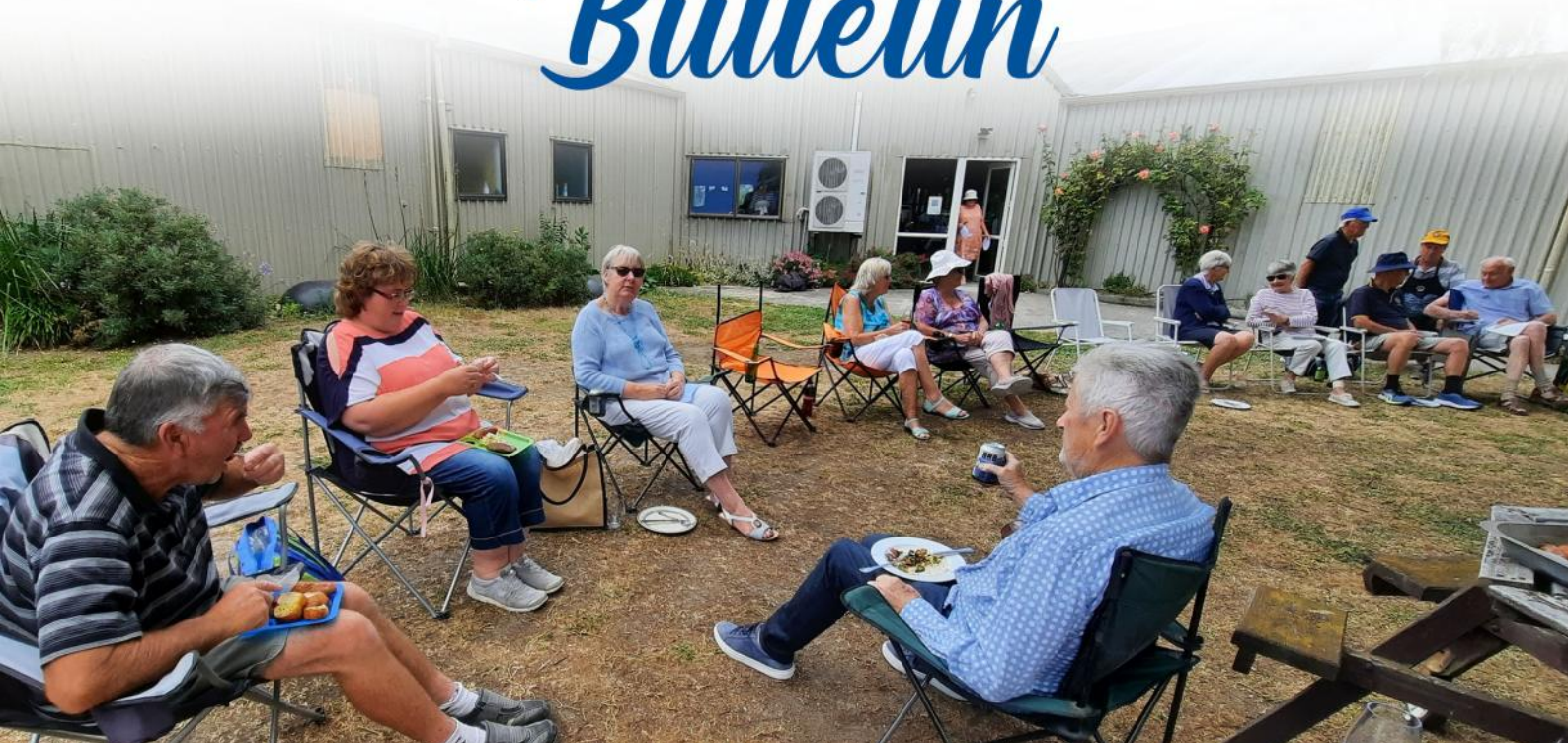


LIONS CLUB OF BLENHEIM



February 2021 Bulletin





**LIONS CLUB OF
BLENHEIM**

Officers

2020 – 2021

**PRESIDENT - DELPHINE LEE
SECRETARY - JUDY BROWNLIE
TREASURER - HILARY LONDON**

TEA MEETINGS

**Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday
Taylor Room, Clubs of Marlborough – 5.30pm**

**Apologies to Clubs of Marlborough
Before 11am on day of meeting – 5781059**

BOARD MEETINGS

**1st Tuesday of every month
Community Centre – 7.00pm**

Delphine's Discourse



Wasn't it nice for so many of us to gather at Brayshaw Park, enjoy superb food, (there are some very talented hosts and hostesses among our group), and take time to sit around chatting and catching up after the holidays. The venue is ideal, with a huge shady tree and kitchen facilities.

We now have a lot to look forward to - Chorus have employed us to distribute leaflets to areas into which they are installing Fibre Broadband, not a huge commitment, but they will reimburse us at \$40.00 an hour, so we will happily oblige. The first area is Spring Creek, which will be followed by Fairhall and the new development off Old Renwick Road.

Then of course, we have the Whites Bay "Big Dig" and plenty more to come.

I do hope you've taken time to appreciate the longer, hotter days. Too hot for some I appreciate, some days I do very little, but of course Jim has us all creating huge stacks of wood when the weather is not too extreme.

Let's all look forward to a happy, rewarding year.

President Delphine.

Words from the Wise

If you want happiness for an hour, take a nap.

If you want happiness for a day, go fishing.

If you want happiness for a year, inherit a fortune.

If you want happiness for a lifetime, help someone else.

Chinese Proverb

Guest Speaker 10 February

Kelvin Watt



Our first guest speaker for the New Year is Kelvin Watt. Kelvin is the Regional Manager of the Graeme Dingle Foundation Marlborough.

From a rural upbringing in the deep south to various undertakings around the globe, Kelvin was originally attracted to Marlborough through work at Outward Bound. With a background in experiential education and personal development he then made the move to the Graeme Dingle Foundation in 2012.

Kelvin enjoys adventures (with backpack, paddles or pedals) in the Marlborough outdoors and nowadays these are usually shared with his 3 daughters.

Kelvin will be talking about the Graeme Dingle Foundation Marlborough and their mission to deliver programmes that are proven to bring positive changes to the lives of young people at the top of the south.

Lions Host—Gaynor Cotching

Thank You—Charles Riley

Duty Roster

	10 February	24 February	10 March
Greeter	John Winder	Gary Ching	Carol Fogg
Attendance	Hilary Chris Abbott	Hillary/Gaynor	Hilary Tom Harrison
Grace	Ross Ayson	Philip Cowe	Barry Holmwood
Meals	Linda Batchelor Mary Belsey	Maurice Cresswell Brett Cunningham	Barrie Abernethy George Jenson
Raffle	Willie Blom	Paul Davidson	Robin Jones
Last Word	Steve Butler	Ken Dowling	George Judd
Pack up	Mike Blom	John Donnelly	Bob Jones

Please Note

If you are unable to attend the meeting and are rostered for a duty please let John Brownlie our Lion Tamer know or alternatively arrange a replacement yourself.

Please note—You are also required to advise the Clubs of Marlborough by 11am on the day of the meeting if you are going to be absent.

Duffy Books Presentation



Kids who cannot read become adults who cannot communicate and that's a serious disadvantage in a world that operates on the written word. The Duffy Books program was designed to create and enhance the desire for children to read through book ownership and the philosophy behind the program is simple – to break the cycle of “booklessness”.

To that end, the Duffy Book program provides children with books that they can take home and read and own. Our Lions Club donated \$2500 to Mayfield School to enable them to benefit from this enormously important program for lower decile schools.

On December 4, it was a real pleasure to attend the Mayfield School assembly with President Delphine, Neville (a former Mayfield Headmaster) and Charles (our erstwhile photographer), to finally present our donation to the school. It was a “busy” occasion with lots of pupil interaction and I had no idea what was going on at times. (Perhaps I missed something in my youth!). The samples of books on display looked fun and colourful and I almost thought that it was time to regress.



A great occasion and a very worthwhile project for our club. My congratulations to Neville for his foresight in promoting this project for the Blenheim Lions.

Mike Parry



Mistletoe Market

The 43rd Mistletoe Market was successfully held in early December 2020 with a capacity number of stalls and, of course, the usual fine weather.

The crowd really turned up for our iconic event assisted by good radio and social media promotion.

As planning was delayed due to the Covid crisis, for a time it did not seem likely we could hold it, communication with our stall holders both new and old was reduced into a shorter time frame. This was a trying time for Ross Ayson but he managed to fill all available spaces and had a waiting list to boot. Thank you Ross.

The financial result was a healthy net figure of \$7133.40 which included site fees, raffle \$600 (thank you to John, Catherine and Stuart) and a donation from MFF of \$250 for parade assistance.

There is much planning behind the scenes and all members help out on the day and the combined effort results in a significant return to the Club and hopefully the Mistletoe Market will successfully march on into the future.

There will be a need to introduce some new blood into the event's organisation this year and it is hoped that the positions will be filled as without them the event will be in jeopardy.

Thanks to all members who helped out in whatever capacity and hopefully you all enjoyed the experience. You did good!

Charles Riley and Ross Ayson.

Leos Barbeque

The Leos had a profitable day at the market and even had customers queuing at times for their sausages and BLT's (or just for a drink!)

There were two shifts and both groups of boys were kept busy.

Thank you to all the Lions who supported their fundraiser. And an especially big thank you to Brian Williams who stepped in and took over at the barbeque when the going got especially busy.

After expenses the boys raised \$849 which was a slight increase on last years figure.



Predator Trapping

The new year has started with some success. Most of the catches have been in the larger traps.

Since mid December we have caught 3 mice, 2 rats, 3 weasels and 4 hedgehogs.

Thanks to the teams who work hard checking the traps.

Lindsay



Publicity

Look out for two articles soon to be published in the Marlborough Express.

One will be an interview with one of our outstanding Lions and the other will be an update on our Opaoa River trapping project.

There has been a request to have more signage displayed at Lions' events and working bees.

A sign is on display at the Thursday firewood project and, where possible, will be at future projects.

It is hoped to have a Lions' promotion in the Marlborough Library in late March.

Lindsay



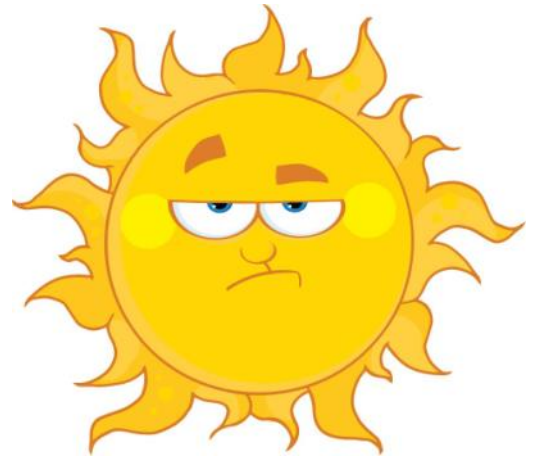
From The Wood Site

Ongoing as always, with working bee days being selected on the weather pattern and trying to avoid the heat waves.

We will have all the poplar split later this week and will start work on the pine that is on both farms. We are taking care with the weather and fire conditions to make sure we stay safe.

A big thank you to the members who continue to support this project.

Jim Thomas



Alzheimers BBQ

On Friday the 18th of December, the Lions provided a BBQ lunch for the Alzheimer's Centre.

Sausages and patties were provided by Westmeat along with the loan of their BBQ trailer. Countdown Redwoodtown provided a gift card which enabled us to purchase coleslaw.

Lions members, Stuart Tapp, Roger Thwaites, Charles Riley and Clem McAlister were the chefs. Volunteers from the centre plated the food which was enjoyed by all.

Clem McAlister



Foodbank Appeal Sorting

As with the food appeal, the dates for sorting the food donations at the foodbank became a moving target with them changing each time the food appeal was delayed. Members however were flexible and generally still able to help out on the alternate days. Sorting finally started on Friday December 11 and continued until the following Thursday.



There were enthusiastic teams of between 9 and 12 members each day willing and able to help.

After a rather hectic first day it was decided that 12 was a couple too many in the confined area at the foodbank and 10 was the optimum number to be working with.



There were a few minor changes to how the food was sorted from previous years. This was an attempt to make it easier for foodbank volunteers when doing the next stage of the sort—which has worked really well.

There were also a couple of members dating large quantity items like cereal, pasta and weetbix as it came through which meant it could be put

straight onto the shelf and did not require a second sort—a great time saver for foodbank volunteers.

So thanks to all who helped. It was very much appreciated

Tania and Maurice



Crossroads Christmas

We all take different roads through life, and for some of us, things just don't go to plan.

Helping to prepare and serve food at Crossroads was a learning curve.

Richard, the man in charge is doing an amazing job. When we arrived at 8.00 am we were quickly given things to attend to. What one doesn't realise is the preparation that is essential. Eggs are donated, but must be given the water test to ensure they are not stale, fruit needs to be sorted as some is over-ripe and unusable and health standards are rigidly adhered to.

Brian Williams did a great job with the scrambled eggs, accompanied with roast tomatoes, yesterday's potatoes roasted and toast.

We were fully employed sorting veges, fruit and organising food parcels for people to take home.

The Refugee Families that we have been assisting joined us for a meal, with their Red Cross Volunteer, and insisted we Lions gather so they could pass on to us their great appreciation for the help we have given them. They were unsure about being placed in Blenheim, but are hugely impressed and very happy. (Thank goodness the daughter spoke English and could translate).

Christmas Eve was a huge learning curve for me, and I am so pleased I had the experience.

Delphine



January Barbeque

24 Lions and 10 partners enjoyed the first social gathering for the year when the annual new year BBQ was held last Saturday.

The Farm Machinery building and grass area behind at Brayshaw Park was a very convenient venue to gather. Despite a cool easterly breeze we were able to remain outside around the large pepper tree as we were reacquainted with each other.

Thanks to all those who attended and for the delicious salads and desserts that were shared. Lions Malcolm and Roger cooked the sausages and patties to perfection. Lindsay was the winner of the free raffle prize.

Helen Williams

Guest Speakers

If members have suggestions for guest speakers for our first meetings of each month, would you please pass on names, topics and contact numbers to Helen Williams (williams.helen54@gmail.com).

Community Affairs

The Big Heart Street Appeal is on Friday 19th February, and we are manning the site at Pack N Save from 9-5 pm.

We still need members to cover the afternoon shifts from 2 to 5pm, please give me a ring or send an email if you can help with this.

Jim Thomas

more Words from the Wise

‘Please always remember, tomorrow will be a good day’

Captain Tom

(Captain Sir Thomas Moore, 30 April 1920—2 February 2021)



Looking Back On 2020

1. The most stupid thing I ever bought was a 2020 planner.
2. 2019: Stay away from negative people. 2020: Stay away from positive people.
3. The world has turned upside down. Old people are sneaking out of the house and their children are yelling at them to stay indoors.
4. This morning I saw a neighbour talking to her cat. It was obvious she thought her cat understood her. I came to my house and told my dog....We had a good laugh.
5. Every few days try your jeans on just to make sure they fit. Pyjamas will have you believe all is well in the world.
6. Does anyone know if we can take showers yet or should we just keep washing our hands?
7. I never thought the comment, "I wouldn't touch him/her with a 6-foot pole" would become a national policy, but here we are!
8. I need to practice social-distancing from the fridge.
9. I hope the weather is good tomorrow for my trip to the garden. I'm getting tired of the living room.
10. Never in a million years would I have imagined that I would go up to a bank counter with a mask on and ask for money.
11. Back in my day, you would cough to cover up a fart. Now, with Covid-19, you fart to cover up a cough.
12. My husband purchased a world map and then gave me a dart and said, "Throw this and wherever it lands – that's where I'm taking you when this pandemic ends." Turns out, we're spending two weeks behind the fridge!
13. What is the best way to avoid touching your face? A glass of wine in each hand!
14. My mum always told me I wouldn't accomplish anything by lying in bed all day. But look at me now! I'm saving the world!
15. Two grandmothers were bragging about their precious darlings. One of them says to the other, "Mine are so good at social distancing, they won't even call me!"

Roll on 2021...

Roger's Wanderings



Cape Foulwind

This month's photo is from the West Coast, with a scene looking toward Cape Foulwind with the lighthouse on top. The sea here is not usually as calm as this. Normally, it is an area where some pretty wild water pounds the shoreline. The foreground rocks were an unusual colour and made an attractive seascape. You can get to this area by taking the road that goes down by the pub, towards the sea. There are some quite dangerous cliffs in this area, so a bit of care is needed.

(Camera settings: ISO400, Lens Aperture: f22, Shutter Speed: 1/200th sec (approx), Filter: Circular Polariser, White Balance: Cloudy, Auto Aperture: set to 'On')

Roger Thwaites

and more ***Words from the Wise***

The way I look at it, every day that I'm moving forward is a day I'm not moving backward.

Bobby Bones (Radio Personality)



Please contact Almoner Linda if any member needs assistance (ph 0212 393 175).

Your welfare group is here to help.

Linda Batchelor

A Reminder...

For members who are paying for their tea meeting meals by electronic banking please ensure funds are deposited into the Lions Club Account.

Account number: 03 0599 0100939 00

Reference: Meal

Particulars: Your Name

Hilary Lundon

Calendar

Wednesday 10 February

Tea Meeting—Guest Speaker Kelvin Watt

Friday 19 February

Big Heart Street Appeal

Sunday 21 February

Big Dig at Whites Bay

Wednesday 24 February

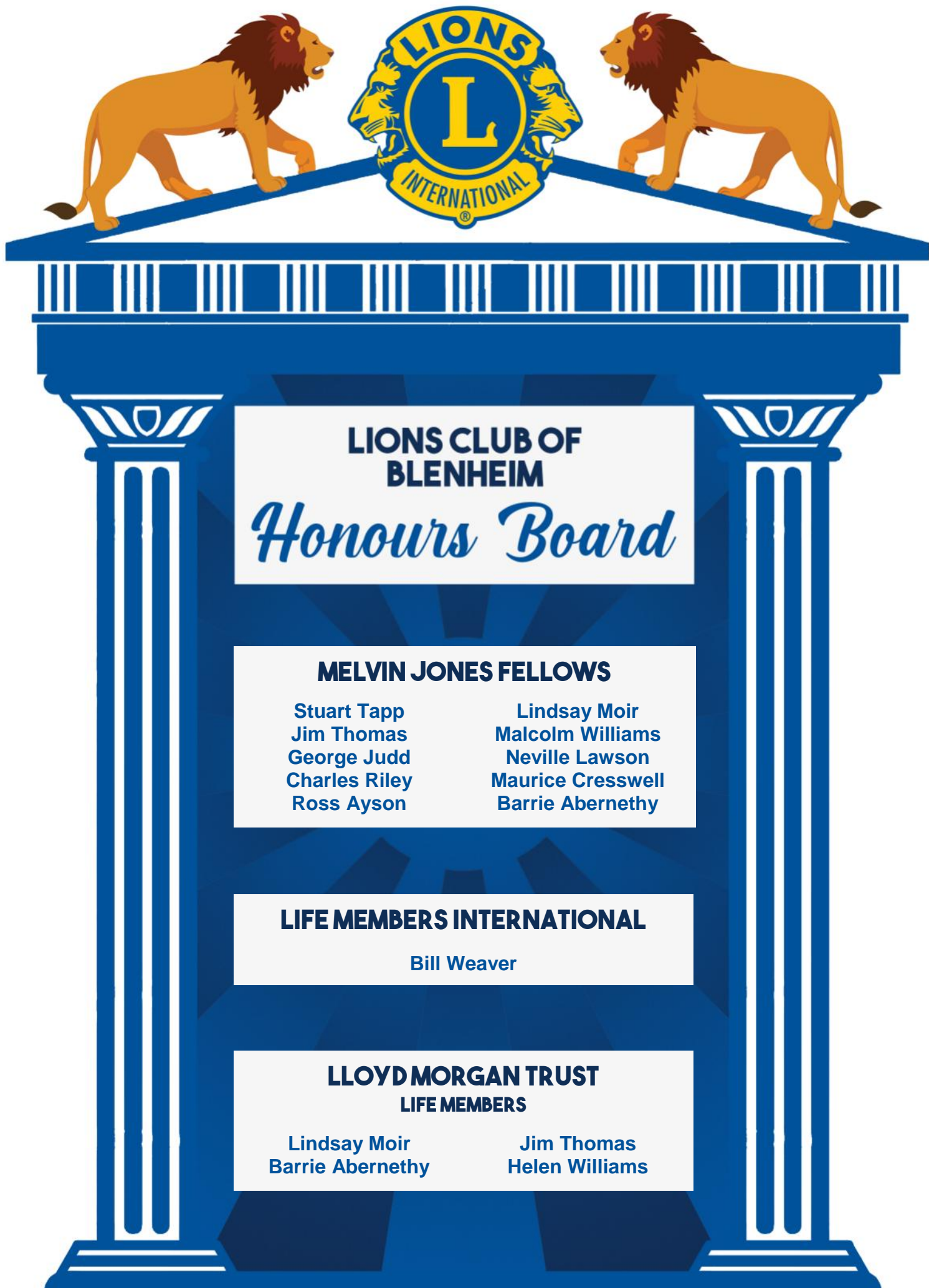
Tea Meeting

Saturday 27 February

Grape Ride

TBA

Distribution of Chorus Leaflets



**LIONS CLUB OF
BLENHEIM**

Honours Board

MELVIN JONES FELLOWS

Stuart Tapp
Jim Thomas
George Judd
Charles Riley
Ross Ayson

Lindsay Moir
Malcolm Williams
Neville Lawson
Maurice Cresswell
Barrie Abernethy

LIFE MEMBERS INTERNATIONAL

Bill Weaver

**LLOYD MORGAN TRUST
LIFE MEMBERS**

Lindsay Moir
Barrie Abernethy

Jim Thomas
Helen Williams