

### DISTRICT GOVERNOR GENEVIEVE JENY 2024-25

As And Foll who

Genevieve's Journey: Promoting our Pride April/May2025

As the year continues to move forward...

Another busy month has gone and there is still so much more to be done. But....

Following a fall at the Multiple District Convention, which was exacerbated by a secondary fall when I arrived back in Sydney, I have spent the last 2 weeks in hospital under doctors' orders. And anyone who knows me knows that I don't do laying down doing nothing, very well. I am now out of hospital, but for how long I don't know, and have a lot of rehabilitation ahead of me. Thank you for all your get-well messages. They truly are appreciated.

For those who think that a District Governors journey finishes after their convention, they are seriously mistaken. And it has been just as busy these past few months as it was in my last update.

At the outset, I would like to remind all clubs and members of the ongoing District Training Program. These training sessions have been comprehensively prepared by our District Leadership Chairperson, PDG Ron Gattone, and includes a range of sessions that will appeal to everyone. I especially want to thank all of the clubs, and club members and facilitators who attended the Club Development Days and Sessions held on April 27<sup>th</sup>. While we did not get the numbers that we would have liked, it was definitely a very successful day. I fully support these training sessions and encourage members to register for any remaining sessions that they feel they and their club will benefit from..

Multiple District Convention this year was held in Traralgon in country Victoria. After a long drive down from Sydney, it was straight into my final Council of Governors Meeting. The Convention proper started on the Thursday with a Civic Reception, followed by Friday morning with a fabulous opening Flag Ceremony and several plenary sessions. Across the weekend we witnessed the National Leo of the Year and Youth of the Year finals (what incredible talents these young people are), business sessions, presentations, and the culmination of a 92 km run by our very own Sari-Elle Kreamer who was raising funds in support of the Lions Club of Licola Village. All in all, a fabulous convention, with next year being in Adelaide.



During the convention, I was pleased to be able to accept some awards on behalf of our local clubs. Th Lions Club of Maroubra was awarded the Australian Lions Children's Mobility Foundation Outstanding Club Award for 2024-25. And the Lions Club of Sydney Chinese was acknowledged by IPIP Patty Hill for their contributions to LCIF this past year.



### **DG Out and About**

And I am also proud to advise that the Australia Lions Stamp project continues strongly, headed up by our very own PDG Roger Sherrington and the Lions Club of Richmond. This year, a donation of \$35,000 was made to the ALCMF resulting from the sale of stamps. Roger also accepted, on behalf of Lion Ted Henebery, Australian President of the Lions International Stamp Club, an ALCMF Silver Award for Excellence.





Our membership across the district remains static for this past period. While we added a total of 35 new members, we also lost 35 members. It is disappointing t note that 2024-25 has not been the strong membership growth year I would have liked and had hoped for at the start of my term as District Governor. On a sad note, this past month, we have lost a number of well-known Lions from our District. While I don't normally like to single out anyone in particular, there are three long standing Lions who deserve mention here. Lion Gae Bergin, partner of PDG Elvio Munzone, Lion John Ebbott OAM, husband of Lion Kathy, and most recently, Lion John Chate. These three giants of our District have contributed so much to Lions and to the community, and I ask that you keep them, their families, loved ones and Lions members from their respective clubs in your prayers. Thank you for everything they have done. Your service is completed. Rest in Peace.

It is club changeover season and from the look of my calendar at the moment, it is going to be a busy few months.

Once again, I have also been working closely with my District Governor Team – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice District Governor Mohan, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governor Peter and incoming 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governor Graham – as we discuss a number of club and district issues. It is important that the incoming leadership team lead by DGE Mohan Nanayakkara is kept fully up to date in what is happening and sharing their thoughts and ideas. I have enjoyed the open and honest discussions.

In July, Nigel and I will be heading off to the Lions International Convention in Orlando, Florida. I know that there are several Lions from our District heading over to support what we hope will be PID Tony Benbow being elected as 3<sup>rd</sup> International Vice President, and then to becoming only the second Australian to hold the title of Lions International President.

After Orlando, Nigel and I will be heading off to Spain for what will be some rest and recreation and what will be a well-earned break

Have a great month and I look forward to seeing as many Lions and Clubs attend our District Changeover on 2

### Genevieve







#### Welcome to all our New Members

The strength of our organisation is in our members and in particular those new members who join us to inject vital new life, ideas and enthusiasm into our Association.

District Governor Genevieve Jeny and members of District 201N5 welcome all our new members. We look forward to hearing about your contributions.

NEW MEMBER	CLUB	SPONSOR
FR. GREG MORGAN	CITY OF RYDE	
ALI KESHTIARA	COOGEE	MICHELLE MCINNES
JOHN RILEY	COOGEE	CHRISTOPHER AYLMER
JULIE MEREDITH	EMU PLAINS	CHERYL DEVINE
PAUL GEELAN	KELLYVILLE	WAYNE KEDWARD
MARK NER	KELLYVILLE	WAYNE KEDWARD
LATICA GAJZLER	KOGARAH	JOSEPHINE MURPHY
CATHY CASEY	MAROUBRA	LAINE SMITH
JOHN BEHAG	OATLEY	JOHN MORGAN
JUDITH LOUISE ORMISTON	RIVERSTONE & DISTRICT	PRADEEP PATHI I
PETER MARIO ROZNICKI	RIVERSTONE & DISTRICT	ALLAN GREEN
STEPHEN JOHN WATSON	RIVERSTONE & DISTRICT	ALLAN GREEN
GRAHAM ANDREW CROSS	SUTHERLAND SHIRE	JANETY CROSS
STEVEN CHAN	SYDNEY BUILDING	DICKSON WONG
GART NG	SYDNEY BUILDING	DICKSON WONG
KARTHIKEYAN SUNDARAM	SYDNEY CEYLON	SUBEN SUBEBTHIRAN
KRISNATH KRISHNAPALAN	SYDNEY CEYLON	THULASI SHADHAA
GABINITHINE KAMALASREE	SYDNEY CEYLON	THULASI SHADHAA
JANAKAN GNASASAMPATHAN	SYDNEY CEYLON	THULASI SHADHAA
ANNA SCHWABE	SYDNEY CHAMPIONS INNER WEST	TONY MOORE
CALVIN CHEUNG	SYDNEY CHINESE	JASMINE YANG
CHIA HO	SYDNEY CHINESE	YAMMIE GAO
XIAOYU JIN	SYDNEY CHINESE	DUNCAN LIN
NICOLE XI LI	SYDNEY CHINESE	WING HAN (CINDY) TSANG
EILEEN LI WANG	SYDNEY CHINESE	WING HAN (CINDY) TSANG
VIVIAN DEDERKO	SYDNEY CHINESE	SHELLY SUN
KELVIN WONG	SYDNEY CHINESE	LEO LEE
FLORENCE YU	SYDNEY CHINESE	KAGO FONG
DESMOND CHAU	SYDNEY HOST	ALAN CHAN
KA WING LEE	SYDNEY HOST	ALAN CHAN
UN IAN LAM	SYDNEY NORTH WEST	BONNIE CHAN
LIWEN ZHANG	SYDNEY NORTH WEST	JOHNSON ZHANG
JOHNSON ZHANG	SYDNEY NORTH WEST	WILLIAM CHAN
GNANADARSHA SANJAYA DISSANAYAKE	SYDNEY SRI LANKAN	M SHELTON PEIRIS
ARASARATNAM NIRMALENDRAN	TURRAMURRA	ROSHAN WICKREMANAYAKE





### Vale

We express our sympathy and condolences to the families of the following Lions who have recently passed. Lion JOHN EBBOTT OAM—of the Lions Club of Crestwood Lion ROBERT PRICE—of the Lions Club of Sydney Host Lion GAE BERGIN—of the Lions Club of Sydney Seaside Lion JOHN CHATE—of the Lions Club of Oatley Lion CARLO COLPANI—of the Lions Club of Ku-Ring-Gai Lion EMRAN SALAHUDDIN of the Lions Club of Blacktown Ponds Lion MICHAEL KENNEDY—of the Lions Club of Kogarah Lion Zed Zawalski—of the Lions Club of Norfolk Island Thank you for your Service Rest in Peace

### A Tribute to Lion John Ebbott OAM MJF over page by **PDG Greg Dunn District 201 N5 Poet Laureate**

For those Members and partners who are currently experiencing health issues, all in N5 send their best wishes for a speedy recovery.



If you are aware of any member of your club, or any other club, that may be unwell or experiencing health issues, please reach out to your Zone Chair or the District Welfare Officer, Lion Helen Rose on 0402 847565 or email to welfare@lions.sydney

#### **OUR FRIEND JOHN - Lion John Ebbott OAM MJF**

I was invited to a dinner by a friend I'd near forgot.
I imagined through the evening we would reminisce somewhat.
This dinner was a Lions Club held in a public hall,
Although I was with my long, lost friend, we hardly spoke at all.

This one bloke in particular came and offered me a beer.
Then others came and shook my hand as a hearty welcome here.
This one bloke, John, was President and stood out from the rest;
He asked me if I'd like to join, I said I'd rather stay a guest.

Eventually I would condescend and yes, I joined the Club And realised just why this man was centre of the hub I found that the community was his primary concern And the Lions Motto "We Serve" would be something I would learn

John's service to community, where ever there's a need Could be traced direct to Scouting and Scouts famous "Good Deed" And the Good Deed just continued through Apex and to Lions And no, it did not stop there, there were still a few hot irons

As Crestwood's Charter President, his leadership shone out His aim to make the Club well known and leave no room for doubt With every member in pursuit of new members to the fold. The Club went on from strength to strength, with projects new and old.

Computers for a special school, a project well endorsed. A Poker Machine Auction Sale was how the funds were sourced; And then there were the Santa's on shop awnings through the town. Lion's balancing precariously putting up and taking down.

The construction of these Santa's was something to be seen Because it wasn't just the Santa's painted red and white and green Then Santa's transport just evolved in some miraculous way Lions travelled the local street selling Christmas cakes from the sleigh

The Bella Vista Carols was another club event.

The huge crowd indicated that all the locals went.

A Leo Club was in Johns sights and soon was formulated.

The younger set had new ideas with new projects created.

Johns attempt to stand for Council unfortunately did not go But with Kath, he took on Crestwood Fair and let Hills Shire know Communication was his thing, he knew it inside out. He linked the Rural Fire Service with those out and about.

He represented Careflight on the need for subsidy

To keep the choppers in the air wherever the need be.

He'd often include family, be assured they were not coerced,

Although involved in helping others, he always put his family first.

Let's not forget his driving force who'd correct him from the wings; Kathy would make sure he was up to date with news and other things. The one who'll miss him most of all, the other side of John; The realisation he's not there might hit hard later on.

#### **Finally**

John, I know they had no internet when Jesus was on Earth. So they preached from high up mountains to be heard. I'll lay bets He'll use your talents when he realises your worth. And I reckon He'll get you to spread the Word.

Thank you sincerely for being our friend, Rest in Peace Cobber, You will be sorely missed.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**



MAY			
25th (Sun)	DG Executive Meeting		
30th (Fri)	AGM—Sydney Nurses Scholarship Foundation		
	JUNE		
1st (Sun)	Training — Introduction to Effective Leadership		
2nd (Mon)	Changeover—Sydney Waratah		
3rd (Tue)	Changeover—Sydney Pacific		
6-8th (Fri-Sun)	2VDG Training—Melbourne		
8th (Sun) am	4th Qtr. District Cabinet Meeting		
8th (Sun) pm	Shadow District Cabinet Meeting		
14th (Sat)	Changeover—Blacktown Ponds		
16th (Mon)	Changeover—Castle Hill		
20th (Fri)	Changeover—Parramatta		

22nd (Sun) am	Training—New Member Orientation	
22nd (Sun) pm	District Changeover	
26th	Sydney News Copy Deadline	
28th (Sat)	Training—The Essence of Great Meetings	
27-29th (Fri-Sun)	Training—RLLI (Brisbane)	
29th (Sun)	Changeover—Toongabbie Seven Hills	
JULY		
6th (Sun)	Changeover—Richmond	
6th (Sun)	Training—Zone Chairs Development	
13-17th	International Convention—Orlando	
13th (Sat)	Social Media + MÿloCl Sales Force	
13th (Sat) 17th (Wed)	Social Media + Mancl Sales Force  Google Workspace: Forms and Drive	



It's that time of the year and a chance to come together in fellowship, acknowledge those Lions who have gone above and beyond over the past 12 months, thank District Governor Genevieve for her stewardship, and to welcome our incoming District Governor Elect, Mohan Nanayakkara. This year's event will be something a little different. We will be having a Changeover Lunch with a theme of Christmas in July. Details follow:

- Date Sunday 22nd June 2025 Time 12:00 for 12:30 pm start Lunch
- Location Merrylands RSL Swan Room
- Theme Christmas in July (minus 2 weeks)
- Cost \$65 per head
- Dress Code Casual
- Register here <a href="https://forms.gle/etqNCEDtox6N1tpS7">https://forms.gle/etqNCEDtox6N1tpS7</a>



### MORE UPCOMING EVENTS



SATURDAY
14TH JUNE
CLARENDON SHOWGROUND
GATES OPEN 7.30 am
FREE PARKING
ONSITE
Great Food, Great
Bargains Pet Friendly

# A Little Bit of Humour





Felt
uncomfortable
driving into the
cemetery. The
gps blurted out
you have reached
your final
destination.

## Sydney Ceylon

# Clean Up Australia Day & Lions Awareness Month – March 2025



On Sunday, 2nd March 2025, members of the **Sydney Ceylon** marked *Clean Up Australia Day* with a community clean-up at **Airey Park**, Homebush West,.

Airey Park, one of Strathfield's most significant and expansive green spaces, is a central hub for community recreation, sports, and family-friendly activities. Club members focused their efforts around the playground and outdoor fitness areas, collecting empty bottles, food wrappers, plastic



bags, fallen branches, and general litter. Their hands-on work left the park cleaner, safer, and more inviting for children, families, and the wider public.

This initiative was also part of **Lions Awareness Month**, observed throughout March. While engaging in the clean-up, members took the opportunity to interact with local park visitors -

raising awareness about the Lions movement, its commitment to service,

and the eight Lions Global Causes:

Vision, Hunger, Environment, Childhood Cancer, Diabetes, Disaster Relief, Humanitarian Needs, and Youth.

The event was a meaningful blend of action and advocacy - showcasing the Lions' dedication not only to improving the environment but also to inspiring community involvement and sharing the heart of Lionism.



### DISTRICT HAPPENINGS

#### **District 201N5 District Diabetes Forum**

March saw our District hold its 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual District Diabetes Form. The event, attended by over 150 interested Lions and members of the public, was organised by Region Chair Lion Christy Tam of the Lions Club of Sydney Harmony.

Topics covered included.

Diabetes – Management and Complications
How Diabetes Affects the Feet

Exercises with a Stress Ball and

Recent Advances in Managing Diabetes - The Role of Medical Therapy

The speakers who presented generated much interest in their areas of expertise and we are sure that next year's event will be bigger and better than ever. Proceeds from the day were donated to both the Australian Lions Foundation and the Australian Lions Children's Mobility Foundation. Thank you to the organisers, the sponsors and















Honoured to be a part of the Lions community as a major Lions Project, we recognise that our growth and development can be credited towards Lions Clubs and their many valued members across Australia.

As we are a non-for-profit organisation, our funding and achievements are possible through the efforts and donations from you, Lions. As we approach the end of the financial year, it is a crucial and important time of the year for us. We reflect and recognise on the accomplishments from the year prior, and we reach out to you asking for your support to help us continue to grow. In early April, we sent an appeal to all Lions Clubs across Australia, hoping that members will include us in their disbursements as Clubs wind up the year that was.

In the past year we saw multiple advancements of our programs, with a major one being the delivery of our 700<sup>th</sup> Hearing Assistance Dog Yannis. It stands out as an indicator that our organisation is continuing to progress with our mission of helping Australians who are Deaf or hard of hearing, free of charge. Furthermore, the growth in our Medical Assistance Program has been very successful with positive feedback coming from our recipients living with type 1 diabetes. Building from these successes, we have also been able to introduce our Psychiatric Assistance Dog Program for Veterans of the Australian Defence Force living with PTSD. Our work within these programs are making a profound difference in the lives of Australians through our life-changing Assistance Dogs.

We take this opportunity to not only ask for your continued donations and support, but to thank you for enabling us to thrive and grow over the past 45 years as a Lions Project.

For more information on our programs or ways to donate, contact us through <u>development@lionshearingdogs.com.au</u>

Bank Account Details BSB: 035 094 Acc No: 118 965

Acc Name: Lions Hearing Dogs Inc
Ref: Club name/your name

DONATE VIA DIRECT TRANSFER



NOW is the time to start planning for your club's projects and activities for the 2025-2026 Lions year, especially if your club is aiming to achieve a service project in each of our 8 focus areas. You can include Youth of the Year, and as a side benefit, build new links with your community within your schools, including school staff, parents, judges etc. NOW is the time for our clubs to consider making a difference to the youth in our community, with an opportunity to foster

and optimise the confidence, leadership and citizenship qualities of our school leavers.

I'm contemplating introducing an interstate challenge, as last year, NSW was outdone by Queensland's 4 districts whose participation rate is the best in the country, with 88 clubs, and 360 students from 153 schools. The statistics for NSW last year show just 52 clubs participating across our 5 Districts, meaning just 180 students from 112 schools.

In District N5, only 13 of our clubs participated, covering 46 schools and just 56 students. That required 68 judges, so it is sad that we are not providing the opportunity to enter to more students (and schools).

My role as Youth of the Year Coordinator is to support and enable our Clubs, and I am more than disappointed with the participation rates currently being achieved. Our program is recognised by many outside of Lions as one of the best youth programs on offer for senior school students and we have students expressing interest, with no clubs to accept them. I think we can do better, so I trust we can find a way to make it happen.

This year's program dates have been set to fit around the difficult 2026 April calendar. Every weekend in April is either public holidays or school holidays, so not ideal for setting various Youth of the Year finals. Hence, our clubs will have a busy March, and can have a rest in April with regards to Youth of the Year. And this year, we have all of February to complete our club finals!

April 3 Good Friday
April 4 Easter Saturday
April 5 Easter Sunday
April 6 Easter Monday
April 25 Anzac Day
May 10 Mother's Day
School Holidays 7 – 17<sup>th</sup> April

Club By Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2026 Area By Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2026 District Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2026

State Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 20216 Host District N2

National Final - MD Convention Adelaide - Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2026



The updated versions of the various forms and documents for the National Youth of the Year program should be available within a few weeks, but the basic structure and requirements are the same. It will be important for everyone to download and use the updated forms, as there are a few extra "boxes" to fill out, mainly to gain more accurate statistics of participation across the country.

I am aware of a couple of clubs who are awaiting information to get their clubs on board, and I will be sending out the information as soon as it is finalised.

Please let me know if you have any questions, or would like more information

**Diane Sherrington** 

youthyear@lions.sydney

0412 790 642



### **ALCMF Update**

### As reported by N5 Chairman Greg English

#### Fitting of crocodile walker for Jonah

Jonah has a condition called Lennox-Gastout syndrome which causes frequent epileptic seizures and neurological challenges. He is primarily a wheelchair user and benefits immensely from having access to a walking frame for school to allow him to socialise with other children and engage in his education.

Jonah has completely grown out of the current Crocodile walker he currently has at school which poses a falls risk. Jonah is currently having challenges with getting multiple pieces of crucial adaptive technology funded through NDIS and has waited over 12 months without approval.

He is currently awaiting an operation to make his life a little better, the family hopes that the walker will help him recover faster after this operation.

Jonah's crocodile walker was funded by various clubs in Sydney who put funds into the foundations unallocated account. His fitting was held at his home in Merrylands. The fitting was attended by Lion Greg English ALCMF 201N5 chairman, his mum and dad Jasmin & Steven who is a member of the Parramatta Lions club. And his physiotherapist Dalena.



#### Fitting of a stander for Ludovic



Ludovic is a 5-year-old boy from Croydon who needed a Jenx Standz Stander at a cost of \$10,918.50. He has Wolf-Hirschorn Syndrome, which presents with severe delayed growth and development, global hypotonia and muscular weakness and intellectual disability. He is unable to sit or stand independently. He requires a supportive stander to allow him to stand, improve weight bear through his lower limbs, and aid his respiratory and digestive system. The standing frame will also improve his social interaction with his family and provides a safe and comfortable environment to practice fine motor skills with the table.

Ludovic's stander was funded by various clubs in Australia who put funds into the foundations unallocated account. His fitting was held at Cerebral Palsy Alliance Roselands. The fitting was attended by Lion Greg English

ALCMF 201N5 chairman, Ludovic's mum, dad and brother with physiotherapist Chrissi from Cerebral Palsy Alliance and technician Leah from Astris PME.

Ludovic's parents were very grateful for Lions Help.

#### Fitting of tricycle for Marlow

Marlow is a wonderful 4-year-old boy from Balgowlah Plateau who has a diagnosis of developmental epileptic encephalopathy and global developmental delay. Marlow requires maximal assistance for most functional transitions and mobility at this time. Marlow loves to spend time with his family and friends outdoors.

The trike will allow Marlow the opportunity to engage and participate in play with his peers and family with greater independence. Adaptive cycling will allow Marlow the joy of riding while enhancing his overall health and quality of life. The trike will also provide passive and some active range of motion to his lower limbs that he would not get at the same level/frequency otherwise.

Marlow's tricycle was funded by Lions Club of Ku-ring-gai and from various clubs in Sydney who put funds into the foundations unallocated account. The fitting was attended by his grandfather and grandmother, Lion Greg English ALCMF Chair for

ANAPA

201N5, Salinda Perera President of Ku-ring-gai, Leon Gibb Rehab Equipment Consultant and Physiotherapist Jonty...

Marlow is a wonderful patient little boy who enjoyed his session and exercising. His grandparents were looking forward to all the exercise and bike outings they would share with their grandson. They were very grateful for the help given them by Lions.

### ALCMF Updates

#### Australian Lions Children's Mobility Foundation Fitting of tricycle for Liam

Liam is a two-year-old boy from Cherrybrook with cerebral Palsy who needs a Theraplay Imp Tricycle at a cost of \$8,531.00. This disability affects all aspects of his and his family's life. He is currently attending physiotherapy and occupational therapy regularly to promote functional use of his upper and lower limbs in movements such as rolling and crawling. With recent improvement Liam is now able to tolerate activities which were previously very difficult such as those which require lower limb dissociation.

Trikes are extremely useful in maintaining range of motion and building tolerance for lower limb dissociation while allowing Liam to participate in family outings, better engage with his environment and give him access to more age-appropriate tools, all while giving him more independence than any other form of mobility.

Liam's tricycle was funded by Lions Clubs of Lugarno, and Oatley. The fitting was attended by Mum Noelle, Lion Greg English ALCMF Chair for 201N5, and Liams Physiotherapist Jonathan.





### **YOUR OLD STAMP COLLECTIONS - CAN ASSIST**

EVERY STAMP COUNTS - STOP hoarding those stamp collections that were going to be for the Kids, Grandkids, who didn't really show an interest. Richmond Lions and the International Stamp Club DO. Richmond Lions Receive, Sort, Clip and pack every stamp received. They then go to Auction or Private Sale with all monies received going to ALCMF.

This financial year has raised \$35,000, last year \$27,700 NOW totalling over \$400,000 to purchase walking aids for kids with a disability.

Contact Roger - 0420 987 842

### **EVERY STAMP COUNTS**