



**We Serve**

# An Occasional Newsletter

March 2021

## Your club needs you!

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**POSTAL ADDRESS**  
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**WEBSITE**

<https://torquay.vic.lions.org.au/>

**FACEBOOK**

<https://www.facebook.com/lionstorquay/>

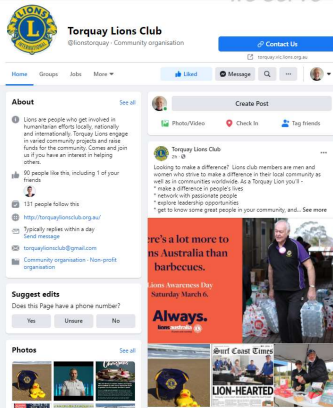
**EMAIL ADDRESS**

[torquaylionsclub@gmail.com](mailto:torquaylionsclub@gmail.com)

**CONTACTS**

**President: Bill Ferguson**  
**Leadership Chairperson: Neil Roche**  
**Service Chairperson: Colin Bellis**  
**Membership Chairperson: Phillip Newson**  
**Treasurer: Brian Keane**  
**Secretary: Ken Farrow**

Follow us on Facebook



Bunnings is back. Pub raffles are back. Feed Me and Bellbrae Cemetery work is ongoing. We are meeting at the Village, the second and fourth Thursday of each month. As regular as clockwork.



*A metronome: provides a rhythmic cadence, a characteristic rhythmic pattern.*

We all need to get back into the rhythm of meetings and rosters. So please put your hand up when a call for help goes out. Don't assume others have and you don't need to.

Deb Law has taken on the rosters and is doing a fantastic job. But you need to help her by letting her know what you can and cannot do.

Terena Lane has taken on the Dinner Secretary job and is doing a great job. Please make her job easy by responding promptly.

# Lions Awareness Day is this Saturday, March 6th.

We placed an advertisement in the Surf Coast Times, February 25<sup>th</sup> issue.




Lions helped fund the Bionic Ear  
Lions invest millions of dollars into Environmental Projects  
Lions donate 2 million hours of Community Support each year

## LIONS AWARENESS DAY

### 6 MARCH 2021

**There's a lot more to Torquay Lions Club than BBQs.**

On Saturday, 6 March 2021, Torquay Lions Club's dedicated and hard-working volunteers will be on deck to let you know more about what Lions Australia does. After more than a century of helping others, Lions all over the world, including Torquay Lions, know our role as a service club is becoming increasingly important.

It may be providing emergency relief during natural disasters or supporting farming communities during drought, supporting critical medical research into childhood cancers and diabetes, or working on local environmental programs – the work of all of our members is valued, and critical. With over 30,000 members, Lions Australia is Australia's largest service organisation.

But there's much more to us than fundraising BBQ's. That's why we are taking the opportunity to tell our story on Lions Awareness Day. We want the rest of Australia to know more about what we do and the causes we support. You might even think about joining us.

**Torquay Lions will be at various sites in Torquay on Saturday March 6. Interested in joining or just want to find out more make sure you stop and say hello!**

There's more info on our website [torquaylionsclub.org.au](http://torquaylionsclub.org.au) or our Facebook page: [facebook.com/lionstorquay](https://facebook.com/lionstorquay) or email: [torquaylionsclub@gmail.com](mailto:torquaylionsclub@gmail.com)

timesnewsgroup.com.au

Thursday 25 February 2021 21

And Peter Thomas was able to secure an article:

NEWS

## Lions power on despite setbacks

BY PETER THOMAS

TORQUAY Lions continues to power along in support mode despite setbacks caused by pandemic restrictions.

Well known locally for its support of organisations and people within the Surf Coast Shire, Torquay Lions works alongside other clubs in the region to provide assistance well beyond their regional confines.

Torquay is part of Lions Australia which has a proud history of achievement in disaster and emergency relief, medical research and community service.

Lions were at the coalface for Cyclone Tracy, the Black Saturday bushfires and the Queensland floods.

We were involved with the development of the bionic ear and the cervical cancer vaccine Gardasil, developed by Prof Ian Frazer AC, a former Lions Medical Research Foundation Fellow.

Lions also inspired a young Fred Hollows and continues to provide funding for a range of other research initiatives involving diabetes and autism. It also assists with local community fundraising for special causes and helps with the development and building of local parks, community venues, and sporting centres.

One hundred per cent of all funds donated by the



Torquay Lions deliver meals for Feed Me Surfcoast.

public through fundraising are directed to the project for which they are intended.

Many refer to Lions as Australia's best kept secret, but on March 6 Torquay Lions will join with volunteers across Australia hosting a number of special events in their communities to celebrate Lions Awareness Day.

Since the first club was formed in Australia almost 75 years ago, Lions has grown dramatically in size and impact with more than 1300 clubs and 30,000 members now giving back through an array of community-based programs and initiatives.

One thing all Lions have in common is together they are making an incredible difference.

Torquay Lions president, Bill Ferguson, pointed out this year's Lions Awareness Day is not only an opportunity to recognise the incredible work of Lions but also the changing face of volunteering in Australia.

"Volunteering is critical to keeping our communities well and functioning, and for 75 years, Lions have been supporting communities across Australia," Mr Ferguson said.

"Over the past 12 months we have seen communities across Australia coming together to support each other.

"People are inspired and want to give back."

"At the heart of all of these communities is a Lions Club – a group of local people who come together to do what they can to help others and make a difference."

Mr Ferguson said Lions' passionate volunteers did exceptional work every day and it had been a busy year for the clubs which make up Lions Australia.

"From raffles, sausage sizzles and trivia nights, to environmental work and supporting the deaf, blind and vulnerable, our volunteers are traditionally very hands on and involved in their communities," he said.

"It's been wonderful to see Torquay and so many other clubs finding new ways to support each other and their communities despite pandemic restrictions."

"From virtual meetings and fundraising, to new



Torquay Lions relax after cleaning the foreshore on New Year's Day.

projects, Lions Australia has really adapted and evolved this year.

"So, if you see any Torquay Lions out in our community in coming weeks, we encourage you to say hello and get some information on what your local club is up to. If you are interested in making a difference ask a Torquay Lion how you can get involved. Our goal is that the demographic makeup of our clubs matches the demography of the community in which they operate."

Lions volunteers pay annual membership fees to cover administrative costs which means 100 per cent of funds donated to your local Lions Club goes directly towards the cause.

"This is why Lions is so effective in times of need," Mr Ferguson said.

"Every dollar donated goes directly to the cause and through Lions' large network of clubs we are able to quickly identify those who require assistance and find the best and most efficient ways of supporting those people and communities."

Local communities donate more than \$50 million to Lions Australia each year with all funds going directly to important causes and people in need.

More than \$5 million is invested in youth



Anglessa and Torquay Lions load much-needed tools for fire devastated districts.

programs each year, over \$20 million is invested in medical research, \$5 million in drug awareness, \$20 million in hearing services and more than 3000 environmental projects are carried out by Lions Australia every year.

As a member of Torquay Lions Club, you'll join a local group of service-minded men and women who volunteer to support your community every day.

Joining a Lions Club is by invitation, but applications are encouraged from all members of the community.

From supporting the leaders of tomorrow through our youth programs, to rallying together in times of natural disaster, Lions (and their sausage sizzles) are making a huge difference in our communities.

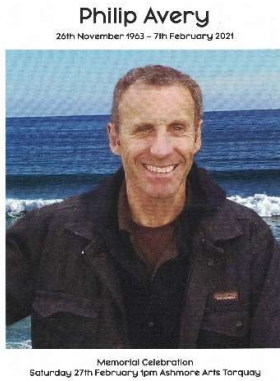
The benefits of becoming a member of a Lions Club include fellowship, good times, meeting people, building lasting friendships, service to the community, learning new skills, leadership and personal development.

Membership is open to men and women over the age of 18 years and of good moral character and reputation. For information go to [torquaylionsclub.org.au](http://torquaylionsclub.org.au), [facebook.com/lionstorquay](https://facebook.com/lionstorquay) or email [torquaylionsclub@gmail.com](mailto:torquaylionsclub@gmail.com)

Lions will be at the Farmer's Market, Woolies North Torquay and in Gilbert Street on March 6<sup>th</sup> with brochures, posters and handouts.



## Lions have been out in our community serving.



A memorial service was held for local Torquay resident Phil Avery on Saturday February 27<sup>th</sup>. There were several hundred there to help celebrate his life. Lions were there to assist with marshalling. Neil Roche, Ken Farrow, Lyndon Langan, Alan Roy and John McCarthy were there in high vis.



We have done a lot of gardening at the Bellbrae Cemetery, with a constant need for whipper snippers. Thanks to a good relationship with Nicole at Bunnings, we have been fortunate enough to receive a brand-new whipper snipper. Thank you, Bunnings.

*Nicole from Bunnings, with Allen Osman and Tony Smith*



Feed Me Surf Coast put on a BBQ for the local community. Lions were there with our BBQ trailer cooking up a storm.

*Brian Keane, Terena Lane, Peter McMahon and Allen Osman (hidden for a change!), as well as Barbara Bell and Joan Keane. With her back to the camera, Brooke Murphy, founder of Feed Me Surf Coast.*

## And more service/projects

Four Lions went to Forrest to marshal for the Otway Odyssey, earning some money for our Admin Account.



*A couple of marshals at the end of their shift.*





## Coming up

The Torquay Lions Club will again be supporting the 2021 **Good Friday Appeal** through a street collection and a Virtual Tin Shake.

Given the deserving nature of this Appeal, Torquay Lions are looking to raise funds to support much needed medical research at the Royal Children's Hospital.



To access the Virtual Tin Shake, donors are encouraged to access <https://www.virtualtinshake.com.au>. The next step is to click on "Find a Tin" then select "Torquay Lions Club" The final step is to make a donation.

**The Indigenous garden and yarning circle - Torquay North.** This project is moving ahead, with the Energy Australia grant awarded to our club being used to build the circle. Surf Coast Shire Council are the project managers and they are also doing the landscaping of the reserve.



Our next dinner meeting on March 25<sup>th</sup> will be a **Pizza night at Foundation 61**. It will be a partners night and BYO (soft drinks, of course).

*The Foundation 61 crew, with Rob Lytzki at the back.*



## Club news

Welcome back, all is forgiven!  
**Alan Roy** has been welcomed back into the fold. He joined in 2004, left in 2011 to spend more time at Foundation 61, but re-joined in March 2020. He was inducted (again) on February 25<sup>th</sup> and immediately asked to be the guest speaker.

*Alan, with sponsor Tricia Blane*



I was asked to speak at the **Lions Club of Grovedale** about Feed Me Surf Coast. They are keen to help us with deliveries.

I was joined by Peter McMahon and Allen Osman. As a bonus, I was able to set it up so Allen was fined by the Tailtwister!!

We will also host a Zone meeting at the Village at the end of March



*A Torquay Lions Club bannerette was presented to Vice President Allan Reid.*

The 2021-22 Club Officer positions are open. Please let Secretary Ken know if you are interested.

The COVID 19 crisis has had a dramatic effect on how we operate as a club. This has caused us to adapt and innovate.

We've ventured into the world of Face Book and held meetings on Zoom. We've run Duck Races with all tickets sold online. We've sold far more Christmas Cakes than ever before. We've scaled up our work with Feed Me Surf Coast, which is a major service project which other clubs are now interested in. We've kicked off the Nautical Rise project. We also put forward a COVID safe plan to council and GORCAPA for Cowrie Market, and although not successful, we were ahead of the game.

If we retain these new initiatives adding them to the activities that were cut back with COVID, we will have a club which is bigger, stronger, more adaptable, more vibrant and more resilient. Our club may seem different, but at its core, we are still Lions serving our local community. We are reinventing ourselves.

**Next Meeting**

Business Meeting at the Village  
Thursday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 pm

**Lions Service**

Anniversary of joining in the month of March

*Russell Hannan      9 years*

*Thank you for your service!*

**March Birthdays**

Alan Young  
Allen Osman  
Barry Mackie  
Brian Keane  
Esther Rosewall  
Lyndon Langan  
Theo Reyntjes

*Happy birthday!*

**Get Well very soon**

It appears everyone is fighting fit!!