

DCG Brian **BLOG**

THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LIONS CLUBS
DISTRICT 202K | NEW ZEALAND



Invest - Challenge - Encourage



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EDITORIAL

Kia Ora to all the Lions out there!

Let's start this edition by Congratulating the Lions who took up their next level of responsibilities for the 2021-22 Lion year at the convention held in Waipu (or as we like to call it "The Haggis Conventions").

As Lions "serving someone in need" is not second nature to us. The right to a Lion is earned not by registering with the Lions Club but by thinking like one. The moment serving another person becomes a priority you know you are a Lion in its true meaning.

Keep sending us the great deeds you have done as a Lion and let's share that among the fellow members! It always doesn't have to be an inspirational story, you can also share something funny and make someone smile!

Let's keep doing what we do the best!

"WE SERVE"





INVEST CHALLENGE ENCOURAGE

202K DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Dear 202K Members,

We have now celebrated our very successful convention just been held in Waipu last weekend.

We had an enjoyable time where we were entertained with Highland dancers, been inspired by the local Mayor Sheryl Mai, Dr Shane Reti, and Past International Director Eric Carter. We held our AGM and also held elections where we did see new leadership for next Lions year been elected, congratulations to District Governor Elect Roger Davis, 1st Vice District Governor Elect Ricky Singh, 2nd Vice District Governor Elect Peter Henderson also our newly elected District Lloyd Morgan Trustee John Rummery. I wish all of these elected the best in their planning for the next year.

We also very extremely entertained on the Saturday night with a tradition Haggis Ceremony, this then was followed by dine and dance which capped off the evening. Sunday saw a very moving remembrance and rededication service where we did honour many of Lions who had sadly passed through the last 12 months.

I am really humbled and honoured by the professionalism and efficiency that the hosting committee performed a very smooth organisation of the different events happening during the weekend. You can hold your head high to a job well done.

I have also been conducting with the assistance of my District Governor team our club visits which have been a stop – start affair. It has been pleasing when we have visited the clubs we have been welcomed warmly and have had the pleasure of awarding our Chevron pins in celebrating and recognising some excellent years of service. We have also been fortunate to recognise some excellent service to some members in the way of awarding Melvin

Jones Fellowship and Lloyd Morgan Awards, this is very humbling to present these awards to some very special Lions. I would like to now share with some of my closing words from the convention. “Strength does not come from winning. Your struggles develop your strengths. When you go through hardships and decide not to Surrender, that is strength.”

I wish to thank our distinguished Past International Director Eric Carter for his wisdom in delivering the message of service, as this is the heart of our Lions story. He simply put this into context that service is at centre of what we are, you don't have to be wealthy, you don't have to be a certain body type or athletic, the single most important quality in being a Lion is the desire to serve others less fortunate than yourself. Everyone can be a Lion... The single most important trait in being a Lion is the desire to serve others, as should be our message to others.

Let us share our “Lions” story. A story which has a special meaning to you and everyone. Many of us state proudly that “I have been a Lion for 25 years” or “I have been a Lion for 50 years.” But those are only anniversaries. Did you ever have a moment during your years as a Lion when you realized you were doing more than just attending meetings twice a month? I call it an “Aha! moment.” Not the day you joined Lions, but the day you became a Lion. It is when you realized for the first time the transformative nature of our motto, “We Serve.”

Kia Kaha
202K District Governor
Brian McMillan

DISTRICT CONVENTION 202K



DG Brian Carrying the Haggis



Toasting the Haggis



ROGERS RAMBLE

What a great convention we had up at Waipu. I will always remember it as the Haggis convention. I bet there has never been another convention apart from in Scotland where a Haggis was piped in with all the pomp that goes with it. Well done to the convention team.

Now of course there was the business side of the convention. This is when I was elected to be your District Governor for the 2021-22 Lions year. Ricky Singh was elected as your 1st VDG and Peter Henderson was elected as your 2nd VDG.

I'm looking forward to the challenges that lay ahead of me and the team. The main one being the forming a good cohesive and diverse cabinet. I am sure we will have a great team to carry on from the platform that DG Brian's team is setting for us. I am looking forward to my residential training in Wellington where we will sit in on a Council meeting this month.

Until next time look after each other and stay safe.

Regards,

Roger Davis,

1st VDG / Region 2 Chair, 202K

DEAR FELLOW LIONS & FRIENDS, I WOULD LIKE TO START BY SAYING **“THANK YOU”**

Firstly, a huge thank you to all of you for your support and faith in me voting for me as your 1st Vice District Governor elect. Thank you too all of you who attended our District Convention, what a wonderful event. It was fantastic to meet up again with so many friends I have made over the years and making some new friends too. It was awesome to be able to get together and celebrate friendship, fellowship and fun in our Tartans, the convention was a Roaring success. In all that fun there was some serious thinking done too, with the challenges and uncertainty Covid-19 has brought, we do need to be even more prepared for change.

I would also like to thank all the clubs I have visited so far on behalf of District Governor Brian McMillan. Thank you for your warm hospitality. Seeing and listening to some of the amazing work our clubs in our district are doing is absolutely fantastic. It truly shows the spirit of Lions is still alive and our motto “We Serve” is still relevant. Our communities need us and I thank each one of you for making a difference in your communities and showing that kindness matters.

I would like to end by saying Thank You once again to my Lions Family for your support and for the amazing selfless work you do in your clubs and community.

Ricky Singh

2nd Vice District Governor

District 202K



202K LMLCCT DELEGATE-ELECT

I was raised in Hastings by conservative parents but who were generous of their time for both their and their wider family and for youth in particular. Encouraged by his good experiences as a Boy Scout, my Dad enrolled me in Cubs aged 8 and I am certain that my 10yrs in Scouting set my values and a positive outlook for life, as well as giving me some life-long friendships. It is easy to remember those Scout Laws/values: “A Scout is Trusty, Loyal, Helpful, Brotherly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Smiley, Thrifty, Pure as the Whistling Wind”, they are with me always.

A lifetime of teaching and management in co-ed secondary schools both in NZ and overseas, and in the Dept/Ministry of Education has grounded me in working cooperatively with others of all ages. I enjoy working both as a leader of and a member of a group.

I was invited to join the Lions Club of Mangakahia 21 yrs ago. Once over the usual reluctant response, “I’m busy enough already”, I joined and after 21 yrs I can but say how absolutely pleasurable it has been to have had the company of and the opportunity to work alongside a bunch of 27 or so marvellous guys who would walk over coals for any of the other 26. It has been a privilege to have been their President on two occasions, Treasurer for a while, currently H & S Officer for a few years now, the IT “go-to” guy as those digital things crept into our lives, Lion Tamer once, and Bulletin Editor for around half of those 21 yrs. So far, I’ve managed to avoid being Tail Twister!

At present I am in my second year as Zone 2 Chairman, a role I have found motivatingly challenging and requiring sensitive people skills as every club is so different to the others. I have enjoyed this role as it is an important one in the structure of Lions

management as I believe as it is one in which it is possible to have influence and to make a difference.

There is no doubt that being an active member is what gives the personal enjoyment and satisfaction from being a Lion, not only for what we can do for our community but also for what we can do for those within our club and within our organisation. But importantly also, for ourselves, as just being a Lion is a learning experience. It is the “doing stuff” and making a contribution that I have enjoyed most from being a Lion.

In 2017 to 2019 my club undertook the restoration of the Maungatapere Interdenominational War Memorial Church as its Centennial Service project, in summary a 2yr, 2000 volunteer hours and \$150K project involving our club, the community and professional contractors.

Sourcing the funding for this project brought me into contact with the LMLCCT for the first time and about which it turned out we as a club knew very little about except that we had a good history of making an annual donation to it. Reading the history of and learning about the aims of the LMLCCT in order to complete the funding application process helped me appreciate how valuable the Trust is to the Lions Clubs of MD202 through the financial assistance it can give clubs to support them with projects. This financial support opportunity is just one face of the LMLCCT.

At the ceremony to celebrate the completion of the church restoration project and the re-opening of the church, my club surprised fellow Lion Ian McBeth and myself with Lloyd Morgan Lions Clubs Charitable Trust “Life Memberships” in recognition of our work in leading and managing the

restoration. Their kind action exposed me to another face of the trust, the opportunity to recognise valued work.

Together, these two experiences with the LMLCCT sparked the thought that to be involved with the Trust might be a “good thing” for me to do.

How do I see my role?

- Promoting an increased awareness in Lions membership of the trust and a better understanding of its goals I would see as being an important component of the role of a trustee and I will actively do that. Zone meetings are a vehicle for this.
- Promote the contribution the LMLCCT makes to the Lions organisation.
- Timely acknowledgement of donations made by clubs, organisations and individuals.
- Prompt and accurate responses to requests for information.
- To support and work with club applications to the trust.

I thank the convention delegates for supporting me into this role, I look forward to being your representative on the board and being able to, as the LMLCCT Mission Statement says, “Assist Lions Clubs fulfil Humanitarian needs”.

Lions Club of Mangakahia
John Rummery





PETER'S NOTE

I have been a member of Lions since February 2013 and feel that in this time I have accepted and lived the Lions Motto "We serve" and that I have tried to make a positive difference to people's lives.

In the Warkworth club I have been President for two years, Lion Tamer, fundraising chair, projects chair. I am currently Projects chair, bulletin and Facebook editor, webmaster and public relations officer. This year I seized the opportunity and involved the Warkworth Club in the Australian Bushfire appeal which saw over \$22000 sent to LCIF and during the Covid lockdown the Mahurangi Caremongers which gave support, including shopping to locals as well as gaining National TV news coverage for Lions.

I am in my 4th year on the district 202K cabinet and have the position of Global Membership Team coordinator as Part of the Global Action Team. I have previously been Zone 4 and Region 2 chairs handling both portfolios as the needs arose through circumstances.

I have found that my time on cabinet has been one of learning and appreciating how the organisation works. We are all equal as members in the public eye and I know that members are the key to the success of Lions International and all members have my respect regardless of position and length of service.

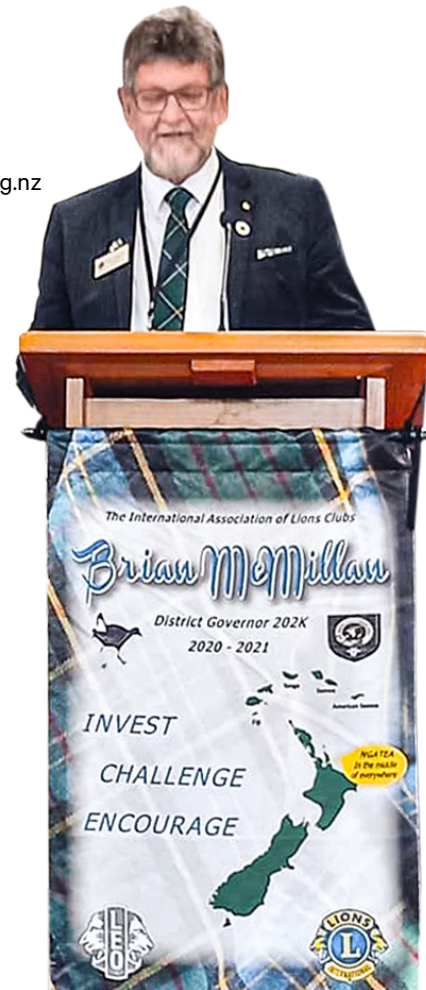
I have enjoyed and benefited from my decision to be in the district cabinet and look forward to future involvement.

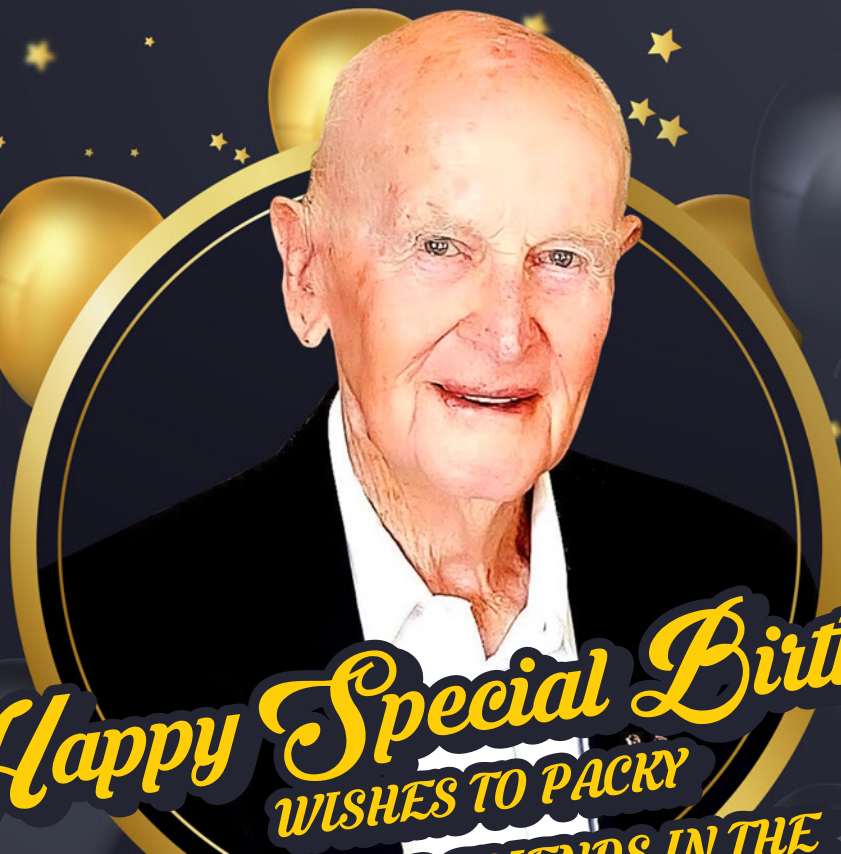
My wife Carol is also a member of Warkworth Lions. We are from Taranaki and have a blended family of six children with numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren. We moved to Auckland's North Shore in 1972 and after 40 years made the move to Warkworth to slow down but with Lions and our community involvement this has not happened. I work as a Customs Broker in Albany.

To me Lions is a challenge in that the need is there and we as members are trusted to continue the legacy of Melvin Jones. As members we are all integral to the ongoing success of Lions.

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Happy Special Birthday
WISHES TO PACKY
FROM YOUR FRIENDS IN THE
HOWICK LIONS CLUB

Last month (October), the most senior active member of our Howick Lions Club celebrated the beginning of a new decade in his life's journey, and for 54 of those years this month (November) Ian Packwood has managed and organised his commitment to serving his community & fellow man through Lions Clubs, with his family & business priorities. Past District Governor Ian has often been portrayed as a 'Lion's Lion', and for those Lions fortunate enough to have served alongside him, the experience has been both rewarding and educational.

Packy, our good friend, we salute you.



WE SERVE

THE JOURNEY IS SHORT

An elderly woman got on a bus and sat down. At the next stop, a strong, grumpy young woman climbed up and sat down sharply beside the old woman, hitting her with her numerous bags. When she saw that the elderly woman remained silent, the young woman asked her why she had not complained when she hit her with her bags. The elderly woman replied with a smile: "There is no need to be rude or discuss something so insignificant, as my trip next to you is so short because I am going to get off at the next stop."

This answer deserves to be written in gold letters: **"THERE IS NO NEED TO DISCUSS SOMETHING SO INSIGNIFICANT, BECAUSE OUR JOURNEY TOGETHER IS TOO SHORT."** Each of us must understand that our time in this world is so short, that darkening with struggles, useless arguments, jealousy, not forgiving others, discontent and an attitude of constant discovery is a ridiculous waste of time and energy. Did someone break your heart? Stay calm. The trip is too short. Did someone betray you, intimidate, cheat or humiliate you? Relax. Excuse. The trip is too short. Did someone insult you without reason? Stay calm. Ignore it. The trip is too short. Did a neighbour comment on the chat that you didn't like? Stay calm. Ignore him. Forgive that. The trip is too short.

Lions Club of Ruawai

*A prospective husband in a bookstore asks,
"Do you have a book called
'Husband,
the Master of the House?"
Salesgirl: "Fiction and comics are
on the 1st floor!"*

3 HUSBAND JOKES

Lions Club of Hikurangi Mountains

*A bookseller asked
a woman, "Which book
has helped you most in life?
The woman replied,
"My husband's
cheque book !!"*

*There are 3 kinds of men in this world....
Some remain single and make
wonders happen.
Some have girlfriends and see
wonders happen.
The rest get married and
wonder what happened!*



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NEW ZEALAND