

District 201w2 Newsletter

District Governor Terry Collinson

5/1/2017

We Serve

"Lions Transition to the Future"



MD Hobart Convention.

The Multiple District convention at Hobart was a great success. Our District 201W2 did very well with some 45 members and partners attending.

Hobart was indeed a busy time for our DG Team, including Shadow Council meeting and training for DGE Grant Hewett, training for VDG1 Bev Hawkins, continued training and registration duties for Cab Sec. Phil Caunt and final Committee meetings and

Council meeting for DG Terry.

The Council meeting focused on our continued decline in membership across Australia. As noted in our last DG Newsletter, a great many clubs had not inducted a single new member. The Council also adopted a new Business Model for the planned Lions Advisory Board (LAB) as recommended by the Long Range Development Committee. These plans will be further developed and promoted at Multiple Districts and Clubs throughout the year. The



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final process will be to consider the adoption of the plans at the MD Townsville Convention in May 2018.

The Convention had an excellent program, including speakers on medical research, foundations and youth projects. Leo of the year was amazing and WA was well represented by Leo Anna Boddy from Morley Leo Club. The next day we were again treated to exceptional presentations from Youth of the year contestants. Well done for the closing address from last year winner Riley Faulds from W2. The quality of presentations was extremely high and our State finalist Oscar Kaspi-Crutchett from W1 was amongst the best. There is little doubt that these young people are extremely talented and we can feel proud of the support we offer in our youth programs. Our youth are our future and I encourage all clubs to participate in the wonderful programs.

The District dinner held at the Casino restaurant was also well attended and a great get together for W2.

I acknowledge that attending MD Conventions in the East can be expensive. Many of

those attending did so as part of their annual holidays and were extending their time to tours or touring. It is also a great opportunity for Clubs to assist with costs as a reward for exceptional services. The experience and fellowship at convention is outstanding and plans for Townsville next year are encouraged.



More photos throughout

Club Administration and Development (CADD).

Most Clubs should have finalised their incoming Officers appointments for 2017/18. Our CADD program is also underway with completion of our workshop at Australind and Mandurah and Fremantle to be held 20 and 21 May

These workshops are for the benefit of all clubs to participate in club officer training, including present, past and future officers. It is not just about new incoming officers it is about current officers sharing their experiences and other club members looking at future leadership. As with all workshops they are only successful with club support and full interaction in sharing ideas, experiences and new concepts.

We have so much to offer each other in the common goals of our Great Organisation.

We encourage your support.

DG Legacy

My Year as District Governor is nearly over. I will reflect on the positives and negative, achievements and disappointment.

There is little doubt that Club visits are highlights of my year. The welcome for Maxine and I has been greatly appreciated. It was encouraging to see the achievements and work at club level which has been outstanding.

Must say however, conflict, officer recycling, project ownership, lack of leadership direction and purpose, is concerning. Lack of new members, new projects, meaningful operations and youth support is alarming (sorry).

We have encouraged leadership development in 3 weekend all expensive paid workshops. We provided professional presenters and guidance in membership, leadership and club development. Sadly, the enormous time in preparation and delivery was delivered to just a few, many of whom were prior club leaders or others who attended for unknown reasons. New

members, future leaders, were simply not present.

Our youth programs were mixed. Youth of the year was incredible and a great achievement by Margaret Amm. Margaret is of course a tireless driver of this event but unfortunately 93% of our clubs failed to support the program. Leadership for youth programs from our largest clubs was simply missing or completely misunderstood. Thank you Margaret but my apology for the lack of club support.

Leos and Children of Courage were cancelled due to a complete breakdown of club support or commitment to youth programs. Maybe next year will see an improvement.

Club membership has been difficult. We continue to lose members in our District and Multiple District. New members become disillusioned who fail to fit into old ways or feel left out of the group. Over 50% of clubs in Australia have not introduced a single new member, as existing members continue to enjoy fun and fellowship as a traditional social activity. (pity)

As a District Governor, I have been proud to contribute 10/7 towards the good of Lions. I retired from work in March 16 to take up the role full time and have been totally engaged in the process. I have been encouraged by the loyalty and dedication of so many Lions members.

I have however been disappointed at the lack of support and commitment for the future. It was a disaster for our leading club to reject 45 new branch members on the ground of potential loss of income!!!! It is disappointing for the lack of support for our Purposes and Ethic in such rejection. No doubt such an attitude will pass as the age and attitude of club members fades into the future. My apology for my lack of achievement, and opportunity for these new members to become Lions members. (no doubt it is not about dedicated members, it is about money? – my mistake).

From a Council point of view, little effect can be expected. The first meeting (August) was about learning the ropes, the second (January) about ideas, and the third (May) about “if only”. There are three meetings for the Council

to make a difference, but by mid March it is all about stepping down and the new DG's "doing it all again".

I would like to say thank you to those on the Cabinet who have worked long and hard. We are all volunteers and contribute all that we can.

I say to our clubs, it is not about 'your club your way', it is about our great Organisation and the future of Lions. Without Lions the Communities will suffer and the world will be that much poorer.

I say to you all, 'it is all about Lions', - what it could have

been and what it can be in the future.

I have done my best.

DG Terry Collinson

From a new member

Comments from a 40 something.

All these great ideas, but what are we doing about it? How do we get it down to club level? It is like a blocked drain, top is blocked and the pipes are not flowing!

Suggestion, need a separate coordinator "Future Membership Chairman" – less than 50 something at Club and MD level.

Focus on:

- Technology
- New projects to interest young people
- New Training
- New meetings (no time for dinner socials)
- Club health and interest

Keep the old clubs but form new future clubs (branches).

- Young (20 something)

- Something of interest - they want to help :-
 - Old people shopping (60 something)
 - Donate to street people (homeless)
 - Drug issues (safe houses)
 - Walk the dog (animals)
 - Youth projects (health and environment)

Leave the old clubs to do BBQs but new clubs have new ideas, such as plastic, fish nets, in rivers and oceans, trolley's in Pinjarra River, drugs in Mandurah, etc

Apply the huge money reserves to current programs for meaningful contributions. \$2.7m in W2 for dug control (meaningful contribution).

Applicable Foundations, not Alzheimer's, Cancer, Save Sight, Hearing, etc, leave to BBQ money.

Train the new future leaders. Old club officers will not do anything about it or even understand the way ahead.

Can we handle this? Is this about LCI-Forward? Will young members join? Will they stay?

Young member, busy people, cannot make club meetings, work commitments, no project allocation, uninteresting, disillusioned, may (will) resign.

Thanks Jonene.

MELVIN JONES AWARD



Lion Vic McGrath – President of the Leeming and District Lions Club was recently presented with the very prestigious Melvin Jones Fellowship Award.

Vic has been a Lion for more than 30 years. He joined Broome Lions in December 1984 where he filled many roles including Secretary, Director, 1st Vice President and Tail Twister.

He moved around with his job at the Dept of Meteorology, spending many years in Lions in Geraldton and Esperence, until he eventually found his way to Leeming Lions in 1996.

At Leeming Lions during the past 20 years he has been President 5 time, Treasurer 5 times, as well as most of the other Lions roles.

It is a well deserved recognition for Vic's loyalty to Lions International.

Did You Know?

District newsletters are a major source of communication.

The DG and others spend much time writing articles and taking pictures (often not in focus).

Modern technology can tell how many members open and read these newsletters.

Have a guess; how many Lions registered for electronic deliver (800 of 1400) opened their emails?

Answer - 40% - what do the other read ???????



Biggest BBQ for ALCCRF



Manjimup Lions Club treasurer Wayne Newton and member Jen Furness were gearing up for the Biggest BBQ at the farmers market to raise funds for Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation.



Gold Nugget Funding for Lions Eye Research



The Nannup Lions Club is planning to raise \$100,000 by raffling a 6 ounce gold nugget to help fund the new retinal stem cell research at Perth's Lions Eye Institute (LEI). Ultimately, the research is expected to reverse diseases such as macular degeneration, which affects many thousands of Australian families.

The nugget, worth an estimated \$10,000, was donated by incoming president of the Lions Club, Lion Chris Morton. He found it 14 years ago while detecting on a cattle station north of Meekatharra. Chris himself suffers from a rare form of retinal disease, and currently has about five percent of normal sight. His self-trained Vision Assistance dog, Tandy, will wear a replica of the nugget on her harness while the raffle is in progress. The two year old golden retriever is the mascot of the Lions Club of Nannup, where she was born and bred. Tandy passed an exhaustive three hour guiding and public

access test in Perth a day before she turned one.

I was coached to train Tandy by former UK Guide Dog trainer, Kaye Whitely, says Chris. Kaye, of Waggamuffin Dog Training in Perth, believes Tandy may have been the youngest guiding dog in the world at the time. Who better to carry a replica of a beautiful gold nugget than a beautiful golden retriever, described by her owner as his 'custom made strawberry blonde'? Tandy was born with a kink in her tail, which now allows her to tuck it between her hind legs when travelling on planes, trains and motor vehicles.

A Nannup Lions website is being established, with links to a site where raffle tickets can be bought for \$10 each, when they go on sale in June...Other outlets will be advertised. Nannup Lions are also planning a dinner meeting in late September, where LEI researchers will brief guests on the latest breakthroughs in vision research and the winner of the gold nugget will be announced.



Awards Night

Details of our District awards night will be circularised by Cab Sec Phil shortly. This will be a dinner on Saturday night 3rd June 2017. All cabinet members, shadow cabinet members are invited and club members in our District are very welcome to attend. It should be a fun night and a chance to send off the outgoing cabinet and welcome in the new cabinet.

I must say the year has been full with many high points and happily just a few issues. Thank you to the DG Team and Cabinet for your support. Thank you to those Clubs we have visited and for your warm and generous hospitality. Thank you to Maxine Collinson for your support and encouragement.

To DGE Grant and your Team, my best wishes for your year and happy travels to Chicago.

Regards

Terry

DG201W2

Note from the Editor

This is the first newsletter I have edited without the support, input and hard work of Lion Bob Halford.

I would like to thank Bob for all he has contributed in the last two years.

I leave you with the photos of our governor and cabinet secretary at the governors roasting at the MD Convention in Hobart.



