

Dumaresq Drumbeat

Volume 40 Number 10 ~ May 2017



Message from President John *Let's Do It!*

Here we are into May already. It seems not that long ago I was getting advice from Paula on how many words and what I should be saying in the President's newsletter. We are still as busy this month as we have been all this year. As well as the now regular Bunnings weekends, we still have the other monthly activities going on, namely, Saumarez rose garden, the monthly community cleanup, Lions Park mowing, AURG catering and tree planting and now a regular trip to the Railway Museum.

The big event for May is the Trivia Night on Friday 19th of May. These nights are always good fun and it is a very good chance to show off our club to potential members. If you can, try to invite one person or couple to join us for the night and see what charming fun people Dumaresq Lions are. If you think you can fill a table, please do so. Thankyou Lion Carolyn for the effort you put into these events.

May is also time for the Lions incoming officers' seminar, again to be held in Uralla. This year it will be on Sunday 21st. If you have volunteered for a board position you should consider attending. I have found it useful over the years to give me a bit of guidance as to the requirements of each position, as well as helping meet other Lions from other clubs in our region. There is a large amount of experience amongst the Lions conducting the seminar and some interesting and entertaining stories are often exchanged.

May Board meeting is where we discuss disbursements and contributions from the money the club has raised through our projects this financial year. It is a tradition that the members of next year's Board attend as well, if they are able. I am afraid our funds may be a little down this year because our two best fund raising functions were affected by wet weather. These were Australia Day and the Autumn Festival.

I must thank Vice President Julie for taking charge of the last dinner meeting in my absence. I have heard that I missed a very good presentation by Bernie Shakeshaft from the Back Track program. I would also like to commend Lion Ros on the line up of guest speakers she has provided for us this year. I don't remember a yawn whilst any of them presented, and someone was always ready to ask questions of the presenters, which is usually a good indication of interest.

Happy Mother's Day to all our Mums,
Grandmums and Great Grandmums.

President John



Weekends at
Bunnings are
making a
difference to our
finances.

Thanks
Bunnings!

Roster for May - June

Date	Raffle /Door	Loyal Toast	Welcome	Ethics	Purposes
Wednesday 3 rd May Board at 6.00 (Disbursements) Dinner 7.00	Keith S and Peter H	Bob H	Annie K	Julie W	Helen L
Wednesday 17 th May Partners' Night	Margot and Murray B	Hans S	Rob Mc	Peter S	Rob S
Wednesday, 7 th June Board	Julie W and Judy F	Colin G	Les D	Keith S	Rob Mc
Wednesday, 21 st June CHANGEOVER	To be advised.				

- If you will be away for your rostered turn on the **Door and Raffles** please try to arrange a swap with someone else or leave your raffle prizes with your buddy.
- Remember to let **Lion Tamer Helen** know if you are unable to attend a meeting or if you are bringing a guest **by 9pm on the Monday prior to a meeting**. Phone or sms . Late notification may result in a request for you to pay for your meal.
- If you know that you will be away for an extended period could you please advise the Bulletin Editor the month before you leave so that adjustments can be made to the Roster.

Celebrations in May

Happy Birthday to

Pat Brear 5th
Daphne Johnston 8th
Gerry Wissink 14th
Helen Lisle 18th
Pete Greenup 25th



Happy Anniversary to

David and Anne Trenerry 12th
John and Libby Fitzgerald 14th
Peter and Yvonne Straw 21st



Best wishes to everyone in our Lions Family who is experiencing challenging health at present. We wish you all the best of care and speedy recoveries. Please let us know if we can help in any way.

Don't forget.....

Dates for May - June

1st May – Railway Museum working bee 10.00
1st May – Trivia Night Planning 7.30 at Gadds
3rd May – Board and Dinner Meetings
6th May - 8.30 Saumarez Garden
14th May – AURG
14th May – Mothers' Day
15th May– Railway Museum working bee 10.00
17th May – Partners' Night
19th May – Trivia Night at Legacy
House - 7.00
20th May – Bunnings
21st May - Bunnings
21st May – Club Administration Seminar at
9.00 in Uralla
27th May – Community Clean-up
Cabinet Changeover (Tamworth)
3rd June – Bunnings
4th June – Bunnings
5th June– Railway Museum working bee 10.00
7th June – Board and Dinner Meetings
19th June– Railway Museum working bee 10.00
21st June - Club Changeover
24th June – Bunnings
25th June - Bunnings

Presentations in April – Congratulations and thank you to these long-serving Lions.



Peter - 38 years



Gerry W - 29 years



Bryan J - 24 years



Congratulations to Lion Rob Mc who is a grandfather for the first time.

Baby Tristan James Michael who was born on 29th March is the son of Rob's daughter Lara and her husband Michael.

Congratulations to Lara and Michael too - we hope that you enjoy being parents and that you are getting enough sleep.



When: Friday 19th May at 7.00

Where: Legacy House

Cost: \$10.00 a head - Tables of 8 - get your friends and family together

Theme: Lions Birthdays - wearing a party hat optional
Lions please bring a plate of food for supper.

Donations for prizes and raffle most welcome.

Book your table asap.



CLUB ADMINISTRATION SEMINAR
Uralla - Sunday 21st May from 9.00 - Lunch
Cost \$5.00 (for lunch provided by Uralla Lions)

This seminar is highly recommended for all incoming officers and any Lions who are interested in finding out more about how Lions works. Please advise President elect Judy if you will be able to attend at our next meeting.





Guest Speaker
19th April 2017
Bernie Shakeshaft
from
BackTrack
www.backtrack.org.au

Lions who missed our Partners' night in April missed hearing a truly inspiring man talk with passion about the work he (and his colleagues) do with the young people they want to help through BackTrack - 75% of the kids are indigenous.

Bernie Shakeshaft spent his early years in Armidale but moved to Sydney with his family when in Year 8. He described himself at that time as "like a cat in a potato sack!" He hated Sydney, he did not do well at school and was always in trouble but acknowledges, that unlike the kids he is working with now, he had a loving and supportive family. Experiences in the Northern Territory shaped Bernie into the compassionate man he is today. They have given him the skills and empathy he needs to shape young people having a hard time into productive members of society. Impressive statistics show that 87% of the kids BackTrack has worked with are now in meaningful employment or full time education. In addition, Armidale juvenile crime rates are down by 55%.

Bernie puts the success of BackTrack down to what he called the 'circle of courage' - the 4 elements youth need in order to feel like and be a productive member of society.

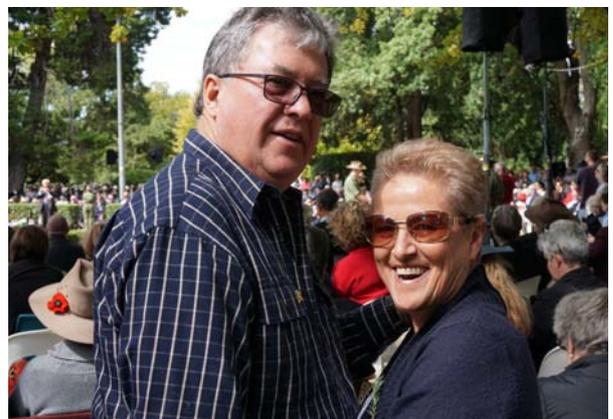


A recipient of a Churchill Scholarship Bernie used his scholarship to research organisations that "punch above their weight" in 3 countries. Some of the things he discovered were that the organisations must come from a gap and start from grass roots. The organisation has to be embedded in the community and must have multiple funding sources as well as self-generated funds (the BackTrack kids now earn 20% of the funds required to keep the organisation going) and there has to be effective evaluation of multi-component programs.

You can see why BackTrack is so successful in our community. Congratulations to Bernie and his team and to the young people who have turned their lives around.



Armidale Dumaresq Lions assisted with the collection at the conclusion of Armidale's 11.00 am Anzac Service in Central Park this year. Thank you to all who assisted.



**LEST
WE
FORGET**

Monthly club projects to improve our local environment

AURG = Armidale Urban Rivercare Group

When: 2nd Sunday of each month (in recess in June and July)

Where: Somewhere along the Creeklands – Bryan will advise venue by email.

What do we do? Prepare morning tea and lunch for the workers and assist with maintenance and tree planting.

Club contact person: Lion Bryan



The area identified by Sue on her morning walk near Mann St East and Cooks Rd filled David's boot and back seat on 29.4!

Community Clean-up

When: Last Saturday of each month at 8.30

Where: Wherever we think there is a need for a clean-up in the community – any Lion can nominate an area. Always decided at the second meeting each month.

What do we do? Spend an hour cleaning up the designated area. Bring gloves, garbage bags and a rake or similar implement. Coffee afterwards and fellowship with our fellow Lions is our reward – as well as knowing that we have made a difference.

Club contact person: Lion Carolyn

Saumarez Heritage Rose Garden

When: 1st Saturday of each month – 8.30ish – 10.00

Where: Saumarez (access near the airport)

What do we do? Look after beds D5 and D7 – weeding, deadheading, mulching. Bring gloves, secateurs and anything else that may be useful. Stay on for morning tea with the Heritage Garden Club if you wish.

Club contact person: Lion Carolyn



Take time to
smell the roses
too!



Lions Park – on highway by-pass on RH side heading south from the northern roundabout

When: as needed

What do we do? Mow, maintain picnic tables, look after shrubs, pick up after people, reflect on members who have passed – our memorials to members who have passed away are here.

Club contact person: Lion Rob assisted by Lion Graeme



SOOT and CINDERS

Hi folks,

At the dinner meeting held 5th of April, the members present voted the first and third Mondays as the most popular days to have a working bee at the Railway Museum.

Being the oldest member, I used my influence to over ride a suggestion to start work at 6.00am.

REASON: you can't see what you're cleaning at that hour.

My suggestion to kick off at 10.00am was warmly received and adopted with gusto.

REASON: I don't get out of bed early for anyone.

Our first day on the job at the Railway Museum will be Monday 1st May at 10.00am, followed by Monday 15th May again at 10.00am. Parking should be between the main station building and the museum. We should be finished work and home before the tour bus arrives, but should it be running early, we don't want to park in it's way. (funny that. I thought only Sydney suburban electric trains ran early when the driver was going home to sign off duty. or sometimes when he was rostered for a bare 20 minutes crib break and wanted a second cup of tea.)

If you can bring a leaf rake it might be handy and remember: hat, sunnies, gloves and safety vest.

I'm working on a list of what we might need.

Yours in Soot and Cinders

Grahame A

Mint Matters

We now have a new outlet for our mints, Lion Stephanie asked me to put a tray in her bookshop out at UNE. Thank you Steph!

We are still selling at most of our other outlets so that's good. We can still do with some more new ones though to give some of our slower ones a rest.

That is all for this month. Cheers.

Lion Marls

Armidale Regional Council's Stronger Communities Fund Assessment Panel considered the joint Armidale Urban Rivercare Group (AURG) and Armidale Tree Group (ATG) application for Rehabilitation of Dumaresq Creek from Canambe Street to Cookes Road and approved a grant for \$35,000.

The project aims to rehabilitate this section of Dumaresq Creek and Yagoona Gully adjacent to Norths Soccer Club Field. This work will be done concurrently with and will complement the Environmental Trust Grant which AURG is currently engaged for the next 3 years to June 2019, also the existing HICUB plantings and the recent Urban Forest Project supported by ATG. Specifically, the work will involve the removal of woody weeds from this section of the creek and replanting the area with showcase groupings of local new England trees and shrubs.

AURG are planning to distribute an invitation to adjacent residents for the next working bee scheduled for Sunday 14 May.

Bryan J



**ARMIDALE
URBAN
RIVERCARE
GROUP**

Next AURG working bee

Time: **8.30 am**

Date: **Sunday 14th May**

Location: On the Creeklands area off Erskine Street adjacent to Phil Wheaton Field.

Vehicle access through open gate near the toilets and drive towards the creek or off MacDonald Drive.

Help with the BBQ or get involved with the working bee.

Laugh-lines

Little Johnny watched, fascinated as his grandma gently rubbed cream on her face. "Why are you rubbing cream on your face Gran?" he asked.

"To make myself beautiful," was the reply.

A few minutes later she began removing the cream with a tissue.

"What's the matter?" asked Johnny. "Giving up?"

A cautionary tale....

A young man was walking through a supermarket to pick up a few things when he noticed an old lady following him around. Thinking nothing of it, he ignored her and continued on. Finally he went to the checkout but she got in front of him.

"Pardon me," she said. "I'm sorry if my staring at you has made you feel uncomfortable. It's just that you look just like my son who I haven't seen for a long time."

"I'm very sorry," replied the young man. "Is there anything I can do for you?"

"Yes," she said. "As I am leaving can you say 'Good bye, Mother!?' It would make me feel much better."

"Sure," answered the young man.

As the old woman was leaving he called out, "Goodbye, Mother!"

As he went to pay for his few purchases he noticed that his bill was much larger than he expected.

"How can that be?" he asked. "I only purchased a few things!"

"Your mother said that you would pay for her," said the checkout operator.



Armidale Dumaresq Lions Club 40th

Birthday Celebrations

Saturday, 27th January 2018

Put the date in your diary now.

Plan to be here for Australia Day and the Sunday after too.

Happy Birthday to us!

Wanted: Photos of Dumaresq Lions in digital form or good enough quality to be scanned. Send to Carolyn please.

The Last Word

The name of this section of the Bulletin "*The Last Word*" is very apt as it will be our last word for the Dumaresq Lions Drumbeat.

Well, we have finally relocated to Port Macquarie after unpacking nearly 80 boxes.... we had a lot in storage. Following a garage sale, Gumtree, donations to charities, "I want from the kids" and trips to the tip, this move for us seemed to have been epic and expensive. We are glad it is over.

Taking a minute to step back with a glass of aromatic easy-drinking red, we reflected on this move, we have concluded...

Armidale is one of our favourite places in Australia, but now that we are not living there and dealing with its ups and downs every day, it's easier than ever to focus only on its good qualities. Absence makes the heart grow fonder as they say!

Over our married life, we have moved many times and have always found that home can be any and every place you want it to be. It's all about how that place makes you feel, and you never have to choose just one. Armidale made us feel good and Dumaresq Lions played a major role in those emotions; you are worth every sausage, the tomato sauce, the onions and all the burnt ends. We hope in years to come that we can say the same about Port Macquarie as we approach our first meeting with Tacking Point Lions Club. We will keep you posted ☺

All our moves have made us realise that no matter how stuck you may feel, or whatever path you are on, you can always change your life, and that doesn't have to mean moving, it could be any kind of change you want! You may not always get the result you are hoping for when you do, but it will get you closer to where you are meant to be. Who knows where one simple choice might take you!

We are already lamenting the loss of the NBN, the rich smoky smell of wood fires permeating the air and Armidale Autumn foliage of magical hues of reds, oranges and yellows.

Lions Bob and Paula

