

From: District <202D.DG@lionsclubs.org.nz>
Sent: Saturday, 7 March 2026 3:14 PM
To: 202d.secretary@lionsclubs.org.nz
Subject: March 2026 Contact



202D CONTACT

March 2026

Editorial Comment...

It was nice to see some of you at the District Convention last week.

Service lies at the heart of what we do, and now is a timely moment to renew our commitment to that purpose.

Conventions and gatherings remind us that we are part of something bigger, strengthening our sense of fellowship and shared mission. They inspire fresh ideas and renewed energy for service. When we rededicate ourselves to Lionism, we make a promise to continue to serve our communities with pride, compassion, and a strong sense of purpose. Together, as Lions, we can continue making a meaningful difference where it matters most.

Kind regards,
Megan England
Editor

District Governor Mike



Thank you to everyone who came to the 202D Happy Hippies Convention and congratulations to those clubs who took away awards on the day.

DG Mike is right in the middle of the 'busy season' for Lions Conventions attending those of his fellow DGs.

We will hear from him again next month!

2026 Convention

The 54th 202D Convention kicked off with a relaxed 'Mix and Mingle' barbeque on Friday night. This was a chance for a catch up between friends and set the scene for a full day on Saturday.



Congratulations to Chris Pepper (Palmerston North Middle Districts) incoming District Governor for 2026 -27 and to Graham Robinson (Kairanga) Vice District Governor for the 2026-27 year. There were no nominations received for 2VDG. If you are interested please contact anyone from the the DG team, Cabinet secretary or Contact Editor for more information on how to register your interest or simply to find out more.

District Awards: These were presented by IPDG
Denis Hurcomb

Membership Growth: ***Foxton Lions club*** (with a growth of 25%)

Administration: ***Heartland Lions Palmerston North***

Website: ***Rongotea & District Lions***

Bulletin: ***Opunake Lakeside / Editor Daphne Holley***

Youth: ***Toko, Stratford, Eltham & Kaponga Lions***

Clubs combined project 'Tutaki Van'

Environment: ***New Plymouth Pakeke - Beach***

Cleanup

Waverley Award for Community Project: ***Palmerston***

North Clearview Park for Aged Active Games



Quiet Achiever: *Robyn Pedersen Heartland PN*





The evening was a lot of fun with clubs in their 'Happy Hippies' attire, dancing to the music of a seemingly inexhaustible Shaun Campbell from 'Campbell Vibes'.

We remember with great respect and gratitude the life and service of those
Lions we have lost over the past year

Deepest Condolences

- Warwick Horton, Feilding Manchester
- Patrick Cadle, Waitara
- Allan Start, Feilding Host
- John Williams, Waitara
- Erin Collis, Palmerston North Heartlands
- Robert Crook, Waverley
- Ian Williams, Marton
- Fred Cook, Toko
- Dick McAllister, Rongotea & Districts
- David Moger, Kaponga
- PCC Brian Watt, PN Middle District
- Pauline Murphy, Hawera Mount View
- Ron Peters, Feilding Manchester
- Roy Benton, Bell Block
- Shirley Benton, Bell Block
- Richard Howie, Feilding Manchester
- Norm Hickmott, PN Middle District
- John Hislop, Okato
- John Dougherty, Feilding Manchester
- Gordy Astwood, Stratford
- Colin Webber, Feilding Manchester
- Noel Close, Normanby
- PDG George Hills, Palmerston North
- Mary Dettling, Toko
- Phil Newton, Feilding Manchester
- George Bailey, Opunake
- Graeme Hughes, Feilding Host



Rest in Peace, Your Service is complete

Looking for Lions Leaders of the future...

As some of you may be aware, no nomination for 2nd VDG was put forward at the recent Convention.

If you are interested in taking on this role or just want to find out what it takes to be a 2VDG then please make contact.

There are plenty of experienced, passionate Lions available to assist you on your journey.

We would love to hear from you!

Around the District - who's doing what?

Note from the Editor: *There is so much going on around the district. Please send any photos or news items to me so we can all celebrate the great things Lions in our District are doing. Below are snippets of activities as gleaned from Club Bulletins and (in some cases) after a bit of Facebook stalking!*



LEHP: We were extremely lucky to have our Australian friends Irene and Martin here last week to do an Eye Health Screener workshop in New Plymouth. This was supported by members from Hawera, New Plymouth Central, NP Pakeke and Eltham. Contact coordinator PCC Tobi Hipp for information on this programme.





Camp Quality: For some reason or other photos from Camp Quality did not appear in the finished version of last month's bulletin - gremlins at work I suspect! Here they are...



Inglewood Club: Have been busy with their Maize Maze with a steady flow of visitors. Head along to their 'Fright Night' Friday 13th Match if you dare!
They also helped with the set up for Americana in Inglewood with over 600 cars and many, many people!



Colyton Bunnythorpe President Steve Barr and wife Mary hosted the Rescue Warriors as they passed through Feilding. The club has also been busy with hay and firewood.

Normanby Club have been rattling the can to ensure old and foreign coins are collected for the HeadsU4Kids campaign. They have potatoes to dig later this month and are kept busy offering community support where needed.



Palmerston North Middle District growing skills were put to the test with their potato growing competition. Hotly contested by all accounts!



Rongotea & Districts continue to be busy with held another successful Gala on Waitangi Day and their Charity car Show Day in early March.

Opunake Club have dug their potatoes. A good crop by the looks. If you have nothing better to do, join them for their annual Mountain to Sea bikeride on March 15th.



(Image courtesy of Opunake Lions Facebook page - AI generated ie. not real lions!)



**A winning project:
202D Youth Award 2024-25**

*To Purchase a 12 Seater Van for Tutaki
Youth Inc and The Lions Den*

*Toko Lions, combined with Kaponga,
Stratford & Eltham Lions Clubs*

Tutaki Youth Inc and The Lions Den is an organisation based in Stratford who not only provide an excellent gym facility for the community but also supports the youth by providing a safe space, along with an array of programs to nurture and mentor our most vulnerable rangatahi.

Toko & Districts Lions Club members are so proud to have led this project to deliver a brand-new Toyota Van to Tutaki Youth Inc.

Around 15 years ago the Toko & Districts Lions were instrumental in helping a fledgling Lions Den get off to a start. A building was made available to a team of enthusiastic members of the Police and the general community for a Gymnasium to work with Youth. The Toko Club along with other local Lions Clubs provided some gym mats and other gym equipment to help it make a start. At first it had maybe 20 members. The Gym now boasts a roll of more than 700 people. As the saying goes, from small acorns grow mighty Oak trees.

Around 24 months ago our members visited the Gym for an update on the Gym's progress. From very humble beginnings as a work out space for our rangatahi, the gym has morphed into a high-

tech gym with four skilled Personal trainers and a Youth Social Services organisation, which has four Youth Social workers/Councillors and a further four support staff. It is governed by a board of committed community people, including some fellow Lions.

Tutaki Youth Inc and the Lions Den are making huge headways in our community, assisting over 200 rangatahi and we were so impressed with what this dedicated team of professionals were achieving with the young people of the district, that we decided that we really wanted to help.

While the organisation is run as a commercial entity it also functions as a charitable organisation and relies on the generosity of groups and organisations for funding.

The staff were travelling out to the surrounding districts collecting young people in their own cars. Given the number of youth in their program, this was clearly unsustainable. We were so impressed with what these dedicated people were achieving that we could see a clear need for a van to collect these young people, bring them into the gym, teach them some life skills, attend their programs and make sure that they all got back to school.

So, with that in mind the Toko & Districts club led the project to raise the funds for a new van. We invited the Stratford, Eltham, and Kaponga Lions clubs and led the collaboration to provide the key base funding, then applied to the Lloyd Morgan Trust and to LCIF. The net result was that we were able to purchase a new 12 seater Toyota Van for Tutaki Youth Inc and The Lions Den.

The sign written van has also provided excellent exposure for Lions, showcasing our involvement. This Project has given our members tremendous satisfaction and pride. The collaboration of our Central Taranaki Lions Clubs has made a real difference (as per the attached Tutaki Impact report.) We have been instrumental in providing a van so that these vulnerable children can attend the programs which will have life changing opportunities for them.

Pam Macdonald
Secretary Toko



Worldwide Induction Day - a chance to celebrate the spirit of service that brings new Lions into our global family. On April 25, 2026, clubs everywhere will welcome their newest members. Start planning a ceremony that reflects the heart of your club and the joy of serving together. <https://bit.ly/4koxo0T> #WorldwideInductionDay

Christmas Cakes



50 + Years

Tried & Tested Recipe

1 Kilo

Full of Fruit

Delivered Direct

Online Ordering

lionschristmascakes.org.nz

Last year there were 30,324 Christmas Cakes sold in New Zealand with 4,260 sold here in our 202D.

This was 660 more cakes than had been sold in the District in 2024.

We had 23 clubs involved (the same number as the previous year).

Congratulation to our Cake Selling Champion Clubs for 2025:

Selling more than 300 cakes - **Inglewood & Palmerston North Papioea Rose City**

Selling more than 250 cakes - **Bell Block & Districts**

Selling more than 150 cakes - **Kaponga, Palmerston North Clearview, Ruapehu**

Highest Cake Sales in NZ - **Palmerston North Middle Districts 1500 cakes**

From LCIF coordinator: Tobi Hipp

Fellow Lions,

Thank you to all clubs who took the time to respond regarding the proposed District LCIF Raffle.

The feedback has been clear. Most clubs have indicated that they would prefer not to participate at this time. We have listened. Accordingly, the District LCIF Raffle will not proceed.

I sincerely appreciate the honest responses and the respectful way in which clubs engaged with the proposal. The intention behind the raffle was to bring us together to make a meaningful collective

contribution to LCIF and to provide an opportunity to work toward the US\$20 per member Excellence Award benchmark in a simple way.

While the raffle will not go ahead, the need to support **our Foundation** remains.

LCIF continues to enable Lions to respond to disasters, fund major health initiatives, and support projects that make a real difference — including here in New Zealand. If your club is in a position to make a direct donation to LCIF this year, no matter the size, it would be greatly appreciated and will still contribute toward recognition and Excellence Award criteria.

If you would like information on how to make a club donation, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you again for your openness, your service, and your continued commitment to Lionism.

In Friendship and Service

Tobi Hipp

202D LCIF Coordinator

Do you have Lions signs at the entrance to your town?

Take a moment to check—are they still bright and inviting, proudly showing who we are? Or are they starting to look a little tired and ready for an upgrade?

Good news! Our district MarCom chair, Tobi, has sourced a reliable provider for new Lions signs.

They're just **\$80 + GST and postage**.

Freshen up your town's welcome—**order yours now!**

Road Signs Available

\$80.00
+GST and Postage
sign only
500mm

Contact
202d.marcom@lionsclubs.org.nz

Preview

From the Youth Chair

LIONS
L
INTERNATIONAL

**LIONS NEW ZEALAND
NATIONAL YOUTH CAMP**

Vertical Horizon, Taranaki

27th September - 3rd October 2026

For youth ages 12 to 16 years

For youth ages 12 to 16 years

To register or for more information, email:
md202.yechiefco@lionsclubs.org.nz

Approx. cost:
\$550.00

Applications close:
**7th August
2026**

Another great opportunity for our young people. Registrations open 1 May. Information will be circulated to all clubs in the coming weeks. Start thinking about who in your community would benefit...



2026

Zone 1-3

**Kairanga Hall
Sunday 12th April
12:30-3pm**

Zone 4-6

**Swiss Club Rooms
Grace Ave, Kaponga
Sunday 12th April
12.30-3pm.**

**LIONS DISTRICT 202D
YOUNG SPEECHMAKER CONTEST
FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL
STUDENTS/YOUNG ADULTS
AGED 16-21YRS (as of 30/6/26)**

Now is the time to contact Secondary Schools in your area and let them know the below details:

202D District Final

Zone 1-3

Date: Thursday 11th June 2026
Venue: TBC: Palmerston North
Time: 6:30pm for 7pm start
Cost: \$125.00 (sponsored by local Lions Clubs)

Zone 4-6

Date: Thursday 28th May 2026
Venue: Cue Theatre, Inglewood
Time: 6:30pm for 7pm start
Cost: \$125.00 (sponsored by local Lions Clubs)



SITUATION VACANT

There is a vacancy for a position on the Youth Team.

We need someone to be the southern contact person for the District team. You will help to oversee the District Youth projects and support Lions clubs running these events.

Take this opportunity to be part of a new team. Bring your passion for all things youth related.

We offer great support from the Youth Team members, the DG and Cabinet.

Want to know more?

Contact- Robyn Pedersen email hipchick1000@gmail.com

MD 202 Convention - Ashburton April 2026



Please consider attending: Register and find out more [here](#)

Programme Start Times

Friday Opening Ceremony: 6.00pm Meet & Greet

7.00pm Start of the opening ceremony / Guest speaker Donna-Marie Lever

Saturday Business Session: 8.00am Meet & Greet

8.30am Call to Order

Partners Programme: 10.15am to 3.30pm

A full day has been planned to entertain the partners. Starting off with some musical challenges

Saturday Evening Dine & Dance: Theme "Down on the Farm"

6.30pm social time

Dance the night away to live music provided by

"The Tones"

Sunday Rededication: 10am to be seated

All the above sessions are going to be held at the Hotel Ashburton.

THE LIONS MOBILE SKIN CANCER SCREENING BUS WILL BE ON SITE.

CHECKS ARE BEING CARRIED OUT ALL DAY SATURDAY

Incoming Club Officers



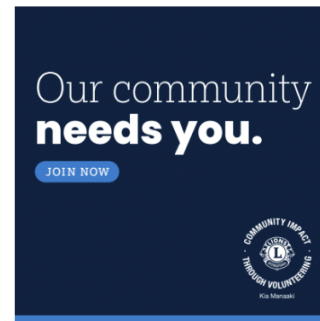
A reminder to have your Club Officers entered in the Lions Portal before May 15th.

Incoming officer Training -

North 14th May - venue TBA / South 21 May - Venue TBA

Please note - this has reverted back to a 2 hour evening training.

President's Lunch - 27th July (venue TBA) Details to follow



A reminder to 'like' and follow the 202D Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/lionsdistrict202d>



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

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