RAY NAJAR

Fellow Lions it is with great joy and privilege to welcome you all to Adelaide and the Multiple District 201 Convention. This is a time for us to gather not only as Lions, but as friends, united by our common purpose and shared values.

In choosing the motto “Service above Self” I reflect the spirit of Lionism itself. Each of us brings our own gifts, experience and passion to the service we stand for. It is only when we come together - in fellowship, in friendship and in commitment - that we discover the true strength of our movement.

As we meet, learn and celebrate together, let us remember that we are “the Voice of Service”. Through our actions, our compassion, and our collective dedication, we give voice to those who often cannot speak for themselves. We champion causes that change lives and we extend the hand of friendship to communities near and far.

A very special thank you goes to our Convention Chairman PDG Rob Royal and the energetic and dedicated team who worked tirelessly to produce the program we have before us.

This convention is an opportunity not just to review our achievements, but to inspire one another, to share laughter and camaraderie and renew our dedication to service. May it be a time of reflection, encouragement and joy?

We encourage you to enjoy what our City and our State has to offer, so take a trip to any of the seven wine growing regions that collectively have hundreds of wineries to choose from. And then there are the famous sea food spots to relax and enjoy the cuisine on offer. If you love the outdoors there are many hiking trails and parks to explore the great outdoors.

Thank you for being part of this remarkable family of service. To quote our International President AP Singh we “Lead to Serve – Serve to Lead.” Together as friends and as Lions we continue to strengthen one another to ensure that the Voice of Service is heard loud and clear.

In friendship and Service

DG Ray Najjar



*Welcome from...*  
PAST INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT  
BARRY PALMER AO

Welcome fellow Lions to our 2026 MD Convention. What a great convention it is shaping up to be.

I always enjoy the opportunity to catch up with old friends and make some new ones. The organisers have an exciting program of speakers, for you to listen to and motions for you to debate.

Speakers will help you understand service and leadership. Sessions will give you new ideas to take back to your clubs.

We need to be looking beyond 2026 but we need your input into this fantastic organisation that we all love. That's why we are here. To make a difference in our community.

It does not matter if this is your first convention or one of many there will be something for you.

So let's all be inspired to grow Lions' in our clubs and serve our communities better.

Barry Palmer AO



**Lions International**



*Welcome from...*

MD 202 COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON  
PAM HARVEY

Greetings from MD 202 Council Chair

Greetings to all of you who have gathered for this Convention in Multiple District 201, in this beautiful city of Adelaide. Some have come from other districts, even other countries – special greetings to you. But a large proportion of the people at the convention live in this multiple district. I thank Council Chair Richard, and all of you, for the planning that has gone into this occasion, and for the warm welcome you have extended to all who have come to join you.

We know that gatherings such as this are great opportunities to mingle with so many others in the spirit of Lions, to enjoy being with people we already know and to meet people who are new to us. They are also valuable opportunities to learn from each other, to learn more about Lions, to learn about a wide range of ways of serving as Lions and to be energised by what we learn.

We come together with you to celebrate what has been done in the past year, and I know that in this multiple district there is a lot to celebrate – a lot to take pride in! We also look back with you over the more difficult times, and we know there have been some of those. But, with the strength and resilience of Lions, we can now look to the future with courage, purpose and new energy.

So congratulations on what has been achieved so far in this district under the leadership of Council Chair Richard, and the whole team, with best wishes for what you will achieve in the time ahead. And to everyone at the Convention, best wishes to you as you make the most of this wonderful opportunity offered to us in Multiple District 201.



*Welcome from...*

**MD 307 COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON  
YAHYA YASTPUTERA**

Greetings Lions and Leos of MD 201,

On behalf of the Lions of Multiple District 307 Indonesia, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to Council Chairperson and the Convention Committee for the kind invitation to attend your Annual Convention. It is truly an honour for us to be part of this important gathering of fellowship, leadership, and service.

Conventions are always special occasions. They provide us with opportunities to reconnect with fellow Lions, exchange ideas, celebrate achievements, and strengthen our shared commitment to humanitarian service. I am confident that this Convention will be both inspiring and memorable for all participants.

Over the years, the relationship between MD 201 and MD 307 within Constitutional Area 7 has continued to grow in friendship, understanding, and cooperation. We deeply value the strong partnership we share. Through collaboration, mutual support, and the exchange of experiences, we are able to serve our communities more effectively and elevate the impact of Lions across CA 7.

It is my sincere hope that the cooperation between MD 201 and MD 307 will continue to strengthen in the years ahead. By working closely together, sharing best practices, and supporting regional initiatives, we can contribute to making Constitutional Area 7 even stronger, more unified, and more impactful in our service to humanity.

Thank you once again for the honour of your invitation and warm hospitality. We truly appreciate the friendship we share.

Wishing you all a productive, successful, and inspiring Convention.

Yours in Service,

*Yahya Yastputera*

Council Chairperson

Multiple District 307 Indonesia



## *Message from...*

### MASTER OF CEREMONIES PDG MICK WAINWRIGHT

I have the privilege once again of being your Master of Ceremonies for this year's convention.

Last year's convention in Traralgon was a great success, and I thank everyone who attended and contributed to making it such a memorable event. With your support, I am confident that this year here in Adelaide will be another outstanding and successful convention.

If this is your first MD Convention, congratulations on making the decision to attend — you will not be disappointed. There is a wealth of experience, knowledge, and inspiring projects on display, providing opportunities to enhance your understanding of Lions and perhaps take new ideas back to your own clubs.

I would now like to take a moment to introduce myself. I have been married to my wife Julie for 42 years, and we have one son, David, and a daughter-in-law, Trish. I served in the Regular Army for just over 20 years, followed by a further 12 years in the Reserves. I was also fortunate to serve my community as a Councillor with the City of Swan for 12 years, including six years as Deputy Mayor and two years as Mayor. I am now retired from full-time work, which allows me more time to devote to Lions and community service.

More importantly, I have been a proud member of the Lions Club of Noranda since 1999. Over the years, I have held various club positions and firmly believe that joining Lions was one of the best decisions I have made. I have thoroughly enjoyed the journey. I have served on the District Cabinet since 2018

and was honoured to serve as District Governor in 2020–21. My theme that year was "Let's Make a Difference." And you truly do make a difference in your communities. This convention is about sharing how you have made that difference, learning from one another, and celebrating the impact Lions have across our communities. It is also a wonderful opportunity to visit the displays and exhibitions and see firsthand what you help achieve by being a Lion.

A few housekeeping items for the convention:

Please ensure you are seated at the commencement of each session. A five-minute warning will be given to allow sufficient time to take your seats. For business sessions, please remember to bring your delegate card with you.

If you have any announcements or requests during the convention, please submit them to me in writing during the breaks. Presenters are asked to be ready to go on stage at least five minutes prior to their scheduled presentation time and to strictly adhere to their allocated time, as overruns affect other speakers. Please remember — there will be consequences for going over time... last year, a hobby horse was used to ensure speakers finished on schedule!

Most importantly, please have fun and enjoy the convention. Take the opportunity to meet Lions from around the country, share ideas, and make new friendships.

Thank you, and I wish you all a fantastic convention.

# MD Convention Program

**Friday, 22 May 2026**

	<b>VENUE: GOYDER NORTH PAVILION</b>	<b>VENUE: GOYDER SOUTH PAVILION</b>
<b>8:00am</b>	<b>REGISTRATIONS   LIONS EXPO &amp; DISPLAYS OPEN</b>	
8:30am	<b>Smoking Ceremony - Uncle Tamaru</b>	
9:00am	<b>Call to Order Arrival of Official Party</b>	
9:10am	<b>Explanations &amp; Announcements</b>	
9:15am	<b>Welcome to Country - Uncle Tamaru</b>	
9:20am	<b>Invocation, Purposes &amp; Ethics</b>	
9:30am	<b>Official Opening &amp; Flag Ceremony</b> Her Excellency, the Honourable Frances Adamson AC Governor of South Australia	
<b>10:00am</b>	<b>COMFORT BREAK &amp; LIONS EXPO</b>	
10:30am	<b>Keynote Speaker -</b> 3rd IVP Tony Benbow OAM	
10:50am	<b>Keynote Speaker -</b> Lion Jarrod Kreft <i>"AI Serving with Purpose"</i>	
11:20am	Acknowledgement of Council of Governors	
11:40am	<b>Adoption of Rules of Debate -</b> Legal Officer PCC David Skinner OAM <b>Financial Report</b> National Treasurer PDG Bruce Unwin	
11:55am	<b>Introduction of Council Chairperson- Elect</b>	
<b>12 noon</b>	<b>LUNCH &amp; LIONS EXPO</b>	
12:15pm	<b>AGM - Australian Lions Foundation</b>	
12:45pm	<b>AGM - Lions Eye Health Program</b>	
1:30pm	<b>Call to Order</b>	
1:30pm	<b>Notices of Motion - Session 1</b>	
<b>3:00pm</b>	<b>COMFORT BREAK &amp; LIONS EXPO</b>	
3:30pm	<b>Notices of Motion - Session 2</b>	
<b>5:00pm</b>	<b>CONVENTION CLOSES</b>	
From 5:00pm	Drinks onsite available	

# Saturday, 23 May 2026

	VENUE: GOYDER NORTH PAVILION	VENUE: GOYDER SOUTH PAVILION
8:00am	<b>REGISTRATIONS   LIONS EXPO &amp; DISPLAYS OPEN</b>	
9:00am	<b>Call to Order</b>	<b>All Day Hands-On Projects</b> - Hear Me Roar! Project - Dog Toys - Toiletry Packs
	<b>Leo of the Year</b> Leo Chairperson Siobhan Elliott	
10:30am	<b>COMFORT BREAK &amp; LIONS EXPO</b>	
11:00am	<b>Keynote Speaker -</b> Chris Burns - CEO Hutt St Centre <i>"Supporting People on Their Journey from Homelessness to Homefulness"</i>	
11:45am	<b>Announcement of Leo of the Year Winner</b>	
12 noon	<b>LUNCH &amp; LIONS EXPO</b>	
1:00pm	<b>Spotlight Session - Youth</b> - Leos & Leo Advisory Panel <i>Leo Charlize Chow</i> - Peace Poster & Essay <i>Chairperson PDG Lorraine McKenzie</i> - Wheelchair Basketball <i>Lincoln Budge</i>	<b>Workshop / Demonstration</b> <i>Trainee Dog Obstacle Course</i> Lions Assistance Dogs
1:30pm	<b>Questions &amp; Answers Session</b> Lion Debbie Williams	<b>Spotlight Session</b> <i>New Voices, Vaccinations Updates, Cyber Security</i>
2:00pm	<b>Lions Green Canopy Project</b> One Tree Per Child Founder Lion Jon Dee	
2:30pm	<b>COMFORT BREAK &amp; LIONS EXPO</b>	
3:00pm	<b>Workshop</b> Global Action Team (GAT)	<b>Workshop -</b> "Introduction to Marketing & PR for Lions" Lion Andrew Stacey & Jemma Pascolini
4:30pm		<b>Round Table Discussions</b> CC Richard Williams & Andrew Stacey
5:00pm	<b>CONVENTION CLOSSES</b>	
From 5:00pm	Drinks onsite available	
6:00pm for 6:30pm	Past District Governors Dinner (By Invitation - Ticketed event)	

# Sunday, 24 May 2026

	VENUE: GOYDER NORTH PAVILION	VENUE: GOYDER SOUTH PAVILION
<b>8:00am</b>	<b>REGISTRATIONS OPEN   LIONS EXPO &amp; DISPLAYS OPEN</b>	
9:00am	<b>Call to Order</b>	<b>All Day Hands-On Projects</b> - Hear Me Roar! Project - Dog Toys - Organising of donated goods
9:05am	<b>Remembrance Ceremony</b> Lion Jennifer Osis	
10:00am	<b>COMFORT BREAK &amp; LIONS EXPO</b>	
10:30am	<b>Keynote Speaker</b> Affiliate Prof. Jordan Hansford <b><i>"Improving Survival and Survivorship of Children's Brain Tumours"</i></b>	
11:00am	<b>MD 201 Presentations</b> Council Chairperson Richard Williams	<b>Workshop / Demonstration</b> <i>Scent Training</i> Lions Assistance Dogs
11:30am	<b><i>"Events &amp; Challenges to Promote Lions Service"</i></b> 11:30am - Lion Sheryl Keppler 11:45am - Lions Australia Ambassador Sari-Elle Kraemer	<b>Workshop / Demonstration</b> <i>Puppy Obedience</i> Lions Assistance Dogs
<b>12 noon</b>	<b>LUNCH &amp; LIONS EXPO</b>	
1:00pm	<b>Call to Order</b>	
1:00pm	<b>Spotlight Session - Foundations</b> - Lions Eye Health Program (LEHP) - Australian Lions Children's Mobility Foundation (ALCMF) - Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) - Australian Lions Foundation (ALF)	<b>Workshop</b> <i>"Creating New Service Projects"</i> Lion Andrew Stacey
2:00pm	<b>International Guests</b> International Director Graeme Wilson MD202 CC Pam Harvey MD307 CC Yahya Yastputera	
<b>2:45pm</b>	<b>COMFORT BREAK &amp; LIONS EXPO - LIONS SHOP CLOSSES</b>	
3:15pm	<b>Lions Assistance Dogs</b> PCC David Horne <b>Lions Christmas Cakes &amp; Mints</b> PDG Kaye Smith & PDG Norm Fountain	<b>Presentation</b> <i>"Lions Changing with the Future"</i> Lion Amy Grantham
<b>5:00pm</b>	<b>CONVENTION CLOSSES</b>	
6:00pm for 6:30pm	Lions, Leos & Legends Under Lights @ the Adelaide Oval	

## Monday, 25 May 2026

	VENUE: GOYDER NORTH PAVILION	VENUE: GOYDER SOUTH PAVILION
<b>8:00am</b>	<b>Expo Booths Open All Day</b>	
9:00am	<b>Call to Order</b>	
9:00am	<b>Lions Youth of the Year</b> Chairperson Margaret Amm	
<b>10:30am</b>	<b>COMFORT BREAK &amp; LIONS EXPO</b>	
11:00am	<b>ANZI Pacific Forum</b> PDG Engelbert Krampf	
11:10am	<b>Announcement - Youth of the Year Winner</b>	
<b>11:25am</b>	<b>COMFORT BREAK &amp; LIONS EXPO</b>	
11:35am	<b>Council Handover Ceremony</b> Council Chairperson Richard Williams	
11:45am	<b>Invitation to attend the MD201 75th Convention in Perth, Western Australia</b> Chairperson PDG Peter Kenneday	
12 noon	<b>Closing Ceremony &amp; Fellowship</b>	

# Making a Difference



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Proudly supporting the 2026 MD 201 Convention - Adelaide  
**22-25 May 2026**



# Leo Program



## Saturday, 23 May 2026

- 8:00am **Registrations Open - Expo Booths open all day (Goyder South Pavilion)**
- 8:30am Set up for Hands-on Projects
- 9:00am Call to Order  
Leo of the Year - Leos to attend (Goyder North Pavilion)
- 10:30am **COMFORT BREAK - Meet in Leos Den**
- 11:00am Keynote Speaker - Leos to attend  
Chris Burns - CEO, Hutt St. Centre "Supporting People on their Journey from Homelessness to Homefulness" (Goyder North Pavilion)
- 11:45am Leo of the Year Winner Announced - Leos to attend (Goyder North Pavilion)
- 12 noon **LUNCH**
- 1:00pm Spotlight Session - Youth Leos, LAP, Peace poster & Essay, Lincoln Budge (Goyder North Pavilion)
- 1:30pm Getting-to-know-you Activities  
Skills Session - Public Speaking
- 3:30pm Trainee Dog Handling Session - Lions Assistance Dogs
- 4:00pm **COMFORT BREAK**
- 4:30pm Club Projects - Sharing
- 5:00pm Convention Closes

### EVENING ACTIVITIES

- 6:00pm 10-Pin Bowling & Laser Tag @ Cross Road Bowls

## Sunday, 24 May 2026

- 8:00am **Registrations Open - Expo Booths open all day (Goyder South Pavilion)**
- 9:00am Call to Order  
Remembrance Ceremony - Leos to attend (Goyder North Pavilion)
- 10:00am **COMFORT BREAK - Meet in Leos Den**
- 10:30am Public Speaking Preparation & All Day Hands-On Projects  
Dog Toys (Leo - led) (Goyder South Pavilion)
- 12 noon **LUNCH**
- 1:00pm Public Speaking Preparation  
Public Speaking Presentations  
All Day Hands-On Projects  
Dog Toys (Leo - led) (Goyder South Pavilion)
- 3:30pm Wheelchair Basketball
- 5:00pm Convention Closes

### EVENING ACTIVITIES

- 6:00 pm Lions, Leos & Legends Under Lights @ Adelaide Oval

## Monday, 25 May 2026

- 8:00am Expo Booths open all day (Goyder South Pavilion)
- 9:00am Call to Order  
Youth of the Year (Goyder North Pavilion)
- 10:30am **COMFORT BREAK**
- 11:00am ANZI Pacific Forum
- 11:10am Youth of the Year Winner Announced - Leos to attend (Goyder North Pavilion)
- 11:25am **COMFORT BREAK**
- 12 noon Closing Ceremony & Fellowship in Goyder North Pavilion





COUNCIL  
CHAIRPERSON  
RICHARD WILLIAMS

# 2025-2026 MD 201 District Governors



C1  
RAY NAJAR



C2  
SIMON WESTWOOD



N1  
NARELLE PETERS



N2  
DAVID MCKENNA



N3  
KERYN RANDALL



N4  
JUDY RYAN



N5  
MOHAN  
NANAYAKKARA



Q1  
STUART PERRETT



Q2  
TONI LANPHIER



Q3  
NARELLE GLUER



Q4  
KERRIE MCMAHON



T1  
MATTHEW TILLING-SHAKOFF



V1-4  
SAMANTHA WU



V2  
SUE EYTON



V3  
GEOFF ANDERSON



V5  
DAVID CORDELL



V6  
PAUL SHORTIS



WA  
THOMAS OVERSBY

# 2026-2027

## MD 201 District Governors



C1  
ALEX COATES



C2  
MARGIE THOMAS



N1  
JOE POPE



N2  
DON REED



N3  
MARCIA ALLMAN



N4  
DEBBIE BUTWELL



N5  
PETER TOUZEL



Q1  
JOHNSON CHEN-  
HSING



Q2  
ED MORRIS



Q3  
STUART  
MATTHEWS



Q4  
MURRAY  
WEGNER



T1  
JAMES  
REDGRAVE



V1-4  
XUAN SHERYL LI



V2  
MARIA BAADE



V3  
RUSSELL  
NAPPER



V5  
RUSSELL  
EDWARDS



V6  
ALISON  
KAZENWADEL



WA  
ROSLYN BARNES

# MD 201 Advisory Group



**COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON**  
Richard Williams



**EXECUTIVE OFFICER**  
Rob Oerlemans



**NATIONAL TREASURER**  
PDG Bruce Unwin



**LEGAL OFFICER**  
PCC David Skinner OAM



**DEPUTY LEGAL OFFICER**  
Ivana Blekic



**YOUTH & COMMUNITY  
PROJECTS NATIONAL  
COORDINATOR**  
PDG Dale "Toby" Crawford



**SERVICE NATIONAL  
COORDINATOR**  
PDG Savva Argyrou



**MEMBERSHIP NATIONAL  
COORDINATOR**  
PDG John Seymour



**LEADERSHIP NATIONAL  
COORDINATOR**  
PCC Phillip Johnson OAM

# Council Chairperson's Report



MD201 Council Chairperson  
2025-2026  
IPDG Richard Williams

Many people leave a convention reflecting on what they will do differently. Debbie and I left Traralgon wondering what being a Council Chair had in store. We discussed many things, but focused on the details and missed the big picture – the people, the experience, the learning and the joy that the role delivers. So glad all that became evident very early on.

Representing the Multiple District is an honour and an opportunity, and we have enjoyed every minute (almost!).

Thank you for the opportunity – it has been a challenging, enjoyable and most of all rewarding twelve months.

The last couple of years have shown me how many dedicated people we have at every level in this organisation. And I'm so pleased to have the chance to thank you in this report. This year has been humbling to work with, observe and learn from you all.

The 2025 -2026 District Governors are a disparate group of people who each bring something different to the table, but have at least one thing in common - they all want the

best for their District and for Lions. It has been a pleasure working with you and spending time with you outside of meetings. I think you have achieved a lot, and the organisation is better placed as a result of your decisions. Thanks for your diligence and friendship.

The Advisory Group have worked hard to support the Council and to fulfil their role in the organisation. I would also include others in national positions who oversee our national projects and foundations and support our efforts to serve our global causes. Thank you all.

But it has not only been at the national level and I've seen this dedication. We were invited to five District conventions where we saw and heard what is happening locally. Thank you to the DGs who invited us. It was an absolute pleasure to be there and meet the members and see what is happening locally. And, beyond that, my Facebook has regular updates of what is happening around the country.

Thank you all for what you are doing, and for inspiring me, and others, to strive for more.

PIP Barry Palmer and 3rd International Vice President Tony Benbow are very busy people, and I really appreciated that they were there for me when I needed their assistance – thank you! And thanks to IPCC David Horne for his guidance and assistance, especially in the early days.

Our National Office staff – Max, Elise, Julie, Annelie, Karen and Jemma are an amazing team who deal with many requests and a myriad of people and keep our organisation running smoothly. A personal thanks from me, and an apology for all the questions! You are wonderful.

I acknowledge the impact that Executive Officer Rob Oerlemans has on our success. We can point to how he frequently works evenings and weekends and does things that other EOs wouldn't do! He has a wealth of knowledge about the organisation and its recent history, but also of organisational matters like change, media and

stakeholder management, corporate processes, .... And he is generous with both his time and knowledge. Thanks Rob

Lastly, Debbie has been with me the whole way and I cannot express the thanks and gratitude I owe her. I can't imagine the last two years (well, 45 really) without her by my side. She has been at the right times a sounding board, a reality check, a calming influence, a conscience, an aide-memoire, cheer squad, odd-job person and bum-kicker. But she is going to miss packing.

I believe society needs Lions, and its future is in our hands. But it needs a contemporary version – not something we needed to be 30 years ago. I have been known to quote Charles Darwin 'It is not the strongest of the species that survives, nor

the most intelligent, but the one most adaptable to change.' IP AP Singh challenged us to Lead to Serve, Serve to Lead. We need to stay relevant to our communities, and capture the hearts, heads and hands of prospective and current members.

To the incoming Council Chair and the team of District Governors – I wish you all the best for 2026-2027. I hope you take on the challenges, make a difference and enjoy the year. It is a one-off experience that you will remember for a long time.

And to all Lions – may you all have a successful and enjoyable year as you make a difference for your communities.





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Volunteering is essential to thriving communities.  
For more than 75 years, Lions have been supporting communities  
across Australia in many different ways.

From major health initiatives to disaster relief and local community  
support, Lions are united by a shared commitment to helping  
others. Together, we are making a real difference.

For more information visit [lionsclubs.org.au](https://lionsclubs.org.au)

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we serve



# Executive Officer's Report



MD201 Executive Officer  
Rob Oerlemans FAICD

What will the Lions of 2050 be doing? What will be the nature of their service, and will it even be needed?

I recently heard a brief interview of one of the founders of Claude, an AI service delivered by the company "Anthropic". He referred to the fact that many professional jobs will disappear as AI is introduced into the workplace. Some fortunate individuals will remain, supported by an invisible army of 'bots' editing documents, researching subjects, processing data without the use of a calculator and spreadsheets. I then asked my favourite AI tool the question "what jobs won't be replaced by AI.

It responded:

*"Jobs are safest when they involve:*

- *Human trust*
- *Physical presence*
- *Ethical judgment*
- *Creativity with responsibility*
- *Managing people, not just information"*

The top response from the question was "Jobs requiring deep human interaction and empathy" would be protected.

Lions Clubs help human beings through tough times. They provide practical support, a caring hug when needed. They organise and create and the best clubs share joy and happiness within their communities.

They will be doing so in 25 years' time.

You will hear from this Convention though, that AI tools and technology can help us with the things that are less enjoyable. Filtering information, writing minutes, creating reminders and building diaries. Our leaders at Club, District and National level can take advantage of these tools to save their energy for the work that our technology cannot do.

The world has been unsettled in recent times and the best advice we can get is to help where we can.

Some of our focusses this year.

1. Promotion and publicity: There is significant competition for attention for any organisation. While tools like social media and digital communication make promotion easy, it also makes it challenging to rise to the top and be noticed, amongst the sea of 'noise'. This year we advertised on YouTube as well as our social pages with mixed results. This included reworking some of our video products for a sharp, 15 second format.

Our PR Team has supported clubs and projects throughout the country to bring attention to their projects and activities. Our national 'Lions on Safari' promotion in March has been very successful; our best advertisement is Lions out in the community having fun and enjoying themselves. We have been well supported by the Bunnings organisation as part of this promotion.

2. Conventions: Attendance at conventions is recovering after the Covid years, and I would like to congratulate our Adelaide Convention team for what will be a unique and special experience, including a focus on Leos and younger Lions. Next year we will be headed for Perth and then Geelong in 2028. We are looking for some host towns and cities for 2029 and 2030 so if you

have some thoughts I would love to discuss the opportunities with you.

3. Technology: The National Office continues to work to extend new technologies that will help us be more efficient and effective. This year our International Director Candidate election was conducted by an online voting system that enabled many Lions that may not be able to attend a Convention to participate, and I would like to extend my congratulations to our successful candidate, PCC Phillip Johnson OAM and all the Lions that stood for the election.

4. Membership: By far the most important project the Multiple District Council has given their attention to is looking for ways to support the membership development process. Just like recruitment and retention at a club level, reaching out to the next wave of Lions members comes down to people. We are recruiting a specialist team of Lions, led by a new Extension

Coordinator and four Club Building Specialists, to support District leaders to reach into new communities that have never had a Lions club, and existing communities to re-establish clubs. To support this process Council has provided a significant financial package to support travel, workshops and accommodation as well as a raft of incentives for those new clubs, and for Lions Clubs that sponsor new clubs.

If you have a passion for our Association and a strong track record in recruitment, perhaps this is the role for you?

Thank you Conventioneers for making this convention a priority and for the work that you and your fellow Lions do to make your communities better. My thanks to the Council, the Multiple District Advisory Group, our project committees and the staff of the National Office who all play an important role in advancing the important work of Lions!

# Notices of Motion Outcomes 2025

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## Procedural Motion - Endorsement of the Finance Report

That the Convention notes the adoption of the Multiple District 201 of Lions Clubs International Inc. audited Financial Statements and the Annual Management Reports for the year ended 31 December 2024 by the Council of Governors.

Outcome: CARRIED

## Procedural Motion - Appointment of Auditors

“That PKF (NS) Audit and Assurance Limited Partnership be appointed as Auditors for MD201 of Lions Clubs International Inc. for the 2025 Financial Year.”

Outcome: CARRIED

## Procedural Motion - Adoption of Standing Orders

That the Rules of Debate, as circulated, be adopted by this Convention and the Program as tabled be endorsed.

Outcome: CARRIED

## CNM1 – Clause 44.2 – Members of Lioness Clubs

Motion: That this Multiple District Convention approves the deletion of Clause 44.2 from the Multiple District Constitution”

Outcome: CARRIED

## CNM2 – Clause 34 – Licence to Seek Funds

Motion: “That this Multiple District Convention approves the amendment of Clause 34 in the Multiple District Constitution by the insertion of the words “and/or Lions Foundations and other Lions Entities approved by Council” after the word “District.”

Outcome: CARRIED

## CNM3 – Clause 63.5 – Category “B” Projects

Motion: “That this Multiple District Convention with effect from the 1st July 2026 approves the amendment of Clause 63.5 in the Multiple District Constitution by the substitution of the word “six” for the word “ten”.

Outcome: LOST

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## CNM4 – Clause 50 - Annual Contribution Payable by Each Member of Each Club

Motion: “That this Multiple District Convention approves the deletion of Clause 50 of the Multiple District Constitution and the substitution therefore of the following provision:

The annual contribution payable by each Member of each Club shall be \$45.00 (including GST) for the year commencing the 1st July 2025. With effect from the 1st July 2030 and annually thereafter, the annual contribution payable per Member shall be a sum equal to the contribution payable in respect of the immediately preceding year adjusted by the annual Consumer Price Index (All Groups) Australia”.

Outcome: LOST

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## PNM5 – Junior Public Speaking Competition

Motion: “That this Multiple District Convention approves the continuation of the Project known as “Junior Public Speaking Competition” as a Category “B” Project for a further term of three years expiring on the 30th June 2028.”

Outcome: CARRIED

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## LM1 – Late Notice of Motion 1

Motion: “That the late notice of motion regarding the membership cap be considered

Outcome: CARRIED

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## LM2 – Late Notice of Motion 2 – Review of Membership Cap

Motion: “That this Multiple District Convention asks the Council of Governors to consider removing the cap of 27,000 members on the Family Dues Rebate and provide a recommendation to the 2026 Convention.


Outcome: CARRIED

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**Lions**  
**Mini Fruit Cake**  
*A little cake, doing a lot of good!*



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# Treasurer's Report



MD 201 Treasurer  
PDG Bruce Unwin

The detailed audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025 are provided as a separate booklet. Please take the time to read these important documents.

The statements include:

- Directors' Report and Declaration
- Statutory Accounts
- Audit Report
- Management Accounts.

You will note that our financial position remains strong. This has provided Council with the opportunity to consider options for investing significant funds into initiatives to assist Districts to establish new Clubs and rebuild struggling Clubs, and to assist existing Clubs to recruit new members, all of which are essential to the survival and growth of Lions in Australia. These initiatives are still being developed by Council and the MD Advisory Group, but are likely to include the appointment of MD Extension team members to work with specific Districts and provide additional Club establishment resources, the engagement of an external Sales Consultant

to provide online training in identifying and engaging potential new members, and providing financial assistance to Districts who establish and rebuild Clubs. These initiatives will reduce our operating resources over the medium term but of course, if successful, our cost will at least be partially recovered through the increased dues income

Five-Year Financial Projections have been prepared on this basis and adopted by the Council at their January 2026 meeting. Over this term the balance of our Council Fund will reduce from \$2,224,367 as at 30 June 2025 to \$479,831 as at 30 June 2031.

Other cost increases continue to exceed CPI and we will need to closely monitor and control our expenditure. Both the MD Advisory Group and the Long Range Development Committee are continuing to consider options that may be available and any recommendations will be put to the Council of Governors for consideration.

In terms of Clause 50 of the Multiple District Constitution, our membership dues will increase in line with CPI for the year ended 31 December 2025. This increase was 3.8% and therefore dues will increase by \$2.10 per annum to \$56.60 per member (including GST) (charged at \$28.30 per half year) from 1 July 2026.

Our dues are the primary source of income to fund the administration of the Multiple District. These administrative costs include:

- The cost of running the National Office – occupancy costs, salaries, wages, etc
- The cost of funding Council meetings, the Council Chairperson's activities, the Advisory Group and the Long Range Development Committee.
- The cost of holding the Multiple District Convention at a different location each year – (conventioners at the MD Convention only pay for hospitality costs whereas LCI charges a registration fee of US\$265.00 to attend the International Convention)

- Travelling expenses for invited Multiple District officers to attend District Conventions
- The net cost of producing and posting the Lion Magazine
- The cost of funding the Global Action Team activities including Membership, Extension, Leadership and Service activities
- The cost of Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Treasurer training.

I am attaching a pie chart break-up of our average Council Fund costs per member for the 2023 – 2026 period.

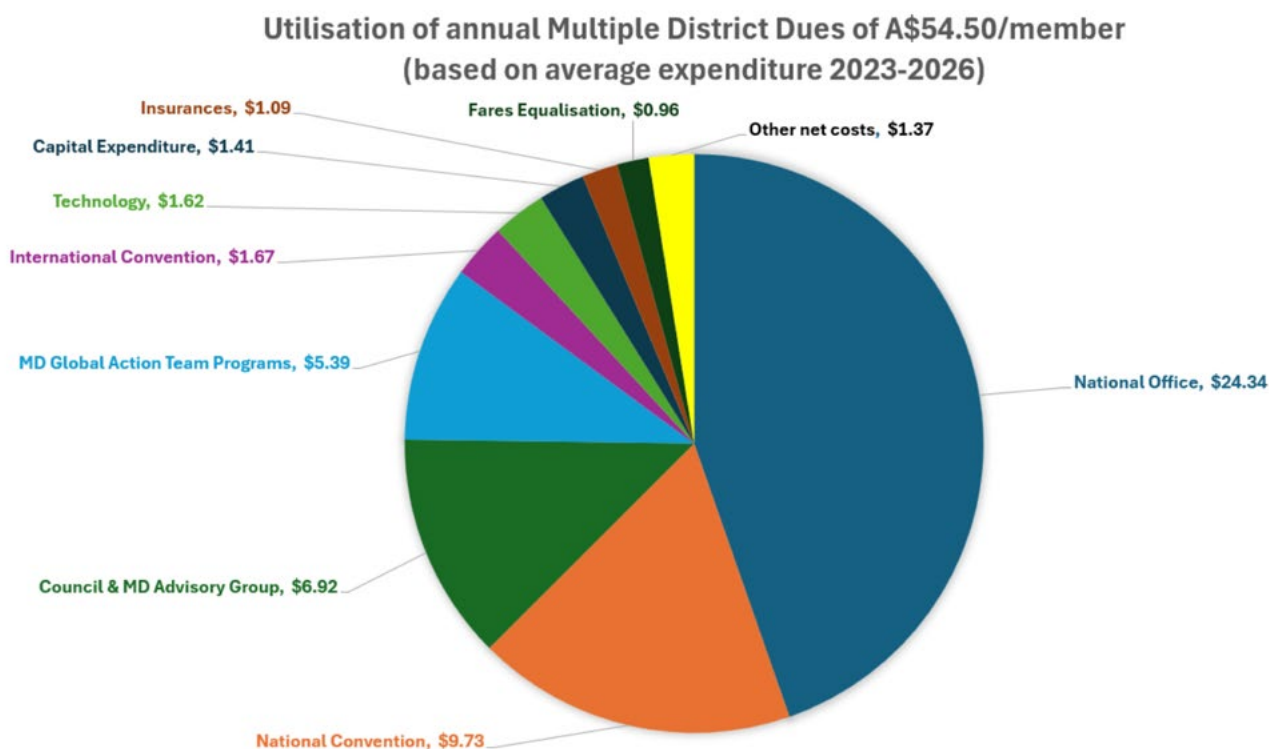
As in the past I look forward to continuing to work with the present and future District Governors to

achieve financially responsible management of the Multiple District.

I also take this opportunity to thank Executive Officer Rob, the Multiple District Executive, the National Coordinators and MD Project Chairpersons as well as the staff at the National Office for their efforts and support throughout the year.

Thank you also to Council Chairperson Richard and the Council of Governors for your cooperation and support and of course, I must thank my wife Diane for her on-going support and tolerance.

Bruce Unwin  
National Treasurer



# Legal Officer's Report



MD 201 Legal Officer  
PCC David Skinner OAM

*Those who lose dreaming are lost.  
Australian Aboriginal Proverb*

I quoted that proverb at the National Convention in 2000. It is as true today as it was twenty six years ago. Our organisation cannot afford to stop dreaming. We must continue to bring those dreams to reality. The dream to help the less fortunate, the sick, the needy, the young and the old. The dream to enjoy the company of friends, have fun and make the world a better place. The dream of Melvin Jones.

Each of us has an obligation to encourage others to share with us in that dream. I owe Lions far more than it would ever owe me. I am grateful for the friendships and opportunities it has offered my late wife Jean and me.

At this Convention delegates have the privilege of electing one of our own members to serve on the International Board of Directors. At the expiration of that term, Australia will again have the honour of its members leading the Association - our currently serving International Vice President Tony Benbow OAM and Lion Sue will lead the world.

What other organisation offers those opportunities? Let's make every endeavour to ensure that Lions Australia will continue to grow and serve our communities.

Friendship is the glue which holds together firstly, the members of each Club and secondly, the bond between each of the Clubs in our country. Little differences and, in many cases, misunderstandings, among members can create divisions which threaten the enjoyment of meetings and, in some cases, the future of a Club. It follows that each of us has a further obligation to do everything possible (as set out in our Purposes) to unite Clubs (and members) in the bonds of friendship.

It has been a pleasure to work with the Council of Governors under the leadership of Council Chairperson Richard. The support of International Director Graeme Wilson, Executive Officer Rob Oerlemans, Treasurer Bruce Unwin, Deputy Legal Officer Ivana Blekic, National Coordinators Phillip Johnson OAM, Toby Crawford, Sawa Argyrou and John Seymour are much appreciated.

My term as Legal Officer comes to an end on the 30th June, 2026. Council has appointed as my successor Lion Daniel Drzezdzon, a Queensland Solicitor who will become the Legal Officer as from the 1st July, 2026. Lion Daniel is a capable and very approachable gentleman and he will contribute greatly to the Multiple District. He certainly has my best wishes.

In conclusion, I acknowledge and thank all the Council Chairpersons, District Governors, National Coordinators and their partners with whom I have worked over the last 27 years for their support and friendship. It would be amiss of me not to particularly acknowledge National Treasurer Bruce and Lion Diane and Executive Officer Rob together with Customer Service Officer Elise and the team from the National Office. Their support over the many years has been of great assistance and their friendship is much valued.

PCC David Skinner OAM  
Legal Officer

# Leadership Coordinator's Report



Global Action Team  
Leadership National Coordinator  
PCC Phillip Johnson OAM

The development of future leaders remains critical to the sustainability and growth of our clubs, districts and Multiple District. Membership attraction and retention continue to challenge our organisation, and surveys consistently identify poor leadership and member disengagement—particularly at club level—as key reasons why members leave within their first five years.

Strong, decisive leadership is essential to delivering value, fostering belonging, and ensuring our clubs remain relevant in a changing society. Identifying and developing future leaders is therefore a priority. This is the core responsibility of the Global Leadership Teams (GLT) at club, district and multiple district levels.

The Global Action Team (Service, Membership, Leadership and Extension) continues to strengthen alignment between these key functions. At district and multiple district levels, significant effort has been invested in embedding this model and supporting collaboration with District Governor Teams to establish clear goals and action plans for growth and service impact.

At club level, implementation has presented challenges, particularly in smaller clubs concerned about additional board positions. It is important to clarify that the Global Action Team structure does not create new roles, but rather defines three essential functions: service delivery, membership growth and retention, and leadership development. Every club should ensure these functions are actively supported.

I am pleased to report that our District and Multiple District GLT teams remain active and forward-thinking. Leadership development programs have expanded well beyond traditional Club Officer and Zone Chairperson training. District initiatives now include computer skills training, negotiation and conflict resolution, presentation and public speaking skills, PowerPoint training, social media usage, club promotion, and other personal development programs. Many districts now effectively combine face-to-face and online delivery methods, allowing members to participate from home.

At Multiple District level, we continue to support District Leadership Teams with resources and training. A standardised Club Development Forum presentation package has been widely adopted and used effectively in both in-person and electronic formats. Training has also been delivered for incoming District Governor Teams, including District Governors Elect, with face-to-face training offered to Second Vice District Governors to strengthen team cohesion, leadership capability and shared responsibility.

District GLT Coordinators are encouraged to record all training activities on the Lions Learn portal, ensuring accurate reporting of programs, presenters and participants.

I am pleased to report that the Regional Lions Leadership Institute was conducted in Adelaide in January with 36 participants, and a Faculty Development Institute was held in Sydney in November with 28 MD201 Lions attending.

In addition to district and MD programs, Lions Clubs International offers valuable self-paced learning through webinars and the Lions

Learning Center. These resources remain underutilised within our Multiple District, and I strongly encourage members—particularly newer Lions—to take advantage of these opportunities.

The 2025–2026 MD GLT Committee has consisted of:

- PCC Phillip Johnson – MD GLT Coordinator
- PCC Kim Forrest – MD Trainer
- PDG Megan Butler – MD Trainer

I thank each member of the MD GLT Committee for their professionalism, dedication and commitment to developing current and future leaders across our Multiple District. Their contribution has been outstanding.



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# Membership Coordinator's Report



Global Action Team  
Membership National Coordinator  
PDG John Seymour

Lion friends,

It's a privilege to serve as your National Membership Coordinator, and I'm excited about the service journey we're on together. Our mission isn't just about numbers — it's about people, service, and the legacy we leave behind.

An old Lion once spoke at a graveside about the “dash” between the dates on a headstone. That little line represents a lifetime — not the possessions we owned, but the way we lived, the friendships we built, and the service we gave. For us as Lions, every project, every meeting, every hour spent serving adds to our dash.

## **The Big Audacious Mission (BAM)**

We've set bold goals for the future:

- 30,000 members by 2030
- 50,000 members by 2050
- 1,300 clubs across Australia

These aren't just numbers. They're opportunities to enrich lives, strengthen communities, and ensure our Lions legacy continues for generations. From the heart, I can tell you this: we're not selling membership — we're offering people the gift of making their community

stronger. I don't buy membership- I buy into the Lions vision of making my community a better place and having fun along the way.

## **What Can My Club Do?**

- Lion's pride. Invest in members and team efforts.
- Have a vision for your club members serving the community.
- Telling a story. Do we all know our plans.
- Have fun and fellowship along our service journey.

If every club commits to a net gain of just +1 member per year, we'll not only reach BAM but also contribute to Mission 1.5, strengthening Lions worldwide.

## **Why It Matters**

Think of the joy in gifting a child a wheelchair, the pride in mentoring youth, the mateship forged through fundraising, and the friendships that last a lifetime. These moments are what fill our dash.

Serving as a Lion isn't about individual contribution — it's about true mateship. Together, we've rebuilt communities after floods and fires, fought preventable blindness, and given hope to those in need. Every act of service adds meaning to our dash and to the dash of those we serve.

## **The Call to Action**

So, I ask you: when you see a vacant club position, do you see a burden — or an opportunity to serve? If we all share the load, what a tremendous team we'll be.

Let's take risks, embrace new ideas, and grow together. Let's serve, let's grow, let's be audacious. And let's keep adding to our dash — one act of service, one new member, one bold step at a time.

Your Global Membership Team is here to support you every step of the way.

Together, we serve. Together, we grow. Together, we add to our dash.

# Service Coordinator's Report



Global Action Team  
Service National Coordinator  
PDG Savva Argyrou

Welcome to all Lions, Leos, and guests. It is my honour to present the National Service Coordinator's Report for the 2025–2026 Lions year so far and to reflect on this term as we gather here in Adelaide.

This year has been one of focus, alignment, and measurable impact. My priority during this term has been to strengthen service reporting, support District GST Coordinators, and ensure that every club understands that service is our greatest membership driver.

We have worked deliberately to:

- Improve service reporting across the Multiple District.
- Encourage every club to appoint and empower a Club Service Coordinator.
- Promote projects that are visible, relevant and community led.
- Align our service activities with Lions International's global causes.

I am proud of the collaborative spirit shown by our District teams. The increase in reporting and engagement shows that clubs are not only serving—but recording and celebrating that service.

## Service Impact Across Australia

### Humanitarian Support

Clubs across MD201 have responded to local emergencies, community hardship, and regional challenges with practical, hands-on aid. From disaster support to essential goods distribution, Lions have still been first to serve.

### Hunger Relief

Food insecurity continues to affect families across Australia. Lions' clubs have:

- Expanded food pantry partnerships.
- Supported school breakfast programs.
- Delivered food hampers and grocery vouchers.

Thousands of Australians have received help from Lions-led hunger initiatives this year.

### Vision Initiatives

Vision stays at the heart of who we are.

- School screenings and awareness programs have continued.
- Used eyewear collection has supported international recycling programs.
- Clubs have strengthened partnerships with local optometrists and community health services.

### Childhood Cancer & Family Support

Through fundraising, accommodation support, and direct aid, our clubs have stood beside families navigating childhood illness—providing both financial and emotional relief.

### Environmental Leadership – Lions Green Canopy

The Lions Green Canopy continues to grow as our Category A Environment Project.

Our goal:

- 1 million trees planted by 30 June 2027
- A continued annual planting target thereafter

During 2025–2026, clubs have:

- Hosted community tree-planting days.
- Partnered with councils, schools, and environmental groups.

- Used environmental service as a platform for PR and membership engagement.

This project has proven to be more than an environmental initiative—it is a membership magnet, attracting families, young volunteers and community partners who want to work alongside Lions.

Environmental service has also strengthened our public image as a forward-thinking, action-oriented organisation.

### Strengthening the Service Structure

During this term, emphasis has been placed on:

- Encouraging every club to appoint a Club Service Coordinator.
- Supporting District GST Coordinators with regular communication and shared resources.
- Increasing service activity reporting to the Lions Portal.
- Promoting at least one signature service project per club.

Clubs that clearly define and promote their signature project are seeing stronger engagement, improved visibility, and greater member satisfaction.

### The Value of Our Service

Service is not just what we do—it is who we are.

This year has reinforced three important truths:

1. Visible service builds credibility.
2. Community consultation ensures relevance.
3. Strong service drives membership growth.

Where clubs are active, visible, and community-

connected, membership conversations become easier and more natural.

### Questions for Every Club – 2026 and Beyond

- What is our club's signature service project?
- Is it still relevant to today's community needs?
- Are we recording and promoting our service impact?
- Are we inviting non-members to serve alongside us?
- How can service strengthen our membership growth?

### Looking Ahead

I am grateful for the support of our Council of Governors, District teams, and every Lion who has embraced the message that service excellence must be intentional.

Adelaide 2026 marks not an end—but a continuation.

Together, we will:

- Grow stronger through meaningful service.
- Increase our visibility in every community.
- Empower the next generation of Lions and Leos.
- Ensure MD201 is still a national leader in hands-on humanitarian impact.



**Treat yourself!**  
to a little Christmas spirit this July!



# Youth & Community Projects Report



Youth & Community Projects  
National Coordinator  
PDG Dale "Toby" Crawford

As National Coordinator of the Youth & Community Projects I am pleased to present this report to the Adelaide MD201 Convention.

The Y&CP team are responsible for all our youth related projects including LEOs, Lions Youth of the Year and Peace Poster & International Essay Contest.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all our National Youth Chairpersons of these respective committees as well as their many committee members who work tirelessly to keep our youth programs running smoothly. I would also like to thank the Australian Leo Advisory Panel and their Chairperson, Charlize Chow, for the work that they have put in to assist with what our younger members need and how we, as Lions, can get our youth involved in our many projects and programs.

To those members who have finished their terms of office I pay thanks and hope that you do not lose your passion for our youth programs. I trust that you will continue to assist your district with the promotion and running of their youth programs and projects. A special thanks to Pam Bennett, recently retired MD Leo Chairperson and Lorraine McKenzie, retiring Peace Poster & Essay Chairperson for the work given to those

two portfolios over many years. Hopefully we will continue to see these youth programs grow.

To those Lions who share a passion for our youth, we are always on the lookout for new faces to work on these committees and make the changes necessary for them to grow over the coming years and to remain as a voice for our youth. If you are interested in assisting with our youth programs please contact myself or the respective program Chairperson, we would be only too happy to discuss your needs with you.

I urge all conventioners, when you go home after convention, stop and think about what you have seen and heard from our youth and see if you can help us promote our "Opportunities for Youth" theme, if not to your district, at least to your club. The more youth that we can partner within our communities, the better chance we, as Lions, have of continuing our role of "Serving" our towns and cities.

We are continually looking for Lions Clubs to start a new LEO Club, run a club Youth of the Year final or engage with Primary Schools to assist with the Peace Poster and Essay Competition. This is the best opportunity that we have to sow the seeds of service into the minds of our youth and also a great opportunity to gain new members in our Leo and Lions Clubs.

Thanks to all those clubs within our Multiple District who have, in some way, supported our youth projects, programs and foundations. The LEO motto is "Youth Making a Difference" but this is due to the work that our dedicated members put into our youth to assist them in making that difference.

In closing I would like to thank everyone who has helped make the last seven plus years as your National Youth Coordinator one to remember. I am handing the reigns over to incoming Y&CP Coordinator, Lorraine McKenzie at the end of June and wish her the best of luck. I will still continue to do whatever is required to see our youth programs reach their full potential.

- CATEGORY A PROJECT -

# YOUTH OF THE YEAR

CHAIRPERSON MARGARET AMM

On behalf of the National Committee for the 2025/2026 National Youth of the Year Final, it is my privilege to welcome you all to the National Final for Youth of the Year in Adelaide. It is here that Conventioneers get to witness two of our youth programs' final events.

The Lions Youth of the Year Program is in its 62nd year having started out in 'Q' Districts in 1964. At that time, it was known as The 'Quest' which then became a national project of Lions Clubs two years later in 1966-67. Knowing how the benefits to the young students who enter the program are so advantageous to their personal development, Youth of the Year can only continue to grow.

The program encourages and challenges our youth to develop and improve their skills associated with interview technique, personal interaction (without the use of mobile phones), networking, public speaking and 'thinking on their feet'.

The National Youth of the Year Sub-Committee is the body which oversees the conduct of the program across our multiple district. When we receive feedback from Lions' members, we respond to the enquiries setting rules and procedures, taking on board all information gathered through our network. It is through the State Coordinators via your District Chairs, where you can have your suggestions addressed.

We encourage as many Clubs as possible to enter the program, as not only is it a learning experience for those who enter but is also a rewarding experience for participating Lions' members. There are still clubs throughout our vast district, that have not yet pursued this brilliant project and as such, leave many students without the opportunity to participate.

The program is opened to all students as young as 14 years of age (they must be 15 by the 30th June) or as old as 18 years of age (provided they do not turn 19 before 30th June).

The experience gained in talking to community leaders and presenting themselves as though they are applying for a position of employment, is an invaluable experience.

During the past few years, we have had two of our Youth of the Year contestants go on to be Rhodes Scholars. Both these young people told me that the experience they gained by participating in the program, helped them achieve this goal.

We have also had many contestants receive scholarships to further continue their education, again praising their experience in the program.

As their State Winner representing the MD201 District, this is the penultimate round of the 2025/2026 program. I am sure that the six State winners and their families will once again form bonds of friendship and memories that can last a lifetime. The experience and life skills gained by achieving this level of challenge will, very often, give encouragement to take on projects which they may have considered an unattainable dream.

I would like to thank all Lions who participated in the program and ran an event at Club, Zone, Regional, District and State level. Without your commitment, we would not be here today. For those who may be leaving their roles, thank you so much for your considerable efforts in promoting and running your particular portfolio. Do not forget about your successor, they will need your expertise.

Enjoy the final.

Margaret Amm

Chairperson Lions Youth of the Year Project

State Coordinators:

WA – Kim Wilkinson,

SA/NT – PDG Darryl Morley,

Tasmania - Phillip Crowden,

Victoria – Kristie Box,

NSW - PDG Diane Sherrington,

QLD - PDG Des Sawyer

- CATEGORY A PROJECT -

# AUSTRALIAN LIONS CHILDHOOD CANCER RESEARCH FOUNDATION

CHAIRPERSON PDG RON SKEEN OAM

On behalf of the Trustees, I am delighted to present to you our annual Convention Report.

The Foundations primary goal is, “Every child deserves a chance at a healthy life” and is supported by our Vision, “100 % survival for kids with cancer”; and our Mission, “Prevent kids with cancer dying by raising funds nationally and donating these funds to the best scientific and clinical research conducted right across Australia”.

This year we have not undertaken any new projects as we re-built the Foundations bank account, after committing \$2.5 million in the 2022-23 and 2023-24 Lions years. While we have not funded any new projects in the last twelve months, we have received numerous approaches which we have had to decline at this point. With our Clubs continued support, we will be looking to commit to new projects in the coming year as it is important that we are seen as an active player in the field of childhood cancer research. To that end, I can report that during in the last 12 months we have been a part of the Childhood Cancer Roundtable meetings of like organisations and health professionals conducted by Cancer Australia. This is with a view for such organisations to work more collaboratively to avoid duplication, while retaining our individual identities.

## Current Funding Grants:

Projects approved over 12 months ago: -

1. Kids Research Institute Australia, Perth (formerly Telethon Kids Institute - TKI), \$1,625,000, over 8 years in three stages the 1st and 2nd stages (\$1.25m) now completed. Additional funding \$375,000 to further the project, outstanding commitment \$187,500. Immunotherapy Harnessing the power of the body's own immune system to fight cancer cells.
2. Cancer Australia - Priority-driven Collaborative Cancer Research Scheme (PDCCRS),
  - a. Dr Klaartje Somers - University of NSW/ Children's Cancer Institute \$100,000, outstanding commitment \$500k. Targeting nicotinamide adenosine dinucleotide (NAD) metabolism to overcome therapeutic resistance in acute myeloid leukemia.
  - b. Dr Kate Vandyke – University of Adelaide, \$100,000 over 3 years, outstanding commitment \$500. Priming the blood-brain barrier to improve drug delivery and treatment outcomes in diffuse midline glioma (DMG).
3. University of Adelaide, (SAIGENCI), \$600,000 over 3 years, outstanding commitment \$92,500. Identification of genomic factors controlling therapy outcomes and survivorship in paediatric brain cancer patients. Utilising frozen tissue samples collected over 80 years.
4. Hudson Institute of Medical Research, \$424,000 over 2 years, outstanding commitment \$150,000. Senior postdoctoral fellow (Dr Paul Daniel), next generation precision medicine program project, expediting the transition of combination therapies into clinical trials and involving international collaboration.



I thank the Trustees for their hard work during the past 12 months. A special thank you to Trustee and Vice Chair (T Districts) PCC Tony Roney AM and PDG Aussie Lanphier (Q Districts), who retired during the year after 13 and 10 years' service respectively. Welcome to Lion Gilbert Teitzel, our new Q Districts Trustee. Our new T Districts Trustee had not been appointed at the time of writing this report.

Thank you to members of the Lions Family for their support of the Foundation over the past year.



- CATEGORY A PROJECT -

# AUSTRALIAN LIONS CHILDREN'S MOBILITY FOUNDATION

CHAIRPERSON GREG ENGLISH

The Australian Lions Children's Mobility Foundation (ALCMF) continues to enhance the lives of children with mobility challenges throughout Australia. The Foundation's strategic governance, sound financial management, and the commitment of Lions members have ensured sustained impact and operational effectiveness during the reporting period.

## Governance and Progress

ALCMF has advanced its key objectives, notably through the ongoing implementation of Google Non-Profit software for District Chairmen, which is improving national communication and coordination. Governance remains stable, with interim coverage of a Trustee vacancy and completion of the Trust Deed, establishing a robust operational framework. However, recruitment challenges persist, with several District and State Chair positions vacant, particularly in Victoria, Tasmania, and parts of New South Wales. Addressing these gaps is critical to maintaining service delivery

## Financial Overview

The Foundation maintains a strong financial position, supported by diversified reserves as of October–November 2025. These resources enable ALCMF to meet increasing demand and manage rising costs effectively.

## Mobility Equipment and Grants

- From July to November 2025, ALCMF funded 35 mobility items, investing \$269,751 across multiple states.
- Donations during this period totalled \$59,270, underscoring the importance of ongoing fundraising.
- For the 2024–2025 Lions Year, the Foundation awarded 72 Grants-in-Aid

nationwide, amounting to \$490,999, with donations reaching \$298,888.

## Key Challenges

ALCMF faces several challenges:

- Rising costs for equipment, especially transport and logistics
- Increased demand due to greater public and professional awareness
- Leadership vacancies affecting local coordination
- Reduced financial capacity among Lions clubs

These issues highlight the need for enhanced fundraising, recruitment, and advocacy strategies.

## Recommendations

To strengthen future operations, ALCMF should:

- Appoint a Trustee and Chairperson for Tasmania
- Encourage districts without appointed Chairs to communicate appointment challenges for targeted support
- Expand fundraising and partnership initiatives under Trustee guidance.



- CATEGORY A PROJECT -

# GREEN CANOPY PROJECT

CHAIRPERSON PDG TIM MOORE

Welcome to the Adelaide Convention in the "City of Parks". Please get outside and visit the many green spaces the city has to offer, truly beautiful spaces.

National Tree Day was celebrated on Sunday July 27th and Green Canopy asked people to get out and plant a tree. Schools across the country did tree plantings coinciding with National Tree Day. National Tree Day was initiated by Planet Ark in 1996 and encourages individuals and communities to engage in tree planting and environmental care activities. National Tree Day offers your club the opportunity to share in the activities and to form ongoing partnerships with like-minded individuals or organisations. Schools and community groups (many under the direction of your local council) arrange for plantings. We suggest you check with your local council for specific events and registration details. While 27th July is the designated date, you may find local arrangements have been made on an alternate date to suit community needs. You can also identify local tree planting activities using the "Find a site" link on the Planet Ark National Tree Day website.

A major event was held at ANZI on the Gold Coast in September 2025. The Green Canopy Project had the International President and other dignitaries plant a tree on the Gold Coast to celebrate ANZI. The tree will be a symbol of the power of Lions in the community for some time. Its growth is how we see Lions growing to become champions in our communities.

Why do we plant trees? Tree plantings improve air quality by absorbing and converting carbon dioxide. We are all aware of the necessity for change as the expansion of industry to satisfy our needs increases carbon dioxide in our air supply. Without replacement of our decimated forests, oxygen supplies are diminished and the whole structure of life as we know it is threatened. Hence, the importance of our need to be involved in planting trees and developing wildlife habitats.

Environmental benefits aside, tree planting provides profound health and wellbeing advantages. Trees cool urban spaces, filter water and air, and contribute to reduced stress, improved mood, and enhanced opportunities for physical activity. Children benefit through imaginative play, confidence-building, and improved motor skills associated with climbing and exploring natural environments. Additionally, many modern medicines originate from natural sources, and forests may hold undiscovered resources vital to future health innovations.

As Lions Clubs across Australia continue contributing to reforestation, the collective effort not only restores landscapes but strengthens communities.

To all clubs who are actively involved with the project, we ask you to ensure to report your efforts in the Lions Portal so we can all follow your efforts with the many thousands that have already been planted. Continue to let us know about your plans for the future because this project is only the start. Contact your state representatives on the Green Canopy Project Committee to visit your club, zone and/or district to bring you up to date. Either your club can contact us individually or through our email. Better yet come and visit us in the exhibition area and share your project with us.



- CATEGORY B PROJECT -

# LIONS EYE HEALTH PROGRAM (LEHP)

CHAIRPERSON PDG BRYAN HEARN OAM JP

On behalf of the LEHP National Management Committee may I extend a warm welcome to all conventioners, and may I suggest that your visit to Adelaide will not be complete without a visit and a chat with LEHP members at our display stand.

2025 was the most successful year ever for our Children's Vision Screening Program. Having set a target of 12,000 screenings we actually screened 19,240 children which resulted in 4007 children being detected with a vision problem and being referred to an optometrist for a full vision examination thus providing them with an opportunity to greatly improve their learning capacity. 80% of a child's education is acquired through their eyes so any vision problem can have an adverse effect on their ability to learn hence the need for the full examination and possible treatment of the problem identified. Our target for 2026 will be 17,000 screenings.

Community Service at its best.

Our marketing program was recently overhauled and we now have available at the display stand a brand-new range of promotional materials. The leader of our new promotional range is Roley named after our long serving, past Chair, PDG Roley McAtee OAM and who has been a great hit with members and youngsters during a screening.

During late 2025 we launched a brand-new website which provided much easier access to all relevant manuals, training courses and all other LEHP publications as well as an online facility providing for purchase of merchandise. Further information can be obtained from either your State representative on the National Management Committee or our program manager. All contact details can be found in the Multiple District Directory.

I am extremely pleased to be able to report that the Children's Vision Screening Program has

now been established in New Zealand where it has been well accepted and where it is proving to be very successful

I cannot overstate how grateful I am for the donations received from clubs and other sources. These are the funds that allow us to continue to deliver this wonderful program and which we hope will continue into the future.

LEHP continues to advocate and provide awareness and education material for adult vision programs as evidenced by our "Sharpest Tool in the Box" campaign aimed principally at Tradies. This has proved to be well accepted and very successful.

In closing may I express my sincere thanks for all the hard work and commitment of all members of the National Management Committee, all the screeners and other program participants around Australia and my special thanks to Stephanie Field, our program manager who keeps us all informed, organises all our meetings and maintains all our minutes etc.

See ya all at the display stand.



**Lions Eye Health Program  
Australia**



<b>FINANCIAL STATEMENT</b>		<b>Year ending 31/12/25</b>	
<b>Receipts</b>		<b>Expenditure</b>	
Club Contributions (\$4 levy)	31,829.00	Program Manager Salary	47,269.37
Additional Club donations	131,409.89	Superannuation	4,297.45
Vision Screener payments	136,246.77	Worker's Compensation Insurance	947.45
Jean & George Higgs Trust Fund	117,187.10	Committee & Executive travel costs	7,740.51
Dr Bob Coulthard award payments	2,000.00	Committee & Executive Accommodation	2,344.55
Roley McAtee award payments	7,000.00	Meeting venues & catering	904.23
Merchandise Sales	6,159.19	Promotional materials	22,114.98
GST output	647.94	Conventions	4,028.17
GST Refunds	6,909.00	Off-site storage rental	2,487.27
Refund Tas.funding advance	1,140.92	Office equipment & stationery	3,118.27
Refund & credits from Traders	320.24	Subscriptions	1,073.74
Treasurer refund - personal exp.	255.00	Phone, Internet, Web updates	2,087.10
Sundry donation	100.00	Postage expenses	5,702.42
Interest & dividends paid on Term deposits, and Sandhurst Trust a/c	20,346.43	Freight & Courier services	1,281.03
		Award plaques, freight, lapel pins	938.18
		Accounting & Audit services	1,000.00
		Spot Screeners	90,586.59
		Screener Insurance -LEHP units	5,581.82
		Screening Training Expenses	12,277.60
		Sundry & miscellaneous items	616.81
		Merchandise Sales	4,946.16
		GST Input Tax	15,848.81
		Bank charges	113.58
<b>Total Receipts 2025</b>	<b>461,851.48</b>	<b>Total Expenditure 2025</b>	<b>237,666.09</b>
Opening Cash Book Balance	411,222.39	<b>CLOSING BANK BALANCES</b>	
<b>Grand Total In =</b>	<b>873,273.87</b>	Bendigo cheque a/c 1366-22099	12,753.68
		Bendigo Extra CM a/c 108999475	81,744.57
<b>RECONCILIATION</b>		Bendigo Debit Card M'gement a/c	5,648.43
Total to be accounted for =	873,273.87	Sandhurst CF a/c 131700569	168,944.13
		Childrens Screening a/c 206102923	244,230.72
Less 2025 expenditure	237,666.09	Term Deposit a/c 193806403	122,286.25
<b>Cashbook figure @ 31/12/25</b>	<b>635,607.78</b>	<b>Cash at Bank 31/12/25</b>	<b>635,607.78</b>
<b>Claims to be received</b>		<b>Current liability</b>	
GST refund period Oct-Dec 2025	4,497.00	Superannuation due for payment at 31/12/25	1,610.07
		<b>Actual cash assets</b>	<b>638,494.71</b>

- CATEGORY B PROJECT -

# LIONS JUNIOR PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION

CHAIRPERSON JO HOWELL

The Lions Junior Public Speaking Competition continues to empower primary school students across Australia by building confidence, communication skills and leadership potential through public speaking.

First introduced by the Barham–Koondrook Lions Club in District 201V6, the competition has grown steadily through the support of Lions Clubs and schools. In 2026 this project celebrates an important milestone with 20 years as a project within District 201V6 and 10 years as a Multiple District 201 project. This growth reflects the strong commitment of Lions to youth development and community engagement.

The competition provides students in Years 3–4 and Years 5–6 with the opportunity to research a topic, organise their ideas and confidently present a speech to an audience. Schools often incorporate the competition into classroom activities, helping students develop creativity, critical thinking and self-belief. Participation frequently helps students overcome shyness while strengthening their ability to communicate clearly and confidently.

Participants research a given topic, organise their ideas, and present their speeches to an audience. In the senior section, competitors also complete a short preparation speech which encourages them to think on their feet and present ideas clearly with limited preparation time.

## Topics for 2026:

### Years 3-4:

*If you could go on a holiday anywhere in Australia, where would you go and why?*

*What could you see there and what would you do?*

### Years 5-6:

*If you could have dinner with anyone in the world (a real person, past or present),*

*Who would it be and why? What would you serve them for dinner?*

The competition progresses through School, Club, Regional, District and State levels, giving students the opportunity to refine their speaking skills and gain experience presenting to wider audiences.

By supporting this initiative, Lions Clubs strengthen relationships with local schools while encouraging youth development in their communities. The Lions Junior Public Speaking Project is also recognised as a valuable stepping stone to other Lions youth initiatives such as Youth of the Year and Leo Clubs.

Get involved with the youth in your community... you'll reap the benefits as much as they will!

Jo Howell - Chairperson

[lionsjuniorpublicspeaking@gmail.com](mailto:lionsjuniorpublicspeaking@gmail.com)



- CATEGORY B PROJECT -

# LIONS EMERGENCY MEDICAL INFORMATION BOOK

CHAIRPERSON LION CHRIS MARTIN

I am sure that everyone is aware that we as Lions share this Project with Rotary and have done for some 20 years. With regards the distribution of books we as Lions Clubs most certainly "hold our own". The total distribution last financial year was 59,759 books. This was achieved by Lions Clubs distributing 18,970 books for the year with Rotary ,9400 and other entities like State Health Depts. John, Local Govt covering the remaining 31389.

The Project has been supported by more Clubs during the last 18 months and the year to date figures show that we may be looking at something in the vicinity of 62,000 books this

year, this figure of course is supplemented by the addition of the Pocket edition and also the purchase of Counter Top Boxes for display at various outlets that Clubs can arrange locally.

Year to date figures are to the end of Dec ,31595 with Lions distributing 8550 at this time.

I look forward to continuing the EMIB Project as a, Cat B Project in to the future as we have now reached 1.7 million books distributed across Australia and constantly receive feedback as to the ability of the book to assist Ambulance officers to provide the most appropriate treatment and save lives.

<b>BALANCE SHEET</b>	
<b>AS AT 30 JUNE 2025</b>	
	<b>2025</b>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>	
BankSA term deposit	11,735
Businessaccessaccount	18,445
General account	15,999
Stripe account	15
Good and services tax	339
Trade receivables	(4,363)
	<hr/>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>42,170</b>
	<hr/>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	
Trade creditors	9,358
Deposits received	1,485
Goods and services tax	-
	<hr/>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>10,843</b>
	<hr/>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>31,327</b>
	<hr/>
<b>EQUITY</b>	
Retained Profits	31,327
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>31,327</b>
	<hr/>

ROTARY & LIONS EMERGENCY MEDICAL INFORMATION BOOK PROJECT INC

ABN 52 352 240 363

PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

	2025
<b>SALES</b>	
Sales	88,603
<b>LESS COST OF GOODS SOLD</b>	
Purchases	71,911
Gross profit from trading	16,692
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>	
Interest received	649
Donations received	260
Other revenue	-
Net Income	17,601
<b>LESS EXPENDITURE</b>	
Accountancy fees	2,250
Advertising	4,212
Auditors' remuneration	
Artwork	327
Bank charges	61
Conference costs Rotary & Lions	2,379
Domain & website	647
Freight and cartage	6,106
PayPal fees	
Postage	1,238
Printing and stationery	447
Sundry expenses	-
Telephone & internet	150
Travelling expenses	124
	17,941
<b>NET OPERATING PROFIT</b>	(340)
Retained Profits at the beginning of the financial year	31,667
<b>RETAINED PROFITS AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR</b>	31,327

A community service project from Rotary and Lions Clubs and Ambulance Services

## Emergency Medical Information Book.™



THE COUNCIL OF  
AMBULANCE  
AUTHORITIES



**Rotary**  
Tea Tree Gully  
Modbury  
Golden Grove



Lions Club of  
Blackwood SA

Your Name ..... Book Started .....

UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION REGULARLY AND KEEP YOUR BOOK ON THE FRIDGE

AMBULANCE
000

ZERO for assistance



- CATEGORY B PROJECT -

# LIONS ALZHEIMER'S FOUNDATION

CHAIRPERSON LEO MCMANUS

The Lions Alzheimer's Foundation (LAF) has marked another successful year of progress and partnership in the fight against Alzheimer's disease.

A highlight of the year was the receipt of a \$4.5 million bequest, including \$1 million to establish a Chair in Dementia and Alzheimer's Research at the University of Western Australia, with Professor Ralph Martins AO as the inaugural chair. This position commenced in February this year.

The Foundation also expanded public engagement through the launch of a new awareness video, the development of an enhanced website and participation in major national events such as the Australian Dementia Forum and Aging Well Expo.

With strong finances and ongoing national support from Lions Clubs across Australia, the

LAF continues to fund cutting edge research equipment, researcher support and community education initiatives.

At the Lions Alzheimer's Foundation AGM in October 2025 Chairperson Leo McManus thanked Lions members nationwide for their continued dedication and support, both in person and online. The Foundation reaffirmed its long - standing partnership with Professor Ralph Martins AO, a world - leading Alzheimer's researcher.

LEO McManus  
Chairperson  
Lions Alzheimer's Foundation  
[Leomcman@bigpond.net.au](mailto:Leomcman@bigpond.net.au)



## Balance Sheet

Lion's Alzheimer's Foundation  
As at 30 June 2025

	30 June 2025	30 June 2024
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Bank Balance	1,099,515	2,878,684
Receivables	1,000	-
GST receivable	4,016	14,007
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>1,104,531</b>	<b>2,892,691</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>		
Computer Equipment	161	161
DENovix Cell Counter	18,564	20,626
Lions Eye Camera	296,195	296,195
Optovue Solix with AngiVue License	108,200	108,200
Simoa HD-X Analyzer	325,586	325,586
Spectrophometer Cuvett Mode	20,243	20,243
SOZO Machine and Licenses	95,524	32,600
Neuroolith TPS Control Unit	351,690	351,690
VANTAstar with Optic	50,000	50,000
Video from Hinchliffe	22,673	22,673
Olink Accelerating Proteor	252,198	252,198
Eye Brain T2 System Aerobe	147,033	154,772
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(505,684)	(351,925)
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>	<b>1,182,383</b>	<b>1,283,019</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>2,286,914</b>	<b>4,175,710</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	-	-
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>2,286,914</b>	<b>4,175,710</b>
<b>Equity</b>		
Current Year Earnings	(1,888,797)	(110,291)
Retained Earnings	4,175,710	4,286,001
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>2,286,913</b>	<b>4,175,710</b>

## Profit and Loss

Lion's Alzheimer's Foundation  
As at 30 June 2025

	30 June 2025	30 June 2024
<b>Trading Income</b>		
Book Sales and Royalty	1,973	2,280
Donations	72,637	91,121
Donations Special	62,500	1,094,151
Interest Income	136,206	122,248
Other Revenue	-	-
<b>Total Trading Income</b>	<b>273,316</b>	<b>1,309,800</b>
<b>Cost of Sales</b>		
Convention Costs	16,510	995
Research Donations	1,952,500	1,261,000
Freight and Courier	-	267
Travel - National	-	800
<b>Total Cost of Sales</b>	<b>1,969,010</b>	<b>1,263,062</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>1,695,694</b>	<b>46,738</b>
<b>Other Income</b>		
Distributions Received	-	-
<b>Operating Expenses</b>		
Consulting & Accounting	9,467	8,161
Depreciation	163,560	125,464
Sponsorship Expenses	-	530
Other Expense	20,076	22,874
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>193,103</b>	<b>157,029</b>
<b>Net (Deficit)/Surplus for the year</b>	<b>(1,888,797)</b>	<b>(110,291)</b>

- CATEGORY B PROJECT -

# LIONS CLUB PROJECT NEED FOR FEED

CHAIRPERSON PDG GRAHAM COCKERELL

We seem to say this every year, but our last year has been one of our busiest ever. After the last Lions Multiple District Convention in May this year we wrote to every Lions & Leo Club in Australia and have received a widespread support from right across the country as well as overwhelming support from the Australian public. This support was vital in continuing our work, particularly with the worsening drought at the time in South Australia and Victoria.

The drought conditions facing farmers in South Australia were among the worst that we had seen in our 19 years of running our Lions project and charity.

Many farmers in S.A. were entering their third year of record low rainfall with no end in sight any time soon.

The conditions were shocking and only getting worse. Every day we had farmers messaging us and on the phone in tears begging for help, and if they've already had some help, of course asking for more. Farmers who we had spoken to in the worst affected areas were telling of their stock eating the leaves off the trees as far as they can reach, and when the leaves are all gone they are eating the bark as well.

We had hundreds on our waiting list who were just trying to keep their breeding stock alive.

In the case of South Australia we received good Government support, which enabled us to continue supporting that state's drought affected farmers. To date, our Lions Club Project Need for Feed has delivered more support into South Australia than all the other charities combined.

The Government recognition of our efforts culminated in the receipt of an almost 2 million dollar grant to bring more than 6000 bales of hay from Western Australia, back to South Australia. This hay run, completed with in conjunction with Farmers Across Borders from WA, was one

of our biggest ever and received widespread publicity for both organisations and Lions in general. It was a massive effort mostly completed in just one weekend, but several months in the planning.

The story featured on all 3 commercial national free to air TV networks as well as ABC, SBS and Sky News, along with many state-based print and radio media outlets. Our hay run into Southwest Victoria earlier in July last year also received widespread publicity featuring on Channel 7 nightly News, with Nick McCallum and their news crew following our hay run from start to finish.

Something else that stands out this year has been the amount of fundraisers on our behalf, Great Debates in Parliament, Concerts, Wear Green for Farmers days, Trivia nights, Parma nights, a Flower Show and a Bush Dance to name a few. They have all added up to make a big difference.

We had a bit of a break over Christmas and New Year and then have been flat out since the first fire started on January 8th. We had our first loads delivered into the Longwood fire area in less than 3 days, our trucks were the first trucks through the Police road blocks at Yea. To date we have delivered to all fire areas, including the latest at Carlisle River. We have had trucks on the road every few days.

We have had many organisations and communities collect hay donations on our behalf, to name a few, Marysville Lions, Lardner Park at Warragul, South Gippsland Shire and Strzelecki Lions at Korumburra, the Coleraine Action Club, and the Brukung Community in South Australia. One of the most heart-warming parts of all of this is the amount of farmers across South West Victoria and South Australia who we had delivered to with the drought over the last 2 years who are now donating back, even 4 farmers

burnt out in the Grampians fires this time last year. Over the Australia Day weekend we ran a convoy of 76 trucks and 20 utes and four wheel drives and trailers up the Hume Highway and then through Seymour back through Yea and Alexandra. Volunteers from 4 states took part.

We are currently working on establishing depots on farm in each of the fire areas, where recipients can accept deliveries on behalf on themselves and the smaller properties around them, and then we can keep them topped up. Now that we have passed the emergency relief stage and enter the recovery phase, this also frees up the volunteers at the community run feed depots so they can get on with their own lives. We expect this work to go on for many months to come. We will continue to be there as long as there as long as we are needed.

With our work in all states this last year we have been able to deliver much needed aid to many hundreds of farming families and raise the profile of the needs of their communities. At the community gatherings, in support of our hay runs, it has been really heartening to see the relief on their faces and the appreciation of our efforts.

As we start our 20th year as a Lions Project, we are looking at ways to celebrate our achievements over the years and our journey to this point. At the same time we will of course continue to do what we have always done and that is to support our farmers and rural communities in times of need, wherever they are.

Yours in Service  
 PDG Graham Cockerell  
 Chairman

## Profit and Loss

Need for Feed Australia Ltd  
 For the year ended 30 June 2025

	2025
<b>Trading Income</b>	
Donations (Public Collections)	662,879.65
Grants	963,042.01
Lions Club Various	369,697.38
Merchandise Sales	2,858.51
<b>Total Trading Income</b>	<b>1,998,477.55</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>1,998,477.55</b>
<b>Other Income</b>	
Interest Income	83,291.05
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>83,291.05</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>	
Advertising & Marketing	1,337.25
Assets Purchased < \$xxxx	90.49
Bank Fees	22.38
Catering	3,449.32
Club Administration Account	920.00
Computer Expenses	3,392.20
Cost to Delivery	1,378,816.70
Depot Upkeep	8,951.57
Dog Food	27,973.84
Donations paid	(12,036.67)
Fodder Purchases	666,043.08
Fuel	16,251.53
Health & Safety	125.82
Hire of Plant & Equipment	1,811.00
Merchandise	(313.09)
MV - Registration & Insurance	9,013.14
MV - Repairs & Maintenance	25,996.99
Postage, Freight & Courier	205.50
Printing & Stationery	847.98
Promoting	7,212.20
Stockpiling	75,255.63
Tolls/Parking	1,249.34
Trophy & Awards	156.53
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>2,216,772.73</b>
<b>Net Profit</b>	<b>(135,004.13)</b>



- CATEGORY B PROJECT -

# LIONS IN SUPPORT OF CARING KIDS CHARITY

CHAIRPERSON LION MARGARET SKAGIAS

## Project Summary

At the National Lions Multiple District Convention at the Gold Coast 2023, the 'Lions in Support of CaringKids Charity' project was adopted for the Category B 2023-2026 term.

In Australia, over 300,000 children act as carers for disabled or chronically ill family members, spending an average of six hours a week on caring duties. These adult responsibilities often result in missed school and a lack of time for social development. The purpose of this project is for Lions Clubs across Australia to bring joy to these young carers through the creation and distribution of JOY BOXES. These boxes, filled with toys, games, school stationery, and sports equipment are delivered by courier directly to the children's doorsteps.

## Financial and Impact Summary

The project has received tremendous support from over 260 Lions Clubs and 5 Leos Clubs in MD201. Since the commencement of the project, over \$275,000 has been received in financial and in-kind contributions.

To date, the project has reached over 3,000 children, distributing more than 100,000 items. While 900 children were specifically supported in 2025, we expect to exceed that in the 2026 period.

Feedback from parents and children is outstanding. The Joy Box impact survey developed in partnership with the Good Data Institute, will be launched in February 2026 to gather data and research outcomes on this initiative from recipients for Lions supporters.

## Recognition and Awards

In May 2025, the Barry J Palmer AO 'Kindness Matters' Recognition Award was launched at the MD201 Convention in Traralgon. Named after Past International President Barry J Palmer AO

(2013-2014), whose motto was "Follow your Dream," the award serves as a heartfelt tribute to those showing exceptional kindness to young carers. As of November 2025, 20 recognition awards have been requested.

## Acknowledgements

Districts N2, N3, and N5 provided us with the opportunity to "spotlight" the CaringKids Project at their conventions this year. Raising awareness of young carers is also our goal, feedback from conventioners about this dynamic new initiative was positive with many clubs now recognising and considering how to support carers and young carers in their local area and districts.

## Financial & Performance Data

- Total Funds Received: \$275,000+
- Total Recipients to Date: 3,000+ Children
- Total Items Distributed: 100,000+ Items
- Club Participation: 260 Lions and Leos Clubs

Number of individual donations: 1210

Project Coordinator: PDG Elvio Munzone OAM

Email: [elviom@lugarnolions.org.au](mailto:elviom@lugarnolions.org.au)

Project Chair : Lion Margaret Skagias

Email [margaret@caringskids.org.au](mailto:margaret@caringskids.org.au)



- FUNDRAISING ACTIVITY -

# LIONS CHRISTMAS CAKE & MINT PROGRAM

CHAIRPERSON PDG KAYE SMITH

It gives me pleasure in reporting of the Cake and Mint Programme for 2025.

## Cakes and Puddings

Our total sales of 56822 cartons is an increase to last year of 818 cartons which was a great result in the current economy. Clubs are doing a great job with keeping our wonderful products in every home in Australia.

The graph below shows the full sales for 2025 by State. Whilst the outcome was positive with growth throughout, there is still room for improvement. Obviously States differ in makeup and size, looking at the number of Clubs in each District there are opportunities to get more Clubs on board with selling of our great products and with the addition of the Gluten Free Cake for this year I am sure that this opportunity will encourage those Clubs not selling Cakes to give it a try.

As this goes to print the prices for this selling year from 1st July have not been set, hopefully I will have more details at Convention to pass on. I can tell you that the Gluten Free Cake will be a 400gm rich fruit cake and will sit in an orange box which will enhance the range we have.

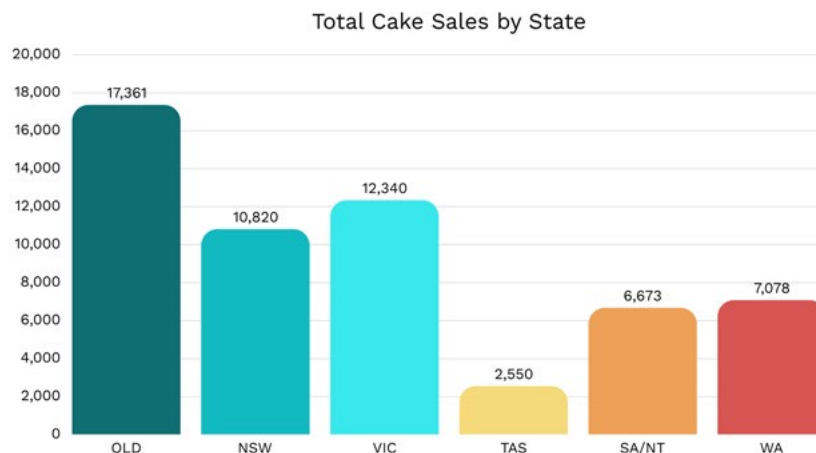
With the 2 size Cakes and now the 2 size Puddings the Gluten Free will complete a full range to offer our customers. Add to this the 80gm Mini Cake which has proved extremely popular we cover all markets.

We encourage all Clubs to make our range available all year round as we are finding that orders are starting to come in from January to December.

I would like to invite the Conventioneers to visit our Display Booth, come and have a chat we are there to assist you and your Club with any concerns that you may have regarding ordering, delivery and maybe some sales ideas that will help you achieve more sales for your Club and District.

As I move into my second year as the MD Cake & Mint Chair I would like to say a big thank you to PDG Norm Fountain who has the challenging task of looking after the Mints, to the State Chairs who try to keep on top of all sales within their respective areas and also to the hard working District Chairs that try and keep the Clubs on track, assist them with everything Cakes and Mints and encourage them to increase their sales each year to cover all members of each of our Districts. Another unenviable task of all District Chairs to get all Clubs to pay on time.

Lastly, to Stephen Heath, CEO of Traditional Foods and his staff for the ongoing help and support they give to everyone involved, we would be lost without this support, we thank you all very much and look forward to many years to come as partners with you, thank you.



- FUNDRAISING ACTIVITY -

# LIONS CHRISTMAS CAKE & MINT PROGRAM

DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON PDG NORM FOUNTAIN

After taking over the position of Deputy Chairperson for the Lions Cakes and Mints from Lion Brendon Delahunt on 1 July 2025, the role has proven to be quite challenging. The tablet machine that produces the Lions Mints at Dollar Sweets broke down, creating major delays.

To repair the machine, parts had to be sourced from Europe. This was time-consuming and left Dollar Sweets without stock to supply to clubs. This became challenging for clubs, district coordinators, and myself.

Staffing issues also added to the difficulties. The resignation of the customer service staff member meant there was little or no communication between Dollar Sweets and the clubs, coordinators, district, state, and MD.

A new team was employed from December 2025, and this has improved the supply of mints

to clubs. Orders are now being delivered within two weeks of being received, and clubs are also receiving confirmation of their orders.

For myself, communication has improved immensely since January 2026.

Due to the challenges we faced, sales dropped, and with clubs unable to purchase mints, some have withdrawn from the program.

## Meeting

A meeting took place on 16 April 2026 at Dollar Sweets in Pakenham, Victoria, with Executive Officer Lion Rob Oerlemans, PDG Sava Argyrou (Global Service Team National Coordinator), PDG Norman Fountain (Deputy Chairperson for Mints), V3 DG Geoff Anderson, C2 DG Simon Westwood, Dollar Sweets CEO Miranda Higgins, and Chief Operating Officer Grant Kaczorowski.

The meeting was very constructive, with positive outcomes moving forward. There will be a lot of work to be done as we continue into the future.



# AUSTRALIAN LIONS WELLBEING FOUNDATION (ALWF)

CHAIRPERSON PDG DAVID DANIELS OAM

## The Power of Wellbeing in Action

The Australian Lions Wellbeing Foundation (ALWF) continues to lead Lions' mental health and wellbeing initiatives nationally. Over the past 12 months, the Foundation has delivered measurable impact through national campaigns, digital innovation, and strengthened grassroots support.

## Roar for Wellbeing – A National Success

In October 2025, ALWF launched the inaugural Roar for Wellbeing campaign, aligned with Lions International's Global Service Initiative on Mental Health and Wellbeing. The campaign empowered Clubs to host wellbeing activities during Mental Health Month, supported by practical resources and national coordination.

### Key Results:

- 50+ Clubs participated nationally, holding more than 65 events
- 50 Wellbeing Event Host Resource Packs distributed

Events ranged from community walks and coffee mornings to expos and school workshops. Feedback confirmed Clubs valued the ready-to-use materials and promotional resources to support wellbeing in their communities.

We are pleased to announce Roar for Wellbeing will return in 2026 and is now positioned to become an annual national signature initiative.

## Community Grants – Strengthening Local Impact

The ALWF Community Initiative Grants program was refined with clearer criteria, online applications, and improved tracking systems. The strengthened model promotes Lions Club partnership, accountability, and measurable community outcomes.

## Tune In Not Out (TINO) – Digital Growth

A major milestone over the past 12 months was the successful launch of the TINO AI Wellbeing Guide for the youth health and wellbeing portal, [tuneinnotout.com](https://tuneinnotout.com).

The chatbot enhances accessibility by guiding young people to relevant information on topics such as depression and anxiety, bullying, alcohol and other drugs, and exam stress.

TINO continues to support young people, parents, schools, and Lions Clubs with credible, accessible wellbeing information. We encourage you to visit the site and explore the content at [tuneinnotout.com](https://tuneinnotout.com).

## Looking Ahead

In 2026, ALWF will focus on expanding Roar for Wellbeing and supporting Lions Clubs to confidently lead wellbeing initiatives.

Wellbeing underpins everything we do as Lions. When we strengthen wellbeing, we strengthen our communities.

[alwf.org.au](https://alwf.org.au)



- FOUNDATION REPORT -

# AUSTRALIAN LIONS FOUNDATION (ALF)

CHAIRPERSON PDG LESLEY LYONS

Since our last report, published for the MD Convention 2025, the Australian Lions Foundation Ltd. (ALF) has maintained its commitment to directly supporting all Lions and Leo Clubs across our Multiple District. As the philanthropic arm of Lions Australia, ALF remains the only Foundation dedicated to assisting Clubs and their initiatives. Importantly, all funds received are allocated solely to Australian Lions Club projects.

### **Grants Program**

Our Grants program has continued to assist Clubs through various available grants. Over the past twelve months, 108 grants have been approved, totalling a value of \$1,146,038.11. This remarkable achievement highlights our dedication to assisting our clubs with projects and disaster relief efforts.

The Foundation's ability to award grants is reliant on the generous support provided by Clubs via donations, the presentation of awards to deserving recipients, and public donations. It is essential that this support continues, as ALF cannot operate without it.

### **Awards Program and General Grants**

Funds generated through the Awards program enable the provision of General Grants, which are accessible to all Clubs. When Clubs honour deserving members or community individuals with an award, it directly increases the Foundation's capacity to offer General Grants to Clubs.

### **Disaster Support**

Victoria has faced difficult times with devastating fires, while Queensland has been impacted by floods. ALF will continue to offer support to the V and Q Districts as requests are received.

### **Membership and Grant Eligibility**

All Lions Clubs and Districts within our Multiple District are eligible to become members of ALF and must hold membership to receive grants. Currently, 939 Clubs are members. We actively encourage the remaining Lions Clubs to join. Leo Clubs and Club Branches wishing to apply for grants may do so through their Sponsor Clubs.

### **ALF Board of Directors**

The current Directors of the Foundation and their respective portfolios are listed below:

- Chairman / Awards and "Q Districts" Director: PDG Lesley Lyons
- Treasurer and "WA" Districts Director: Lion Amanda Cornell
- Secretary and "C" District Director: Lion Cheryle Pedler OAM
- Promotions Chairman and "N" Districts Director: Lion Rob Oerlemans
- General Grants Chairman and "T" Districts Director: PDG Dale "Toby" Crawford
- Emergency/Disaster/Compassionate/Special Purpose Grants Chairperson and "V" District Director: PDG John Houghton OAM

### **Annual General Meeting**

At our Annual General Meeting, we will present the Financial Accounts for the previous year and provide an update on ALF's activities and plans for the next twelve months. All Clubs are encouraged to attend.

### **Appreciation**

Sincere appreciation is extended to the Directors for their dedicated work, alongside our ALF District Chairpersons. Their tireless efforts support Clubs in building stronger communities.

We also acknowledge and thank all Clubs for their financial support, which is vital for ALF to continue providing grants to Clubs and supporting communities affected by disasters. Please continue your valued support.

### Further Information

ALF encourages all Lions and Leos to visit our website for general information and to explore the many projects undertaken by Clubs throughout Australia: [www.alf.org.au](http://www.alf.org.au)

### Conclusion

The Australian Lions Foundation Ltd is proud of its role in **“Helping Lions, help their community”**.

PDG Lesley A Lyons  
Chairperson



Australian Lions Foundation financials are accessible via the members area of [www.alf.org.au](http://www.alf.org.au), as advised directly to clubs.



- FOUNDATION REPORT -

# LIONS CLUBS

# INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION AUSTRALIA

CONSTITUTIONAL AREA 7 LCIF LEADER  
PID TIM IRVINE

The Lions Clubs International Foundation is our primary charitable arm of Lions International and last year raised in excess of US\$84million and awarded individual grants of US\$44million in addition to the other programmes supported by the Foundation.

**1,355,580**

vision beneficiaries received LCIF funded support this fiscal year

**Over 2.2 billion**

people globally have a near or distance vision impairment  
(World Health Organization)

**37,198**

childhood cancer beneficiaries received LCIF funded support in 2024-2025

**200 million to 830 million**

people living with diabetes increased between 1990 and 2022.  
(World Health Organization)

**352,474**

disaster relief beneficiaries this year

**91,868**

diabetes beneficiaries received LCIF funded support in 2024-2025

## LCIF MD201 GRANTS

The Foundation continues to be very active in supporting disaster relief and in assisting clubs and districts in enabling greater service projects in MD201.

In this lions year 2025/26 (to Feb 2026) we have received 10 grants totaling US\$201,190:

- 201Q2 renovate basketball court in PNG
- MD201 Adopt a Family grant for flood relief (2 grants)
- 201N2 community health awareness programme
- 201N1 vision screening equipment
- 201N3 emergency grant bushfire relief
- 201N3 equipment for palliative care unit
- 201WA vehicle for mental health programme
- 201C1 Leos toiletry packs for homeless
- 201V1-4 emergency grant for bushfire relief

(It is particularly pleasing to note the grant for the Leos in 201C1).

The Adopt a Family Program is proving to be a great success in Australia and has now been

established as an ongoing programme in MD201 and is being looked at closely by Lions Clubs International Foundation to see if the same model could be adopted in other areas around the world to support their major catastrophe initiatives.



## FUND RAISING

As at the end of January MD201 was sitting at 39% of its fund raising target. This is slightly behind where we were at the same time last year but given that a large portion of club donations come towards the end of the Lions year it is hoped that we can improve that percentage considerably and reach our annual target. Please remember to consider our International Foundation when you are doing your year end distributions and also take the opportunity to recognise the exceptional contributions of your members by granting Melvin Jones Fellows and Progressive MJF's.

There is also the opportunity for members to make personal contributions to our Foundation. Many of us contribute to other very worthwhile charities but do we ever consider making a donation to our own Foundation. Every dollar that is given to our Foundation goes into charitable work and supports the projects of our clubs and districts. So why not consider making a personal contribution. This could either be a single donation amount or you could set up a small monthly amount to support our service.

Individual donors are eligible for a Presidential Supporters Pin.



For individuals who wish to claim a tax deduction for their donation then they can do this by depositing the funds into the Australian Fund for LCIF (see Lions Australia website for details). The other advantage of making a donation through the Australian Fund for LCIF is that because of the taxation status the money must be spent on projects within Australia and cannot be used for overseas programmes.

The other way that members can support our Foundation is by becoming a Lions Legacy Society member and pledging an amount from your estate. This is something very new and has just been launched in Australia and is a way to ensure that you can help continue the work that you've already been doing for many years.

I would also like to acknowledge each of the District Chairs and District Governors for your work and support in promoting our Foundation.

**LCIF is your Foundation. It is there to support the work of your club and your district. Support your Foundation so that it can support you.**

PID Tim Irvine

LCIF CA7 Area Leader

- COMMITTEE REPORT -

# AUSTRALIAN LIONS ASSISTANCE DOGS

CHAIRPERSON PDG NORM ALCOCK

Lions Assistance Dogs (LAD), formerly known as the Australian Lions Hearing Dogs (ALHD), was established in 1980, approved by delegates at the Canberra Multiple District Convention. Funds were raised by Lions Clubs across Australia and the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), enabling the purchase of our Training Centre in Verdun. The first Australian Lions Hearing Dog, Amber, was delivered in 1982. Since then, over 750 Assistance Dogs have been placed throughout Australia.

In 2020, we commenced the development of our Medical Alert Dog (MAD - Diabetic) Program, successfully delivering our inaugural canine companion. This initiative has experienced continued growth, resulting in six placements this year. In 2024, the organisation underwent a notable transformation with the introduction

of a Psychiatric Assistance Dog program and the acquisition of a long-term contract with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Our training team successfully placed a record 41 Assistance Dogs last year, comprising 24 Hearing Dogs (HAD), 6 Medical Alert Dogs (MAD), and 11 Psychiatric Assistance Dogs (PAD).

Within our breeding program, 27 puppies were born. Additionally, we have 29 puppies in our puppy program and 18 dogs in our training programs, with a total of 11 HAD, 6 PAD, and 1 MAD. All of our dogs that have been placed undergo regular public access tests, which are conducted by our staff to ensure that they continue to meet the stringent standards required of all Assistance Dogs.





Despite a slow pace, progress has been made in the redevelopment of the centre. It is expected that a contract will be signed prior to the Convention and construction anticipated to commence in June or July of this year. Fundraising for the centre's upgrade has been hindered by various factors. However, we are confident that the establishment of the Capital Campaign committee and the appointment of an experienced philanthropy and gifts lead with expertise in not-for-profit associations' capital fundraising strategies will ensure the availability of the necessary funds to complete the project.

The redevelopment of the site will present certain challenges for the staff, including the relocation of some employees, the training and placement of the dogs. Nevertheless, we anticipate successfully placing 32 dogs this year.

In response to the expansion of our training program to include Medical Alert Dogs (MAD) and Psychiatric Assistance Dogs (PAD), the Board of Directors and the MD Council of Governors unanimously approved a change in our trading name to "Lions Assistance Dogs." This change aligns more closely with our current programs and became effective on July 1, 2025. The majority of our clients and Lions Clubs have accepted this change.

The project's success is attributed to the unwavering passion and motivation of our dedicated staff and the committed volunteers, both past and present. The Board of Directors, MD EO Rob Oerlemans, and the staff at the Lions Australia Office have consistently demonstrated their willingness to provide assistance when requested. Additionally, our Council of Governors remains readily available to offer support whenever needed.

Finally, we extend our sincere gratitude to all the Lions Clubs that have steadfastly supported our program over the years. We also express our deepest appreciation to our sponsors and supporters for their invaluable contributions. We are immensely grateful for the assistance we have received.

Financial Statements are available for perusal on the [acnc.gov.au](http://acnc.gov.au) web site by scanning this QR Code.



## Lions Assistance Dogs Demonstrations

**1pm Saturday  
23 May 2026**  
Trainee Dog Obstacle Course

**11am Sunday  
24 May 2026**  
Puppy Obedience

# INSURANCE RISK MANAGEMENT & CHILD SAFE COMMITTEE

CHAIRPERSON PDG PETER LAMB

It is with great pleasure that I present to this Convention, the report for the MD201 Insurance, Risk Management and Child Safe Committee.

## COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

This Committee is privileged to have the services of the following Insurance Professionals as members: PDG Peter Lamb (Chairperson), PDG Bob Korotcoff, PDG Donna Hedges, PDG John Houghton, Lion Garry Bates and Lion John Duignan to serve as the Committee. Our National Broker is A.B. Phillips Pty Ltd Insurance Brokers, who recently merged with JUA Underwriting Agency, who continue to assist Lions with their many insurance needs.

Following his recent appointment to the Insurance Committee, Lion Garry Bates now serves as our Risk and Safety Consultant and brings with him a vast knowledge about Risk Management and Safety-First guidelines.

The Lions' Insurance Portfolio is administered by;

**A. B. Phillips Pty Ltd  
Insurance Brokers.**

**PO Box 832, Moorabbin Vic. 3189**

**Email: [lionsinsurance@abphillips.com.au](mailto:lionsinsurance@abphillips.com.au)**

**Website: [www.abphillips.com.au](http://www.abphillips.com.au)**

**Phone: 1300 242 136**



Scan  
to visit the  
Lions Australia  
Insurance  
Centre

As Chairman, I have the pleasure of serving with the above Lions and I desire to record my appreciation of their dedication and service to the Lions of this Multiple District. Our Brokers also continue to support us, and they provide us with excellent service and advice.

The role of the MD 201 Insurance and Management Committee is to recommend and advise the Council of Governors on all matters relating to insurance, risk management and child safety for Lions Clubs, with the exception of the Lions Worldwide Public Liability Programme which is controlled by The International Association of Lions Clubs in Oak Brook USA.

This committee reports to each Council Meeting and regularly reviews the adequacy of all insurance coverages and maintains a watch over claim settlements. Please take the time to visit our booth display and meet all the members of the committee. After 47 years of dedicated service, PDG Bob Korotcoff is retiring from this committee, and I am sure all Lions join me in thanking Bob for his wise council, incredible industry knowledge, and friendly service to countless Lions members.

## INSURANCE INFORMATION FOR LIONS

Following regular committee meetings, we have continued to expand the Lions Insurance website. This is a major step towards giving Lions Clubs ready access to all insurance policies and information. We invite all Lions to visit our website which can be accessed at:  
[www.lionsclubs.org.au/insurance](http://www.lionsclubs.org.au/insurance)

## PROOF OF PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE

Frequently, Clubs are requested by the owners of premises used by Clubs, to produce evidence that Lions carry a Public Liability Insurance

Policy. In this instance, Clubs need to request a "Named" Certificate of Currency from A.B. Phillips, who are the only ones authorised to issue this document. Ordinary Public Liability Certificates of Currency documents are available from the Lions website. Please note that you must download two certificates - one from Chubb Insurance and one from Lloyds Insurance, which when combined provide \$20M cover.

Clubs must be aware that only owned and controlled activities of a Lions Club are insured under these Policies. We cannot extend the coverage to grant insurance to other organisations, under any circumstances. To simply sponsor another group does not constitute ownership and control.

If you have any doubts or concerns in this regard, please do not hesitate to talk to A.B. Phillips.

### **OPTIONAL COVERS**

Optional Extra Insurances only apply if your Club completes and forwards an Application Form to insure or increase the benefits under any optional additional insurance policy. Please consider the need for these policies and send your payments to A.B. Phillips as soon as possible. Last year, a number of Clubs had their policies lapsed, due to the non-payment of premiums. It is the responsibility of all Clubs to ensure that renewals

are not only received prior to the common renewal date (30/9 each year) but that covers are relevant to the risk and paid prior to the renewal date. Obviously, a claim could be declined in the event of a lapsed policy, irrespective of what or who is at fault.

### **CLAIMS**

As with all Insurance Policies, ours carry the usual requirement that any claim must be reported immediately. In the past, there have been instances of late notification, and this has caused embarrassment to all concerned. Would all Club Secretaries please note that whenever something happens, that might lead to a claim under any of the Lions Insurance Policies, that they contact PDG Peter Lamb straight away for any assistance and guidance. Claim Forms can be downloaded from the Lions Insurance Website or are available from any member of the Insurance Committee.

### **CONVENTION QUERIES**

The Insurance, Risk Management and Child Safe Committee will be represented at this Convention by PDG Peter Lamb, PDG Bob Korotcoff, PDG Donna Hedges, PDG John Houghton and Lions John Duignan and Garry Bates. Please come and talk to them at Convention if you have any insurance queries.

**lions** australia  
*we serve*



- COMMITTEE REPORT -

# LEO COMMITTEE

CHAIRPERSON SIOBHAN ELLIOTT

The Leos program gives young people the opportunity to serve their communities alongside peers and build lasting friendships. At its heart, Leos is about practical community involvement and creating spaces where young people belong. The MD Leo Committee supports District Chairs and Clubs across Australia in sustaining that experience.

MD Leo Committee - As Lion Pam Bennett concludes her term as Chairperson, I sincerely thank her for her dedication and passion for Leos. Her steady leadership strengthened the program across the Multiple District and her contribution is greatly appreciated.

I also thank PDG Peter Perry, Lion Debbie Tierney, Lion Jessica Noble, Lion Lee Walkington, PDG Nicole Phillips and Lion Linda Payne for their continued support of Leos and District Leo Coordinators. PDG Norm Sommerville and Lion Keryn Randall stepped down this year, and I thank them for their service.

Leos Clubs and Membership - Seven new Leos clubs were chartered over the past year, while five clubs were dropped. At the time of writing, there are 72 Alpha clubs and 19 Omega clubs across Multiple District 201. Alpha clubs remain strong; however, the balance between Alpha and Omega clubs requires attention as Alpha Leos reach the upper age bracket. Lions Clubs are encouraged to sponsor Omega clubs so Leos can remain active within the program. Maintaining continuity as Leos progress remains

an ongoing focus.

Leo Chair Training Program - District Leo Chair training was held in person in Melbourne alongside Youth of the Year, providing District Chairs with the opportunity to connect and strengthen collaboration across programs.

Leo of the Year and Leo Club Project of the Year - The National Final of the Leo of the Year competition last year was held at the Multiple District Convention in Traralgon. The winner was Cheuk Yui Lam from Leos Melbourne Next Gen, and the Public Speaking Award was presented to Hope Lankford from Gosnells Leo Club. The International Leo of the Year Award was won by Charlize Chow, one of only 40 Leos worldwide to receive this recognition. Leo Club Project of the Year was awarded to Morley Leos Club for Project Christmas Child, providing Christmas gift bags to families in need across Western Australia. There were no entries from an Omega Leo club, and I encourage Omega clubs to consider nominating in the future.



Leo Advisory Panel - The Australian Leo Advisory Panel, chaired by Charlize Chow, met regularly online and continued to provide feedback to support the development of Leos across the Multiple District. Their contributions inform practical improvements within the program.

Conclusion - Leos remains an important part of our organisation, with Lions Clubs providing opportunities for young people to serve and connect across generations. I extend my sincere thanks to PDG Toby Crawford for his continued guidance and steady support within Youth and Community Projects. His experience and perspective have been invaluable, and I am particularly grateful for the time and care he invests in the youth programs and for the advice and encouragement he so generously provides. To the Lions who sponsor and support Leos, thank you for helping the program continue to grow within Multiple District 201.



- COMMITTEE REPORT -

# LIONS PEACE POSTER & ESSAY COMPETITION

CHAIRPERSON PDG LORRAINE MCKENZIE

The Peace Poster/ Peace Essay International contests run from February until November each year, and the theme for this year, 2026-2027, is "Harmony in Humanity", which is asking students to create a Poster/Essay that images a world where people of every culture and background live together peacefully - celebrating differences, finding common ground and creating true harmony in humanity.

More than 55 Countries take part in the contests each year, and the International winners of each contest are announced at the Lions United Nations Day in March of the following year.

Australia Lions Clubs have participated in the contest for many years. Last year, All Districts took part in the contest. In Australia 97 Kits were sold from MD Office. Many clubs took up the offer to purchase Online, direct from International. Over 1500 students from Australia took part in the Peace Poster contest.

Congratulations to our MD winner of the MD Peace Poster for 2025-2026, Zoey Liu, representing the Lions Club of Rochedale Springwood, Q1. Zoey will be at the convention and will sign her poster for you for a small donation. She will also be presented with her prize on stage at the Convention.

My congratulations go to all the students who entered the contest, your work was outstanding and a credit to you. All district winner entries for 2025-2026 can be viewed at the booth at this convention.

Congratulations also to the International winner from China and Constitutional Area 7 winner from Indonesia. These posters will also be on display at Convention.

It was disappointing that there were no entries in the MD Peace Essay Competition and a lot more work needs to be done in this area.

It is not too late to purchase the kits through our MD Office, or if you wish they can be purchased direct from Lions International. All District Chairs have been advised to get information out to clubs as soon as possible to give students between the ages of 11 and 13, time to submit their entries in either the Peace Poster or Peace Essay Contests to their Lions Club for judging late September, early October.

The MD site has been updated for this year (2026-2027) with the theme, how to get kits, cost, cut off dates for judging and some tips. Please make sure the rules that LCI set for these competitions are adhered to as many entries each year are disqualified due to not following the rules.

My thanks to all the District Chairs for their outstanding work in getting the contest in their Districts up and running smoothly, and to the clubs for the great work you do in giving the students in your areas a platform to express their visions of peace and inspire the world through art and creativity.



- COMMITTEE REPORT -

# PNG DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

CHAIRPERSON PCC RODD CHIGNELL

The aim of the committee is to support and assist the ongoing development of lions and the Lion's organisation in Papua New Guinea (PNG).

The committee continues to seek development opportunities for the PNG lions. The ability of the committee to promote these opportunities is a direct result of the financial support provided by Australian lions with their voluntary donations to the PNG Development Fund – Thank You Australian Lions. However, more donations are needed to help combat the distances between clubs and the lack of infrastructure that would support the use of electronic communications as well as face2face training and development.

The committee also acknowledges and recognises the clubs that are providing direct support to PNG clubs with recycled eyeglasses, clothing, and school supplies. The committee would appreciate clubs undertaking these activities to advise the committee on what they are doing to ensure that we Lions can be as efficient as possible in our service delivery as well as formally recognising the work of these clubs.

Lions' promotional information was sent to each of the six PNG clubs after the last convention to aid membership initiatives and offer encouragement. Those who follow the PNG clubs on facebook will be able to see the interesting and wonderful achievements the clubs are making in their communities.

The Regional Lions Leadership Institute (RLLI) in Brisbane in June 2025, provided an opportunity for the committee to support two PNG lions to attend. This was a great opportunity for these lions to engage with various Australian Lions and develop their ideas on what they can do in their own clubs and their communities.

The flow-on effect of the RLLI attendance by these two PNG lions has seen the formation of

three branch clubs. The committee supported DG Q2 Toni Lanphier and MD Membership Chair PDG John Seymour in conducting a Lions awareness training weekend in Port Moresby in February 2026 for 24 attendees. The training engagement was warmly received and has helped activate attendees to promote Lions and Lions works in their communities.

There is a need for funding to continue the support to PNG lions and Australian Lions are asked to contribute to the ongoing support. Please visit the PNG Development stand at Convention to find out what your club can do.

Finally, the committee continues to work closely with District Q2 in supporting their vision projects through LCIF grant funding. The previous grant enabled quality cataract services to be provided at four provincial hospitals in Papua New Guinea, thus building on the services available in the recently refurbished Lions Eye Clinic in Port Moresby General Hospital. District Q2 is in the process of seeking another LCIF grant for additional vision services. All this is a reflection of Lions at work where there is a need.



## Lions International

# MD 201 CONVENTION STANDING ORDERS

## STANDING ORDERS RELATED TO RULES OF PROCEDURES & DEBATE FOR MULTIPLE DISTRICT 201 CONVENTION 2026

### Preliminary

Where these Rules do not cover a particular situation, it shall be dealt with in accordance with rules laid down in the publication by P.E. Joske entitled 'The Law and Procedure at Meetings in Australia' and, where the particular situation is not covered by either of these Rules or the said publication the Chairperson shall make a ruling.

### Definitions

In these Rules:

- a) "Chairperson" means the Chairperson of Multiple District Council (or any person acting in his place) presiding at any properly constituted Convention or any Committee thereof.  
"Committee" means any properly constituted Committee of the Convention appointed for a period not exceeding the duration of the Convention.
- b) "Convention" means a Convention of Multiple District 201.
- c) "Council" means the Council of Multiple District 201 of Lions Clubs International Inc.
- d) "Delegate" means any registered Delegate registered for the Convention and any registered Alternate Delegate when acting as a Delegate.
- e) "Quorum" means:
  - i) In relation to a Convention the deemed quorum in accordance with Clause 5 of these Standing Orders;
  - ii) In relation to Committee a majority of the members of that Committee.
- f) "Formal Motions" shall be:
  - i) The closure.
  - ii) Adjournment of debate to a later time at this Convention.
  - iii) Adjournment of debate to another Convention.
  - iv) Adjournment of debate indefinitely.
  - v) Adjournment of the Convention to another Convention.
  - vi) Adjournment of the Convention indefinitely.
  - vii) That the question lie on the table.
  - viii) That the speaker be no longer heard.
- g) Wherever the male gender or pronoun appears, it shall be interpreted to mean both male and female persons.

### Explanatory Comments of "Formal Motions":

1. In these Rules:
  - a) "The Closure"  
This Motion is used, if carried, to terminate debate and to bring a matter to the vote. The form in

which this motion is moved in "That the question be now put". This motion may be applied to an amendment as well as to a motion. If this motion is carried a vote must be immediately taken without right of reply or further discussion or amendment on the motion or amendment to which it applied.

- b) "Adjournment of Debate"  
These motions are used, if carried to adjourn the particular matter being debated (both motion and amendments) when the meeting will continue to deal with other business.

The form in which these motions are moved is:

- i) "That this debate be adjourned to a later time, (to be specified) at this Convention", or
- ii) "That this debate be adjourned to another Convention (year to be specified)"; or
- iii) "That this debate be adjourned indefinitely".

These motions cannot be amended, discussed or debated as to the time or date of the Convention at which the adjourned debate is to be resumed.

Should motion "(iii)" be carried, the matter which was adjourned may be reintroduced at another Convention on due notice being given.

- c) "Adjournment of Convention"  
This motion cannot be moved whilst another person is speaking but it can be moved during the course of debate on a particular matter. This motion cannot be amended except that amendments as to the time date and place of the adjourned Convention are permissible. This motion cannot be discussed or debated other than that amendments as to the time date and/or place of the adjourned Convention may be discussed and debated. If it is resolved that "this Convention be adjourned indefinitely" the adjournment will be to the next scheduled Convention at which both adjourned business and new business may be discussed. If it is resolved that "this Convention be adjourned to a date time and place (to be specified)" other than the next scheduled Convention then at the adjourned Convention only adjourned business can be discussed.

- d) "That the question lie on the table"  
This motion is used, if carried, to defer further discussion on the matter before the Convention and the Convention proceeds to the next business. There can be a subsequent motion at the same Convention to take the question or matter from the table. If the matter is not lifted from the table during the Convention with the debate proceeding the matter will lapse but it may be brought forward as new business at the next Multiple District Convention.

The form in which this motion is moved is "that

this question or matter lie on the table". This motion may be applied to an amendment as well as to a motion. If carried on an amendment, the original motion is also laid on the table.

- e) "That the speaker be no longer heard"  
The form in which this motion is moved is "that the speaker be no longer heard". If this motion is accepted by the Chairperson, the person who was speaking must immediately resume his seat until the motion is voted upon. If the motion is lost he may continue to speak.

2. In these Rules, the following apply:

- a) "Formal Motions" require to be seconded, and  
b) "Formal Motions" cannot be moved or seconded by anyone who has moved seconded or spoken on the matter immediately under consideration.  
c) The Chairperson has complete discretion as to whether he will accept any "Formal Motion".  
d) The mover has no right of reply on Formal Motions.  
e) The following "Formal Motions" cannot be amended, discussed or debated:  
i) The closure.  
ii) That the question lie on the table.  
iii) The speaker be no longer heard.  
f) The following "Formal Motions" cannot be moved whilst another person in speaking:  
i) Adjournment of debate to a later time at this Convention.  
ii) Adjournment of debate to another Convention.  
iii) Adjournment of debate indefinitely.  
iv) Adjournment of the Convention to another Convention.  
v) Adjournment of the Convention indefinitely.  
vi) That the question lie on the table.  
g) The following "Formal Motions" can be moved whilst another person is speaking:  
i) The closure.  
ii) That the speaker be no longer heard.

## General

3. Quorum:  
The certified delegates present in person at any session of the Convention shall constitute a quorum. At the discretion of the Chairperson, a count of the delegates present may be carried out to establish the number of delegates in attendance.
4. Order of Business:  
Except in the case of a resolution to suspend Standing Orders, business at any Convention shall be conducted strictly in accordance with the business paper or agenda prepared by the Executive Officer
5. Minutes:  
A comprehensive and accurate record of any meeting shall be kept by an officer appointed by the Council and shall be recorded in accordance with such requirements as may be determined by Council.
6. Distribution of Information at Conventions  
a) Only delegates may distribute material in relation to a Notice of Motion at a Multiple District

Convention.

- b) Where a group of delegates act together in concert with a view to presenting a common submission in relation to a Notice of Motion at a Multiple District Convention they shall, for the purposes of this by-law, be deemed to be one delegate.
- c) The only material in relation to a Notice of Motion which a delegate may distribute at a Multiple District Convention is a pamphlet which complies with these by-laws.
- d) Such pamphlet should consist of:  
i) no more than one A4 page (although each side of each page may be printed);  
ii) be printed in any colour or colours and  
iii) not contain any photographs.
- e) No such pamphlet shall be distributed at a Multiple District Convention unless it shall at first have been approved by the MD Legal Officer.
- f) A person wishing to obtain approval of the MD Legal Officer to the distribution of a pamphlet shall submit a draft of the material to the MD Legal Officer not later than fourteen days preceding the date of commencement of the convention.
- g) The MD Legal Officer shall only approve the pamphlet if:-  
i) it contains only factual information;  
ii) does not contain any information which is defamatory or deprecatory of any person or any Lions organisation; and  
iii) it does not contain any information which is scandalous, frivolous or vexatious.
- h) The MD Legal Officer may require amendments to the pamphlet as a pre-requisite to his approval.  
i) Such pamphlets shall only be distributed to delegates at the entry points to the auditorium of the convention.  
ii) A delegate shall not distribute more than one such pamphlet.

## Powers and Duties of the Chairperson

7. The Chairperson shall preside over and control a meeting and may require any speaker to resume his seat if he speaks over his time or does not keep to the point under discussion or is disorderly. In addition, the Chairperson shall be vested with the power to order a person to leave and to be excluded from the Convention if in the Chairperson's opinion such person  
a) is disrupting the proceedings of the Convention,  
b) is causing discomfort or embarrassment to other delegates, or c) is acting in manner inconsistent with the promotion of the Objects and Ethics of Lions Clubs International
8. The Chairperson shall not exercise voting rights (except as a delegate of his club) and shall not have a casting vote. A Chairperson of a committee shall have voting rights but shall not have a casting vote.
9. In the event of the voting on a motion or amendment being equal the Chairperson shall declare that the motion or amendment is lost.
10. Notwithstanding anything appearing elsewhere in these

Rules, the Chairperson may at any time request the approval of the meeting:

- a) To suspend Standing Orders for a definite time or until a defined event in either case to be stated by the Chairperson.
  - b) To adjourn a matter under discussion to later in the order of business, or to some other time in either case to be stated by the Chairperson.
  - c) To grant leave to a person who is not a Delegate to address the Convention, provided that Lionesses and Leos may seek leave to speak on any topic similar to the rights given to non-delegates.
  - d) To terminate the debate if in his opinion reasonable discussion has taken place.
11. The Chairperson may at his discretion refuse to accept notices of motion, motions and/or amendments if in his opinion:
- a) They are ambiguous; or
  - b) They are unconstitutional; or
  - c) They are invalid; or
  - d) They are procedurally out of order; or
  - e) They have not been received, analysed and if necessary redrafted by the Constitution and By-Laws Committee.
12. During the course of any meeting, the Chairperson may require notices of motion, motions and/or amendments to be given in writing and may require any motion or amendment to be divided.
13. Questions
- a) A question which relates to a motion or amendment cannot be asked until the mover and seconder of the motion, or amendment as the case may be, have spoken to the motion or amendment.
  - b) A question:
    - i) Must be directed to the Chairperson;
    - ii) May indicate the person from whom the questioner seeks a response;
    - iii) Shall be answered by such a person as the Chairperson directs (who may be a person other than that indicated by the questioner); and
    - iv) Shall not be accompanied by any explanation or statement except with leave of the Chairperson, first had and obtained.
  - c) A question which does not relate to a motion or amendment may only be put when there is no motion or amendment before the Convention.
  - d) The Chairperson may refuse to accept a question if the question is frivolous, scandalous, vexatious or inconsistent with the promotion of the Objects and Ethics of Lions Clubs International.
  - e) The Council Chairperson has the right at their absolute discretion to delegate the chairing of the Notices of Motion session at the MD201 Convention to another Lion.
14. Points of Order:  
Points of Order may be raised by any Delegate at a Convention or by any member of a committee at a meeting of a committee at any time and shall be

immediately ruled upon by the Chairperson.

15. In the event of a dispute arising on a matter of procedure or a point of order the Chairperson shall give a ruling and such ruling shall be final.
16. Late Notices of Motion:  
The Chairperson in his discretion may allow motions, to admit late notices of motion to be dealt with singly, or in groups of late notices of motion.
17. Division:  
The Chairperson may at his discretion and shall if requested by a Delegate before the Convention commences the next item of business, where such request is supported by at least 50 delegates, require delegates voting on a motion to divide and be counted in such manner and at such time as he may from time to time determine. Such division may be deferred until such time as the Chairperson determines.

### Substantive Rules of Debate

18. Motion:  
A motion shall be affirmative in form and shall be the property of a Convention when it has been moved and seconded and accepted by the Chairperson. A seconder of any motion or amendment shall not be entitled to reserve his speech.
19. Withdrawal of a motion:  
A notice of motion submitted to a Convention shall not be withdrawn except by a motion for its withdrawal moved and seconded and approved by the Convention. A motion for the withdrawal of a notice of motion may be moved and seconded immediately the Chairperson calls forward the notice of motion as the next item of business.
20. Amendments:  
An amendment to a motion shall become the property of a Convention when it has been duly moved and seconded and accepted by the Chairperson. Such amendment may add to, or alter, but shall not directly negate the original motion or be of such a nature that the original motion loses its identity.  
Should a Motion comprising multiple segments be submitted for consideration as a whole, no amendment seeking to deal separately with any segment or segments shall be accepted.
21. Only one amendment to a motion at a time shall be dealt with, although a further amendment may be foreshadowed. No amendment of an amendment shall be permitted. The mover and seconder of a motion may speak against an amendment; and in so doing the mover does not lose the right of reply to the principal motion
22. Amended Motion:  
If an amendment is passed then the motion as amended shall become the motion before the Convention and may be further amended. If the amendment is defeated the motion remains the motion before the Convention.
23. Incorporation of an Amendment:  
The mover and seconder of a motion may, by their mutual consent, incorporate a proposed amendment into their motion provided however that

the amendment does not include a matter requiring notice. Where the proposed amendment does include such matter, the motion as so amended shall only be accepted with the consent of at least a two-thirds majority of the meeting.

24. Rights of Reply:  
The mover of a motion shall be entitled to a right of reply which must be exercised immediately prior to the motion (whether in its original or in any amended form) being put to the vote finally. The subject matter of the reply must be limited to matters raised in opposition and shall not include new material. There is no right of reply to an amendment.
25. A person who is not a Delegate at a Convention shall not move or second a motion or any amendment or cast any vote other than an Officer of the Council or the Chairperson or acting Chairperson of a Council Committee who may move second or speak on a motion affecting his office or committee.
26. Order of Speakers:  
The mover of the motion (or of an amendment thereto) shall and the seconder may speak to the motion (or amendment) irrespective of whether or not there is an indication of opposition to the particular motion (or amendment).  
Following the addresses by the mover and seconder of a motion (or of an amendment thereto), the Chairperson shall invite two separate speakers to speak against the motion (or amendment), then alternate one speaker for and one speaker against the motion (or amendment).
27. Recognition of Speakers:  
A person wishing to speak to a motion or an amendment at a Convention shall rise to his feet and remain in his place until recognised by the Chairperson.
28. Time Allotted for Speaking:  
The mover of a motion shall be permitted to speak for no longer than five minutes and any other speaker thereon shall be permitted to speak for no longer than three minutes provided however that the Convention may grant to the mover or any other speaker thereon an extension or extensions of time for not more than three minutes each. A warning shall be sounded 30 seconds prior to the conclusion of the time a speaker shall be permitted to speak.
29. Subject Matter:  
A person speaking upon a motion or amendment shall confine himself strictly to the subject matter of that motion or amendment; and in the event of a failure to do so, shall accept lawful directions from the Chairperson.
30. Limitation Upon Speakers:  
Except by way of explanation, or by way of query, or by way of answering a question directly put (and in each case with the permission of the Chairperson), no person other than the mover shall speak more than once upon a motion.
31. A person shall not move or second more than one amendment to each motion. However, he may speak to amendments moved by others.
32. Interruption to Speakers: Apart from powers exercised by the Chairperson a speaker may only be interrupted by:
  - a) The raising of a Point of Order; or
  - b) A motion "that the question be now put"; or
  - c) A motion "that the speaker be no longer heard".
33. Rediscussing a Lost Motion:  
Should a motion be lost at a Convention it is competent at that same Convention by a two thirds majority of the delegates present and voting to resolve to rediscuss it whereupon the lost motion may be moved and seconded again and then redebated and voted upon to the intent that it may be passed by a majority of delegates present and voting.
34. Rescission of a Motion carried at this Convention:  
Should a motion be passed it is competent for this Convention by a two-thirds majority of the delegates present and voting to resolve to rediscuss it whereupon a motion to rescind may be moved seconded and debated and voted upon to the intent that the Motion to rescind may be passed by a majority of the delegates present and voting.
35. Rescission of Motion carried at any prior Convention:  
No Motion to rescind or amend a resolution carried at any prior Convention shall be accepted if action has already been taken pursuant to such resolution which cannot be undone, and the decision of the Chairperson in office at the time when the Motion to rescind or amend would otherwise be brought before the Convention shall be final in determining whether or not such action can be undone. If the Chairperson resolves that such a Motion can be accepted, it may be moved seconded and debated and voted upon in the same way as any other Motion on that topic subject to these Rules and the Multiple District Constitution.
36. Any motion passed at a Convention shall unless otherwise specified in such motion take effect upon the closing of that Convention.  
Convention Forums
37. Where a forum is held during a Convention, only recommendations on matters pertinent to the topics or topic designated by the Council for discussion at that Forum shall be made to the Convention.  
Electronic Broadcasting Devices
38. It shall not be permissible for any Lion attending the Convention proceedings to use or permit the use of any electronic broadcasting device (including a mobile telephone) during the conduct of any such proceedings. The Chairperson may treat any breach of this rule as amounting to disorderly conduct and may order the Lion to leave the Convention and to be excluded from it.  
Consequential Amendments
39. Where a motion amending the Multiple District Constitution is passed, the Legal Officer is authorised to alter the numbering, punctuation and/or the syntax of the Multiple District Constitution made necessary by the amendment.

# Constitutional Notice of Motion (CNM)

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## CNM1 – Motion seeking deletion of Clause 83 in the Constitution

Submitted by: The Council of Governors

Subject: Proposed amendment to the Multiple District Constitution Clause 83 – Multiple District Youth Exchange Project

**Motion:** *“That this Multiple District Convention approves the deletion of Clause 83 in the Multiple District Constitution.”*

Explanation:

The Clause confirms the recognised uniform for Exchangees participating in the Multiple District Youth Exchange Project. The term of the Project has not been renewed, and the Clause is now redundant.

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## CNM2 - Proposed adoption of Hybrid Voting

Submitted by: The Council of Governors

Subject: Proposed adoption of Hybrid Voting at the 2028 Multiple District Convention

**Motion:** *“This Multiple District Convention endorses, on a trial basis, the consideration of Notices of Motion submitted to the 2028 Multiple District Convention by way of Hybrid Voting to the intent that the Standing Orders for that Convention shall include the following provision: -*

*“All registered delegates may vote on any Motion or Amendment but only delegates present in person may move or second a Motion or an Amendment, speak to any Motion or Amendment and participate in debate.”*

Explanation:

At the present time only delegates present in person may exercise voting rights.

1. With the passage of time, the tyranny of distance and practical consideration of containing expenditure, less Lions are attending our Conventions in person. It follows that smaller numbers are attending our Conventions.
2. The conduct on a trial basis, of Hybrid Voting at the 2028 Multiple District Convention offers the opportunity to all delegates to exercise the voting right without physically being present. Absent delegates and Lions from all Clubs not physically attending a Convention will have the right to see and enjoy Convention events, including presentations and high-quality guest speakers on a virtual basis electronically. Those Lions will have the opportunity of hearing all discussions in relation to Notices of Motion.
3. Subject to the adoption of this Motion, delegates not present will have the right to vote. It is not presently practical to permit a non-present delegate to speak for or against a Motion or to seek an Amendment. It is considered, in such event, that arrangements would be made, if necessary, for a delegate present in person to speak in respect of any Notice of Motion or to move an Amendment by prior contact with the non-present delegate.
4. The endorsement of the Motion is requested.

# Project Notices of Motion (PRNM)

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## PRNM3 – Emergency Medical Information Booklet

Submitted by: Lions Club of Blackwood

Subject: Emergency Medical Information Booklet

**Motion:** *“That this Multiple District Convention approves the continuation of the Project entitled “Emergency Medical Information Book” as a Category “B” Project for a further term of 3 years expiring 30th June 2029”*

Explanation:

The Emergency Medical Information Book Project was approved as a District Project at the District 201C2 Convention in 2008. It was subsequently adopted as a Multiple District Project in 2010 and has enjoyed National Category B status since that time.

The Project has been highly successful. The Lions Club of Blackwood Inc has been accepted as a joint co-ordinator of this Project, in collaboration with the scheme founders and owners, the Rotary Club of Tea Tree Gully.

Interest and the distribution of the books has been well accepted by Lions Clubs across the nation within excess of 350,000 books having been distributed to date.

The Lions Club of Blackwood believes that the benefits of this Project being continued as a Category “B” Project will continue to provide availability and access to a valuable emergency medical tool on a national basis and promote Lions in the wider community.

Organisational Details:

The joint nature of the Management Committee enables the booklets that are distributed by Lions Clubs to reflect the Lions logo along with that of the Ambulance Service together with the Club Name and District.

The joint EMIB Committee (currently with two Lions Members active) will continue with printing the books and providing any assistance required to promote the distribution of the books across the nation.

EMIB is a not-for-profit organisation and an Incorporated body.

Management Details:

The Lions Club of Blackwood are the managing Club for this Project.

Financial Implications:

No money raised by the sale of the books leaves EMIB to go to Rotary or any other body, it is used purely for the production and promotion of the product and any administrative costs involved.

Principal Focus:

The Project is consistent with the Lions International service area of Humanitarian Service.

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# PRNM4 – Lions in support of CaringKids Charity Project

Submitted by: District 201N5 Convention

Subject: Lions in Support of CaringKids Charity Project

**Motion:** *“That this Multiple District Convention approves the continuation of the Project “Lions in Support of CaringKids Charity Project” as a Category “B” Project for a further term of 3 years expiring on the 30th June 2029.”*

Explanation:

The Lions in support of CaringKids Charity Project was adopted as a Category “B” Project at the 2023 Multiple District Convention. Since that time the Project has been deemed highly successful. Over 230 Lions and 4 Leo Clubs have supported the Project and as at July 2025 over \$200,000.00 has been received in donations from Clubs in MD201. Toy boxes to young carers have increased from 100 per annum to 800 per annum. This year from the 1st July to 16th August 400 toy boxes have been sent to young carers.

“Our Vision is a world where play time is recognised as an essential need for young carers, enabling them to grow into healthy, resilient and compassionate adults.”

CaringKids helps children burdened with adult responsibilities. These young carers take on tasks such as housework, shopping, cooking, dealing with health professionals and even taking on financial matters. They can feel like they miss out on a normal childhood. We bring joy to children caring for a family member living with a disability by delivering Toy (Joy Boxes) Boxes to young carers. Our Joy Boxes are packed with toys, games and books that not only bring joy, but also allow children to learn and grow.

There are over 235,000 children and teenagers in Australia caring for a disabled or chronically ill family member, approximately 1 in 10 children in Australia have taken on caring for a family member with a disability. On average they spend 6 hours a week on caring duties. These adult responsibilities mean they often miss out on many of the joys of childhood that most kids take for granted.

The research surrounding the impact of care giving for children is well documented. Caring with little or no support can negatively impact upon young carers’ social and emotional development, as well as educational achievements, career opportunities and future financial security.

Young carers and special needs siblings face higher rates of financial hardship than peers without caring responsibilities. Many families impacted by illness or disability do not have the resources to provide the kind of material support found inside a Toy Box. These items are essential for a child’s development, and most children and parents take the availability of these items for granted.

In order to look after a family member, young carers put caring before study, school and play time. They often have to cope with the financial hardship that goes hand in hand with the cost of caring for a family member living with a disability. Because of their caring commitments, 22% of young carers miss a day of school per week. As a result, they are around 1.5 years behind in NAPLAN.

CaringKids is a registered charity that recognises the role of these young carers and works to reduce their feelings of loneliness and social isolation, by sending them Toy Boxes, we like to call them Joy Boxes, packed with toys, games and books.

The Toy Box concept was created by CaringKids charity founder Lion Margaret Skagias, (Coogee Lions Club) an experienced children’s Social Worker who has supported young carers, special needs siblings and their families with psychosocial support, case management, respite programs and the provision of material support at a local and state level.

Organisational Details:

Lions are requested to:

- Source donations of toys, books, sports equipment, arts and craft materials, school

stationery and gifts for children 4-17 years old

- Source volunteers either Lions, Leos or other to collect, sort donations and create Toy Boxes known as 'Joy Boxes' for children
- Connect with local disability support services, hospital social workers or other relevant health professionals to establish an MOU or partnership agreement to provide local young carers 'Joy Boxes'
- Clubs may also support by making voluntary financial contributions through Coogee Lions Club.
- Example: Making 100 boxes a year is 4,000 toys and that would be helping 100 children is a good goal – it's not just about the box, it's about community connection service and raising awareness of young carers the forgotten kids who do so much to help others with disabilities.

#### Management Details:

The Lions Club of Coogee will continue to be the Managing Club and will receive assistance from CaringKids Charity if required.

The managing club will:

1. Appoint a committee and chair.
2. Promote the project to clubs.
3. Provide supervision and financial management of the project.
4. Submit Reports to Multiple District as provided by the constitution.

#### Financial Implications:

No financial responsibilities will fall on the Multiple District if the project is adopted.

If Clubs choose to form relationships with local supportive groups, they may incur financial costs associated with fund raising and donations, but any such participation and financial commitment will be voluntary.

#### Principal Focus:

The Project is consistent with the concept of humanitarian service and assisting youth.

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## PRNM5 – Lions Club Project Need for Feed

Submitted by: District Convention 201V3

Subject: Lions Club Project Need for Feed

**Motion:** ***“That this Multiple District Convention approves the continuation of the Project “Lions Club Project Need for Feed” as a Category “B” Project for a further term of three years expiring on the 30th June 2029.”***

#### Explanation:

1. The Lions Club Project Need for Feed was approved as a District Project at the District 201V3 Convention in 2009 and was adopted as a Category “B” Project at the 2019 Multiple District Convention. The submission of the Motion to extend the term of the Project until the 30th June 2026 was unanimously endorsed by delegates at the 2022 District Convention.
2. The purpose of the Project is to raise funds and collect fodder and other supplies for members of the farming and rural communities in times of fire, flood, drought or other necessitous circumstances.

#### Organisational Details:

1. The Project shall be organised and managed by the Lions Club of Victoria Need for Feed Inc.
2. The Project shall be co-ordinated by a “Need for Feed” Chairperson and Committee appointed by the Organising Club, and advice to the V3 District Governor shall be forthcoming as per the rules and by laws of District 201V3 – Rule 9 Section 3.2(ii).
3. Whether or not the “Need for Feed” Chairperson shall hold a Cabinet position shall be for the determination of the District Governor of District 201V3 then in Office.
4. All Lions Clubs in participating Districts shall be invited by the organising Club to participate in the Project, either individually, or in groups, to run activities in support of the aims of “Need for Feed”.
5. The Organising Club, the “Need for Feed” Chairperson and the “Need for Feed” Sub-Committee shall provide such reports as are required to both District 201V3 and to the Multiple District.

#### Financial Implications:

1. Unless a Lions Club elects to participate in the Project it shall have no financial or other obligation to be involved in the Project whatsoever.
2. All donations from Lions Clubs or otherwise shall be directed to the Organising Club.
3. Funds for the Project forwarded to the District Cabinet Treasurer in error shall immediately be forwarded to the organising Club.
4. Funds shall be held by the Organising Club in a separate bank account established exclusively for that purpose and shall be distributed as directed by the Organising Club on the recommendation of a “Need for Feed” Sub-Committee.

#### Principal Focus:

The Project is consistent with the concepts of Humanitarian Service and Major Disaster Relief.

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## PRNM6 – Lions in support of Special Olympics Project

Submitted by: District Convention 201N3  
District Convention 201N5  
District Convention 201V1-4  
District Convention 201V5

Subject: Lions in support of Special Olympics Project

**Motion:** *“That this Multiple District Convention adopts the Project known as “Lions in support of Special Olympics Project” as a Category “B” Project for a term of 3 years expiring on the 30th June 2029.”*

#### Explanation:

Special Olympics Australia (SOA) is part of a global movement using the power of sport to build a more inclusive world for people with intellectual disability and/or autism. SOA doesn't just play the game — it changes the game.

At SOA, sport is a catalyst for cultural change, policy shaping, and behavioural transformation. It shifts how the world sees ability. Year-round, SOA offers Olympic-type sports training and competitions for children and adults of all ages and ability levels — from weekly grassroots activities to State, National and World Games.

Beyond sport, SOA breaks down barriers and ignites confidence. It's a movement where no one is left behind — everyone plays, competes and thrives.

Lions International has a longstanding partnership with Special Olympics through the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), supporting initiatives such as Unified Sports and Opening Eyes. More details are available on the Lions International and Special Olympics websites.

In particular Lions supports the concept of unified sports, as well as directly supporting the program through the Opening Eyes initiative.

### Unified Sports

Team sports bring people together. Special Olympics Unified Sports® teams do that, too and much more. With over a million people worldwide that take part in Unified Sports, breaking down stereotypes about people with intellectual disabilities in a really fun way.

Special Olympics is dedicated to promoting social inclusion through shared sports training and competition experiences. Unified Sports joins people with and without intellectual disabilities on the same team. It was inspired by a simple principle: training together and playing together is a quick path to friendship and understanding.

In Unified Sports, teams are made up of people of similar age and ability. That makes practices more fun and games more challenging and exciting for all. Having sport in common is just one more way that preconceptions and false ideas are swept away.

### Service & Partner Opportunities:

1. The proposed project will create service, promotional and advocacy opportunities for Lions and Leos as follows:
  - a. Create opportunities for Lions Clubs members to offer service and volunteer support to Special Olympics Australia activities
  - b. Create Unified Sports opportunities to engage Leo members to participate in inclusive sports together with Special Olympics athletes
  - c. Create opportunities for Lions and Leos members to become trained volunteers and/or coaches for Special Olympics Australia
  - d. Offer potential for Special Olympics Australia and the Lions Clubs of Australia to jointly implement the Special Olympics- Lions Clubs International Foundation Opening Eyes, Family Health Forums, Young Athletes, Motor Activity Training Program, and more
  - e. Explore opportunities for Special Olympics and their families to join local Lions Clubs, including, but not limited to, Champion Lions Clubs.

### Organisational Details:

The project will be managed by a sub-committee of the following Founding Districts with the support of Special Olympics Australia.

- District 201N3
- District 201N5
- District V1-4
- District 201V5

Ideally, once established, the sub-committee will charter a “Lions Australia Special Olympics Support Lions Club”, with the sub-committee joining as associate or full members of that club.

A goal of the project will be to establish Champion Lions Clubs and/or Special Olympics Support Lions Clubs throughout Australia.

### Financial Implications:

The project will seek voluntary donations from Lions Clubs to support its activities.

### Principal Focus:

The Project is consistent with the concept of Humanitarian Service and Encouragement of Youth.

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# PRNM7- Endorsement and Promotion of Simba - Lions Medical AI App to Lions International

Submitted by: District Convention 201Q1

Subject: Simba - Lions Medical AI App

**Motion:** *“That this Multiple District Convention endorses in principle the Simba-Lions Medical AI App as a proposed Lions International humanitarian initiative and directs the Council of Governors to support, promote and pursue the concept for consideration and endorsement by the International Board of Directors to the intent that the initiative to be subsequently submitted by the Board for consideration and adoption as an International Project.”*

Explanation:

1. Simba is a proposed Lions-aligned offline medical AI application designed to provide practical, privacy-conscious medical guidance in communities where access to doctors, medical facilities and reliable internet is limited. The concept is intended to support underserved communities, community health workers and families by delivering health information and triage-style assistance through an offline, multilingual and scalable technology platform.
2. The proposal has been developed as a humanitarian innovation concept aligned with Lions' longstanding commitment to health, service and global community support. It is envisaged that Simba could, in time, complement existing Lions service causes by extending practical Health guidance into remote, low-connectivity and under-resourced environments.
3. The District 201Q1 Convention submits this proposal to Multiple District 201 seeking endorsement in principle and support for promotion to Lions International, noting that the intent of this motion is not to commit Lions to immediate implementation, contractual engagement, or financial expenditure beyond endorsement and advocacy. Rather, the motion seeks to allow the concept to move forward through the proper Lions governance pathway for further evaluation, refinement and consideration.

Organisational Details:

1. District 201Q1 has developed and presented the Simba concept as a potential Lions humanitarian initiative with international application. The concept has previously been demonstrated to Lions leaders and has been informally encouraged to proceed through the recognised Lions pathway of District, then Multiple District, before any formal approach to Lions International.
2. The Project is intended to align with Lions' global service ethos and may have future relevance to health, humanitarian support, disaster resilience and underserved communities. Any future development structure would require further clarification of project leadership, governance responsibilities, branding rights, stakeholder partnerships, medical advisory input and implementation oversight.

Financial Details:

This Motion does not seek immediate Multiple District 201 expenditure approval for project delivery.

At this stage, the Motion seeks endorsement and promotion only.

Should the project proceed to later stages of formal consideration, the proposed indicative funding model for design and development would be:

- 50% Lions International
- 25% Australian Lions Foundation

- 25% Industry partner support and/or responsible leading Lions Club support

Any future financial contribution by any party would remain subject to separate approval, due diligence and agreement through the appropriate Lions and partner governance processes.

Principal Focus:

Health and Wellbeing / Humanitarian Innovation / International Service Development.

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## PRNM8 – Disaster Relief Australia

Submitted by: District Convention 201N2

Subject: Disaster Relief Australia

**Motion:** *“That this Multiple District Convention approves the continuation of the Project “Disaster Relief Australia” as a Category “B” Project for a further term of three (3) years expiring on the 30th June 2029.”*

Explanation:

Over the past six years, our Organisation has fostered a strong and effective working relationship with Disaster Relief Australia. Disaster Relief Australia possesses both the resources and Government support required to provide vital assistance to communities across Australia during times of disaster. Our collaboration has enabled many Lions Clubs to join forces with Disaster Relief Australia in delivering critical support when disasters strike.

As the demographics of our Membership shift, with many Members ageing and recruitment of younger Members becoming increasingly challenging, our partnership with Disaster Relief Australia has become even more significant. This alliance is essential in ensuring that our Clubs can continue to support Communities affected by hardship, particularly those impacted by flooding and bushfires. Maintaining and strengthening this partnership will help us uphold our commitment to serving those in need during times of crisis.

Organisational Details:

The Project is conducted in partnership with Disaster Relief Australia.

Principal Focus:

The Project is consistent with the concept of Humanitarian Service.

# General Notices of Motion (GNM)

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## GNM9 – Length of Multiple District Convention

Submitted by: District Convention 201V2

Subject: Length of Multiple District Conventions

**Motion:** *“That as and from and commencing with the 2028 Multiple District Convention, Conventions be held over three (3) days commencing on a Friday.”*

Explanation:

1. The purpose of the Convention is to conduct the business of the Multiple District i.e. adopt Reports and consider the Notices of Motion.
2. As the number of Notices of Motion are substantially reduced compared to years ago, it is no longer necessary to hold the Convention over four (4) days.
3. In consequence of a reduction in the duration of a Convention, Lions collectively would save thousands of dollars by having one less night of accommodation.
4. We are continually told to embrace change. Here is an opportunity.

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## GNM10 – Personal Accident Insurance

Submitted by: District 201Q2 Convention

Subject: Personal Accident Insurance Cover

**Motion:** *“That this Multiple District Convention directs the Council of Governors to seek the approval of the International Board of Directors in order that the future payment of premiums in respect of Lions Personal Accident Insurance cover may be paid from the Clubs' Activities Account in lieu of the Clubs' Administration Account.”*

Explanation:

1. We do not believe that this insurance is really a comprehensive or sole member benefit. It is partial compensation for injury/damages received as a result of a member or an eligible volunteer's involvement in Lions activities. Whether that is a meeting or a project, the purpose is the same - to provide service to the community. If the person was not a Lions member or eligible volunteer, they would not have been at the activity, and the accident would not have happened.
2. With the cost of membership steadily rising, it would be helpful to reduce the administrative costs to Clubs and members, and this is one way that may be achieved.
3. The insurance benefits provide cover to Lions members who are participating in community service projects and who pay the insurance costs through member levies to their Club administration account. The insurance also covers non-Lions members who are eligible volunteers, who are not required to contribute to the cost of the insurance policy that they are eligible to benefit from. The insurance benefit is equally open to both Lions and the eligible volunteers. The payment of insurance costs from the Administration Account is in such circumstances discriminatory.
4. The Notice of Motion is commended for your favourable consideration.

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# GNM11 – Lions Clubs International Life Membership

Submitted by: District 201N2 Convention

Subject: Lions Clubs International Life Membership

**Motion:** *“That this Multiple District Convention subject to the approval of Lions Clubs International adopts the new category of Life Membership, to be known as Life Membership Non-Active for use within Multiple District 201 and the Districts of that Multiple District.”*

Explanation:

1. This motion proposes a new category of Membership, which may be called Life Membership Non-Active. This category of Life Membership would be available to existing Life Members who, due to age, health, or other circumstances, are no longer able to actively participate in club activities.
2. Life Membership Non-Active would be cost free and allow Lions Life Members to retain an official affiliation with their Lions Club, thereby preserving their lifelong connection to the organisation.
3. Life Membership Non-Active would honour the service of these long-serving Lions and reinforce the spirit of fellowship that defines our organisation.
4. Members granted this status would:
  - i. Be removed from the active membership list, exempting them from dues and Lions insurance obligations.
  - ii. Remain on club records for social, ceremonial, and advisory purposes.
5. Life Membership Non-Active holders could:
  - i. Attend social gatherings, club celebrations, and conventions as guests.
  - ii. Be invited to offer mentorship, historical perspective, or advisory input.
  - iii. Be honoured in remembrance ceremonies at the district and multiple district levels
6. They would not:
  - i. Hold voting rights.
  - ii. Be eligible for election or appointment to office.
  - iii. Have any obligation to pay dues.
7. While some members may choose to resign entirely, Life Membership Non-Active provides a respectful and inclusive alternative, allowing long-serving Lions to remain recognised and connected, even after their period of active service has concluded.
8. This proposal introduces a compassionate and practical solution for maintaining lifelong bonds with our most dedicated members. It preserves the legacy and contributions of Life Members while upholding the values of fellowship, inclusion, and gratitude that lie at the heart of Lions Clubs International.

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# GNM12 – Proposed Adoption of Policy Statement

Submitted by: Lions Club of Elizabeth Playford (201C1)

Subject: Proposed Adoption of a Policy Statement Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

**Motion:** ***“That this Multiple District Convention adopts the following Policy Statement: -***

- 1. Lions Australia acknowledges and respects the right of all persons regardless of gender, culture, belief, gender identity, sexuality, agility or ability to be a member of Lions Australia.***
- 2. Lions Australia censures discrimination, violence, abuse or intimidation in our Association or the Australian Community by any person or group against another.***
- 3. Lions Australia acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we serve and meet and their elders past and present and their connection to country.***
- 4. Lions Australia is committed to fostering a diverse, equitable and inclusive Organisation where people of all backgrounds feel valued, respected and supported. We embrace the strengths that come from different perspectives, cultures, identities and experiences, and we strive to ensure our programs, projects and decision-making reflect the communities we serve.***
- 5. As Lions, we actively work to remove barriers to participation, promote fairness and accessibility, and create an environment where everyone has the opportunity to contribute and thrive.***
- 6. As Lions, we are committed to treating all individuals with equity, equality, dignity, kindness, and respect through living our Lions Code of Ethics.***

Explanation:

1. This Statement is consistent with the Lions ethic “To be Careful with my criticism and liberal with my praise; to build up and not destroy.”
2. Australia is an extremely multicultural nation with more than 28% of our population born overseas and nearly 50% of Australians having a parent born overseas with these numbers increasing.
3. There are people from more than 300 ancestries in Australia, and more than 350 different languages are spoken across Australia, including 167 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages.
4. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have lived in Australia for at least 60,000 to 80,000 years.
5. There has been a rise in racism, sexism, homophobia and other discrimination in recent years.
6. Many grants and funding providers will seek a demonstration of inclusive practices, non-discriminatory policies, commitment to accessibility, engagement with diverse communities and representation of marginalized groups when considering Lions.
7. If Lions Australia has a DEI Statement it will be viewed as more credible, mature Organisation that has community relevant and engages in ethical practice.

Organisational Details:

Lions prides itself on being an ethical Organisation. We consider ourselves to be a family, and our Members are respectful service-minded individuals.

The Motion to Convention includes a Statement indicating the definition of terms as follows:-

- Gender – The binary genders of Male and Female.
- Culture – The way of life especially the customs and beliefs of a particular group of people.
- Belief – The feeling of being certain that something exists or is true.
- Gender Identity – Being, or a deep feeling that you are a particular gender.
- Sexuality – The sexual or romantic attraction to people of the opposite or same gender/ gender identity or more than one gender/gender identity or no sexual or romantic attraction at all.
- Ability – A person's status regarding having a mental or physical disability.

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## GNM 13 – Lions' Foundations Reporting

Submitted by: Lions Club of Glenside (District 201 C1)

Subject: Lions' Foundations – Reports to Convention

**Motion:** ***"Be it Resolved that this Multiple District Convention, with effect from each succeeding Convention requests: -***

- 1. All Lions Foundations within the Multiple District seeking funding support from Lions Clubs within the Multiple District provide financial and operational reports in digital form to the National Office no later than 45 days prior to the commencement of each Multiple District Convention.***
- 2. Such reports be made available to all Lions Clubs within the Multiple District through a download link no later than 30 days prior to the commencement of each Multiple District Convention.***
- 3. Time be allocated in each Convention program for the consideration of such reports.***
- 4. The Foundations be invited to make responsible officers available to answer conventioners queries in relation to the reports and their activities, either in person or remotely."***

Note: this motion refers to Lions National or MD wide Foundations.

Explanation:

1. Our Foundations collectively hold more than \$30 million in financial assets and receive donations of close to \$3 million annually. Despite this, most Lions Club Members do not know of the existence of most of the Foundations. Fewer still know about their operation, organisation or governance.
2. Australian law gives charitable Foundations a high degree of autonomy. So, despite bearing the Lions name and displaying the Lions logo, they are not subject to control or oversight by any other Lions Institution.
3. This legal autonomy is meant to protect the Foundations and their charitable efforts from interference by non-charitable entities. As an unintended consequence it has also weakened accountability. This weakening threatens to erode the confidence that Lions Clubs and other donors have had in the Foundations hitherto, believing them to be full members of the Lions community.

4. This Motion is intended to promote transparency and create a fuller understanding of the Foundations throughout the Lions community. If the Motion is adopted there would be no additional cost to the Foundations, since their charitable status requires them to submit reports to the Charities Commission.

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## GNM 14 – Membership Dues – Family Rebate

Submitted by: The Council of Governors

Subject: Proposed rescission of part of Notice of Motion 8 adopted at the 2007 Multiple District Convention  
Membership Dues - Family Rebate

**Motion:** *"That this Multiple District Convention amends the provisions of Notice of Motion 8 adopted at the 2007 Multiple District Convention by rescinding the words "provided however that at the commencement of each half yearly dues period, the Membership within the Multiple District comprises not less than 27,000 Lions."*

Explanation:

1. At the July 2006 International Convention, approval was given, on the recommendation of the International Board, to lower the financial burden of the membership dues on households in which more than one person is a member by allowing a rebate in membership dues.
2. In consequence of that resolution the 2007 Sydney Multiple District Convention adopted Notice of Motion No.8 in the following terms: -  
  
"In relation to Multiple District half yearly dues, this Multiple District Convention approves, with effect from the 1st July, 2007 the implementation of the same formula used for calculating International Membership dues as approved by the International Convention in Boston in July, 2006, provided however that at the commencement of each half yearly dues period, the membership within the Multiple District comprises not less than 27,000 Lions."  
  
3. The membership within the Multiple District sadly now comprises less than 27,000 Lions in consequence of which the 2007 Resolution endorsing the membership rebate now ceases to apply.
4. The adoption of the Motion tabled at this Convention will remove the proviso requiring a minimum total membership and permit the rebate to remain in place.
5. It is the wish of Council that the matter again be reviewed by the Council immediately prior to the commencement of the 2029 Convention and, if necessary, again be referred to that Convention for consideration.



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