

District Governor's Newsletter 2008-2009



District Governor
Mary Harlow, Altona

Newsletter Editor
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Working together for our Communities

If it is to be ... then it is up to me

District Governor's Message

August 2008

International President (IP) Al Brandel's theme this year is "*Miracles Through Service*". He is a hands on lion and has been a member of the West Hempstead Lions Club since 1975 he is married to Lion Maureen. IP Al and Lion Maureen will be Guests at the Multiple District Convention in Melbourne from 1 May 2009, please if possible attend this Convention, you will have a wonderful time.

Lions you are the "everyday Heroes" IP Al speaks about; nothing and no one is more important in Lions than you and your Clubs, he is most sincere about this and will advise you he and Maureen are also hands on lion working for their and the global community.

This year District Governors have been asked to promote women in Lions and International President Al and his Team would like a 19% increase of women in clubs around the world, please let us see if we, District 201 V2 are able to play our part.

Times are changing and we are aging unless we change our ideas and look at running different clubs with less formality we are going to die. We need Mother's Clubs, Youth Clubs, University Clubs, Art Clubs, Family Clubs and each needs to be run in a way which suits their individual needs – lets us look and act outside the

square please – lets us grow Lions not for Lions sake but for the sake of our Communities.

This year our MERL Team plan to develop Leaders within our District. Each Club this year received a CD and if you as a Member have not seen your Club's CD at a meeting then please ask your Club Secretary for it and copy it. Within this CD is information about the positions of President, Secretary and many other areas of Lions so please take the time to look at this, please do not put the CD

"Those who bring sunshine into the lives of others, cannot keep it from themselves".

away in a draw – thank you.

The need to serve humanity is one of the very cores of Lionism and it is a need within you and I, a burning desire to assist others both through and outside of Lions. Please remember to always thank your Partner and Family for the time you spend assisting others in all walks of your life. Your Family, Work must come first in your life and always take time for yourself. Make sure you laugh everyday and "thank you" once again for being a dedicated Lion in helping those less fortunate than yourself – how blessed they are to have you, "**an everyday hero**" in their eyes – please look at these community people when they say thank you and you

will see yourself in their eyes.

My first "unofficial" duty was a Changeover where I was asked to install the Kaniva Board for the 2008-2009. Incoming President, Libby Witnitz asked me to do this last year. On behalf of Malcolm and myself, we would like to thank President Libby and Treasurer Butch for their hospitality plus the Members/Partners/Children of the Kaniva club for such an enjoyable evening on Thursday, 10 July 2008. We wish our friend President Libby and her Executive plus the Kaniva Club a happy and successful year.

The Council of Governors had their first meeting offshore at Dusit Thani Hotel, Bangkok, Saturday, 29 June 2008. A few items I am able to advise you about are National Stationery, Holden Sponsorship for V2 District Convention at Edenhope, changes to the International Constitution at the Bangkok Convention. Club Delegates voted to have 1st & 2nd Vice District Governors, this becomes effective from July 2009.

Changeover & Zone/Region Meeting

What a lovely evening for IPDG Gordon and Lions Lady Helene at Stawell. Special congratulations to our MC PDG Allan Reeve for running the evening exceptionally well.

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Good Company, Food, Wine, plenty of Fun and Laughter was had by all. Congratulations to the many clubs & individuals who received a variety of awards. Malcolm and I thoroughly enjoyed the evening and thank all in attendance including my cousin Lyn Roberts, District Governor V5 David Jones & his wife Lion Monica. A special "thank you" to the Lions Club of Stawell.

District Chairman Leadership PDG Terry Uniacke ran a very good Zone/Region Meeting and I thank the District Chairmen for their contribution leading into the Zone/Region Meetings. Zone & Region Chairman plus Club Executives and representatives "thank you" one and all for your attendance and input, it is appreciated.

I was asked if the Zone Meetings could be allocated extra time and advised I would mention this to Vice District Governor Bob and see what could be arranged for next year. We need to remember many have a few hours to travel before they reach home from these functions and it is always better to arrive home in daylight but as promised, I will pass this query on.

Official Club Visits

August will see Lion Malcolm and myself in full swing with our visitations, the first being Edenhope followed by Dunkeld. Our first three weeks cover many of our outlying Clubs. We have been most fortunate to be offered accommodation within the Lions Family. This is a great honour as being invited into someone's

"Home" is one of the loveliest things we may be offered in life, our special thank you to all.

Uniform – Green Jacket

The Uniform the District Governor and Partner wears is the "Lions" Uniform any one of you may wear the "Green" jacket should you want the tailor's name please give Malcolm or I a call. In Bangkok we Australians were known everywhere, as the "Green & Gold" definitely stood out, all present knew which country we came from, we were all very proud of how we looked.

Mary Harlow
District Governor

Working together for our Communities

THE GOVERNOR'S SIDEKICKS

My WORD

May I first of all on behalf of DG Mary and myself take this opportunity to thank all those that managed to attend the District Changeover in Stawell, it was pleasing to see so many lions, partners, friends, families and yes even children which all added to the evening.

Since our return from Thailand, where it was great to see so many from V2 your support was very much appreciated by both DG Mary and myself. We have been on the road a fair bit with a visit to Kaniva (unofficial) for the induction of now "Past Cabinet Secretary" Libby as President of Kaniva. I know she will do a great job as she did with her previous position.

We then of course followed this up with the Changeover and Region/Zone meetings at Stawell, and as previously mentioned all are to be congratulated with how well the evening went, once again PDG Gordon and Lions Lady Helene congratulations on a wonderful year.

Tomorrow (Tuesday 15th) we commence our first "Official" visit which will be to the Lions Club of Edenhope and then onwards towards the remainder of the V2 Clubs, which I am looking forward to very much, should anything untoward occur on our travels I will let you all know.

As mentioned, I am looking forward to the upcoming visitations with DG Mary and in particular with the partners. We thank

those Lions who have offered us "home" hospitality, we are so looking forward to being welcome into your homes, it is a lovely gift you are offering us both.

Lion Malcolm Harlow

WITH US THEY SUCCEED

On returning to Australia after touring Thailand for 3 weeks I realized how lucky we are in living in Australia. We have social security and help if needed. In Thailand we passed many residents who either had a disability or had fallen on hard times begging in the street. We have people and Lions hurting financially due to droughts and other economic issues. If you see somebody in need offer to help, DG Mary has included a portfolio on Mental Health this year. Sometimes all it takes is to say hello can we help to bridge the gap. If you see a fellow partner by themselves go over and introduce yourself, it may lead to a lasting friendship. On our tour we met a couple from Sydney and we are now emailing each other, that was only brought about by us saying hello. Your challenge is to say hello to somebody else and introduce yourself, you will be rewarded.

My thanks must go to the members of the Stawell Club who organized and helped to transport partners to Halls Gap for our outing at the Region Meeting, you did your club proud thank-you once again.

Lions Lady Edna

District Governors Scrapbook

The District Governors Scrapbook was presented to Past District Governor Gordon and Lions Lady Helene at the District Changeover in appreciation of the District Governors Year. It is a collation of photographs and articles of their year's activities.

Can I encourage Clubs again to forward items this year particularly involving District Governor Mary & Lion Malcolm's visit to your club **in hard copy** as you can imagine sixty five clubs sending digital photographs becomes very expensive. Please make sure the articles and photographs come with a brief detail of date, names and activity. I would like to have something from every club please.

Heather Lochhead
Scrapbook Coordinator

DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S ITINERARY

August

2 nd	Cabinet dinner – Skipton
3 rd	Cabinet meeting – Skipton
4 th	Macarthur & District
6 th	Merino & District
7 th	Heywood
11 th	Murtoa
12 th	City of Horsham
13 th	Nhill
14 th	Kaniva
18 th	Koroit
19 th	Colac
20 th	Willaura
25 th	Sunshine City
27 th	Inverleigh Leigh Valley
28 th	Horsham

Membership Welfare

The **Sincere Sympathy** of District Governor Mary, Lions and Lions Partners of our District is with those whose loved ones have passed away:

Macarthur Lions Club on the death of Lion Victor Annett. Lions Lady Yvonne White (Inverleigh Leigh Valley) on the death of her Mother. Lion Geoff Eastick (Nhill Lions Club) on the death of his wife Lions Lady Joan.

Our **Congratulations** go to:

Lion Robert Chakir & Jessica Smith on their Engagement. Lion Arthur Welfare on becoming a Great Grandfather.

A **Get Well** message to Lions Lady April Foote (Skipton Lions Club)

Happy Birthday wishes to:

Lion Tess Winter 50, PDG Bill Duncanson 70, and Lion Lindsay Hume 80.

To our Members and Partners who are on the "sick List" we wish them all our best wishes for a speedy recovery.



*Libby Witmitz
Member Welfare*

NEW MEMBERS

District Governor Mary has pleasure in welcoming the following new Members into our District and thanks their Sponsors for their great work.

Club	New Member	Sponsor
Anglesea	Lea Quail	Ronald Leeman
Casterton	Robert Mortimer	Judy Jones
Cavendish & District	Myrtle Dark	Val Macpherson
Colac	Karen Van Es	Noel Myers
	Harry Van Es	Glynis Myers
Eastern Suburbs	Margaret Allen	Maria Franklyn
	Tessie Lee	Maria Franklyn
	Erna Gaynor	Janice Jobson
	Adnan Qurehi	Robert Jobson
	Gordana Radicevski	Maria Franklyn
	David Saunderson	Robert Jobson
	Josie Trewwhitt	Robert Jobson
	Carol Van Efferen	Janice Jobson
Hamilton	Garry Traynor	Peter Duffy
Portarlinton/Drysdale	Nick Raicevic	Ray Meaney
	Evan Sutton	Campbell McLean
Werribee	Shangfeng Hu	RobKochevatkin
Winchelsea	Tony Phelps	Robert Knuckey
	Gary Drayton	Robbie Clarke

We did overlook the listing of the members of Sunshine City Club Chartered in September last year.

Congratulations on being part of the newest club in 201V2:

Edward Allan	Ann Best	Jean Boles
John Boles	Raymond Dean	Christopher Evans
Donald Gray	Elizabeth Huitema	Matthew Jenkins
Robert Jenkins	Paul Johnston	Chris Marshall
Maryann McLachlan	Joan Mercieca	Cassey Molnar
Lindsay Molnar	Steve Molnar	Annie Patullo
Cheryl Pritchard	John Pritchard	Bill Shorten
Elizabeth Steer	Gregory Steer	Thomas Welsh
Shaun Woodhouse		

DISTRICT V2 MEMBERSHIP STATUS

Opening Membership as at 31st May 2008

1503

Add	New Members	17
	Transfers In	4
	Reinstated	1

Less	Dropped Members	20
	Transfers Out	4
	Deceased	0

Total as at 30th June, 2008	1501
Year Movement (from end of June 2007)	+20

Campaign Sight First 11

Congratulations to the **Lions Club of Grovedale/Waurn Ponds** on receiving the second highest award for their generous donation to Campaign Sightfirst 11. The campaign ended at the International Convention in Bangkok with the amount raised of \$200,329,000. I was very proud to see the **Lions Club of Grovedale Waurn Ponds** appear on the Honour Board as a Model Club, achieving a larger amount than expected. Donations in Australia for this very worthwhile world project for preventable blindness stay within Australia. In Victoria money raised could help people with low vision live fuller lives by providing the comprehensive services and assisted devices. When Australia reaches it's A\$6 million goal for Campaign SightFirst 11, the Lions of Australia will save more than 857,000 people from losing their sight. How many people will you and your club save? Many thanks to all clubs that participated.

Lion Carol Pritchard

Leadership Update

Region Information Seminars.

The role of the Leadership Chairman is to help you, the Lions Club Member, to get the most out of your community service by providing you with the tools to help you make the job easier.

You are often faced with challenges during your year in office but you will find that most of the challenges you face have already been dealt with by others and all you need to do is ask for help and it will be provided.

When we induct new members into our Clubs we often find that they leave after a short time because they have not been informed as to what Lions is about.

It is our intention this Lions Year to provide information seminars for Lion Members in each of the District Regions or Zones and we request that Clubs take the opportunity of learning more about the Organization, about how to be better organized and how to better run meetings so that members new and old will find meetings more enjoyable and productive.

I sincerely request your support when a seminar is offered in your area and ask you to support them fully by having as many of your members, but most particularly new members, attend as possible.

Problems with Meeting Procedure?

If your Club is having problems with meeting procedure, want to know how to run a special meeting, want to know how to better plan your projects etc., please give me a call and I will make sure that arrangements are made to help you.

Knowledge is power and I assure you that your Club will be a better functioning and much more harmonious place to be if members are better trained and more knowledgeable about our Lions Organisation.

And please remember, even if you are not in an official role at your Club any Lion should still feel free to contact me at any time for assistance in training for a leadership role.

Tutorial CDs!

Each Club has been presented with a CD containing tutorials on Meeting Procedure, the Duties of a President, Secretary & Treasurer plus much more useful information, forms etc., that will help you and your Club to function better.

I ask that all Clubs, and all members, take full advantage of these Tutorial CDs and make sure they are not just filed away and forgotten.

If you haven't seen one yet ask your Secretary where it is and please feel free to make your own copies to use at home at your leisure.

Edenhope Convention.

With the Convention at Edenhope rapidly approaching I and the MERL Team would like to know what forum topics you would be interested in attending on the Saturday afternoon. Any and all ideas will be considered because we want to present what YOU want, not what WE think you want.

Please send your ideas to terry.uniacke@bigpond.com

Finally may I leave you with the following definition of Family as told to Lions Edna, Emma & myself by a Tour Guide in Thailand

Father And Mother I Love You.

If we all remember that the world will be a much better place.

PDG Terry Uniacke

District History

This project has now commenced and due to some documentation already in my possession, I have been able to record some valuable information.

All clubs will receive a form in the District Mail out, seeking information about each club. It is essential that the information requested be sent to me. It is only with the co-operation of all clubs that the project will succeed.

My thanks is extended to those Lions who have to date, given me valuable information or have promised to do so.

PDG Bryan Woodward

Expressions of Interest to Host

District and State Youth of the Year Finals

The District Final for this year's Youth of the Year is to be held Saturday, 21 March, 2009. This year it is V2's turn to host the State Final to be held on Saturday, 4 April, 2009.

Should your Club be willing to host one of these finals please contact me as soon as possible, so District Governor Mary and I may confirm the Venue and Host club to District Clubs and State and National Youth of the Year Committees. These details will also be published on the web site.

My contact details are Phone: 9749 3863, (M) 0418 149 514, (E) mrharlow@primusonline.com.au

Clubs' participating in this year's Youth of the Year please note the following closing dates which have just been released. It is imperative these dates are adhered to please.

- Club Final:** Saturday, 21 February 2009
- Zone Final:** Saturday, 28 February 2009
- Region Final:** Saturday, 14 March 2009
- District Final:** Saturday, 21 March 2009 (Venue TBA)
- State Final:** Saturday, 4 April 2008 (Venue TBA)
- National Final:** Multiple District Convention Melbourne – 2 May 2009.

Shortly, I shall be sending a hard copy of the "Summary of Rules Changes" plus the new amended forms pertaining to this year's quest to Clubs and I ask Club Secretaries to please make sure these documents get to your YOTY Chairman.

Thank you to Clubs who have advised me of their YOTY Chairman; if your Club has not please do so at your earliest so I may have an accurate database of participating clubs – thank you.

I take this opportunity to wish all Clubs the best for the coming year in the quest.

Malcolm Harlow

District Chairman Youth of the Year

Convention Accommodation Update

Don't stay away because you think there is no accommodation. There is still a wide range of choices to choose from such as home hospitality, cottages, caravans and more. Call Nelen on 55851979.

*Deanne Farrenfield
Accommodation Coordinator*

V2 Club Corner

Brian Priest Memorial Award

The V2 District "HOPE" Cancer Awareness Program commenced in 2004/05, and it was at the end of that year that Lion Jean Priest from Sunshine Lions Club donated the above memorial award to the "HOPE" Program, in memory of her late husband.

The winner of the "Brian Priest Memorial Award" is announced at our District Changeover each year. It is awarded to the Club that raised / donated the most money for Cancer during the past year.

Congratulations to the 2007/08 winning Club *The Lions Club of Geelong Breakfast Inc.*

Mobility, Sight & Hearing

A big thank you to all those Clubs who supported the **Children's Mobility Appeal** in the '07-'08 year. Through your generosity we raised \$9,320, and so we are in a position to help.

Originally we thought we would help a child in a neighboring District, as the needs of all children in our district had been met. Amazingly within a few days of our last Cabinet meeting I was notified of the need and a request made, from 'Go Kids' to purchase 2 walkers for children in Geelong. These were for children who have grown out of their Hart Walkers and are now ready to move to the next stage. The money raised by our District covers the cost of both these walkers, being less expensive than the Hart Walker and with no ongoing costs. I plan to attend the presentation of one of these walkers within the next few weeks.

I have also been informed that there maybe another couple of walkers required in our District after assessments at the end of July, so hopefully our good work is able to continue. I will keep you informed when I hear more.

Thank you once again for your tremendous support, your generosity is being rewarded in the knowledge that children are being given the opportunity to walk, something most of us take so very much for granted.

*Lion Trevor Hirth
Mobility, Sight & Hearing Chairman*

Correction

In the July Bulletin, Altona Meadows Lions Club reported on members presenting a club donation and bannerette to the Royal Flying Doctor Service at their Head Quarters in Alice Springs. The cheque was presented to Mrs Roysten and not Mrs Oerlemans as reported.

Lion Chris Pullin

Useful Web Links

District: www.lionwap.org/district201v2
Multiple District: www.lionsclubs.org.au

Lions Club of Footscay

On June 23 Lion Lindsay Hume celebrated his 80th birthday. Last year he attained 50 years membership in Lions, all with the Lions Club of Footscray.



Lion Lindsay with Lion Terry Walsh who celebrated his

Edenhope Convention 2008

By now club secretaries will have received the full and complete registration forms to be filled out and returned before the 'cut off' date, I would ask each and everyone to make sure they have given the necessary details to complete the registration to their secretaries. If you intend to enjoy the facilities provided at Edenhope it is up to you to register now.

I can now provide all Lions and their Partners with the information regarding the Sunday closing BBQ. We have been able to secure the **RAAF Roulettes Aerobatic Team**. They will be providing a 15 minute display over Lake Wallace just before the BBQ. This will be a very special close to what will be a very enjoyable convention.

We at Edenhope hope that you will be at the convention and enjoy this event, we did promise you some interesting entertainment.

*Malcolm Smith
Convention Chairman*

Longest Walk Ever For an Aussie Kid

Lion John Olsen from the Lions Club of Geelong has embarked on a trek across Australia raising funds for the Australian Lions Children's Mobility Foundation (ALCMF) and the Australian Leukodystrophy Support Group (ALDS).

For progress reports of Lion John Olsen's long distance walk – check <<http://web.mac.com/johnolsen7000>> or to make a donation - check http://www.everydayhero.com.au/John_Olsen or simply mail a cheque to "Lions Geelong- Longest Walk", PO Box 553, Geelong, Vic, 3220.

*Lion Brian Edward APM
Lions Club of Geelong*

Miracles Through Service

Ordinary People Doing Extraordinary Things

CABINET SECRETARY'S REPORT

District Governor's Visits

Thank you to all Clubs for returning the forms relating to District Governor Mary's visit. DG Visit forms for completion for September have been sent to clubs for completion. Please ensure they are completed and returned by the due date to enable DG Mary has updated information prior to her visit.

Monthly Membership Reports

Thank you to Club Secretaries for submitting the July manual MMR's by the early due date. I realize it is a very early in the month, but as the year rolls along it will become automatic. To those who are submitting electronically, ensure they are in before the end of the month. Please ensure you send a copy to your Zone & Region Chairman.

There have been a couple of new secretaries trying the electronic version if not this month then very soon. May I suggest you use the test area first, get familiar with the areas to use without disturbing the actual club data. When ready for the "live" version you will be more familiar with what you can do. If all else fails, give me a call or email and I will help you through the process.

District 201V2 Convention Notices of Motion and Nominations

Please note the closing dates for the following motions/nominations.

Item/Closing Date (Midnight)

1. Motions to establish a District Project. 9th August, 2008 (District Constitution Article 9, Section 1)
2. Motions of a Constitutional or General Nature. 8th September 2008 (District Constitution Article 9, Section 1)
3. Nominations for District Governor 2009/2010 8th September 2008 (District Constitution Article 6, Sections 1 & 2) (International Constitution Article 4, Section 7 for eligibility provisions)
4. Nominations for Vice District Governor 2009/2010. 8th September 2008

- (District Constitution Article 6, Sections 1 & 2).
(International Constitution Article 4, Section 8 for eligibility provisions)
5. Nominations for Convention Host Club 2010. 8th September, 2008. (District Constitution Article 8, Section 3) (Refer also to District By-Law 1A)
 6. Nominations for (1) V.L.F. Councillor 2009/2012 8th September 2008
 7. Nominations for (1) Licola Board Member 2009/2011 8th September 2008

Membership Welfare - District Chairman, Libby Witmitz (Kaniva)

Will you kindly notify Libby should a Club member become ill or pass away. This will allow Libby, on behalf of District to forward the appropriate Get Well card/message to the member, or in the case of a death, a Sympathy card to the family and insert a Death Notice in the newspaper.

Glasses - Used

Clubs or members wishing to know where to send second hand glasses, please contact District Chairman Bill Addinsall on 55761226. Bill will ensure you are well looked after.

District Newsletters and Lion Magazine

If you know of someone in your club that doesn't receive a copy, and has been a member for more than 2 months, please let me know. At the recent Zone/Region meeting following the District Change-over several clubs identified members not receiving these publications. I am working through these but the Club Secretaries must ensure that the correct address for the member has been processed through MMR's either on-line or listed on the manual MMRs. Club secretaries assistance is required please.

Stewart Pyers

CABINET SECRETARY



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