



MEDIA RELEASE

May 9, 2007

1000 Lions in Sydney streets

If you didn't know about the Lions before, you will certainly know them after more than 1000 men; women and young people of Lions descend on Sydney for their annual Conference.

Lions Clubs International celebrates 60 years of valuable community service in Australia in 2007.

"That's 60 years of community building, medical research, disability support, emergency relief and helping local Australian communities" said Lions Executive Officer Mr Rob Oerlemans.

"It's also 60 years of fundraising, fun, friendship and family; these are all part of Lions."

The conference runs from Thursday 17th of May to 20th of May, although many Lions will arrive early to engage in the business of keeping this organization growing and thriving.

The Conference will be opened at 10am Thursday by leading Channel Seven presenter, Mr David Koch.

Federal Attorney-General, the Hon. Philip Ruddock MP, himself a Lion for more than 30 years, will speak at the opening.

Key events

11.00 am Friday 18th of May - The finals of the National Youth of the Year competition will be conducted involving a finalist from each Australian state and territory, following exhaustive heats from around the country.

General Peter Cosgrove will provide the keynote address to the Conference on Friday 18th May.

Around 1000 Lions will parade through the Darling Harbour tourist precinct at 11.00am on Saturday 19 May 2007.

Members of the public are welcome to call in and meet the Lions – you might be surprised at the many things that Lions Australia does. With many Australians commenting on the loss of community spirit, you could do worse than thinking about joining this important part of Australian life – the Lions.

Helen Zerefos OAM, renowned Australian soprano and Patron of the Ageing Research Centre at Prince of Wales hospital, will sing at the closing ceremony on Sunday 20th May 2007.

Release date: 9 May 2007

Rob Oerlemans
Executive Officer
Lions Australia
0409 778 044

About Lions Australia

Lions Clubs International is the world's largest service organisation with 1.5 million members in 45,000 clubs in 200 countries and geographical locations. Lions Australia is one of Australia's largest service organisations with almost 28,000 members and 1,400 clubs across Australia. Lions Australia raises over \$20 million per annum to assist in community and health projects, and funding for Lions foundations and programs.