



Lions Club

TOOWOOMBA WILSONTON INC.

*LCI Member Number 34881
Founded 1977*

The Willie Whisperer

EDITION ~ MAR 26

EARTH DAY

Saving Our Planet and Growing Our Membership

Earth Day is April 22 and there is no better time to plan an environmental service project and invite non-Lions to join you in service.



The Earth Day 2026 theme is "Our Power, Our Planet," highlighting that environmental progress is driven by community action, everyday people, and local solutions rather than solely by national governments. The campaign focuses on strengthening environmental protections, fostering community involvement, and driving systemic change on April 22, 2026, and throughout Earth Week.

As a Club we are always on the go doing our bit to reduce waste and recycle many different things which is fantastic.



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... lionsclubofwilsontoninc@gmail.com



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



Serving a World in Need

One act of kindness at a time

President's Report

Hi members, another month as past us again and things start to cool down. At the beginning of the month, we had Easter and hope all the members had a enjoyable long weekend with family and friends.

On a first Dinner meeting we had our first "Loud shirt" meeting, members wore the latest shirts or tops that they could find. Some photos were taken and should appear in the latest edition of the "Willie Whisperer". Donation was also given to Lions Medical Research Foundation. I presented Lion Brad with his 3-year service badge. Lion Brad was looking for volunteers to assist in the Club 50th birthday bash in late 2027.

I then introduced Lion Chris PROUDLOCK from Pittsworth Lions Who spoke on behalf of the Lions Eye Health Program, and he was looking for "screeners" to attend local schools and conduct eye tests on students. A donation of \$500 was donated by our Club to the Lions Eye Health program.

On our 2nd meeting we had DG Narelle GLUER attend our meeting and discuss her theme for her term as District Governor. She then made an award presentation to Cathy McNICKLE (Not present, not a member) for her volunteer work at the Eat up sandwiches' day. She was given the Excellence in Service Award. This will be given to her on the next sandwich making day. I then donated to DG GLUER'S charity, which was the ALF.

DG GLUER then inducted Vanessa LANDER as the newest member of the Club. She accepted our invitation to the Club. Members congratulated her into the Club. Congrats Vanessa, hope you enjoy the Club projects and fellowship with members. Later in March, Lion Brad, Elizabeth and Lion Ken and I attended the north Bunnings Markets to promote our Club and Lions. It was mainly for children, but a our "face" there. I did well with collecting cans and bottles in the area for our recycling account. We then had CBL Lion Linda SCHEFE conducted the nomination of Lions to fill the Clubs board positions for 2026/2027. This was done and all positions were filled and were recorded in the March 25 Dinner Minutes. Congratulations to those members who accepted the positions.

Lion Ron discussed the Halls situation, and it was advised that Groom Park Hall will be given back to Council at the end of March 2026, which has been done. Laurel Bank Hall will be taken over by the Clifton Lions Club in mid-April. I thank Lion Ron for his assistance and direction to have the Halls disposed of. There is progress for the Air conditioning at Newtown Hall and we are going through Council and Subzero AC for having this commenced ASAP.

Future events:

Youth of the Year District Final at Pittsworth 18/4/26.

Lions Bernadette are arranging a minibus for members to attend.

Contact her for any further information.

Hearing Dog Information Day Bunnings North 19th April

Anzac day - Gunfire breakfast. Volunteers wanted to assist. See Lion Ian.

School Sandwiches – 27th April. Volunteers needed to assist in making sandwiches and deliver to schools.

Stay Safe
President Chris DALGLEISH



DG NARELLE GLUER'S VISIT



Lion Linda Schefe introduced District Governor Narelle Gluer who enthralled members with explanation of Lions project acronyms, the International Presidents theme (who knew he was a car salesman?), along with her own theme for her term as District Governor. All members managed to "smile" along with Narelle's presentation.

DG Narelle then made a presentation of the District Governor's Excellence in Service Award which has been awarded to Cathy McNickle, a regular helper at our sandwich making sessions. Cathy was unable to attend tonight's dinner, and the award will be presented to her at our next sandwich session on 27th April.

President Chris Dalglish thanked Lion Narelle for her visit and presented her with a donation of \$500.00 which will be paid to ALF.



MONARCH CHEVRON AWARD

The Following People received there Monarch Cheron Award for service to Lions, Chris was going to Arrange presentations and Photo's to Ray Krause and Greg Lane

Lions International Monarch Chevron Awards celebrate members' long-term service, beginning at 10 years and continuing in five-year increments up to 95 years. The Monarch Chevron is for any Lion,

Key Aspects of the Monarch Chevron Award:

Purpose: Recognises dedicated long-term membership and encourages continued community service.

Eligibility: Awarded every five years starting from 10 years of service (10, 15, 20... up to 95).

Types:

Monarch Chevron: For members with 10+ years of service.

Charter Monarch Chevron: Specifically for charter members of a club.

Process: Awards are generally sent automatically to district governors for presentation during the first quarter of the fiscal year.

- Greg Lane 40year Chervon
- Ken Bray 50 year Chevron
- Barry Apps 45 year Chevron
- Ray Krause 15 year Chevron
- Col Schulz 50 year Chevron



Also present but will be given at the next Sandwiches day and photos supplied District Governors - Excellence in Service Award Cathy McNickle

WELCOME VANESSA



Sponsor Lion Janelle Bray brought forward Vanessa Lander who was then inducted into Lions Clubs International by DG Narelle Gluer. Our newest member, Lion Vanessa Lander, was then congratulated by all members present.



2026/2027 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CBL Chair, Lion Linda Scheffe, conducted the nomination of Lions to fill positions on the 2026 / 27 Board of Directors with the following result

Membership Chair	Lion Elizabeth Chappell
GST Chair	Lion Ian Chase
CBL Chair	Lion Ron McGuire
Lion Tamer	Lion Dan Mahon
Tail Twister	Lion John Wrench
1st Year Director	Lion John Wrench
2nd Year Director	Lion Elizabeth Chappell
2nd Vice President	Lion Sue O Neill
1st Vice President	Lion Barry Apps
Treasurer	Lion Janelle Bray
Secretary	Lion Bernadette Craig
Minute Secretary	Lion Linda Scheffe
President	Lion Brad Newton
Immediate Past President	Lion Chris Dalglish (automatic)



Out & About

LIONS EYE HEALTH PROGRAM

Lion Chris Proudlock from Pittsworth Lions Club explained the Lions Eye Health Scholl Screening to members and reported on the progress being made in the Darling Downs region. President Chris presented a cheque for \$500.



LOUD SHIRT DAY



Our Club wearing loud shirts to support Lions Medical Research Foundation.

MEMORIES
We got LOUD for
Lions Medical Research
Foundation

LMRF

Today's
Research is
Tomorrow's
HOPE

HARVEY NORMAN BBQ

Anything look similar???



Afternoon Shift - Col, Chris, Brad, and Vanessa



Morning Shift - Brad, Sue, Linda, and Josh

Out & About

LIONS YOUTH OF THE YEAR

More News

Region 2 Judging event was held on 7th March at the Toowoomba City Library Community Rooms with the host being the Lions Club of Highfields North Eastern Downs - with District Governor Narelle and Members of a number of LIONS Clubs and with family and friends supporting the entrants in attendance.

The students came from Highfields State Secondary College, Fairholme College, and Centenary Heights High School. The judges were Mr Graham Healy, Mrs Jules Davey, and Cr Melissa Taylor - with Mrs Davey being the Chair of the Judging Panel. The winners were announced as Public Speaking, Corben Martin from Centenary Heights and the Overall Winner to go through to the District Level is Mariam Nabizada from Fairholme College.

There were 2 comments that came to me from the Judges

#1

Believe me, our eventual decision was extremely difficult due to the incredibly high standard of the three candidates. Lions YOTY is such a wonderful concept and gives me great hope that there are so many terrific young Australians out there who are our future.

#2

I just wanted to thank you again for inviting me to be a part of your guest panel. It was an absolute honour to participate in the program, and I walked away feeling truly inspired and grateful to be part of a community that invests in and supports our local young people so wholeheartedly.

- **Lion Bernie**

Editors Note: Lots of photos to be included in next edition!



You are invited
to the judging
of the
District Final
of
Lions Youth of the Year

To be held on
Saturday 18 April 2026
6.00pm for 6.30pm Start

At
Pittsworth Motor Inn
51 Helens Street, Pittsworth, Queensland




Program for the Evening:
Student interviews will have been conducted during the day
Public Speaking begins with impromptu questions and then prepared speeches
Dinner served during the function followed by the Announcement of Winners

Cost \$40.00 per person

Dress Coat & Tie for Men; Ladies after 5.00 wear.

For catering purposes, please complete the booking form and return by email to:-
Kerri Crighton at kcrig1@eq.edu.au by Friday, 10 April 2026

Narelle Gluer
District 201Q3





MARCH 2026

Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION
DISTRICT 201Q3

NEWS FROM YOUR LCIF DISTRICT CO-ORDINATOR



Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION

Donate for a Chance to Win

- For every **\$1000** (AUD) donation to LCIF gives your Club **1 entry** into the draw
- **Eligibility:** Q3 Lions Clubs only - donations made from 1 July 2025 through to 31 May 2026
- **Prize:** \$1000 (US) LCIF Instalment credits to purchase a Melvin Jones Fellowship or a Progressive MJF
- **Contact:** Kevin Hedges [201Q3 LCIF Chair] for further information kevshedges@optusnet.com.au - Ph: 0437 088 868



RECOGNISE YOUR MEMBER'S SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY WITH A MELVIN JONES FELLOWSHIP OR PROGRESSIVE FELLOWSHIP.

Meaningful recognition is rarely asked for but truly matters particularly when it relates to volunteers. Recognising our Lions members matters as their contribution is freely given and that changes everything. When considering recognition it is important to understand:

- ◆ Volunteers are motivated by purpose, not pay
- ◆ It makes invisible work (service) visible
- ◆ It strengthens belonging to your Club and our organisation
- ◆ It sustains commitment and retention of members
- ◆ It reinforces our values (what we as Lions stand for)
- ◆ It encourages others.

It is time to consider whether any members of your Club should receive the highest recognition a Club can give. The Fellowship recognises service with impact, not status or position. It combines recognition with real-world benefit as the donation directly funds humanitarian projects.

I encourage you to make your donations as soon as possible and apply for the Fellowships early.



CLUB EXCELLENCE AWARD 2025/26

A number of Lions Clubs in our District have in the past received the Club Excellence Award from Lions Clubs International. It is

important to note that a number of the criteria for this award have changed this year and one is the criteria relating to donations. The donation criteria now reads: *'Contributed to LCIF a minimum of the club's membership total on June 30th of the previous Lion year, multiplied by US\$20.00.'*

PERSONAL TAX INCENTIVE

Did you know you can get a personal tax deduction when you as an individual contribute to LCIF (via the LCIF Australia Fund)? This is the same principle as applied when you donate to main-stream charities in Australia. An extra incentive for individuals to donate is that your donation will also counts towards Melvin Jones Fellowship instalment credits. Club are encouraged to continue their support of the Foundation but the Australian tax laws do not allow Clubs to have this tax benefit.

Remember that 100% of funds donated by individuals or clubs in Australia stays in Australia for the benefit of our communities.

More to share

VOLUNTEERING

the choice you make
the difference you make
the world you make



BIRTHDAYS

APRIL

- Josh - 8th
- Colin - 16th
- Linda W - 20th
- Jo-Anne - 22nd



Dates to Remember

WORLD DAY

National Pet Day is celebrated annually on April 11th to honor the joy pets bring to our lives and raise awareness for animals in need of homes. It focuses on celebrating all types of pets—furry, feathered, or scaled—and encourages adoption, fostering, and spending extra quality time with companions.

How are you going to spoil your pet with even more love this April?

Izzy & Leia are always loved up in Chris & Jo's house.



HAPPENING THIS MONTH

APRIL 2026			
Wednesday	8 th	6:30pm	Dinner Meeting - Election Night
Saturday	18 th		Youth of The Year District Final - Pittsworth
Sunday	19 th		Hearing Dog Info Day - Bunnings North
Monday	20 th	7:30pm	Board Meeting - Newtown Hall
Wednesday	22 nd	6:30pm	Dinner Meeting - Newtown Hall
Saturday	25 th		Anzac Day
Monday	27 th	9:00am	School Sandwiches



COMING UP

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

MAY 2026			
Saturday	2 nd	8:00am	Youth of The Year State Final - Bundaberg
Monday	4 th	8:00am	BBQ - Bunnings North
Saturday	9 th	8:00am	BBQ - Harvey Norman
Wednesday	13 th	6:30pm	Dinner Meeting - Newtown Hall
Saturday	16 th		Club Social Croquet Afternoon
Monday	18 th	7:30pm	Board Meeting - Newtown Hall
Monday	25 th	9:00am	School Sandwiches
Wednesday	27 th	6:30pm	Dinner Meeting - Newtown Hall

BILLIE CART PREPARATIONS



POT OF GOLD



BUNNINGS NORTH



President Chris sent a lovely message on March 17th...

Hi All, In the garden this morning and found a pot of gold. Enjoy the day. Happy Birthday to Lion Ken BRAY and Kylie LEVANDE who have birthdays today. (March 17th)

Thanks Chris & where is my share of the gold?

DID YOU KNOW

Acronyms of the Month

LCI

– Lions Club International

DISTRICT (201Q3)

DGE

– District Governor Elect

Thank You
VOLUNTEERS



Remember

to check out our website
www.toowoombawilsontonlions.com.au
and facebook

Lions Club of Toowoomba Wilstonon
for more news & events



A copy of this edition of The Willie Whisperer has been printed, for historical purposes, courtesy of the Office of Trevor Watts MP, Member for Toowoomba North.