

From: District <202D.DG@lionsclubs.org.nz>
Sent: Monday, 4 August 2025 8:03 AM
To: 202d.secretary@lionsclubs.org.nz
Subject: August 2025 Contact



202D CONTACT

August 2025

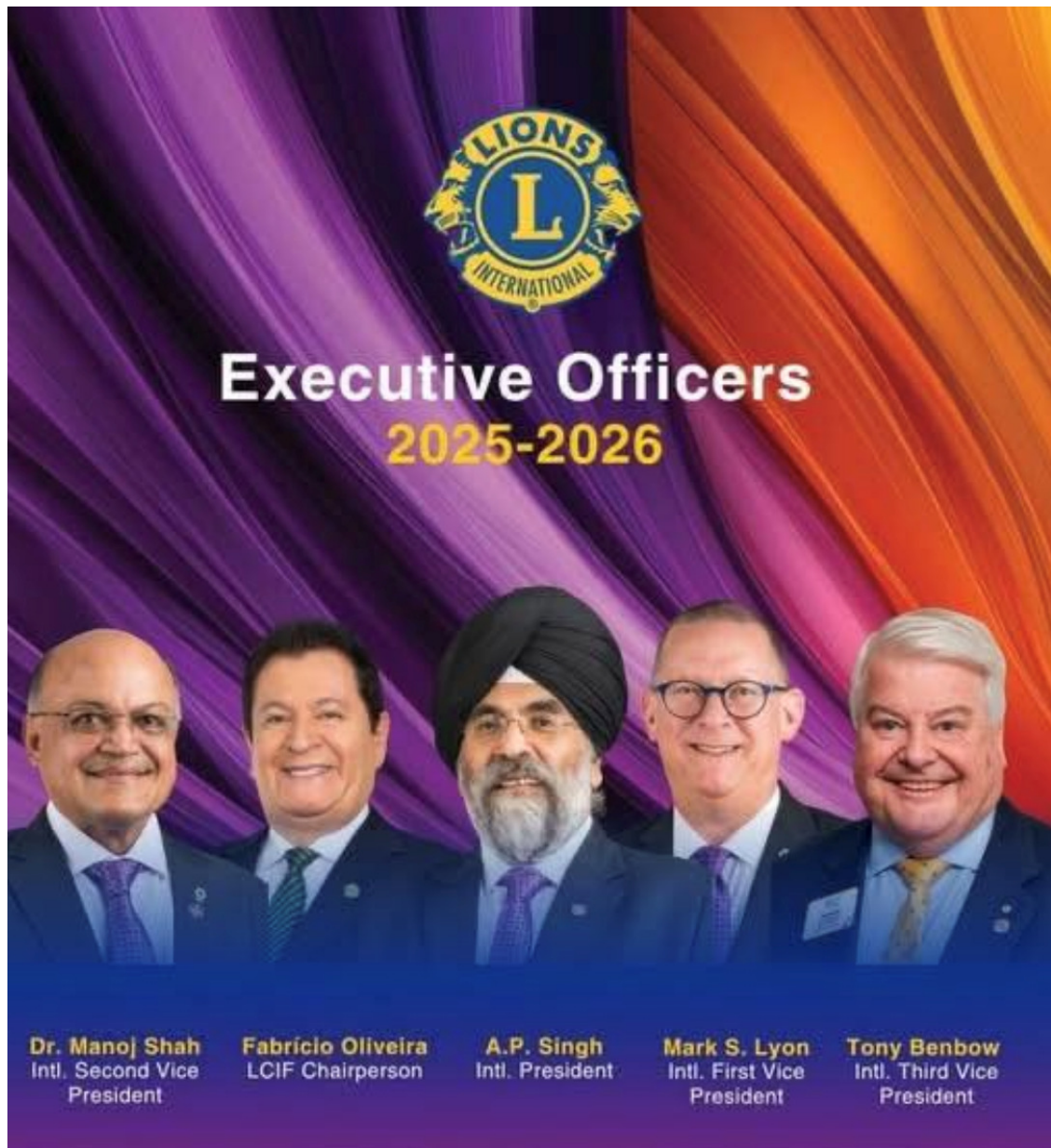
Ron Rowe recently shared the Latin phrase, 'Semper ad Meliora' with me.

Within our clubs we embark on another year of service with renewed energy and purpose. The phrase, 'Semper ad Meliora' – always towards better things – often used as a motto, asks that we look ahead with optimism and resolve. So, as Lions, with each project, each act of kindness, and every moment of fellowship look to strengthen our commitment to making a meaningful difference. As Lions, within your clubs, continue to serve with compassion, adapt with courage, and lead with integrity.

Working together, building on what has been before, this year could be one of greater growth, connection, and impact so we rise to every challenge and embrace every opportunity to serve our communities better than ever before.

All the best for a great year ahead!

*PCC Megan England
Editor*



Introducing Our International President



Lead to Serve, Serve to Lead.

A.P. Singh

LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT
2025–2026



We are committed to leaving this world better than what we inherited. Together, our service makes it possible. And, we can expand our service by growing our membership.

As Lions, we serve the world, but we also lead the world in service. Every act of service is a gift to humanity, but it's also an act of leadership that inspires others to join us in making a difference.

When Lions serve with passion and purpose, when we place the needs of others before our own, we are servant leaders who strengthen our communities, our organization and the lives of the people we serve.

Our programs and initiatives will center on four essential priorities for Lions International, all of which are vital to advancing our mission of service.

1. Growing our clubs and our service
2. Empowering service together with LCIF
3. Innovating our service to meet the challenges ahead
4. Welcoming diversity and including everyone in our clubs

District Governor Mike

“Friends Thru Service”

Hello Lions

We have got off to a good start for the month, with several clubs reporting new members and intending members, along with many service activities occurring right across the District.

It was indeed a pleasure to host the incoming President's at a luncheon last weekend. Thank you for making yourselves available to come along to Tika in Hawera to hear my message and meet other Presidents and Cabinet members. I wish you every success for your year ahead, serving your community and club.

Maybe the greatest pleasure so far in my DG year, was on Saturday night at a function in Hawera to officially witness the signing of the Charter for our newest Club, Hawera Lions Club. This all occurred in the last Lions year thanks to a great deal of organisational work and inspiration from PDG Denis Hurcomb, after a vision of a mixed gender Club in Hawera from PCC Tobi Hipp and Susi Hipp. Susi is now the first ever President of the Hawera Lions Club, as well as District and Multiple District Treasurer. This new club will be a great boost to Lionism, more members more service.

I was delighted to see and feel the embodiment of my theme for this year, "Friends Thru Service" emanating from each new lion as they received their certificates of Charter Membership, and posed for official photos. They have a number of exciting initiatives on the go, not least of which is the Vision Screening program for schools, and the already completed safety cameras in the local foodbank. Well done to all involved.

Another highlight was the finals of the National Speechmakers contest. Hosted by the Lions Club of Bell Block and Districts, this was an uplifting event, flawlessly directed by PDG Pam Fiveash with her tireless team from 202D Stephanie Jordan and Robyn Pederson.

A wonderful initiative was provided by Inglewood Lions who offered a meet and greet for the contestants, at their Mini-Putt facility on the Friday night including a BBQ meal for all contestants, hosts etc. It was great to see them all mixing together and sharing stories etc in an informal setting. Many thanks to Inglewood Lions for this and Bell Block Lions for hosting the event, arranging billets, lunch and officials etc. Congratulations to President Markus and team for a job well done, a real showcase for our club on the day.

I'm looking forward to moving around the district over the coming few months, visiting you all at your club nights, and sharing your stories.

Yours in Lionism

Mike Powell

202D District Governor

From Orlando



Our new MD Governors pictured at the International Convention in Orlando (minus 202J DG Mike Wingfield)

From left to right: 202F Shona Cook, 202D Mike Powell, 202E Bernie Walls, 202M Leon Downes, 202K Lynda Halverson, 202L Lou Feilder





Peace Essay winner Robert Hunt, along with his family and sponsoring club President joined the DGs in Orlando.



And of course, a HUGE congratulations to PID Tony Benbow and wife Sue from Australia, for his success in becoming the International Third Vice President.

We were only too happy to don our Aussie shirts and do what we could to support Tony.



And we tried a bit of AI for fun...



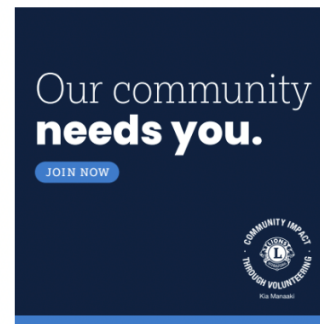
Club Excellence Awards due by 31 August

If you meet the criteria, download the application form and send to DG Mike before the end of the month.



Why Join a Lions Club?

- Because your "to-do" list needs more "doing good" and less "doing laundry"!
- You'll finally have a legitimate excuse to wear a uniform (sometimes).
- Tired of talking to your houseplants? We've got real people, real conversations, and real impact!
- Where else can you get your fill of community service, friendship, and potentially some really good BBQs?
- It's like being a superhero, but with more meetings and fewer capes. (Unless you really want a cape. We're open to ideas.)
- If you've ever wanted to make a difference and meet people who don't think "volunteering" is a dirty word, this is your jam!
- Come for the service, stay for the laughs, and leave feeling like you've actually made the world a slightly better place. (Spoiler: You will!)



Payment Details from District Treasurer



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



NATIONAL YOUTH CAMP - 2025 NAPIER - NZ



**21-27
SEPTEMBER
2025**



\$ 550

APPLICATIONS OPEN 30/05/25
CONTACT: STEPHANIE JORDAN
md202.interyouthexc@lionsclubs.org.nz



Please make sure to have applications in asap. Any questions please contact Stephanie Jordan.

Around the District – who's doing what?



And this beanie from PDG Denis' Convention in February is off on an adventure to Wales!

Kaponga Lions Club recently delivered 691kgs of crushed cans to the recyclers. Thank you to all clubs from around the district who collect the cans.



Hawera Club Chartered





The Hawera Club held a Charter dinner to celebrate it's new beginning. Sponsored by Opunake Club the new club has been 12 months from 'wo to go'. Congratulations to Charter President Susi Hipp.

Thanks to Harcourt New Plymouth for the use of their meeting room



Lion Hamish (Zone 2 Chairman) recently ran a presentation in New Plymouth with some of the local Lions.

He kicked things off by going on a bit of a Lions journey together, starting with a simple question: Why did you join Lions? It was great to hear everyone's different reasons and stories. He then shared his own journey – why he joined, and how that's led him into various leadership roles along the way.

Hamish introduced new International President, A.P. Singh, and his inspiring motto for the year as well as touching on the important work of LCIF (Lions Clubs International Foundation) and the Lloyd Morgan Charitable Trust (LCLMCT) – both of which continue to make a huge impact across New Zealand and beyond.

From there, the group explored the different leadership opportunities available at all levels, and how every Lion can step up in their own way.

To finish, they zoomed out and looked at the structure of Lions – from the international level, to national, and finally bringing it back to the grassroots: the club level. It was a great reminder that no matter where you sit in the Lions family, you can make a real difference.

All in all, this was everything you need to know about Lions packed into a short, interactive presentation.

If you're interested in having something similar for your club – either in person or over Zoom – feel free to get in touch. Hamish would love to help your members feel more confident, connected, and inspired in their Lions journey!



New Boards from around the District...

Palmerston North Papaioea Rose City



President Claire with her Board members for the coming year along with PDG Phil Theobald who did the inductions.



New Plymouth Pakeke with DG Mike Powell



The team at Stratford Club

And Rongotea & Districts Club



Kaponga Lions Club



Marton Club





The Ross Intermediate Leos went to the entertain the residents at Woodlands Home for the Elderly.



Inglewood Lions embarked on a \$25K fundraising project for a Neo Natal room at the New East Wing at Taranaki Base Hospital. Just of late LMLCCT granted our application for \$11K to round out this project.



Once again clubs joined forces with our local Fonterra and Farm Source teams to deliver 80 care packages of food to families across the region.

A very worthwhile partnership resulting in some very surprised and pleased recipients.



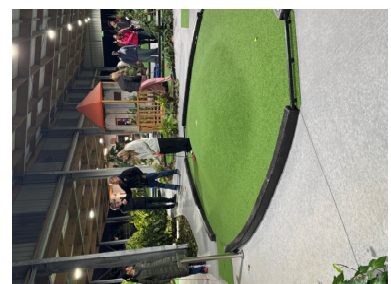
National Young Speechmakers



The National Young Speechmakers Competition was held on 2 August in District 202D hosted by Bell Block and District Lions Club.

The weekend began with 11 of the 12 being picked up by hosts from Bell Block Lions and taken to Inglewood Mini Golf complex where both youth and adults played a round of mini golf before Inglewood Lions provided us with a wonderful BBQ dinner. This gave a chance for the competitors to get to know each other and do a bit of team building before the contest on Saturday. A big thank you to Inglewood Lions for sorting this evening and the lovely meal.

MD202 Youth Chair Pam Fiveash from Gore did a fabulous job of running the event. We got to listen to the 12 youth representing the 7 districts from throughout New Zealand present their prepared speeches followed after a short break, by the impromptu speeches. Man I'm glad I wasn't judging. All 12 participants did a great job with both speeches. A big thank you to the Bell Block and District Club for the lovely catering they provided for us all.



Our judges on the day were ex teacher and member of New Plymouth Pakeke Lions Jenny Clarke, New Plymouth Toastmasters Isobel Carter and Head of English Elizabeth Fitzpatrick.

The standard was extremely high and although they were all winners on the day just by making the finals we of course needed an overall winner.

Congratulations to all the finalists.

1st. Micah Escala from Invercargill (202F)

2nd. Lies Musto from Whangārei (202K)

3rd. Hannah Webster from Central Hawkes Bay (202M)

Report by 202D Youth Chair Stephanie Jordan

Plan Ahead for Weeks of Service

Mental Health & Well Being: Oct 4 -12 2025

Hunger: Jan 3 - 11 2026

Environment: April 18-26 2026



Get ready for our global Weeks of Service

This year, join the worldwide community of Lions and Leos as we unite to support our [Weeks of Service](#) so we can make a local and global impact through our service.

- **Mental health & well-being (October 4-12, 2025):** Promote resilience, support mental wellness and break the stigma.
- **Hunger (January 3-11, 2026):** Fight food insecurity and nourish hope.
- **The environment (April 18-26, 2026):** Protect our planet to ensure future generations can flourish.

A new Lion year comes with new opportunities to lead and serve! Visit our [Service Journey webpage](#) to learn more about our global causes and find service toolkits, project planners and additional resources for your club's journey.



Click [here](#) for details

Food for thought...

From GST Coordinator / 2VDG Graham Robinson

THE WOODCUTTER

Once upon a time, a very strong woodcutter applied for a job at a timber company, and he got it. The pay and work conditions were excellent. For these reasons, the woodcutter was determined to do his best.

His boss gave him an axe and showed him where he was supposed to work. On the first day, the woodcutter cut down 18 trees.

"Congratulations," the boss said. "Keep going!"

Motivated by his boss's words, the woodcutter tried harder the next day but could only cut down 15 trees. On the third day, he tried even harder but could only bring 10 trees. Day after day, he brought fewer and fewer trees.

"I must be losing my strength," the woodcutter thought. He went to the boss, apologized, and said that he did not understand what was going on.

"When was the last time you sharpened your axe?" the boss asked.

"Sharpen? I haven't had time to sharpen my axe. I've been busy trying to cut trees."

CONTEMPLATING THE NARRATIVE FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF A LION

We are often so focused on serving others — organizing events, delivering aid, cleaning communities, mentoring youth — that we may forget to renew our own tools, both literal and spiritual. In our case, that axe could be:

- *Our skills — Are we continuing to learn and grow?*
- *Our vision — Do we take time to reflect on why we serve?*
- *Our health and energy — Are we caring for ourselves as we care for others?*
- *Our teamwork — Do we sharpen each other through collaboration and encouragement?*

SHARPENING THE AXE MEANS:

- *Attending training and leadership development programs*
- *Reflecting on past projects and learning from them*
- *Taking time to rest and reconnect with our purpose*
- *Listening, encouraging, and lifting each other up as a global family of Lions*

As Lions, we do not just serve — we serve with excellence, and that means taking time to sharpen our minds, our hearts, and our methods.

Let's remember: Passion without reflection leads to burnout. But passion with purpose and preparation leads to lasting change.

Let us keep serving — but let us also keep sharpening.



New Zealand Lions International Youth Camp

27th December 2025 - 5th January 2026
Hosted by Lions District 202L

Ngamuwahine Outdoor Education
Lodge Tauranga - NZ

Camp Purpose

To further the first object of Lionism
"To create and foster a spirit of understanding among the
people of the world"



Applications open - 1st July



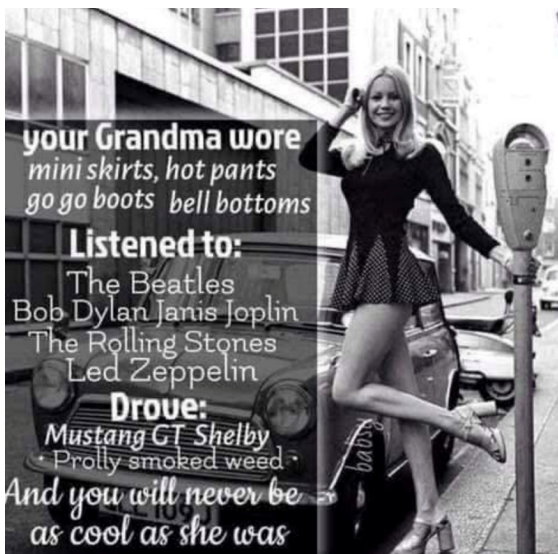
Camp Director: Tina Hille-Taylor
Phone - +64 27 575 8564
Email - 202L.intyouthcampdir@lionsclub.org



A little light relief...



Editor: A sign sighted at Orlando airport. A little late for this kind of advice!



Meryl Streep once said: "Aging is not for the weak. One day you wake up and realize that your youth is gone, but along with it, so go insecurity, haste, and the need to please... You learn to walk more slowly, but with greater certainty. You say goodbye without fear, and you cherish those who stay. Aging means letting go, it means accepting, it means discovering that beauty was never in



our skin... but in the story we carry inside us."

“What you do has a far greater impact than what you say” - Stephen Covey

Dates for the Diary

4 August - Zone 2 Meeting Addis House, PN
Zone 4 Meeting Waverley
9-10 Aug - Lloyd Morgan Trust Mtg
12 August - Zone 6 Meeting Bell Block
16-17 Aug - Council of Governors Mtg
19 August - International Youth Day
Zone 4 Orientation
20 August - Zone 5 Mtg Kaponga
27 August - Zone 3 Meeting Marton
29 August - Daffodil Day (Cancer Society)
31 August - Club Excellence Applications due
September - Childhood Cancer Awareness
5-7 Sept - ANZI Forum, Gold Coast
2 Nov - Junior Speech Makers - Hawera



13th ANZI PACIFIC FORUM
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

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, new members, stories with me so I can help spread the great things happening in each of your clubs with others around the district.**



Lions Clubs 202D
2025-2026
202d.editor@lionsclubs.org.nz

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