



**Kia Manaaki - We Serve**

# 202D Contact

## May 2025

### **Editorial Comment: Volunteering is trendy!**

*Shared by Ron Rowe, Clearview Lions Club*

## **More New Zealanders are volunteering**

Over half of New Zealanders (53.0%) volunteer – an increase of 2.3% since 2021 (50.7%) – and are volunteering an average of 18.1 hours over the previous four weeks (15.9 hours in 2021). Volunteering New Zealand has obtained these previously unreleased figures from StatsNZ.

[Volunteering New Zealand Chief Executive Michelle Kitney](#) said, “The increase in volunteer participation is great news. However, the figures show that people are choosing to give their time more directly to other people. Organisations may continue to face challenges with volunteer availability.”

**The age group with the highest rates of volunteering (59.3%) are those aged 45 to 64, while 54.1% of people aged 65 and above volunteer.**

June is NZ Volunteer Appreciation month. Let's get Lions noticed by celebrating the impact of volunteering in our communities. **Volunteer Impact Day 7th June.**

I am a bit short on Club activities this month. Please remember to keep sending me your monthly bulletins.

Megan England

[202d.editor@lionsclubs.org](mailto:202d.editor@lionsclubs.org)

Huge congratulations to the My Free Health Screen (AKA 'The GLOB') for very positive publicity on 'Good Sorts' on TV1 Sunday 4th May.

## Dates for the Diary

### Zone Meetings

Zone 1 - 8 May Foxton Lions Hall

Zone 2 - 5 May Addis House, Palmerston North 7pm

Zone 4 - 27 May, Hawera Bowling Club 7pm

Zone 5 - 12 May, Kaponga Fire Station, 7pm

Zone 6 - 15 May, Okato

### Incoming Officer Training Days

31 May Ngaere School, 10am -2pm

7 June Feilding 10am -2pm

### Other Important Dates

#### All of May - "Strengthen Membership" Month

15 May - All incoming officers to be entered on 'Lions Portal'

25 May - 202D Young Speech Maker - Whanganui

30 May - Applications open for Youth Camp

5 June - Arbor Day / World Environment Day

7 June - Volunteer Impact Day (Lions and others)

27 June - Helen Keller Day

1 July - New Lions year



# District Governor Denis Hurcomb

Welcome to the DG report for May

The last couple of months have been a very busy time attending conventions all around New Zealand.

The last one was the Multiple District convention in New Plymouth and it was outstanding! The district should be proud of the New Plymouth Central Lions Club and their organizing committee led by PDG Charles Thurston for the brilliant convention they put together. From the Friday night

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Thanks Dr Warren, Robert Heath and others who helped.

The Council meeting went very well. I was asked to 'champion' Ruapehu Lions Club 'Tangiwhai Project' and can report that this supported by the Council to be a NZwide / MD project which will enable more backing and more clout as they apply to larger funding organizations. (More information regarding this project in next month's bulletin.)

Congratulations to Kairanga Club who won the Ron Usmar MD Service award. As they were not there I will visit and present it soon.

I wish to congratulate PDG Leo Danz on being presented with a Lloyd Morgan Life membership for his outstanding dedication and service as our MD LCIF Coordinator. Leo has been involved with LCIF for over 15 years and MD representative for over 10 years. Well done Leo, you sure deserved it!

Attending all the Districts conventions was a great way to see what clubs and lions in New Zealand are achieving. I am always amazed by what lions around the country are doing. We can certainly hold our heads high in our district as we are matching other districts, if not exceeding in a lot of aspects.

Incoming Officer Training is coming up so please look at the dates and get your club officers and members to attend. **Please note that the date for training dates are different from those previously advertised.** Support our incoming District Governor Mike Powell by being prepared for the new Lions year.

District wide, membership is still tracking well, sitting at plus ten with a few new members to inducted in the next month. Thanks to those clubs that are adding to their membership. Please, just ask people, its not hard and you can only get one of 2 answers.

Service recording is at 61%, I would love to get it up a lot higher than that. If you have not yet entered any service please do so asap - even if it's only one project. if you are having issues with entering or accessing the portal please make contact with our District Administrator Mathew Wellington.

Our district is sure moving mountains and making our mark. Well done and I congratulate you all, clubs and members.

*Denis Hurcomb*

*DG 202D*

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## incoming officer training

### Please note dates have changed

**When: Saturday 31 May** - at Ngaere School. 10am start (until approx 2pm) Light lunch will be served

**Saturday 7th June** - Feilding Oroua Hall 10am start

**Who:** All incoming officers - Presidents, Vice Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers, Youth, Marcom, Bulletin editors, Membership, Service, any and all interested Lions...

**It is important that you try to attend one (or both if you wish :))**

## Lions Volunteer Day





**VOLUNTEERS**

**The Heart of Our Community**

Let's celebrate the impact that volunteers have on our lives every day! Lions have been helping build stronger communities in New Zealand for 70 years!

**Event Details:**

- **When:** 7th June 2025
- **Where:** Wherever you choose!

**Ways to Celebrate:**

- **Showcase Local Heroes:** Highlight individuals making a difference in your community.
- **Community Gala:** Organize fun activities where local volunteer groups can connect with the public.
- **Run a Community Event:** Host a clean-up drive or other volunteer-driven initiatives
- **Organize a Competition:** Create a friendly competition between volunteer groups in a public space.
- **Collaborate on Projects:** Team up with other volunteers to tackle community projects.
- **Social Media Campaigns:** Use social platforms to share stories and encourage participation

There are no rules for this day of volunteering. If you can't manage the 7th, make it another day in June. Talk to your local schools, church groups, Rotary Club, scouts, guides... work together to highlight the impact that volunteers have in our communities. Choose a project, a fun event, a thankyou afternoon tea... use your imagination!

Please share any photos with Contact Editor and / or GST coordinator.

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Be part of  
the **new**  
generation  
of volunteers.

We're growing  
our numbers  
to grow our  
**IMPACT**

Our community  
**needs you.**  
[JOIN NOW](#)

## LCIF (Lions Clubs International Fund)

Report to Lions District 202D Cabinet

LCIF continues to be our amazing Lions Trust that consistently delivers humanitarian aid and assistance that is world renowned. That it continues to be so is due to the many thousands of Clubs and individuals who contribute and make a difference, including clubs in 202D.

**World-wide:** LCIF awarded 2023 - 2024:

- 268 grants, totalling more than NZ\$20 million

More and more grants are being used on **Disaster Relief** due to major weather events or major natural disasters such as earthquakes. Flooding is also becoming a major factor.

- NZ \$270 million in Disaster Relief funds.

**2024 / 2025 Lions Year: District 202D:**

So far in this Lions Year, 36 % of Clubs (2 clubs) in 202D have made a donation or Grant to LCIF. Many Clubs have their major fundraising in the next 2 months so we do ask that members remember the work LCIF is doing, and has done around NZ and for our District, as well as what it continues to do around the world and consider a donation to LCIF.

LCIF still holds US \$169,424 (NZ\$310,000.00) which was 'tagged' from donations made during Cyclone Gabrielle. At the recent MD Convention it was reported that there are a number of Lions Projects that have submitted applications for this funding.

Within our own district, the application made by Toko Lions (and including Stratford, Kaponga & Eltham Clubs) for the Tutaki Youth Trust van was successful and the project has been completed. Thank you to everyone involved.

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2 are to assist diagnosing diabetes through people's feet with some specialised equipment.

We have had a record number of Melvin Jones Fellowship applications from Clubs. It is very gratifying to know Clubs are using their credits to acknowledge the excellent service of members to Lions, by recognising with a MJF.

Please note, there is a slightly different application process for NZ Clubs: A Club fills in the form that is on the Portal, emails it to our Area Leader, Leo, who then orders it from our NZ Lions Office in Auckland. Although Clubs will now need to pay for the engraving, this does save them paying the \$105 MPI fee. The new form is now on the new Portal under Quick Links.

LCIF continues to support projects worldwide, making a difference for many communities. We are very fortunate to have the LCIF to support us.

Thank you for your continued support.

Andrew Gibson (North), Phill Theobald (South), Leo Danz (MD LCIF Coordinator)

**Please consider giving to LCIF as part of your club's annual donations.**

For those people who would like to give a personal donation, the Presidential LCIF support pin share is available to purchase Gold \$300.00, Silver \$150.00, Bronze \$75.00 (NZ\$)



## Our Lions Global Causes

## MD Convention

*From PDG Roger Malthus....*



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District Convention held in New Plymouth last weekend.

To follow is a resume of the events that may interest those not able to attend and others attending who may have missed some of the highlights.



As usual the Convention was to start on Friday evening but this year, being ANZAC Day, it was different. A contingent of Lions plus special Lions guests, joined many of the New Plymouth citizens young and old for the Dawn Parade at 6am. It was chilly but clear as we as Lions marched with others including the pipe band, police and services to the Cenotaph for the service and laying of wreaths, with one representing New Zealand and Australian Lions. I can still hear the bugler playing the Last Post and Revere as the sun rose.



### CONVENTION OPENING FRIDAY NIGHT

The official start of the Convention followed on Friday evening. Our MC was previous MP and Opunake Club President Lion Shane Ardern who got proceedings underway as the Official Party were lead in by our Council Chairman Tobi Hipp and his wife Lion Susi. His Worship the Mayor for New Plymouth District, Neil Holdom shared his background as a family living in South Taranaki where there were several Lions Clubs. He also recognised many Lions projects in our New Plymouth District before welcomed us all and officially opening the Convention.

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Next was a spectacular May ceremony presented by Past Council Chairman Megan England. Megan's address was followed by the presentation of flags representing not only the countries with Lions in the South Pacific but also our larger Lions family of countries including the USA and our World President's country Brazil. All the colour and fanfare was overlooked by a selection of photos from around New Zealand and the music of 'Celebrate' on the digital screen above.



Following on with the ANZAC Theme, our Guest Speaker was Australian Special Forces Veteran Brendon Nichols who spoke of his two Tours of Duty in Afghanistan as part of a specialist unit operating in isolated locations. He then went on to describe the mental health impact these missions had on himself and his colleagues with several resorting to suicide. This was a very sobering and brave presentation from someone still battling with the mental health issues aligned with this type of warfare.

On a much lighter note but still appropriate for ANZAC Day, the ANZAC Tribute Choir of New Plymouth Pakeke Lions sang, with the help of the audience, several First and Second World War favourites to draw the Friday formalities to a close before we all enjoyed a light supper.



The core part of our Convention is the Saturday Business Session. This included Key Note addresses by our leaders and special guests, opportunities to present awards, the actual AGM of Multiple District 202 where committee reports are presented, Special Guests are invited to speak and Remits to vote on by delegates.

MC Shane Arden lightened things up before recognising our major sponsors including Fonterra, Dunlop Insurances and Craigs Investment Partners. Council Chair Tobi announced the Vice Governors choice of Council Chairman for 2025/26 being PDG Pam Harvey from Amberley in District 202E.

International Director Graeme Wilson shared his experiences from his first year in office, his representation on the Finance Committee, the diverse range of Countries visited and the Lions he has met plus the challenges of getting your luggage to the same place you have flown too. Our second address was from Past International Director Tony Benbow. Tony, from Australia, is now seeking election as a candidate for 3rd Vice International President to be voted on by delegates at the International Convention in Orlando this July.

After morning tea, presentations of awards included a Melvin Jones Fellowship to our Multiple District Treasurer Stephen Bennett for 12 years of service to the MD. He is retiring to become District Governor for District 202K. He must be really passionate about Lions! Past Council Chairman Murray Pringle received an International Presidential Medal for his work while chairing the Lions Clubs NZ Charitable Trust and the Lions Council Advisory Board.

Other presentations included more on Membership from CC Tobi, a colourful display and report from Past CC Megan England on the newly launched Lions Cancer Bus, Australian Council Chairman David Horne and his focus on training Hearing Dogs. I hope his address reengages us with Hearing Dog training in our 202D District. However, the highlight of the presentations was from Child Mobility Foundation (CMF), with a visit by teenager Olivia on her tricycle and accompanied by her parents Pip and Fraser. Please visit the CMF website for a video taken at the Convention. Seeing this video, it's not hard to acknowledge the difference CMF are making.

### **SATURDAY EVENING DINNER & DANCE**

With 194 for dinner, this was a great turnout. The theme was S being a shortened version of the Conference Theme which was Sun, Sea, Sand and Service. The dress up was hilarious from groups of Santa's to Squeaky Seagulls and everything in between including two very large Sumo Wrestlers.

We enjoyed a three-course part served and part smorgasbord dinner with background music by classic New Plymouth Band Midlife Crisis. We wound them up a decibel and a decade or two after dinner with even a bit of Abba and Mark Knoffler before the remnant dancers were dragged off the floor well past 11.00pm. If that was fun, let's have more of it!

### **SUNDAY REDEDICATION SERVICE**

With a change of venue from The Devon Hotel to Eagers Funeral Chapel, there was a change of atmosphere to a park like setting near the Te Henui Stream. 144 Lions attended the Remembrance and Rededication service and were welcomed again by MC Shane Arden. The service was opened with Lion Suzi Hipp telling the classic story of the dash (-) on the tomb stone,

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in 2024/25 Lions year and honoured them for the 1000s of hours of Service they gave to our communities.

*Roger Malthus, President, New Plymouth Central Lions*

### Attendees from 202D at the Saturday night function





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Congratulations Hawera Mt View won "Best Dressed Club"



Thursday night  
International Dinner



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DG Denis & Robert with  
incoming Council Chair  
Pam from 202E



## Lloyd Morgan Charitable Trust

### Important Update

#### LMLCCT correspondence and awards

Some of you may be aware that Lloyd Morgan Charitable Trust Treasurer PDG Keith Kenderdine passed away recently.

**Please address any correspondence for the Lloyd Morgan Lions Clubs Charitable Trust to [LMLCCT.admin@lionsclubs.org.nz](mailto:LMLCCT.admin@lionsclubs.org.nz) account and not to the personal account of late treasurer Keith Kenderdine ([kenderkb@xtra.co.nz](mailto:kenderkb@xtra.co.nz)).**

Any requests or correspondence that may have been sent to just Keith's account since 15<sup>th</sup> of March please resend to the above account so that we are sure that your requests can be fulfilled.

PDG Roger Robinson is looking after the finance side of things at the moment and will be using the lmlcct.admin email account. His details are in the Trust section of the NZ Lions Directory.

# What's Been Going On Around the District...



## GLOB 1

The Health Caravan in Taranaki is ready to hit the road, just finalizing one or two doctors to spread the load.

We now have a small group sorted to help promote, fundraise and run the Caravan all from different clubs. Thanks to DG Denis Hurcomb, VDG Mike Powell, Wendy Otene, and Charles Thurston for joining me. Already we have got plans and locations coming up. The first trip will be to Inglewood at the end of May.

Any club within Zones 4,5 and 6 who would like to get the caravan to an event or donate towards the running of it please contact Colin Tyler 027 5421853. It is a great cause as I have seen how many people who have been referred to further Health Professionals.

I also have a Glasses box, and a HU4K tin with the Caravan so clubs can also promote other Lions projects while in their town.

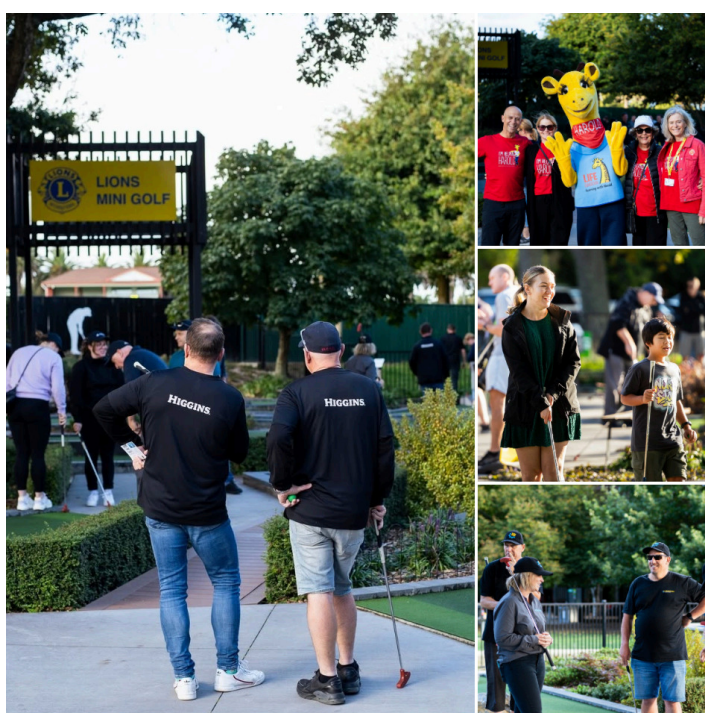
**Lets get this out on the road in Taranaki.**

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## Children of Courage

Thank you to clubs who supported Children of Courage this year. It had a slightly different look than last year with two events being held on the same day at both ends of the district, Stratford in the North and Kairanga in the South. Both venues offered a variety of activities for the children to be involved with including mini carts, truck rides, car rides, a ride on a fire engine and games followed by afternoon tea and an awards ceremony. This is not a competition. Every child nominated is recognised for the courage they and their families show every day.

If you require more information please talk to Youth Chairs, Stephanie Jordan or Robyn Pedersen.

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## Middle Districts Palmerston North ...

have run a successful business house twilight mini golf tournament over 6 weeks featuring 18 teams with all the proceeds being donated to the Life Education Trust.

## Clearview Park Lions Club & Milson Community Centre...

partnered to hold a successful Gala Day. The weather for the day was perfect, sunny, and not too windy as they had a bouncy castle to erect. There were a number of stall holders on the day as well as an outing for the GLOB - My Free Health Check caravan. Money raised on the day was given (by the Community Centre) to children from nominated schools for swimming lessons and to buy swimming goggles (Clearview Park Lions).

## Feilding Host Lions Club...

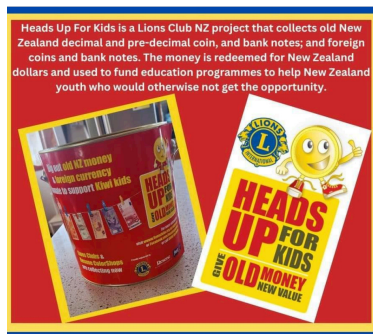
were busy with their 'Hop & Putt' Easter celebration with an estimated 200 people attending. No mishaps to report, just an "over cooked" Easter Bunny.





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## Heads Up 4Kids



### Does your club support HeadsUp4Kids?

There are plenty of old and foreign coins out there. These obsolete coins can be redeemed for New Zealand dollars and used to fund programmes to assist our young people achieve their dreams and reach their full potential.

Collection tins are available. All you have to do is send the collected cash to the sorting house in Wellington. For more information check out the Lions NZ website or contact current District coordinator Daphne Sinclair or MD Coordinator Anne Saunders.

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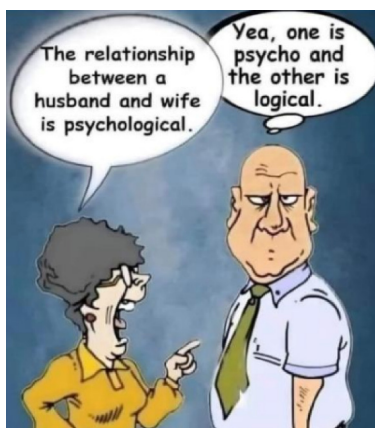
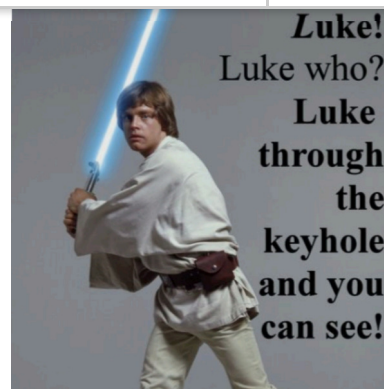
## Laughter...the best medicine

You may have noticed the Contact is usually short on 'funnies'. Maybe I just don't have a very good sense of humour!

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stories.

of them work.



**My dentist says  
I need a crown...  
well, duh!**



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