

F's Word

07 April 2013

Lions Clubs International

District 202F

D G Des' Deliberations

WELCOME FELLOW LIONS, LEOS AND PARTNERS



I visited our small club of Mataura, only had 7 in attendance and 5 apologies. President Doreen Lee led us capably and being the newest member of her club I awarded her my DG Encouragement Pin. It was a very nice evening with this club however, it's a club we need to grow, especially now as they are supporting 1st VDG Elect Les over the coming years.

Well, the Autumn muster is now over in the Waimea and all those mustered have been turned out for the winter. It was a great job done. Again I extend my thanks to the Riversdale and Waimea Lions clubs for the great job they did. Everyone I spoke with thoroughly enjoyed the weekend and will be keen to join us all again next year in Waikiwi.

For those few of you who weren't mustered into the Waimea yards that weekend, I'm sorry we missed you out this time. You do have to register you know to be there. Our Friday afternoon kicked off with about 25 club presidents being able to have a one on one meet with PID Cliff Heywood. Then at 6.00pm the hosting clubs Waimea and Riversdale treated Cabinet and invited guests to a finger tea. At 7.00pm the opening ceremony was underway.

The usual welcomes then Mayor Frana Cardno spoke and officially opened our convention. Riverton Lion Euan Templeton conducted our flag ceremony assisted by 11 young members of the Riversdale Pony Club. The group "Hi Tops" sang the anthems and later sang items

for us. Our guest speaker was Mr Paul Ferris, a past principal of Kavanagh College, speaking on educating the modern day children. He has some interesting theories.

During my introductory address I presented International President pins to the highest Key Member President Wayne Collie of Cromwell. The oldest member attending convention to Lion Claire Horrell (85 years) of Waimea Lions; the longest serving Lion to Lion Bill Blatch (45 years) of Riversdale, and to the newest Lion Graeme Walsh, also of Riversdale. Supper followed for everyone.

On Saturday we tried something new in that we all sat at tables for the business session, which worked really well. The Keynote speaker was Past International Director Cliff Heywood of Devenport who was accompanied by his wife, also a Lion and Zone Chairman Helen of the Hillcrest Lions. Cliff's address "Are Lions Still Relevant Today" gave several examples showing we certainly are amongst the people of the world whom we are helping. Cliff presented an International President's Pin to Lion Mike Blom of Riversdale for his skillful graphic works for convention, and the beautiful painting he donated for us to auction on the Saturday night to raise funds for the Neurological Foundation (it is now hanging on our living room wall). Awards and certificates went to PDG Donald Boyd (Melvin Jones), Past International Presidents' award to IPDG Lynette Batt, International Presidents' awards to Jeanette and Noel Kelly for convention and leadership to cabinet officer Helen Hucklebridge for her excellent work with Youth Activities Peace Poster competition. Then my DG certificates went to Lion Wendy Knowler, Waiau Valley, for bringing before Lions the Neurological Foundation appeal



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and to President Murray Kirk for his leadership of the very active Gore Pakeke Club. During the convention I also presented musterer's hill sticks to Noel Kelly, Willie Blom, Geoff Austin, Euan Templeton and Ernest Willis for their participation in this annual muster. My congratulations to all these recipients.

Also during the weekend there were several bunches of flowers and wine given as thanks. Elected candidates this year are DG Elect Andy Andrews, 1st VDG Elect Les Glassey and 2nd VDG Elect James Whyte. These are three good men to lead our district into the future. Congratulations.

The business session bowled along nicely and the only remit (as circulated) was passed, with a slight alteration. Our GMT-GLT leaders will now kick off the Club Excellence programme. In general business there was a call for help from the Owaka Lions to assist the research being carried out at Dunedin hospital into stem cell treatment for Type 1 Diabetes. Mrs Sandra Grant (herself a type 1 Diabetic) from Owaka spoke to this appeal. Delegates agreed to Owaka now approaching our District's clubs for support. This will be happening over the coming year.

District trophies this year went to Lion Graeme Welsh, Riversdale, receiving the Batt Family Trophy for the newest Lion at convention. The Ian Matheson Bulletin Award to Wanaka and Districts "The Waffle". The Daphne Russell Memorial Shield for the most active Leo club to James Hargest College, the Howard Justice Membership Trophy to Cromwell Lions, the Project of the Year to Riversdale Lions' 'Deep Cove Shed', the Ian Keelty Youth award to Invercargill South, the Stewart Top Tailtwister award to Lion Donald Lamont of Alexandra Lions, and the Cockburn Quiet Achiever to Lion Pam Flynn of Te Anau Kepler for her work with Camp Quality.

Later in the evening two more trophies were competed for, Peter and Maureen Cummings award for the Best Dressed club went to Wanaka Upper Clutha, and the John and Beth Wilson trophy for the best act of the evening went to the Riversdale Lions interpretation of the "Origin of the Irish River Dance".

The business session finished at 12.30pm, we had lunch and then everyone was on the buses for an excellent afternoon after first being hi-jacked by Bonny and Clyde gangsters in old cars and held to ransom with some Hokonui whiskey. Then buses

divided between Mandeville's Moth Museum and John Tremain's car collection. It was wonderful to be able to see these venues. Later we all gathered at the Mandeville Country Club for drinks and much storytelling and tail twisting. Back we went to Riversdale, then in the evening the banquet and ball were a huge success with band music by Peter Cairns. The hall was decorated in our '100% Country Green' theme and everyone was in green costumes. Well done to all clubs for your excellent participation.

The Sunday morning breakfast was put on by the Balfour Lions and Balfour's Theatre Group had us in stitches with one clever act after another. They are so talented and we were indeed very well entertained and fed by all those from Balfour.

The Remembrance and Rededication service was then a time for us all to give our thoughts and thanks to those who have done so much for our clubs and district. My brother Jeffrey and I read the eulogies of the 13 people we were remembering and Loreen assisted with the crosses and flowers. Riverton Lion Ernest Willis took the service accompanied on the organ by Mrs Francesca Perkin. PID Cliff Heywood took the Rededication and then the regression of the flags from Riversdale to Waikiwi Lions, lead out by District Governor Elect Andy Andrews and Ngaire. Another great remembrance service that I feel our district always does so well.

Lunch followed, put on by the Waimea Lion ladies. They organised so much food for us that weekend, it was great. Also, no convention is complete without the huge array of great photos Donald Lamont always has available for us to take home. Thank you, thank you everyone for your help and participation.

Loreen and I are now organising ourselves to be up in Christchurch for our final 3 day Council meeting followed by the Multiple District Convention this week. So another very busy week for us.

Until next time, take care of yourselves and one another, and remember.....

"Our Great Ideas WILL Work, If We Do"

D G Des

To love what you do and feel that it matters – How could anything be more fun?

Katharine Graham

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Messages from the District Governor to be acted upon

- 1) **Club Presidents/Secretaries** - Please, we are not being informed of the passing of your Club's members. Loreen and I want to be able to acknowledge their loved ones. Also, after the huge job we have had putting together eulogies, complete with photos, for our district's remembrance service, can you please act on this now rather than just hours before the next convention.
- 2) I have just been analysing the membership report for March. It reveals we have 6 clubs with 15 members or less. These clubs need to take advantage of our Club Excellence Process as soon as possible. We have 10 clubs with over 15 members whose membership is static. Thirteen clubs have shown an increase over the past year (1st July) and a huge 19 clubs have shown a decrease. Please throw all you can right now into some form of membership drive be it "Offspring of Lions" area letter drop or 'ask along a friend' night. Membership and retention are vital to our communities.
- 3) **Presidents/Secretaries** - Please contact me with the amounts of money your club has donated to our District's Neurological Foundation Appeal since 1st July 2012. This important information will be used for public awareness and publicity for our district's Lions Clubs.
- 4) All clubs should now be considering supporting the collection of old TV aerials and other metals to raise money for the New Zealand Child Mobility Trust (Hart Walkers). Contact PDG Rodger Millar (details of how are in your directory).
- 5) Amazingly **18** of our club secretaries failed to file their Membership and Activities reports for March. Maybe it's time for some new secretaries. Improvements please. We need to know our correct position on the membership front.

Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos into order; confusion into clarity . . . Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow.

Melody Beattie

We Warmly Welcome the following New Members in March



Valerie Gutschlag
Robert Gardyne
Kenneth Weir

Gore Hokonui
Maniototo
Maniototo

It is with Deep Sadness we Record the Passing of ...



Lion Ted Rabbidge
Wyndham Lions Club

Lion Ted was a dedicated Lion and is a great loss to our District

Our deepest sympathy is extended to his family at this very difficult time.

NATIONAL AWARENESS WEEK
12th - 19th APRIL

HEADS UP FOR KIDS
GIVE OLD MONEY NEW VALUE

Did you know
your **old money** and foreign currency
can be used to help kiwi kids?

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100% Country Convention The Final Round Up



Friday nights flag ceremony lead by Ewan Templeton was attended by approximately 120 people and the business session, chaired by District Governor Des was attended by 140 delegates.

At 10.00am twenty five partners went on a walking tour of Riversdale taking in an art display, doll collection, two gardens and a car and vintage machinery club.

Two busloads left on a mystery trip where they were "held up" by a Bonnie and Clyde team, where some Lions, "the cheeky ones", were kidnapped and held to ransom. The delegates visited a car collection and aviation museum at Mandeville followed by drinks at the Mandeville Country Club.



The "Green Ball" was attended by 160 Lions and partners. Two items were put on by Riverton and Riversdale Clubs, the latter winning the trophy.

The "Early Birds" breakfast attended by 90 Lions and partners. Balfour club put on an excellent meal and the Balfour Theatre Group entertained us with four items.

Approximately 160 people attended the Remembrance and Rededication service which was led by Lion Ernest Wills. Thirteen deceased Lions from our district were remembered for their contribution to our organisation.

I would like to thank all Lions Leos and partners for attending our 202F Convention in Riversdale.

Eighteen months of planning, changing our minds and throwing ideas around all came together on the weekend of 22nd-24th March. I would like to thank our hard working committee for their enthusiasm and cooperation and we are still all friends.

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A very big thank you to District Governor Des Black, Jeanette my secretary, PGG Wrightsons and Rabo Bank as main sponsors.



It was our pleasure to host Convention and I hope it was enjoyable for you all. *(It certainly was – The Ed 😊)*

Noel Kelly
Convention Chairman



time, we're hoping to secure a few more discounted ad spots!

A template for a Heads Up for Kids press release can be accessed from the Lions Clubs member's area along with other Awareness Week information. There's lots of information on the page, so please take a look.

If you would like collection envelopes, collection cans labels or new collection cans, A3 posters and stickers (stickers are great for schools), please email olivia@morrillac.com or call (04) 471 0335 with the quantity required and your physical postal address.

Every bit of effort and every coin collected makes a difference.

Camp Quality Odd Shoe Day - 13th September



Dear Lion

Since 1985 Lions of New Zealand have provided support to Camp Quality as we provide camps for children living with cancer. During that time hundreds of children have benefited from your generosity.

I would like to provide you with advance notice of our national fund-raising event, "Odd Shoe Day", set down for **Friday 13th September**. Your Council of Governors has approved us approaching Lions seeking your participation in this unique and fun event. We invite your club to embrace the Odd Shoe Day concept and encourage you to participate by promoting and wearing mismatched or unusual shoes for the day. Even if you don't wish to wear Odd Shoes you should still register because there are other ways you can join in the fun. You may wish to partner with your local school or schools to organise an event such as a walk or a design contest featuring Odd Shoes. You might encourage members to attend a meeting in odd shoes and pay a fine as a donation to Camp Quality NZ.

"Odd Shoe Day" is an easy, inexpensive and fun way to introduce people to the work of Camp Quality NZ, an organisation which provides fun, hope and happiness for children battling the scourge of cancer. Camp Quality, established in New Zealand more than 28 years



Heads Up for Kids Old Money



This coming April, is the National Awareness week for Lions Clubs project Heads Up for Kids (April 12 – 19) and it's all about raising awareness for this great Lions project, and old money and foreign currency collections to ultimately support more young New Zealanders.

The Lions' Heads Up for Kids TV Commercial has now been completed and will be playing from April 10th -19th on TV One and Heartland. Hope you enjoy it, and please send it around! The schedule will be emailed out closer to the air

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ago, provides a range of support programmes for children aged 5-16 living with cancer—as well as providing year-round support to their families. The five annual regional summer camps are just one example where, at a cost of more than \$600,000, upwards of 300 youngsters enjoy a week of fun in a stress-free environment, supported by hundreds of trained companions, volunteers and nursing staff providing 24/7 one-on-one care.

We invite your Lions Club to partner with us on Odd Shoe Day to support children living with cancer:

All registered Clubs will receive further information and a promotional pack well in advance of “Odd Shoe Day” on September 13. Your support will be very much appreciated. Please provide your incoming officers with this pre-event information



Brian Hammond
Executive Officer

Camp Quality Endowment Trust

Ph (07) 579 5982 (W); 0274 413 931 (M)

(07) 571 5258 (H)

PO Box 655

Tauranga 3140

Mossburn Lions Club's 40th Anniversary Celebration



On Saturday March 16th Elisabeth and I were invited to attend the 40th celebration of the Mossburn Lions Club. Approximately 90 people attended including PDG Esta Drummond.

The evening began with a meet and greet socialising period followed by the dinner and more formal part. President Bob Douglas welcomed everyone and there was the toast to Lions Clubs International to which I was pleased to reply.

Some of the projects the Club has been involved in are fencing, tailing, tiling and drainage, scrap metal and lately billeting Lincoln College students for a night (2 lots of 50 at a time), calf sales, community projects and supporting adventure events at the White Hill Wind Farm.

The Club was sponsored by the Lumsden Lions Club and then later they themselves sponsored the Mossburn Northern Southland Lions Club.

A notable event of the night was the presentation to their Charter President, Mr Robin Pears (who is still a member) a life membership to the Club and a Lloyd Morgan Lions Clubs Charitable Trust Award.

After a very enjoyable meal the tail twisting raised some interesting events of past and present.

Sunday the 17th was going to see further celebrations with a church service and BBQ lunch.

It was a great evening, thank you for the invitation.

Les Glassey

1st Vice District Governor Elect

IMPORTANT!!! Incoming Officer Training



This will be held in two venues again this year:

ALEXANDRA

Sunday, 26th May

and

WINTON

Monday evening, 27th May

If you are an Incoming Officer of your Club this year (even if you have done it before) then you **SHOULD** be at one of these training days.

The training will be presented by PDG Alice McDonald from District 202M And Multiple District Treasurer Stuart Patterson. Both these respected Lions are very knowledgeable trainers and it is guaranteed you will learn something.

There will be more information on these two days soon but in the meantime keep the date that you will be attending free.

Any queries in the meantime, contact:

GLT Support PDG Sandra Carmichael

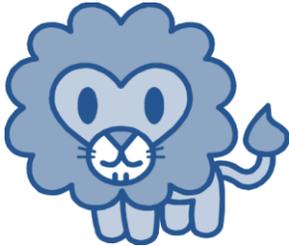
GLT Support Wendy Goodwin

GLT Coordinator Hugh Collie

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A Poem I AM A LION

Several people commented on the lovely poem that PID Cliff Heywood recited at the 100% Country Convention. Here it is – The Ed ☺



I have helped a child to see.
I have built a school.

I have helped raise guide dogs and watched with
pride
As a blind man goes to work with my dog by his side

I have battled drug abuse and conquered river
blindness,
And helped the old and lonely, with simple acts of
kindness.

If anyone should ask me why I give up so much time
I will not have an answer, I'll just say "I'm a Lion".

And when my life is over, and I can do no more,
I'll leave behind some younger cubs, I've taught to
mind the store.

And when I stand before my maker, accounting for
my time
I will say "I have no balance sheet – You see I'm just
a Lion".

Finally... The Ed Sez



You will note that there is no "Around the Clubs" in this edition. I apologise but a tummy bug hit me big time (I think I am right now though) and I just ran out of time. Don't worry... your happenings will either be in the next edition of F's Word or I will put out a special one because there is a lot to pass on.

I just have to add in my 10 cents worth about Convention. It was a great weekend from start to finish. The company was great, there was a wonderful friendly atmosphere, the food was amazing, there was a lot of fun and laughter, the business was done, some very deserving recipients received awards, deceased Lions were honoured as they so deserved, we were revitalized, the weather did as it was told, and I caught up with many of the lovely friends I have made through my years as a Lion. If I had one criticism it would be... it was all over far too soon.

WELL DONE!!! D G Des and Riversdale and Riversdale Lions... you sure know how to turn on a good one.

To all you Lions out there that didn't make it to Riversdale, start planning now to attend Convention next year at Invercargill... you won't regret it.

Now I am going to put my other hat on and do a growly bit.

As D G Des mentioned in his messages, there were 18 Clubs who didn't file a membership report this month. In those 18 cases I filed a 'no changes' report. Sadly, I have to do this far too many times and often for the same clubs. This doesn't make me happy and for two reasons, (1) is what would take you about 30 seconds each to file takes me an awful lot longer for each club, and more importantly, (2) is **Are your Club's membership records correct?**

Anyway, by my reckoning, by taking on the position of Secretary of a Club a Lion agrees to file all necessary reports etc. Are they not being done because the Secretary just can't be bothered or is it because they are not sure how? The latter I suspect. The answer is.... **ATTEND TRAINING DAY!** (I do acknowledge that LCI have changed their reporting system but it actually **is** easier now ☺).

But, in the meantime, if you are having trouble just drop me an email or phone me, I really **am** only too happy ☺ to help.

Got that off my chest ☺. Catch you next month.

Cheers, Diane ☺

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The Lions Clubs New Zealand
Child Mobility Foundation

&



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