



# Lions District V3 ROAR!



## 2025 RIDE FOR SIGHT A HUGE SUCCESS

Our 31<sup>st</sup> District Lions Ride for Sight was run between 2 to 5 May 2025 in conjunction with the Multiple District Convention. Forty-two riders participated in our 270km four-day event generally on quite sealed rural back roads. There were four riders opting to ride in our alternative ride where they rode over a period of four weeks riding in their chosen locations and distances. This was after a full year of planning, organising and addressing the many challenges which cropped up, by a focused and dedicated team of ten organising committee members.



The committee was supported by a supportive team of 13 on road crew members. We also had an eight MD Convention expo display team to set up our Ride for Sight site and with our major sponsor Apellis Pharmaceuticals and the Centre for Eye Research Australia CERA who will be, as in previous years, be the recipient of our Ride's fund raising effort. Associate Professor Rick Liu, Principal Investigator Head of Genetic Engineering Research at CERA participated in our ride and gave a presentation to participants of the research he is undertaking.

Organising accommodation and meals were particularly challenging as our significant overnight stop, except for Sale on Saturday night, was essentially at Traralgon West Sports Complex. We were not able to find nearby Lions Clubs who could host our dinners and breakfasts at this location over three days. We resorted to having our dinners at the Traralgon Grand Junction Hotel and the Traralgon Bowling Club on Friday and Saturday nights respectively, both at significant costs. These unexpected costs were thankfully defrayed by contributions from several Lions Clubs in our District. We were fortunate to have Karl Henderson from Bairnsdale Lions, who saw the need and unprompted, elected to organise the supply and preparation of three breakfasts. Our event started with a pre ride dinner gathering at the Traralgon Butter Factory on Thursday 1 May 2025 before formally setting off on our four-day 270km Ride in perfect riding weather the next day. Except for the very cold 5deg C start in the morning it warmed up to around 25 deg C later in the day. We were very fortunate this weather situation continued during and up to our end of our Ride.

## COME ENJOY THE CHANGEOVER CELEBRATIONS!

### 201V3 Changeover Luncheon

All Lions, Leos, partners and friends thank you for attending to celebrate the past and future lions' year and

To

### *Welcome Home*

DG Geoff and Lions Lady Rosemary

&

### *Thanks to IPDG Ian*

*Sunday 27th July 2025*

11.30am for 12pm start with a  
3.30pm finish

At

The Warragul Country Club  
41 Sutton Street, Warragul

Our motto – **"WE SERVE"**

## SITUATION VACANT

### CHAIR 2025/26 RIDE FOR SIGHT

Applicants interested in ensuring the future of this important program should contact DG Elect Geoff [aldbar@dcsi.net.au](mailto:aldbar@dcsi.net.au) or Cabinet Secretary Terry [tha89654@bigpond.net.au](mailto:tha89654@bigpond.net.au) as soon as possible. The task requires considerable work but could be shared by a number of people. Past chairman Ian de Bruyne has guaranteed support to the successful applicant(s).



## About this newsletter



This is the official newsletter of the 201V3 district of Lions International. 201 is Australia & PNG and V3 is a district that covers clubs in the area shown above.



# 2025 RIDE FOR SIGHT

Of the forty-two riders 71% were male and 29% female. One of our riders came from Sydney, several from outside our District. Four riders were either blind or sight affected riding on tandems. Thirty-four riders were repeat participants. Age ranged from 34 to 80 years. All rode well and safely without incident.

Daily Ride Program (from Friday May 2):  
Day 1: Traralgon -Yinnar -Traralgon 60km  
Day 2.: Traralgon – Heyfield - Sale 95km  
Day 3: : Sale - Rosedale -Traralgon 85km  
Day 4: Traralgon -Tyers -Traralgon 30km

We called by our expo display site at the Gippsland Performing Centre's courtyard as required on Day 1. We completed our Ride at the Gippsland Regional Sports Stadium where we were paraded and welcomed at the front of the convention.

We are thankful to the following Lions Clubs for hosting our breakfasts, lunches and dinners, without which our Ride would not have been possible:

- Yinnar Lions for lunch on Friday 2 May 2025
- Heyfield Lions for lunch on Saturday 3 May 2025
- Sale Lions for hosting our overnight stop on Saturday 3 May 2025
- Wellington Lions for hosting lunch at Rosedale on Sunday 4 May 2025
- Bairnsdale Lions for preparing three breakfasts – Friday, Saturday and Monday
- End of Ride lunch courtesy of the MD Convention Committee at Gippsland Regional Indoor Sports Stadium.

The primary purpose for our event is to raise funds for research and treatments to prevent or to eradicate blindness. Our Ride for Sight has raised around \$1.2 million since its inception in 1994. A challenging \$90,000 target was set for this year's event. Participants rallied and raised an enviable amount. We were fortunate to have Apellis Pharmaceuticals and Youlong Investments as major commercial sponsors. We also had strong support from several local businesses who either donated cash or provided work or items in kind. Latrobe Bus Lines for example provide a shuttle service gratis to and from our dinner venues. Hertz Gippsland provided a suitably large van to transport our baggage also at no cost.

We are thankful many Clubs in our District responded to an appeal to contribute to our operation costs and fundraising account. Considering the collective support and fundraising efforts, early indications strongly suggest we have certainly achieved and surpassed our \$90,000 target. This would be a Ride for Sight fundraising record. The final amount will be announced at our District Changeover in July.

# Apellis



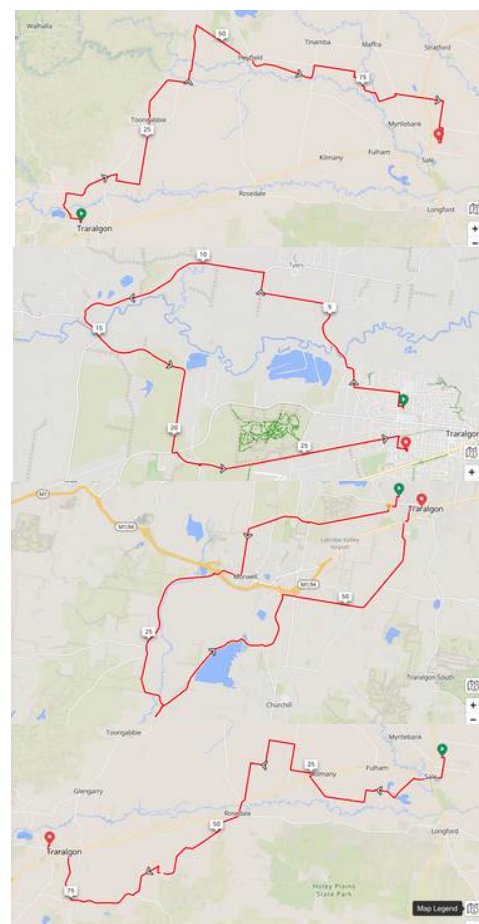
Facebook



Web Site



CERA



# DISASTER RELIEF

## ALF STORM AND FLOOD ALERT

### May 2025 Eastern Australia Storms and Flooding Event

As we are all aware, Eastern Australia is undergoing significant storms and flooding. Although the Australian Lions Foundation welcomes donations, we are currently well-placed to assist Clubs and Districts in their emergency, recovery and rebuilding efforts.

When conditions ease and the extent of damage is understood, we look forward to receiving applications for Disaster or Emergency Grants from Clubs and those applications will be processed quickly to ensure those clubs can commence their work in recovery.

The guidelines for these grants and application forms can be found on the website using this QR code:



### Emergency Grants

Funding support is to be provided by the managing Club or District through the provision of vouchers at local stores, debit cards, via store accounts established or vouchers produced by the managing club redeemable on presentation by respective stores etc.

CASH is not to be provided to recipients. Emergency Grant Funding is made available on the basis of \$1500 per adult and \$500 per child for the family affected.

### Disaster Recovery Grants

This grant is available to Districts for areas that have been impacted by a Disaster and help needed to assist with recovery / restoration / rehabilitation efforts.

When such disasters occur, Local, State and Federal Government and their agencies usually provide immediate relief to impacted individuals and families of payments through Centrelink or authorised agencies. Where this does not happen, due to the nature or severity of the incident, the Foundation may consider providing some immediate relief which would be in the form similar to that of Emergency Grants. These will be considered at the time.

Grants are provided to individuals or families but not for business related items, purely for personal/family needs.

### Promotional photographs

Lions are well known for their long-term efforts to support disaster and emergency response efforts. While we know that our Lions are focussed on the immediate emergency, photographs of Lions in action are critical to encourage donations and to grow membership. I would welcome photographs from Lions that can be used on our Social media and website.

Finally, all Directors send their best wishes and encouragement to our Lions members that are affected by this and other emergencies. It says a lot about our association that despite being personally affected, our Lions are out there helping others. Take care and look to the support of your fellow Lions.

Lion Rob Oerlemans  
ALF PR and Promotions  
Australian Lions Foundation Ltd  
“Helping Lions help their community.”

[www.alf.org.au](http://www.alf.org.au)

## DISTRICT CABINET REPORTS

### DISTRICT GOVERNOR ELECT REPORT

Greetings, Lions of 201V3 District. This is my first message to you as the District Governor Elect. I am happy to say that the current Cabinet Secretary, Terry Hayler has agreed to continue in this role for another year and I will benefit from his experience and guidance in my year as District Governor – thank you Terry!

By now, all Club Secretaries will have received, from Cab Sec Terry, the proposed schedule for visits to Clubs by the incoming DG Team, namely myself as DG, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice District Governor, Roger Lurz, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governor, Dale Harriman. It's early days yet and these dates are not cast in stone. Dates may not suit your Club and/or they may conflict with other commitments we have. But these dates are a starting point and will be confirmed or changed as we move forward.

In the “old days” I often hear, the District Governor visited all Clubs. I did consider making a formal visit to all Clubs in 201V3 but decided to share the load with the two Vice District Governors for two reasons: (i) to visit all sixty Clubs in the District between early August and Christmas is a formidable task; and (ii) there is a need for the Vice DGs to get to know the Clubs and be known.

So, I have my list of twenty Clubs to visit before the end of 2025, and I will visit these Clubs and, as your District Governor, will formally deliver the messages of District 201V3, Multiple District 201 and Lions International. The Vice District Governors, when they visit will do similar. I am not a stickler for protocol but for my formal visits to Clubs, I will leave it up to the individual Club to apply the level of protocol they wish to adopt for my visit.

But I will endeavour to visit all Clubs in the District during the course of my year as District Governor.

For my visit to Clubs not listed for a formal visit, I will visit as a visiting Lion and your Club can determine the level of protocol and formality. The purpose of all my Club visits will be to get to know your Club and its members better, and for you all to get to know me.

I will leave you with a couple of thoughts in going forward:

(i). Charles Darwin (1809-1882) said “it is not the strongest of the species that survives, nor the most intelligent, but the one that is most adaptable to change”.

(ii) My motto for the coming year is: Serving better together.

There are important and relevant messages in both these thoughts, and you will hear more from me on these as the year progresses.

Meanwhile, I am looking forward to working with the Clubs and Lions of District 201V3 during 2025/26. Let's have a great year serving better together.

Geoff Anderson  
District Governor Elect





## DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S REPORT

As we come to the end of another Lions year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone across the District for your support and dedication over the past 12 months. Your hard work, commitment, and enthusiasm for service have been the backbone of all we have achieved together.

First and foremost, my heartfelt thanks to Sandra Faull for being my co-pilot throughout the year and assisting at all my club visitations. Sandra, your support and encouragement have been invaluable.

Earlier this month, we gathered in Traralgon for our Multiple District Convention. It was wonderful to see so many of you there, coming together to celebrate our achievements and share in the fellowship that makes Lions so special. My sincere thanks go to the Convention Committee for the tremendous job they did in organising this event – it was a fantastic weekend, and their efforts were truly appreciated.

I am honoured to have been invited to so many Club Changeover celebrations, and I am grateful for every invitation. However, my schedule is now completely full, and I am unable to accept any more Changeover invitations at this time.

As this report reaches you, our District Governor-elect has already departed Australia to attend the International Convention in Orlando, where he will be inducted as our new District Governor. I wish him and the incoming Cabinet all the very best for the year ahead. Please know that I offer my full support as they lead our District forward.

Thank you once again for the privilege of serving as your District Governor. Let us continue to serve with a smile and make a difference in the year to come.

Yours in Lionism,  
Ian Davey  
District Governor, District 201 V3  
Service with a Smile



# We Serve



## CABINET SECRETARY'S REPORT

As this is the final report for this Lions year can I say thank you to all for your help and assistance over the past 12 months. It is hard to believe that we have just gone through the year so quick. I hope all clubs and members have achieved their goals and that our membership has enjoyed the year under District Governor Ian, I know I have - it has been a great pleasure to assist him and yourselves throughout the year.

Please read the report below from our Rules and By Laws Chairman Maurice Blackburn re dates for the motions and nomination for our Convention at Warragul on the 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> October at Lardner Park Warragul. The Dinner Dance is being held at the Warragul Country Club, with a fabulous DJ booked for the night so come along and enjoy, registration forms available soon.

As time marches on, as part of our planning for the 2025 V3 District Convention, we need to ensure our V3 Clubs are aware of the following important closing dates for notice of motions and nominations in accordance with Rule 9 of our By Laws.

Notices must be received by our Cabinet Secretary by the following dates:

Notice of Motions for Projects requiring 90 days, being 26 July 2025.

For Notice of Motions altering Rules and By Laws and nominations for DG, 1st VDG and 2nd VDG requiring 60 days prior to Convention, being 25 August 2025.

For nominations for Licola and VLF requiring 30 days prior to convention, being 24 September 2025.

If any club is requiring assistance in preparing a Notice of Motion or Nomination, please do not hesitate in contacting myself:

Maurice Blackburn  
District Rules and By-Laws Chairman

Another important date for you all to consider – Changeover Lunch – Warragul Country Club - \$40 per head drinks at bar prices – 11.30am for 12 Noon start. Let's celebrate DG Ian's year and welcome home DGE Geoff and Rosemary. As this is DG Ian's last newsletter, please keep up the good work and assist him in achieving his goals to make this district the best yet, remember his motto – "SERVICE WITH A SMILE".

Yours in Lions  
Terry  
Cab Sec  
"Service with a Smile"

## WELFARE REPORT

District Governor Ian and members of District 201 V3 would like to pass on their sincere condolences and best wishes to the family, friends of Lion Stan Fear. Lion Stan a Life Member of Mornington Lions Club served 53 years with both Somerville and Mornington Lions Clubs, he held a Melvin Jones, J D Richardson and VLF Leo Tyquin awards. He was an active member of Mornington Lions having held many positions during his service. Lion Stan was a caring and supportive member and will be missed by all who knew him.

Yarragon Lions are saddened by the passing of the long time member Lion Roy Robins. Lion Roy was a former president and secretary of his Club. Lion Roy also sponsored international fellowship by frequent visits to Indonesia, mixing with local Lions and Leo clubs in Borneo.

Condolences are also extended to Yarragon Lions former president Bill Cropley at the passing of his mother Edna, who was aged 104.

Condolences are also extended to Yarragon Lions Membership Chair Leanne Evans on the passing of her mother and brother.

Condolences to the Lions Club of Heyfield on the passing of their past President Lion Terry Fitzgerald. Lion Terry will be missed by family, friends and club members.

Best wishes to Lion Neil Barnes and his wife Joy from the Lions Club of Wonthaggi. Both Lion Neil and Lions Lady Joy have been in poor health and we wish them well.

Best wishes to Lion Phillip O'Malley from Lions Club of Wellington/Latrobe, who has had major ankle surgery. Lion Phillip is recuperating at home.

To all other members who have been unwell, best wishes for a speedy recovery

Please let me know if you have any news to be included in the Welfare Report.

Thank you all for joining your respective clubs and we hope you will enjoy working with and enjoying the company of your fellow Lions.

**Sandra Faull**  
District 201V3 Welfare Chairman  
0417 531 211

### PHILLIP ISLAND THANKS VOLUNTEERS

The Lions Club of Phillip Island was successful in obtaining a microgrant from the Bass Coast Shire as part of their initiative to assist local volunteer groups celebrate Volunteer Week 2025.

We managed Steptoes - a weekend secondhand outlet in Cowes, and after our usual Saturday morning work, we celebrated Volunteer Week with a Pizza Lunch. Embellished with some extra goodies - dessert was donated by Member Maggie, and each member took home a bag of thankyou chocolates.

We thank the B C Shire for their generous donation of \$100. We all had an enjoyable lunch and felt most appreciated.

Madeleine



### MIRBOO NORTH IS 20!

Close to 100 lions and friends packed the Brewery Restaurant in April to mark the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Mirboo North Lions Club. It was the Strezlecki Lions club who initially acted as the supporting club and Peter Ryan (MP) helped get things underway.

MC Roger Powell from Korumburra Lions acknowledged the 20 years service of the still active charter members Leatha Peters, Aaron Wilson and Chris Mackay. Chris was awarded the prestigious Melvin Jones award for his constant help in the Lions and general community work.

\$280,000 has been raised over two decades mostly from the BBQ's, Raffles, Op Shop and motor bike "Show and shines."



### FLINDERS MOTORING HERITAGE AND GOLF

The Lions Club of Flinders District conducted another successful Flinders Motoring Heritage Event on Easter Sunday, April 20, 2025.

The event was successful in every way: With over 130 car entries and 1500 ticket sales to the display areas, our small Village of Flinders felt most festive with the inclusion of two popular bands. We had very positive feedback from many who attended and from local traders.

The event is unique in so far as we have a wonderful MC in the person of well-known commentator and car enthusiast, Elise Elliott, and exhibitors can have their cars professionally judged by Brian Hussey and Ryan Johnson. Winners are presented with attractive Crystal Trophies and Plaques.

The event achieved a wonderful result of over \$25,000 (net) raised by means of sponsorship, donations, Grants, and ticket sales. This enables us to seek a Matching Grant of up to \$15,000 from Australian Lions Foundation (ALF).

Funds raised by the Club this year shall be used to enable Peninsula Health to purchase a replacement Prostate Scanning Machine and to assist Moonah House - Women's Community Shelters.

2026 will be our 10<sup>th</sup> year, and we plan to make it even better again.

Mark Holland  
FMH25 Committee Chair

We had another successful day for our Flinders District Lions Club's 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Charity Golf Day held in March and raised over \$34,000.

This year we had 92 playing Gentsomes format for the first time. The competition was followed by a lunch, a silent and live auction and a raffle.

The monies raised from this event will be supporting Peninsula Health's New Prostate Ultrasound Scanning Machine, and the Women's Community Shelter Project on the Mornington Peninsula.

Merrin Munroe





### FOUR NEW MEMBERS AT PAYNESVILLE!



*Margot Byrne inducting new member Graeme Radford with sponsor President John Waller*



*Graeme and Margot*



*Our 4 new members: Seated- Rob & Robyn Rutherford, Standing- John Wilkins & Graeme Radford*



*Meg Hopman, VP John Hopman & therapy dog Lola*



*President John and Lola*



*New member Graeme with proud wife Deb*



*Trainer Kerry with therapy dog Willow*



*Food Van Coordinator Mary Hammond*



*Meg addresses meeting about therapy dog psychology and training*



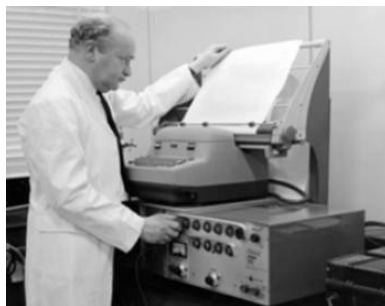


## BAKER INSTITUTE'S 99<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY

**From Vision to Breakthroughs  
99 years of impact**

On 10 May 1926, Thomas and Alice Baker, along with Eleanor Shaw, laid the foundation for what would become the Baker Institute - a bold step sparked by a shared vision with pathologist John Mackeddie, to advance medical research at The Alfred Hospital. From a small lab at the back of the hospital, the Institute quickly became a catalyst for innovation: funding Australia's first hospital biochemistry department in 1922. The Baker Institute was instrumental in pioneering the discovery of the two types of diabetes, helping enable The Alfred's first open-heart surgery in 1957 with a heart-lung machine built in our own labs and established evidence of the link between compound analgesics and kidney disease which led to a ban of these painkillers in 1977.

For nearly a century now, the Baker Institute has been driving life-saving research in cardiovascular disease, diabetes and related conditions - always translating discovery into better care.



*Joseph Bornstein studying results obtained during his work on diabetes*



*Professor Priscilla Kincaid-Smith researching analgesic nephropathy.*



*Australia's first Heart Lung Machine in use.*

## YOUTH OF THE YEAR

The 2024/2025 Youth of the Year Multiple District Final was held over the weekend of the MD Convention in Traralgon.

The Multiple District Youth of the Year Public Speaking Award AND Overall Winner was awarded to Jasper Robinson from Q4 and sponsored by the Lions Club of Fraser.

All students from all states were fantastic. So inspiring and so mature for the ages.

Moving forward: Youth of the Year 2026!

Approach your secondary school NOW and hold your Club YOTY final between 1st July and 31st December 2025.

This wonderful project can only continue with the support of all Cubs in our District.

Julie Swan  
District 201 V3 YOTY Chairperson  
[julieswan59@gmail.com](mailto:julieswan59@gmail.com)  
0487 190 359



## ...AND LAST BUT DEFINITELY NOT LEAST

### KOO WEE RUP LIONS CRAFT & QUILT SHOW JUNE 28

Just to let you know, the Koo Wee Rup Lions Club is once again organising its Craft & Quilt Show.

This show was the brainchild of Sheryl Blay, a valued member of our Lions Club for many years, who, with her husband Ken has moved to the other side of Melbourne. The Club's aim, with your participation, is to make this year's show as big a success as the previous shows.

Now, the important details:

When: Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2025

Where: Community Centre, Rossiter Road, Koo Wee Rup (Cochrane Park)

Hours: 9.30am to 4.00pm

Exhibits: To be delivered to the Community Centre on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June (timing to be confirmed)

The aim of the show is to continue to showcase the talents of Koo Wee Rup people together with those in surrounding communities. Anyone and everyone is invited to exhibit at the show and there is no charge attached. However, all those wishing to exhibit are required to complete an Entry Form for each item submitted.

Need an Entry Form? Email  
[jack.napior@bigpond.com](mailto:jack.napior@bigpond.com)

An entry fee of \$5 a person will apply on the day and a café will be operating during the hours of the show, so whether you are exhibiting or not, come along for an enjoyable experience.

Please be aware that all monies raised from this show will continue to go directly into community projects.

Jack Napior  
Email: [jack.napior@bigpond.com](mailto:jack.napior@bigpond.com)  
M: 0418 729 912



STATE PARLIAMENT VIC LIONS CLUB  
CHARTERED 2002

**Need for Feed  
AUSTRALIA**



## THE GREAT DEBATE

### POLLIES VS MEDIA



**"That AI politicians would be better than real politicians"**

**Thursday 19 June 2025**  
**Be seated by 6.15 pm**  
**Debate starts 6.30 pm sharp**  
**Drinks and canapes follow the debate**  
**Enter Parliament by front steps from 5.30pm**  
**Tickets \$120**  
**Lions Members \$100**

**Adjudicated by Sammy J**

**Sumeyya Ilanbey AFR**  
**Raf Epstein ABC Mornings**  
**Tom Elliott 3AW Mornings**



**Hon Gabrielle Williams**  
**Hon David Hodgett**  
**Jade Benham MP**



**HawkerBritton**  
Government Relations Strategy



**AUSTRALIAN HOTELS  
ASSOCIATION**



Thanks for reading!  
Please send your news for  
the July edition.  
All submissions to  
[v3newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:v3newsletter@gmail.com).  
**DEADLINE JUNE 23**



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