

# · THE LIONS ·



**Who Are They &  
What Do They Do?**

**Information on Lions Clubs in Western Australia**

## **A Note from the Editor**

This edition has been updated to reflect our current position in Western Australia and more particularly in District 201W1. The late PDG Rick Sullivan was passionate about Lions and his community. He put that passion into a booklet to show new Lions the way; to help them to understand how Lions works; how we do our work; and understand the wonder of our work.

I must also add a big thank you to all those Cabinet Officers who took the time to update their portfolio areas, it really helped to complete the job.

Editor  
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## FOREWORD

THE PRIME REASON for publication of this booklet is to provide information about the Lions Club movement at all levels and in particular about the many programs managed by International, Multiple District and importantly, by our local District on behalf of our 'Member Clubs'.

Because of the wide range of subjects incorporated and the limited space available, it has not been possible to provide an 'in depth' rather to make available to new and prospective members an overview of the services provided by Lions Clubs and their members as part of this great Multi-National Association Lions Clubs International and its "We Serve" philosophy.

Lions Clubs International Consists of four major levels, each of which contributes to the overall structure of the Lions International organisation. They are as follows:

### CLUBS

The base on which the Lions organisation stands, with over 46 000 clubs in 208 countries and geographic areas and membership of 1.35 million men and women who 'world-wide' give service to others.

### DISTRICTS

Each club is geographically grouped into a District; each District is administered by a District Governor and its District Cabinet.

### MULTIPLE DISTRICT

Each District is administered by a Council made up of the Governors of its various Districts working together under a Council Chairperson.

INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE comprised of the International President, the International Vice Presidents, the International Board of Directors, the various Committees and its employees.

It is important to note that the strength of the Lions Clubs organisation lies in its Clubs, for it is from this level that we draw our strength and leadership. For every Lion who serves whether as our International President, as a District Governor, a Zone Chairperson or as a member of a humanitarian committee, each is primarily a serving Club Member who has chosen to make an additional commitment to our We Serve philosophy. To each of these members as an organisation we owe a special debt.



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## LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL MISSION AND HISTORY

In 1917, Melvin Jones, a 38-year-old Chicago business leader, told members of his local business club they should reach beyond business issues and address the betterment of their communities and the world. Jones' group, the Business Circle of Chicago, agreed.

After contacting similar groups around the United States, an organizational meeting was held on June 7, 1917, in Chicago, Illinois, USA. The new group took the name of one of the invited groups, the "Association of Lions Clubs," and a national convention was held in Dallas, Texas, USA in October of that year. A constitution, by-laws, objects and a code of ethics were approved.

Within three years, Lions became an international organization. Since then, we've earned high marks for both integrity and transparency. We're a well-run organization with a steady vision, a clear Mission, and a long – and proud – history.

## LIONS CODE OF ETHICS

**To Show** my faith in the worthiness of my vocation by industrious application to the end that I may merit a reputation for quality of service.

**To Seek** success and to demand all fair remuneration or profit as my just due, but to accept no profit or success at the price of my own self-respect lost because of unfair advantage taken or because of questionable acts on my part.

**To Remember** that in building up my business it is not necessary to tear down another's; to be loyal to my clients or customers and true to myself.

**Whenever** a doubt arises as to the right or ethics of my position or action towards others, to resolve such doubt against myself.

**To Hold** friendship as an end and not a means. To hold that true friendship exists not on account of the service performed by one to another, but that true friendship demands nothing but accepts service in the spirit in which it is given.

**Always** to bear in mind my obligations as a citizen to my nation, my state, and my community, and to give them my unswerving loyalty in word, act, and deed. To give them freely of my time, labour and means.

**To Aid** others by giving my sympathy to those in distress, my aid to the weak, and my substance to the needy.

**To Be Careful** with my criticism and liberal with my praise; to build up and not destroy.

## LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL PURPOSES

- To Organize**, charter and supervise service clubs to be known as Lions clubs.
- To Coordinate** the activities and standardize the administration of Lions clubs.
- To Create** and foster a spirit of understanding among the peoples of the world.
- To Promote** the principles of good government and good citizenship.
- To Take** an active interest in the civic, cultural, social and moral welfare of the community.
- To Unite** the clubs in the bonds of friendship, good fellowship and mutual understanding.
- To Provide** a forum for the open discussion of all matters of public interest; provided, however, that partisan politics and sectarian religion shall not be debated by club members.
- To Encourage** service-minded people to serve their community without personal financial reward, and to encourage efficiency and promote high ethical standards in commerce, industry, professions, public works and private endeavours.

## LIONS CLUBS PURPOSES - Club Version

- To create** and foster a spirit of understanding among the peoples of the world.
- To promote** the principles of good government and good citizenship.
- To fund** and otherwise serve the civic, cultural, social and moral welfare of the community.
- To assist** financially, culturally, socially and morally the disabled, disadvantaged and infirm of the community both directly and also indirectly.
- To unite** the members in the bonds of friendship, good fellowship and mutual understanding.
- To provide** a forum for the open discussion of all matters of public interest; provided, however, that partisan politics and sectarian religion shall not be debated by club members.
- To encourage** service-minded people to serve their community without personal financial reward, and to encourage efficiency and promote high ethical standards in commerce, industry, professions, public works and private endeavours.

## LIONS MEMBERSHIP

### WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?

We can begin to answer the above by quoting a well-known saying “*No man is an island*” and that we are indeed all part of a wider world.

Our organisation gives us the opportunity to become part of that bigger picture and wider world.

Caring about others less fortunate than ourselves has always been an Australian trait. As individuals we care about the needs of those in our communities who are facing hardship, ill health and various other problems beyond their control. As individuals we are limited in what we can do to help.

**The concept of Lions, that together as a group we can do so much more to help others, than we could ever do as individuals, gives us the opportunity to put something back into the community in which we live and indeed beyond, to that wider world of which we are all a part.**

There isn't any doubt that in being called on through membership to help alleviate the needs of others that Lions membership gives the opportunity to grow as a person and to contribute your special skills and abilities as part of a team.

As a member you will share in many unique and unforgettable experiences; there will always be personal rewards for service; the friendships generated and perhaps more importantly the satisfaction that comes from being a part of an International Association that worldwide does so much to meet and service the needs of others.

### THE LIONS EMBLEM

In 1919 when consideration was being given to the adoption of an official emblem for the International Association of Lions Clubs, two groups brought pressure to bear, one group wanted the simple letter L in colour on a gold background; the other wanted Rosa Bonheur's famous painting of a lion's head as the official insignia. The final design was a compromise; the letter L between two lions' profiles, with the words 'Lions International'. It was approved by the international board and became the official emblem on December 31 1921.

Today that emblem is the most widely worn symbol of service in the world. It appears on the lapels of men and women who have banded together in Lions Clubs for the purpose of rendering unselfish service to those in need. Countless thousands of homeless, suffering, underprivileged and disabled people are grateful for the light of hope this Lions emblem has brought to their lives.

Who wears the Lions emblem? Men and women of many nationalities, many races and creeds, many political and religious beliefs for the emblem is a bridge of understanding and cooperation between people of good will. Men and women who are high on the councils of government around the world; people like the Mayor of your city, the head of your school board, your councillors, and influential leaders in the life of your town.

Lions take pride in wearing their emblem and in being a member of Lions Clubs International. They are part of a human chain of service extending around the globe, ignoring boundaries, borders and national traits. We can help our fellow citizens no matter

where they are located; we can fill our human need wherever it exists, because we are members of the largest association of service minded men and women on the face of the earth.

There is great meaning behind the emblem you wear on your lapel. It means that you are an honoured member of a world fellowship which has joined its hands and hearts in the service of humanity. You are putting something into life, rather than only taking something out of it.

### **YOU CAN WEAR AND DISPLAY THE LIONS EMBLEM WITH PRIDE.**

Lions originated in the United States in 1917, when a group of independent clubs responded to an ideal presented to them by a young Chicago Insurance Agent, Melvin Jones.

The ideal as presented was one of service as a group to their fellow men without regards to politics, race, or in any way the personal interests of its members.

At the time this was heralded as a departure from the trend of forming clubs, basically with a commercial motive.

A conference was called of some 25 independent clubs and from this meeting held on 7 June 1917 the organisation of Lions Clubs was born.

Within 3 years, the Lions became International with the formation of the first club in Canada. Within 10 years membership had grown to 60 000 in some 1200 clubs, largely in the USA, but also in China, Mexico and Cuba.

In 1947 Lions reached Australia with the formation of our first Lions Club at Lismore, NSW.

In 1948 clubs were formed in a number of European countries, followed by the formation of a club in London.

Today Lions Club International with its 46 000 clubs, operating in over 240 countries and geographical areas of the world give service to their communities as part of the We Serve philosophy of Lions Clubs International.

Every Lions Club operates under a charter extended to them by the International Association. By acceptance of that charter they become part of the association and as such must abide by the various constitutions of the association.

The Association is administered from its head office situated in Oak Brook, Illinois, USA.

The responsibility for the administration of what is the world's largest service organisation falls on the shoulders of the organisation's more than 300 full time employees working under the direction of the International President and International Board of Directors.

The International President is elected at the Annual International Convention and serves in this office for a period of one year.

The International Directors represent specific areas or regions and are elected to serve for two years. The Lions Clubs of Australia and Papua New Guinea which form Multiple District 201, together with the Multiple Districts of Indonesia and New Zealand are represented on the International Board by one director with the position rotating.

In addition to the International directors there are in excess of 700 District Governors who are elected or appointed each year, who upon installation become 'serving International Officers' with specific responsibilities to the International President and the Association.

As part of those responsibilities the District Governor (or Vice District Governor) shall make an Official Visit to each club within his/her District during their term of office and shall during that visit, make an assessment of the club as set down in the District Governors Guidelines. Such reports to be forwarded to International Office at the end of each month. In addition, as required under their charter, each club must submit a monthly membership report, outlining current membership, membership changes together with details of the various activities undertaken by the club during the month.

To cover the international aspects of the association today the Lions Magazine together with a wide range of literature, stationary, videos, computer programs and software are available in a variety of languages.

## **LIONS AND THE UNITED NATIONS (UN)**

The relationship between Lions Clubs International and the United Nations began in 1945 when Lions founder Melvin Jones together with the International President DA Skeen and 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Fred Smith travelled to San Francisco to participate in the United Nations Charter Conference and to assist in the formulation of the non –government sections of the Charter. Lions International was granted consultative status with the formative councils of the United Nations Economic and Social Council. Lions Clubs worldwide have worked with many specialised agencies of the UN. Lions have provided aid and manpower to the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF); The World Health Organisation (WHO); United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO). Lions have also been involved with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the UN Environment Programme, the UN Disaster Organisation, the World Food Programme and the UN Fund for Drug Abuse Control.

Lions Clubs International supports the United Nations ideal of a world at peace. Lions are encouraged to be informed, to support, and to promulgate information about the UN, its humanitarian objectives and the work of its agencies – especially in public observances of **United Nations Day on October 24 and Lions Day with the United Nations, held in late February or early March each year.**

## **THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION**

The convention usually held late June or early July is one of the largest annual conventions in the world. Bringing together Lions and their families from every part of the world, it combines business and pleasure during a week of international fellowship. Held in various locations convention host cities are chosen 5 – 7 years in advance.

The constitution provides that each chartered club in good standing shall be entitled to one delegate for every 25 members or major portion thereof. Each delegate present is entitled to one vote on every question submitted to the convention, and one ballot in the election of international officers and directors.

It is here that all such officers together with the incoming governors representing the more than 700 Lions Districts of the world make their commitments and are installed into office.

## **MULTIPLE DISTRICT 201**

Our Multiple District is known as Multiple District 201 and currently consists of some 19 Districts. It encompasses the Commonwealth of Australia together with Papua New Guinea and Norfolk Island.

Our adjoining Multiple Districts are New Zealand, Multiple District 202 and Indonesia, Multiple District 307 with whom we share an International Director on a rotating basis.

The Office of Multiple District 201 with its small staff is currently situated in Newcastle, NSW and operates under the direction of the Multiple District Executive Officer who is responsible to the Chairman and members of the Multiple District Council.

The Multiple District Council is comprised of the Governors of its 19 Districts. The Chairman, always an Immediate Past District Governor, is selected by the Governor Elects at their first meeting prior to taking office.

The term of office of each Council is one year during which they meet several times to attend to the business of the Multiple District as a whole and to review progress.

Working under its own Multiple District Constitution and Policy Guidelines the Multiple District overviews and governs a wide range of projects and activities including the annual Multiple District Convention. To assist in managing the many committees responsible for these various activities these committees have been gathered into three distinct groups which are overseen by a Group Manager.

## **MULTIPLE DISTRICT COMMITTEES AND FOUNDATIONS**

Details of the many committees are available in the Multiple District Directory and at <http://lionsclubs.org.au/>

## **MULTIPLE DISTRICT DIRECTORY**

Each year the Council through its Executive Office produces a Directory which contains a wide range of information, which is supplied to clubs in sufficient copies to cover their membership. Of great value the publication in addition to listing the Officers and Committees of the Multiple District also incorporates details relating to each of the 19 individual Districts that comprise The Multiple District 201. This information includes not only the administrative details of those Districts but also a listing of each individual club, its officers and phone numbers, its contact details and meeting details.

## **THE MULTIPLE DISTRICT CONVENTION**

The annual Convention of Multiple District 201 is generally held in April/May of each year. The sites and venues for these conventions are determined well in advance as required by the Constitution. Conventions are not restricted to capital cities.

As soon as possible after the determination of the place of the convention, the Council shall appoint a Convention Committee and a Convention Chairperson. The Council retains complete jurisdiction over all phases of each Annual Convention.

Convention week is always an exciting mix of business and pleasure. Lions and their partners together with family members gather from all over this immense Multiple District. In addition Lions from adjoining and other overseas countries often attend and become part of this important and exciting annual event.

## LIONS DISTRICT - 201W1

As mentioned in the Foreword, Lions as an organisation consists of four major levels, of these the one that clubs and their members are most aligned to is what is commonly referred to as District.

Constitutionally, Districts must comprise of at least 35 clubs and some 1250 members in good standing, or such number of clubs or total membership as the International Board may decide. A regular meeting of Cabinet of each District shall be held in each quarter of the financial year.

Each Lions District is presided over by a District Governor, A Vice District Governor and a Second Vice District Governor. These positions are determined by the club delegates at the elections held at the annual District Convention. The constitution states that such convention shall take place each financial year prior to the end of November. Those Lions elected to these positions will take office from the first day of the following Lionistic year (1 July).

The Lions district on behalf of its member clubs is involved in a wide range of activities of both an administrative and a project nature.

The Incoming Governor (District Governor Elect) will have pre-determined many of the objectives that they wish to achieve during their term of office well before assuming that office. In putting together his/her District Cabinet the incoming Governor has the right to select from among the membership of the district those members whom they feel are the most able to achieve those objectives. This includes the position of Cabinet Secretary, Cabinet Treasurer and all positions that constitutionally or under the District Policy Minutes, are not stipulated as being of more than a one year appointment.

The administrative roles which need to be filled are in the main those stipulated by the International body. An example of this being the very important and responsible position of Zone Chairpersons.

There are a number of activities that are shared by all levels of the association. These include sight and sight related programmes, youth related programmes and drug awareness to name a few. There are the Multiple District activities such as Mints and Christmas Cakes. In addition there are District Programmes, areas of special interest and our shared Foundations. Many of these will be dealt with later in this booklet. All of these programmes require representation at District level. It is right to assume that the number of officers on the District Cabinet may vary from year to year and from District to District.

Club members who are interested in the role played by Cabinet are invited to attend Cabinet Meetings and are made most welcome.

One of the important roles of District and its officers is the stimulation and development of leadership potential at both club and Cabinet levels. Today leadership and development programmes are considered to be essential to the long term development and well-being of District. Programmes covering these aspects are conducted on a regular basis.

District Governors towards the end of their term of office are required in collaboration with the incoming Governor to conduct a series of Incoming Officers Schools within the District.

The schools and their accompanying literature do much to acquaint and inform the various Incoming Officers at both club and district levels of their duties and responsibilities in the coming year.

## **THE DISTRICT CONVENTION**

As stated the District Convention shall take place prior to the end of each Lionistic year.

Any club or clubs in Good Standing working singly or in conjunction can host an Annual District Convention. The Host Club or Clubs being determined by the delegates at the Annual Convention 2 years prior.

The convention is chaired by and under the direction of the Governor of the day and is by far the most important event in the Lions year.

It is here that the club members, delegates and partners come together to listen to a series of outstanding speakers; to debate items of business, many of which will alter the way in which we conduct our affairs; to be involved in the various forums on subjects of concern, and importantly, to be part of the various social activities which are such an integral part of any convention, expanding friendships, knowledge and commitment.

## **THE DISTRICT DIARY**

A district diary is provided to every Lion at the commencement of the Lionistic year. The diary contains information essential to all Lions and more especially to club office holders.

Contained within the diary are:

A list of Cabinet Officers.

Where to find information – this is an especially valuable page, you cannot be lost if you consult this page.

An overview of club officer roles

Lions commonly used acronyms – what do those initials mean? We know we should use the title in full; however, all organisations use them! It's just a matter of coming to terms with the meanings.

Rules of Debate – your club may choose to be as formal or as informal as suits your members.

As well as all the information above there is the added bonus of a diary and important dates.

## **THE DISTRICT WEBSITE [www.201w1.lions.org.au](http://www.201w1.lions.org.au)**

The District website is you're A-Z of the district. It encapsulates everything you might need to know about our district as well as an archive and forms. It has links to follow if the information is stored elsewhere.

## **THE LIONS CLUB**

The clubs as mentioned in the foreword are the base on which the Lions organisation stands. From the single club of which our founder Melvin Jones was a member and which he used as a catalyst, Lions as previously mentioned has grown into an organisation of in excess of 44 000 individual clubs all of whom give service to their local communities.

Membership of a Lions club is by invitation and is open to men and women of good character and reputation.

Each club operates under a charter extended to it by the international body. This encompasses certain responsibilities which encourages both club and membership

involvement at community, state, national and international levels. Clubs operate under a standard Lions club constitution and must be formed with a minimum of 20 members. Each Western Australian Lions club is also incorporated under WA law and has a constitution.

The major involvement of every club is in servicing the needs of the community in which the club operates. In doing this they often need to draw on the specialised services and programmes administered by various levels of the Lions organisation.

Most Lions clubs meet twice monthly to plan and revise their programmes, to listen to interesting speakers and to enhance the many friendships provided by membership of the world's foremost service club organisation. Partners and families of members are often involved in specially planned club meetings and activities.

As a member you will have the opportunity to develop your leadership and organisational abilities both in your club and through participation in district leadership and development programmes. You may choose to accept membership of your club's board of directors and offices that lead to presidency of your club and beyond, to involvement at district and international levels.

Whether it be maintenance of a local Lions Park the provision of a splint to enhance the mobility of a limb for a young person with Cerebral Palsy, the installation of playground equipment, the planting of trees, care of the aging, the supply of a wheelchair, the purchase of equipment to meet special needs, the maintenance of a cemetery, recycling, provision of scholarships and youth encouragement awards, and much more, Lions clubs and their members are making things happen in community service.

The Club Structure. As previously mentioned the club operates under a charter extended to it by the International association together with a standard club constitution. The constitution states that the officers of the club shall be President; 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, Immediate Past President, 2 x One Year Directors, 2 x Two Year Directors, Lion Tamer, Tailtwister and Membership director. These officers constitute the Board of Directors.

The Lion Tamer is the Officer responsible for the property and paraphernalia of the club. The Tailtwister shall promote harmony and good fellowship, life and enthusiasm in club meetings through appropriate stunts and games and the judicious imposition of small fines on members.

In numerically smaller clubs the number of Vice Presidents may be reduced, however, all other positions are required to be filled. The constitution stipulates that regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held.

Lions Clubs throughout the world share the motto We Serve together with a number of purposes and objects, the first object of every Lions club is To Create and Foster a Spirit of Understanding among the Peoples of the World. Members are encouraged to live by the Lions Code of Ethics.

Club meetings normally commence with a short Invocation followed by a toast to the flag or nation and to Lions Clubs International. This is often followed by a reading of the Lions Objects or Ethics. Meetings are normally closed by a reading of the Objects or ethics.

Membership of Lions is an opportunity not to be missed, not only because of the good things we do and the satisfaction that flows from this and the concept that together as a group we can do just so much more in service to others, than we could ever hope to do as individuals.

It also gives us the opportunity to socialise with, have fun with and form friendships with some of the finest people in our communities.

There will always be people who need the type of care that Lions have given over all these years and there will always be men and women who will provide that care and proudly wear the badge that signifies their membership of Lions Clubs International.

## **THE LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION - LCIF**

Established in 1968 the Foundation is a public not for profit corporation that operates as the charitable arm of Lions Clubs International for the purpose of promoting human welfare by the careful application of contributed funds.

As the Lions movement continued to expand it was recognised that there was a need to establish a central fund to assist clubs and districts to establish major programmes aimed at meeting a variety of needs from sheltered workshops and aged persons homes to eye banks and to have funds available with which to respond to major catastrophes and natural disasters.

In recognition of this need the International Board moved to set up the Lions Clubs International Foundation which clubs worldwide were encouraged to support on an ongoing basis.

It has a number of major objectives on a global basis which include humanitarian services, vocational training, and major disaster relief.

The Foundations objectives are achieved by as mentioned careful application of contributed funds and that allocations for grants be within the established guidelines and parameters.

In the main grants are available to clubs and districts. A major proviso being that grant applications shall match the funds sought on the basis as set down in the grant guidelines. Currently grants to the value of \$US100 000 may be sought.

The foundation is governed by a Board of Trustees which is comprised of the Lions Clubs International Board of Directors plus two appointed members; the Immediate Past International president of our International Association always serves as the Chairperson of the Foundation.

## **HOW ARE GRANT APPLICATIONS EVALUATED**

Firstly they are screened to ensure that they fit one or more of the foundation's major objectives as previously stated. In addition each application must meet the criteria established by the Board of Directors. The Board meets on a number of occasions each year to consider the various applications.

## **OTHER TYPES OF GRANTS**

Although LCIF is not a relief agency the foundation makes emergency grants that must only be used for food, clothing, medical supplies or blankets.

Major catastrophe grants are for catastrophes of international impact.

Financial Support for the Foundation can take a number of forms:

Contributing Membership which recognises the gift by a donor of at least, \$US20, annually. Donors receive a personalised Contributing Membership Card. Banner Patches and Year Tabs are awarded to Clubs when 100% of the members donate, \$US20, during a fiscal year. The Club is recognised as a Contributing Club.

## **HONOUR ROLL**

This requires a contribution to the Foundation of \$US100. The person in whose name the donation is made is registered on the Honour Roll at International Headquarters. The donation being further acknowledged by the issue of a Certificate of Appreciation in the name registered on the Honour Roll.

## **MELVIN JONES FELLOWSHIPS**

Please note this is not an Award, but is the highest honour that the Foundation can bestow, recognising commitment to humanitarian service, the cornerstone on which the Foundation is built. It is an honour given to individuals through a contribution of \$US1000, to LCIF, and to persons on whose behalf such donations are made.

Today Melvin Jones Fellowships play a 'major role' in capitalising the Foundation's operations.

In recent years a number of Lions programmes and initiatives in Western Australia have received Grants from our International Foundation. These include the Lions Hearing Foundation and the Lions Cancer Institute for the purchase of screening buses.

If the work of the Lions Clubs International Foundation is to continue at its present scale, it needs the ongoing support of the Lions Clubs of the World.

## **LCIF AND THE SIGHT FIRST I & II PROGRAMME**

This International Programme adopted by the International Convention in the early 90's and dealt with in subsequent articles called for the raising of substantial funds. The Foundation acts as the Recipient/Coordinator of the funds donated to the Sight First Programme. Together the two Sight First programmes have raised \$US415 million.

## **ONE SHOT, ONE LIFE: LIONS MEASLES INITIATIVE**

The GAVI Alliance and Lions Clubs International announced a unique partnership that will help to protect tens of millions of children in the world's poorest countries against measles. Under the partnership, Lions Clubs International will deploy its network of 1.35 million volunteers to raise US\$30 million and to improve access to vaccines through the GAVI Alliance, a public-private partnership whose mission is to save children's lives and protect people's health by increasing access to immunization in the world's poorest countries. The funds raised by the Lions will be matched by the UK's Department for International Development (DFID) and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, bringing the total to US\$60 million.

## **THE AUSTRALIAN LIONS FOUNDATION ALF**

ALF was formed in 1980, to provide for the clubs of Multiple District 201, a centralised agency with the purpose of assisting people in time of need, through the provision of

financial assistance and support in cases of natural disaster and to assist in the funding of emergency and community welfare projects.

In order to facilitate and achieve its stated goals, it has been structured under a number of TRUST DEEDS which were adopted and entered into in 1983.

The FIRST DEED covers the provision of emergency funds, so that immediate assistance can be given to needy people, when a natural disaster occurs within the Multiple District.

The SECOND DEED headed Australia Lions Foundation International, deals with assistance in projects within and beyond our Multiple District, being funded by a voluntary donation of \$1 per member of Lions Clubs (\$1 per year).

The THIRD DEED deals with assistance to projects approved by the relevant Minister of the Commonwealth in relation to, providing money or benefits to or for the relief of persons in other countries. Donation of \$2 or more being tax deductible

The TRUST DEEDS cover the day to day operation of the Foundation together with:-

- a) Appointments of Trustees
- b) Election of Chairman and Committees
- c) Keeping of Financial Records and the Investment of Funds
- d) Appointments of Sub-Committees, and
- e) Calling of Meetings

## **REPRESENTATION**

Trustees appointed shall be representatives of a geographical area of MD201, in order to comply with the Australian Taxation Office.

To comply with the above, each of the Q Districts, the C, N, V and W Districts and the T District has a Trustee serving on the Foundation Board of Trustees. Trustees are elected for a term of 3 years, being elected by the delegates representing the Member Clubs at a ballot conducted in conjunction with the Annual General Meeting of the Foundation in May each year. To ensure continuity, one third (1/3) of the Trustees retire each year.

Office Bearers. The Trustees shall appoint a Secretary and a Treasurer who will not necessarily be Trustees of the Foundation.

The Trust Deeds also call for an Emergency Grants Committee, personnel of which are appointed by the Trustees, subject to MD201 Council approval.

## **GRANTS**

As shown in the Foundation's policy Document are applied for under 2 main headings:

### **STANDARD AND EMERGENCY GRANTS**

Applications for standard grants shall not exceed \$15,000 (Fifteen Thousand Dollars). Applications for Emergency Grants shall not in the first instance exceed \$20,000 (Twenty Thousand Dollars). Any further assistance for the natural disaster will be allocated by the Executive of the Board of Trustees.

Particularly in relation to natural disasters, it can be likened to an "Insurance Policy". However, the response of the Foundation is limited to the ongoing support received from Member Clubs. If one looks back over the most recent years at the frequency and diversity of natural disasters alone and that your Lions Foundation has responded to within hours, on our joint behalf, it indeed highlights the need to maintain our premiums. This can be done in

a number of ways. As mentioned, the Foundation annually calls on Clubs to make a voluntary donation of \$1 per member.

### **ALF BANNER PATCH**

Clubs who support the Foundation with a donation of \$250 or more will receive a Banner Patch. Further donations of \$250 or more, will be recognised by iron-on Star Patches

### **JAMES D RICHARDSON AWARD**

This award achieved through the donation of \$500, is designated as a “James D Richardson Honour Award”. A handsome, framed Certificate is made out in the name of the individual or beneficiary as stipulated by the donor.

### **IAN M STOCKDALE HUMANITARIAN AWARD**

This Award is achieved through the donation of \$1000 and is designated as an “Ian M Stockdale Humanitarian Award”. A handsome timber framed Certificate is made out in the name of the individual or beneficiary as stipulated by the donor.

### **WILLIAM R TRESISE FELLOW AWARD**

This Award, named after the Founder of Lions in Australia, will be presented to an individual who makes an undesignated contribution of \$2000, or an individual whose Club makes a like donation in honour of that person. The donation must be designated as a “William R Tresise Fellow”

Please refer to the ALF Section of the Multiple District Directory for further information on William R Tresise, Ian M Stockdale and James D Richardson Awards.

One of the most important incidents in the history of Lions Clubs International occurred when a very special lady addressed the 1925 International Convention of Lions. This special lady was Helen Keller, left totally visually and hearing impaired by a severe illness when aged 19 months. Despite these disabilities she became a vocal activist for the world’s visual and hearing impaired. Today her efforts on their behalf continues through the work of the “Helen Keller Foundation”.

In addressing the Convention, she said “I am your opportunity, I am knocking at your door, I want to be adopted. The opportunity I bring you is this – Will you not help me hasten the day when there will be no preventable blindness, no little deaf child untaught, no man or women unaided? I appeal to you Lions, you who have your sight, your hearing, you who are strong and brave and kind. Will you not constitute yourselves as “Knights of Blind” in this crusade against darkness?”

The answer was a standing ovation for that slightly built woman who could neither hear, nor see. The result? – From that point on, “Sight Conservation” and “Work With The Blind” became major ongoing service activities of Lions Clubs International and today is evident in so many ways.

### **WESTERN AUSTRALIAN LIONS HALL OF FAME**

Established in 2012, to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Lions in Western Australia, the WA Lions Hall of Fame is an initiative to celebrate the outstanding contribution made by individual Lions and to recognize an elite group of people who have given exceptional service to the advancement of Lions in Western Australia since our District was founded in 1962.

Each year every Lions Club throughout Western Australia is invited to submit the name/s of members whom they consider worthy of this Award. Nominations close on 31<sup>st</sup> August each year and a panel of judges consisting of Lions and non-Lions select those to be inducted as members of the WA Lions Hall of Fame. A Black Tie Dinner is held on the first Friday in November each year to announce the nominees and winners. A virtual Honour Board can be found on the District Website.

## THE INTERNATIONAL SIGHT FIRST PROGRAMME

Australian Lions have always been at the forefront in the “Fight Against Darkness”. In July 1990, Lions Clubs International adopted a programme that, if achieved, will lead to the elimination of reversible and preventable blindness worldwide. The programme was introduced to the International Board by Dr Bob Coulthard, an Adelaide GP, who at the time was Australia’s representative on the Board.

The Programme called for a mammoth effort involving a wide range of participating partners.

Since its inception in 1990, the SightFirst program has played a key role in reducing global blindness. It is only through the collaborative efforts of Lions, our partners, local health authorities, eye care professionals and other non-governmental organizations that SightFirst has been able to help 30 million people have improved or restored vision. SightFirst serves as a leading member of [VISION 2020](#), the global initiative for the elimination of avoidable blindness.

With a focus on building comprehensive and sustainable eye care systems, SightFirst [provides funding](#) for projects that deliver eye care services, build or strengthen eye care facilities, train professionals and build awareness about eye health in underserved communities. Through two fundraising campaigns, Lions are investing US\$415 million in the SightFirst program to extend its services to even more people in need throughout the world. With an average cost of just US\$6 to help restore a person’s vision or prevent blindness, millions more will be given the [gift of sight](#).

Our sight programs have changed the lives of millions.

### THE WHITE CANE

Recently one of the organisations involved in the care and support of the blind held a public appeal titled ‘White Cane Week’ I wonder just how many in that organisation and indeed among the donors to the appeal are aware that the white cane as a symbol of visual impairment was the idea of a Lion In Peoria, Illinois USA. In 1930 a Lions club member, George Bonham saw a blind man crossing a busy street guided only by a black cane, with nothing to show that his disability was hampering his progress. Bonham’s idea was to paint the cane white and his club took up the idea. The municipal council of Peoria subsequently passed an ordinance declaring that a blind person carrying a white cane be given right of way at pedestrian crossing. By 1956 every state in the US had passed similar laws and from that simple idea originating from a Lions member, the lot of visually impaired around the world was made a little easier.

## **CURRENT PROJECTS ACTIVITIES & FOUNDATIONS SUPPORTED BY DISTRICT 201W1**

### **LIONS SAVE SIGHT FOUNDATION**

Lions Clubs and their members have been extremely active in this field. Within months of the formation of the first Lions Club in this state in 1962, Lions were involved in work for the blind. By the late 1960's, the City of Perth (Host) Club were conducting large scale Glaucoma screenings in a specially fitted out caravan. In 1970 the Lions Clubs of Western Australia at their annual convention formed the Lions Save Sight Foundation of WA.

In addition to their expanding screening programmes the foundation tackled the task of putting together sufficient funds with which to endow a Chair of Ophthalmology at the University of Western Australia. Having achieved this the foundation moved on to set up the Lions Eye Bank of Western Australia, which immediately provided a localised source of corneal tissue for transplantation.

### **LIONS EYE INSTITUTE**

The Lions Eye Institute was opened in August 1988 under the Directorship of Professor Ian Constable of the Lions Chair of Ophthalmology. This signalled the completion of the first phase of the Institute and the full commissioning of all research and clinical facilities.

In recent years the Institute has due to the great support from Lions Community, Corporate sector and Government been able to build a specially designed research and clinical facility.

The Lions Eye Institute (LEI) has entered a new era with the opening of state-of-the-art research laboratories in the Harry Perkins Institute of Medical Research building on the QEII Medical Centre campus in Nedlands

### **LIONS INVOLVEMENT WITH YOUTH**

Lions over the years have initiated and developed a number of programmes related to youth. Included in these are the international Youth Exchange and Leo Club programmes, the Lions Quest Programmes, the MD201 Youth of the Year Quest, and various District and Inter-district Youth Camps and specialised youth orientation programmes.

### **LIONS YOUTH OF THE YEAR**

The Youth of the Year programme commenced in Queensland in 1964 and was first adopted, as a National Programme by the combined Lions Clubs of Australia and Papua New Guinea in 1966.

The Programme is designed to encourage student interest in leadership and the qualities required to take an active and constructive role in the community.

### **WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO ENTER**

Entry is open to all Australian youth: "Australian youth" means a young person who satisfies the requirements described below and who, at the beginning of the Programme year (1<sup>st</sup> July), is:

- i. A citizen of Australia, PNG or Norfolk Island;

- ii. A person having the right to reside in Australia for a period of not less than two years and six months from that date - and who will continue to reside in Australia for not less than that period. (This is to ensure that the winner is available for all travel related prizes awarded at the National Final) and is
- iii. (Over the age of 15 and under the age of 19 years as of 30th June of the year of the national final of the Programme.

NOTE: Students at colleges of Advanced Education and equivalent institutions are eligible to participate if undertaking secondary studies.

## **THE PROGRAMME**

Seeks to enhance the already high level of academic, leadership, speaking and citizenship achievements of its participants and potential winners.

## **THE PROCESS**

Includes initial promotion in schools and local communities; judging of candidates at various levels and finally, the selection and announcement of the National Winner.

## **TIMING**

The Programme commences in July-August and culminates with the final judging at the national convention of Lions in May of each year.

## **EACH YEAR**

Some thousands of young people are nominated by the combined Lions Clubs of Australia to participate in the Programme.

## **LEVELS OF JUDGING**

Includes

Club judging – Zone Judging – Regional Judging – District Judging – State & National Final Judging

## **PRIZES**

Participants compete for major prizes that include an International Tour for the National Youth of the Year Champion, and a trip to a Lions International Youth Camp at Rotorua, New Zealand, for all state winners, which includes \$500 to cover some expenses.

## **STATE WINNERS**

Will compete for the title of National Champion at the venue of the annual Multiple District Convention in May each year. State winners will also be rewarded with a trip to attend a ten day Lions International Youth Camp at Rotorua, followed by six days at the locality of the National Winner.

## **THE NATIONAL CHAMPION**

The National Winner is awarded an overseas trip to a destination of their choosing to the value of \$4,000 plus \$1000 cash.

## **THE NATIONAL PUBLIC SPEAKING WINNER**

Is awarded an overseas trip to a destination of their choosing to the value of \$2,000 plus \$500 cash.

## **CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION**

Certificates are awarded to all levels of judging for all participants, winners at each level, as well as for Public Speaking Section winners.

## **LIONS YOUTH OF THE YEAR PROGRAMME AT CLUB LEVEL**

The Programme gives each individual club a number of very worthwhile opportunities. paramount. among these is the opportunity to promote and encourage the community's most valuable asset; our youth. In approaching the schools and colleges to seek their participation in the programme, we are offering the school and its students an opportunity to become involved in a prestigious national programme that has been operating under the banner of Lions for 50 years.

It gives the club the opportunity to involve a number of leading citizens as members of the various judging panels. It also involves the parents, relatives and friends of the contestants in the various levels of judging.

It creates opportunities for positive publicity within the local community area, enhancing both the club and our youth. The programme at club level has much to offer.

## **THE LEO CLUB PROGRAMME**

### **HISTORY**

The first Leos were members of a high school baseball team in Pennsylvania, USA. The club was formed in 1957 by two local Lions with the object of introducing youth to community service.

In 1968 the Board of Directors of Lions Clubs International officially adopted the Leo Club Programme. Today there are more than 5 100 Leo Clubs operating in some 137 countries and geographical locations. Leo club membership now exceeds 127 000.

In Australia and Papua New Guinea (MD201) there are currently more than 1400 Leos serving in some 133 clubs.

The minimum age for Leo Club membership is 12 and the maximum age is 28. As this range is so wide there are two common classifications of Leo Clubs. The 'Alpha' class for members 12 to 17 age group and the 'Omega' group for members 18 to 28. These groups, however, can be varied to meet special requirements. In many countries the majority of Alpha class clubs are school or college based.

Leo clubs are the direct responsibility of their sponsoring Lions club, who supervise the overall running of the Leo club in an advisory capacity, without stifling the youthful enthusiasm of its members. The foundation on which the Leo Club Programme is based is 'community service'.

### **LEO CLUB PROGRAMME OBJECTIVE**

'To provide the youth of the world (with) an opportunity for the development and contribution, individually and collectively, as responsible members of the local national and international community'.

## **LEO CLUB PROGRAMME MOTTO**

### **LEADERSHIP - EXPERIENCE - OPPORTUNITY**

All of which are enhanced through the interaction of members with each other, the wider community and through various service activities undertaken by the club.

Leos are energetic young people who belong to either school based or community based clubs. They perform a wide range of services for their communities.

Each Leo Club elects its own officers, schedules its own meetings and selects its own fundraisers and service activities. They organise and enjoy interaction between clubs; they attend District, Multiple District and International Conventions of which they are an integral part.

In Australia at the Multiple District Convention in May of each year, Leos from various states compete for the title of "Leo of the Year". In addition they participate in the various forums and Leo Club members' social activities.

The Leo Club Programme has much to commend it to both sponsoring Lions Clubs and the young people of our communities.

## **LIONS YOUTH EXCHANGE**

The Lions Youth Exchange Programme is founded on the first Object of Lions 'To create and foster a spirit of understanding among the peoples of the world'.

The Lions Youth Exchange Programme was officially committed to broadening international awareness among the youth of the world. Through the voluntary efforts of Lions clubs, thousands of young people and host families have come to speak the same language, discovering that communication comes from the heart.

Lions Youth Exchange emphasises the value of sharing in family and community life in another country. It is not tourism; nor is it conducted for the purpose of formal education or employment.

The chief organisers of Youth Exchange are Lions clubs whose activities under the programme are coordinated at Multiple District Level. All applicants whether Hosts or Exchangees must be screened and sponsored by a Lions, Lioness or Leos club.

The programme is open to all young men and women aged 16 to 21 years who are eager to learn about another culture and willing to share their way of life. All Lions exchangees are expected to serve as the representatives of their respective communities and countries. The visitation periods are from 4 to 6 weeks which may be split between 2 host families to enhance their knowledge of the country and its culture.

Through this programme a great number of strong lasting relationships have been formed even to the degree where host families have travelled overseas to be present at weddings of young people they have hosted.

## **LIONS INTERNATIONAL PEACE POSTER**

Each year since 1988 children aged 11 to 13 have been asked to create an artistic representation of a peace related theme. Held in youth groups and schools, the Lions International Peace Poster Contest reaches out to the youth of the world in a positive way, laying the foundation for further global involvement.

The current Grand Prize winner was chosen from 57 countries. The winner is flown to New York for an all-expense paid trip to attend the special award ceremony held at the United Nations in early March. As winner of the contest he received a cheque for \$US2 500 and was presented with a commemorative plaque by our current International President.

The Lions International Peace Poster contest is one of the ways in which Lions strive 'To create and foster a spirit of understanding among the peoples of the world'.

## **LIONS CHILDREN OF COURAGE AWARDS**

### **INTRODUCTION & PURPOSE**

The programme was introduced in 1983 by District Governor Joe Mason to provide for the Lions Clubs of our state and Awards Programme through which they could give recognition to a very special group of young Western Australians and their families. It was felt that there were many awards available that gave recognition to young people except those with special needs.

The programme has gathered momentum over the years and today the Lions Children of Courage Awards are recognised by the general community as a valuable programme that gives recognition to a special group of young people and importantly the care support and devotion of their families.

From its earliest days the programme has been strongly supported by the staff of Princess Margaret Hospital and the various support groups who are actively involved with these very special young people and their families. Its newsworthiness and appeal has over the years attracted wide media coverage, both in the lead-up to and at the actual presentation ceremony which most TV channels feature on their evening news programmes.

Because of its growth and endorsement by the Lions Clubs of WA and the communities they serve, the awards have outgrown a number of venues. Presentation of the awards were staged over a number of years in the Government House Ballroom and recently as part the National Convention of Lions were held at the Burswood Convention Centre to enable conventioners from all over our nation to be part of what is a very unique and moving experience. The presentation of the Lions Children of Courage Awards.

### **PROCEDURE**

Each year on a Sunday morning in April or May the Children who are receiving awards with members of their families and nominating clubs gather for the presentations.

As each child is called forward to receive their award a short summary is given relating to the reasons and eligibility for the award.

**EACH RECIPIENT** receives a handsome inscribed plaque detailing the parameter under which the award is won.

**NOMINATIONS** are forwarded through local Lions Clubs for their consideration and approval and are restricted to children aged between the ages of 5 and 15 years.

**NUMBERS** In recent years up to 80-90 children are nominated for an award each year.

### **PARAMETERS OF THE AWARD**

**SPECIAL NEEDS** Children with special needs who have shown courage in the face of adversity, such children include those who are confined to wheelchairs, who are sight, hearing or speech impaired, of who have undergone long periods of medical treatment, surgery or hospitalisation which has brought pain and trauma into their lives.

Nominees in this category will be those children who have attempted to overcome these obstacles and who have striven to improve their quality of life.

### **COURAGEOUS ACT OR DEED**

Children who without regard to personal safety have been instrumental in the preservation of life and or property or have rendered assistance at an accident or whose concern for others is worthy of recognition.

### **OUTSTANDING SPORTING ACHIEVEMENT**

Children who have overcome personal hardship and or disadvantages to achieve a high degree of sporting prowess as an individual or as a team member.

### **THE AWARDS AND THE CLUB**

Lions clubs and their members have always been involved in humanitarian services. These awards give us the opportunity to reach out into our communities to find and recognise these young Children of Courage, or alternatively to nominate and support one of the many children who each year are recommended to us for an award by Princess Margaret hospital or one of the various support groups . Possibly one or more of these children reside within your club boundaries.

Having taken the decision to become involved in what will be a wonderful experience the club will be obligated to confirm the nomination and to take an active interest in the child and their family prior to and during the presentations.

Please involve these members who have not previously been exposed to the programme. It is an unforgettable experience to watch these courageous young people as they make their way to the stage to receive their award touching the hearts of all along the way with their courage and determination.

They are our children of courage. As a club please support them.

### **THE AUSTRALIAN LIONS DRUG AWARENESS FOUNDATION (ALDAF)**

Australian Lions have been involved in drug awareness and education programmes since the 1960's. In 1982 Lions joined with the Alcohol and Drug Foundation of Australia to form the Lions ADFA Foundation. This partnership was terminated in 1990 when Lions moved on to form their own foundation (ALDAF)

Over the intervening years ALDAF has and continues to be involved in a range of drug awareness workshops and a range of books videos and brochures.

### **WESTERN AUSTRALIAN LIONS DRUG EDUCATION FOUNDATION (WALDEF)**

Lions Clubs in Western Australia have always been interested in becoming involved in community drug education initiatives. As a result of this the Western Australian Drug Education Foundation (WALDEF) was formed with the following objectives:

- To promote an awareness of alcohol, tobacco and other drug abuse.
- To develop primary prevention activities, especially in local communities in an 'Awareness' Programme.
- To encourage and facilitate personal, social and community action in support of the prevention of alcohol, tobacco and other drug abuse.
- To participate in national campaigns in line with the aim of the Australian Lions Drug Awareness Foundation Inc.
- To become involved in the formation of partnerships with governmental health professionals, drug educational agencies and drug aware community groups (LDAG's).

- To actively promote and support counselling and rehabilitation programmes.

### **Future Focus**

The Western Australian Lions Drug Education Foundation (WALDEF) has the following future objectives:

- To encourage Lions in Western Australia to become actively involved in LDAG's.
- To encourage participation in the School Drug Education Project and activities in schools.
- To develop a partnership with the Health Department and Education Department where programmes relate to drug awareness.
- To seek and promote suitable drug awareness resources for schools, parents and community agencies.

### **LIONS CANCER RELATED PROGRAMMES**

The Lions movement in Western Australia has over the years been involved in a range of initiatives related to the treatment of and the essential research associated with cancer. The Lions supported Melanoma Research Programme based in Newcastle NSW, just one of many.

In Western Australia there are a number of important Lions initiated and supported programmes. Lions in this state raised in excess of \$400 000 towards the establishment of the WA Unrelated Bone Marrow Register. Over the years there have been many successful matchings from the register to patients with leukaemia and other similar disorders. More recently, Lions involvement with Cord Blood Projects and with Prostate Cancer, the most commonly diagnosed invasive cancer and the second leading cause of cancer death among Australian men. The Prostate Cancer Research project initiated by the Lions Club of City Beach and endorsed by Lions District 201W1 is producing valuable results.

### **LIONS CANCER INSTITUTE OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

The Institute was formed in the Lions Clubs of District 201W2 in September 1990. Supported by the Lions of WA the Institute was originally based at Royal Perth Hospital and is currently based at the University of Western Australia. The Institute is active in a number of specific research areas. Its work in the treatment of cancer by immunotherapy is recognised worldwide as being extremely significant and was supported by a significant grant from the Lions Clubs International Foundation for the purchase of specialised equipment.

Targeted Treatment: Institute researchers have with the assistance of volunteers developed a way in which to deliver radiation and drugs directly to tumours. With more radiation and drugs reaching the target and less in the rest of the patient's body, treatments are more effective with fewer side effects. These are just two of the Institutes many research and treatment initiatives.

### **SKIN CANCER SCREENINGS**

This very valuable programme is conducted with the assistance of volunteers from the Western Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons. The high rate of referrals from the foundation's screenings highlights the dangers of our climate in relation to the development of dangerous skin cancers. This public service programme has saved numerous lives through the early diagnose of skin lesions.

## **LIONS HEARING FOUNDATION**

The Lions Hearing Foundation was formed in 1977 to serve as a charitable service orientated Lions Foundation in the State of Western Australia. Its objects are to work in the field of hearing conservation and to help the hearing impaired and deaf people in particular those who could not otherwise afford what is required.

This foundation works to increase public awareness of disorders of the ear and auditory system and encourage the improvement of services for hearing impaired people in general. With the mutual support and co-operation of the Ear Science Institute Australia (ESIA), we assist the expansion and development of audiological and medical services in respect of both treatment and prevention for the hearing impaired persons at the Lions Hearing Clinics.

There are now seven permanent Lions Hearing Clinics and one visiting clinic located across the Perth

Metropolitan area. Locations include Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, the ESIA building at Subiaco, Winthrop, Joondalup, Mt Lawley and Swan Districts Hospital.

The Hearing Dogs situated in Hahndorf, South Australia, supply dogs for the hearing impaired. They also supply a number of FM Systems to be used in Year 1 Primary Schools to help children with hearing problems.

We also collect used hearing aids to be used by the WA Hearing Bank either for people who cannot afford to pay for aids or to be sent abroad. Hearing aids can be left at any HBF office or the Lions Hearing Foundation at PO Box 3126, Broadway, Nedlands.

The Hearing Foundation also finances the Lions Hearing Screening Bus which visits community events in Western Australia testing hearing free of charge.

The Foundation has a mobile screening bus thanks to funding from Lions Clubs International, Lotterywest, Razzamatazz and Lions Clubs of Western Australia.

If you would like the screening bus to visit your area to carry out testings, please contact us on lionshf@gmail.com

## **LIONS McCUSKER COMMITTEE – ALZHEIMER’S RESEARCH**

Lions Clubs in Western Australia support the McCusker Alzheimer’s Research Foundation as a Category B Project. Lion’s ongoing support is invaluable to the foundation’s research. The Lions McCusker Committee meets monthly, not only to brain-storm fund-raising options, but also to discuss strategies to spread the work of the Foundation to the community.

At the Lions National Convention in Tamworth 2014, the Lions McCusker Committee submitted a motion that this project (Lions McCusker Alzheimer’s Research Foundation) become a National Category “B” Lions Project, enabling all Lions Clubs in Australia to fund raise for the Foundation. The motion was accepted, and following a voting process was accepted.

## **LIONS CHILDREN’S MOBILITY FOUNDATION**

Children from all over Australia are thanking Australian Lions for their support of The Hart Walker Program.

The Lions Club of Richmond, based in District 201 N5 started the ball rolling by sponsoring one child in a group of five Australian families who went to England to be fitted with a Walker

by its inventor David Hart. While the families were in England, they also organised for the local Keighley Lions Club to look after the families during their stay so far away from home.

Upon return to Australia, it was soon evident the Hart Walker was a major break-through in mobility for disabled children. News spread and the waiting list for the Walker quickly expanded to nearly 300.

It was at this stage that Lions Mints and Cake Slices threw their substantial weight behind the Program initially to provide seed funding to establish a manufacturing plant in Australia.

To meet the needs of those children on the ever expanding waiting list, it was realised that the quickest option was to import kits from David Hart himself, and assemble them. The initial seed funding provided by Lions was invaluable in establishing the Hart Walker program in Australia. The money was used to train staff, and to establish a specialised Hart Walker Unit.

Every State in Australia now has children fitted with Walkers, and trained teams to assess and fit the walkers. This has reduced the disruption to families and the travelling costs incurred. It also means that children can be seen for adjustments as soon as the need arises - growth spurts etc.

The development of this programme continues to allow children with mobility disabilities to achieve.

## **CHILDREN'S RAZZ-MA-TAZZ FESTIVAL**

This event is organised as a special day out to help lift the spirits and bring well needed joy, laughter and amazement to the special needs and disadvantaged children from our local community. This is a welcome change for the children who may have to deal, on a daily basis, with illness, physical disability, emotional trauma or severe socio-economic hardship.

This event is now a live theatre experience featuring a variety of different interactive acts providing spectacular family entertainment with three shows over one day.

Razz-Ma-Tazz is a live theatre show of international standard performers steeped in the traditional disciplines of clowning, juggling, balancing, puppetry, acrobatics and unique comedy routines; all performed to the highest degree of skill and entertainment value.

Judging by the laughter and delighted reaction of the audience this kind of entertainment is appreciated by all members of the family. We believe Razz-Ma-Tazz is unique and to keep the Show fresh and new we endeavour to vary the acts and material each year.

The event is funded through telemarketing on behalf of Western Australian Lions.

Our fundraisers only contact the business community to fund the event which enable us to provide, via the producers International Entertainment, an international quality shows for the entertainment of special needs children and their families and in the process we have raised hundreds of thousands of dollars in funds for various worthwhile community projects including King Edward Memorial Hospital Women's and Infant Research Foundation, Lions Hearing Foundation, Lions Save Sight Foundation Princess Margaret Children's Hospital Foundation and Alzheimer's research.

Funds raised are presented to the groups at the W1 District Convention.

## **DRYANDRA BUSHLAND VILLAGE**

Situated in the picturesque surroundings of the Dryandra Woodland, the village was established in the late 1920's as a Forests Department settlement for the harvesting of mallet bark for the tanning industry.

Only recently listed, the village won a Heritage Award in 2010. Today it offers rustic accommodation in the thick of unique Dryandra Woodland flora and fauna.

The village is situated amongst 28,000 hectares of Dryandra Woodland, which is home to a number of rare native mammals. The unique location makes it a great place to stay for photographers, educationalists, conservationists, ecologists, naturalists, holiday makers and astronomers.

Lions clubs and members are welcome to visit the village, some clubs visit and help with maintenance and are rewarded with the fellowship which develops when Lions work together.

## **EXEMPLARY SERVICE AWARD**

This programme was introduced with the express purpose of providing a vehicle through which the Lions clubs of District 201W1 could give recognition to those within our various communities who have and continue to give Exemplary Service to those communities and beyond and who without such an awards program would remain unrecognised.

Each recipient of the award receives a handsome inscribed plaque detailing the parameter under which the award was made.

In addition the names of each recipient together with the details relating to their award are placed on the District Website Lions Exemplary Service Awards Honour Board, joining names of others who share this unique honour.

The object of the programme is to nurture and promote the principals of good citizenship by due recognition of service to others.

To ensure and maintain the prestige and value of these awards no more than twelve such awards shall be approved for presentation in any one year.

To qualify for the award the nominating club must supply information that the recipient, through practice and example to others promotes:

- The principals of good citizenship
- Who in promoting these principles foster and encourage mutual understanding among the various segments of the community;
- Who through personal sacrifice on their part and who through care and devotion give service to the needs of others.

Are forwarded by local Lions to the Awards Chairman for consideration together with a précis outlining the history of the nominee as related to the awards parameters.

When nominations are approved for subsequent presentation clubs are required to meet certain presentation requirements aimed at ensuring that the prestige and value of the award is maintained for every recipient.

In every community there are those who have and continue to give great service to their communities and are deserving of our recognition.

## **THE LIONS CHRISTMAS CAKE FUNDRAISING ACTIVITY**

This very successful Australia wide programme has been operational for many years. The programme is administered through the Multiple District (National) office in Newcastle. Because of its importance not only as a fundraiser but also because of its wide acceptance and the opportunity it offers for strong interaction by Lions club members with the general public. Each Australian Lions district administers the programme locally through a district appointed chairman whose task it is to coordinate the ordering and delivery of stock to individual clubs and to attend to the various queries that arise.

As an added service to the public and to facilitate the ordering and delivery of individual orders to the general public a special cake hotline has been set up.

## **THE LIONS MINT FUNDRAISING ACTIVITY**

The Lions Mint Programme like the Cake Programme has been established for many years and as with the Cake programme is administered at District level by a District Chairman. The attractive Lions Mint dispensers placed by Lions club members in a variety of retail and other outlets within their club areas are a familiar sight to most members of the public who have consistently supported the product over the years. The products give good value for money and the programme looks forward to continued success.

The Lions Mint programme over the years has given support to a variety of important areas at both club and national levels.

## **FUNDRAISING AT CLUB LEVEL**

In addition to their involvement in the Cake and Mint Programmes, local clubs are involved in a variety of programmes aimed at financing their various community service activities. These include sausage sizzles, flea markets and garage sales; activities of a social nature such as quiz and bingo nights, various types of street stalls, raffles etc.

## **OUR COMMON BOND**

Every Lions club owes its parentage to Lions Clubs International. Without it there would be no Lions clubs in any community. Its name, protected by constitution and public laws, distinguishes it from any other organisation. The insignia or emblem of Lions belongs exclusively to us. In countries on every continent of the world it is an established respected symbol of service.

Our Lions club receives much of its strength and ability to function from Lions Clubs International. If the club stood alone, without affiliation, its influence and resources would be limited. The organisation inspiration direction and 'know how' that comes from Lions Clubs International is a highly valued asset.

The United States Chamber of Commerce made a detailed survey of 1000 unaffiliated clubs in the United States. This survey revealed that the average life of these clubs was limited and in many cases they ceased to function within a year. Yet we know that many Lions clubs have passed the half century mark of successful operation and that any well organised club in our association utilising the services and guidance of Lions Clubs International has a 100% chance of survival. It starts with the respected name influence and prestige of a great international organisation and grows as Lions Clubs International grows.

The individual member receives many benefits from his/her affiliation with the international association. At home or wherever they travel they meet with leading men and women from every line of endeavour in a friendly spirit of cooperation. They are broadened by these contact and many times without special effort on their part, lasting friendships are made. Wherever in the world they make themselves known as a Lion, their standing and influence are multiplied.

Through working with others in their Lions club they learn to speak up at meetings, lead others and become influential in community life. Through their membership of Lions Clubs International, instead of having the friendship of members of one club, they have untold thousands of friends around the world to whom the Lions emblem and a hearty handclasp are all the introduction they need.

### **THE LION, OUR OWN MAGAZINE**

The official publication of Lions Clubs International, The Lion, is not one magazine but many. The first issue was published in October 1918, a little over a year after the foundation of the association. As the association grew internationally so too did the need to publish the magazine in a variety of languages.

Despite diversity of languages in which it is now published each edition of the Lion has the same mission; to communicate the news of the International Association and to inform its readers of new and better ways of in which we can render service.

To accomplish this each editor is free to choose the material that best reflects the needs and interests of the Lions in his area; every edition, however, does contain the International Presidents article, worldwide Lions activities, International Board reports and decisions and official notices designated by the Editor in Chief. Today the Australian edition of The Lion is published bi-monthly and is mailed directly to the home of each member.

### **THE WEST LION**

Many of the Australian districts are involved in producing their own District Magazine or newsletter. Currently the two Lions Districts in Western Australia produce a joint magazine called The West Lion which is published and mailed out to clubs in sufficient quantities to cover their membership. The magazine is sectionalised to contain coverage of each district's activities, plus a section of items of overall interest.

### **THE DISTRICT NEWSLETTER**

The District newsletter is published monthly and carries the District Governor's newsletter, news about what clubs are doing and ideas for activities and invitations to attend training and other events. This publication really is a great resource for all Lions. In addition to the above many clubs produce their own club newsletter or bulletin for distribution to club members plus specialised club brochures containing a range of information within their communities.

### **OTHER PUBLICATIONS**

All of the major Lions programmes produce interesting informative information about their individual programmes, some of which have been utilised in compiling this booklet. These publications which include booklets, brochures, pamphlets and videos can be accessed

through the various district chairmen, as listed in the Lions Directory and District Diary, which is distributed to all club members in August of each year.

## **LIONS THE CATALYST - LIONS MAKE THINGS HAPPEN**

The Lions movement in this country has often been the catalyst for the formation of ongoing programmes associated with health. The current efforts in relation to setting up of Cord Banks and the formation of the Australian Lions Children's' Mobility Foundation to develop and fund the David Hart Walker Programme in this country are the latest in a long list of Lions initiated and supported programmes that give ongoing advice and care to the needs of countless people each year. One Lion initiated programme alone is currently handling in excess of 40 000 patients each year. Coupled with the above Lions continue financial support of a wide range of medical research programmes.

Lions have established health research institutes Australia wide and been involved in developing the health care and research of our nation in many ways:

- Conducting screenings for glaucoma, trachoma, hearing, blood pressure, diabetes, skin cancer and other disorders and diseases.
- Establishing most of Australian's eye banks.
- Involved in the setting up of organ donor and bone marrow registers.
- Supported the development of the bionic ear.
- Offering effective drug awareness programmes.
- Training hearing dogs for people with hearing problems.
- Are involved in the provision and management of homes, hostels and nursing home accommodation for our elderly; and
- Internationally have raise hundreds of millions of dollars for sight related programmes

Today there are more than 30 such organisations and programmes operating throughout Australia which receive ongoing support from the Lions clubs of Multiple District of 201. Primarily developed to serve specific needs many relate to areas of health. In addition to financial support, many continue to be operated by boards of management drawn from Lions membership. Others are independently managed but look to Lions for support in specific areas.

## **IT'S GREAT TO BE A LION**

It is great to know that you are part of an organisation that renders unselfish service through millions of projects and activities each year.

Treasure your membership in your Lions club and in Lions Clubs International. Be proud to belong to the largest service club organisation in the world and that it, in turn belongs to you.

## **SUMMARY**

In putting together this booklet our intention was to provide for its readers information about an association which we as members claim is the world's largest and most active service club organisation, LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL.

Because of space it has not been possible to provide more than an overview of the many areas of service to others; built up by its members over more than 90 years. We regret that it has not been possible to incorporate more detail about club activities in their local areas. Worldwide each individual club develops programmes aimed at servicing the needs of the community in which the club operates. Relative to all age groups, these needs are

widespread and often complex. Collectively every minute of every day, the life of someone in need is being touched and so often very profoundly touched by Lions. An organisation of caring people.

**LIONS DESERVES YOUR SUPPORT.**



# LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL

## INFORMATION



**This Booklet is based on an earlier publication compiled by the late PDG Rick Sullivan from information contained in various Lions Publication and was first published by Lions District 201W1 to provide information to members and prospective members about Lions Clubs International and its programmes, particularly as they relate to Lions Clubs in Western Australia.**