

## Lions Australia - more than just a humble sausage

- *Australia's largest service organisation, Lions Australia celebrates Lions Awareness Day on Saturday 2 March*
- *Lions Australia promotes youth, provides community service, medical research and disaster relief and has over 1300 clubs across the country*

Australia's largest service organisation, Lions Australia is pleased to be celebrating Lions Awareness Day next month with a number of special events to be held in communities across the country.

Since the first club was formed in Australia 70 years ago Lions has grown dramatically in size and impact with over 1300 clubs and 30,000 members giving back through an array of community-based programs and initiatives.

The organisation has a longstanding reputation for serving some of Australia's best sausage sizzles. Whilst very proud to serve great BBQ's, this Lions Awareness Day Lions across the country are reminding Australians that they serve much more than sausage sandwiches and raffles and are asking members of their local communities to help them make a difference.

From helping cure childhood cancer and Alzheimer's disease, supporting people with hearing, vision and mobility problems, providing disaster relief and making positive change in local communities Lions are on a mission to make the world a better place.

Over \$50 million is donated to Lions Australia each year with all funds going directly to important causes and people in need. Over \$5million is invested in youth programs each year, over \$20 million is invested in medical research, \$5 million in drug awareness, \$20 million in hearing services and over 3000 environmental projects are carried out by Lions Australia every year.

Lions Australia also provides disaster relief to communities in times of crisis and the Australian Lions Foundation to date has provided more than \$134 million in funding grants and relief.

This year's theme is "You Can Too!". Lions Australia CEO Rob Oerlemans says the organisation looks forward to making even more of a difference in years to come and is encouraging people to 'talk to a Lion' and find out how Lions can support them in making their own contributions to community service or fundraising.

Lions across Australia are friends, family and neighbours on a mission to make a difference in their local community and the world we live in. Lions Australia has grown dramatically in size and impact over the past 70 years and we thank all members and their communities for the incredible support. From several large national projects to many local community programs and initiatives across the country, Lions Australia is

focused on some exciting work right now and we look forward to making even more positive change for many years to come,” says Lions Australia CEO Rob Oerlemans.

“Lions Awareness Day is a fantastic opportunity for Lions across Australia to look back on the previous year and celebrate all they have achieved with their local communities. Lions Clubs will be out in their local communities in coming weeks sharing successes and information about current projects. We encourage all Australians to attend Lions fundraising events in your local communities or stop and have a chat to your Lions members about how you can get involved and help make a difference,” adds Lions Australia CEO Rob Oerlemans.

Lions Awareness Day will be held on Saturday 2nd March.

For more information and to find out how you can get involved with Lions please visit:

<http://lionsclubs.org.au/about/>

To make a donation to Lions Australia visit <http://lionsclubs.org.au/about/donation-bequests/>

### **About Lions Australia**

Where there’s a need, there’s a Lion. Lions Australia is Australia’s largest service organisation with more than 1200 clubs in Australia and Papua New Guinea. Lions Australia promotes youth, support medical research, provide aid to people with disability, community service and disaster relief.

Lions are friends, family and neighbours who share a core belief: community is what we make it.

For more information, please visit <http://lionsclubs.org.au/about/>

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