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202D CONTACT

JULY 2025

Welcome to a new Lions year.

Congratulations to all the incoming Presidents, both new and 'recycled'.

As we begin a new Lions year, let's think about and renew our commitment to service, leadership, and community. Each year brings fresh opportunities to make a difference, by strengthening our clubs, and inspiring others through action.

Why not mark this year with a renewed focus on uniting your club with your community, through innovative projects, by leading with compassion as we continue the proud legacy of Lions around the world—serving with heart and purpose.

A reminder that this monthly CONTACT bulletin is yours, the districts, and it will only ever be as good as the content I am given to share. Please share your club bulletins and celebrations, photos, stories with me so I can help spread the great things happening in each of your clubs with others around the district.

PCC Megan England
Editor

**"When you stop growing, you
start dying"**

William S. Burroughs

STOP THE DROP!

Keep Our Lions Strong – Keep Our Members Engaged



WHY IT MATTERS:

Every Lion counts. When members leave, we lose passion, hands, and heart for our service. Let's act now to *STOP the DROP!*

★ 6 SIMPLE ACTIONS EVERY CLUB CAN TAKE!



Connect Personally

Reach out to absent members with a call, text, or visit. Show you care beyond the meetings.



Ask & Listen

Survey your members: What do they love? What needs improving? Listen and act on their feedback.



Make Meetings Meaningful

Keep meetings fun, inspiring, and efficient. Celebrate service, not just business.



Engage Everyone

Assign small roles or tasks so every Lion feels needed. Involve members in planning projects they care about.



Recognize and Appreciate

Celebrate milestones (years of service, birthday, *achievements*). Say "Thank You" often and sincerely.



Have More Fun!

Plan social nights, service celebrations, and lighthearted competitions. Laugh, bond, and make memories together –



REMEMBER: Retention isn't just about staying – It's about belonging. Strong Clubs – Strong Service! Together, We Can Stop the Drop!

Introducing...

District Governor

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)**2025-2026****Mike Powell**

(Bellblock & Districts Lions Club)

202d.dg@lionsclubs.org.nz

Greetings fellow Lions

Thank you all for your support as I head towards the start of this Lions year as your District Governor, succeeding DG Denis in a very successful year for Lionism for District 202D from the 16th July when I am officially inducted in as DG at the International Convention in Orlando.

Sowing the seeds for growth needs special dedication and thank you Denis and the team for providing this.

DG Denis has overseen the establishment of Hāwera Lions Club, first as a club branch, but with a huge effort from Tobi, Susi and members of the club, quickly blossomed into our newest chartered Club early in June.

Congratulations also to Karensa and her team in successfully starting the Bulls Ohakea club branch. This was a fantastic accomplishment, and again is a huge help for our district going forward. Increasing numbers means more service for our communities.

All of this success leaves me with a hard act to follow, but I would rather that, than starting this new Lions year standing still

I will do everything I can to build on this momentum, keeping 202D as the district to follow in New Zealand Lionism.

*I must say from moving around events and club visits over this last year, the mood and enthusiasm for service and camaraderie is very special, and really quite uplifting. This is infectious and I intend , with everyone's help, to see this spread, so my theme for this Term is **"Friends Thru Service"**.*

We now have 2 "GLOBs" in our district doing great service and generating a huge amount of appreciation, and publicity for us as they appear at events around our district. The referral rate back to GPs for followup is running consistently around 20%. Special thanks to Colin and the Okato Lions Club for picking up the ball and making our second operating caravan a reality.

We have some great community plans and developments coming to fruition over the next few months, and I will keep you all up to date with these.

I very much look forward to catching up with as many of you as possible, over the coming year with club visits, promotions, roadshows, service projects etc, and thank very much again everyone for the great effort in Lionism this last 12 months.

Mike Powell

(Soon to be) 202D District Governor

And the support team...

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2nd Vice District Governor - Graham Robinson (Kairanga Lions Club)
District Secretary & District Administrator - Mathew Wellington (Normanby & Districts Lions Club)
District Treasurer - Susi Hipp (Hawera Lions Club)
Immediate Past District Governor - Denis Hurcomb (Kaponga Club)
GLT Lead - Stephan Barr (Colyton Bunnythorpe Lions Club)
GMT Lead - Chris Pepper (Palmerston North Middle Districts Lions Club)
GST Lead - Graham Robinson (Kairanga Lions Club)
GET (Global Extension Team) Lead - Roger Malthus (NP Central Lions Club) / Karensa Dennis (Heartland Lons Club)
Youth Chairs - Stephanie Jordan (Hawera Mt View Lions Club) / Robyn Pederson (Heartlands Lions Club)
Leos Coordinator - Robyn Pederson (PN Heartlands Lions Club)
Zone 1 Chair - Bryan Barber (Rongotea Lions Club)
Zone 2 Chair - Hamish Price (PN Fitzherbert Lions Club)
Zone 3 Chair - Denis Hurcomb (interim) (Kaponga Club)
Zone 4 Chair - Stephanie Jordan (Hawera Mt View Lions Club)
Zone 5 Chair - Paul Collins (Kaponga Club)
Zone 6 Chair - Colin Tyler (Okato Lions Club)
Lloyd Morgan District Trustee - Megan England (Eltham Lions Club)
LCIF Coordinator - Tobi Hipp (Hawera Club)
Lions Cancer Bus Trustee - Megan England (Eltham Club)
Almoners - Kay Wallace (Patea Lions Club) /Ash Hazlitt (Rongotea Lions Club)
Contact Bulletin Editor - Megan England (Eltham Lions Club)

**Attention all
Presidents &
Vice
Presidents**

Presidents' Luncheon

Presidents and Vice Presidents (and partners) are invited to attend the annual luncheon, hosted by District Governor Mike to be held at Tika Restaurant, Hawera on 27th July. Start time 12.30pm at a cost of \$37.50 per head. Please check your emails for your official invitation and further details.

**Volunteering –
Introducing the
Unsung Heroes**

I recently had the privilege of representing Lions at a breakfast hosted by Volunteering NZ and our Minister of Social Development, Louise Upston, at Parliament.



This event, celebrating Volunteer Week, was an opportunity to connect with fellow volunteers and hear directly from those shaping the future of volunteering in Aotearoa. What I observed painted a clear picture of both the immense value and the urgent challenges facing our volunteer landscape.

Volunteering isn't just a good deed in New Zealand; it's the very fabric of our communities.

Government leaders recognize that volunteers are integral to building stronger, more resilient communities, often serving as the **"backbone"** in times of crisis, not merely a "backup plan." This was strongly emphasised by the head of the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), who lauded volunteers for their indispensable role in responding to natural disasters.

Yet, despite this vital role, a concerning trend has emerged: **most volunteer organisations are facing declining numbers.**

While it's inspiring to know that 53% of New Zealanders, and a remarkable 47% of young people, currently volunteer – figures far higher than commonly perceived – the challenge lies in retaining and engaging them.

People volunteer for a vast array of reasons, driven by a desire to serve. However, what truly keeps them coming back isn't just the cause; it's the **social connection and fellowship** they find.

This insight is crucial for us, as Lions. People are short on time and often juggle multiple causes. They will quickly disengage if they don't feel their efforts are genuinely making a difference.

People are looking to make an impact, not just to show up. By helping others, we are saying that they are seen and that they matter. We are here to help change lives.

Many of you recently celebrated Volunteering Week by connecting with your broader volunteer community. Now, it's time for us to step up and **take a leading role.** We must ensure all our collective efforts are not just activities or projects, but **meaningful initiatives that clearly demonstrate their value.**

**Let's seize this incredible potential.
Together, we can make a real, lasting impact!**

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International President Fabricio's District Grant Opportunity

This time last year our District Governor Denis Hurcomb's name was chosen, at random by incoming International President Fabricio Olivera to receive a grant of US\$10,000 to spend on a project of his choice in his district. Much work followed, led by GST Coordinator Graham Robinson to come up with a worthwhile project that would benefit the whole of the district and meet the strict criteria set by LCI.

Fast forward to now and not one but two projects have been approved.

- **Project #1** - With the support of clubs in the upper part of the district to fund a **virtual play area** and a **reception area** in the new **Cancer Wing** of Taranaki Base Hospital
- **Project #2** - With support of clubs in lower part of the district to fund **point of care testing for diabetes** particularly in pregnancy & antenatal care.

IPDG Denis would like to sincerely thank all clubs for their contributions which have made his initial US\$10,000 go so much further and make so much possible across the district.

We will add details and photographs as these projects are progressed.

An Update – Payment Details from District Treasurer

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BANK ACCOUNT NUMBERS
For District 202D Treasurers

Payments to Lions Clubs and International Lions (LCI)

Lions Club International District 202D

Administration:	03-0791-0060340-000
Trust Account	03-0791-0232608-001
Youth Account	03-0791-0232608-005
My Health Check (Glob):	03-0791-0232608-008

International Dues 03-0502-0081103-000

LCIF Donations 03-0502-0081103-000

Please note: *the MD office requires email notification of any deposits to the LCIF bank account (with details of the purpose) to assist us with our reconciliation of the account.*

Melvin Jones Fellowships and Life Memberships

03-0502-0081103-000

NZ Club Supplies

New Zealand Lions MD202 | 03-0558-0252696-00

LMLCCT

02-0528-0038410-00

form can be downloaded from www.lionsclubs.org.nz.

Lions Cancer Trust

03-0674-0280918-00

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Update re Row For Life



In 2023 Ian Hamilton, a well known rowing enthusiast and coach decided to get a crew together and row the East Coast of NZ, fundraising for four charities, Child Cancer Foundation, Starship Hospital, Surf Lifesaving NZ and the Lions Skin Cancer Screening vehicle. Ian partnered with Lions NZ to help along the way, with Lions clubs supporting with encouragement, food, accomodation and fundraising as well as plenty of enthusiasm as they began the row from the bottom of the South Island.

Unfortunately COVID put a temporary stop to the adventure in 2024 at Kaikoura, after rowing 600kms. Weather conditions were also not kind.

Despite these and other setbacks, Ian fully intends to be back in the water to finish this extraordinary event in the future and has a team of keen rowers who will support him in this charity row.

Lions NZ has been holding funds and has recently distributed the \$60,000 raised to date equally to the four charities, with the Lions Club Cancer Trust receiving \$15,000.

A huge thank you to Ian for his amazing generosity and I am sure we all wish him well as he works through his challenges towards finishing this amazing journey on water.

And who's doing what?

Lions Eye Health Programme

Bringing Clearer Vision to Kiwi Kids – LEHP Screening Trial Underway in Taranaki

This month marks an exciting step forward for Lions New Zealand as we begin the **trial phase** of the Lions Eye Health Program (LEHP) screening programme right here in Taranaki. For years, Lions in Australia have led the way in community vision screening, and recently we were fortunate to host **Irene and Martin Braddick**, who travelled across the Tasman to train our local volunteers. Their knowledge and passion have given us the tools to start this important project with confidence.



Why it matters:

As we often say: *Kids who struggle to see can't catch a ball, and often can't keep up in the classroom.*

learning and wellbeing.

The **Hawera Lions Club** has taken the lead in this pilot programme, working with local schools and families to screen children's vision. The early results have already highlighted just how valuable this service will be. Teachers and parents alike have shared their appreciation for the chance to check children's eyesight in such an accessible way.

What's next:

We are currently refining our processes, testing our resources, and gathering feedback to ensure that when LEHP rolls out across New Zealand, it will be ready to make the biggest impact possible.

We are also developing clear guidelines and materials—including permission forms, information packs, and promotional resources, so clubs will have everything they need to get started when the programme expands beyond Taranaki.

Thank you to everyone involved in this early phase. From our trainers and supporters to the dedicated team at Hawera Lions Club, your commitment is laying the groundwork for a programme that will help countless children in the years to come.

Watch this space—the future of children's vision in New Zealand is looking brighter already.



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Clubs working together...

Middle Districts Lions Club & Fitzherbert Lions Club Palmerston North members volunteered at the Palmerston North Parkrun event on Saturday 21st June 8am in the morning!! Thanks to David Pacheco, Christopher Pepper, Paul Folster, and Roger Clark (Barcode Scanning), Rob Gray (Finish Tokens) and Roy Milne (Parkwalker). The Run Director for the day was Graham Robinson from **Kairanga Lions Club**. **#WeServe #community #nzvolunteerweek**



A number of members throughout the district have been recognised with Melvin Jones Fellowships or Lloyd Morgan recognitions for their contributions to their clubs.

Please send in photos and details for publication in next month's bulletin.

At Inglewood Club

Lions James & Dwayne were recognised for their contributions as the main drivers of the Inglewood Club's Maize Maze 'Fright night'.

David Powell was given Life Membership of the Inglewood Club after serving 38 years in the club, fulfilling many roles both in Inglewood Lions and other community organisations.



Inglewood Club outgoing President Graham presented fireman Gillespie with a certificate of appreciation for the Inglewood crew to acknowledge the impact the local brigade makes in the community.



Calling all District Lions...

We are privileged to have the MD 202 Young Speechmakers Final in our District this year. Head along to the North Baptist Church, 116 Mangati Rd, Bell Block, New Plymouth to show your support as well as be 'blown away' by the high calibre of the 12 entrants.

For more details contact Youth Chairs Stephanie or Robyn.

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The poster features a stylized illustration of a person's head in profile, facing right. The head is composed of a blue circle with a white outline, a black circle for the eye, and a black rectangle for the mouth. Two speech bubbles are positioned around the head: a large yellow one at the top left and a smaller black one at the bottom right. Both speech bubbles contain concentric circles. The background is dark blue with a pattern of small white dots. A large, multi-colored arc (yellow, orange, red) curves behind the head. In the top right corner, there is a circular logo with a lion's head and the letter 'L' inside, with the word 'INTERNATIONAL' written below it. The text 'YOUNG SPEECHMAKER' is written in large, bold, yellow capital letters, and 'COMPETITION 2025' is written in large, bold, white capital letters below it. At the bottom, the text 'NATIONAL FINAL - 2 AUGUST 2025 - NEW PLYMOUTH' and 'FREE ENTRY' is written in white capital letters, followed by 'Fully sponsored by Lions Clubs throughout New Zealand' in a smaller white font.

**YOUNG SPEECHMAKER
COMPETITION 2025**

NATIONAL FINAL - 2 AUGUST 2025 - NEW PLYMOUTH
FREE ENTRY

Fully sponsored by Lions Clubs throughout New Zealand

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babysit tonight. I wasn't disappointed! 😂😂



Note from Editor - we recently became grandparents to #2 so please excuse the 'overuse' of grandparent memes this month!



Dates for the Diary

- 13-17 July** International Convention, Orlando
- 14 July -** Youth Chair Training Zoom
- 27 July -** Cabinet Meeting (9am) Hawera
Presidents' Luncheon 12.30pm
Hawera
- 2 August -** Young Speechmaker Final, NP
- 9-10 Aug -** Lloyd Morgan Trust Mtg
- 16-17 Aug -** Council of Governors Mtg
- 19 August -** International Youth Day
- 29 August -** Daffodil Day (Cancer Society)
- September -** Childhood Cancer Awareness
- 5-7 Sept -** ANZI Forum, Gold Coast

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5-7th September 2025

ANZI PACIFIC FORUM
GOLD COAST
AUSTRALIA
5-7 SEPTEMBER 2025





Gold Coast



Surfers Paradise



Mantra on View

We are getting ready to welcome Lions, Leos and partners to the ANZI Pacific Forum 5th-7th September 2025

It is being held in the superb surroundings of Mantra on View Hotel at Surfers Paradise on the Gold Coast. It is a great venue with everything in one place

Accommodation is readily available and we have struck special rates with the Mantra on View Hotel to enable you all to stay at the venue (No need for cars)

SEE YOU ON THE GOLD COAST IN 2025

Registration will open in October 2024. To register your interest email anzi2025gc@gmail.com with your Name, District and Club Name. We will send registration details once available.



**Register & Pay by
31 Dec 24 for your
chance to win
One Registration**

www.lionsanzipacificforum.com

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2025-2026
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