

## ITALIAN LION YEARS FOR RETURN OF YOUTH EXCHANGES

*COVID-19 has halted this beautiful tradition but it hasn't stopped young Italians seeking to spend time in Australia. Here one young Italian Lion looks back with nostalgia*

Each year, the youth exchange organisation of MD108 Italy collects applications to participate in this Lions program.

Your country is one of the most welcoming and most requested destinations. Your camps Koala, Kookaburra, Kanga and Krokodile are famous among young Italians.

I remember with tenderness my experience in now distant 2013 when Camp Kanga's then director, Lion Sue Ruddick, agreed to me joining the staff.



Coronavirus has managed to break this beautiful tradition, an illuminating example of the importance of this Lions initiative for young people.

For many years I have organised such experiences for young Italians in your country and collected their reports. The vast majority are absolutely positive, so positive that almost all conclude by saying how their experiences have been the best of their lives, and how they want to repeat them.

I have also followed the Aussie students who came to Italy to participate in our winter session of the program.

Unfortunately, your participation has never been as extensive as ours but all the guys we hosted have returned home with a positive experience.

Many families from both countries have opened their doors to welcome and host these kids. Those who participate are ambassadors of Lions in their respective countries, an important testimony of what the Lions family can be.

In a few weeks this terrible virus managed to wipe out years and years of built-up brotherhood, confidence and friendship.

It will take years to restore the pleasure of human contact, but I am absolutely sure this will happen. Lions are strong and will survive, although a very small virus has managed to shake this world organisation of ours.

Hugs to all  
Lion Loris Baraldi  
YCEC 108 Tb – Italy

## Why Lions Clubs should bother with Risk Management!

Apart from the obvious answer of wanting to protect your own members, friends, family or clients etc. from injury or death, there are quite valid reasons why we should all look at developing a risk management process.

### Protect your organisation from legal liability

Some not-for-profit groups believe that by incorporating they can no longer be sued. This is not the case. The effect of incorporation is to limit liability. However, directors and employees of corporations and members and officers of incorporated associations do have a risk of incurring liability if a personal breach of duty by them causes personal injury or damage to property. They can be liable if they directly caused the loss or damage or if they authorised and directed the actions which caused the event giving rise to liability.

Small organisations which take the form of a partnership are even more directly exposed to potential liability. Each partner has unlimited liability in respect of any liabilities incurred by the partnership. There is a similar risk for members and officers of unincorporated community groups.

### Lower insurance premiums

Insurers are increasingly focusing on providing cover to organisations that can prove that they do not present a "high risk". If you can provide evidence that you are effectively implementing safe practices and have moved to deal with major risks, insurers will be more likely to provide cover and to do so at a more reasonable cost.

### Improved reputation

By moving to limit risks you are showing to the wider community that you place value on everyone's participation and involvement. This enhances Lions' capacity to present a professional image, it enables you to promote and market yourself as an organisation that has strong standards of behaviour, and assists your Club to structure itself to run effectively and

efficiently. You can use the implementation of your risk management process to market these benefits to potential members.

### Better information for decision making

The process that you undergo in identifying, assessing and evaluating risks will highlight requirements that your Club should review and prioritise. By stepping through the process and continually reviewing these decisions over time you will enhance the capacity of the Club to make decisions based on facts rather than speculation.

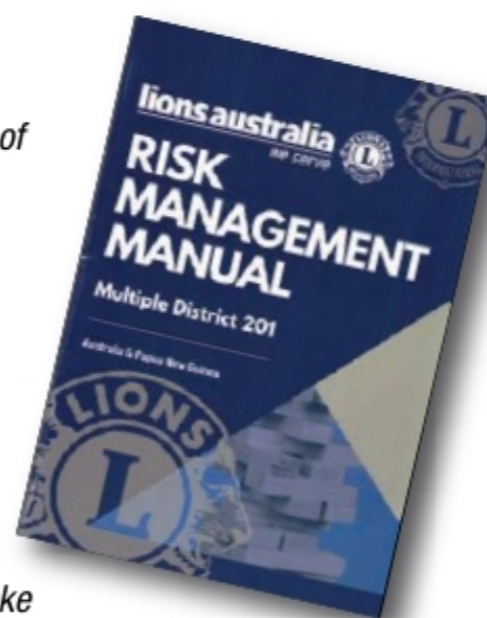
### Better asset management and maintenance

Setting up a risk management register will help you list all the physical assets owned by your Club. It also encourages members to act when the asset poses a danger.

The MD Insurance and Risk Management committee has this year released a Risk Management Manual which was collated and edited by committee member Lion Garry Bates from Queensland. All MD Clubs have received a hard copy by mail, whilst an online copy can be found on the MD Insurance website at <https://lionsclubs.org.au/members/insurance/>

All Lions Clubs are encouraged to appoint a Club Safety Coordinator, who should be the custodian of the manual and pass the hard copy onto his/her successor each year. Due to printing costs, multiple copies are not available to any Club, thus care should be taken to ensure the manual is not lost or damaged. Appendix items A-D at the rear of the manual - shown as "Safety Forms" on the website - are either in web-form to allow online completion or downloadable for ease of usage.

PDG Peter Lamb – Committee Chair man.



## LEOS IN ACTION

### Leos still determined to make a difference

It has been a bit quiet over the past few months, but Leo clubs are still doing what they can to help their communities and are looking forward to the relaxation of restrictions so they can get back to more active participation in community events. Here is a snapshot of some Leo club projects that have been continuing, despite the restrictions.

King Island Leo Club (T1) was chartered last November and held their Charter Presentation in February so have had a rocky start, but that hasn't dampened their enthusiasm. They were very excited when their new club shirts arrived recently and they have launched a very creative project. They have challenged the residents of their community to decorate their mailbox or front gate to win a small cash prize. 'Who doesn't love a quirky, rural, recycled statement mailbox or entrance?' their poster states. What a great way to energise their community and put smiles on people's faces! Hopefully we will soon see photos of the winning entries on their club Facebook page.

since launched an appeal for people to send in photos and messages of support which they will compile into a video to be shared with essential workers. You can send your message to their Facebook page to support this project.

On Anzac Day, Waroona Leos and Lions (W2) wanted to show their respects, despite the cancellation of the traditional Anzac Day service. Leo Club President Zarli Butcher joined the Waroona Lions Club President Mike Whitney in placing a wreath at the local cenotaph.



for restrictions to lift so they can get back into action. With the support of their sponsoring Lions club as well as the local community, the Carp Muster is a great social day out, while protecting the natural environment and raising funds for Leo-nominated charities at the same time.



Like every other Club, Crestbrook Leo Club (N5) has been kept quiet recently so they refocused their attention on keeping their members active and the ideas flowing. They did this by having a few video calls where club members got to do activities together, specifically Trivia, Kahoot and Psych. They also reached out to their friends (and rivals!) at the local Hills Rotaract Club, to learn how they've been managing COVID, and how they've been helping the community. The Leos are looking forward to their first in-person meeting to 'relaunch' the year and plan to be back in action soon, working with Crestwood Lions on their supermarket food drive, and possibly doing some Guide Dogs or clothing collection-oriented projects.



Penola & District Leo Club (C2) also has an interesting project - they have a licence to bale hay on council land and, with the help of their sponsoring Lions, have had this baled up for donation and/or sale. The first donation went to farmers at Kingston SE who were affected by the bushfires earlier in the year. Another 300 bales have been sold and the funds raised will benefit future projects in their community. Make hay while the sun shines ... and when the world is dark!



These examples show just some of the ways in which Leos are continuing to make a difference in their communities, with innovative ideas and great enthusiasm. They are not just our PARTNERS in service, but also LEADERS in service.

Toni Lanphier  
MD Leo Committee Chair



Crowfields Leo Club (Q3) has taken a different approach to community support. They have chosen to show appreciation to the essential workers who are supporting the community through the pandemic. Just before Easter, they delivered chocolates and gifts to shopkeepers and health workers in their town, and they have



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