



# Perspective

Number 13  
December 2012

Lions Clubs NSW-ACT Public Health  
Care Foundation  
(ABN 75 575 730 056)



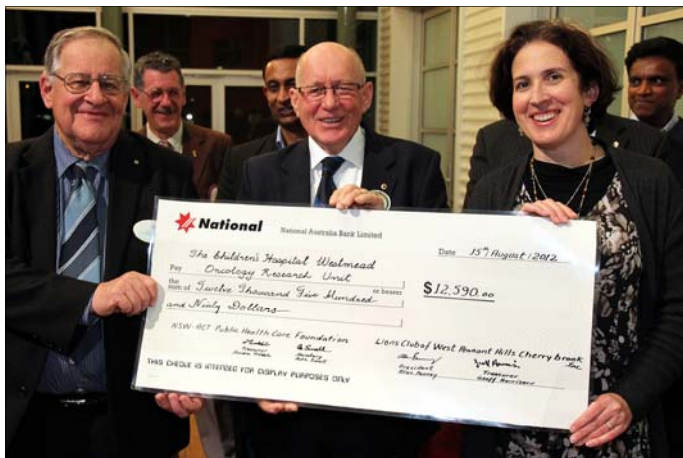
Lions NSW-ACT Save Sight  
Foundation  
(ABN 57 536 782 464)

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

## LIONS NSW-ACT PUBLIC HEALTH CARE FOUNDATION AND LOCAL LIONS CLUB JOIN FORCES TO ASSIST CHILDREN'S CANCER RESEARCH UNIT

The Lions Club of West Pennant Hills Cherrybrook and the Lions NSW-ACT Public Health Foundation have joined forces to respond to an urgent request by the Westmead Children's Cancer Research Unit to replace their Orbital Shaker Incubators. Their old machines simply wore out and without the replacements important cancer research projects would have to be postponed.

The new Orbital Incubators are used by researchers to isolate and grow specific genes thought to be involved in causing cancer. The machines grow different genes in bacterial cells, which carry the unique genes that are placed in them. Bacteria are grown in the incubators and when researchers have a full container they isolate the gene of interest from the bacteria. This, essentially, allows the researchers to make unlimited quantities of specific genes and to study how they are expressed in cancers.



**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR DR JENNIFER BYRNE RECEIVES A CHEQUE FROM LIONS CLUB PRESIDENT ALAN PENNEY AND SAVE SIGHT & PUBLIC HEALTH CARE FOUNDATION DIRECTOR LION JEAN-CLAUDE LEGRAND**

The Club's President, Mr. Alan Penney, presented a cheque for \$12,590 to the Research Unit's Head, Associate Professor Jennifer Byrne. He said that the Lions Club continues to be a major donor to the Cancer Unit's work, having donated over \$63,000 in recent years to assist the survival rate of young patients. President Alan added that, as the equipment did not qualify for government funding, the Westmead Research Unit is reliant on community volunteer organisations like Lions International to provide vital equipment for ongoing research. He urged other community groups to follow his Club's example and help support Children's cancer research.

Associate Professor, Dr. Jennifer Byrne, on behalf of the Unit, thanked the Lions Club and the Lions NSW-ACT Public Health Foundation for their hard work in raising the funds from the community. She said that the unit's scientific team very much appreciated the donation to assist in furthering their work and improving patient treatment outcomes.

## LIONS INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT UNVEILS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT SIGN AT SAVE SIGHT INSTITUTE

During his recent visit to Sydney, Lions Clubs International President Wayne Madden visited the Lions NSW Eye Bank and the Save Sight Institute at the Sydney Hospital and Sydney Eye Hospital in Macquarie Street, Sydney.



**THE UNVEILED ACKNOWLEDGEMENT SIGN IS PROUDLY FLANKED BY, ON THE RIGHT, INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT WAYNE MADDEN AND ON THE LEFT, THE HEAD OF THE SAVE SIGHT INSTITUTE PROFESSOR PETER McCLUSKY AND LIONS NSW-ACT SAVE SIGHT FOUNDATION CHAIRMAN JIM FIELD**

The sign reads:

*"The Save Sight Institute proudly acknowledges the generous support of the Lions NSW-ACT Save Sight Foundation Sydney Hospital and Sydney Eye Hospital a teaching hospital of the University of Sydney."*

In 1984 at the annual Lions convention in NSW, Professor Frank Billson spoke of the urgent need for an eye institute to be associated with Sydney Eye Hospital. Following further meetings with representatives of NSW Lions Clubs, the Lions Save Sight Foundation and Lions Clubs of NSW agreed to provide seed funding for an Institute to be established.

In partnership with the University of Sydney, the Save Sight and Eye Health Institute was established on 4th June 1986. Professor Frank Billson AO, Head of the Department of Clinical Ophthalmology, Sydney University was appointed Director of the Institute. With this Institute we offered the community, the government and the university, the opportunity to share in a joint mission - "to prevent blindness".

The Institute exists to support and extend the work of the University's Dept of Clinical Ophthalmology.

## LIONS NSW EYE BANK

53 Lions Eye Banks worldwide provide quality eye tissue for corneal transplants along with research.

Support **YOUR** Foundations so we may continue to support **YOUR Lions NSW Eye Bank.**



**SEE THE LIONS NSW EYE BANK NEWSLETTER ANNEXED TO THIS ISSUE OF "PERSPECTIVE"**

## CHAIRMAN'S CHATTER



My warm greetings to Lions, Lioness and Leos. I trust you are all well.

### RETIRING FROM THE FOUNDATIONS

For those that do not know, I am retiring as Chairman and as a District N2 Director on the 31<sup>st</sup> December. I have enjoyed every minute of the time, meeting and working with wonderful people, directors, honorary officers, and people from the Lions NSW Eye Bank, the Save Sight Institute and many others. I've made some very good friends and I'm going to miss it all very much.

I was speechless when a surprise dinner party was arranged for me and June on the Saturday evening prior to our last Foundation meeting at Bankstown, especially when our family of four daughters and a son were also present.

Many thanks to Sandra Treble and Ruth Small for arranging the function and to everyone that attended. Thanks also for honouring me with the presentation of a Professor Frank Billson Platinum Honour Award. Thanks to everyone I will miss all of you.

### A VERY BIG THANK YOU

A very big thank you to everyone for your support of your Lions Save Sight (SSF) and Public Health Care (PHC) Foundations. Please remember to continue your support with as much as you are able, for every little bit helps.

All of us should remember the forward thinking of dedicated Lions who started our Lions Save Foundation back in 1974 and raised One Million Dollars to kick it off. The SSF would not exist today had they not got off their tails and worked tirelessly.

We should all be very grateful and appreciative of what they did then and what the directors and honorary officers do to keep it going. HOWEVER, without you, the Lions, Lioness, Leos and other supporters helping, it may well have failed.



HONORARY SECRETARY LION RUTH SMALL PRESENTING RETIRING CHAIRMAN LION JIM FIELD WITH THE PROFESSOR FRANK BILLSON PLATINUM HONOUR AWARD WHILST LIONS LADY JUNE LOOKS ON.

Because of the assistance Lions have given to the Lions NSW Eye Bank and the Save Sight Institute we now have world class research happening. Advances are being made by very dedicated and talented researchers, professors, surgeons, doctors and others. The result is that thousands of patients are being treated and are now leading high quality life styles. The waiting time for corneal transplants will soon be almost zero. You, the Lions, Lioness and Leos are helping to make this all happen. Keep up the good work.

### LIONS RECOGNISED

Lions and your Save Sight Foundation were finally recognised with the unveiling by our International President Wayne Madden of a permanent sign, thanking us for our help, at the

entrance to the Save Sight Clinic. Two more signs will shortly be erected, one near Hospital Road and the other in front of the Hospital in Macquarie Street. All the visitors to the Hospital, Eye Hospital, Lions NSW Eye Bank and Save Sight Clinic as well as all those passing by will be able to read that The Lions Save Sight Foundation and Lions help people less fortunate than ourselves.

### MERRY CHRISTMAS

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone. I was told years ago that the older you get the faster the time goes. Well, I can vouch this is right because it seems time is travelling so fast that it could break the sound barrier.

Regards  
Jim Field



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION

On behalf of the Chairman and Board of Directors of the Foundations we acknowledge and express our sincere appreciation for the generous donations listed below. It is only with the support of these generous donations that the Foundations are able to function and continue to provide the many and varied grants related to Sight and Public Health Care.

### Donations Acknowledged by the Board of Directors 25th November 2012

#### Donations to Lions NSW-ACT Save Sight Foundation

Lions Club of Collarenebri	\$250.00	Lions Club of Bathurst	\$750.00
Lions Club of Nundle	\$250.00	Lions Club of Forbes	\$300.00
Lions Club of Braidwood	\$290.00	James & Elizabeth Bissaker	\$50.00
Lions Club of Pambula Merimbula	\$640.00	<b>Donations for Awards</b>	
Lions Club of W Pennant Hills Ch'brk	\$500.00	Lions Club of Taree	\$500.00
Lions Club of Armidale Dumaresq	\$1,000.00	Lions Club of Dunedoo	\$500.00
Lions Club of Wellington	\$100.00		

#### Donations to Lions Clubs NSW-ACT Public Health Care Foundation

Lions Club of Collarenebri	\$250.00
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## FOUNDATIONS' WEBSITE

[www.lionssavesightfoundation.org.au](http://www.lionssavesightfoundation.org.au) is updated with the latest information. In addition to the latest news, grants etc., most of the Foundations' forms can be downloaded. And there's also a great deal of general information on the work of YOUR two Lions NSW-ACT Foundations.

## SUPPORT YOUR FOUNDATIONS

Support the Foundation's Honour Award Scheme. Nominate Lions, non Lions, corporations and organisations to receive a personally inscribed and individually numbered award plaque, framed certificate and lapel pin. Consider....

**Professor Frank Billson Platinum Honour Award**

**Keith Small Gold Honour Award**

**Neville Tucker Silver Honour Award**

**Harry Hession Bronze Honour Award**

See [foundation website for more details](http://www.lionssavesightfoundation.org.au). Also available are:  
Life Memberships and Life Governorships

## ANNUAL FUNDRAISING RAFFLE

### \$1.00 TICKETS ON SALE NOW

DON'T MISS OUT. Support YOUR Foundations and have your chance to win these prizes

**Hyundai Accent 5 Door, 5 Speed Manual Hatch.**  
Value: \$18,000

**Pair Swarovski Spectacle Frames.** Value: \$800  
(Donated by Sam Chu)

**Flat Screen Television.** Value: \$400,  
**Lady's or Gent's Watch.** Value: \$150  
(Donated by the Small Family)

RAFFLE TO BE DRAWN ON SUNDAY 24th MARCH 2013



# Lions Save Sight Community Challenge

The *Lions Community Challenge* is a fundraising activity of the  
**Lions NSW-ACT Save Sight & Public Healthcare Ltd**  
as trustee for the

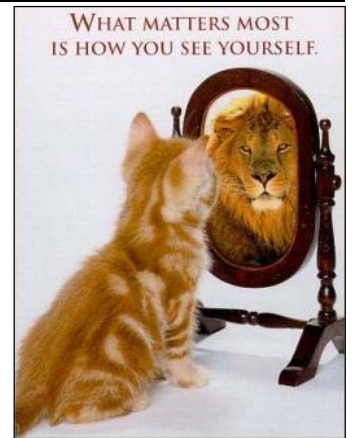
## Lions NSW-ACT Save Sight Foundation

whose objects are: To promote, advance and assist the research into the causes, diagnosis, prevention and treatment of anomalies and diseases of the eye.

and the

## Lions Clubs NSW-ACT Public Health Care Foundation

whose objects are: To promote, advance and assist the research into the causes, diagnosis, prevention and treatment of illness, sickness and afflictions of all kinds suffered by humans.



The *Lions Save Sight Community Challenge* is an initiative/ activity of the Lions NSW-ACT Save Sight & Public Health Care Foundations that has multiple aims, goals and purposes.

These include:

- ◆ raising funds to finance the ongoing & benevolent work of your Foundations.
- ◆ fostering an attitude of Community Service by members of our society.
- ◆ providing an avenue for participants to both mature and gain in confidence as a focal point and leader within their community, while having fun and meeting a wide range of new people from all walks of life.
- ◆ promoting your Foundations, their objects and accessibility across NSW and the ACT.
- ◆ for entrants to see themselves anew, along with a new value of community, of self and service.

### What is the *Lions Save Sight Community Challenge* ?

We encourage all members of the community who are 18 or more years of age to accept a challenge to make a difference by working actively within their community to organise various events to raise much needed funds to support the Lions NSW-ACT Save Sight & Public Health Care Foundations whilst at the same time promoting the aims, objects and purposes along with the work, service and history of the foundations, the [Lions Eye Bank](#) and the [Save Sight Institute](#).

At the completion of the Community Challenge the entrants will be eligible for two awards:

- ◆ **The Charity Award** - for the highest \$'s raised by a single entrant, and
- ◆ **The Lions Community Service Award** - for their involvement in Community Service through Lions Clubs and/or other Community Service organisations.
  - Community Service is defined as service through a recognised Service Organisation, or that which will benefit their Community.
  - Innovation in Community service activities and/or

innovation in a fundraising event/initiative will be considered in deciding the award.

- The Sponsoring Lions Club must provide a report to the District Chairman on Fundraising & Service to the Community performed by the entrant no later than 14 days before Final Judging.

The aims, purpose and goals may need to change on occasions; entrants and clubs will be advised.

### Programme

**Sunday 1st July 2012**

*Lions Save Sight Community Challenge* commences.

**Sunday 30th June 2013**

Challenge Closes - All funds received to be forwarded to the Honorary Treasurer by the 12th of July. NB Funds not received cannot be used in the decision making.

**Saturday 6th July 2013**

Final Club Report due to District Chairman

**Saturday 13th July 2013**

District Chairman will follow up missing reports, review and forward all reports due to the Challenge Committee Chairman and decide on the District nominee's to the Challenge final. One entrant from each District will contest the State Final. A total of six entrants will proceed to the state Judging. Expenses paid on Transportation, Accommodation of up to a maximum of 2 nights with Meals (as per Foundations Policy Minutes Rules of Audit).

**Saturday 20th July 2013**

District Committee Awards Decisions

**Saturday 3rd August 2013**

Finalists notified and informed of arrangements Judging and Presentation Dinner

**Saturday 22nd August 2013**

Judging and Presentation Dinner to be held at

**BANKSTOWN SPORTS CLUB**

**8 Greenfield Parade, Bankstown**

For more details, entry form and the like please visit the Foundation's website [www.lionssavesightfoundation.org.au](http://www.lionssavesightfoundation.org.au) or contact Chairman PDG Phil Bower on (H) 6743 4218.



LIONS SAVE SIGHT COMMUNITY CHALLENGE CHAIRMAN PDG PHIL BOWER AND CHAIRMAN LION JIM FIELD WITH THE 2011-12 OVERALL CHALLENGE WINNER LION JANICE LEWIS FROM ARDLATHAN LIONS CLUB DISTRICT 201N4.

## CHALLENGE WINNER'S OUTSTANDING RECORD OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

How Lion Janice Lewis had time to become the overall winner of the 2011-12 Challenge is anybody's guess. Lion Janice is, just to name a few, a youth worker, a volunteer phone councillor, a volunteer carer, an assistant at youth camps, a driver reviver volunteer, a reading programme classroom assistant.

She cares for the family graves of elderly citizens at Ardlethan cemetery, cares for gardens in the business area and Lions park, prepares meals for sick members of the community and feeds pets for these people, teaches scrapbooking to local children, cooks for street stalls and the list goes on. **Well Done Lion Janice!**

**"We need you to help us, so that we can help you, so that you can help them."**

## GRANTS APPROVED

GRANTS APPROVED AT THE  
25 NOVEMBER 2012 BOARD MEETING

### Lions NSW-ACT Save Sight Foundation

**No. 236:** Lions Club of Swansea Inc (N3) - **\$3,723.55** for the provision of a **Stryker Eye Surgery Stretcher (Model 1089)** for Eye Cataract Surgery Patients at Belmont Hospital. The total GST exclusive cost of the project is \$7,447.55 with \$3,724.00 contributed by the applicant. The grantee is Belmont Hospital (Hunter New England Local Health District).

### Lions Clubs NSW-ACT Public Health Care Foundation

**No. 592:** Lions Club of Ardlethan Inc. (N4) - **\$4,025.00** for the provision of an **Inogen One G2 Portable Oxygen Concentrator** for Residents of Ardlethan Community with Breathing Difficulties. The total GST exclusive cost of the project is \$8,050.00 with \$4,025.00 contributed by the applicant and others. The grantee is Temora District Hospital (Greater Southern Area Health Service)

**No. 593:** Lions Club of Gorokan-Kanwal Inc. (N3) - **\$5,000.00** for the **conversion of Kia Grand Carnival to Transport a Wheelchair and set up and fitting of a wheelchair ramp** for 16 year old male who is severely disabled with cerebral palsy and intellectual disability. The total GST exclusive cost of the project is \$29,136.00 with \$24,136.00 contributed by the applicant and others. The grantee is Weeroona Association (Trading as Wheeling & Able)

**No. 594:** Lions Club of Beecroft Cheltenham Inc. (N5) - **\$15,000.00** for the provision of a **Prismaflex (V6.1) Dialysis Machine** for Patients in ICU with Chronic or Acute Renal Failure. The total GST exclusive cost of the project is \$62,450.00 with \$47,450.00 contributed by the applicant and others. The grantee is Hornsby Ku-ring-Gai Hospital (Northern Sydney Local Health District)

**No. 595:** Lions Club of Wyoming Inc. (N3) - **\$10,000.00** for the **purchase and Conversion of a used Kia Carnival Van to Transport a Child in a Wheelchair and set up and fitting of a wheelchair ramp** for a 10 year old male child who suffers from Wolf-Hirschhorn Syndrome and Global Developmental Delay. The total GST exclusive cost of the project is \$55,752.00 with \$45,752.00 contributed by the applicant and others. The grantee is Weeroona Association (Trading as Wheeling & Able).

**No. 596:** Lions Club of Toronto Inc. (N3) - **\$2,907.00** for the **provision of four (4) Harbourtown Lift Chairs (Lazyboy)** for Transplant Patients John Hunter Hospital. The total GST exclusive cost of the project is \$5,814.00 with \$2,907.00 contributed by the applicant and others. The grantee is John Hunter Hospital (Hunter New England Local Health District)

**No. 597:** Lions Club of Young Inc. (N4) - **\$15,000.00** for a **Phillips Avalon FM20 Antepartum and FM30 Intrapartum Monitor with a Cordless Fetal Transducer System** for the Maternity Unit Patients at Young Hospital. The total GST exclusive cost of the project is \$30,141.00 with \$15,101.00 contributed by the applicant and others. The grantee is Young Health Service (Murrumbidgee Local Health District)

## GRANT APPLICATION DEADLINES

Foundations Board Meetings are held three times a year on the fourth Sunday of August, November and March. In order to have a grant application considered by the board the application must be completed and in the hands of one of your foundation directors by the deadline shown below.

The maximum 'ordinary' grant that may be applied for has now been limited to \$15,000.00 and the minimum contribution that is expected to be found by an applicant is 50% of the cost of the project. The Grant Application Form can be obtained upon request from any Director whose details are on this page or our website [www.lionssavesightfoundation.org.au](http://www.lionssavesightfoundation.org.au)

Board Meeting	Deadline
24th March 2013	15th February 2013
25th August 2013	15th July 2013
24th November 2013	15th October 2013

## GRANTS APPROVED DURING THE FOUR YEARS UP TO 25 NOVEMBER 2012

The total value of grants approved by the foundations during the past four years up to and including 25th November 2012 is **\$221,784.00**. The grants have been spread across all Lions Districts in NSW and the ACT as below.

Lions District	Number of Grants	Grants Value
201N1	5	\$19,000.00
201N2	9	\$25,700.00
201N3	15	\$78,464.00
201N4	8	\$48,288.00
201N5	7	\$50,446.00

## RAFFLE PROCEEDS 2011-2012

Thanks to the outstanding efforts of all those clubs and others supporting the annual raffle a profit in the vicinity of **\$50,500.00** was added to the invested assets of the foundations. All funds received from the raffle, donations, bequests and the like are banked and invested and **NEVER SPENT**. All grants are funded from the interest and dividends received from the foundations investment portfolio.

## NEW DIRECTORS AND HON. OFFICERS

The board has appointed **Lion John Sheather**, a member of the Lions Club of Epping Eastwood (N5) as Honorary Solicitor and **PDG John Sim**, a member of the NSW Parliamentary Lions Club (N5) as Webmaster and "Perspective" editor.

**Lions Trish Friend** (N2), **Bob Gnezdiloff** (N4) and **Gwenda Sim** (N5) have been recently elected by their respective district conventions and will take office from 1st January 2012.

## FOUNDATION CONTACT DETAILS

(With effect from 1st January 2013)

### CHAIRMAN

PDG Phil Bower (N1) 6743 4218

### DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

Lion Jean-Claude Legrand 9862 8814

### HONORARY SECRETARY

PDG Ruth Small (N2) 9609 4384

### HONORARY TREASURER

PDG Sandra Treble (N4) 6922 6123

### HONORARY SOLICITOR

Lion John Sheather (N5) 9899 5899

### WEBMASTER & 'PERSPECTIVE' EDITOR

PDG John Sim (N5) 4784 3151

### 201N1 DIRECTORS

DG Deyann McDonnell 6647 7452, PDG Phil Bower 6743 4218  
Lion Chris Elford 6556 3260, PDG Brian McWhirter 6551 2911

### 201N2 DIRECTORS

DG Gary Parker 4283 4265, Lion Brian Rope 0414 542 422  
Lion Ken McLeish 6294 3399, Lion Trish Friend 9363 9350

### 201N3 DIRECTORS

DG Ron Way 4975 4969, Lion Mick Boulton 4932 3474  
Lion Max Holmes 4943 7299, Lion Jeff Kukura 4325 4644

### 201N4 DIRECTORS

DG Barbara Andrews 6332 4781, Lion Bob Gnezdiloff 6922 3396  
PDG Kerry Williams 6968 1977, PDG Bob Moore 6963 3333

### 201N5 DIRECTORS

DG Greg Dunn 9686 6861, Lion Jean-Claude Legrand 9862 8814  
PDG Peter Mendl 9427 5510, Lion Gwenda Sim 4784 3151

### LIONS SAVE SIGHT COMMUNITY CHALLENGE DISTRICT CHAIRMEN

**N1 (Regions 1, 2 & 3)** - PDG Phil Bower 6743 4218

**N1 (Regions 4, 5 & 6)** - PDG Phil Bower 6743 4218

**N2** - Lion Brian Rope 0414 542 422

**N3** - Lion Ross Cullen 6558 7545

**N4** - Lions Dominic & Judy Chircop 6332 5161

**N5** - PDG Steve Coleman 0414 980 560

## Donation & Transplant Data

With thanks to our generous donor families, the success of organ culture corneal storage (see over page) and a replenished coordination workforce, the Lions NSW Eye Bank has at the end of October surpassed the previous highest annual donation and transplantation rates.

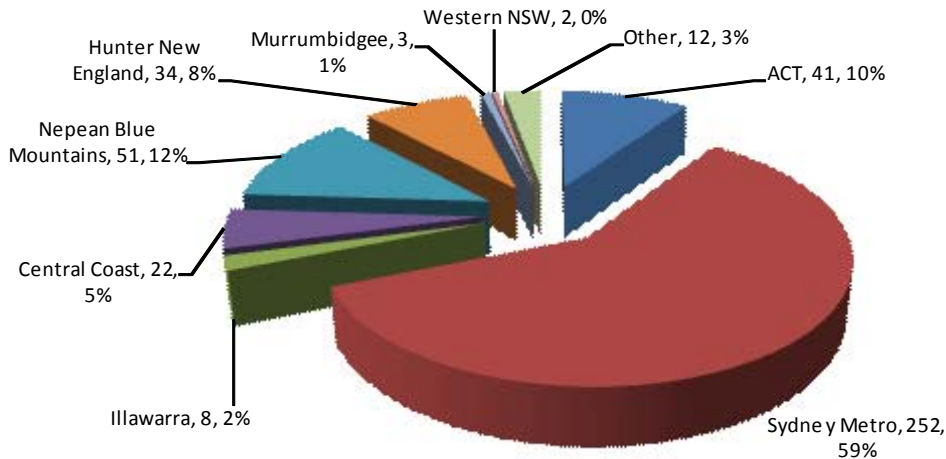
To the end of October the eye bank has facilitated the assessment and retrieval from 425 eye donors and 628 transplants.

The previous highest donor numbers were 381 (2011) and 386 (2002). The previous highest transplant numbers were 519 (2006) and 585 (2011).

Final data for 2012 will be reported to the National Organ and Tissue Authority and the Eye Bank Association of Australia and New Zealand.

### Special points of interest:

- Increase in donation and transplantation rates
- 2012 Remembrance Service
- Introduction to 'new look' team
- Confirmed success of new corneal storage method
- NSW Health Ministers' Plan
- Amendment to NSW Human Tissue Act



NSW & ACT Donation Data by District Jan-Oct 2012

## The 'eye bank team' of 2012

This year has seen change and new additions to the team. Professor Gerard Sutton was appointed as Acting Medical Director in the middle of the year relieving Dr Pauline Rumma of the duties and we have welcomed back Dr Con Petsoglou as a clinical advisor.

Jane Trelloggen continues as Manager, Simon Cooper Quality Manager and Raj Devasahayam and Meidong Zhu as the

lab based production team. Helen McKeon has had a change, working on the Dossier development project this year to meet the requirements of the Therapeutic Goods Administration and joining Pierre Georges on the coordination team are new staff members Kristina Prince, Kendall Miles and Flavia Russell. Very welcome additions to our team!



Kristina Prince has joined us from the Division of Analytical Laboratories, Lidcombe.



Kendall Miles has moved to Sydney to join us after working in the Blood Bank of Gosford Hospital.



Flavia Russell has most recently worked in clinical research and Tissue Typing at ARCBS.

## Remembrance Service 2012



Representatives of Lions NSW joined the staff of the Lions NSW Eye Bank and the NSW Organ and Tissue Donation Service on the 17th November 2012 to welcome NSW eye and tissue donor family members at the Annual Remembrance Service honouring all who have generously said yes to eye and tissue donation.

The Service held in the 113 AGH Memorial Chapel at Concord Hospital, was led by Reverend Paul Weaver in an ecumenical service that used a lit candle to reflect on the use of light in ceremony and domestically to bring hope and comfort and featured excerpts of letters received by the bank from donor families and transplant recipients.



## Outcome of First 12 Months of New Corneal Storage Method

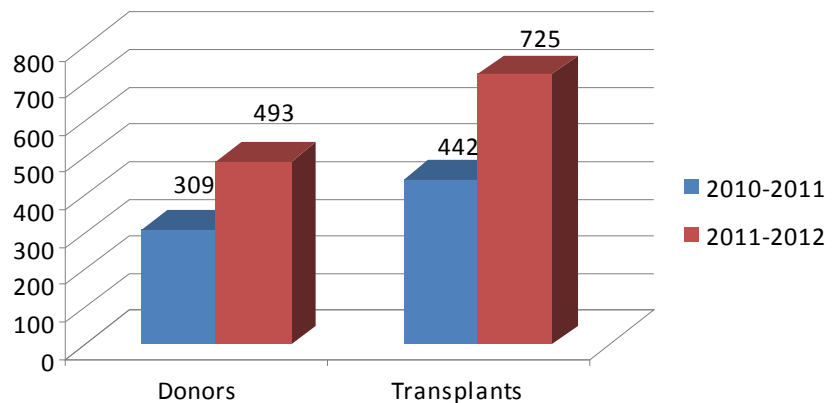
As reported in the July version of this newsletter, the Lions NSW Eye Bank introduced a new storage method for corneas in Sept 2011 that has provide an opportunity for more people to become eye donors. This new method complements the existing storage method providing a greater range of options for people requiring transplantation of eye tissue.

Organ Culture has significantly influenced the donation and transplant rates. An expected increase in donor rates of 20-25% has been surpassed with a 43% increase compared to the same time period the 2010-2011 and a 47% increase

in the corneal transplantation rate over the same period.

Collectively, these increases have resulted in a 41% decrease since Dec 2011 in the scheduled transplant wait list.

Informal feedback from the surgeons using the organ culture corneas has been very positive. Ongoing monitoring of surgical outcomes and visual acuity will be done via the Australian Corneal Graft Registry.



Source: Lions NSW Eye Bank Donation and Transplant Data Sept-Aug 2010-11 and 2011-12

## Non-Medical Enucleators Course Held November 2012

Participating in the Non-Medical Enucleators course conducted by the Lions NSW Eye Bank is the first step for non-medical health employees to achieve acknowledgement and authorisation by NSW Director General of Health to conduct eye retrievals in accordance with the NSW 1983 Human Tissue Act.

The 2012 course was held on site at Sydney/Sydney Eye

Hospital on the 2nd November 2012. The 10 attendees were given presentations on the principles of Good Manufacturing Practice, eye anatomy and physiology, the surgical use of the retrieved eye tissue and a hands-on simulation of the actual retrieval procedure. Each of the participants must now conduct five witnessed retrievals before being considered for appointment.

## NSW Plan for Organ and Tissue Donation & HTA Amendment

The NSW Minister for Health, the Hon. Ms Jillian Skinner MP launched the Government Plan for Increasing Organ Donation in NSW in August 2012. The plan outlines a range of strategies across five key outcome areas which include:

- Enabling people's intentions regarding organ and tissue donation to be known by their family or significant others and preferably documented and accessible;
- Addressing information gaps about organ and tissue donation, including addressing myths and misperceptions;
- Supporting clinicians to have conversations with donor families which enable fully informed decisions about proceeding with organ and tissue donation;

- Supporting living donor programs.

Strategies include transferring the existing donor intentions from the Roads & Maritime Service Register to the Australian Organ Donor Register and adding cardiovascular tissue to the list of tissue in the NSW Human Tissue Act that can be retrieved by competent non-medical health employees.

Copies of the plan can be obtained at <http://www0.health.nsw.gov.au/pubs/2012/>



**Diary Date:** National Donate-Life Week  
24th Feb-1st Mar 2013

## Contact

Do not hesitate to 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..