



Lions Club

TOOWOOMBA WILSONTON INC.

*LCI Member Number 34881
Founded 1977*

The Willie Whisperer

EDITION ~ MAY 26

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

Held on June 5th. The 2026 Focus: Climate Action The global campaign for World Environment Day is organized by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP).

The planet doesn't argue. It doesn't negotiate. It sends signals—rising seas, raging wildfires, heatwaves, melting glaciers. We said 1.5°C was the limit. We are crossing it.

For decades, the world has heard the climate story—warnings, targets, distant deadlines. Too often, the response has been clouded by noise: delay, distraction, denial.

But listen closer now. Beneath the noise, another signal is rising. Solar panels stretch across rooftops. Wind turbines line the horizon. Cities are being redesigned for people. Forests are being replanted. Positive tipping points are taking root in every corner of the planet.

World Environment Day 2026 focuses on climate change—on the urgent signals the Earth is sending and the signals we choose to send back. UNEP's global campaign calls on all of us to step in, to move further, to steer a world already in motion. The question is no longer if change comes, but how we guide it and how fast it happens.



Serving a World in Need

One act of kindness at a time

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



President's Report

Hi Members,

Yet another month has passed — and they certainly seem to be going faster. This could possibly be my final report as President, and once again it has been another interesting and busy month for our Club.

Our Billy Cart Race Challenge was held at Apex Park, Gatton, against the Lions Club of Toowoomba West. Once again, we were successful, winning two out of the three races contested. Unfortunately, our cart crashed during the first race, while the Toowoomba West cart was unable to race again afterwards. The same two carts supplied by the Gatton Cart Club were then used for the remaining races. The Gatton cart won the second race, while our cart secured victory in the third race. There was a little controversy over the results, but in the end, our Club was declared the overall winner and received the trophies. Congratulations to our driver, Lion Dan MAHON, on achieving his second win.

At our first dinner meeting for the month, we welcomed two guest speakers from the Queensland Police Service, Senior Sergeant Nicole JACKSON and Sergeant Jo O'NEILL. They spoke on domestic violence issues and supporting vulnerable people within the community. On behalf of the Club, we presented a \$500 donation to Police Legacy.

During the meeting, service tabs were presented to Lion Peter McAULIFFE, Lion Ian CHASE, and Lion George COSSART in recognition of their dedicated service. Congratulations to all recipients. Peter also advised members that he will be leaving Toowoomba and transferring from the Club as he relocates to Brisbane to be closer to family. Peter, we are sorry to see you go and wish you all the very best for the future.

We also met with Hannah Francavilla, a prospective new member, at the Bray residence to discuss Club membership and invite her to attend one of our meetings. Hopefully, Hannah will decide to join us in the near future.

Lion Sue O'NEILL organised a Croquet Afternoon on 16 May, attended by members of our Club and members of the Croquet Club. Participants were given instructions on how to play the game, followed by a very enjoyable afternoon tea. By all reports, it was an excellent afternoon. Thank you, Sue, for organising the event.

On 25 May, we held another sandwich-making morning at Newtown Hall, with excellent member attendance. Councillor Rebecca VON HOFF also attended and assisted with wrapping sandwiches. Roxanne RYAN and Sharon, a friend of Kathy, also helped with the preparation. Well done and thank you to everyone involved.

Our final dinner meeting for the month was held earlier than usual due to the State of Origin game that evening. During the meeting, a One-Year Membership Tag was presented to Lion Steve EARL.

Lion Steve also reminded members about the upcoming Harvey Norman BBQ on 13 June and the Bunnings North BBQ on Sunday, 14 June. If you are available to assist, please contact Steve directly. Due to the State of Origin match, no raffles or tail twisting activities were conducted that evening.

We are still awaiting a response from Ergon regarding the electrical supply upgrade for the Hall air-conditioning project. We will get there eventually.

A reminder that Farmfest will be held on 2, 3 and 4 June, and volunteers are still needed to assist during the event.

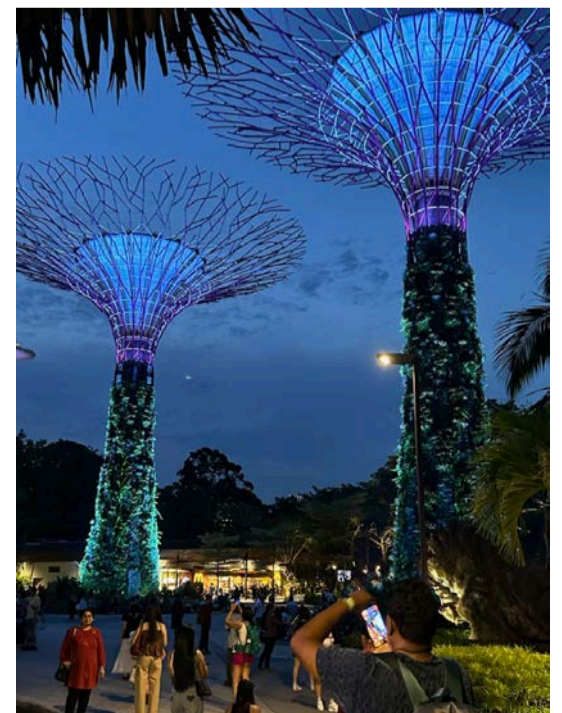
Our Club Changeover will be held at the Irish Club, Russell Street, on 20 June. This will be a lunchtime function. Please refer to the recent flyer distributed to members for further details.

Dates for other Club Changeover events can be found in the minutes from the last dinner meeting. That's all for now, Folks.

C.N. DALGLEISH
President



Singapore gardens were a spectacular sight to see on our latest adventure.



ANYONE FOR CROQUET?

What a wonderful day Wilsonton Lions enjoyed on Saturday 16th May.

We arrived at 2.00pm at Newtown Croquet Courts for an afternoon of friendship and fun.

We were greeted by John, Trevor and Phillip ready to guide us into the world of Croquet, and what fun we had.

We started as groups of 4 then merged into teams of 2. We got quite cheeky once we learned to knock our opponent's balls away from the hoop.

The idea is to hit balls through a hoop with a wooden mallet through your legs. It takes a bit of time to know how much strength you need to hit the ball for the distance required.

Everyone supplied afternoon tea and we had lucky door prizes.

The delicious offerings were a wonderful feast and much appreciated by our tutors, they won 2 of the lucky door prizes too.

All in all a wonderful fun afternoon which will be repeated in Spring.

- Lion Sue
- Lion Ian (photos)



Out & About

The Road to the Finals...

Attending Youth of the Year Judging is always an exciting time on the Lions Calendar, and this year was no exception.

Our Club Winner, Marian Nabizada from Fairholme College, progressed to Region Winner and District Winner before completing at the State Youth of the Year Final in Bundaberg.

Mariam was accompanied by her mother at this event, and she was encouraged by Lions from our Club. Our Board of Directors was very supportive in agreeing to hire a small bus to transport our entrant and her mum, George and Barb Cossart, Elizabeth Chappell, and Rob and Bernadette Craig to the Final. Lion Ian Chase also attended.

The bus trip went well with two stops along the way for comfort and refreshments. Our lunch stop in Biggenden gave George and Barb an opportunity to show those on-board significant places in town and time to reminisce before we enjoyed a picnic lunch.

Friday night meet and greet gave entrants time to meet and chat and also meet the judges in an informal atmosphere. It was at this time that they did the draw for interviews and public speaking the following day. The four District Finalists this year were all young ladies.

The competition was great and the quality of each student was high. Anyone could have been the winner but there can only be one. The judges had a difficult time making the decisions and it came down to splitting points to be able to separate all four.

The Winner was announced. Amelie Cockrem representing Lions District 201Q2, representing the Malanda State High School and the Lions Club of Malanda. Amelie represented Queensland at the National Final of Youth of the Year at the MD Convention in Adelaide last week.

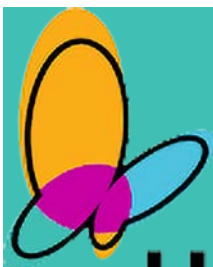
Mariam represented our Lions Club and our District with credit and I'm sure we will hear more of her achievement as time progresses.

- Lion Bernie



Entrants ... Left to Right
Amelie Cockren from Malanda (Q2),
Sasha Bilwani from Bundaberg (Q4),
Mariam Nabizada from Toowoomba (Q3),
Penny Andreatta from Stanthorpe (Q1)





HOPE *for our* CHILDREN

OUR STORY: PAST, PRESENT AND THE HOPEFUL FUTURE

Established in 2013 by compassionate individuals who had been profoundly affected by their own experiences with at-risk children, Hope For Our Children (HFOC) was born out of a shared belief that more can be done for the most vulnerable in our community.

DONATIONS

BAGS OF HOPE

At Hope For Our Children, we proudly present our "Bags of Hope" program, dedicated to making a positive impact in the lives of vulnerable children.

Our mission is to provide vulnerable children with essential items to restore dignity and inspire hope for a brighter future.



SUPPORTING CHILDREN THROUGH CHANGE:

For children undergoing the challenging process of transitioning care or fleeing domestic violence we recognise the importance of providing them with a sense of security and comfort. Our Bags of Hope for these children are thoughtfully curated to include essential items like pyjamas, socks, underwear, comforting activities, blankets, toys, and necessary personal care items. We aim to ensure that these children have the essentials they need to feel safe and cared for during their transition period.

BACKPACK ITEMS:

Help us fill our Bags of Hope by donating items from the list below (brand new items only please):

• Baby Items

- Dummy
- Wrap
- Nappies
- Bottle
- Wipes
- Baby wash

• Boys & girls sized 0000-16

(larger sizes available on request)

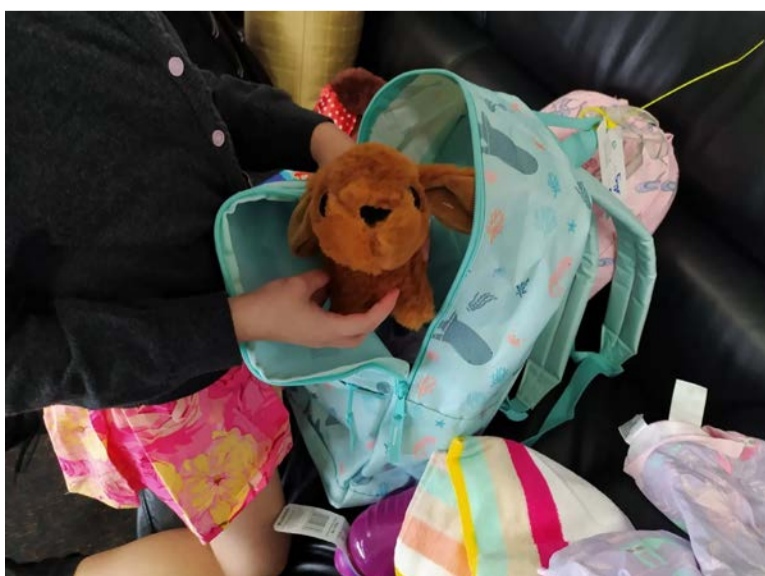
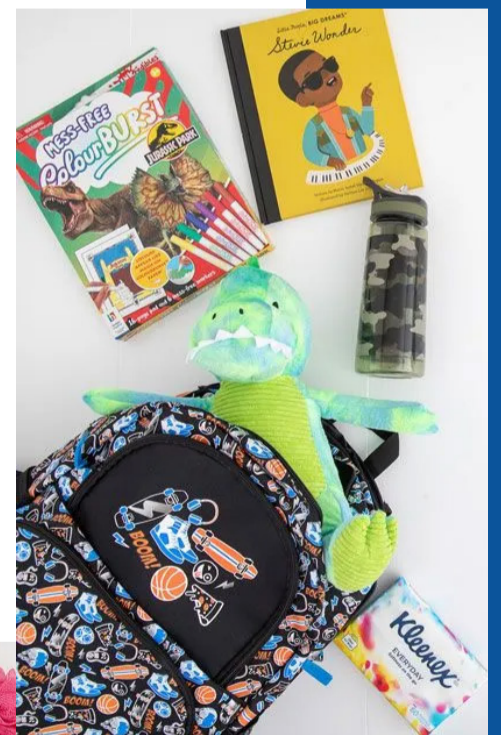
- PJ's - Summer & Winter
- Day Clothes -
- Crop Tops
- Underwear
- Socks
- Hat
- Water bottle
- Small fidget toy/game/activity
- Novels
- Small blanket

Toiletry Items

- Toiletry bag
- Junior toothbrush & toothpaste
- Toothbrush & Toothpaste
- Travel body wash (no hotel freebies please)
- Travel 2-in-1 shampoo and conditioner (no hotel freebies please)
- Brush & Comb
- Roll-on deodorant (male/female)
- Hair ties/ribbons
- Shower puff
- Face washer

• Stationery Items

- Junior crayons or fat triangle pencils
- Lead pencils
- Erasers
- Ruler
- Barrel sharpener
- Coloured pencils
- Felt pens
- Biro
- Highlighter



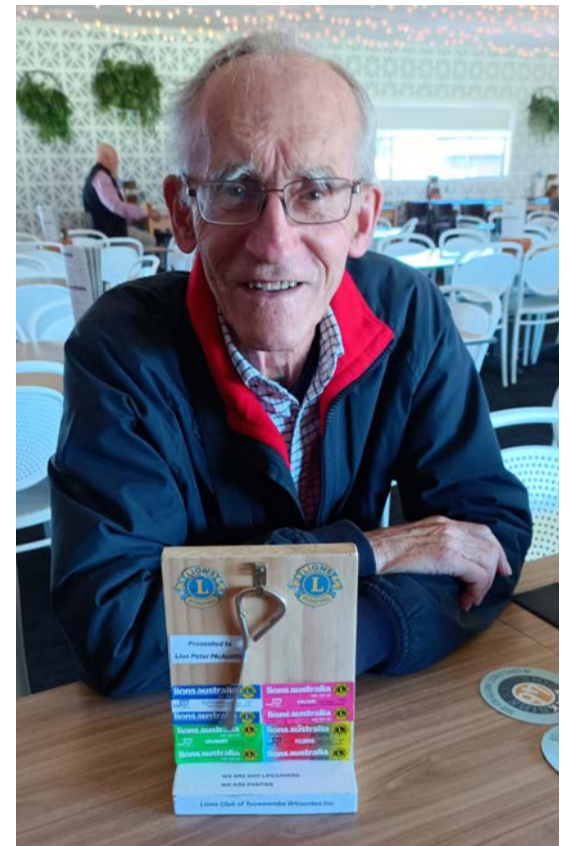
"In the first three months of this year more than 300 Bags of Hope were distributed to vulnerable children in Toowoomba. "

- Lion Bernie



BEST WISHES TO PETER

Lion Peter McAuliffe advised members at a dinner meeting that he and Lions partner Cathy will be moving to Brisbane to be closer to family. Lion Peter says he has really enjoyed his time with our club and that he will be in Toowoomba until August and hopes to get to most meetings between now and then.



With Lion Peter McAuliffe leaving our club in the near future, the Lion Mints team leader, George Cossart, arranged a sendoff luncheon with the team.

- Lion Col

CONGRATULATIONS

President Chris Dalgleish made the following presentations of Year Service tabs the Dinner Meeting on 13th May.

Lion Peter McAuliffe	27 years
Lion Ian Chase	49 years
Lion George Cossart	52 years



SANDWICHES FOR KIDS

Sandwich making on Monday 25th May. 780 sandwiches made. We had Councillor Rebecca VON HOFF attending and was helping wrapping the sandwiches. We now also deliver bread crusts to Harristown High School for their chook farm. We also deliver sandwiches to the school.



Lions Clubs International serves humanity through kindness and compassion

Titles are generated by AI from Meta

“We Serve” is more than just a slogan...

It is a child holding on to hope once again.

It is the moment anxiety in a mother’s eyes turns into peace.

It is a helping hand reaching the hungry,

a light shining through darkness,

a heart touching loneliness.

Every symbol you see here represents not only a service area, but a human story.

Little warriors fighting childhood cancer...

Lives trying to rise again after disasters...

Eyes waiting for the chance to see the world clearly...

People silently struggling for their mental well-being...

And young generations who will shape a better tomorrow...

As the Lions family, we believe that true strength is not only found in success, but in the ability to share, support, and care.

Because sometimes a food package,

sometimes a scholarship,

and sometimes simply saying “I’m here for you”

can completely change someone’s life.

This great tree of service, rooted in kindness

grows through solidarity,

branches through compassion,

and becomes hope for humanity.

And together,

under the same sky,

guided by the same conscience,

we unite in one powerful belief:

“Alone we can do so little;

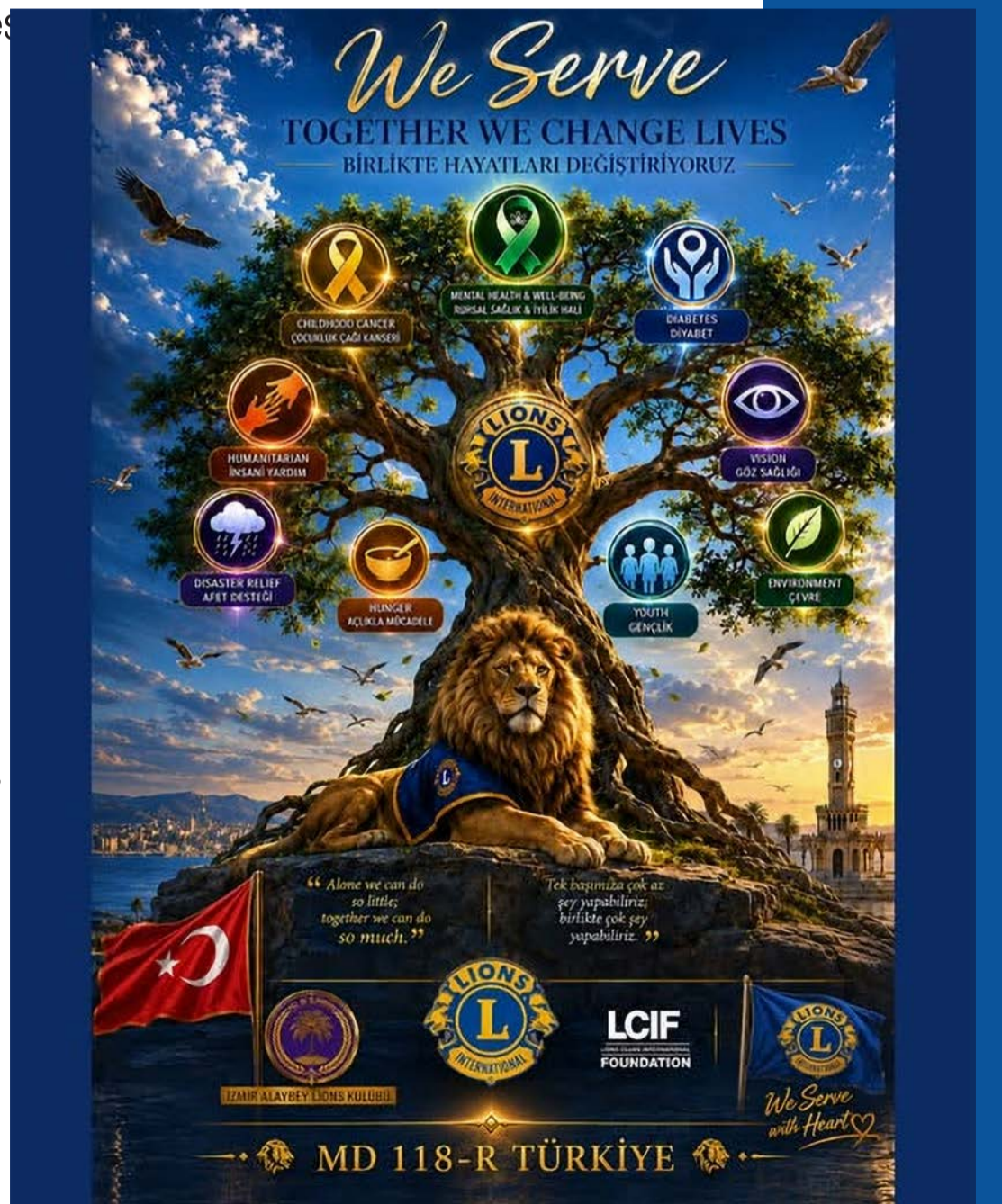
together we can do so much.”

MD 118-R TÜRKİYE

İzmir Alaybey Lions Club

“We Serve” — Together We Change Lives

- Shared by Lion Bernie



Dates to Remember

You are invited

to celebrate
with Club Members, Partners & Friends of the



Lions Club

TOOWOOMBA WILSONTON

& welcome the
Board of Directors
for 2026 - 2027

2026

Annual Changeover

Luncheon

on
SATURDAY | 20th | JUNE 2026
12:00 noon

The Celtic Room, The Irish Club, 80 Russell St Toowoomba
\$25.00 ea Club Member & Partner

RSVP & payment by 5th June

lionstw.events@toowoombawilsonlions.com.au

BIRTHDAYS

JUNE

Judy - 4th
 Merv - 15th
 Lari - 26th
 Maria - 28th



HAPPENING THIS MONTH

JUNE 2026			
Tuesday	2 nd		Farmfest
Wednesday	3 rd		Farmfest
Thursday	4 th		Farmfest
Wednesday	10 th	6:30pm	Dinner Meeting - Newtown Hall
Saturday	13 th	8:00am	BBQ - Harvey Norman
Saturday	13 th		Club Officer Training - Dalby
Sunday	14 th	8:00am	BBQ - Bunnings West
Sunday	14 th		Club Officer Training - Fernvale
Monday	15 th	7:30pm	Board Meeting - Newtown Hall
Saturday	20 th	12:00pm	Club Changeover Dinner - Toowoomba Wilsonton Lions
Wednesday	24 th	6:30pm	Dinner Meeting - Newtown Hall - TBC
Saturday	27 th		Toowoomba West Lions Changeover
Saturday	27 th		Pittsworth Lions Changeover

Pres Chris & Jo's puppies
 Izzy & Leia snuggling.
 Send a pic of your pet to share
 to spread the smiles.



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

COMING UP

JULY 2026			
Saturday	4 th	8:00am	BBQ - Harvey Norman
Sunday	5 th	8:00am	BBQ - Bunnings North
Wednesday	8 th	6:30pm	Dinner Meeting
Monday	13 th	9:00pm	School Sandwiches
Monday	20 th	7:30pm	Board Meeting - Newtown Hall
Wednesday	22 nd	6:30pm	Dinner Meeting - Newtown Hall
Saturday	25 th		District Changeover - Redcliffe

Dates to Remember

DO YOU JUST BELONG?

Are you an active member, the kind that would be missed?

Or are you just contented that your name is on the list?

Do you attend the meetings and mingle with the flock?

Or do you stay at home and criticize and mock?

Do you ever go to visit a member who is sick?

Or leave the work to just a few and talk about the clique?

There's quite a program scheduled that I'm sure you've heard about,

And we will all appreciate it if you'll come and help us out.

So come to the meetings often and help with hand and heart

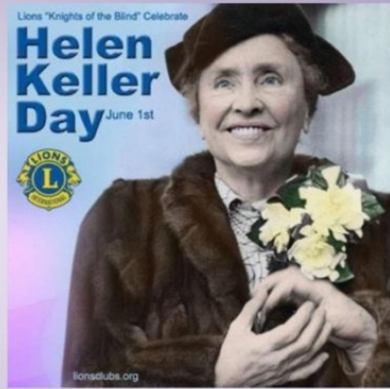
Don't be just a member, dig in, do your part.

Think this over, member, know right from wrong.

Are you an active member, or do you just belong? -

- Author Unknown

**“Alone we can
do so little;
together we can
do so much.”**



LIONS INTERNATIONAL

Upcoming LIONS Convention :

2026 - Hong Kong

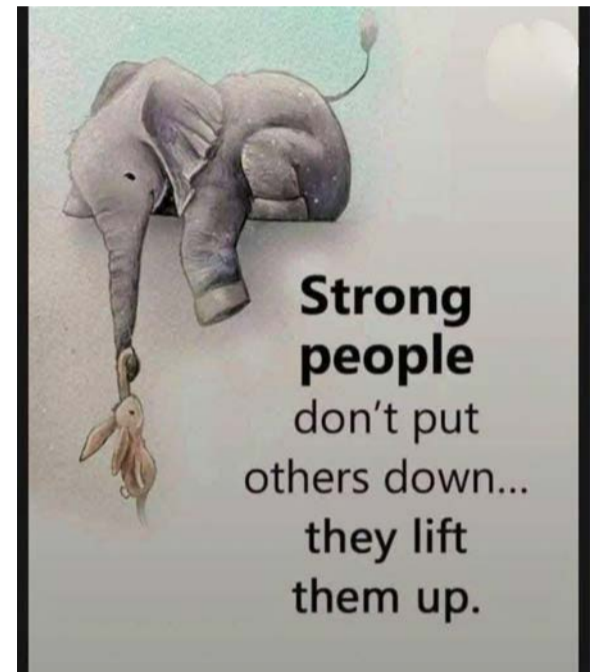
2027 - Washington DC

2028 - Singapore

2029 - Minneapolis MN

2030 - San Antonio TX

2031 - Helsinki, Finland



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF BEING YOU DAY

June 22, invites you to celebrate being...YOU. It's time to ditch the self-judgment and have gratitude for yourself. Today we invite you to explore what it means to truly be YOU beyond the projections of society and the need for perfection. It's your day to discover and acknowledge the beauty of you and your unique capabilities. It's also an invitation to celebrate everyone's differences.

HAPPY 109TH BIRTHDAY LIONS INTERNATIONAL



DID YOU KNOW

Acronyms of the Month

TFYDFA

- The Follow Your Dream Foundation - Australia

DISTRICT (201Q3)

CBL

- Constitution and By Laws Chair

Remember

to check out our website

www.toowoombawilsontonlions.com.au

and facebook

Lions Club of Toowoomba Wilsonton

for more news & events