

Newsletter of the Lions Club of Torquay Inc.

December 2022

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|-------------------|------------------------------|
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| Membership Chair: | Bill Ferguson |
| Treasurer: | Deb Law |
| Secretary: | Ken Farrow |



This is my first 'occasional' newsletter. I had hoped to have had at least one a quarter; but there's still time for 4 during my year as President! Some of you will recognise a bit of nostalgia here and there . . . mixed with a bit that's new; some humour (depending on your taste) and some information. Let me know what you think.

Our Newsletter is intended for members and friends . . . feel free to circulate it to anyone who may be interested. Enquiries about Lions, including about joining as a member, can be directed to the above contacts.

Welfare, Health and Safety

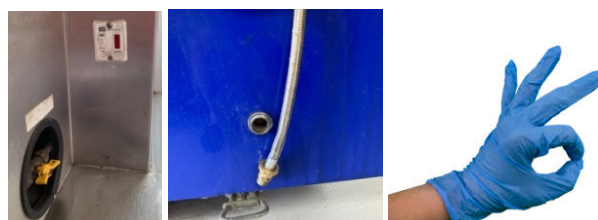
With COVID making an unwelcome reappearance around us, and several Lions recently having had some 'time on the sidelines' with it (or as close contacts), I think we can take some comfort that we have been able to continue our service, meet (other than for the occasional weather event!) and generally get on with things. And they are saying the 'peak' of this wave isn't far away. That said, please continue to take care, take suitable COVID-safe precautions and – if you have any viral symptoms – please take some time away until you are right.

We have had a few Lions in hospital, unwell or waiting for surgery. Thank you to all those who have provided support – and a special thanks to John as our Club Welfare Officer. To all who have some health challenges at the moment – our thoughts are with you and we wish you a quick recovery.

The safety and wellbeing of Lions, and of the community we serve, must continue to be a priority.

Thank you to Tony who has been our Safety Officer for a while now. Tony has decided that there is an opportunity for someone else to step in to this role in the New Year. It's not a difficult role – and we do need someone to remind us every now and then of risks, and to arrange for safety 'stuff' to happen. Who's up for that role for the next 7 months?

Thanks to Brian for arranging a recent inspection of our BBQ trailer – including things like checking the fire extinguisher is 'in date', that we have the right safety information displayed, the hot water works etc. If you didn't get the chance to get a guided tour of the BBQ trailer to understand how it is safely set up and operated, (and if you are not sure what's in these photos!) – please just ask and we will give you a personal 'guided tour' (probably as you help set up for a BBQ!)



And while on BBQs and safety – a reminder about hand hygiene. It's a requirement that – unless we are doing the money or cooking the sausages – we wear gloves (because these other jobs involve handling food). And if you need to – sanitise the gloves using hand-sanitiser. This all goes to our reputation as Lions – with the council, those hosting us, and the public – and compliance with our Streatrader Statement of Trade and Regs.

Lions' five global causes

Did you know - Lions Clubs International (LCI) has five global causes:

- **Diabetes** - We serve to reduce the prevalence of diabetes and improve quality of life for those diagnosed.
- **Vision** - We serve to prevent avoidable blindness and improve quality of life for people who are blind and visually impaired.
- **Hunger** - We serve to ensure all community members have access to nutritious foods.
- **Environment** - We serve to sustainably protect and restore our environment to improve the well-being of all communities.
- **Childhood Cancer** - Lions and Leos provide support for the needs of children and families affected by childhood cancer through impactful service activities.

We aim to have a number of activities this year that involve the community and highlight these global causes.



'Feed Me Surf Coast' certainly counts for 'Hunger' (and counts twice with 'Environment'). Use your phone to scan the QR code (left) – to see their lovely Facebook post about what Lions mean to FMSC. And here are some stars!

'Lap the Map for Diabetes' (or should that be 'against' diabetes!) involved the community and created awareness – on 13 November (the day before World Diabetes Day – 14 November). Thanks to Neil, Ross and team for their work in organising. This also raised nearly \$300 for diabetes research and awareness.



Lions – please put 1 January 2023 in your diaries – for the usual **New Year's Day clean up**. Some of our stalwarts of recent years may deserve a sleep-in this year (you need to be over 85 to qualify though!) – so we need some of our younger / fitter members to also join us – family and friends are most welcome.



And – apart from ‘restoring’ our environment, this should also provide some money in to our administration account.



We did start the year with a cancer cause too! (remember back to July?)

So we are still looking for one more community involvement activity before May 2023. Vision? Childhood Cancer? Your ideas?

Peace Posters

Yes! We had two schools involved, and some great posters! Did you see them? Here are our winner and runner-up – from Bellbrae Primary School.



Be Square!

Have you ‘squared away’ your EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer) skills yet?! We need you to.

For all of our fundraising now, in practical terms we NEED to operate our credit card facilities for customers. A substantial part of our income is now through our ‘Square’ reader (effectively straight in to our bank account) rather than cash sales. This includes BBQs, the train, pub raffles, caravan park raffles and cake sales. And there’s no going back.

The bad news – we don’t have enough Lions able to independently use the equipment.

The good news – now we have the ‘dongle’ it really is quite straight forward. Long gone are the days of fighting to connect the iPad to the internet through someone’s phone!

We recognise – there are a few Lions who will not be able to manage this aspect. We understand. But it would be great if we could get at least 20 Lions (plus a few more from friends and family) to the stage where you feel comfortable ‘doing the money’. This will make rostering much easier and allow some Lions, who now need a more sedentary job, to continue to play an active part in the club’s activities.

So . . . if you get a phone call asking you to help and offering to train you – PLEASE say ‘yes’ before you think about it! Our promise is that we will not just ‘dump you in to the deep end of the pool’ – we will take things slowly and be right by your side until you feel comfortable.

An important message [I am sure one of our Lions asked me to post this for them . . .]

I don’t mean to be a Grinch, but . . . to those of you who are placing Christmas lights in your front yards, please avoid using anything with blue and red flashing lights. Every time I come around the corner, I think it’s the police! I have to break hard, toss my rum and coke out the window, fasten my seatbelt, toss my phone on the

floor, extinguish my joint and push my gun under the seat . . . all while trying to drive. It's just too much, even for Christmas. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

A Lions project

This month – it's a recent one, and a small(ish) one. In 2020/21 we contributed \$7,000 to the reactivation of the Great Ocean Views Reserve, in Torquay. Here are some photos – our money allowed the completion of the community orchard, and the installation of a second picnic table. The 'soft opening' will be 16th December – it would be great to have some Lions attend to meet the local residents and to hear firsthand what a difference we made. This was a project initiated by residents, in which various groups cooperated to make it happen. Our assistance allowed the project to be completed, and supports our focus on environment and the local community.



The Power of our Blue Shirt

We have an image. And it's a good one. We are recognised by the community for the service we provide.

But I suggest we need to tweak it just a little, so that we –

- ❖ more or less look the same (in blue shirts with a touch of gold, blue vests and blue and gold caps/hats).
- ❖ look smart (without being over the top about it).
- ❖ have our names on display as well as our logo – to make it easier to strike up a conversation.
- ❖ have a line or two handy (and a couple of handouts) to help attract new members.

We will shortly give you an Order Form. It includes some 'uniform' and 'name tag' options. Please consider whether you have the items that will help us make a great impression – do you need a new clean shirt that fits, a new vest, something warm for winter or a name tag?

You may also have noticed – we are trying to have some material on offer whenever we are out and about – some Lions flags; a poster or two and some brochures. This is to help us recruit. Please – make sure you 'talk up' Lions membership. Unless we have enough Lions members (not just Friends, as valued as they are) to take active roles, we won't have a Club. I think the community would miss 'the blue shirts'.

Finally . . .

We are not quite at Christmas yet . . . but it's not far away.

- Torquay Lions Christmas Party – **Monday** 12 December – Lions Village.
- President's Dinner – **Tuesday** 22 January (after we have recovered from Christmas!)

Lions Christmas Cakes! Contact Brian if you want to buy a few, and (even better) sell a few.

'Tis the season to be jolly' – and raise a lot of money while the tourists are in town – check out what's coming on the attached calendar. We need your assistance.

What's the only thing that if you fix it you make it worse? Elections.

And for any Brits: What do you call an Englishman in a World Cup final? [Sorry - you'll have to wait for the Christmas Party to find out the answer].

Support your community with a
Lions Christmas Cake.



Sometimes, it's more than just the thought that counts.

Always.
lions australia 75 years and counting



Club Calendar – to June 2023

December

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|--|------------------------------------|---|---|--|--|--|
| | | | 1 Cakes – W –TN | 2 *Pub Raffle *Train – Grovedale PS 4-9pm | 3 *Cakes – Bunnings *Cakes – Farmers Market | 4 Bunnings BBQ |
| 5 | 6 Train – Jan Juc Play Group | 7 Jan Juc Kinder - BBQ and Train 4.30 – 7pm | 8 *Cakes – W –TN *Train – Bunnings Xmas party Business meeting | 9 Pub Raffle | 10 *Cakes – Bunnings *Cakes – Farmers Market | 11 Bunnings BBQ RCH |
| 12 Christmas Dinner – Lions Village | 13 | 14 | 15 Cakes – W –TN | 16 *Pub Raffle *Launch of Great Ocean Views Reserve development *Schools presentation at XXXXX | 17 *Cakes – Bunnings *Cakes – Farmers Market *Rip Curl BBQ | 18 Cowrie Market – BBQ and Train |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 Cakes – W –TN | 23 | 24 *Cakes – Bunnings *Cakes – Farmers Market | 25 Christmas Day |
| 26 Boxing Day | 27 Public Holiday | 28 | 29 | 30 Pub Raffle | 31 Bunnings BBQ | |

January

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|---------------------|--|-----------|--|-------------------|--|---|
| | | | | | | 1 New Year's Day Beach Clean Up |
| 2 Public holiday | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 *Pub Raffle | 7 *Caravan Park raffles – 2 parks *Bunnings BBQ RCH | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 Business meeting | 13 *Pub Raffle | 14 *Caravan Park raffles – 2 parks | 15 Cowrie Market - `BBQ and Train |
| 16 | | 18 | 19 | 20 *Pub Raffle | 21 *Caravan Park raffles – 2 parks *Bunnings BBQ | 22 |
| 23 | 24 President's Dinner – Cosy Corner | 25 | 26 Australia Day Train - Anglesea | 27 *Pub Raffle | 28 *Cadel Evans *Caravan Park raffles – 2 Parks | 29 Cadel Evans |
| 30 | 31 | | | | | |

February

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|--------|---------|-----------|--------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 Pub raffle | 4 Bunnings BBQ for RCH Appeal | 5 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 Business meeting | 10 Pub raffle | 11 Bunnings BBQ | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 Pub raffle | 18 | 19 Cowrie Market - `BBQ and Train |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |

| | | | | | | |
|----|----|--|----------------|------------|--|--|
| | | | Dinner meeting | Pub raffle | | |
| 27 | 28 | | | | | |

March

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|-----------------------|---------|-----------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 Pub Raffle | 4 Lions Awareness Day | 5 Clean Up Australia Day |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 Business Meeting | 10 Pub Raffle | 11 Train – Anglesea PS Fair | 12 |
| 13 Labour Day holiday | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 Pub Raffle | 18 | 19 Cowrie Market - `BBQ and Train |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 Dinner Meeting | 24 Pub Raffle | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 *Bowls Day *Pub Raffle | | |

April

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|-----------|------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|---|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 Good Friday *Pub Raffle | 8 | 9 |
| 10 Easter Monday | 11 | 12 | 13 Business Meeting | 14 Pub Raffle | 15 | 16 Cowrie Market - `BBQ and Train |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 Pub Raffle | 22 Earth Day | 23 |
| 24 [not a public holiday but ...] | 25 ANZAC Day | 26 | 27 Dinner Meeting | 28 Pub Raffle | 29 | 30 |

May

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|--------|---------|-----------|------------------------|------------------|----------|-----------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 Pub raffle | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 Business Meeting | 12 Pub raffle | 13 | 14 Mothers' Day |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 Pub raffle | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 Dinner Meeting | 26 Pub raffle | 27 | 28 |