

Lions Clubs International District 201N1 Newsletter

Newsletter, Volume 34

Issue 7

March, 2008



From the District Governor's Desk

CAMPAIGN SIGHT

FIRST II (CSF 11): This year at the International Convention in Bangkok, Lions from all around the world will celebrate the success of CSF II which we hope will reach and even exceed the minimum fund raising goal of US\$150 million to prevent the number of blind from doubling in the near future. As Lions in this District we can guarantee that success through participation in these final four months of the campaign.

As District Advocate of CSF II, our largest and most far-reaching initiative in Lions' History, I ask each and every Club to participate in this great achievement. Knowing that your Club has helped make CSF II a spectacular success may be one of the most satisfying accomplishments of our Lions career.

Childhood blindness is only one part of the global vision crisis. If nothing is done, we are advised that the world's blind population could double from 37 million to 74 million by 2020. Lions will not allow this to happen. As "Knights of the Blind" we will continue and expand the extraordinary work of CSF II to combat preventable and reversible blindness. Lions have the power to free these people from a lifetime of blindness.

INCOMING CLUB OFFICERS SEMINAR: This year our District is changing the way we have traditionally conducted our Seminars with one to be held at



DG Gerard Cross presented Life Memberships to three TLCO Armidale Dumaresq members at the recent 30th Anniversary of Charter for the Club. DG Gerard is pictured here with Lions Lance McCarthy and Jim Hamilton. Lion Ken Clayton who is not in the photo also received Life membership to the Club.

Manilla for Regions 4, 5 and 6 and the other at Kempsey for Regions 1, 2, and 3. More information is contained in this Newsletter and will shortly be mailed to all Clubs. It is extremely important that all Club Executives President, Secretary, Treasurer and Membership Chairman attend this Seminar. Other Lions who feel they may benefit from attending will be most welcome. Obviously we have many new people filling these positions and others who have been there before. Everyone will find the seminar informative and extremely helpful to your year ahead. We are constantly subjected to change and this seminar will provide a wonderful opportunity to learn the correct procedures for conducting your Club.

INSTALLATION OF NEW BOARD: All Clubs should now be planning for their Installation nights, which are only a few months away. If you have a particular person in mind to conduct your Change Over now is the time to be making approaches to assure that they are able to join you for that occasion.

Clubs and particularly Presidents should be thinking of how their vital people can be rewarded. I still believe that one of the most valued rewards from a Club President is a "Presidents Appreciation Award". It can be worn at all special occasions by a recipient and denotes that the wearer has been especially recognised by his Club.

GERARD C
District Governor

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

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Club	Name	Sponsor
Grafton Inc	Gail Claydon	Sandra Grogan
Maclean Inc	Warren Donaghy	Deyanne McDonnell
Tamworth Inc	Robert Varcoe	Geoff Allen

YOUTH EXCHANGE. TRY IT. YOU'LL LIKE IT!!

Yes it's youth exchange time again. As youth exchange chairman for district 201N1 I've discovered its youth exchange time all year round! In the July/August hosting period we have 26 Japanese exchange students coming to Australia plus Students from Europe, Asia Canada and the USA

I'd like every Lions Club and Lion to think about either hosting or sponsoring an exchange student in the coming year if possible.

YOUTH EXCHANGE. TRY IT. YOU'LL LIKE IT!!

The objectives of the International Lions Youth exchange program are:

To bring young people into contact with youth and adults of other countries

To share family and community life of another culture

To promote international understanding and good will throughout the world through Youth Exchange and Lionism

What better way to promote Lions first Object than to give our youth the opportunity of a life time to travel to a foreign land and to share in the home life of a family from another country. Not only are

our youth given the opportunity to gain knowledge of another culture through first hand experience, but also provide some insight onto our way of life in Australia. Youth Exchange a Rewarding Experience Both Ways

A couple of comments from past exchanges

"I would like to thank the Lions Clubs of Australia for enabling me to have such an experience and I hope that they continue to help the youth of the world to experience the different people and cultures of countries which were once unknown to them." - Alexandra Bennett

"The exchange couldn't have been better planned. For young adventurers this is the ideal way to travel – not only do you have a holiday but also the experience will be treasured for a lifetime." - Carla Hannaford

So please give Youth Exchange some thought as the youth are our future adults

If you would like more information please don't hesitate to contact me Ph 02 65536014 Fax 02 65510823 or email thompson@tsn.cc

YOUTH EXCHANGE. TRY IT. YOU'LL LIKE IT!!

Lion Geoff Thompson

Campaign SightFirst II

As at 15th February 2008 we have less than 135 days to help reverse preventable blindness.

Our District has raised \$38,224.61 so far, but we need more if we are to reach the US\$200 million required world wide. 29 clubs have not contributed yet. Has yours?

It would be good if all clubs in 201N1 could make some type of donation and our District could say we are 100% in favour of this campaign.

For the cost of 2 schooners you can help save the sight of someone who is suffering eye disease.

2 Lions 201N1 Newsletter March 2008

\$210-00 will save the sight of 30 people, and this amount can be credited toward a Melvin Jones Fellowship for a club member or a member of your community.

The money raised in Australia stays here and is only distributed to countries that use Aus-Aid.

It will also be used for eye health & education in Australian Indigenous Communities via "Department of Indigenous Affairs".

Your zone chairman will get more information if you require it.

Lion Neil Tubb.
0427351647

NEW Monthly Membership Reporting Requirements

Lions Clubs International has advised that it is about to change the dates for reporting membership changes to Oak Brook. As from April 2008 Clubs reporting to the WMMR site online will have until the last day of the month to report on the membership for that month. Clubs sending in paper MMRs will have to have them in by the 20th of the month. Thus there is no change for those submitting paper MMRs. However I must post them to America on 20th of each month instead of the last business day of the month. This means that any MMR received after the 20th of the month will not go until the next mailing. SECRETARIES PLEASE NOTE THIS VERY IMPORTANT CHANGE.

If I have not received your MMR by the 20th of April, I will assume that you are going to send it via the WMMR system. I will cease doing dummy MMRs for Clubs from that time. Remember that if your Club fails to report three times then International will put the Club into STATUS QUO. If this happens, the assets of the Club are frozen and the Club gets a further three months to rebuild and/or get its act into gear. Secretaries please do not let this happen to your Club. There are two Clubs in the District that have not reported this year and three more that have only reported once or twice. Up until now I have dummied an MMR for those Clubs and sent it in. This will stop as of April 1st.

The great thing for Cabinet Secretaries is that the change on the WMMR site will prevent Club Secretaries from sneaking into the site in the next month to backdate changes. I have had three Clubs do this to me and it is not picked up until the number of members from the previous month fails to agree with the total already reported. Luckily Cabinet Secretaries can back-track to find out the date and time the change was made.

GPDG Bill Burges
Cabinet Secretary

<http://www.lionsclubs.org.au/201n1/>

INCOMING CLUB OFFICER TRAINING

Taking into consideration District Governor Gerard's theme of "Make one Change – Make a Difference"the Incoming Club Officers Training School will be conducted slightly different this year...

District Governor (elect) Malcolm Merrick is planning to conduct two Training Schools, one for Inland Clubs and the other for Coastal Clubs. The primary purpose of the change is to make Club Officers aware of the recent changes introduced by Lions Clubs International with Club reporting procedures and to ensure Club Officer Training is consistency across the District.

The Training Schools for Inland Clubs will be on Saturday 3rd May 2008 and for Coastal Clubs on Sunday 4th May 2008. Time and venue details will be provided at a later date.

We appreciate that some Clubs may have to travel distance to attend the training but we can assure you that if you make the effort, the training will be interesting, informative and fun.

We therefore urge Incoming Presidents, Secretaries and Treasurers to "highlight" these dates in their diary and make every effort to attend the training, it will be of invaluable help in planning your year ahead.



TAMWORTH COUNTRY MUSIC AWARD



Each year TLCO Tamworth Peel Valley honours somebody in country music for using their talents in a voluntary capacity for charity and for those less fortunate than most.

This year the Australian Country Music Service Award goes to entertainer Brian Letton.

The Lions Club of Port Lincoln in S.A. (where Brian was born) nominated Brian for his support of many organisations around Australia including work for Aboriginal Workshops and the Royal

Flying Doctor Service in the western states to the Blue Nurses and Westpac Rescue Service in the eastern states.

Brian was presented with his award (a Fred Hillier ceramic mounted dunny) on Tuesday 22nd January by President Lion Chris Harris at Festival FM in the Coca-Cola Park during the Tamworth Country Music Festival. Brian has nominated the Matthew Flinders Nursing Home in Port Lincoln to receive the Five Hundred dollars (\$500.00) that goes with the trophy.



TLCO Armidale Dumaresq members seem a bit distracted during the Australia Day activities held at the Armidale Racecourse. See Left for a photo of what was distracting them. The Australia Day BBQ raised \$1500.00 for the club.



Notice Board - March/April 2008

The DG's Movements



March	01-02	Saturday-Sunday	Tamworth Cabinet Meeting
	29-30	Saturday-Sunday	Save Sight Meeting Tamworth

Other Dates to Note

April	12	Saturday	Lioness Club of Tamworth tenth anniversary celebration West Tamworth Leagues Club.
	25-28	Friday- Monday	Boggabri Drovers Campfire

Youth of the Year Dates

Club judging to be completed by 29th February 2008

Region Finals set down as

- 1 Woolgoolga 8th March 2008
- 2 Kempsey 5th March 2008
- 3 Forster 8th March 2008
- 4 Glen Innes 23rd Feb 2008
- 5 Kootingal 1st March 2008
- 6 Moree 8th March 2008

District Final to be held at South Tamworth on 15th March 2008.

State Final to be held in Sydney 12th April 2008

National Final to be held at MD Convention Darwin May 2008



It appears I had a senior moment during the production of Issue 5 of the Newsletter and credited the wrong Tamworth Lions Club with being the driving force behind the new Meals on Wheels kitchen in Tamworth. I have re-edited the article and produced it below.

TLCO Tamworth has been the driving force behind the raising of \$2,000,000.00 to build a new state of the art Meals on Wheels Kitchen in Tamworth.

Using the quick chill system, meals with a shelf life of five days can be prepared and chilled on one day and distributed the next day. Under presidents John Fittler, Richard Newberry, Terry Mooney and Steve Norvill, Tamworth club raised \$68 000.00 for the project. TLCO Peel Valley gave \$15 000.00 and other local clubs including Kootingal, South Tamworth, Nundle, Dungowan and the Lioness Club of Tamworth all made contributions. A submission to LCIF for additional funding resulted in a grant of \$44 000.00 making the contribution of Lions to the appeal over \$130 000.00.

The new kitchen began operations on 22nd October and appropriately, the volunteer kitchen hands on that day were all Lions or Lions Ladies. The photo shows Lion Brian Sullivan and Lions lady Anne Fittler working in the kitchen.

Editors comment: Thanks to Tamworth Lions for pointing out my error. It gave me a chance to reflect a little more on this project. I remember it coming up at a District Convention and thinking at the time it too much for any Club to handle. Just goes to show what can be done with some imagination and effort. We do not have to do it all ourselves, but if we can act as a catalyst to bring many parties together to achieve a common goal, there is no limit to what can be accomplished.

VANNING NEWS

with Tom Cattell

I would like to wish every one a happy new year and many miles of safe travel. Vanning Venues for the remainder of this Lions year:

Cabinet meeting at

HALLIDAYS POINT

30/5/2008 to 1/6/2008

Caravan park

Redhead Beach Front

21 Red Head Rd

Hallidays Point

Phone: (02) 65592630

The Drovers Campfire

At Boggabri Showground

25/4/2008 to 28/4/2008

Ring Geof Eather

(02) 67434469

DARWIN TRIP

Bev and I would like to

welcome everyone to our place on or before Friday 2/5/2008

Free camp, happy times and bbq on friday night, free breaky on saturday. We will have some powered sites. DG Gerard cross and Jan will be here to wish us the best on our trip

Saturday 3/5/2008 we travel to St George [Pelican Rest Tourist Park (07) 46253398] via Moree and Mungindi,. We have been up and checked out the Pelican Rest and it is very good. They are cooking a three course meal for us on saturday night for \$15-00 a head. Money raised will go to the local school P&C. St George lions have been invited to join us.

Would you please let me know if you will be requiring dinner so I can book in numbers

Gwyneth Payne has offered to be our first cross contact.

If you have any queries please contact me on: (02) 6723 1306 or my mobile 0428 321 306

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