



# A CENTURY OF SERVICE

Our founding father, Melvin Jones, in  
nineteen seventeen  
Could never have envisaged the progression  
of his dream.  
A century of service, helping “someone else  
in need”  
Assistance on a global scale – a vision grand  
indeed.

Across two hundred countries now, a million  
members plus  
The tenets of the Lions Creed apply to each  
of us!  
So many projects spring to mind that Lions  
undertakes,  
With monies raised, the proceeds of our  
famous mints and cakes.

And research – all things medical, vaccines,  
bionic ears  
Kid’s cancer, Save Sight programs; they’ve  
been funded through the years  
Alzheimer’s, diabetes; we train dogs to guide  
the blind  
We’ve hearing dogs to solve dilemmas many  
people find.

A few noteworthy members and whose  
names you’re sure to know  
Who served their countries selflessly, all  
those years ago.  
Like Lion Jimmy Carter and explorer Richard  
Byrd  
Babe Ruth and Ronald Reagan, they’re both  
names you will have heard.

Grand Prix racer Michael Baury and Albert  
Schweitzer too  
Amelia Earhart’s Lions flag went with her  
when she flew.  
There’s Gerald Ford and Patty Duke and Sir  
Edmund Hillary  
We’ve funded Helen Keller’s dream to help  
the blind to see!

We’ve Youth Exchange, Peace Poster,  
beaten River Blindness too  
While helping troubled kids to cope, the  
learning programs grew.  
There’s Junior Public Speaking and we have  
Youth of the Year

Seems Kevin Rudd and Peter Beattie were  
two who started here

Since nineteen eighty-seven, women  
members joined the ranks  
A new dimension added, clubs have earned  
the publics’ thanks  
And operation Smile, its children’s problems  
to reduce  
With programs and some strategies to  
combat drug abuse.

There’s money raised for Cord Blood: we’ve  
partnered Outward Bound  
With earthquakes, floods, tsunamis, some  
assistance can be found  
You’ve heard about Licola Camp, a place for  
kids to stay  
An old village, bought by Lions, a showplace  
now today

Our Charter member Desmond Hohnberg  
celebrates tonight  
An inspiration to us all – to always do what’s  
right  
Our barbeques and card nights and a dance  
or two as well  
Used papers too, a garage sale and cakes  
and mints to sell.

Well past a million members, we have LEO  
Clubs for youth  
Helped draft the UN Charter, its success is  
living proof.  
Like Rotary and Apex too, we serve  
communities  
So, Lions claim a kinship with service clubs  
like these.

Australia’s largest service club, twelve  
hundred ‘dens’ and more  
The quest to help humanity is well worth  
striving for  
Take heart, that in these troubled times  
there’s one thing to rely on  
Remember that where there’s a need –  
you’re bound to find a Lion.

**Connie Ross**  
**Henty Lions Club**  
**25<sup>th</sup> November 2017**