

Lions, thank you very much for your service through 2018-19.

We have worked strongly throughout the year towards achieving our goals. We have delivered quality service to many areas of need at home and abroad, we have trained many Lions as our leaders. And we recruited strongly towards our membership targets. Unfortunately, our early optimism ran into the hard rocks of reality. Despite the best efforts of all Lions at club level, our overall membership has continued to decline. The last year we had positive growth nationally was 2011. Since then our membership has fallen by nearly 2,800 or approximately 10.1 percent annually. At the end of last December, the decline in membership had us on track for a record loss of members. Due to the good work of Lions and Lions leaders across the country, our loss for the full year looks to be less than for the first half year and possibly less than the average over the last 10 years. Not as good as growth but much better than a record loss.

The challenge for each and every one of us is to find the future members for our Lions clubs in Australia. We are responsible for ensuring our clubs continue into the future and for finding those communities and interest groups where a Lions club would make a difference.

Our clubs need us, the **members**, to be able to perform **service** to our communities, be the **leaders** to identify and plan the service, and help the clubs develop and recruit to sustain our organisation into the future. Membership, Leadership and Service the three legs of our Action Team that allow us to make a difference in communities from club to the Global level.

I have been honoured to have the privilege of serving as Chair for the Council of Governors during the year. Your Governors have worked diligently as a Council to make our great organisation better in Multiple District 201.

I congratulate you all on your efforts and ask that you continue to work hard as Lions to deliver to our communities here and around the world. I encourage you to support 2019-20 Council Chair Kim Forrest (and her partner PDG Ross) together with your Council of Governors. While they can set goals and policies, it is the Lions in the clubs that deliver.

Thank you again for your efforts in 2018-19 and keep up the good work in 2019-20.



Chris Howard
Council Chair 2018-19
MD201



