

The Southern Flyer



202F District Newsletter



Issue 151

24th May 2020

Lions Clubs International District 202F



We Serve

DG Dave Saunders



Welcome to the DG's fortnightly blog,

Hi fellow Lions,

I hope you are all keeping your spirits up and not going to stir crazy, I feel we will be at level 1 very soon. I have been talking to my fellow DG's and many of their clubs around New Zealand have been having online meetings to keep in touch with one another. The old stand by of phone calls is still live and well amongst our Lions members as well. I have also noticed people walking in the streets are now taking the time to say hi, and engage in general conversation. (like days gone by when people took the time to acknowledge and engage others.)

As of May the 18th LCIF has given \$3,500,000 for immediate relief to communities severely impacted by the coronavirus (COVID 19)

Hopefully I will be able to have my final cabinet meeting in Wanaka on the 20th June. DG elect Sue Fluery will take over the reins on 1st of July.

A "Big Thank You" to all the clubs who returned the surveys that were issued, this was a very important sounding board for the GAT team to see how clubs are fairing in these uncertain times.

In these challenging times, community has become more important. We are relying on each other more than ever, which is why your safe service is making a big difference in people's lives, let us keep focused on our families health and safety, Let's find ways to keep our communities strong. Let's continue to be who we are and what the world needs now- LIONS.

Yours in Lionism

Dave Saunders

Your Service Drives Our Success

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May Updates

- Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, Youth Camps and Exchange (YCE) programs should review coronavirus guidelines in their area and consider the health and safety of all participants. Please visit the [YCE program](#) page for updates and more information.
- There are only a few months left to report your service and bring attention to the great work your club has accomplished. Learn how you can earn a **Service Reporting Challenge Award** for reporting your service on MyLion or your regional reporting system.
- When you report your club's service, you can also qualify for the new **Kindness Matters Service Award** that recognizes creative and high-impact service projects within our global cause areas.
- Visit your new Virtual Event Center to **register for an upcoming webinar**, watch past events and download presentation files in the event library.

Your Service Drives Our Success



SERVING SAFELY TOGETHER

A message to all Lions
from International President,
Dr. Jung-Yul Choi

Dear Lion,

In these challenging times, community has become even more important. We are relying on each other more than ever, which is why your safe service is making such a big difference in people's lives.

Let's keep focused on the health and safety of our families, friends and neighbors. Let's find ways to keep our communities strong. Let's continue to be who we are and what the world needs now—Lions.

Regards,

Dr. Jung-Yul Choi

International President

Connect with Your Community

Your safe service is making a big impact where you live. The world is looking for good news, so be sure to let your community know how your club is helping.

Here are three ways you can continue to connect with your community:

- **Social Media** – Share your stories of serving safely, and don't forget to use the hashtag #WeServe to inspire Lions around the world.
- **Public Relations** – Want to make an even bigger impact? Leverage your local media to help tell your story. Read this great blog to see how you can get noticed with an outstanding media pitch.
- **Serving Safely** – Our newest resource page provides the tools and resources to keep you serving safely in your community so you'll have even more good news to talk about. Let's stay strong and stay connected with our communities.

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Why Haven't I Been a Lion Forever?

In a typical spring, the Vermilion Bay Lions of northwestern Ontario, Canada, would be busy planning their free community dinner for seniors, a popular annual event. More than 100 people would come to the Lions Hall in the small town of Vermilion Bay along Eagle Lake, population 1,000, for a hot meal served by youth from the Canadian military's cadet program, supported by Lions.

The outpouring of support has been rewarding for everyone involved.

Lions Hall is the largest community building in the area, but it is also designated as an emergency response center and an evacuation center.

That was in name only until this spring, in the grasp of the coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis, when the Vermilion Lions turned their hall into a much-needed Emergency Food Relief Center.

District governor elect Shirley Koroniak of Multiple District 5M says the Lions, including Lion Doris St. Jules, the principal at the local Lilian Berg Elementary School, started to worry about the children who were helped through the NOW – Nutrition on Weekends – program, and the Breakfast for Learning program, before schools closed.

With an OK from the Northwestern Health Unit, one of the primary funders of the two programs, the Lions were able to divert the school's food stock to local organizations helping to meet food shortage needs. They also began working in partnership with the area food bank located about 30 minutes away in the city of Dryden, so Lions could pick up the hampers for families and either safely deliver them or have them at Lions Hall for pickup, reducing the number of people having to leave home and drive to Dryden on a weekly basis.

The club is currently serving 25 adults and about 17 children ages 1 to 17 on a weekly basis, and Koroniak expects the number to increase as they experience work shortages due to the pandemic.

“The outpouring of support has been rewarding for everyone involved,” she says. “



Our families receiving the support during the time of crisis are extremely thankful that the Vermilion Bay Lions have been able to mobilize in a very short time frame to serve our community.”

Your Service Drives Our Success



Dear Lion Leader,

By now, you have come to expect this newsletter to convey messages strictly related to Campaign 100 and progress toward goals set in what feels like a very distant past. This issue is different. Our world is different. Today, as we navigate immense challenges facing humankind, we offer no fundraising totals; no mention of Model Clubs; no messages of forums, conventions, or campaign recognition. We come to you today as fellow Lions experiencing unfathomable uncertainty and unprecedented hurdles. Today, we offer words of guidance and hope as our world – more in need than ever – navigates this global health crisis together.

As Lions, we have all experienced the joy of helping a child see, a family thrive, and a city recover. We have been there, physically creating such progress through service. For many of us, this simply is not possible now, and so we must be creative and resilient. We must shift and concentrate on what is possible. We need not sit idle, as there are many ways we can spur progress today.

Heed the Experts First and foremost, we must follow guidelines from leaders like the World Health Organization and our local governments. Public health is priority number one. By heeding safety measures put forth, we are protecting our own health and the health of our families and neighbors. This is a critically important – albeit different – way to serve.

Use Time Apart Wisely Most of us are physically distancing ourselves from others. As we exercise this precaution, let us use this time wisely.

- **Connect** with your districts and clubs. Check in with Lions in your area. Ask how they and their families are doing. Encourage safe methods of communication among club members. Suggest using this time to do tasks often set aside as we venture into our communities to serve on the ground. Is there a final report to prepare? Administrative work to be done? Project files to be organized? Success stories to be shared?
- Connect now to plan for future service. Which LCIF cause – vision, youth, disaster relief, humanitarian efforts, diabetes, childhood cancer, hunger, the environment – is most important to Lions in your area? Call or email other local leaders and Lions to gather their thoughts. Telephone, email, and online surveys facilitate ongoing connection.
- Connect to learn more about LCIF grant programs. Take time now to familiarize yourself with our foundation's numerous grant programs, or to refresh your knowledge. LCIF's website, as well as our 10 Tips: Applying for a LCIF Grant and 10 Tips: Managing a LCIF Grant brochures, provide invaluable guidance.
- Connect with LCIF supporters. Often, we are busy in our communities serving. As this may not be safe now, consider using this time to extend a sincere thank you, on behalf of LCIF, to individuals and clubs that have supported our foundation. You will also lift people's spirits.
- Connect with your LCIF Development staff. As we find ourselves in new patterns of daily life – health and safety our most urgent concerns – use this opportunity to connect with your LCIF development staff member. Build or enhance this relationship. Discuss how today's world affects your future efforts. Strategize now for future success.
- Connect through social media. As we distance ourselves, we must also stay close. It is good for the human spirit – especially for Lions, so connected to our communities. Encourage your club and district members to interact with LCIF on Facebook, view uplifting Lions' videos on YouTube, and read about progress Lions have created on our blog.

As our world heals, Lions will once again be a welcome and comforting presence in our communities. Today, we thank you for serving by connecting safely, encouraging others to do the same, and for exercising abundant caution and patience. Be well, and be kind. A brighter tomorrow will dawn.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada
Past International President and
Campaign 100 Chairperson

J. Frank Moore III
Past International President and
Campaign 100 Vice Chairperson

Your Service Drives Our Success



Lions Clubs International Foundation eNewsletter

A letter from your chairperson

Gudrun Yngvadottir

Dear Lion,

Together, we are rising to the challenge of fighting the effects of the coronavirus (COVID-19). To date, LCIF has provided more than US\$3,500,000 to COVID-19 relief efforts. Lions everywhere

are supporting communities near and far with messages of hope and donations to Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) — your foundation. However, Lions embody service. During this time of social distancing and stay-at-home orders, it can be a challenge to wait until it is safe to participate in responding to the need of your community. We have to be creative in how to serve in these times, and I wanted to offer you an idea.

Have you created a LCIF Facebook fundraiser yet?

If not, please consider adding this to your social distancing activities. They are easy to create and can be built at any time to help generate funds for LCIF's important humanitarian efforts around the globe .

When a donation to LCIF is made through your fundraiser, 100% of funds will go to our global cause programs to increase Lions' ability to serve the world..

I hope you consider serving your community in this unique way. Until we can all serve again, stay safe.

In friendship,

Gudrun Yngvadottir

Chairperson, Lions Clubs International Foundation

Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) and Global HOPE® (Hematology-Oncology Pediatric Excellence), a program of Texas Children's Hospital and Baylor College of Medicine, are pleased to announce a new partnership to improve childhood cancer survival rates in sub-Saharan Africa.

Nearly 80% of children with cancer live in low- or middle-income countries where, tragically, only 10% of children survive cancer. In higher income countries such as Canada, Japan, and the United States, more than 80% of children with cancer survive. The good news is the world can be more successful at curing cancer in children. However, much work needs to be done to improve access to drugs and treatment, train healthcare providers, improve facilities and technology, and address socio-cultural barriers to improve global survival rates.

Launched in 2017, Global HOPE is a transformational initiative that is improving the standard of care for children with cancer. In May 2019, the LCIF Board of Trustees approved a two-year strategic partnership in order to build long-term capacity in Africa to treat and dramatically improve the prognosis for children with cancer and blood disorders in Botswana, Malawi, and Uganda. This partnership will help strengthen the local healthcare infrastructure to effectively provide the multi-disciplinary care that is needed to care for children with cancer and blood disorders.

We are extremely grateful for the opportunity to work alongside LCIF in our fight against pediatric cancer and blood disorders in sub-Saharan Africa," said Dr. David Poplack, director of Global HOPE. "These relationships are critical for the growth of our program, and we look forward to the impact we will make working together."

The partnership includes three components:

LCIF funding support of US\$2 million over two years to support development of infrastructure at Global HOPE's centers of excellence

Engagement of local Lions in Global HOPE activities at the country level

Joint fundraising to expand the project impact through the addition of new partners

You can help make a difference, too! To learn more and support this life-changing partnership, visit lionsclubs.org/globalhope.

Erik Brejla is the manager of Global Partnerships at Lions Clubs International. Benjamin Futransky is the manager of New and Emerging Initiatives at Lions Clubs International Foundation.



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LCIF.ORG

Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION

Lions Clubs International Foundation eNewsletter

A special letter from your chairperson

Gudrun Yngvadottir

Dear Lion,

In these challenging times, we must respond to the realities we are facing as a global community and stay hopeful for the future. We are also determined to find the best way forward to ensure the long-term success of our efforts.

In this spirit, International President Choi, Campaign International Chairperson Dr. Yamada, Campaign International Vice Chairperson Moore and I are announcing that the timeline for Campaign 100: LCIF Empowering Service has been extended by one additional year, through June 30, 2022. We must give ourselves the time necessary to realize our full potential in this campaign, for the future of Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF).

We remain optimistic and action-oriented in the face of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. As of May 21, 2020, LCIF has granted US\$3,851,655 to provide immediate relief to communities severely impacted by COVID-19. We encourage you to stay connected to the work of your foundation. You can visit LCIF's dedicated COVID-19 response page to learn how our foundation is responding.

Many Lions have asked how they can help during these unprecedented times. If you are able, please consider joining LCIF in its support of Lions' relief efforts by donating at lionsclubs.org/donate. Your contributions are crucial to sustaining LCIF's ability to help Lions keep their communities safe and healthy. All donations are eligible for MJF and Campaign 100 recognition. If you have recently made a donation, we sincerely thank you for your generosity and appreciate your support of our foundation.

Sincerely,
Gudrun Yngvadottir
Chairperson,
Lions Clubs International Foundation

Your Service Drives Our Success



Lions Clubs International
 District 202F
District Governor Dave Saunders
 44 Rata Street,
 Wanaka 9305
 Cell 027 4437576
 Email- 202f.dg@lionsclubs.org.nz



To the Principal,
 Lions 202f Computer Capers 2020

This year Computer Capers focuses on Inspiration and we are delighted to enclose this year's details and entry criteria for this very popular competition. This year's topic will be:

A person who inspires me

This year is the 17th year of the competition and we are pleased that it has been so warmly received. We receive constant feedback that it is appreciated by both the students and teachers alike who find it both an educational and fun thing to do in a creative environment.

The rules, regulations, remuneration and closing date are as per the attached forms and we do encourage your students to enter.

Entry submission – if by email, please send to sir.tazzie@yahoo.co.nz
 If by pendrive, please forward to
 Lions 202f Computer Capers 2020
 C/-Pam McCall
 169 Charters Road
 R D 1
 GORE 9771

The closing date for entries is Friday 28 June 2020 – please don't leave it to the last moment to enter.

Checklist – it is vitally important that each entry has the student's name, their school, their school year, their DOB.../.... /.... and a disclaimer that work submitted is both original and all their own work.

Please also provide your school's email address as I will be providing the results and the judges summation comments with the one email to all schools.

If further information is required-
 Of a technical nature re the presentation format itself,
 Please contact Shannon McDougall on sir.tazzie@yahoo.co.nz
 Or the competition itself and how to enter, please contact Co-ordinator Pam McCall on
202f.computercapers@lionsclubs.org.nz

Good luck to all student entrants

Pam McCall

"Your Service - Drives Our Success"

Your Service Drives Our Success



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Lions 202f Computer Capers Contest Rules and Conditions

Entries not meeting the rules and conditions below will be disqualified.

- There are 2 sections – Junior and Senior for entrants aged school years 4/5/6/7 and 8.

The topic is: A person who inspires me

- Base your computer presentation on this theme.
- Only one entry per student – NO combined presentations from two or more students
- All work must be accompanied by a signature or disclaimer from the student's teacher or parent stating all work is original and has been completed by the student.
- Computer presentation may contain original photos, sound, 10 seconds of movie or any creation imported into the presentation.

- Computer presentation must not exceed 6 slides

- No clip art is to be used in any entry

- Computer presentations should run automatically from start to finish

- All entries to be emailed to: sir.tazzie@yahoo.co.nz

Or placed on a pendrive and sent to

Pam McCall
169 Charters Road
R D 1
GORE 9771

- Competition closing date is Friday 28 June and all entries must be received prior to this date.
- By entering this competition, you are agreeable for the Lions 202F District to use your presentation for promotional purposes.
- Prize money of \$200 for each section - \$50 to 1st place, \$30 for second place and \$20 for 3rd place student and \$100 to the winning student's school.
- Email help as to Computer presentation criteria is available at: sir.tazzie@yahoo.co.nz

Judges looking for:

- All spelling is correct.
- Titles, text is clear and concise. All read at the correct play speed (if this is used in the student's presentation)
- Logical thought process is shown in the student's work.
- If sound or special effects are used in the presentation, they enhance the presentation and do not distract from it.

Lions District 202F Computer Capers Co-ordinator
Pam McCall
169 Charters Road
R D 1

GORE 9771
202f.computercapers@lionsclubs.org.nz

"Your Service - Drives Our Success"

Your Service Drives Our Success

Lions International 5 ways to stay ready to serve.

All around the world, Lions are stepping up to safely serve their communities as the coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis continues to impact the lives of millions. If there were ever a time that demonstrated how much Lions are needed, that time is now. You matter. Without Lions, many people would not get the help they need to survive and thrive during this pandemic. But while you're caring for and serving others, don't neglect your own physical and mental well-being. You won't be able to help your neighbours, or your community, if you don't take care of yourself. So here are five ways for you to practice self-care and stay healthy:

PHYSICAL HEALTH

Focus on your physical health. You probably know by now that you should wash your hands frequently throughout the day, avoid touching your face and cover your mouth if you sneeze or cough. It's also important to get some exercise, especially since many workout facilities are closed. Slip on your sneakers and take a brisk walk. The fresh air will do you good! Dust off those workout videos and take time to stretch during the day. Exercise is a great way to boost your immune system and energy level.

EATING HEALTHY

Eat healthy. While you're sheltering at home, it's easy to overeat, especially unhealthy snacks. There are many reasons for this—boredom, stress and the fact that your refrigerator is just a few steps away. Take this time to try out some new, healthy recipes, and keep plenty of fresh fruits and vegetables on hand. Eating nutritiously will go a long way toward maintaining your health.

MENTAL HEALTH

Your mental health is just as important. Because we're social creatures, social distancing can be difficult for many of us, especially for those who live alone. Call a friend you haven't spoken to in a while. Find a pen pal. Set up a video chat with friends online. Stay in touch with neighbours through emails, texts, or phone calls. Social distancing doesn't have to mean social isolation. There are many ways to keep in touch with others.

ROUTINES

Set a routine and time to recharge. Having everyone home at the same time can be chaotic as we figure out how to work remotely, take classes from home and balance family time. It's important to find and stick to a routine that works for your family. It is also important to take some time out of each day to recharge so you're rested and ready to face the next day's challenges.

Take a break from the news. It might help to minimize the time you spend watching, reading or listening to news about COVID-19. A constant barrage of bad news can make you feel anxious or depressed. Try to get information from trusted sources like the World Health Organization (WHO), and take practical steps to protect yourself and your loved ones.

You are vital to your family, to your Lions family, to your community and to this organization. You are the heart and soul of Lions International, and we care about you and your well-being. So take care of yourself, stay healthy, and together, we'll get through the storm.

New Voices



A program launched in 2018-2019 to celebrate women's contributions and promote gender parity within Lions Clubs International. In 2019-2020 the program was expanded under International President Dr. Jung-Yui Choi to include young adults, including Leo Lions, and other underrepresented populations as diverse and sought after New Voices in the association. This initiative is about hearing the story of the unheard, and is a forum for sharing new ideas and learning from one another for the betterment of Lions Clubs International.

New Voices is a diverse group of individuals who are gaining recognition for their dynamic and innovative contributions in one of the four fields: Service, Membership, Leadership and Marketing.

To learn more about the New Voices program and join our monthly webinars please visit weserve.org/newvoices/.

Your Service Drives Our Success

The following 3 pages give you an outline of planning a Service Project



Lions Clubs International

SERVICE PROJECT PLANNER



Childhood Cancer
Support Group

This project planner can help your club organize an ongoing monthly support group for parents/guardians affected by childhood cancer focused on providing peer-to-peer socialization, learning and coping strategies in a welcoming, inclusive environment.

By taking on a project like this, you're helping us achieve our strategic vision of helping those affected by childhood cancer to survive and thrive.

Start planning your event.

Fill in the blank fields in the form below to determine the details of your event.

What you will achieve <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement a monthly support group for parents/guardians affected by childhood cancer that provides opportunities for discussion and social activities in a positive environment. 	Duration <input type="radio"/> 1-2 hours <input type="radio"/> Ongoing	Location <input type="radio"/> Community recreational facility <input type="radio"/> School or educational facility <input type="radio"/> Informal (e.g., faith-based) <input type="radio"/> Other <hr/>
	Planning time <input type="radio"/> 2-4 months	
	Start/end dates <hr/>	

Planned participants

Select the audience you would like to serve at your event.

People we will serve: <input type="radio"/> Children <input type="radio"/> Youth <input checked="" type="radio"/> Adult <input type="radio"/> All	People who will provide services: <input type="radio"/> Local hospital(s) <input type="radio"/> Cancer patient navigator(s) <input type="radio"/> Local cancer association(s) <input type="radio"/> Social worker(s) <input type="radio"/> Peer mentor(s) <input type="radio"/> Other <hr/>	Notes:
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Your Service Drives Our Success

Determine all required tasks for your project.

Be sure to focus your planning efforts on activities that are fun as well as educational. All projects should incorporate the following three tasks:

1. Identify educational speakers and resources.

- Guest speakers can include a representative from a local cancer foundation, pediatric oncologist, oncology nurse, peer mentor, social worker or psychologist.
- Materials can be provided by childhood cancer treatment centers, advocacy groups for childhood cancer, camps for children with cancer or agencies providing services for families affected by cancer.

Speaker(s):

a. _____ b. _____

Resources:

a. _____ c. _____

b. _____ d. _____

2. Determine small group discussion topics.

- Small group discussions are based off of the session topics, and should provide opportunities to emphasize learning on a specific subject.
- Relevant topics can include coping with illness and treatment, side effects, family issues, health and exercise, recreational outings, cancer advocacy and resources.

Discussion topics:

a. _____ c. _____

b. _____ d. _____

3. Determine small group activities.

- Small group activities can help foster socialization and peer connections while also including meals, holiday parties or other celebratory occasions.

Activities list:

a. _____ c. _____

b. _____ d. _____

Led by:

a. _____ c. _____

b. _____ d. _____



Assign roles for volunteers at your event.

Position/Role	Name	Contact Information	Notes
Support group lead			Must be a certified healthcare professional or social worker familiar with childhood cancer and support group facilitation and can also manage event logistics and volunteers.
Peer mentor			An individual who is caring for a child with cancer or a child who has become cancer free, and who conveys a positive and encouraging attitude in the support group environment.
Volunteer manager			Make sure to identify volunteers who can discuss club membership with participants.
Marketing lead			
Event photographer			You must secure signed release forms from participants if you plan to use event photographs for promotional purposes.
Local partners/collaborators			Collaborators can include oncology nurse, local cancer camp director, social worker, school psychologist, childhood cancer foundation and support agencies for families affected by cancer.

Number of Lions	
Number of Leos	
Number of others	





Wanaka & Districts

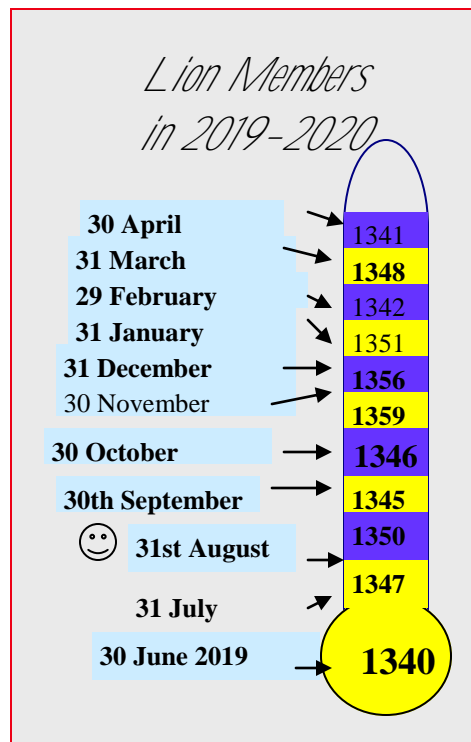
The Board recently approved a \$1000 donation to the Wanaka Community Networks Foodbank. There is still a \$1500 approved donation towards Shade trees for the new Primary School to be spent.

We are expecting approx. \$800 expense for the chillier truck refrigeration repairs.

92-year-old Muriel - Australian bakers 3 ingredient recipe for scones has become a lockdown baking hit. flour, cold cream, and lemonade Muriel's scone recipe:

1. Before you start, set your oven to 220 degrees
2. Measure out five cups of self-raising flour, then sift three times
3. Add a pinch of salt as you sift the flour
4. Fold in 300ml of cold cream
5. Add 300ml of lemonade
6. Keep folding the mixture together until the flour is all mixed in
7. Put onto a floured board, cut into desired sizes and brush with milk
8. Pop them into the oven for ten minutes or until golden brown, turning the tray once during cooking

Invercargill Host



Riverton

Stewart Fleck has a good stack of wood ready for when we are allowed to cut more kindling. Fortunately he had a good supply at Hammer Hardware just before lock down, which they are kindly selling since level 3. Patrick Westendra has his Macrocarpa logs near road, ready to be ringed when safe to do. The Lion's Casual Club shirts are ready to pick up when suitable too, so they should be available whenever our next meeting may be...Newsletter from Hospice Southland. Stan checked records and moved that we donate them \$1,000 seconded by Russell B, no negatives so passed for payment

Your Service Drives Our Success

A review of a trip by Steve & Joan Potts. ((found it very interesting to read and I asked Steve if I could share it with you all. Ed)

We left Q'town 16th Jan. for a 6 month trip skiing Europe for 3 months then doing an over lander from the UK through East Bloc countries, the Trans Siberian rail through Russia, China and the Malay Peninsula then back to NZ. We had leased our house for the duration. Mistake number 1

An overnigher in Tokyo then 4 days with a mate in Zurich Switzerland got us to the news that China was building 2 new hospitals in Wuhan in some ridiculously short period of time. No alarm bells there though at the time. Only in China and their problem. Mistake number 2.

Catching a train from Zurich to Innsbruck and down to Bolzano Nth Italy proved to be a sensational train ride over the 11.000ft Brenner Pass and through the Sth Tirol Alps. 3 days in Bolzano Nth Italy and a visit to the museum displaying the 5,000 year old Iceman's mummified body was a Bolzano highlight.

The next 3 days saw us take a trip to the ski resort of Cortina in the eastern Italian Tirol. Things were still uneventful as we were about 150 kms from Lombado at that stage (recognise the name??)

We then trained back towards Milan and skied Val Gardena for 2 weeks blissfully unaware that just 100 kms away Italians were beginning to die in the northern Italian region between us and Milan. Not reading Italian newspapers nor watching the local news meant we had no idea of this at the time. For us, using jam packed cable cars, crowded ski bars, cafes etc all seemed ok.

(Almost the worst) mistake number 3 as Italians were coming from all directions for school holidays to ski the area. Dodged that bullet!

We then (early Feb) decided to take a trip first to Florence for a few days, then hit the world renown Carnival in Venice for a few more days. The carnival was a fabulous show of events both on/off the water but was 3 days of very crowded Venice plazas, alleys, cafes etc. Another bullet dodged as people stream in from all over Italy for that event! We met Joan's brother and sister here (on their way to Israel) and decided to take them on a tour back up to the Tirol ski slopes near Bolzano that lasted 5 days. That got us to mid February and we were still none the wiser as to what was a fast developing story around Milan.

While in Bolzano this time, I came across a website called Peak Prosperity, a dedicated daily update on Covid 19 events (still going and a must follow). This site alerted us to the growing Covid problem but focused mainly on China and Asia at that time.

Still whistling in the breeze, we packed Joan's brother and sister off on a train to Milan for a few days before they caught a flight to Israel. Right through the middle of the worlds worst outbreak up till recently. And there for 3 days. They both flew back to Australia early March with the sister (early seventies) as sick as, showing classic symptoms of covid. However she was tested weeks later and found negative. We think maybe a false neg. as she is still not well and possibly one of the luckier ones..

Meanwhile we began to sense something was up. The Lombado region over the hill from us was totally locked down 23 Feb. As luck would have it, we had wanted to buy a season pass for the Tirol before we left NZ but to get the senior discounted pass, we had to personally show ID. so luckily we hadn't yet bought them. Plus accommodation was super expensive due to the Feb. holiday season so we decided to take a trip for a month to East Bloc countries we had not visited during our long ago backpacker days due to many being behind the Iron Curtain at the time. Then we'd come back and ski the Swiss Alps with our friend for a couple of weeks late March and April.

(an aside – he is now manufacturing N95 hospital grade masks for the Swiss Gov. Trying to get some!)

We then trained back over the Brenner pass to Innsbruck not knowing at the time that the Austrians closed the pass(thus border) the very next day due to covid coming in from Italy.

Maybe a bullet dodged there, as being locked up in Italy at that time could well have been a death sentence.

After a couple of days in Innsbruck we hopped a train for perhaps one of the more memorable trips one could do on a train – down to Ljubljana the capitol of Slovenia via Kitzbuhl. Ljubljana is a fabulous small city and has one of the globes better tourist attractions nearby – a 5 km. underground miniature train ride through a spectacular cave system.

We were just in front of covid at this stage.

We continued Eastwards to Zagreb Croatia near the end of Feb and now decided to buy a mask or two just in case we may need them down the track (maybe back in Switzerland a month later). But visiting half a dozen pharmacies the 1st day in Zagreb brought no luck. All sold out!!! Alarm bells began to ring. But still no one wearing masks here or keeping their distance on crowded streets, buses etc so no real concerns yet.

Three days later, we caught a bus to Budapest, Hungary. Again, crowded public transport and streets in Budapest gave no clues as to the real story unfolding around us. The Hungarian Prime Minister Victor Orban was in complete denial at the time (likely still is). Just the flu 'bro !! So no masks on the streets of Budapest, no distancing and restaurants, bars etc still full. The death toll in Nth Italy meanwhile was going exponential at this time. We meanwhile were still doing walking tours in groups, riding public transport as travelers do and not too concerned even yet. A lack of English news in foreign countries to blame.

A couple of days later, a bus ride to Bratislava, capitol of Slovakia changed all that. And Peak Prosperity was sounding the alarm. We were virtually the only ones on the bus, normally full according to the driver. And the streets of Bratislava were near deserted much of the time. But hey, we were no where near Italy now.

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Continued from Page 14

We decided to maybe spend a few days here and a few days in Vienna to see what eventuates. A day trip to Vienna didn't ring any bells as the crowds were out in force. It later occurred to us that many were from Scandinavian countries on school holidays and still, like us, not really appreciative of what was actually happening. Sweden even now attests to that. The Spanish Dancing horses didn't appear unwell nor the crowds watching them.

But the English news channel we finally were able to pick up that night blew all hopes of our trip continuing. Early March and covid was leaking into Switzerland, Austria, Spain, and France at a rapid rate.

We decided to immediately book a flight to the UK from Vienna 4th March. There was no news of the virus in the UK at this time so we thought that maybe we can ride this thing out in a Welsh pub. Landing at Heathrow didn't entail any health checks, questions etc. But catching a tube to central London was a bit unnerving. Although we had heard no reports of covid being present in the UK then, we knew that crowding on subways, no masks nor public hand sanitisers was not a good idea due to Europe being so close. After 3 days in London and now plenty of English news reports, we definitely knew it was time to flee back to NZ. Booking tickets for 5 days later and flying via L.A rather than Asia (the Middle East and Asia being by now total no go zones although flights were much cheaper for good reasons), we decided crowded London was not the ideal place to spend the last few days in the UK. So we booked a canal long boat near Leister up from London. A blissful few days with meals and beers in crowded pubs but again it was the UK and so no problems. Or so we thought. The 1st front line medical doctor to die in the UK was in Leister. Again, maybe a bullet dodged around there. Little did we know then that Boris had decided the English were going to lead the world via Herd Immunity. And no need to talk about any casualties at the time. He now has a lot to answer for.

The day we flew out of the UK (12 March), Boris decided not to implement the 'contain' strategy but rather to forgo testing and not to introduce any distancing measures ie pubs, restaurants etc were encouraged to stay open. Football matches were to go ahead as scheduled (a week later 52,000 people went to a game Liverpool vs Atletico Madrid where 3,000 Madrid supporters came up to Liverpool for the game. As Spain's problems were rapidly escalating we now know that was not a good idea. We also now know what it takes to change a Pollies mind - some of their own medicine.

We flew through L.A. the hour Trump announced a ban of all European flights immediately. Got lucky again as if it had of been a day later and the UK being included in that ban (if Trump had of known the UK's true situation) would have seen \$5k for flights down the drain.

NZ was a very welcome sight. I had had the Nth Winter version of flu (I think) for three weeks and it wasn't easy trying to suppress the symptoms for 24 hours of flying. I fully expected to have to isolate upon arrival in Auckland (or at least self isolate). Surprise. surprise no temp checks, no questions, nothing. Very surprising and at the time a worry knowing many others were likely on the way back here as well and like us may well have been carrying the virus.

Deciding to self isolate anyway, we spent 3 days in Raglan and upon hearing that a close friends funeral would be held in Matamata decided to call by there for a short visit to pay respects to his wife and family on the morning of the Tangi.

It was with a huge sigh of relief a week or so later when hearing that NZ's 2nd biggest cluster resided in Matamata, that the problem

The tube pic is both of us on the way to Heathrow 12 March to fly to LA and NZ. Pic was taken to show the first masks we had seen in a train in the UK. Shows apprehension on our behalf also at this stage

didn't involve the marae.

We were tested in Queenstown 2 days before L4 kicked in. And where to live? With no likely ski season, and the house lease still with months to go, the decision to see out the winter in a warmer clime (and among the grapes) saw us flee Nth to Blenheim. Still here !! and with plenty of Marlborough's best to boot.

Steve & Joan Potts



Ski pic is Val Gardenas famous Rhonda Sella ski



The crowded square is the Cathedral in Florence around 7-8th March. No te no masks, social distancing etc.



The Venice Gondolas pic is a Carnival time early March.

Your Service Drives Our Success

Tuatapere & Districts

Hello everyone, hope you are all well and are feeling like breaking out a little bit. we will have a Lions meeting on Thursday 28th at Daphne's at 7pm.

I don't know where the last 2 months went but it is nice to be getting out and about again.

Did you notice how much friendlier people were when they were out walking or biking past, they all said Hello.

I hope everyone has made it out the other side of "Lock down" OK. We tried to have one good laugh a day and I think we made it. Some of the jokes were on ourselves and some on what was happening around us. The emails coming in helped as well.

A man is walking down a back-country road and comes across a farmer with a huge flock of sheep. "I'll bet you \$100 against one of your sheep, that I can tell you the exact number of sheep in this flock," he says. The farmer thinks it over for a while and, because it is a big mob, takes the bet.

The man says "973."

The farmer is astonished, because it is exactly right.

"Okay. I'm a man of my word. Take any one of them."

So the man has a quick look, picks up a sheep and begins to walk away.

"Wait!" cries the farmer. "Give me a chance to get even. Double or quits that I can guess your occupation."

The man agrees.

"You an economist for a government think-tank," says the farmer.

"Amazing!" says the man, "You're exactly right. How did you work that out?"

"Well," says the farmer, "put down my dog and I'll tell you..."

RINGING THE BELL OF BRAVERY WITH GLOBAL HOPE AND LCIF

One of Lions' most significant contributions is the Bell of Bravery. During

Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, Lions of Phakalane generously

donated the bell, the ringing of which signifies the end of long courses of

cancer treatment and is now a tradition in many places.

We are blessed to see the Bell of Bravery in action, particularly in Botswana – a part of the world where children do not always have access to cancer diagnosis and treatment.

Sixteen-year-old Palema was lucky to ring the bell. In 2018, Palema presented to the Global HOPE Botswana team with jaundice, anemia and enlarged lymph nodes. Diagnosed with Hodgkin Lymphoma, a malignant cancer requiring aggressive treatment, he endured several grueling months of chemotherapy treatment in the hospital, where he also spent many weeks undergoing daily radiation therapy. Nearly a year after we met him, Palema had a huge smile on his face as he proudly rang the Bell of Bravery.

Not every child will ring the Bell of Bravery, but with support from a community comprising Texas Children's, Botswana-Baylor, Lions and LCIF, young patients like Palema have hope for brighter, healthier tomorrows.

To learn more about how LCIF and Texas Children's Global HOPE are partnering to fight childhood cancer in sub-Saharan Africa, visit lionsclubs.org/GlobalHOPE.



Stages of alert

ALERT LEVEL ONE: PREPARE

Covid-19 in NZ, but contained

- Activate border measures
- Contact tracing
- Cancel mass gatherings of more than 500 people
- Stay at home if sick and report flu-like symptoms
- Intensive testing for Covid-19
- Physical distancing encouraged

ALERT LEVEL TWO: REDUCE

Contained but risk of community transmission growing

- Entry border measures maximised
- Further restrictions on mass gatherings
- Physical distancing on public transport
- Limit non-essential travel around country
- Employer to begin alternative ways of working if possible (shift work, working from home etc)
- Business contingency plans activated
- High risk people to remain at home (over 70s, people with existing conditions)

ALERT LEVEL THREE: RESTRICT

Heightened risk that disease not contained

- Travel in areas of community transmission limited
- Affected educational facilities closed
- Mass gatherings cancelled
- Public venues closed
- Alternative ways of working required and some non-essential businesses closed
- Non-face-to-face primary care consultations
- Elective surgeries and procedures deferred and healthcare staff reprioritised

ALERT LEVEL FOUR: ELIMINATE

Likely that disease not contained

- People to stay at home
- Educational facilities closed
- All non-essential businesses closed
- Rationing of supplies and requisitioning of facilities
- Severe travel restrictions
- Major reprioritisation of healthcare services

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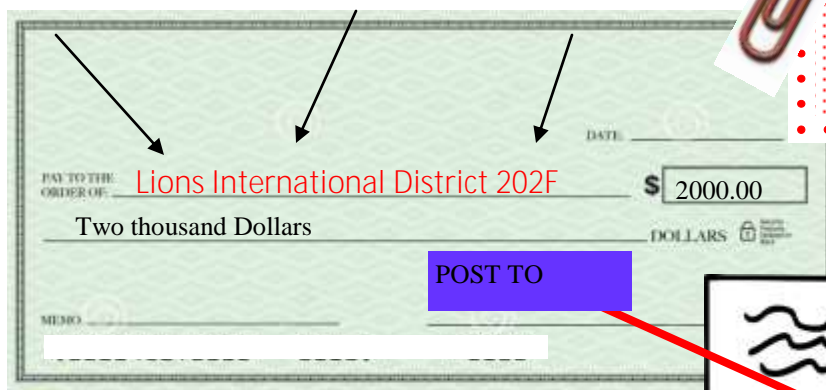
202f Face book Page

<https://www.facebook.com/Lions202F/>

Cabinet have recently set up a 202F Facebook page for use by all members of the Lions family to promote projects and activities within your Clubs. The link to the page is <https://www.facebook.com/Lions202F/>, so please feel free to 'like' the page, and to post pictures and stories from the goings on in your Clubs. Special thanks to Donald Lamont who provided the disk of photos from Convention in Maniototo for inclusion on the page.



Club Treasurers PLEASE NOTE



DATE _____

PAY TO THE ORDER OF: **Lions International District 202F** \$ 2000.00

Two thousand Dollars

POST TO

MEMO _____

Covering note - Tag -
This cheque to go
Diabetes 1 or Camp quality
CMF or Club dues etc etc

NOTE CHANGE OF 202F TREASURER

202F District Treasurer
PDG James Whyte
Nelsen Ridge Road, RD3
Alexandra 9393

202 F's Southern Flyer Editor Ann Saunders

Email: 202f.editor@lionsclubs.org.nz

Happy to receive your bulletins by email.

Phone 0274344188

Next Issue :

Sunday 7th June 2020



District Newsletter Editor

District Webmaster

Your Service Drives Our Success