



Lions District V3 ROAR!

LEGO CHAMPIONS OF MORNINGTON!

Lions Club of Mornington – Lions LEGO Primary Schools Competition 2025

One of Mornington Lions Club's projects has involved organising an Annual Lego Technical Building Competition, consisting of up to 8 students in teams from Grade 4 to 5 from local schools.

The idea is to create non-physical and creative challenges for children. The rules are that they must only use the special Technical Lego Kit that we provide to each school. Then the challenge is to construct a Lego Model that is unique and will perform some form of active work yet remain static.

With a financial grant from Bendigo Bank - Community Bank Mt Martha the Mornington Lions Club were able to purchase and provide Technical Lego Kits to every one of the 10 competing schools. The Lego kits were delivered to the schools one week prior to the event date of 7th November to allow the students time to practice. Their constructions then to be dismantled and all parts to be replaced in the Lego Box and brought with them to the competition.

Following are the ten schools who participated in the 2025 competition which was held in the Studio Hall of the Mornington Theatre, Wilsons Road, Mornington:



Balcombe Grammar School
Kunyang Primary School
Moorooduc Primary School
Mornington Park Primary School
Mount Eliza Primary School
Mount Eliza North Primary School
Mount Martha Primary School
Osborne Primary School
Peninsula Grammar School
St Thomas More Primary School

Lions Club Secretary John Hannah was the Technical Compliance Referee and part of the judging panel led by our President Neil Bennie. The teams were given 90 minutes to construct their Lego competition entry. The judges considered the clever and unique constructions together with the technical design features. Neil Bennie then presented the winning school Osborne Primary School with an inscribed Perpetual Winners Trophy in addition to a new Lego Technical Building Kit. The runner up school team was from Mount Eliza Primary School. Each participating school retained the Lego Technical Kit used for their construction in the competition.

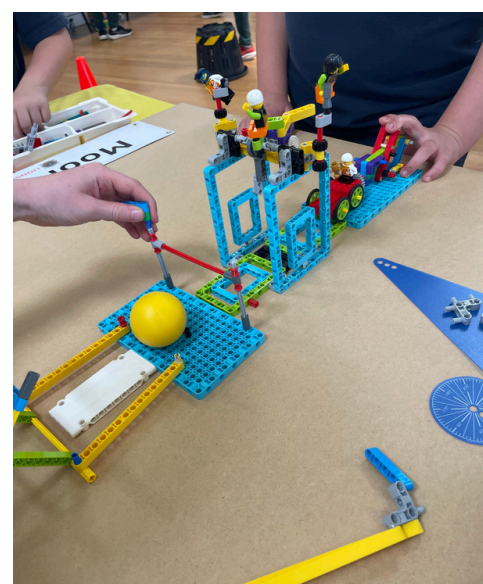
It was enjoyable for everyone present to see the creativity, enthusiasm and thrill all the students gained from taking part in the competition. We look forward to designing a new Lego Challenge for 2026.

Lego competition organiser
Lion Graham Read

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.



FACULTY DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

We recently had the pleasure of attending the final Lions International Faculty Development Institute (FDI) held in Sydney from 20–23 November. Thanks to strong support from our V3 District, we were able to take part in this program which sees service as not just about how we help the community but how we service our Lions community. This was the last FDI prior to the program undergoing a revamp and relaunch next year.

The Institute brought together Lions from Australia, New Zealand, and Indonesia with the aim of strengthening our ability to serve as effective trainers and facilitators within our organisation. The focus was on delivering engaging, interactive, and skills-based training rather than simply giving presentations. These skills will be used for facilitating programs such as Club Development Days, Zone Chair Training, and Incoming Officer Training which other Lions will attend.

Over three intensive days, we participated in seminars on learning styles, workshop preparation, public speaking, and techniques for encouraging interactive learning. A key component involved preparing and delivering our own training session using a provided instruction guide and participant manual. This required understanding the pre-prepared training content in depth, executing activities, and then presenting the workshop to fellow attendees.

The Institute also offered valuable opportunities to share ideas across districts and countries, learn about different Lions projects, and build cross-district relationships. We gained useful tips from peer-led workshops covering problem solving, effective communication, overcoming obstacles, time management, personal mission statements, and goal setting which we will pass on through our own training sessions.



All Victorian attendees



Flynn and Merrin with the Certificate of Completion

We now look forward to using these skills at the upcoming District Incoming Officer Training which will be our final step before accreditation as trainers/facilitators. While many attendees were progressing through the District Governor pathway, we were pleased to focus on supporting our current and incoming District Governor and their teams.

Finally, we encourage any Lion interested in personal development or future training opportunities to speak with Geoff Turnbull, who can provide information on upcoming skill-building conferences and programs available to Lions.

We look forward to seeing you all at an upcoming training session near you!

- Lions Flynn Collier & Merrin Munroe



KINDNESS MATTERS

LIONS CLUB OF WELLINGTON/LATROBE INC

Our club had the very real pleasure of welcoming our esteemed District Governor GEOFF ANDERSON and the delightful ROSEMARY ANDERSON to our November Dinner meeting.

It's been a very long time since we've had the pleasure of having a 201V3 DG attend one of our meetings. It was interesting to hear how well travelled our DG is, he most certainly leads an interesting life.

During his visit, DG Geoff awarded our President, Lion Margaret Foulds with a well deserved

BARRY J PALMER AO RECOGNITION AWARD – KINDNESS MATTERS

This award was indeed very appropriate, as Lion Margaret is well known for her many acts of kindness to Lions and the general community.



TOONGABBIE PLAYGROUP BOOST

We were made aware that the latest version of the Toongabbie Playgroup was really struggling to get going again after some extreme difficulties.

The club decided to see how we could help. President Margaret made contact with them and eventually was given a WISH LIST of things they badly needed with the message that they would be delighted and grateful for any item on the list.

The members decided to empower Lion Margaret and Lion Chris Gardner to purchase ALL of the items on the list. There are now a lot of happy little kids and some absolutely delighted mums and dads in Toongabbie.

During this exercise we also became aware that the special mulching in their playground was almost non-existent, so a decision was made to purchase 22 metres of the special playground mulch and that mulch was promptly spread by Lions and non-Lion volunteers.



Toongabbie and District PLAYGROUP

It was also noted that the playground shade cloth was much the worse for wear, so without further ado, this was replaced as well.

IT'S THINGS SUCH AS THIS THAT MAKES IT SO GREAT TO BE A LION!!

- Wellington/Latrobe Lions



DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S REPORT

Greetings, Lions of District 201V3. We are fast approaching the end of the calendar year and the mid-point of my year as District Governor. The District Conference is well behind us and this leads to the opportunity of planning for events in 2026 and I will come to these. First of all, I will talk about the District Conference. From where I sat, it went well and I must thank the Lions Clubs of Zone 6 for their support and assistance in running the event. Particular thanks to the Lions Club of Warragul for setting up prior, and packing up, after the event.

We did discuss again the terminology – should it be called a “conference” or a “convention”. This had been discussed at length at the 2023 Multiple District Convention at the Gold Coast. For my part – “conference” or “convention” – what the heck. No big deal. But, the younger attendees spoke with conviction in favour of the change. The older attendees were in the majority (we are an aging demographic in case you hadn't noticed) and the motion to change was lost. I recall again the Charles Darwin quote: It's not the strongest species that survive nor the most intelligent. It is the species most adaptable to change.

I did hear some murmurings about the time taken up at the Conference with formalities. These formalities didn't take up a lot of time and they are a necessary fact of life. The District Conference, apart from all else, is also the Annual General Meeting of the District, as such must receive and endorse various reports, and particularly the annual financial statement presented by the Cabinet Treasurer.

District 201V3 will be conducting a Club Development Day, at the Trafalgar Community Centre on Sunday, 26th April. This event will focus on training for members elected as Club Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers and Membership Chairs for 2026/27. However, it will provide useful information for any member and make known to all, the role and responsibilities of those members holding executive positions in their club.

There will also be a special forum for new members, designed to familiarise these members with the Lions organisation and how it functions beyond the individual club. All members are invited and encouraged to attend the Club Development Day and you will hear more about this as the date approaches.

Of course, that leads into my next topic for discussion. Before we take our eyes off the ball for the festive season, we need all be giving thought to the nomination and election of the club executives for the coming year. There are changes afoot. Cabinet Secretary, Terry won't be circulating the fabled PU-101, the form on which we used to enter the detail of incoming Club President, Secretary and Membership Chair. Instead, it will be the task of each incumbent Club Secretary to enter this information directly to the Lion Portal. Information entered onto the Portal will automatically get included on the Multiple District 201 Directory. It isn't rocket science and there are people around (CabSec Terry, and District Administrator, Lion Ron Chidgey) who are able to advise and assist. Watch out! The need to have this information within each club and to have it entered will be upon us sooner than you think.

My scheduled club visits are nearing completion. A few have slipped into 2026 but between First Vice DG elect Dale and I, we have been to most clubs, and I have really enjoyed getting around, meeting members and learning first hand of service activities. Rosemary and I wish all 201V3 Lions Clubs, Lions and their families, best wishes for an enjoyable and safe festive season. May 2026 look favourably on you all!

I continue to look forward to working with the Clubs and Lions of District 201V3. Let's continue to have a great year serving better together.

- DG Geoff Anderson

CABINET SECRETARY'S REPORT

Well December is upon us. Both Diana and I would like to wish all the members and their families a very merry Christmas and a great New Year. I would like to thank our partners for the great effort and time they put in to assisting us in our endeavours to remember District Governors Geoff's slogan “Serving Better Together”, let everyone know you're happy working and assisting your community through Lions. Without their continued support our lives and those of the members of our community would not be so greatly enriched.

I would like to congratulate the following members who nominated and were elected to their positions at the great District Conference at Warragul. I hope all who attending had fun and renewed many fellowships and that it meet your expectations. Thanks to the members of Warragul, Trafalgar, Drouin and Yarragon who assisted in the running of the conference.

District Governor (Elect) – Lion Rod Napper – Maffra

1st vice District Governor – Lion Dale Harriman – Traralgon

2nd Vice District Governor – Lion Sal Giambruno – McCrae & District

Licola Board – Lion Merrin Munroe – Flinders District

VLF – Lion Rod Jackson – Mirboo North

Congratulations to all of these members for putting themselves forward for these positions. We all look forward to working with them all next year.

There were many highlights during the conference and we look forward to next years to follow the tradition now created.

Just a reminder that when the elections for your next board is held early in the new year you must put the information on the Lions Portal as all the information for the MD Directory this year will come from the information supplied on the portal, so please make sure it up to date.

AGAIN MERRY XMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL.

Yours in Lions
Terry
Cab Sec
“Serving Better Together”



INVERLOCH PEDAL POWER

Dear Supporters of Our Local Children,

Inverloch Lions has launched the 'Pedal Power Project' — a new initiative providing brand-new bicycles and safety equipment to local children in the Inverloch and Wonthaggi areas who might not otherwise have access to them.

This impactful community program is a collaboration between Lions, the Wonthaggi Proactive Policing Unit & Inverloch Bike Hire.

The initiative aims to foster healthy recreation, independence, and community inclusion for local children in need. Lions have committed \$4,000 in the first round of funding to purchase bicycles & safety equipment to be delivered before Christmas this year.

While the initial funding covers several recipients, Lions are appealing to the community for donations to extend the program and ensure every identified child receives a bike.

With your help, we can place a bike in the hands of every child who needs one — giving them independence, connection, and a brighter start. We deeply appreciate your generosity and community spirit.

See the Pedal Power Project panel to the right for details.

Kind Regards

Terry Hall
President



Pedal Power Project



- Providing new bicycles & safety equipment to local children in the Inverloch & Wonthaggi areas who might not otherwise have access to them.
- Collaboration between Inverloch Lions, the Wonthaggi Proactive Policing Unit & Inverloch Bike Hire.
- Fostering healthy recreation, independence & community inclusion for local children in need.
- Lions will contribute \$4,000 to supply bicycles delivered before Christmas.
- Lions are appealing to the community for donations to extend this initiative to cover more children.

<https://inverlochions.au/pedal-power>



NOVEMBER AT LAKES ENTRANCE

During November two fundraising events were held with the proceeds being donated to Motor Neurone Disease Association of Victoria, a not-for-profit organisation supporting families who have loved ones diagnosed with MND. The first event was the club's monthly participation at the foreshore market serving up the humble sausage and egg and bacon rolls. The second event was a free customer sausage sizzle sponsored by Hewitt's IGA Lakes Entrance to celebrate the supermarket's opening. Lion members put their cooking skills to the fore and were rewarded with an overflowing MND donation tin. The 2 events raised \$1644 which has been donated to MND Victoria.



Club Secretary Max White and Treasurer Hayden Evans



Club Secretary Max White with Surf Life Saving President Keith Richardson

SUPPORT FOR SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

During November the Lakes Entrance Lions Club engaged the Lakes Entrance Surf Life Saving Club to help out with the setting up of the Lions Club Monday night bingo facilities.

For their services the Surf Life Saving Club were rewarded with a donation of \$1000 which will be put towards the purchase of surfboard being utilised supporting the Surf Club's Nipper program.

Over the years the Lakes Entrance Lions Club has supported a number of local community groups through their Bingo setting up arrangements. Apart from the Life Saving Club other clubs include Swan Reach Hockey Club, Lakes Entrance Basketball Association, Croquet and Tennis Clubs and CFA.



LINDENOW LIONS 50TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER NOV 8



PAYNESVILLE NEWS

From left to right, top to bottom:

1. Lion Bill Jackson lays a wreath on behalf of the Paynesville Lions at the Paynesville Remembrance Day Ceremony.
2. Lion Sally Brutovic received flowers from the club to mark her 50th Birthday.
3. The November Market was washed out so we sold our donated 80 dozen eggs from the Lions Shed. Pictured are Lions Paul and Mary Hammond and Lion Wayne Walker.
4. President John Waller, Immediate Past Treasurer Chris Cannon and Immediate Past President Bill East. Chris was recognised for his outstanding service as Treasurer for the past 3 years.



V3 Lions Club Development Day

APRIL 26, 2026, 9:00 AM
JOIN US FOR GROWTH!

\$5 CHARGE INC.
MORNING TEA AND
LUNCH

TRAFALGAR COMMUNITY
CENTRE



Learn all about the exciting new things happening in Lions - learn all that is new in your club role, whether it is your first time or your tenth!

We welcome everyone taking on a club role, and all new members too.

Contact Cabinet Secretary Terry to book your place NOW.

"Club development day? Best thing I ever attended!"



...AND LAST BUT DEFINITELY NOT LEAST



ASSISTANCE DOGS

NOW AVAILABLE – 2026 Lions Assistance Dogs Calendars

The 2026 Lions Assistance Dogs calendars are now available for purchase at \$10 each!

They make wonderful Christmas gifts and pair beautifully with another Lions favourite...our Christmas Cakes! This is a great opportunity for Clubs to promote both projects together as part of their end-of-year fundraising.

All funds raised go directly toward breeding, training, raising, and placing Hearing, Medical, and Psychiatric Assistance Dogs, provided free of charge to recipients.

Club Sponsorship Opportunity

Did you know that you can sponsor a dog for just \$2,000? This includes naming rights, regular updates, detailed monthly progress reports, and involvement in the 12-week at-home training program. It's a rewarding way for clubs to follow the development of a puppy through to placement.

Merchandise Available

A full range of merchandise is also available for purchase including tote bags, dog toys, plush teddies, pet bag dispensers and more. This is ideal for BBQs, markets and other community events. You can browse items at: www.lionsassistedogs.com.au/shop

For more information and bulk calendar or merchandise orders, contact Flynn Collier on 0438 830 452 or: flynn.collier04@gmail.com.

Please promote calendars, sponsorships, and merchandise within your clubs. Every item sold supports the next life-changing Lions Assistance Dog.

Thank you for your ongoing support and happy festive season to all.
Flynn Collier
V3 Lions Assistance Dogs Chairperson
0438 830 452



Thanks for reading!
Please send your news for the February edition.
All submissions to v3newsletter@gmail.com.
DEADLINE JANUARY 23

WELFARE REPORT

District Governor Geoff and the V3 Cabinet would like to pass on condolences to the family and friends of Lion Glenn Steenweg. Lion Glenn passed suddenly on 9 November and was one of the youngest members of the Toora Club, he was a valued member with an incredible sense of humour. Lion Glenn will be sadly missed by family, friends and the Lions Club of Toora.

Best wishes and condolences are also extended to Lion Guss Lambden, of the Lions Club of Moe on the sad passing of his mother.

Lion Paul Drinkwater from the Lions Club of Moe is on the sick list, best wishes for a speedy recovery.

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

A big welcome to new members who have joined recently, we hope you enjoy being part of the Lions family.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy Christmas New Year period and safe travels.

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

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