



We Serve

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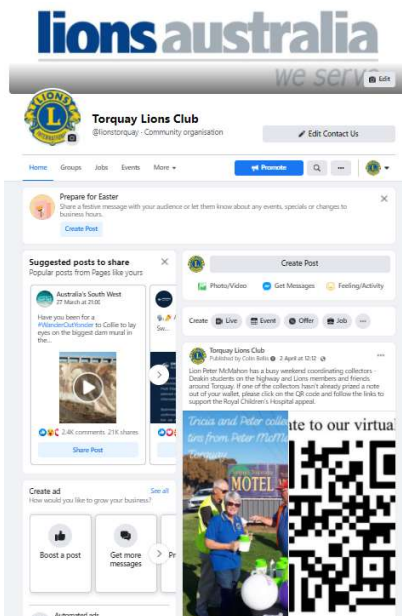
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Treasurer: Brian Keane
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An Occasional Newsletter

March 2021

Out of the COVID Coma

Bit by bit, we are seeing a build up of activities as COVID restrictions are gradually loosened. There have been several activities keeping us busy and there have been many calls for rosters. In the last month, we've had a couple of Bunnings BBQ's, Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal, the Nippers Carnival, as well as on going rosters for Feed Me Surf Coast, Pub Raffles and the Bellbrae Cemetery. Thank you to all members for your efforts.

We also have several service projects in progress, including the Nautical Rise Yarning Circle.

We participated in the Lions Awareness Day and have also had ongoing interaction and cooperation with other clubs in our area.

We have nearly completed the selection the executive for the 2021-22 Lions year. We currently have 38 members following the resignation of Daryl Stewart, the same number we had at the start of the current year.

COVID has forced us to reassess how we operate as a club, and to adapt to our changing environment. We are fortunate to have members with a broad range of experience and abilities. We also have newer, younger members who have stepped up and grasped responsibilities with the knowledge that there are wise heads around to help and guide them. This has allowed us to spread the load and improve participation of all members.

I would like to think we have a dynamic and vibrant club where members feel a sense of pride in the way we serve our community.

Cheers,

Bill

Foundation 61 Pizza night

24 Members and Partners enjoyed a wonderful night at Foundation 61. The boys had their Pizza Oven fired up and cooked some delicious pizzas followed by some amazing donuts.

There are 15 rooms at Foundation 61, two of which have been funded by our club for the last 5 years. At \$50,000, this has been a major commitment., but it is clear that these funds have been put to good use.



Five of the current participants were relaxing as the pizzas were cooking.



After the pizza was cooked, we went inside and the team served up the delights. Rob Lytzki welcomed us and then introduced Jason, who speaking from the heart, told us about his struggles and his path to recovery. Colin Bellis thanked all at Foundation 61 for their hospitality.



Lions Village 20th Anniversary

On March 26th, we celebrated 20 years since the first residents moved into the Lions Village. There were several Lions/Residents there to be a part of this historic milestone; Dennis and Dulcie, Esther and Tom. Billy and Pam were in Sydney so could not be there.

John McDonald chaired the meeting, and both Brian Fuller and Tom Harding spoke, but perhaps the stars of the show were original residents, Margaret and Cec Browning who reminisced about the Village over the last 20 years.

Surf Coast Times

Thursday, April 1st, 2021

Lions Village celebrates 20th anniversary

April 1, 2021 • BY James Taylor



Margaret and Cec Browning (centre and left) cut the celebratory cake with Lions Village Torquay Inc. chair John McDonald. Photos: JAMES TAYLOR



Brian Fuller gave a fascinating speech outlining how the Lions Club of Torquay took on the management of this ambitious project. Brian lamented later that the first 5 years of his retirement were taken up with this venture! But today, you can see the pride on his face. Brian's speech is at the end of this newsletter, and for those not familiar with how it all happened, it is a good read.

Brian with the anniversary cake, and pictured with Mayor Councillor Libby Stapleton.



Lions Awareness Day in Torquay

Torquay Lions did their part in the global Lions Awareness Day. Although our goal was to attract new members, it was also an opportunity to showcase what we do in our community.



The Lions Flag was raised at the Farmer's Market, in front of Council Chambers. We also had Lions at Woolworths North Torquay, Gilbert Street and other spots. It was also promoted on our website and our Facebook Page.



Nautical Rise Indigenous edible garden and Yarning circle

The Nautical Rise Yarning Circle is well underway. Corina Eccles performed a smoking ceremony mid March before the main works were undertaken.



A yarning circle is a harmonious, creative and collaborative way of communicating to:

- *Encourage responsible, respectful and honest interactions between participants, building trusting relationships.*
- *Foster accountability and provide a safe place to be heard and to respond.*
- *Promote interactions and community connections.*



The stones were placed in a circle, with a round stone in the centre; forming the yarning circle. The area was then resurfaced.



Local residents and a couple of Lions spread the mulch over the yarning circle area last Thursday. Then we all sat around the yarning circle for a photo (and a yarn).



When all work is complete, a final smoking ceremony will be held, and it will be officially open. We have been in touch with Energy Australia and have begun the grant acquittal process.

A good day on Good Friday

There were many Lions out rattling a tin on Good Friday to raise much needed funds for the Royal Children's Hospital. This year represents 90 years of giving. Lion Peter McMahon spearheaded operations and over \$6,500 was raised, a fantastic effort.



Donate to our virtual can here



Rotary to help with FMSC

Feed Me Surf Coast has grown rapidly and with Job Seeker ending, it will only get busier. We have Grovedale Lions helping, but this is still not enough. The Torquay Rotary Club have approached us and offered to help, and we have taken them up on this offer. They have put out a call for volunteers with their membership. The operation will still be run by Lions with Peter McMahon in charge of the rosters.



We submitted Feed Me Surf Coast as a Lions Top Service Project and it has been passed on as the top project from V2 District. A great result and a feather in our cap. Congratulations to Colin and Peter. We are expecting to hear about the winner at the Canberra National Conference.



Activities have ramped up

Bunnings BBQ's are coming thick and fast. This is great, but many of the rules imposed by Bunnings are relevant to all the BBQ's we run. Neil is organizing a training session with Surf Coast Shire Council staff to make sure all our food handling practices are up to standard.



Pub Raffles are full steam ahead and records are waiting to be broken!

At the Nippers Carnival on March 14th, we provided marshals for the early morning carparking and did a BBQ where we were kept very busy! Sales were over \$2,000, and we earned money for the admin account for marshalling, a good day's work!

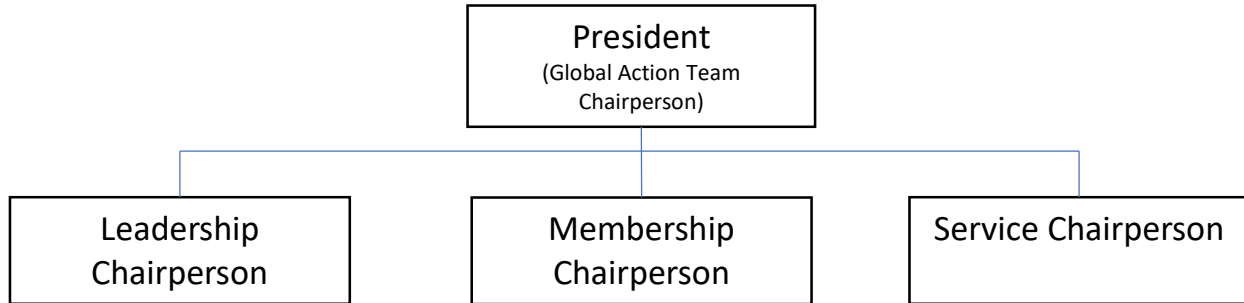


New positions for 2021-22

The officer positions are nearly complete for the 2021-22 Lions year. We will continue with the committee structure to spread the workload and build on the strengths of our members.

We have members with a broad range of experience and abilities. We have newer younger members to develop. So, we strive to select members for projects/tasks and assign responsibilities for which they are suited. This will enable us to spread the load and improve participation.

The committee structure

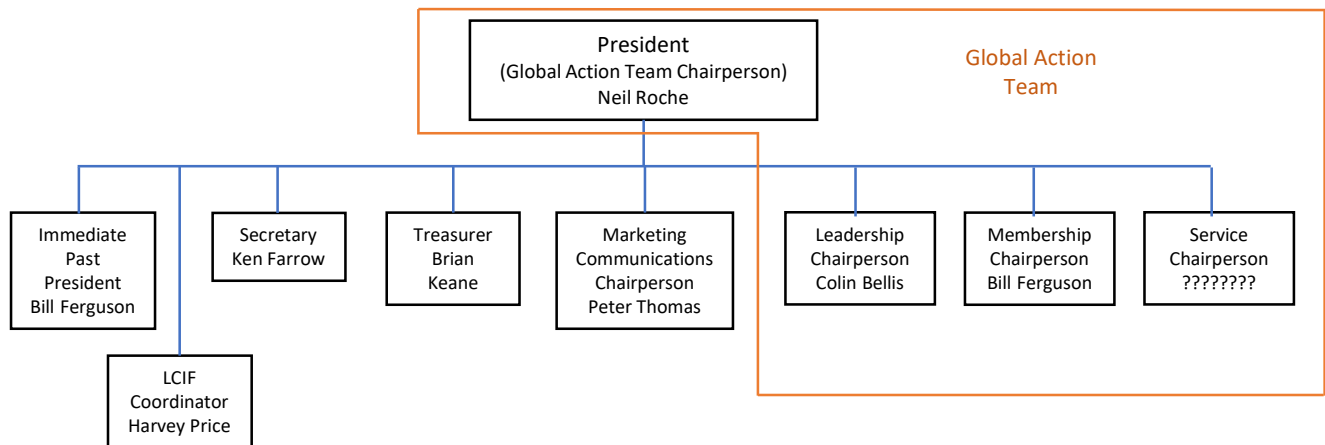


- Fundraising activities and rosters
 - Cowrie markets
 - Bunnings
 - Woolworths BBQ's
 - Pub/Caravan park raffles
 - Community events
- Donations and allocations
 - With focus on service areas
 - Childhood Cancer
 - Diabetes awareness
 - Eye Health
 - Environment
 - Drug and alcohol rehabilitation
 - ALF Emergencies
 - Assistance to CFA, SES, SLSC, Religious Charities, etc.
 - Sponsorship for local community service organisations

- Establish a Leo's Club
- Retention
- Rebuilding
- New members
- Visitations/conventions
- Social activities
- Speakers

- R4L
- Camp Quality
- Diabetes Awareness
- Childhood eyesight screening
- Spectacle recycling
- Bottle recycling
- Clean ups
- Foundation 61
- Camp Koala, Camp Licola
- YOTY
- Peace Poster competition
- Australia Day
- ANZAC Day
- Lions Mints and Cakes
- Shire service support
- Working Bees

Torquay Lions Club Executive



Lions Village 20th Anniversary

A Community Committee was formed perhaps 25 years ago with the aim of establishing a retirement village in Torquay. At that time there wasn't a Retirement Village in Torquay. The Committee raised some funds but decided not to proceed with the project

The Lions Club of Torquay agreed to take up the project and from its members, established a Committee of Management for the project. As the Lions Club was not able to engage in commercial activity, an arms-length organization was formed, Lion Village Torquay Incorporated Association. This was done with the assistance of Roy Morris whose Company has provided legal advice and services to the Village since that time. Joseph Messina is with us today representing Roy.

The funds raised by the Community Committee were transferred to the Lions Village Committee and these were used for up-front costs before we had any income.

The Committee considered several sites for the new Village. The decision was taken to build on the Shire land adjacent to the Elouera Aged Care facility. It was envisaged that this would provide an easier transition for those residents of the Village who reached the stage where additional care was required.

Lions Village did not have the capital to buy the land outright, however, the Shire agreed to sell the land to Lions Village on very favourable terms. No up-front payment was required. The Shire agreed that Lions Village could pay for the land as the Units in each stage were completed and sold. The land was sold to Lions Village on these terms in November 1999.

The Shire provided support for the project by nominating Ken McCallum, a Councillor at the time, to serve on the Village Committee with us.

Lions Village Committee acquired the services of Graham Lyons, an Architect who had experience in developing retirement villages, including the Abervale Village in Grovedale. Graham developed the master plan for the Village of 29 units, all with 2 bedrooms and a garage, and the Village Centre. He prepared the documentation and supervised construction of the whole project. Lions Village Committee was very fortunate to have the service and support of Graham over the whole project.

Lions Village applied to each of the major banks for a loan to construct the Village. All the applications were unsuccessful as Lions Village had no assets to secure the loan. However, the CBA advised us that they would reconsider the application if the Shire agreed to be guarantor for the loan.

After initial discussions with the Shire about whether they would be prepared to guarantee the loan, they sent us to their financial adviser. Following that, we developed a business plan and after a lengthy period of negotiations with the Shire, an agreement was reached. The Shire agreed to guarantee a loan of \$1m to build the first stage of 8 units.

Graham Lyons, the Architect, arranged a contract on our behalf with Hamlan Homes Builders for the first stage. Construction on the site commenced in August 2000.

We were fortunate to acquire the services at this stage of Keith Woodland who was retiring as Sales Manager at Abervale Retirement Village at that time. He offered his time free to help us sell the units in the early stages of the Village and to explain to us what we needed to know about running a retirement village.

We are for ever grateful also, to those people who had enough confidence in us to buy units in the first stage before the Village was established and when the rest of the site was a mud hole. Cec and Margaret Browning were two of those people and they are still living there today. They moved into their unit in March 2001, 20 years ago.

Lions Village 20th Anniversary

The rest of the Village was built in stages with the last units being completed in July 2003. The Village Centre was completed soon after.

The Lieutenant Governor, Lady Southey, officially opened the Village in January 2004. Also, the Lions Club won the annual State Government award for the best Service Club project for that year.

Finally, a short note about the Lions Ladies. Having been taught the art of silk sceening by Rita Thomas, they designed and made the silk wall hanging proudly displayed on the wall here when the Village was built. The design represents the marine life of the local area of Torquay and was proudly presented to the Lions Village.

So that's the story of how the Lions Village happened 20 years ago.

Lion Brian Fuller