



Perspective



January 2018

Lions Clubs NSW-ACT Public Health
Care Foundation

Lions NSW-ACT Save Sight
Foundation

The official newsletter of the Lions Clubs NSW-ACT Save Sight & Public Health Care Foundations

Chairman's Chatter Report from AGM



Good afternoon all. Welcome and thank you for your attendance.

If you read the financial reports you will have seen your Foundations have had a reasonable result. Interest rates are still down and this also affects dividends but all in all we are doing pretty well.

Your Board of Directors has been working very well. For any who don't know, we have several committees: Fundraising, Communications, Community Challenge, Investment, and Executive & Finance. The Foundations also have representatives on two 'external' committees: the Save Sight Institute Committee and the Lions NSW Eye Bank Committee.

The Fundraising, Communications and Community Challenge Committees are made up of one Director from each of the five N Districts, plus a District Governor if they are interested in that area.

The Investment Committee consists of two elected Directors with the Assistant Treasurer (as Chairman ex officio) plus the Hon. Treasurer and the Chairman of the Board.

The Executive & Finance Committee comprises the Chairman of the Board, the Deputy Chairman, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, Grant Secretary, Hon. Solicitor and one other elected Director.

We also have our Honorary Officers who are appointees of the Board: the Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Hon. Solicitor, Hon. Minute Recorder and the Community Challenge Ambassador.

Your Directors and Honorary Officers are dedicated Lions who do a great job in furthering the aims of the Foundations and Lions in general. They are available in your Districts to assist in preparing and prosecuting applications

for grants; handing over of equipment funded by grants; being speakers at Club and Zone meetings, community meetings, schools and other groups; arranging displays at Conventions or anywhere else; finding and supporting Community Challenge candidates; and promoting the annual Car Raffle. They can also assist in getting Lions members treated at the Save Sight Institute. Any further information can be obtained from any of your Directors or Honorary Officers.

Each year we make on your behalf a standing grant of \$100,000 to both the Save Sight Institute and the Lions NSW Eye Bank with the funding coming from the Lions NSW-ACT Save Sight Foundation.

In recent years we have also bought a "microkeratome" for the Lions NSW Eye Bank at a cost of \$65,000 which slices corneas laterally so one cornea can provide for five corneal transplants. Waiting times for corneal transplants have been reduced dramatically as a result.

The Lions NSW Eye Bank has been working on the Biopen which will fill in holes in the surface of the eye. At the moment the Lions NSW Eye Bank is getting together a Centre of Excellence at a cost of some \$2 million as well as training eye surgeons and nursing staff in Myanmar (Burma). We have also helped financially with this.

Also from the Lions NSW-ACT Save Sight Foundation, we provided a Visucam, which is now operational at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital (RPA) and details are in the Save Sight Institute Report.

- 2 Our latest foray here was bringing an Indonesian lady to Sydney for treatment for a truly awful growth behind her left eye. This turned out to be the biggest tumour of its type in the world. It was a great example of co-operation as we had a Neurosurgeon, two Ophthalmic Surgeons, an Oculoplastic Surgeon and the Anaesthetist who all provided their services pro bono, the operating theatre, and six days accommodation at RPA donated, and a \$10,000 donation from us to cover air fares, passports and accommodation in Sydney during her recovery. The Indonesian lady lost the sight in her eye but also the tumour and the constant pain. She will be fitted with a glass

lost the sight in her eye but also the tumour and the constant pain. She will be fitted with a glass eye in a couple of months. I might add that Rotary turned her down as did the Hollows Foundation. The full cost would have been over \$40,000.

Through the Lions Clubs NSW-ACT Public Health Care Foundation we - i.e. you - have helped many Clubs get over the line with medical, ambulatory and other projects and even a new keyboard to a blind musician who entertains seniors and disabled or disadvantaged people. I was present when he played and it was just mind boggling.

I have to thank our Hon. Solicitor, Lion John Sheather, and Lion Rosemary Siviz for their work in getting permission from ASIC to have the AGM here and at this time of the year. We are hopeful this permission will be ongoing. We will have a stand at the Lugarno Fair on 17th September and are participating in a Lions Information Fair at Yamba on 25th-27th September. Lion Jean-Claude Legrand represented us at the Family Day at Sydney Eye Hospital on 19th August. I am taking the Lions International First Vice President to the Lions NSW Eye Bank on 9th September then I have the Eye Hospital Foundation Board Meeting on 12th September. From here, I and several others will be travelling to Ballarat to attend the ANZI Forum next weekend.

Stands have been booked at the various District Conventions and we will have new brochures to hand out.

The sale of the lapel pins featuring the Foundations' logo have been selling well as have the various Honour Awards.

Strangely we still get Clubs sending back the car raffle tickets unsold saying they are "unsolicited", but also sending in a donation cheque for much more. I would like to see Clubs buying Honour Awards with their donations. A community member with a handsome award plaque is a great advertisement for us. This year the car raffle brought in its best result for some time.

The Community Challenge with Lion Trish Friend promoting it is healthy. Really, it is a great fundraiser and very low expense. Contestants enjoy the experience and grow in the experience. Let's see if we can each influence just one person to take on the Community Challenge.

This year we lost our esteemed Director, Lion Brian Rope. Brian was a great Lion and passionate about the Foundations and he also did a lot for Diabetes awareness. He will be sadly missed. Vale, old friend. "The thin blue line" is poorer for your passing, as we all are.

I would like to thank all Directors and Honorary Officers for their help, assistance and loyalty during the past year and look forward to the next year. Like the Lions badge, "We look back with pride. We look forward with confidence". A big thank you to our 'shareholders', the Clubs of the N Districts, and you, the people who took the time to come to the AGM today.

Thank you to the Bankstown Sports Club for making these facilities available.

Thank you again and have a safe trip home.



Fitiria with her new glass eye, A/Prof. Raf Ghabrial who did the job and Fitiria's daughter, Febrianis, who came to Sydney with her mum.

THE TWO LIONS NSW-ACT FOUNDATIONS

The purpose of the various Lions charitable Foundations are frequently a source of confusion within Clubs. As a result, the two Lions NSW-ACT Foundations are sometimes overlooked by Clubs as a possible source of funding assistance towards their community sight, medical and/or health related projects. All the various Lions charitable Foundations were established as a result of resolutions passed by the delegates attending either a Lions International, or Multiple District, or District Convention. The Lions NSW-ACT Save Sight Foundation and the Lions Clubs NSW-ACT Public Health Care Foundation were established as a result of resolutions passed by the delegates attending the Conventions of the Districts located wholly within the boundaries of NSW and the ACT, often referred to as “the ‘N’ Districts” and were adopted as a District 201 N4 project. All Clubs within the District are automatically members of the Foundations.

Lions NSW-ACT Save Sight Foundation The Foundation was established in 1974 and since then has funded grants worth over \$5 million. As its name implies, the Foundation’s purpose is to save sight, and this is achieved through the funding of research into eye care and the causes, diagnosis, prevention and treatment of diseases of the eye. This is achieved through the provision of grants towards research projects; the purchase of equipment for universities, hospitals and institutions involved in eye health; equipment for the visually impaired; and the promotion of eye care in the wider community. The Foundation provided the University of Sydney’s Save Sight & Eye Health Institute with seed funding to assist in its establishment.

The Lions NSW Eye Bank was an initiative of the Foundation that was established in partnership with the NSW Government and the then Sydney Area Health Service. The Foundation currently contributes \$100,000.00 annually towards the running costs of the Lions NSW Eye Bank. Lions Clubs NSW-ACT Public Health Care Foundation The Foundation was established in 1981 with the primary objective of promoting, advancing and assisting research into the causes, diagnosis, prevention and treatment of illnesses, sicknesses and afflictions of all kinds suffered by humans. Since its establishment, the Foundation has funded grants worth over \$4 million towards research projects concerning various health and medically related matters; funding for the purchase of equipment for universities, hospitals and other health institutions; and for the promotion of health matters in the wider community.

FOUNDATION GRANTS The “N” Districts, Regions, Zones and Clubs are eligible to apply to the Foundations for funding assistance to complete their sight, medical and/or health related projects that are unable to be fully funded for other sources. The types of projects most often seen are either to purchase equipment for sight, medical and/or health institutions or to purchase equipment for the group or individual use of members of the community who are handicapped, disabled or have infirmities. The Foundations were never intended as a funding source of first recourse. Grant applications will have a greater chance of success where it is clearly demonstrated that a genuine effort has been made by the applicant to obtain funding towards the project from all relevant sources, including from their ‘activities’ funds. Each grant application is considered on its merits, however applications to fund building construction will not be considered.

Grant applicants must provide full documentation to support their case for funding assistance. Any statement or claim of a medical or technical nature made by a grant applicant must be supported in writing by an independent and suitably qualified professional. Completed grant application submissions should be lodged as early as possible so that they may be checked and any anomalies or deficiencies in the paperwork followed up and corrected, and thereby given the greatest chance of a successful outcome. The deadline for the lodgement of grant applications so that they may be considered at the next meeting of the Board is by the first day of the month preceding the Board meeting, i.e. the first day of February, July or October. However, emergency grant applications for any amount and normal grant applications for amounts up to \$3,000.00 GST exclusive should be lodged as soon as all the paperwork is in order, as they need not wait until the holding of a full Board of Directors meeting to be considered. Applicants are encouraged to consult and seek the advice and assistance of their District’s Foundation Directors when compiling their grant application submissions

FOUNDATIONS’ WEBSITE

www.lionssavesightfoundation.org.au

PAYMENT OF GRANTS Grant applicants must nominate an acceptable Grantee to receive the grant payment. Tax law requires that the Grantee must be a charitable entity with Deductible Gift Recipient endorsement from the Australian Taxation Office. However, the Grantee does not necessarily have to be the actual beneficiary of the grant. In the case of equipment intended for another beneficiary, the Grantee must be prepared to act as such by placing the order with the supplier, paying any GST (which they can then claim back on their BAS), taking custody of the equipment, and making the equipment available to the actual beneficiary for as long as their need for it remains. **SOURCE OF GRANT FUNDS** Grants are funded entirely from the income earned on the investment of capital accumulated over the years from the proceeds of the Foundation's fundraising activities and the support of the "N" Districts and Clubs.

HOW TO SUPPORT THE FOUNDATIONS • Support the Honour Award Scheme by nominating Lions, non Lions, businesses, corporations and organisations (other than Lions, Lioness or Leo Clubs) to receive a personally inscribed and individually numbered award plaque, a certificate and a distinctive lapel pin which are available in the following categories:

Professor Frank Billson Platinum Honour Award donation \$2,500.00 Keith Small Gold Honour Award donation \$1,000.00 (p5)
Neville Tucker Silver Honour Award donation \$500.00 (p5) Harry Hession Bronze Honour Award donation \$250.00

Make a donation of any size to either or both Foundations from the Club's activity fund. • Support the annual 100% Participating Club scheme by donating the equivalent of \$10.00 per member to either or both Foundations and receive an embroidered patch for the club banner in the first year and an embroidered financial year tab to add to it each subsequent year the club qualifies.

- Sell tickets in the annual Lions Eye & Health Car Raffle. Clubs selling a minimum of \$400.00 worth of tickets qualify to claim a 25% rebate on the full face value of their ticket sales to go into their activities account and be used however the club determines.
- Sell the Foundation Merchandise items (see page 5) (currently soft-toy lion key rings and finger puppets and two metal lion pin designs) available at wholesale prices. Clubs retain 100% of the profits they make to go into their activities account.

- Promote the Life Governor (\$10,000.00) and Life Member (\$5,000.00) Award Schemes among the business and corporate sector.
- Seek bequests and personal and corporate donations. Donations of \$2.00 and over are tax deductible. "SUPPORT LIONS' OWN CHARITIES FIRST"

HELPFUL HINTS FOR GRANT APPLICANTS

- The Grant Application Form is available upon request from Foundation Directors whose contact details can be found in the Lions Australia MD 201 Directory under the five "N" District listings. The form can also be downloaded from the Foundations' website www.lionssavesightfoundation.org.au. • As a rule of thumb, Foundation grants are confined to funding assistance relating to projects of a sight, medical and/or health nature. • The potential beneficiaries of grants are many and varied and the types of equipment that a grant can go towards funding are equally diverse. The Foundations do not maintain a list of eligible grant recipients or a list of sight, medical and/or health related equipment or research projects that may attract a grant. Grant applicants must put their case and the application will be considered by the Directors on its merits in line with the Board's policies and guidelines. • Read and comply with the Grant Application Guidelines on page 4 of the grant application form and the notes printed throughout. • Advise at least one of the four Foundation Directors from your District of your club's intention to apply for a grant and seek their advice and assistance when completing the form. • Seek further advice if there is a problem complying with any guideline and if still unable to comply provide a full written explanation. • The information asked for in the application form should be viewed as a summary of the detailed supporting documentation accompanying the application form. This is particularly so in the case of information of a medical or technical nature which must be verified in writing by an impartial and appropriately qualified professional. • Where a grant application is for funding assistance towards the provision of equipment for the use of a needy individual or group of individuals, a written assessment of the needs of the individual(s) and a recommendation as to the suitability of items of equipment to cater for their needs must be provided from an impartial and appropriately qualified professional. • Assessments and recommendations from manufacturers or suppliers of equipment alone are neither independent nor impartial and are therefore unacceptable. • Three detailed quotes are required from separate suppliers for each item of equipment. The only exception to this requirement is where the assessment and recommendation report from the impartial and appropriately qualified professional specifies a particular item of equipment as being the only one that is suitable for the beneficiary or certifies that despite all reasonable efforts no other suppliers could be found. • Tax law dictates that Foundation grants can only be made to a charitable entity with Deductible Gift Recipient endorsement from the Australian Taxation Office. This effectively disqualifies service clubs from being the direct recipient of a Foundation grant. An acceptable third-party Grantee that comes under one of the listed classifications must therefore be nominated on page 3 of the form and their agreement obtained in writing to act as such. The Grantee must be prepared to order the equipment from the supplier, obtain the supplier's itemised tax invoice for forwarding to the Foundation, receive the Foundation grant cheque, pay the supplier, take custody of the equipment, and make the equipment available to the intended beneficiary for as long as the need remains. • It is not nearly as difficult or complicated as it may sound. All it takes is some time and attention to detail. The reward is in knowing that a successful grant application will help persons less fortunate than ourselves.

Grants Approved November 2017:

Grant No: 669

Lions Club of Narellan Inc. (N2) FUJIFLIM SonoSite SII Portable Point of Care Ultrasound System (Campbelltown Hospital Emergency Department. **GRANT Requested \$2800.00 Total Cost \$35,000.00 contributions from 13 Clubs**)

Grant No: 670

Lions Club of Sydney Baseball Inc (N2) Atom Transcapsule Model V-808 Infant Transport Incubator with Mount & Trolley. Fairfield Hospital Paediatric Department . **Grant Requested \$13,390.00 Total Cost \$26,780.00**

Grant No: 671

Lions Club of Manning River Inc (N1) BioCon 700 CUBEscan Bladder Scanner System & Accessories, Medical & Renal Impairment Unit at Manning (Taree Hospital). **Grant Requested \$5,950.00 Total Cost \$11,845.00**

Grant No: 672

Lions Club of Leeton Inc. (N4) ARTC #100167 Quickie Manual Wheelchair Frame and Accessories for a 5year old boy with Cerebral Palsy & Hydrocephalus. **Grant Requested \$3,367.00 Total Cost \$6,735.00**

GRANT No 657

Fully Motorized Helipad Trolley & Accessories Goulburn Base Hospital.



DG Chris Howard (N2) Presenting a Cheque to Fairfield Hospital for Grant No 670 Atom Transcapsuel Infant Transport Incubator from Lions Club of Sydney Baseball Inc.

Dr Lawrence McCleary, Teresa Benetos Head of Nursing and Midwifery @ Fairfield Hospital, Nursing Unit Manager Winona Ranyard and President Chris Chapman of Sydney Baseball Lions Club.



35th Annual ANZ Cornea Society & Eye Bank Meeting

November 2017

The 35th Annual ANZ Cornea Society & Eye Bank Meeting will be held at Sydney/Sydney Eye Hospital and the InterContinental Sydney from the 21-24 February 2018.

Held annually since 1983, the meeting provides a forum to promote education and an exchange of ideas amongst Ophthalmologists, eye bankers and ancillary staff, focusing on best practice in corneal disease and surgery, eye banking and medical research.

In 2018, the meeting will be headed by Dr Con Petsoglou, Associate Medical Director, Lions NSW Eye Bank.



The Royal Australian
and New Zealand
College of Ophthalmologists



“Tree of Life”

Throughout the year we have a growing visual reminder of our donors and their generous families through our “Tree of Life”.

Seen below is Kendall Miles, Tissue Donor Coordinator, placing leaves on the tree to honour our donors during the month of October.



Funding Boost for University of Wollongong Bioprint Facility

The University of Wollongong will establish a world first facility to enable the development of bioinks and customised bioprinting systems for targeted clinical applications.

This will be facilitated by the award of a \$400,000 grant from MTPConnect, the Medical Technologies and Pharmaceuticals Industry Growth Centre.

The funding will be used to engage with Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to develop projects such as the iFixPen and the biopen.

The Lions NSW Eye Bank and the NSW Organ and Tissue Donation Service are collaborators in the corneal biopen project.



Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA)

The NSW Tissue Banks was inspected by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) for four days during November. The TGA regulates all of the Australian tissue banks to ensure compliance with the Code of Good Manufacturing Practice, Therapeutic Goods Orders and maintenance of the tissue products on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods.

In addition to the routine components of the audit, on this occasion the NSW Tissue Banks were assessed for readiness to commence the preparation of deceased donor skin for the treatment of burns and amnion from elective caesarean sections, for use in ophthalmic surgery.

The early results from the inspection are positive and it is hoped that the new tissue types will be available early next year.

Welcoming Zoe to the NSW Tissue Banks

The NSW Tissue Banks are pleased to welcome Zoe Catterall to the Tissue Retrieval Team.

Ms Catterall joined the team in October and brings knowledge from her previous role at NSW Health Pathology.

Welcome to the team Zoe!



Ms Zoe Catterall, Retrieval Technician

DonateLife Thank You Day 2017

Sunday 19 November 2017 was DonateLife Thank You Day.

Thank You Day is a time for the community to come together and say 'thank you' to all donors and their families, whose stories inspire us to register at donatelife.gov.au and discuss our donation decisions.

It's also an opportunity to acknowledge our donation and transplantation specialists, joined by many other health professionals, who care for our donors, recipients and their families.



NSW Inaugural Amnion Tissue Retrieval

The inaugural amnion tissue retrieval in NSW was completed at the Mater Hospital earlier this year.

The generous donor allowed the hospital to facilitate the retrieval for utilisation in the TGA submission, which will allow for future amnion donations for transplantation in NSW.

Almost 20 people can be helped from just one donation of amnion, which can be used for patch-grafting defects on the eye and for covering open wounds.

Biotherapeutics Association Australasia (BAA) Conference

The Biotherapeutics Association of Australasia (BAA) is the peak body representing cellular therapy and tissue bankers in Australia and New Zealand.

The 2017 BAA conference was held in Auckland from 1st - 3rd November.

The conference covered a range of interesting topics from donors to recipients, from science to emotion.

Pierre Georges, Tissue Donor Coordinator, presented results from a retrospective study at the NSW Tissue Banks regarding the factors influencing decision making during donor family conversations.

Mandalay Eye Bank and Surgical Training Program

Professor Gerard Sutton and Raj Devasahayam, Laboratory Manager of the NSW Tissue Banks made another trip to Myanmar in October. The purpose of this trip was to continue the surgical training program and eye bank support program and to install a new biological safety cabinet in the eye bank that was purchased from XOVA grant money.

The trip also featured a session on transplant tissue preparation as the Mandalay eye bank moves ever closer to achieving its aim of self sufficiency. The success of the program has been documented in a journal article in the International Journal of Eye Banking available at www.eyebankingjournal.org.



Prof Sutton conducted a teaching session in Myanmar



The biosafety cabinet arrives in Myanmar | L to R Dr Aravind Roy & Dr Srinivas from LV Prasad, Mr Ko Kyaw Htoo Ag, Prof Sutton, Prof Yee Yee, Raj Devasahayam

Eye Banking in Myanmar: A Review of Services and the Role of International Non-profit Community Based Organizations Transitioning Mandalay Eye Bank towards Self-sufficiency

Yee Yee Au, Gerard Sutton, Pravin K Vaidavathi, Meghna Varma, Alvaro Fernandes, Raj Devasahayam, Lane Trelaggett, Simon Cooper, Kim Pitsongthai, Heather MacIntyre, Chris Hodge

Contact

Please contact the staff of the Lions NSW Eye Bank on 02 9382 7288 if you have any questions or would like a speaker for a meeting, dinner or event. To book facility tours on the 1st Wed of Month, at 11am please ring 02 9382 7855