



Lions Club of Noarlunga-Morphett Vale Club News December 2020



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President's Report

What a year we are having. I don't know about you but some days I do not know if I am coming or going with COVID 19 restrictions.

I have really enjoyed my year as President so far. You are all such a wonderful lot of people. The meetings have been energetic, productive and enjoyable and at the RSL Hall with the meals being served earlier has made it very easy to organise and run a meeting.

Peter and I went to the Morphett Vale RSL Sub Branch Annual Dinner in August this year and it was lovely to be able to put names to faces. I have also represented our Club at the Christies Beach Surf Lifesaving Club Annual Dinner with Bob and Josie Radford, in presenting donations to Foodbank Christies Beach, CanDo South at their new Colonnades Hub, and laying a wreath at the Morphett Vale Memorial on Remembrance Day. So much happens in our local Community ... my eyes have been opened.

Our Club now has 40 Members after I had the privilege of inducting Leslie Hughes and Zena Costi this year. These two ladies have slotted into Club Activities so easily you would think that they have been part of us for ages.

This year, I asked the First VP Committee if they could ask Club Members, who are involved in other Lions Activities/Projects, to be guest speakers at our Meetings and the list has been so impressive and very interesting. A big thank you to all those concerned.

We have done well with our 2 main fundraising activities this year – the Garage Sale and the Bunnings BBQ. Having the BBQ's on Saturdays and Sundays does seem to help raise more funds but they are much busier and harder especially having to follow the Bunnings COVID19 Plan. I thank you all. I would also like to congratulate the Garage Sale group who spend so many hours each month in sorting "stuff" in the shed and who set it all up with a COVID 19 Plan. Petra Ashton's use of Market Place to help boost the Garage Sale funds is wonderfulwell done. The planning and organising of Christmas Cake Sales is so different this year and I would like to thank everyone involved and wish the Committee luck in sales.

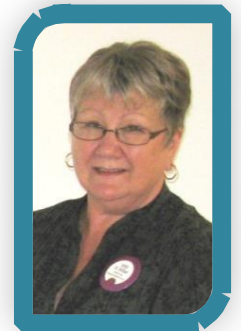
I need to thank also the members who arranged the tours we have enjoyed throughout the year.

We haven't done too bad at all in this topsy-turvy year of 2020.

Let's hope that we all have a lovely Christmas and Holiday Season and be ready to go again next year. There are no meetings planned for January 2021 however, the Garage Sale, (Bunnings BBQ - probably) and of course the President's BBQ will still be on in January 2021 if COVID 19 let them..

Peter and I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

President Deb Millar



1st Vice President's Report



Thank You to all my committee that have worked so hard this year on Club and Service activities.

The following information about Lions involvement in the Twilight Bowls has been supplied by Kelvin Meggison.

Our annual Lawn Bowls Social event is on again this year starting on January 13th and members are encourage to get involved, particularly new members of the club.

No experience is necessary. Players need to wear flat soled shoes, bowls are provided and supper is included in the entry fee of \$10 per night for each player.

A one off registration fee of \$40 per team is payable on the first night in order to register with Bowls S.A.

We have nominated 2 teams, but may be short of players.

So if you would like to have a go at this fun, and sometimes challenging sport, here is a chance to do it in a 'fun' atmosphere.

Trevor (Grumpy) Phillips



This photo, from a past Twilight Bowls event, shows 'Grumpy' instructing his 'crack' team of players.

New Member Joins our Team

We welcome new member Zena Costi into our club. Zena has already been busy helping with activities related to the Lions monthly Garage Sale and other interaction with the community.

Peter Sparnon

Membership Chairman



Sewing Skills Assisted in Tonga

Some time ago our Lions Club donated a number of sewing machines, with our club car-sticker attached, to be used to train high school students in Tonga in sewing skills.

Two machines have been delivered to Pea Middle School.

The principal there, who is also a Home Economics teacher, was so thrilled to receive the equipment and could hardly wait for Jennie and Michael Dicker, who made the presentation on behalf of Lions, to leave, so they could have a whirl on the machines.

Another machine will be going to a women's group in the village of Mu'a where it will be cared for and much used. A big Thank You has been sent to us for our support.



Peter's Hearing Dogs Surprise

On November 11th Peter Sparnon hosted a group of NMV Lions on a visit to the Australian Lions Hearing Dogs Training Centre at Verdun, who are celebrating 40 years of service.

During a tour of the centre Peter's significant contribution to the ALHD program, over a number of years, was recognised with the presentation of a Bill Holmes Award. The award was presented by CEO David Horne and a past recipient, Belinda. PDG Peter served as National Chair for two terms from 2004-2010 and held Board positions before and after.



2nd Vice President's Report



Firstly, I would like to express my thanks and appreciation to all Members who have assisted at Bunnings BBQs, Garage Sales, Mint and Christmas Cake Sales, Glasses recycling etc.

To Petra Ashton, Ian Bentley and Mick Millar I would like to especially thank you for the work they have each done in seeing that project rosters are filled etc. and are able to be carried out with positive results.

This Year with the relaxation of trading restrictions, the club has once more been able to raise funds that we have had the privilege of distributing to those in need in the community.

We have now established a relationship with the Christies Beach Surf Lifesaving Club that is beneficial to both organisations and should, if nurtured, bring many benefits to both clubs.

Geoff Spencer remains active in collecting, sorting, packing and posting glasses to be recycled - 3,309 this financial year. Thank you Geoff.

The Blind Date with a Book project has been established in a café and the results to date are that sales are good with 30 books being placed on consignment and payments beginning to flow back to the club.

Cake Sales continue this year without the use of our sleigh for the first time since I joined the club thereby robbing the club of the ability to carry out one of our most positive public relations exercises. Cake sale levels I understand are good despite this.

Mint sales continue however some outlets are at this time no longer able to have mints placed for sale on their counters. Lyn Reeves manages this project and will in the New Year be canvassing additional businesses to take mints on consignment and will be assisted in this by another member. Thank you, Lyn.

A meeting will be called in the New Year by my committee and Lions involved in garage sales with a view to drafting a set of operational guidelines to improve the project and cutting waste.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all.

VP Bob Radford

Christmas Cake Sales in full swing



Sales have been a little down so far, mainly due to no Sleigh runs this year. Outlets have increased, mainly due to some good foot work done by Bob Radford along South Road.

Additional stock has been arriving at our home in small lots and supplies in the shed are slowly dwindling. Hopefully we won't have too much left over at the end of the year.

Bunnings BBQs Progress Report

This year our BBQs have been spasmodic due to restrictions imposed by our Government looking after us (!/?) however the ones we did do were profitable.

Our thanks go to Milena and her staff for their assistance in setting up on the day.

Also because of so few BBQ's we were able to do, Bunnings have given us \$1,000 in gift vouchers.

Thanks to all who volunteered during the year and to Mick Millar for doing the rosters.

Thank you also to Nurse Heather for bandaging my hand. As a result we now we have an up to date First Aid Kit. So some good came out of my pain.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all my Lion Friends

Ian (Snags) Bentley

A politician visited a remote little rural town and asked the inhabitants what the government could do for them. "We have two big needs," said the Town Mayor. "First, we have a clinic but no doctors. "The politician whipped out his cell phone, spoke for a while and then said, "I have sorted it out. A doctor will arrive here tomorrow. What is your other need?" "We have no cell phone reception at all in our town."

Garage Sale Report



As we are nearing the end of 2020, a year many people would rather forget, I can reflect on a year that, while it had its challenges, has also had some positive aspects. Our Garage Sales have been doing quite well, despite being shut down for about 3 months. We have had to adjust our sales area and introduce all the Covid-19 safe practices, which have worked well. Our shed is now a one way system with sanitizers and we record all visitors' details. While daunting at first, the system now works well. We have also introduced a raffle ticket system, whereby purchasers get a ticket and 5 winners get a \$10 voucher at the next sale, if they produce their ticket. So far we have had some happy customers.

A few Lions members have been selling item on-line through Marketplace and Gumtree and this has proved to be very successful. We are happy for others to help with this venture. It is good fun and we have met some interesting people. "How to" classes are available.



A couple of months ago we were lucky enough, thanks to Bill who comes and helps in the shed by sorting the records, CDs and DVDs, to pick up from a friend of his, some school books etc. This turned out to be a huge job but very profitable. As a result, the Club donated 500 new children's books and 200 new exercise books to Puddle Jumpers, 100 new books to Maureen Kerr who gave them to her Church and about 230 used books that hopefully will be sent overseas. I estimated that these books had a value of about \$4000. We also sold many teacher resource books to some schools and teachers and collected about \$300. In addition the Club also donated

about 180 plastic plates and cups, and 70 plastic knives, forks and spoons to the Christies Beach Surf Life Saving Club to be used by their Little Nippers. As a result of this Garage Sale pick up, the Club was able to help hundreds of people in the community.

Lions have been supporting the Working Bees very well and our band of helpers has been sorting, cleaning, rearranging, disposing and displaying goods. A big 'Thank You' to all who come to the Working Bees. As they say, many hands make light work!! Lunch at the office for debriefing is always fun too!

Our future looks good. We will have to be a little more selective in what we take in to sell because we have run out of room to store items. We will also have to spend more time getting rid of stuff that has been on the shelves for a while and replacing it with new stuff.

Thank you to all who help with the Garage Sale. It is a good money raiser and we have fun.

Petra Ashton (on behalf of the Garage Sale Team)



These photos show that our Garage Sale has come a long way since we first setup in the main Shed.

An elderly man in Adelaide calls his son in Sydney and says, "I hate to ruin your day, but I have to tell you that your mother and I are divorcing. Forty-five years of misery is enough."

"Dad, what are you talking about?" the son screams. "We can't stand the sight of each other any longer" the old man says. "We're sick of each other, and I'm sick of talking about this, so you call your sister in Brisbane and tell her" and he hangs up.

Frantic, the son calls his sister, who explodes on the phone. "Like heck they're getting divorced" she shouts. "I'll take care of this." She calls her dad immediately, and screams at the old man, "You are NOT getting divorced! Don't do a single thing until I get there. I'm calling my brother back, and we'll both be there tomorrow. Until then, don't do a thing, DO YOU HEAR ME?" and hangs up.

The old man hangs up his phone and turns to his wife.

"Okay" he says, "they're coming for Christmas and paying their own airfares."



3rd Vice President's Report



Our committee has dealt with a number of activities this year but our recent focus has been on trialling the Lions Eye Health Program's venture into conducting Children's Vision Screening.

Members of our Lions Club visited Emu Community Children's Centre at Morphett Vale this month to conduct a vision screening session. They were assisted by Bryan Hearn, a Vision Screening Instructor from the Lions Eye Health Program.

All screening equipment, including a Spot Screening Camera that analyses whether there are any abnormalities with the child's eyes through a simple on-site photograph, produces a printout that details findings and recommends whether an optometrist should be consulted, was supplied by LEHP.

The members were completing their training to become LEHP Qualified Screeners for the national program that aims to identify any abnormalities with children's eyes. Lance Reeves arranged the activity as part of his training to become a LEHP Accredited Vision Screening Facilitator.

As expected about 1 in 5 of the children screened were suspected of having a vision issue, although all were found to have vision within an acceptable range. Letters explaining the results were left with the centre for distribution to parents.

As a result of this initial screening, our Lions club will consider whether it will continue conducting screenings in the coming year and expand activities to other schools.



These photos show Linda Smith testing a child's visual acuity, using a Lea Vision Chart, to see how sharp their vision is at longer distances.

While Mick Millar is using special charts to test Colour Vision and ensure that colours are being perceived normally.



Mick Millar

Seaford Lions Club is Official



Congratulations to President Pauline Stainer and members of the Seaford and District Lions Club as they finally celebrated their Charter.

District dignitaries and Lions from several clubs were present to celebrate the official launch of the Seaford club, which had been delayed several times due to Covid restrictions.

Membership of the new club continues to grow and they have a number of community service and fundraising projects in hand.

Attempts to start a club at Seaford started over 10 years ago and finally through the efforts of the C2 District and Leading Lions from our club, Peter and Lyn Sparnon, the area now has a Lions Club to assist their local community.



A man is walking down the road when he sees a pet shop. In the window is a cat with a sign saying "Genuine Netherlands cat".

The man thinks, "I've been breeding cats for years and I've never heard of the Netherlands breed. So he goes into the shop and asks the shopkeeper, "How Dutch is that moggy in the window?"

High Tech Visit by NMV Lions

Recently a number of our Club members were privileged to pay a visit to SAHMRI the largest medical research facility in the Southern Hemisphere ... and it's right here in Adelaide.

The exceptional building of stunning design, located adjacent to the Royal Adelaide Hospital on North Terrace, is affectionately known as the 'Cheese Grater'.



The first impression is of breath-taking and stunning architecture however its beauty is surpassed by the amazing medical research that is carried out for the benefit of the community. The research done here will bring great benefits to all areas of medical science ensuring health and vitality for all.

The laboratories are highly classified and kept under tight security, but a peek through the window and a chat with one of the young

researchers who works at the facility filled the visitors in on the many research programs they are currently running.

At the end of the tour President Deb presented a cheque for \$500.00, from the Lions Club, to assist in the vital research being done at South Australia Health Medical Research Institute.

Thank you to Lou Sedivy for organising this visit and supplying these photos and story.



Rotary High Tea supports Mental Health Programs

On Sunday October 18th Morphett Vale Rotary Club organised a High Tea to raise funds to support mental health research for young people and "Lift the Lid" on mental illness, as part of Mental Health Week. The event, held at the Rotary Hall, Christies Beach, was attended by Rotarians, V.I.P.s and members of the local community, including Lions Elaine and Rob Winter, former members of a Rotaract Club in Alice Springs, equivalent to a Lions Leo Club.

Speakers, Mrs Lyn Jones (from Rotary District 9510) and a woman who has suffered for many years with mental illness spoke on the condition and how people can assist.

All monies raised went to Australian Rotary Health, one of the largest independent funders of mental health research within Australia and which is supported by a number of Rotary Clubs. Rotary Health have a broad vision to improve the health and well-being of all Australians by providing funding a broad range of general health areas, providing scholarships for rural medical and nursing students, as well as Indigenous health students. Australian Rotary Health provides funding into areas of health that do not readily attract funding, and promotes findings to the community.

The cake stands, plates, cups and teapots used were supplied by our Lions Club.

The Rotary Club President said it was most amusing watching the Rotary Club men trying to match up the delicate patterns on the cup and saucer sets, during the setting up of the event and laying of tables.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all our contributors and readers. But try not to over-do it.

Grace Larrache and Rob Winter ... Editors

Sound travels slowly. Sometimes the things you say when your kids are teenagers don't reach them till they're in their 40s.

