

DG Byron DILWORTH

201T1



"Here to Serve"



2020-21

LIONS TASMANIA

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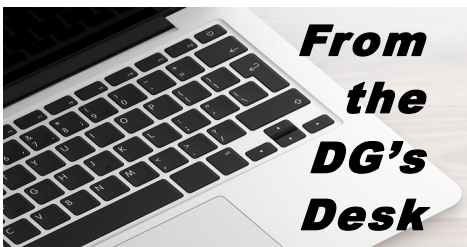
January 2021

Lions Clubs International

Newsletter Editor: John Salmon Ph: 0408 321 658

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From the DG's Desk



Greetings Fellow Lions & Leos!

Happy New Year to all Lions and their families!

2020 has been a challenging year but now we enter 2021 with optimism and enthusiasm. In Tasmania we have (after an initial hiccup in Burnie) weathered the COVID-19 crisis and all clubs can meet and conduct projects as before, however we must remain vigilant and follow the Government advice and "Stay Safe".

I trust that you had a wonderful Christmas with your families – Linda and I certainly did as this was the first time in 10 years that we had all our children together as Natasha and Lucas have permanently returned from Birmingham in the United Kingdom, and some of you probably met them at our Convention Dinner. With the hardened lock down and new strain of COVID-19 in the UK, they got out on in the nick of time!

Following the District Convention, the vacant 2VDG position for 2021-2022 has been resolved with the appointment of Lion Robert Batchelor of Kingborough Club.

This was decided by a special executive / ZC / PDG meeting held in December and ratified by LCI.

I would invite Lions interested in such positions to talk with a cabinet

member to learn what is possible and ANY Lion can attend a District Cabinet meeting anytime as an observer – in fact I would encourage you all to take an interest in

*YOUR
District's
operation and
management.*

*As I often say
"Cabinet is
here to serve
the clubs, it is
NOT the other
way around".*

The latest District Governor Recap Reports shows that ALL the clubs in District T1 are in an excellent financial standing with LCI with a combined total of less than ten dollars owing on the 90 and 120 day accounts – congratulations to ALL Club Treasurers and District Treasurer David!

I still have several clubs to visit and I have been contacting clubs that a member of the District Governor Team has not visited. If you have not yet been visited or heard from me recently, please send me a message with suggested times or events to visit.

As I pass the halfway point in my Governorship, I do not intend to slow down, but to continue to serve all Clubs and Lions within our district. I thank everyone for their support so far and look forward to the next six months!

In the coming months you may get a call from DGE Robert Mantach as he forms the new team to serve

us in the new Lions Year. Please consider any opportunity that Robert may offer as we need new people with new ideas to help our District move forward.



I share with you all (above) this closing thought from our recent District Convention.

Byron Dilworth
District Governor/MD201T1



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STUDENTS HAVE THEIR EYES OPENED TO THE CRITICAL NEEDS OF THE MARGINALIZED COMMUNITY

As part of a long-standing commitment to eradicate preventable blindness worldwide, Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), together with countless Lions clubs and Leo volunteers, serves as a global leader in supporting the eye health and vision care of individuals with intellectual disabilities.

In addition, LCIF provides clinical professionals an opportunity to gain critical skills in treating individuals with intellectual disabilities. LCIF and Special Olympics, in partnership, work tirelessly to increase the access to vision care for this marginalized population subset, and the statistics are alarming.

"FOR ALMOST 20 YEARS, ATHLETE BY ATHLETE, COUNTRY BY COUNTRY, THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION OPENING EYES® PROGRAM HAS BEEN ADDRESSING THESE PROBLEMS."

Globally, 35% of Special Olympics athletes need new prescription glasses and 23% have never had an eye exam. For almost 20 years, athlete by athlete, country by country, the Special Olympics Lions Clubs International Foundation Opening Eyes® program has been addressing these problems.

Whether the athletes need new glasses, new prescriptions or more specific examinations, Opening Eyes has been, and will be there to improve eye care for Special Olympics athletes and for all people with intellectual differences.

Through the support of industry leaders like Essilor International, Safilo S.p.A., Liberty Sport and more, the Special Olympics-LCIF is empowered to provide athletes with real clinical interventions, in real time.

Ever since his first experience with Opening Eyes in 2003, Professor Wolfgang Sickenberger has been one of the program's most dedicated and enthusiastic supporters.

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Lions Club of Sorell invites you to...

Combined Southern Region
Lions Club's



FEBRUARY DINNER

Wednesday 3rd February 2021

6.30pm for 7.00pm

**Midway Point Tavern
2 Penna Road
Midway Point**

Cost: \$30.00/pp
[buy own drinks]

**Guest Speaker from
Diabetes Tasmania.
Funds raised will go to
Diabetes Tasmania.**

**RSVP: Geoff Clow on 0408 281 176
by Friday 29th January 2021**



Our District Count

31 December 2020

Clubs: 48
Membership: 1046

Membership 31 Dec 2019 1125

YTD ADD	38
YTD DROP	58
YTD NET GROWTH	-20
YTD NET GROWTH %	-1.88%

Status: "Transitional" (24 mths)

BIG SURPRISE AMONG THE FLOWERS!

A very longstanding and long serving Lion was taken completely by surprise at the Penguin Club's long deferred Charter Anniversary Luncheon, held at the Emu Valley Rhododendron Gardens on 19th December.

Lion John Medwin expressed his sincere thanks to the Lions Club of Penguin, and to the Tasmanian Lions Foundation in particular for the awarding of a Tasmanian Lions Foundation Fellowship.

"Totally unexpected," said John. "My thanks to PDG Toby (Crawford) for the presentation, and to District Chair Lion Kellie Bryan for keeping quiet about it since the recent District Convention in November 2020!"



Lion John receives his well deserved Tasmanian Lions Foundation Fellowship from PDG Toby Crawford.

WELCOME TO THE LIONS FAMILY...



IN DECEMBER 2020

BOTHWELL & DISTRICTS

LYNNE GARDNER

Sponsor: ANTHONY JOHNSTON

STEPHEN LLOYD

Sponsor: ANTHONY JOHNSTON

PETER JEFFREY

Sponsor: ANTHONY JOHNSTON

LILYDALE

STEPHEN THOMAS

Sponsor: DEBRA ADKINS



Half way through this year our donations total US\$2,734.00 from seven (7) Clubs. note that the total for 2019-20 was US\$19,647 from eighteen (18) Clubs.

It is understandable that due to COVID the funds raising capacity of our Clubs and hence the ability to donate has been greatly reduced. Local community needs take precedence.

Our District is not alone, most others appear similarly affected.

Unfortunately the need for LCIF grants has not diminished. It should be remembered that while LCIF funds activities world wide, Australia receives more in grants than LCIF receives from us in donations.

Regarding Melvin Jones Fellowships only five (5) have been sought this year [13 in 2019-20]. Many Clubs hold significant MJF credits from past donations.

Consider making application to recognize worthy Club members.

The recognition of an MJF or progressive MJF can be a great stimulus to community service by Club members.

John Gillham PDG

District LCIF Coordinator.

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6239 6823



CLUB NEWSLETTERS

DON'T FORGET TO

SEND YOUR

CLUB NEWSLETTER

TO DG BYRON OR TO

MYSELF EACH ISSUE.

BY DOING THIS, IT PUTS

YOUR CLUB IN THE RUNNING

FOR THE BEST NEWSLETTER

AWARD AT THE END OF THE

CURRENT LIONS YEAR.



LIONS CLUB OF LATROBE

Although during 2020 our club activities, as with many others, were somewhat restricted, members managed to complete the Sandpit project for the Children's Respite Centre, complete with shade sail and sand (see below).



We continued our support of Adult Day Care Centre, holding a couple of morning teas, which are always very well received by both staff and clients.

During the COVID Shut down we saw a way of helping both the community and local business by providing vouchers to business to be distributed to their loyal customers, feedback has been very positive from both.

Unfortunately, the Christmas Parade could not be held this year, so we looked for another way to bring a bit of Christmas Spirit to our town. A small committee approached local business to be part of a Christmas Window display competition

with a theme of
"Stockings and Stars."

The response was fantastic, with only a couple of businesses not participating or making their windows available to local schools and organizations. Along with businesses, four schools embraced the idea enthusiastically... the local Aged Care Facility and the Croquet Club each joined with a business to make the whole event a success.

Indeed many are keen to do it again for next Christmas. In conjunction with the Display event, we held a mystery item competition, with people coming from as far afield as Launceston (the winner with 23 items out of 29 came from Launceston).



Fortunately with a COVID plan we were able to have our Christmas Cake sales in Station Square, albeit feeling a little strange, with two (2) table widths between us and customers, sanitizer available etc, etc...

NOW ON WITH THE NEW YEAR...!



DISTRICT NEWSLETTER 2011

Copy for the newsletter is required on or before the tenth (10th) of the month of publication.

It is preferred that articles be typed and then submitted for publication by e-mail.

Please forward (where possible) photos and newspaper cuttings with your article.

Scanned images should be of high quality (300dpi).

Deadline for next issue is: FEBRUARY 10th

Cont'd from page 2...

As head of the Optometry and Vision Science at Ernst-Abbe University of Applied Science in Jena, Germany, Professor Sickenberger was keen to offer his students the opportunity to train within the program. So he included Opening Eyes in the selection of externships – short experiential learning experiences – as an offering to his students.

“Due to our segregated school system, many students have little or no contact at all with people with disabilities,” says Professor Sickenberger. “At Opening Eyes, they often meet people with intellectual disabilities (ID) up close for the first time and oftentimes feel unsure and doubtful about how to behave properly at first, but they soon integrate. The whole Opening Eyes team supports each other and works closely together.

The professor underscored the importance of the Opening Eyes experience for both his students and their patients: “Our students experience first hand that their career choice as optometrists and opticians can make a positive contribution to optical care. Many of the athletes we examine have never had such a comprehensive eye examination, nor do they own suitable visual aids for sports. Among other things, good vision contributes significantly to the reduction of sports accidents, and a suitable optical fitting increases the joy of playing and living in general, not only for sports.”



Professor Wolfgang Sickenberger, head of Optometry and Vision Science at Ernst-Abbe University of Applied Science, with his students at an Opening Eyes event in Germany.

Every year, Professor Sickenberger and his colleagues are positively surprised by the number of students who opt to experience Opening Eyes over luxurious externships abroad. The feedback he receives from them is yet another testimonial of their enthusiasm and excitement for the program.

Students were also struck by the atmosphere at Opening Eyes sessions. They all indicated that overcoming their insecurities and hesitation was the main takeaway from the whole experience. Learn more about how LCIF and Special Olympics are improving the lives of athletes with intellectual disabilities.

*LION Magazine
December 2020*

**Funny about
getting older, your
eyesight might
weaken and yet
you can see
through people
much better.**

lions australia
we continue to serve



The Final Word...

"Life is not a tragedy, it is a comedy; to be alive means to have a sense of humor!" - Osho