



# “The Mighty M”

Newsletter of Lions District 202M New Zealand

March 2026

Welcome TO Autumn and to this month’s edition of “The Mighty M” your monthly update spotlighting activity and engagement across our district.

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## FROM THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR’S DESK



### ARTICLE 7 – CONNECTION, CONVENTIONS & THE MIGHTY M

*“Learning, Sharing, and Celebrating Lionism Together”*

Lions of the Mighty 202M,

This past month has been another fantastic opportunity to reconnect with clubs and strengthen the bonds that make our district so special. I had the pleasure of popping back to visit the **Kapakapanui, Napier Host, and Mana Lions Clubs**, and as always, it was inspiring to see first-hand the incredible work you are doing to support your local communities.

Hearing your stories, sharing a few laughs, and seeing the pride in your service reminds me just how strong the Mighty 202M truly is.





Liz and I also hosted a Lion's BBQ where over 100 lions came together to celebrate the Waikanae lions garden trail success.

We have also begun attending **other District Conventions across New Zealand**, which has been an incredibly valuable experience. These visits have given me a deeper understanding of the **challenges and successes** that other districts face, and importantly, the opportunity to bring ideas and inspiration back home to benefit our own clubs.

This month, Liz and I attended the **District L Convention in the Waikato**, where the theme was "**Legends.**" Being in the heart of the King Country, the home of the legendary Colin Meads, it was only fitting that many of us dressed as the **All Blacks** – a fun and memorable way to celebrate the occasion and the proud heritage of the region.



Then we travelled to the **District D Convention in New Plymouth**, where the theme was the "**Happy Hippie.**" It was another fantastic weekend of fellowship, learning, and celebration, showcasing the creativity and spirit that Lions bring to everything we do.



And now, of course, our focus turns to **our very own District Forum**, proudly carrying the theme of the **Mighty M**. There are still places available, and I strongly encourage you to attend. This is your opportunity not only to celebrate our district but also

to meet and connect with **District Governors from around New Zealand**, who will be joining us for this special event.

The Forum promises to be something truly unique – a chance to learn, share, celebrate, and strengthen our Lions family.

As always, if you need anything at all, please don't hesitate to get in touch.



[202m.dg@lionsclubs.org.nz](mailto:202m.dg@lionsclubs.org.nz)



021 246 0955

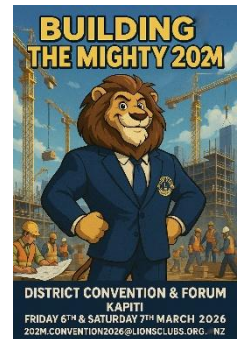
Thank you once again for everything you do. Your commitment, your service, and your community spirit are what make the Mighty 202M such an incredible district. I look forward to seeing many of you at the Forum and continuing this amazing journey together.

Cheers

**Leon Downes**

District Governor 202M 2025–2026

*Building the Mighty 202M*



## 2026 WELLINGTON REGIONAL CHILDREN'S DIABETES CAMP



## **Introduction**

The annual Diabetes New Zealand (DNZ) Wellington Youth Live Brave Mana Ora Youth Camp was held at El Rancho in Kāpiti between 5 and 9 January 2026. The camp was fortunate to receive sponsorship from the Johnsonville Lions Club and a grant from Lions International. With this funding, DNZ staff were able to plan a range of exciting activities for the children and teenagers.

This is a central regional camp, and there are approximately eight other summer youth camps held across New Zealand, from Auckland to Invercargill, for children and teenagers with Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes. Each camp relies heavily on sponsorship and fundraising to operate.

## **The Campers**

El Rancho Holiday Camp is an excellent venue for the summer camp, as it is very self-contained and safety is paramount. The facility includes a swimming pool, waterslide, and dining facilities.

This year, 58 children and teenagers with Type 1 diabetes attended the camp, close to the maximum capacity of 60. Of these, 30 were teenagers and 28 were children. Eight children were fully sponsored to attend camp by parents within the diabetes community.

## **The Staff**

A camp organiser from DNZ facilitated the camp alongside, two coordinators who looked after the children's Camp and teen Camp. In addition, there were 16 youth leaders who were responsible for small groups of five to six children or teenagers. Three medical representatives also attended to share their expertise and assist with group leadership.

Clinical staff attending the camp included two doctors on day shift (7.00 am to 9.00 pm). Overnight, there was one doctor, a Clinical Diabetes Nurse Specialist, and one to two student nurses on duty. During the daytime, additional staff included a Nurse Practitioner, three Diabetes Nurse Specialists, and five to six student nurses across the week, who attended to gain experience in Type 1 diabetes care. One dietitian attended for the entire week and assisted with menu planning and carbohydrate values.

This is a very technology-focused camp. The majority of children and teenagers use insulin pumps connected to continuous glucose monitoring systems. These devices, along with infusion and sensor sites, required close monitoring and occasional changes during the week.

## Mealtimes

All meals were served in a shared dining room exclusively allocated for DNZ. Prior to each meal, children and teenagers met with their leaders to discuss what they planned to eat.

This was followed by a discussion about the carbohydrate content of the meal. As most campers use insulin pumps, carbohydrate counts were entered into their pumps before eating.

Meals were nutritious and consisted of a main meal, dessert, and fruit. Supper was always provided before bedtime.



## The Dorms



Younger children and teenagers' dormitories were separated.

Each unit contained four beds and shared bathroom and shower facilities. Children went to bed earlier, while teenagers were allowed to stay up later, although they were encouraged not to stay up too late due to the busy daily activity schedule.

## Education Component of the Camp

While the camp is designed to be fun, there is always a strong education component. Education sessions were held on Tuesday Thursday mornings and focused on diabetes self-management self-care.

Education sessions were divided into children's and teenagers' groups. Children participated in activities aimed at building carbohydrate-counting skills and teamwork. Teenagers focused on mental health topics and strategies for managing the emotional challenges associated with diabetes.



and  
and

more

## The Activities



The camp ran from Monday at 3.00 pm to Friday at 11.00 am and was action-packed throughout the week. Activities were scheduled in morning, afternoon, and early evening sessions, with programs tailored separately for children and teenagers.

Teenagers participated in bridge building, disc golf, water activities, kayaking, animal survival activities, and slingshot paintball. White-water rafting on Wednesday was generously sponsored by the Lions Club.

Children's activities included kayaking, waterslides, slingshot paintball, bridge building, outdoor climbing, and wilderness survival skills.



Evening activities for teenagers included quiz night, glow-in-the-dark dodgeball, and a bonfire on the final Thursday night. Children's evening activities included a quiz night, movie night, glow dodgeball, and also participation in the final bonfire.

## The Benefits of a Children's Diabetes Camp



Diabetes camps offer many benefits, which can be considered in three key areas.

First, there are significant psychological benefits for children and teenagers. They live, play, and eat alongside others with Type 1 diabetes, helping them feel less different than they might at a general school camp. Camp also supports the development of diabetes self-management skills in a supportive environment.



Second, parents benefit from a week of respite from overnight blood glucose checks and the constant concern for their child's physical and mental wellbeing.

Lastly, clinical staff benefit from the opportunity to work alongside experienced senior clinicians while supporting children and young people in a real-world setting.



## Acknowledgements



We (Diabetes New Zealand, the children, teenagers, clinical staff, and parents) would like to sincerely acknowledge and thank the Johnsonville Lions Club and Lions International for their generous support. Supporting this camp aligns strongly with two of Lions International's core objectives: diabetes and youth support.



## LIONS CLUBS FREE SKIN CANCER SCREENING SERVICE LIONS CLUBS CANCER TRUST NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2026

### Progress to Date

As at 10 February 2026, a total of **813 people** have been screened, with **214 referred to their GPs** — that's **26.3%**, or more than one in four participants. These referrals were made by the medical practitioners conducting the screenings, reinforcing just how vital early detection truly is.

Since the launch on 29 March 2025 at Hanmer Springs, the unit has operated for **318 days**. This equates to an average of **2.6 screenings per day**, or approximately **77 screenings per month**. The numbers clearly demonstrate the ongoing need for this service.

This life-saving Lions New Zealand initiative is genuinely life-changing. Speak to those who have had suspicious lesions removed following screening. Most recently, one participant was urgently referred after two advanced melanomas were identified.

Where there is a need, there is a Lion.

### Corporate Sponsorship

We have one major sponsor to date with another one being finalised to come on board.

'Go Bus' pay for all our fuel and make a monthly cash contribution. For this we are very grateful!

If you know of any other organisations who may wish to come on board, please advise your district Trustee or contact our Administrator, Janet

admin@lionscancertrust.nz



What better mobile signboard can we get for Lions NZ, than the back of a bus like our Cancer screening vehicle. We believe this will generate membership for Lions as it gets around the country.



**Prime Minister Chris Luxton visits the Cancer Vehicle at the Gore Field Days.**

Thank you to those clubs who have made a contribution to this NZ Lions project. To date we have had over 267 donations from Clubs and individuals

**Donations are always welcome!**

**Account name:** Lions Clubs Cancer Trust  
**Acct Number:** 03-0674-0280918-00  
And your Club name as reference  
(Individual donations welcome as well)

**Approved Screeners**

Although obtaining sufficient screeners has been a bit of a challenge we are now, we believe, on the other side! With the help of our Administrator Janet we have 26 approved screeners on the books across the country. Please continue to talk to your local doctors and skin specialists and get them on board.

We have a very comprehensive 'Instruction Manual' which sets the expectations for the screening days and what is required of the screeners.

Again, talk to your district Trustee or contact Janet at [admin@lionscancertrust.nz](mailto:admin@lionscancertrust.nz)

**Drivers required**

We are always on the lookout for volunteer drivers. These drivers are required to ensure the vehicle gets to and from the required location and is set up correctly as well. You can register your interest with your District trustee or with Janet directly. Training is available for the setting up of the vehicle.

**Second Vehicle**

Our second vehicle is currently under construction by Ashburton Coach Builders and again, we thank them hugely for their continued support of this project.

While our timeline is not conclusive, we hope to be able to offer our free skin screening service in the North Island from September. Bookings are being taken but will be confirmed when the vehicle is completed and the 'kinks' ironed out.

**The Lions Clubs Free Skin Cancer Screening service is saving lives. The stats tell the story.**

**Thank you for your ongoing support.**

## ZONE BUZZ: WHAT'S HAPPENING IN SOME OF OUR CLUBS



MANA LIONS CLUB

### MANA LIONS A CHRISTMAS SURPRISE



Murray Gillon of the Mana Lions and hospice volunteer Gay Bradshaw decorate their Christmas tree together at Wellington Airport. MONIQUE FORD/THE POST

## Hospice Christmas tree a 'joyful' tribute

**COMMUNITY**  
Frances Chin

It's that time of year again: Wellington Airport is hosting its annual Christmas tree festival – and one of the trees has a special story behind the leaves.

From December, travellers passing through Wellington Airport can enjoy the sight of more than 60 festively decorated trees on display as part of the Cystic Fibrosis Wellington Christmas Tree Festival.

The event allows local businesses to sponsor a Christmas tree and decorate it as

they wish, with the proceeds going towards Cystic Fibrosis New Zealand.

This year, Mary Potter Hospice has taken part with the help of Mana Lions, said Porirua day programme co-ordinator Susi Maxwell.

A Mana Lions member – who also volunteers with the hospice – she had worked to get a Christmas tree sponsored by the Lions so patients could decorate it, Maxwell said. The tree's colourful decorations were all made by hospice patients and volunteers, by hand and out of paper.

"People who are living with terminal

illnesses often feel like they're not very productive in society," she said.

"This was a really important way for our patients to feel like they're doing something that is bringing joy to the whole community, and not just sitting at home dealing with their symptoms."

In the time between making the decorations and the tree going up, some of the hospice patients who had taken part in the activity had died, she said. Their pictures have been placed next to the tree.

"It's been a labour of love, but also a very joyful moment."

**The Mana Lions/Mary Potter Hospice Christmas Tree won both First Prize and the People's Choice Prize in the Cystic Fibrosis Wellington Christmas Tree Festival 2025.** If you were passing through Wellington Airport over the holiday period, you may have noticed a forest of 65 brightly decorated Christmas Trees.



These were part of the annual Cystic Fibrosis Christmas Tree Festival. The festival is fundraising project by Cystic Fibrosis New Zealand, hosted by Wellington Airport. Local businesses and organisations sponsor and decorate a Christmas tree.



Mana Lions partnered with the Porirua Day Unit of Mary Potter Hospice. Mana Lions provided the sponsorship to enter a tree, and the Mary Potter Team, lovingly created the decorations for the tree.

Murray Gillon is a Mana Lion, who also volunteers at Mary Potter Hospice. Susi Maxwell is the Porirua Day Programme Co-ordinator at Mary Potter Hospice. It was through these two amazing people working together that created the partnership between our organisations to enter the competition.

The decorations were all hand-made out of paper by patients of the Porirua Day Unit. Sadly, some patients who made decorations passed away prior to the tree being decorated and revealed. Their pictures were displayed on a plaque displayed beside the tree which was very special.

Susi told The Post newspaper in Wellington, "People who are living with terminal illness often feel like they're not very productive in society". "This was a really important way for our patients to feel like they're doing something that is bringing joy to the whole community and not just sitting at home dealing with their symptoms."

At the prize-giving at Wellington Airport in early December, our tree was announced as the overall winner out of the 65 entrants. The judge, a local artist was impressed with the vibrancy and detail of the rainbow tree decorations and was moved by the story and meaning behind the tree. It was a very proud moment for Mana Lions and Mary Potter Hospice.

The People's Choice Award was a public online vote, was also awarded to this tree on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

Cystic Fibrosis (CF) is a life-threatening genetic condition. Around 600 New Zealanders are living with CF, which generally means a daily regime of lung clearance and medication, regular check-ups, some hospitalisations and in some cases, lung transplant.

Mana Lions was thrilled to be able to support Mary Potter Hospice as well as Cystic Fibrosis New Zealand.



Mana Lions Grant Glendinning and Murray Gillon with the winning tree.



## AND FROM THE GISBORNE REGION



21 February 2026 Rod and Robyn Dear celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary. Gisborne Host Lions Club was very honoured to cater for their special event. Rod Dear has been involved with club for 44 years and Robyn, his lovely wife who we call (Aunty) makes our wonderful, Toasted Sandwiches out at our Speedway Burger.



Beautiful Cakes were made by our very own in coming DG Debbie Beuth.

Pink Cake Gluten Free Round Cake Bottom Layer Red Velvet and Top Layer Lemon Curd with Cream Cheese Icing

Te Araroa Flood Damage East Coast January and February 2026 Gisborne Host Lions and Gisborne Wainui Lions Club with help from Lloyd Morgan Charitable Trust funding Grocery Shopping via packing parcels from House of Break Through and Civil Deference's transporting items to East Coast.



Summer intern Students at Matai Research gave their presentations. including Ned Clarke who Gisborne Host and Gisborne Wainui Lions have sponsored.

Both Clubs were presented with 2025-2026 Matai Summer Research Interns Brain Image acquired on the Matai 3T GE MRI Machine Pictured with Ned Clarke is Gisborne Host Lion Barry Foster.



Matai Research Student Noah Wright has been Sponsored by Gisborne Host Lions. Noah attended two Nights out at Speedway Burger Bar helping us out in January 2026

Group Photo, Barry Foster, Noah Wright, Debbie Beuth, Karen MacPherson, Gwen Lemaire, Nat Smith, Cilla Britt-Montaperto



## MARTINBOROUGH LIONS CLUB DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATING 60 YEARS SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

February 1966 was a different time and a different place in New Zealand. *Country Calendar* first aired and you could watch *C'mon!* for the first time. Aucklanders could listen to Radio Hauraki, and a loaf of bread cost 4 pence.



In Martinborough S.H. Ussher was the mayor, you could buy a house for about £2,800 (roughly \$8,400 or \$160,000 equivalent today), Haddon Donald was the local MP and Fonterra was still 35 years in the future!

Also 60 years ago, a small group of men got together with some blokes from Masterton and inaugurated the Lions Club of Martinborough.

"The first Lions' meeting was held on 15 February 1966," says Max Stevens, current

president.

"The club was sponsored by the Masterton Club and later that year on the 13<sup>th</sup> August 1966 a Charter Presentation was held hosting a gathering of 160 guests," adds Max. "It was a big deal."

The motto of Lions Clubs International is "We Serve" and the Martinborough club has worked assiduously over the past 60 years to bring that motto to life within our community and district. "We have initiated hundreds of fundraising projects and donated hundreds of thousands of dollars over the years," says Max. "This has been accomplished through fellowship, friendship, cooperation and commitment."

One of the Club's significant projects was the purchase of the Odd Fellows Hall in 1977. This not only provided a Den for meetings and a shared community facility but it has also allowed the club to lease the adjoining land at a very generous rate to the Ruamahanga Medical Trust to build the Medical Centre providing an essential service for our wider community.

The Club has been, and continues to be, an integral part of the Martinborough community. Major fundraising events have included: "Raft A Rama", The Mammoth Auction (selling machinery, appliances, household goods and timber), Toast Martinborough (event support for over 34 years),

and the Skyline Challenge Ride, Run, Walk (supporting causes like the Pump Track and Fire Brigade Medical Support).

"Lions spend our time thinking of ways to raise funds for all sectors of our community, from developing youth to frail oldies," says Max. "We've cut a million bits of firewood, that's either been sold for funds or given away to those in need. We've done countless barbecues, moved hundreds, if not thousands, of trestle tables at the Fairs each year, run events, laid paths in parks and cleaned up flood damaged fences to name a few," adds Max. "We've even taken over running the Lion's Café at the Fairs from the Lionesses who're no longer around as an organisation."

Martinborough Lions have a range of ongoing activities and projects. They provide Christmas Lunch for the over-65 singles, do fortnightly coastal trapping at Aorangi, build and place penguin boxes, marshalling for the Christmas Parade, signage for walking tracks as well as install, maintain and update the two town map Kiosks. Lions donated \$50,000 to the new playground development.

The club meets twice each month. The first meeting is a speaker's night, while the second meeting is a business meeting to organise fundraising, projects, events and activities, and to make decisions on how, and who to donate to within our community.

The last words go to Max: "The club can be very proud of what it has achieved in its 60-year history. We estimate we have raised and donated about \$20,000 annually, helping the community thrive and grow, and that's something worth celebrating."

## Lions Clubs in Action 22 February at Trentham





## **2026 Summer Camp at New Plymouth Boys' High**

### **Wednesday 7 January**

Buses and minivans from Taranaki, Palmerston North, Napier and Wellington had set off earlier that morning and arrived by 4 pm at New Plymouth Boys' High School (NPBHS).

Like previous years, the raising of the Camp Flag was completed by the eldest male camper and the youngest female camper. Once dinner, unpacking, and the fire drill were all completed, it was time for the evening's craft activities, decorating under the sea-themed decorations, to be used later in the dining room to decorate our sea-based wall.

### **Thursday 8 January**

A quick bus/van ride to Nga Motu beach for the day saw campers participating in kayaking, stand up paddle boarding, outdoor sports, sandcastle building competitions, use of the playground and a lot of swimming.

After a whole day at the beach and a much-needed quiet time, the evening saw dorms provide an under-the-sea-based movie and a challenge to recreate the plot in under a minute. Some creative minds and poor timing saw the dorms create some laughable and memorable moments.

### **Friday 9 January**

The group was split into two, where they headed in opposing directions, one to the fantastic and educational Puke Ariki Museum, whilst the others visited Brooklands Park Zoo and had tractor rides donated by the New Plymouth Pakeke Lions. The groups then swapped locations and at lunchtime rejoined at Brooklands Lawn to devour burgers, cake and drinks from Rapid Relief.

The trip home from Brooklands Lawn was slightly different, classic cars and some big rigs transported campers and companions back to NPBHS, where they were met by motorcycles, military vehicles and an older style open top fire engine, which all provided rides for the remainder of the afternoon.

The fun wasn't over yet, the night saw us head to the Festival of Lights at Pukekura Park, starting with a family comedy cabaret "Let's Talk About Peelings" then the campers and companions were off to explore the extraordinary light show on display.

### **Saturday 10 January**

Staying true to tradition, our fourth day at camp was our "Electives Day". The choices of electives included: build some creations with plasticine, create underwater sea animals from paper plates and decorative craft, experience virtual reality (VR), design, create their own plastic fish mason jar aquarium, decorate some biscuits and sponge cake in underwater themed animals, inflatable bouncy castles and obstacle courses, inflatable bubble soccer and zorbs.

A fan favourite returned with Chance for a Change, bringing along six four-week-old puppies to be cuddled and gratefully returned to the foster parents.

Some quiet time after lunch, followed by a cool off in the pool, before it was time for the campers to go and get dressed in their themed CQ costumes. Under the sea theme brought out some great imaginative costumes from jellyfish, scuba divers, lobsters, sharks, mermaids and a special mention to the jandal costume! The theme parade was followed by a themed dinner, there were choices of: fish, squid, shell-shaped pasta, and blue jelly with chocolate fish for dessert! A quiet night was due, and the movie "Surfs Up" was enjoyed by all.

### **Sunday 11 January**

A return to Pukekura Park to participate in a scavenger hunt entertained everyone for the morning, as well as the playground and daylight exploration of the beautiful Pukekura grounds.

The final day isn't complete without the annual CQ water fight (reusable/refillable water balloons!). The day was perfect as the New Plymouth sun had been shining, and to keep the water theme going, the pool was opened and was enjoyed. Always a fine balance of getting the campers out of the pool in time to attend the hair and makeup stations in preparation for party night.

The final night is a special event, we host the seniors' dinner, here we all stand, clap, cheer and whoop the seniors as they enter the dining room for potentially their last Camp quality dinner. The room has been rearranged so they are sat at the top of the dining room, they are then waited on by staff, who at times take their requests literally (2 peas and a cup of gravy replaced the camper's request for a couple of peas and a heap of gravy). The night is wrapped up with the party night. Slightly different this year, there were games hired to add to the fun, such as tic tac toe basketball, foam axe throwing, nut and bolts stackers, balloon animal stations, stacky cup, plus more! Memories were also captured with a photobooth, where campers, companions and staff decorated themselves with some dress-up props and struck a pose.

### **Monday 12 January**

The biggest pack up is planned, with all 150 people helping, this will be completed just before morning tea, with the venue being deconstructed (towels, sheets, rubbish, etc.) as well as suitcases being organised into towns, NPBHS was a hive of activity.

The closing of camp is symbolised by the flag lowering completed by the eldest female camper and the youngest male camper. With buses packed, goodbyes (hugs and tears galore) completed, the 7-hour journey home began.

## Support

Camp Quality Wellington / Central's six-day summer camp is only made possible due to the support of the Lions clubs in 202 M & D. Without these amazing people, the experiences of camp just would not happen. These clubs provided a wide range of support from, lunches, supper, shade, organising a main part of the day's programme & assisting with electives, dinner serving, financial assistance plus more!

Your support is gratefully received, whether it is labour or monetary.

From one volunteer organisation to another, we salute you.

Paul Shailer, Camp Quality liaison 202 M

## HILARIOUS QUOTES

"Once, my father came home and found me in front of a roaring fire. That made my father very mad, as we didn't have a fireplace." —*Victor Borge*

"First, the doctor told me the good news. He said that I was going to have a disease named after me." —*Steve Martin*

"Never keep up with the Joneses. Drag them down to your level. It's cheaper." —*Quentin Crisp*

"Always forgive your enemies; nothing annoys them so much." —*Oscar Wilde*

"One of the oddities of Wall Street is that it is the dealer and not the customer who is called broker." —*Dallas News*

"It seems I have spent a lifetime of mouthing mechanically, 'Say thank you. Sit up straight. Use your napkin. Close your mouth when you chew. Don't lean back in your chair.' Just when I finally got my husband squared away, the kids came along." —*Erma Bombeck*

## GOT SOMETHING TO SHARE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF "THE MIGHTY M"?

**From Editor Terry.** Zone Chairs and club members—your stories are the heartbeat of "The Mighty M"! Whether it's a successful fundraiser, a standout Lion, a new Lion or a moment that made a difference in your community, we want to share it across the district. Please send your contributions (MS Word format please) to:

[202M.Editor@LionsClubs.org.nz](mailto:202M.Editor@LionsClubs.org.nz)

**Deadline: 25th of each month**



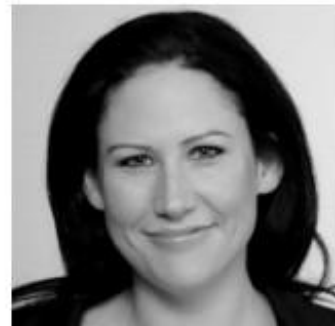
## Welcome to Newsletter No 2

Welcome to the second newsletter and update on convention activities.

**"HOT OFF THE PRESS"** The keynote speaker for our Friday opening ceremony has been confirmed:

## DONNA-MARIE LEVER

Award-winning journalist Donna-Marie Lever has been in Broadcast Journalism for more than 20 years – more recently, 12 years as the Police & Crime Reporter for 1News. She's conquered News, Current Affairs, Radio, dodged bullets in East Timor, been on tour with the World Cup All Whites, trained at the BBC and CNN and reported from international conflict and disaster zones like the Boxing Day Tsunami. The former born and bred Aucklander now takes Corporate Media Training Masterclasses, Crisis Communications, is a Dinner Speaker and a Freelance Journalist for North & South Magazine, The Guardian, TVNZ & CNN and is based in the heart of rural Mid-Canterbury.



Supporting Donna-Marie we have the pleasure to host local Member of Parliament and minister for the South Island James Meager, so come along and meet them both.

A spectacular Flag Ceremony has been planned involving the local Ashburton College Leos club.

We also welcome our own International Director Graeme Wilson and Council Chairs from Australia and Indonesia.

**Programme Start Times**

- Friday Opening Ceremony:** 6.00pm Meet & Greet  
7.00pm Start of the opening ceremony
- 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**



**Convention Venue:**

The Hotel Ashburton offers the perfect venue to hold this convention. This is Mid Canterbury's most comprehensive venue which specialises in corporate meetings, exhibitions, product launches and seminars. There are several function rooms within the complex, all of which will be used through the weekend and days leading up to convention.

**HOTEL ASHBURTON**

The hotel is set in a tranquil garden setting which gives conventioners every opportunity to wander round and get some fresh air.

The staff at the hotel are warm and friendly and will do everything they can to ensure our weekend convention runs smoothly.

Other benefits that the hotel can offer.

- Ample off street parking
- Free WiFi
- Restaurant on site
- Turf Bar
- Bottle Store on Site**



**Registrations:**

Registrations are now being received by registrar Nicki Kelly. Use the link published in the "Between the Lions" or fill in the form attached with this newsletter and email to:

[md202.convrego@lionsclubs.org.nz](mailto:md202.convrego@lionsclubs.org.nz)

**Registrations close: Tuesday 31st March**

**REMEMBER: THE FIRST 50 REGISTRATIONS WILL GO IN TO THE DRAW FOR A FABULOUS PRIZE**

(And we are not there yet, so get your registration in)

**Accommodation Options:**

<b>Hotel Ashburton</b>	<b>Fully Booked</b>	
<b>The Suites</b>	<b>A few Rooms left</b> Phone: (03) 307 0399 Email: stay@thesuites.nz	<b>CLOSEST MOTEL TO THE HOTEL Just across the road</b>  <a href="https://thesuites.nz">https://thesuites.nz</a>
<b>Bella Vista Ashburton</b>	<b>A few Rooms left</b>  Phone: (03) 307 7505	<b>2nd CLOSEST TO THE HOTEL</b>  <a href="https://www.bellavistamotel.guestreservations.com">https://www.bellavistamotel.guestreservations.com</a>
<b>Regency Motel</b>	Phone: (03) 308 8266 Email: admin@regencyashburton.co.nz	<a href="https://regencyashburton.co.nz">https://regencyashburton.co.nz</a>
<b>Taylor's Motel</b>	Phone: (03) 308 9119 0800 339119 Email: info@taylorsmotel.co.nz	<a href="https://www.taylorsmotel.co.nz">https://www.taylorsmotel.co.nz</a>
<b>Commodore Motor Lodge</b>	Phone: (03) 308 8050 0800 108006 Email: office@commodoreashburton.co.nz	<a href="https://commodoreashburton.co.nz">https://commodoreashburton.co.nz</a>
<b>Ashburton Holiday Park &amp; Lodge</b>	Phone: (03) 308 6805 Email: office@ashburtonholidaypark.co.nz	<a href="https://www.ashburtonholidaypark.co.nz">https://www.ashburtonholidaypark.co.nz</a>
<b>Coronation Park Holiday Park</b>	Phone: (03) 308 6603 0800 101 965 Email: info@coronationpark.co.nz	<a href="https://www.coronationpark.co.nz">https://www.coronationpark.co.nz</a>

When considering where you would like to stay recommendations would be:

1. The Suites - just across the road
2. Bella Vista Ashburton - within walking distance (not very far)
3. Commodore Motor Lodge - across the railway line
4. Regency Motel - across the railway line
5. Taylor's Motel - across the railway line
6. Adcroft Motel - Tinwald

***There will be a pick up and drop off service provided to all local motels & Holiday Parks.***

This service will run:

Friday evening for opening ceremony - pick up and delivery (pick up earlier for those attending the PDG function)

Saturday Business Session - pick up and delivery

Saturday Evening - pick up and delivery

Sunday Rededication - pick up only

**Vehicle Rentals:**

<p><b>Hertz Car Rentals</b>                  Phone: +64 03 358 6730  <a href="https://www.hertz.co.nz/p/car-rentals/new-zealand/christchurch/christchurch-airport">https://www.hertz.co.nz/p/car-rentals/new-zealand/christchurch/christchurch-airport</a></p>	<p><b>Budget Car Rentals</b>                  Phone: +64 03 357 0231  <a href="https://www.budget.co.nz/en/locations/nz/christchurch">https://www.budget.co.nz/en/locations/nz/christchurch</a></p>
<p><b>Thrifty Car Rentals</b>                  Phone: 0800 737 070  <a href="https://www.thrifty.co.nz/locations/new-zealand/christchurch/christchurch-airport">https://www.thrifty.co.nz/locations/new-zealand/christchurch/christchurch-airport</a></p>	<p><b>Economy Car Rentals</b>  <a href="https://www.economycarrentals.com">https://www.economycarrentals.com</a></p>
<p><b>GO Rentals</b>                  Phone: +64 09 974 1598  <a href="https://www.gorentals.co.nz/rental-car-locations/christchurch">https://www.gorentals.co.nz/rental-car-locations/christchurch</a></p>	<p><b>Avis Car Rentals</b>                  Phone: +64 03 358 9661  <a href="https://www.avis.co.nz/en/locations/nz/christchurch/chc">https://www.avis.co.nz/en/locations/nz/christchurch/chc</a></p>
<p><b>Omega Car Rentals</b>                  Phone: +64 03 360 2885  <a href="https://www.omegarentalcars.com/car-rental-christchurch-airport">https://www.omegarentalcars.com/car-rental-christchurch-airport</a></p>	<p><b>RaD Car Hire</b>                  Phone: 0800 736 823  <a href="https://www.radcarhire.co.nz/branches/car-rental-christchurch">https://www.radcarhire.co.nz/branches/car-rental-christchurch</a></p>

**Fly in to Christchurch, Hire a car and come and visit our beautiful rural town of Ashburton and while there enjoy all we have to offer.**

After convention stay for a day or two and visit the local attractions:

- Lake Hood - Visit and stay for a cuppa at their café
- Methven - Browse the shops and carry on to see the scenic Rakaia Gorge (perhaps take a Jet boat ride up the Rakaia)
- Ashburton Aviation Museum
- Trotts Garden
- Opuke Thermal Pools in Methven



Then carry on down south and experience the rest of the South Island. Visit:

- Lake Tekapo
- Dunedin
- Queenstown
- Te Anau
- Doubtful & Milford Sounds (go through the Homer Tunnel)
- World famous Catlains



***This is the very last 202 Multiple convention of this kind. Due to the Constitutional changes, conventions will no longer be held in this Format.***

**SO COME ALONG, JOIN US AND LETS WRAP IT UP IN STYLE**

Hope to see you in Ashburton, we have a fabulous weekend planned.



***Council Chairman Pam Harvey & Convention Committee***

Registration Form Link



[Ashburton Registration Form \(2\).docx](#)