



Lions Club

TOOWOOMBA WILSONTON INC.

*LCI Member Number 34881
Founded 1977*

The Willie Whisperer

EDITION ~ AUGUST 26

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF CHARITY

The International Day of Charity was established with the objective of sensitizing and mobilizing people, NGOs, and stakeholders all around the world to help others through volunteer and philanthropic activities.

Mother Teresa of CalcuttaThe date of 5 September was chosen in order to commemorate the anniversary of the passing away of Mother Teresa of Calcutta, who received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979 "for work undertaken in the struggle to overcome poverty and distress, which also constitute a threat to peace."

Charity, when rooted in equity and ethics, is more than generosity: it's a powerful act of global responsibility. It connects people across borders and sectors to confront poverty, uplift communities, and build a more inclusive and sustainable world for everyone.



Important Note... Dinner Policy

Apologies (for non-attendance of a dinner meeting) must be given to the Club Secretary by 9am via text or email on the Monday prior to the meeting for normal Dinner meeting. Secretary email... lionsclubofwilsonintoninc@gmail.com



PO Box 128 Drayton North Qld 4350
www.toowoombawilsonlions.com.au
Facebook
Lions Club of Toowoomba Wilstonon



Serving a World in Need

One act of kindness at a time

President's Report

Our Monthly Update

August has been a little bit Quieter month we had our Harvey Norman BBQ on 1st of August and another sellout day at 12 trays good work to the team on the day we even had a visitor from Japan who wanted to do some service work.

In the evening a few members attended a Charter Night for the New club Laurel Bank Lions.

03/08 We Hosted the First Zone Meeting of the year which went well.

05/08 Ken, Janelle, Col, and I attended the Toowoomba West Lions Farmfest Distribution of funds night; we earned \$5280 for the hard work we put in.

12/08 At our Social Meeting we have members from Laurel Bank, Highfields Eastern Downs, attend our meeting as we had a Guest Speaker Rod Chignell talk about the PNG Fund and the work done over there, we also inducted our new member Michele Newton.

13/08 Ian and I participated in a Zoom meeting on Child Safety and the rule changes with Blue Cards.

15 & 16 /08 A few members helped out at the Gates at the Leyburn Sprints to assist Pittsworth Lions. It was a good weekend.

On the 21st we have a Friday Bunnings BBQ at Bunnings North; it was a steady day we did 15 trays of sausages.

Hall Update

Work is continuing improvements to the hall. We are progressing with the installation of air conditioning; however, we are currently awaiting Ergon Energy. We have been advised that work is expected to commence in October.

We are also obtaining quotes to upgrade the hall's audio-visual system, which will further improve the facilities available for both our members and community groups.

Looking Ahead

September, we have a Bunnings Community Evening on the 3rd of September for Father's Day Our Regular Harvey Norman BBQ on the 5th of September.

For further details on upcoming events and activities, please refer to the meeting minutes and our monthly newsletter.

Until next month, thank you to everyone for your continued support, service, and fellowship.

President Brad Newton



LIONS AT WORK & AT PLAY

LEYBURN SPRINTS

More News

The sun was shining on a perfect August day; the cars rolled in, and spectators – young and old came in their thousands.

Pittsworth Lions Club was again asked to “man” the entrance gates, and President, John Murphy put the call out to neighbouring Lions Clubs for their assistance. The call was answered and John was pleased to have all rosters filled. Lions from Pittsworth, Millmerran, Toowoomba West, Toowoomba Wilsonton, and Highfields North Eastern Downs responded.

Lion Sue O'Neill and Lari were first on the scene with the 6.30am shift on Saturday.



The next shift started at 9.30am and Linda, Daniel, Chris and Bernadette were on this shift.



The workers were all smiles as they partook of various jobs; and the spectators were all just as cheery.

They were followed by Brad and Michele on the 12.30pm duties.

Lions Janelle, and Ken were accompanied by their son Matthew for their shift on Sunday.

The Annual Leyburn Sprints Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th August 2026



ONE for the Money

TWO for the Show



(This is Brad smiling.)



THREE to get Ready



GO Man GO

These are just just some of the beautiful vehicles that were on show for the Hisorical Leyburn Sprints.

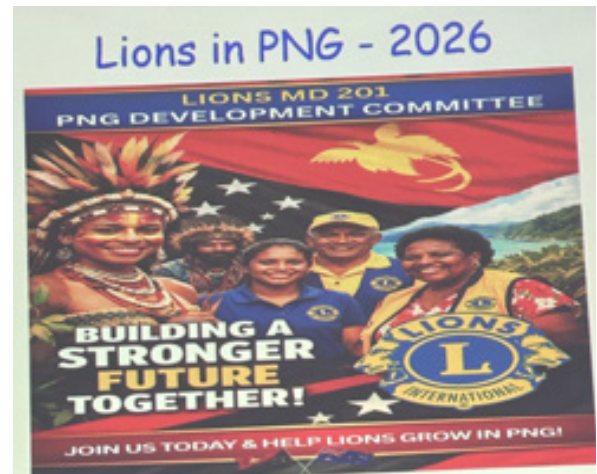


LIONS AUSTRALIA PAPUA NEW GUINEA DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

A recent request for financial assistance for PNG Development Project prompted the Lions Club of Toowoomba Wilsonton to invite PCC Lion Rodd Chignell to be guest speaker at our club's social meeting. We were please to welcome Lions Partners, and members from other Toowoomba Clubs to hear about this lesser known project.

PNG is in District 201Q2, but LIONS has no borders, and the interest from members who attended the meeting was proof of this. While very few in our gathering knew of LIONS in PNG, even fewer have ever been to PNG.

The birthing huts and baby bundles were of particular interest to the audience; along with topics such as health, education, and sight projects.



Lions in PNG have a heart to serve, and serve from the heart as poverty and difficult economy prevents them from fundraising.

On behalf of Toowoomba Wilsonton Lions, President Brad Newton was pleased to present PCC Lion Rod Chignell with a donation in support of our countires nearest neighbours – and the Lions of Papua New Guinea.

Lion Bernadette

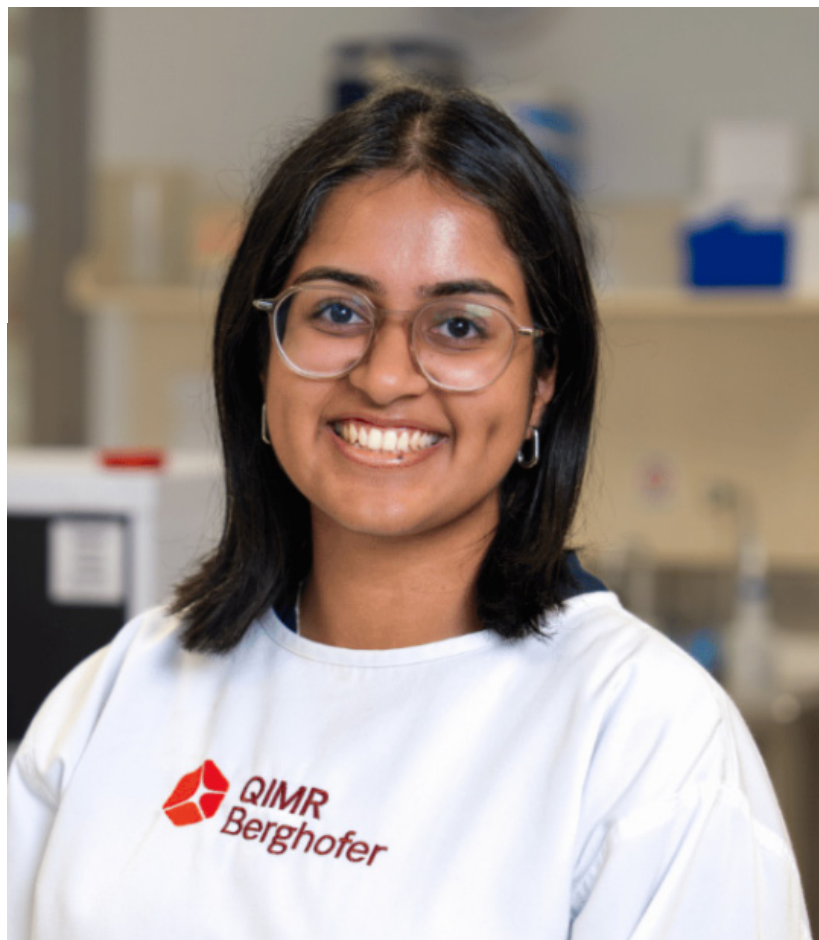
NEW MEMBER SHINES ... HAPPY AND PROUD

Our newest Lion at the Lions Club of Toowoomba Wilsonton, is Lion Michele Newton. Michele never shys away from work and responsibility and has been active in our Lions Club for some time. She is current ly the club's Hall Chairman for Newtown Hall.

Michele's induction was conducted by her very proud husband and Club President, Brad Newton, and was watched on by her Sponsor, Lion Elizabeth Chappell.

Congratulations were forthcoming from the many members who were in attendance at the meeting.





Dear Lions
Club of Toowoomba Wilsonton Inc,

*It's nice to have the chance to write to you.
I may be the one in the lab, but you're part of my team too.*

My name is Dr Chandra Choudhury, and I'm an early-career researcher at QIMR Berghofer.

Most days, you'll find me working on one of the most complex and devastating diseases we face: glioblastoma, an aggressive form of brain cancer that has no cure. My research focuses on understanding how to 'wake up' sleeping glioma stem cells so treatments can target them and prevent tumours from coming back.

It's research that could one day help change lives.

People often hear about medical research when there's a breakthrough. A major discovery. A new treatment. A headline announcing hope.

What we don't see are the years that come before those moments. The promising ideas. The experiments that need to be repeated. The setbacks. The uncertainty. And too often, the struggle to secure the funding needed to keep important research moving forward.

Research can be exciting. It can also be precarious.

In Australia today, many outstanding research projects are stalling, not because researchers lack talent or ideas, but because funding is increasingly difficult to secure. Highly rated grant applications go unfunded, and promising researchers are left wondering whether they can continue their work at all.

I know this because I nearly had to leave research myself.

Thanks to our generous supporters, I was fortunate to receive a \$50,000 early-career grant that quite literally kept me in research and allowed me to continue my work. Because of them, I was able to stay.

Because of them, this research continues.

And that's why support from people like you means so much.

Progress in research only happens because there are people willing to invest in the search for better answers. They are the heroes behind our research. They believe in a future that hasn't been discovered yet.

Every researcher needs the chance to keep asking questions long enough to find answers.

Your support helps make that possible. Not just for me, but for medical researchers across Australia working to improve outcomes for people facing cancer and other devastating diseases.

Please join us for Giving Day on 9 September and make your support count.

Thank you for being part of the team

Warm regards,

*Dr Chandra Choudhury
Early-Career Researcher
QIMR Berghofer*

To donate visit: <https://www.medicalresearchday.org.au/event/qimrberghofer>

NEPAL NEEDS LIONS NOW



Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION

300 W. 22nd Street, Oak Brook, IL 60523-8842 USA | +1.630.571.5466 |

To: Lions Club Presidents

28th August 2026

Subject: Nepal Flooding – An Urgent Call for Lions Support

Dear Lions Club President,

The people of Nepal are facing a devastating situation following severe flooding that has caused widespread damage to communities, homes, infrastructure and livelihoods.

In response to this disaster, Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) has already provided a US\$200,000 grant to support immediate relief efforts and assist those most seriously affected.

This significant contribution demonstrates the power of Lions working together when communities are in need. However, there is much more to be done.

As the immediate emergency response continues, affected communities will require ongoing assistance with food, clean water, shelter, medical support and essential supplies. Beyond the initial relief phase, there will also be a substantial need for rebuilding homes, restoring community facilities and helping families regain their livelihoods.

This is an opportunity for Lions Clubs throughout our region to demonstrate the true meaning of **"We Serve."**

I encourage every Lions Club to consider how it can support the people of Nepal through LCIF. Donations, regardless of size, can contribute to the continued relief and recovery effort and help LCIF extend its support well beyond the initial emergency response.

By giving through LCIF, we can combine the strength of Lions Clubs around the world and make a meaningful difference where it is needed most.

Nepal needs Lions now – and it will need Lions for the recovery ahead.

I ask you to share this message with your members and encourage your Club to consider making a contribution to the Nepal flood relief effort through LCIF. Donations can be made to the Disaster Relief Fund or the Empowering Service Fund. Donations to either fund will count towards accumulation of Melvin Jones Fellowship credits but only donations to the Empowering Service Fund qualify for District and Club Community Impact Grants.

For this appeal please do not deposit funds into the Australian Lions Fund for LCIF as those funds can only be used within Australia.

All donations should be directed through your Cabinet Treasurer.

Together, we can help communities rebuild, restore hope and demonstrate once again the extraordinary difference Lions can make when we stand together.

Thank you for your leadership, your compassion and your commitment to **We Serve.**

Yours sincerely,

PID Tim Irvine

Trustee Lions Clubs International Foundation



A NICE THANKS

"Thank you for inviting us to your dinner on Wednesday night. We felt really welcomed at all times and enjoyed the company and dinner very much.

The talk that Lion Rod Chignall gave on PNG was eye opening and heart touching. I know that both Tom and I will go back to our club and talk about what we learnt.

Once again sincere thanks for your kind invitation.

*Regards,
Judy and Tom Archer
Highfields Lions Club."*

DAN IS TURNING 50TH

LIONS AND PARTNERS YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN DAN TO
CELEBRATE HIS 50TH BIRTHDAY.

SATURDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER

SPORTS CLUB – HUME STREET TOOWOOMBA AT 11AM

JOIN IN BAREFOOT BOWLS AFTER LUNCH

RSVP: 6TH SEPTEMBER TO DAN 0455 511 067



CHRISTMAS WHEELBARROW RAFFLE

Reminder: We are looking for goods to be included in the wheelbarrow to be raffled off for Christmas.

Christmas Cakes sales will commence at Bunnings North at the end of November, and a roster will be circulated.

This year the club will also sell raffle tickets at cake selling. Prize “A Wheelbarrow of drinks for Christmas.”

Please bring along to a meeting or pass onto Brad or Bernie.



Visited Ray and Pat on the 25th at Bupa. Had a nice chat and took a photo.

Another resident of the home decided not to miss out being included in the pic.

Lion Chris

A GREAT CAUSE

DV

Safe Phone

Your IMPACT

AUGUST 2026

A SECOND LIFE FOR YOUR PHONE, A SAFER LIFE FOR SOMEONE ESCAPING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.

Our Impact To Date!

64,000+

The number of donated phones since we began.
Note: Any phones that don't pass our tests are used for parts and recycled through MobileMuster.

21,000+

The number of Australian DV victims supported with a DV Safe Phone

600+

The number of agency partners across Australia helping connect DV victims with a safe phone

1,600+

The number of phone drop partners across Australia where you can donate your phone

<https://dvsafephone.org/donate-funds>

Out & About

SAVE THE DATE

7th - 10th May
2027



CELEBRATING SERVICE. INSPIRING TOMORROW



Dates to Remember

BIRTHDAYS

AUGUST

Belinda - 4th
Pat - 15th



MEMBER WELFARE

John has concerns that Josh Muller hasn't been at meetings or projects and can't be contacted. Josh has had phone & internet issues. Back on track now.

Lion Pat Eagle has moved to Bupa & settling well. He is in the same area as Lion Ray Krause.

Lion Bill Lane is doing ok.

Lion Sue will have throat surgery next Tuesday, 25th August (this was postponed) and then a hip replacement on 07th October. Positive thoughts to you Sue.

DID YOU KNOW

Acronyms of the Month

ALCMF

– Australian Lions Children's Mobility Foundation

DISTRICT (201Q3)

GST

– Global Services Team

Remember

to check out our website

www.toowoombawilsonlions.com.au

and facebook

Lions Club of Toowoomba Wilsonton
for more news & events

MEETINGS THIS MONTH

SEPTEMBER 2026

Wednesday	12 th	6:30pm	Dinner Meeting - Newtown Hall- Social Night
Sunday	20 th	3:00pm	Board Meeting - Newtown Hall - NOTE CHANGE OF DATE
Wednesday	26 th	6:30pm	Dinner Meeting - Newtown Hall

PLEASE NOTE

October HN BBQ - Date Change:
Changed to Saturday, 10th October.
Time change: First shift will be 8am to 11am; the second shift will be 11am to 1.30pm.

Vera La Caze BBQ:
Date Saturday 10th October starting at 3.00pm and finishing at 5.00pm.

Board Meetings

3rd Monday of the Month

Dinner Meetings

2nd & 4th Wednesday of the Month

7:00pm for 7:30pm

Newtown Hall @ 49 Rome Street Newtown

MEETINGS NEXT MONTH

OCTOBER 2026

Wednesday	9 th	6:30pm	Dinner Meeting
Sunday	20 th	3pm	Board Meeting - Newtown Hall - NOTE CHANGE OF DATE
Wednesday	23 rd	6:30pm	Dinner Meeting - Newtown Hall

Dates to Remember