

Lions Clubs International District 201N1 Newsletter

Newsletter, Volume 34

Issue 3

October, 2007



From the District Governor's Desk

What wonderful members we have in District 201N1. As Jan and I carry out our official visits we continue to be humbled by the way in which we have been received in each of the 22 clubs visited to date. Thank you members of our extended Lions Family, your warmth makes us both proud to be Lions, particularly in this District.

I have had the privilege of inducting quite a few new members into our organisation as we visit Clubs and I ask all Clubs to become involved in the October Growth Award Program, outlined below. By now you will have met your Region and Zone Chairman for this year who together with a Membership, Extension, Retention, Leadership and Public Relations Chairman have been appointed by me to assist all clubs with membership matters. Please contact these dedicated Lions who will assist you with ways of increasing your memberships and improving the way we conduct our Clubs, remembering that if you make one change you will make a difference.

Since our last Newsletter I have represented our District at the 1st Council of Governors Meeting in Sydney where despite quite a heavy agenda we were able to complete all business on the Saturday. Planning for the 2008 Darwin Multiple District Convention is well under way and promises to be an exciting event. Council decided that the planned sale of Christmas Puddings will commence next year. Multiple

District is going to train one person from each District, each year for three years to become a District MERL trainer.

Our District Convention is now only a few weeks away. Obtain a Registration form from your Club Secretary, complete and forward to Convention committee and turn up on 12, 13 and 14 October, in Port Macquarie. We guarantee you all a wonderful and rewarding time.

RE-EMBRACE - OCTOBER GROWTH AWARD PROGRAM

If you've been a Lion for a while, you probably remember the October Growth Award Program and its emphasis on membership recruiting in the month of October. Did you know that many Clubs worldwide still recognize the program and continue to recruit a majority of their members during October?

Guess What?

Lions Clubs International is re-embracing the October Growth Award Program. Join your fellow Lions clubs and make October 2007 a banner Month for new member recruiting.

How can my club obtain the October Growth Award?

Banner patches will be awarded to the top 3 clubs in our district with a positive net growth in membership during October. A net membership growth of 3 is the minimal requirement to attain this award. These awards will be solely based on the WMMRs and MMRs

received during November.

In addition to receiving a distinctive banner patch, your club's name will appear on a page of the LCI Web site specifically designed to recognize achievement during the October Membership Growth Award Program.

Now's the time to make your membership grow!

Conduct a fun event, invite new faces to your club meetings and watch your membership grow! Best wishes for a successful membership campaign.

Clubs will find membership recruiting assistance on the Lions Club Web Site. Here are a few materials for your Club's use:

- Lions Make a Difference (ME-40)
- I am a Lion (ME-37)
- NEW! Student Program
- Membership Invitation Web site
- Membership Invitation Tips from the Healthy Club Toolbox
- Membership Chairpersons Guide

Every club's purpose during the month of October should be to attract, recruit and induct prospective members. By increasing your net membership growth in October, you will begin a growth cycle that can be maintained throughout the Lions year. Any net membership growth your club achieves throughout the year brings you closer to attaining the following year-end awards: Year Round Growth, President's Retention Campaign, Membership Key Award and 2007-2008 Club Presidential Award.

GERARD C - District Governor

From Sweeping Plains to Jewel Sea
Our Web Site: <http://www.lionsclubs.org.au/201n1/>

CAMPAIGN SIGHT FIRST II



FACT; one child goes blind every minute. More than half a million will lose their sight each year. This extraordinary tragedy is magnified by the fact that most blindness in children is preventable or reversible.

As tragic as it is, childhood blindness makes up only a part of the worldwide vision crisis. Millions have their lives darkened by cataract, millions suffer from low-vision, millions are threatened by glaucoma and diabetic retinopathy and millions more are in danger from diseases like trachoma and river blindness. In fact The World Health Organization warns that the world's blind population could double from 37 million to 74 million by 2020.

Lion's response to these dire predictions is Campaign SightFirst II. By raising a minimum of US\$150 million to continue and expand the SightFirst program, Lions will stem this tide of darkness.

SightFirst is not only effective, it is amazingly efficient. On average, about every US\$6 in donations has resulted in a person with vision



restored or saved from blindness, that is more than 24 million since 1990.

All donations to Campaign SightFirst II of US\$1000.00 will entitle the club to purchase a Melvin Jones Fellowship for a deserving club member, or member of the public. These donations can be progressive if you so desire,

District 201N1 has raised

the amount of US\$34,188.00 as of the 5th September 2007.

This is a 75% increase since the July and brings the total to

US\$108,851,880 Internationally.

Clubs in this 201N1 District have saved the sight of 5698 people so far in the last 2 Years. Why not try to double this by 2010. I thank the clubs that have donated to Sight First II so far. If your Club has not made a donation, please consider adding this worthy cause to your disbursement list.

I do challenge all Lions to think about maybe supporting Campaign SightFirst II by donating the cost of 1 cataract operation per member which equates to US\$6-00.

All funds raised in Australia stay here and the interest only is allocated to the needs of the Blind that we help. These funds are distributed to Lions Clubs to support the blind in countries where Aus - Aid is based.

Be a Knight of the Blind and support Campaign SightFirst II.

If your club requires a speaker on CFSII,

please contact me or your Zone chairman who will know your local Coordinator.

Neil Tubb
District Coordinator
Phone (02) 6583 5976
Mobile: 0427 351 647
Email:neilynne@ceinternet.com.au

COUNTRY MUSIC SERVICE AWARD

The Peel Valley Lions Club Inc., Tamworth, is looking for someone special to receive recognition for the work they do for others via Country Music.

The 15th annual Peel Valley Lions Club Australian Country Music Service Award will be presented at the 2008 Tamworth Country Music Festival. The Award honours a Country Music personality – either an entertainer or someone behind the scenes – who has used that involvement to give community service in a voluntary capacity.

Chris Harris, President of Peel Valley Lions Club, announced that there were no restrictions on the type of community service work a nominated person undertook. "It could be as simple as entertaining the older members of the community or a major fund raising effort involving Country Music", Chris said.

The call for nominations is by no means restricted to Lions Club members but should be submitted through your local Lions Club. Nominations must be made in writing by 15th December, 2007, and can be sent to: -The Secretary, Peel Valley Lions Club, P O Box 957 TAMWORTH NSW 2340

The next recipient will be named at a major event during next year's Tamworth Country Music Festival in January and he/she will receive a special trophy crafted by well-known artist Fred Hillier and a \$500.00 cash amount to be donated to a charity of the award recipient's choice.

A judging panel of Country Music identities and Peel Valley Lions, under the chairmanship of Country Music broadcaster Nick Erby, will select the winner. Enquiries should be directed to: Terry Hill on (02) 6765 6042 or Peter Scorgie on (02) 6766 4234.



WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Name	Club	Sponsor
Graham Haynes	Armidale	Jack Rapley
Edward McLaren	Bowraville	Jeff Mott
Roger Woodbury	Inverell MacIntyre	William Sutton
Joan Chesher	Port Macquarie	Transfer from
Ray Chesher	Port Macquarie	Laurieton
(Further information from last month)		
Graeme Meers	Port Macquarie	Transferred from
	Tacking Point	South West Rocks

The Things We Do

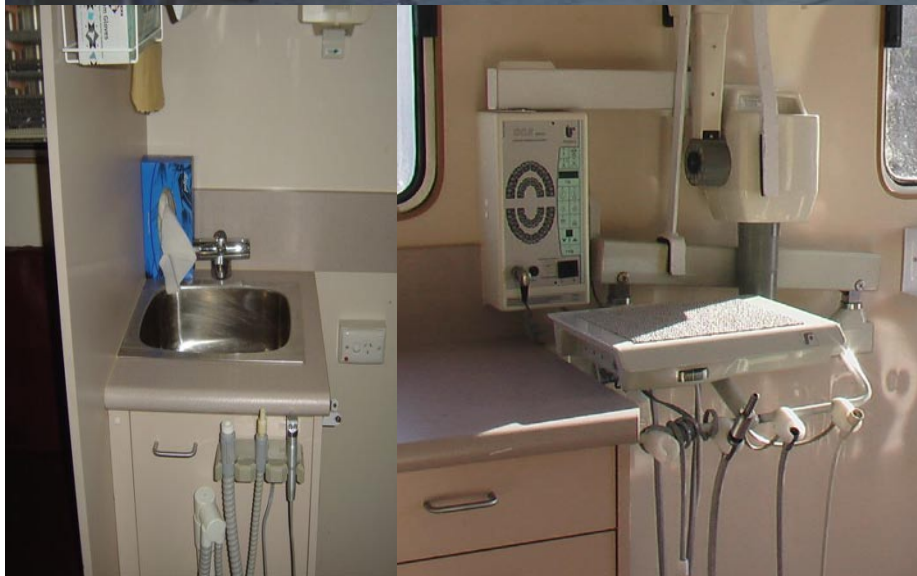
Taree motor body builder and member of the local Lions Club Geoff Thomson was asked by a customer to do some work on his second-hand pantech. The vehicle purchased at auction had a former life as a mobile dental hospital, and the new owner wanted the van removed and rebuilt as a motor-home.

Geoff, of course, was expecting to remove the empty shell for recycling. You can imagine his surprise when he looked inside the van and saw that the dental hospital was fully intact, including dental chair, X-ray machine and drills!

Always on the look out for an opportunity, he declared his find at his local Lions Club meeting and pretty soon a plan was hatched to ship the dental equipment to the Philippines, where it could be reassembled and find a home helping extremely poor and disadvantaged residents there.

The Lions Club of Taree members will dismantle the unit, and fully fund the cost of its relocation. They are working with Lions in Brisbane to manage the shipping of the unit, and Lions in the Philippines who will install the unit and get it operating.

It is amazing what a bit of lateral thinking can achieve. What a pity if all that equipment had ended up on the scrapheap - Ed



Recently the Lioness Club of Tamworth donated \$500 to school children in the village of Budalangi, Kenya. A young Tamworth man, Michael Hawthorne has made this village his home & needed support to provide teaching materials for the children. Classes often have several hundred children per teacher !! It costs \$600 per year to provide a teacher for the school. Several of the Lioness Club members are teachers and either taught Michael or new him during his schooling in Tamworth. His family are residents of Tamworth. Michael sent this photo to the Club to show us how thrilled the students were to receive new books and writing materials.



Notice Board - Oct/Nov 2007

The DG's Movements



October

02	Tuesday	Kootingal and District Inc
03	Wednesday	Dungowan Inc
04	Thursday	Tamworth Peel Valley Inc
09	Tuesday	South West Rocks Inc
10	Wednesday	Manning River Inc
12-14	Friday – Sunday	District 201N1 Convention Port Macquarie
16	Tuesday	Tamworth Lioness Club
17	Wednesday	Armidale Dumaresq Inc
18	Thursday	Barraba Inc
19-21	Friday-Sunday	201C1 Convention Port Pirie (Tentative)
22	Monday	Coffs Harbour Inc
23	Tuesday	Wooli Inc
24	Wednesday	Macksville Inc
25	Thursday	Ebor and District Inc
27	Saturday	Walcha Inc



November

01	Thursday	Quirindi Inc 40th Anniversary
06	Tuesday	Ashford Inc. and Ashford Leos
07	Wednesday	Tamworth Inc.
09-11	Friday-Sunday	201N4 District Convention (Canowindra)
12	Monday	Inverell Inc
13	Tuesday	Armidale Duval Inc
15	Thursday	Guyra Inc
20	Tuesday	Inverell Macintyre Inc
22	Thursday	Hallidays Point
24-25	Saturday-Sunday	Save Sight Meeting Sydney
30	Friday	MD 201 Council Meeting



Other Dates to Note

November

03 Saturday President Amy Lillyman and the members of **Tamworth Peel Valley Leo Club** cordially invite Lions/Leo's & Lioness members & partners to attend the 1st Charter Anniversary of our Club at North Tamworth Bowling Club 6.30 for 7.00PM Cost: \$20.00/ Person Dress: Men – Coat & Tie Ladies – Evening wear. RSVP by Friday 26th October to Lion Paul Briscoe (Leo Advisor) (02) 6762 8786

17/18 RAP or 'Road Awareness Program' for Zone1 All welcome.
Bookings Deyann 6647 7452.



Youth of the Year Quest critical dates

Club judging to be completed by 29th February 2008

Region Finals to be held by 8th March 2008

District Final to be held by 29th March 2008

State Final to be held by 12th April 2008

National Final to be held at MD Convention Darwin May 2008

FROM THE EDITOR

The articles on page 3 about the Tamworth Lioness donation to the school in the village of Budalang, and the shipment of the Dental Clinic to the Philippines caused me to reflect on the relative needs of people all over the world, and as members of a world wide organisation, what we could do to address the inequities between the rich and poor nations.

My daughter Michelle lives in a village in Swaziland, where for the past 12 months she has been helping to set up a preschool for the children of the village. The realities of the everyday lives of these people (no electricity, walking a kilometre for fresh water, minimal sanitation, subsistence diets consisting mainly of maize based food, where a drought can mean the difference between life and death), make most scenarios of poverty in Australia look pretty luxurious by comparison.

The really interesting thing is that the injection of what may seem like small amounts of money or goods to us can make a huge difference to people on the ground in undeveloped countries, particularly if it is undertaken by volunteers.

Should we as Lions be fostering relationships with Lions Clubs in third world countries and use those relationships to channel goods and funds to individual projects in the countries. Maybe Clubs in our country could sponsor branch clubs in particular areas and use the local knowledge to set up meaningful projects that can improve peoples lives in that area.

Our organisation provides unique resources for the networking of community spirited people in rich and poor nations. I suggest we should all be looking at ways of making that happen. - Jim Brear

District Governor

Lion Gerard C Cross
24 Woodland Dr
Hallidays Point 2430
(H/F) (02)6559 3310
(M) 0419 274 607
n1dg0708@msn.com

Secretary

Lion Bill Burgess
9 Bogangate Place
Harrington 2427
(H/F) (02) 6556 1708
(M) 0418 411 417
wbu67101@bigpond.net.au

Treasurer

Lion Peter Clarke
PO Box 92
Hallidays Point 2430
(H/F) (02) 6559 3205
(M) 0427 398 917
wingala@optusnet.com.au

Newsletter Editor

Lion Jim Brear
PO Box 1542
Armidale 2350
(H) 02 6772 3933
(F) 02 6771 3666
(M) 0429 428 700
jbrear@coamas.com.au

Receive a full colour emailed copy of the Newsletter with live web links and email addresses. Just send the Editor an email at jbrear@coamas.com.au