

# APRIL 2025 NEWSLETTER



## FROM THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR

The past two months have been a whirlwind of activity for our Clubs and Members - and what a wonderful sight it's been!

Seeing all your Lions Awareness Month 'Lions on Safari' events throughout March pop up on social media has been truly heartwarming. From creative projects to community celebrations, your energy and passion shine brightly. Please keep sharing your amazing stories and achievements — they inspire us all!

By now, all Clubs will have elected their Incoming Officers and Boards for 2025-26. Congratulations to everyone stepping into new leadership roles! I wish you a fulfilling and prosperous year ahead. I look forward to connecting with you — either face-to-face or via videoconferencing — at our Club Development Day on Saturday, May 31, at the Lighthouse Community Church Hall, 26 Jetty Road, Brighton. (Please see the Save the Date section for more details.)

March was a busy and rewarding month for Roger and me. One of the highlights was celebrating the Naracoorte Lions Club's 60th Anniversary of Charter — a wonderful evening filled with pride, history, and fellowship. It was also a privilege to attend the 201C2 District Youth of the Year Final in Brighton, followed by the 'C' Districts Final in Mount Gambier. We were inspired by the outstanding talents of our State/C Districts finalists:

- Hadiya Roshani and Abbie Skinner (Lions Club of Clare, C1)
- Emma Choi (Lions Club of Brighton, C2)
- Callum McIntyre (Lions Club of Mount Gambier, C2)



**C2 Finals Contestants and myself; Elijah Flint from Naracoorte Lions Club on the far left, Emma Choi (the Overall Winner) from Brighton Lions Club on the second left, Charlie Van Der Woude from Berri Lions Club in the middle, and Callum McIntyre from Mount Gambier Lions Club on the far right.**



**'C' Districts Finals Contestants; Hadiya Roshani, Abbie Skinner both from Lions Club of Clare from C1 District on the far left, Callum McIntyre Lions Club of Mount Gambier from C2, myself, Emma Choi from Lions Club of Brighton C2, and PDG Darryl Morley, C2 and C Districts Youth of the Year Coordinator.**

Their judging criteria spanned leadership, sporting, and cultural interests, academic achievements, general knowledge, and both prepared and impromptu public speaking.



**Emma Choi, 'C' Districts Best Public Speaker and Overall Winner with PDG Ken Bradford, C1 Youth of the Year Coordinator.**

Congratulations to Emma Choi, who was named the Overall Winner and Best Public Speaker at the 'C' District Finals! Emma will proudly represent our 'C' Districts at the National Finals during the Multiple District Convention in Traralgon. A heartfelt thank you to PDG Darryl Morley, our 201C2 and 'C' Districts Youth of the Year Coordinator, and to every Club and volunteer who dedicated countless hours to this wonderful program.

As we move into April, many Clubs are considering the disbursement of funds. Please remember to consider the Lions Clubs International Foundation and the Australian Lions Foundation — your support makes a real difference for Australians affected by disasters. Our District C2 projects, including our Free Skin Cancer Screening program, the Australian Lions Hearing Dogs Lap the Map project, Lions Mad Minute, Sleeping Rough, Carolyn's Chemo Caps, Recycle for Sight Pillar Boxes, Lions Vehicle Number Plates, and Emergency Medical Booklet Information, would also be grateful for your support.

To all who are celebrating Easter, may it be a joyful time spent with family and friends. For those working to support others or hosting special events, thank you for the kindness and dedication you bring to our communities.

As you plan your Club Handovers and prepare for another year of fun, fellowship, and fundraising, know that your energy and service continue to make a lasting impact.

Thank you for all that you do.

Kindest regards,

**Carolyn Kilpatrick**  
**District Governor MD201 C2**

## SERENDIPITOUS MEETING



**“You never know when you’ll make a new friend or even meet someone who is a prospective Lions member,”** says Carolyn Hart, Goolwa (South Australia), explaining why she talks to people everywhere!

However, she was very surprised to discover a group of four visitors to South Lakes Golf Club, included a Lions member from Holland, who with his wife, his sister-in-law and husband were in Goolwa to finalise the estate of a recently deceased much loved Dutch aunt.

While Carolyn and husband Malcolm were entertaining her new friends, their mutual interest in Lions was discovered and when Hans van Kleef learnt of Goolwa Lions involvement in the Australian Lions Children's Mobility Foundation, he excitedly told an interesting story: The aunt who emigrated to Australia and her husband had no children but she had a consuming passion for collecting stamps resulting in a room full of her treasures, both collected and bought over the last sixty years!

Long story short, this has resulted in approximately half of the collection being donated to Goolwa Lions! An awe-inspiring donation, almost overwhelming Goolwa Stamp committee chair, Ros Clements and certainly PDG Ron Sargent and his wife Kath when all the bags and boxes of stamps were deposited into their much used by Lions shed.

We hope the sale of these stamps will be used to purchase more walking aids for this wonderful Foundation whose motto is “Walk with Pride” for children with medical conditions like cerebral palsy.

# DISTRICT C2 SAVE THE DATE



## 2025/26 Club Development Forum, Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> May

Attend online or at the Lighthouse Community Church Hall at **26 Jetty Road, Brighton**.

Everyone is welcome and you can join alongside your club members or other clubs who are interested to promote discussion!

- Ideas to strengthen and add vitality to your club.
- Understand club operations and identify new projects to increase your club's service in your community.
- Learn about Lions' foundations.

### SESSIONS include:

President  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
and more!

Expressions of interest to:

**GLT Coordinator Melinda Fogden**

**GLT.C2@lions.org.au**

Please indicate the sessions you are interested in attending. More information will be available soon.

# DIABETES THE QUEST FOR A CURE



**Diabetes is one of Lions' global causes with the aims of reducing the prevalence of the disease and improving quality of life for those diagnosed.**

There was a fantastic response in 2023 when Clubs in our District were asked to consider donating to purchase a Cell Isolator. This machine is used to harvest & purify islets from the pancreas of patients with type 1 diabetes for infusion back into the patient to reduce or cure the effects of their diabetes.

As the Diabetes Chairperson for District 201C2, I am writing to ask your Club to please consider assisting with the cost of another piece of equipment, an Endotoxin machine. This machine, which will help to further enhance the harvested islets, is critical in measuring the purity of the islets before infusion.

The cost of the Endotoxin machine is \$15,500. Please consider this request in your club's disbursements as every dollar helps. This is another step in the aim of curing diabetes that we can be proud to be a part of.

### **Lions Club of Yankalilla & Districts**

PO Box 184, Yankalilla SA 5203

**BSB:** 105 092      **Acc:** 351120040

**Ref:** Diabetes and your club's name.

Please contact me if you have any questions or require further information.

Thank you and regards,

*Chris Ramsey*

### **Diabetes Chairperson C2:**

**M:** 0419 854 772

**E:** [chrisbramsey@gmail.com](mailto:chrisbramsey@gmail.com)

# ANZAC DAY



## Lest We Forget

This 25th of April, we pause to remember and honour the incredible sacrifices made by the ANZACs.

Many Lions Clubs will be joining in commemorating this day with the communities. Whether through participating in ceremonies, supporting Veterans, or providing aid to those in need, Lions remain dedicated to preserving the legacy of these courageous men and women.

## INTERNATIONAL FEATURE

### LCIF'S DISASTER RELIEF FUNDS

A magnitude 7.7 earthquake had its epicentre more than 1,000 kilometres away from Myanmar - and was one of the strongest quakes to hit the country in a century.

More than 2,000 people have been killed and aid is struggling to reach people in need of medical care, food and water.

This widespread destruction in Myanmar and Thailand has had hundreds feared and trapped under rubble, and countless families displaced.

Lives have been lost, and communities are devastated by this catastrophic event. Your compassionate donation to LCIF's Disaster

Relief Fund helps bring hope and relief to those facing overwhelming challenges.

You can support LCIF [here](#).



## LIONS ON LOOKOUT FOR YOUTH VISION ISSUES



An initiative led by the Lions Club of Mount Gambier continues to help identify previously undetected vision problems in local children.

The latest school visited by the children's vision screening team was Mulga Street Primary where 20 of the 104 students tested received referrals to optometrists for follow up investigations.

"We have had lots of feedback from parents who are thrilled with the results once children have gone to the optometrist and been prescribed glasses," said Jill Austin who co-ordinates the program for the Lions Club.

"The change it's made in children's lives has been wonderful."

The program is run as part of a Lions Eye Health Program Australia national project that aims to reduce the incidence and impact of avoidable vision loss.

The club is now keen to hear from more schools interested in taking part in the program, which is provided free-of-charge, of course!

Ms Austin was responsible for the Lions Club of Mount Gambier adopting the children's vision screening program and has been awarded a special Roley McAtee OAM Vision Award for her work.

To read more on this issue, check it out [here](#) at [the SE Voice](#).

## CONTACT US

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