

Lions Clubs International District 201N1 Newsletter

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From the District Governor's Desk

CAMPAIGN SIGHT FIRST II (CSF 11): Congratulations Lions we have reached our target for this campaign and as of 1st March have US\$157.9 Million worldwide. All monies from Australia will remain in the Lions Club International Account in Australia and be used for projects across our 19 Districts.

LIONS PARTICIPATION IN ABORIGINAL CHILDRENS' HEALTH CARE: Many Lions and their Families are travelling or planning to travel around Australia and have much needed nursing, teaching, business and homemaking and life skills. These Lions are going to be asked to volunteer their time, knowledge and skills to Aboriginal People. Obviously applicants will need to be vetted and trained before being placed into communities. More information will soon be available on this program.

PUBLIC RELATIONS: Our Public Relations program included materials available to members at no cost. Packages are valued at \$15.50 each and are available from Multiple District Office by simply making a phone call and ordering. There is some promotion of the giveaway on the web site associated with Lions Community Week.

Multiple District is currently in negotiations with a production company to provide a package of services associated with filming of

MD Convention and providing Community Service Announcements both on Television and Radio. The idea is to present a new fresh image of Lions in Australia that focuses on programs and people that appeal to younger prospective members. Images would include our younger members, informal footage of Lions enjoying themselves as they engage in community projects, images of Lions interacting with business leaders and political figures. Images of Lions helping. It is not the intention to provide information to the public about what we do, but more importantly to convey good feelings and positive impressions about our organisation.

Outcomes of this project will include as a minimum, a 15, 30 and 60 second audio-visual community service announcement suitable for use on commercial television in Australia – Audio presentations suitable for use on Australian Radio - A feature 4 - 8 minutes suitable for use at public relations events – A number of short

web casts to promote Lions through our web site.

YOUTH OF THE YEAR TO YOUTH EXCHANGE: Youth of the year Judging is now complete and our District Winner will be preparing for the State Finals at Castle Hill on Saturday 12 April, 2008. Congratulations and thank you to all participants who have taken part in this years program. A special thanks to all Clubs who have sponsored a participant.

I ask that all Participating Clubs now use their marketing skills and look towards involving these young people in our Youth Exchange programs later in the year. Every one who has been involved is a candidate for this program and would make an ideal Ambassador for our Clubs, District and Country and with the enthusiasm created through this involvement there will be many parents who could become future members of our association.

GERARD C District Governor



Region 4 Youth of the Year Finalists Tom Ryan (Duval High), Brittany George (Guyra High), Steffie Robinson (McIntyre High), Sophie Croft and Jack Waser (both from Glen Innes High). Winner on the night was Steffie Robinson sponsored by LC Inverell.

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

FROM THE EDITOR

I have been on Cabinet a number of times over the past few years and have always been overwhelmed by the complexity of the whole operation. There are a myriad of Projects, Foundations and Institutes being run by The Lions Organisation at every level, and then by various Clubs who have been given the OK to conduct specific projects.

I have spent a fair amount of my life selling computers and I found the most effective way to get people to make a decision was to give two alternatives, explain the differences and let them make a decision. If I started to provide more information than that, I could see their eyes glaze over and knew they would rather be elsewhere.

Our clubs are receiving a barrage of proposals and demands from a variety of people. Cabinet Secretary, Treasurer, Zone and Region Chairman, and a multitude of District Chairman representing a variety of

projects. That is before the requests for assistance from non lions charities and individuals.

I get the feeling many club administrators just get overwhelmed with the complexity of it all and put most correspondence in the too hard basket or the round filing cabinet.

I think one of the priorities of Cabinet should be to act as a filter to cut down the complexity of running a Lions Club.

We all yearn for simpler times and, working to reduce the red tape in our Organisation could be a good start.

The recent Cabinet meeting in Tamworth provided a welcome example of this with VDG Malcolm outlining his plan to reduce the size of Cabinet, particularly by abandoning all Region positions on Cabinet. I have never met a Region Chairman I did not like, but it always struck me as a position that duplicated what the Zone Chairman did and gave Club

Secretaries another person to report to and Clubs another "Official" visit to have to sit through.

I reckon there are heaps of things that could be done to reduce the red tape in Lions and I would like to get some feedback and ideas from you. I would like put an article in the May or June Newsletter.

The figures reproduced below from the Lions December 2007 Membership summary showed some interesting trends in the various parts of the world. The growth in members in two areas just about counterbalances the drop in numbers in all other areas. Are we in the developed world becoming too complacent or is it difficult to find the social needs that once inspired people to join service clubs? In the developing world are we seeing the rise of a group of people who feel that joining a service club can be of benefit to their Town and Country.
Jim Brear Editor

State or Country	Total Clubs	New Clubs	Dropped Clubs	Members Added	Members Dropped	Total Memberships	Gain/Loss
U.S. and Affiliates, Bermuda and Bahamas	12,972	44	158	20,182	24,675	386,928	-4,493
Canada	1,702	4	16	1,890	2,361	39,978	-471
South America, Central America, Caribbean & Mexico	3,936	29	69	5,737	6,121	91,845	-384
Europe	9,524	48	50	8,245	9,627	270,359	-1,382
Orient and Southeast Asia	7,399	69	103	22,776	18,664	262,652	4,112
India, South Asia, Africa and Middle East	7,061	252	494	20,426	17,897	194,822	2,529
Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, S. Pacific	1,873	9	34	2,617	2,941	43,007	-324
GRAND TOTALS:	44,467	455	924	81,873	82,286	1,289,591	-413

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Name	Club	Sponsor
Suzane Cooper	Bingara	Alister Lemin
Amanda Boxsell	Boggabri	Bruce Boxsell
Donna Boyer	Boggabri	Kevin Shields
William McNally	Boggabri	Geoff McIntosh
Nicola Seran	Boggabri	Kevin Shields
Jan Varcoe	Boggabri	Kevin Shields
Rodney Haworth	Dungowan	Julie Haworth
Greg Maguire	Dungowan	Chris Doulis
Twiggy Maguire	Dungowan	Chris Doulis
Pamela Newman	Macleay	Ken Crampton
Judith Cameron	Premer & District	Jack Egan
Kelsey Mills	Valla	Don McRae
Stewart Payne	Wooli	Transfer

Notes from Cabinet

* Cabinet has donated \$1,000.00 to the Q2 flood appeal. If your Club would like to make a donation should send their cheques to: PDG Bryce Waters, PO Box 10301, MT PLEASANT, 4740

* PDG Peter Veryard was presented with a 100% District Governors award by DG Gerard for his efforts in 2006/2007.

* The large Lions Club flags that were used at the Sydney Convention can still be ordered. Contact Peter Merver 0411 730 860

URGENT REMINDER TO CLUB SECRETARIES

Secretaries are reminded that Lions Clubs International will be changing the dates for submission of Monthly Membership Reports from 1st April 2008.

Clubs submitting online through the WMMR site can submit their monthly report up to the last day of the month. Remember that previously you could get it in up to 28 days after the end of the month. This STOPS at the end of March.

Clubs submitting MMR Forms who want me to post them to America MUST have them to me no later than the 20th of the month. I have to post them to America THAT DAY. Remember that I used to have until the last day of the month. This STOPS at the end of March.

In February, 26 Clubs had not submitted by the 20th of the month. By the last business day I was still nine Clubs short and had to complete MMR forms on their behalf. March is the last month I will be doing that.

From April 1st I have been instructed that I post on 20th of the month and ASSUME that club reports not received by then will be submitted electronically.

Lions Secretaries, this is a huge change in a long standing procedure. Please take note and don't let your Club down by failing to submit MMRs on time to meet these new International requirements. Bill Burges PDG

Cabinet Secretary

LIONS VANNER NEWS

The Drovers Campfire

Weekend April 25-28

Boggabri Lions Club

Contact Geoff Eather 02 6743 4469

Cabinet Meeting Bingara July

Riverside Caravan Park Phone 02

6724 1209 Powered Sites On-site

Caravans & Cabins

Tamworth District Convention

October 10/12

Paradise Tourist Park

Ph: 1800 330 133

Darwin Convention

The Clock Is Ticking Tom Cattell

Ph: 02 6723 1306 0428 231 306

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

LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL PEACE POSTER CONTEST

Like to get involved but do not know where to begin?

Contest details are available http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/youth_peace_poster.php3 or contact your Districts Peace Poster Chairman Tom Cattell on 02 6723 1306

The Theme for the 2008/9 competition is Peace Begins With Me.

Peace poster kits are available for lions clubs to order from national office either by phone or from club supplies online shop - use the link to take you straight to the kits at <http://www.Lionsclubs.Asn.Au/shop/webcontent-2.Htm?Peace>

Kits are also available by contacting your district chairman (I have 6 available).

THE THINGS WE DO



(Above) Glen Innes Lion Richard Edkins was awarded the 2008 Glen Innes Severn Shire Citizen of the Year. He is seen here with Aust Day Ambassador Lauchlan McIntosh and last years winner Mrs Jean Tregurtha. (Below) LC Glen Innes held a grocery grab style raffle for Christmas which raised over \$3000.00. Pictured L to R are Geoff and Jackie Potter from IGA, Lion Ken Brien, winner Mrs Jill Hilton and raffle organiser Lion John Barratt.



On Australia Day Maclean Lions were involved with their annual Billy-Cart Derby. A variety of carts were present with competitors ranging in age from 8 to 48. The photo on the right shows a very patriotic looking group of Lions making the day happen.



Notice Board - Apr/May 2008

The DG's Movements



May 2008

12-15 Thur- Sunday MD201 Council Meeting Darwin
 16-19 Thurs-Sunday MD 201 Convention Darwin
 30-31 Friday-Saturday District Cabinet Meeting Hallidays Point



Other Dates to Note

April

12 - 18 Saturday - Friday Youth Camp for Coastal Children at Camp Elim.
 12 Saturday Lioness Club of Tamworth tenth Anniversary celebration West Tamworth Leagues Club.
 15 Tuesday Last day for Cab Sec to send PU101 information for inclusion in Lions Directory
 25-28 Friday - Monday Boggabri Drovers Campfire
 25-27 Friday - Sunday Emerging Lions Leadership Institute Training Newcastle. This looks like a great course if you are interested in learning more about our organisation. See the District web page for more details and application forms
http://www.lionsclubs.org.au/201n1/emerging_lions_institute.htm

May

Club Officer Training

3 Saturday For inland clubs at Manilla RSL Club
 4 Sunday For coastal Clubs at Kempsey RSL Club
 See Article at right for full details.

June

8 Sunday LC Crescent Head Skyshow
 Consisting of market stalls, amusement rides, radio control toys display, helicopter joy flights and much more to keep the family entertained with a monster fireworks display finishing the evening. For further information contact Lion Brad Weekes 02 6265 3407.

September

7 Sunday 2nd Moree Motor traders Show & Shine
 Conducted by LC Moree Plains. The perfect treat for Dad on Fathers Day. It will be held in conjunction with the Moree Markets in Jellico Park. The local Moree Motor Enthusiasts Club will have a observation / poker run on Saturday afternoon & snacks, trophies and music that night. There was over 100 cars last year, so if you have a restored tractor, Vintage or Veteran car, Hot Rod, Custom, Motor Bike or Drag car you are more than welcome to join in. Trophies will be presented 2 to 3pm. Then head for home. Contact Lion Tony Jukes for more details.
 W 02 6752 4299 H 02 6752 9153.

October

10-12 Friday - Sunday District Convention Tamworth



Youth of the Year Dates

State Final to be held in Sydney 12th April 2008

National Final to be held at MD Convention Darwin May 2008

CLUB OFFICER TRAINING

ATTENTION ALL INCOMING CLUB PRESIDENTS, SECRETARIES AND TREASURERS

There will be two Club Officer Training Schools this year
 For **Inland** Clubs the School will be on Saturday 3rd May 2008 commencing at 10am at the Manilla RSL Club. For **Coastal** Clubs the School will be on Sunday 4th May 2008 commencing at 10am at the Kempsey RSL Club.

At 10.00 am start there will be a short introduction by myself in which I will explain my goals and aims for the District and how you can help me meet my goals for our Lions year.

We will then break into three groups, Presidents, Secretary's and Treasurers where training will be conducted by very experienced Lions who will provide incoming Club Officers with a wealth of valuable information. Lunch will be available at the clubs.

The primary purpose of the change away from holding training schools within each Region is to ensure Club Officer Training is consistency across the District and in particular for this year, to ensure Club Officers are aware of the recent changes introduced by Lions Clubs International with Club reporting procedures.

I appreciate that some Clubs will have considerable distance to travel to attend the Training Schools but we can assure you that if you make the effort it will be worthwhile I 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.
 Malcolm Merrick
 DG (elect) 2008-09

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