

**LIONS CLUB OF ROLLESTON & DISTRICTS**  
**MAY 2025**  
**ROLLESTON LIONS CLUB BOARD 2024 - 2025**

<b>Club President:</b>	..	..	..	Dave Auton
<b>Immediate Past President:</b>	..			Shirley McNicoll
<b>Secretary:</b>	..	..	..	Brian Fennessy
<b>Treasurer:</b>	..	..	..	Chris Logan
<b>1st Vice President:</b>	..	..	..	Mike Cousins
<b>2nd Vice President:</b>			..	Tony Condon
<b>3rd Vice President:</b>			..	John Jones/John Neville
<b>Directors:</b>	..	..	..	Brian Whittington, Mike Judd John Neville, Jimmi Anderson
<b>Lion Tamer:</b>	..	..	..	John Neville
<b>Tail Twister:</b>	..	..	..	Alister Legat
<b>Finance:</b>	..	..	..	Chris Logan
<b>Legal Advisor:</b>	..	..	..	Richard Norris
<b>Privacy/Security</b>	..	..	..	Chris Logan
<b>Rock Liaison:</b>	..	..	..	Brian Whittington
<b>Guest Speakers:</b>	..	..	..	John Knowles
<b>Trustees:</b>	..	..	..	<b>Chairman</b> Chris Logan, Brian Whittington, Marg Gerken, Shirley McNicholl & Leo Slattery

**OFFICERS OF EVENTS:**

<b>LCIF CHAIRPERSON</b>	..	..	Richard Norris
<b>MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN</b>	..		Mike Cousins
<b>BULLETIN OFFICER</b>	..	..	Marg Gerken
<b>PUBLICITY/PROMOTIONAL OFFICER</b>			Val Knowles, Team is Jackie Codyre, Karen Luff
<b>TOOT FOR TUCKER</b>	..	..	Chris Logan, Brian Whittington
<b>YELLOW PHONE BOOKS</b>		..	Leo Slattery, Brian Whittington, Heather Kissell
<b>FIREWORKS CONVENOR</b>	..		Chris Logan
<b>CHRISTMAS PARADE CONVENOR</b>			Tony Condon
<b>CATERING EQUIPMENT</b>	..	..	John Neville
<b>CATERING SUPPLIES</b>	..	..	Brian Whittington
<b>YOUTH</b>	..	..	Karen Luff
<b>ALMONER</b>	..	..	Robin Jones

**1st Vice President:** Mike Cousins, **Director:** Brian Whittington

**Club supplies, badges etc, Convention, Administration, Club Finance, Lions Clubs International, Publicity**

**COMMITTEE:** Chris Logan, Shirley McNicholl, Brian Fennessy, John Knowles, Richard Norris, Leo Slattery, Jackie Codyre, Marg Gerken, Val Knowles, Heather Power

**2nd Vice President:** Tony Condon: **Director:** Jimmi Anderson

**Youth, Sight, Diabetes, Cancer, Hunger, Disaster Relief, Humanitarian, Hearing, Health, Education, Environmental, Recreational & Social**

**COMMITTEE:** Martin Dyer, Sonia Fletcher, Rex Greenwood, Robin Jones, Bob Jones, Heather Kissell, Alister Legat, Christine Bradley, Murray Bradley, Lewis Burn, Joe Cairns, Kieron Duncan, Graham Pye, Karen Luff,

**3rd Vice President:** John Johns & John Neville: **Director:** John Neville & Mike Judd

**Projects, Services, All Projects have a convenor & that convenor can be any member of the Club**

**COMMITTEE:** Paul Cockburn, Martin Bogue, Ron McNicholl, Neil Sonne, Dave Butts

**ROLLESTON LIONS CLUB  
TEA MEETING**

**THE ROCK  
ROLLESTON**

**02 APRIL 2025**

**MEET & GREET - 6.00 pm  
MEAL - 6.30 pm**

**MEALS HAVE INCREASED MAINS NOW  
\$24 & DESSERTS \$8  
IF YOU PURCHASE A MAIN & A DESSERT IT  
IS \$30**

Tea Meetings is the first Wednesday of the Month, 6pm – 6.30pm followship, Meal 6.30pm

**DUTIES FOR TEA MEETING**

<b>GREETER .. ..</b>	<b>RON &amp; SHIRLEY McNICHOLL</b>
<b>GRACE/INVOCATION ..</b>	<b>JIMMI ANDERSON</b>
<b>RAFFLE .. ..</b>	<b>CHRIS LOGAN</b>
<b>CASHIER .. ..</b>	<b>BRIAN WHITTINGTON</b>
<b>TABLE WAITERS ..</b>	<b>CHRISTINE BRADLEY, HEATHER KISSELL, CHERIE PILCHER</b>
<b>SPEAKER .. ..</b>	<b>Sandra Poff Residential Manager of Rolleston Prison</b>
<b>INTRODUCE SPEAKER ..</b>	<b>JOHN KNOWLES</b>
<b>THANK SPEAKER ..</b>	<b>KAREN LUFF</b>

.....



**Board  
Meeting**

**21 MAY 2025 AT THE MENZ SHED  
ROLLESTON**

Board Meetings are the third Wednesday of the Month, at the Menshed, 54 Dynes Rd at 7.30pm. Any member is able to attend and have speaking rights but only the board members

can vote.

**VISION STATEMENT**

**TO BE the global leader in community and humanitarian service.**

## **PRESIDENT DAVE**

We had our South Island Field Days at Kirwee with a good effort from the club but a disappointing return, a reflection of the current climate in the community. After John Nevel mowed the grass on our wood lot, we were able to have a very enjoyable picnic to work out the future development of this asset with many great ideas arising, watch this space. I was proud to be able to lay the Lions wreath with Heather Kissell at the 2nd Anzac Parade in its new place and format. We are receiving some requests for firewood already with some in stock. I have made contact with the Selwyn Sounds organizer's, we are on the list to be considered suppliers of hot food. Also I have successfully applied for the Selwyn Awards on behalf of the Club . We must also apply for the International Presidential awards to. The Change over planning is going well ,any ideas for entertainment is needed .I would like to mention the passing of Rolleston ex councilor Jens Christensen a stalwart of our community and a leading light in the development of the Town we now have RIP Jens.

### **President Dave**

## **1ST VP MIKE COUSINS**

Membership continues to flourish with the induction of another new member bringing our total to 44. We also have a transfer in the pipeline and a possible new member (Family)

I have with the help of international office sorted Lion Marg Gerken's service out and she is now credited with 30.66 Years total.

We have had a request for firewood from an amputee living in Burnham Rd John Wells and have agreed to give him 2m 2 for \$50.00 which Lion John and I with the help of some others will deliver this weekend

I reported to our members that their data was in fact private on the Lions Website. Lion Tony who has admin rights was able to see all but only the board members (President, VP's, Secretary and Treasurer have those rights. So your data is as safe as the Internet can be.

Remember privacy is your responsibility and if you leave a letter in your post-box for too long some kid in the neighbour hood will be privy to your personal details unless you clear the box 10 seconds after the postman has been.

For those members who wish a paper copy of our contact list, I am happy to print it out and share it with them.

The Pie warmer has had the pilot light repaired and had a new coat of paint (No Cost)

We are still looking for a 2nd and 3rd VP to complete the board for the 2025 / 2026 Lions Year.

Our very own Cat Burglar got Lion Heather out of a sticky situation when her front door electronic lock battery was flat, and Lion Heather had forgotten her key.

Well time has drawn to a close and Iris & I are off to Sunny (Rainy) South Africa on Wednesday for the month of May.

I am still short two positions on the Board for next year namely 2nd VP (Membership and Youth) and 3rd VP (Projects). If any of you would like to take up the challenge please email me before 5 June 2025. Remember you do not have to do the work as you will have the help of many. You just have to co-ordinate and have fun. We would of course like you to progress upwards at the end of the Lions year but it is not mandatory and some have held the post only to relinquish it at the end to someone else.

I wish you all well for the month of May and will hopefully see you all back in Rolleston on 30th May.

Warm regards,

**Lion Mike Cousins**

## **ROLLESTON LIONS CLUB BOARD 2025 - 2026**

<b>PRESIDENT:</b>	..	..	..	..	Mike Cousins
<b>PAST PRESIDENT:</b>	..	..	..	..	Dave Auton
<b>SECRETARY:</b>	..	..	..	..	Brian Fennessy
<b>TREASURER:</b>	..	..	..	..	Chris Logan
<b>1<sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT:</b>	..	..	..	..	Tony Condon
<b>2<sup>ND</sup> VICE PRESIDENT:</b>	..	..	..	..	
<b>3<sup>RD</sup> VICE PRESIDENT:</b>	..	..	..	..	
<b>DIRECTORS</b>	..	..	..	..	Mike Judd, Brian Whittington, John Neville, Jimmi Anderson
<b>TAIL TWISTER:</b>	..	..	..	..	Alister Legat <b>Asst</b> Delwyn Bassett
<b>LION TAMER:</b>	..	..	..	..	John Neville
<b>FINANCE</b>	..	..	..	..	Chris Logan
<b>LEGAL ADVISOR:</b>	..	..	..	..	Richard Norris
<b>PRIVACY/SECURITY</b>	..	..	..	..	Chris Logan
<b>ROCK LIAISON:</b>	..	..	..	..	Brian Whittington
<b>MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN:</b>	..	..	..	..	Brian Whittington
<b>BULLETIN EDITOR:</b>	..	..	..	..	Margaret Gerken
<b>LCIF CLUB CHAIRMAN</b>	..	..	..	..	Richard Norris
<b>YOUTH LIAISON</b>	..	..	..	..	Heather Kissell
<b>COLLECTIONS</b>	..	..	..	..	
<b>LION MINTS</b>	..	..	..	..	Ron McNicholl
<b>SPEAKERS</b>	..	..	..	..	Iris Cousins
<b>ALMONER</b>	..	..	..	..	Robin Jones
<b>PUBLICITY/PROMOTIONS OFFICER</b>	..	..	..	..	
<b>TOOT FOR TUCKER</b>	..	..	..	..	John Knowles
<b>YELLOW PHONE BOOKS</b>	..	..	..	..	Leo Slattery, Heather Kissell, Brian Whittington
<b>FIREWORKS CONVENOR</b>	..	..	..	..	Chris Logan
<b>CHRISTMAS PARADE CONVENOR</b>	..	..	..	..	Tony Condon
<b>CATERING EQUIPMENT</b>	..	..	..	..	John Neville
<b>CATERING SUPPLIES</b>	..	..	..	..	Brian Whittington
<b>HISTORY BOOK</b>	..	..	..	..	Marg Gerken, Brian Whittington, Dave Auton, Mike Cousins

### **2ND VP TONY CONDON**

No recent Santa Parade Meeting, but Committee intend to meet with SDC & Chorde.

- Lions will run the Parade in 2026, but Residents Association want to be part of it.
- Perhaps 'Carols in the Park' can be part of the weekend on the Green Area.
- Picnic was well attended @ the plantation site; management of the property to be discussed.
- Need a mobile toilet for the picnics/working bees.

### **IPP SHIRLEY McNICHOLL**

#### **Report on Convention March 2025**

The largest contingent of Rolleston Lions travelled to Hanmer for this event.

Jackie & Martin, Christine & Murray, Jimmi & Ray, Ron & Shirley, Richard & Tony.

Friday night was check in time, and to catch up with other club people.

During the business meeting on the Saturday our Club was awarded the 2023/24

Club excellence award and Tony (being senior member present) accepted the Membership Award 2023/2024.

On the Saturday night we were among a very friendly, enthusiastic group of lions who thoroughly enjoyed dressing up ,partaking of the lovely food and the uninhibited dancing. The Cancer bus was amazing, and it was the ideal time to showcase it. As we were privileged to not have anyone on the dedication list, no one stayed for Sunday. IPP Shirley

### **COLLECTIONS - SHIRLEY McNICHOLL**

On Saturday 24th May I have been asked to organize collectors for Aviva. For those not sure who that charity is, it was previously women's refuge. They give support to men now as well.

We collect at Woolworths shifts 9 to 11,  
11 to 1pm, 1 to 3pm and 3 to 5pm.

Table and chairs provided.

I will be asking at the tea meeting for

👩🏻 👨🏻 animated, cheerful, friendly lions 🦁

To help.

Thanks

Shirley McNicholl

### **MESSAGE HEATHER POWER**

I am shifting away from Rolleston into Wesley retirement village on Harewood Road near the Papanui end. I move on May 7 so won't be at tea meeting! I am not resigning from Rolleston Lions but am hoping that I can still be involved with collections and projects. Once daylight saving starts I could probably drive to and from Tea meetings,

This has been a real exercise in downsizing!

Hopefully I can keep my current phone number but will definitely have the same mobile.

I would like to thank all members for their care and support over the years that Denis and I were part of Rolleston Lions, and for me once I was on my own. You are a great Club of friendly people. Kia Kaha!

Heather Power



**LIONS CLUBS NEW ZEALAND**  
Kia Manaki | We Serve

**14TH JUNE, 2025**

**LIONS SPEECH COMP**

**DISTRICT 202E SPEECH COMPETITION FOR 16-21 YEAR OLDS.**

IF YOU WIN THE DISTRICT 202E COMPETITION, YOU QUALIFY FOR THE NATIONAL COMPETITION WORTH \$2500!

HAVE YOU GOT THE GIFT OF THE GAB? THEN COME AND GIVE IT A GO!  
CONTACT BEGS ON  
202E.YOUTH@LIONSCLUBS.ORG.NZ  
AND SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE DETAILS.

**CASH PRIZES!!**

- × 1ST = \$500
- × 2ND = \$300
- × 3RD = \$200



Shirley M. Davis with the 202E K&CL  
Excellence Award and Mike Cousins with  
the Lions District 202E Membership  
Trophy which Tony Condon received at Convention  
for the Club





## PICNIC AT THE PLANTATION



MAY DAY - 5 MAY

Well, it is a fact that May Day, which the children do enjoy with all vibes, is not an overly prominent holiday in America. Yet, it does have a long and notable history as one of the world's principal festivals. The origin of the May Day as a day for celebration dates back to the days, even before the birth of Christ. And like many ancient festivals it too has a Pagan connection.

For the Druids of the British Isles, May 1 was the second most important holiday of the year. Because, it was when the festival of Beltane held. It was thought that the day divides the year into half. The other half was to be ended with the Samhain on November 1. Those days the May Day custom was the setting of new fire. It was one of those ancient New Year rites performed throughout the world. And the fire itself was thought to lend life to the burgeoning springtime sun. Cattle were driven through the fire to purify them. Men, with their sweethearts, passed through the smoke for seeing good luck.

Then the Romans came to occupy the British Isles. The beginning of May was a very popular feast time for the Romans. It was devoted primarily to the worship of Flora, the goddess of flowers. It was in her honor a five day celebration, called the Floralia, was held. The five day festival would start from April 28 and end on May 2. The Romans brought in the rituals of the Floralia festival in the British Isles. And gradually the rituals of the Floralia were added to those of the Beltane. And many of today's customs on the May Day bear a stark similarity with those combined traditions.

The Puritans frowned on May Day, so the day has never been celebrated with as much enthusiasm in the United States as in Great Britain. But the tradition of celebrating May Day by dancing and singing around a maypole, tied with colorful streamers or ribbons, survived as a part of the English tradition. The kids celebrating the day by moving back and forth around the pole with the the streamers, choosing of May queen, and hanging of May baskets on the doorknobs of folks -- are all the leftovers of the old European traditions



**HAPPY MOTHERS DAY, MUMS & GRANDMOTHERS**

**SUNDAY 11 MAY**

Even in the ancient days when the Greeks reigned, there has been holidays aimed at mothers. The Greeks were first to honour Rhea, the mother of the gods. Some Romans also had a similar holiday for Cybele, the Roman mother goddess. Latter in 17th century Britain, mothering Sunday came about when servants could return home for the day to visit their mothers, but this holiday almost died out. The person with the most credit of helping create mothers day is Anna M. Jarvis. Anna was a ministers daughter and for 20 years taught Sunday School. She was also quite attached to her mother. When her mother died in 1907, Anna began a letter-writing campaign to gain the support of influential ministers, businessmen and congressmen in declaring a national Mother's Day holiday. She wanted children to show their appreciation for their mothers while they were still alive and help strengthen family bonds. In May, 1913, The House of Representatives unanimously adopted a resolution requesting the President, his Cabinet, members of Congress, and all officials of the federal government to wear a white carnation on Mother's Day. Congress passed another Joint Resolution May 8, 1914, designating the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day



# Lions New Zealand - Multiple District 202

## Our Origins

Lions Clubs began in the United States of America in 1917. A group of independent clubs responded to a call from a young Chicago insurance agent, Melvin Jones, to launch a club which had community service as its prime aim. The first New Zealand Lions Club was formed in 1955 in Auckland. From this has grown to nearly 500 Clubs, with a membership of almost 14,000. Worldwide the International Association of Lions Clubs has a membership of approximately 1.4 million in 193 countries and geographical areas. Fellowship- good times; meeting people; building lasting friendships; service to the community; learning new skills; leadership and personal development these are just some of the good things about being a member of Lions, the world's largest and most active service club.

## Our Activities

The emphasis is on community service in all forms. Our programmes serve the young and the aged, the disabled and the disadvantaged - anybody who has a need. Programmes are conducted locally, nationally and internationally. They include sight conservation and work with the blind, citizenship services, hearing and speech action, programmes with the deaf, drug education, environment, recreational, health and social services. Lions Clubs provide help in times of emergency and great need - drought or flood, earthquake or cyclone. Lions' contributions to the development and care of New Zealand youth include living skills programmes, drug awareness, an international youth exchange programme, the national Young Speechmaker Contest, and our Leo clubs.

## Our Clubs

Most Lions Clubs meet at least twice a month, usually over dinner, however some meet for lunch or breakfast. You will no doubt be able to find a Club which fits your lifestyle.

Many meetings feature interesting guest speakers and all provide opportunities to build friendships. Clubs are always on the lookout for different entertaining programmes and activities for meetings, often involving partners and families of members.

As a member you have opportunities to participate to a level that your work, family and other commitments allow. You can choose the activities and committees with which you wish to be involved. You will have every opportunity to develop your leadership and organisational abilities. If you choose you may take on offices that lead through to presidency of your Club and beyond to district and international level of involvement.

Above all, you will enjoy working with other members on even the simplest of projects and get satisfaction from knowing that you are helping your community at the same time.

## To become a Member

MEMBERSHIP of a Lions Club is by invitation, open to men and women over the age of 18 years and of good moral character and reputation.

If you know a Lion, then ask him or her to invite you along to a meeting. If you do not know a member of Lions, just contact us for an invitation and we will put you in touch with a Club or Clubs near you

**DUCK SHOOTING**

**SATURDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> MAY**

**PLEASE TAKE CARE** Two blokes decide to go duck hunting. Neither one of them has ever been duck hunting before and after several hours they still haven't bagged any. One hunter looks at the

other and says, "I just don't understand it – why aren't we getting any ducks?" His friend says "I keep telling you, I just don't think we're throwing the dog high enough.

One evening the old farmer decides to go down to the pond to check for duck hunting opening. He grabs a bucket and feed for the pond. As he nears the pond he hears voices shouting and laughing, and as he gets closer he sees a half dozen young women skinny dipping in his pond. He lets them know he's turned up, and they all go to the deep end. One shouts to him: "we're not coming out till you leave". The old bloke frowns. "I didn't come here to watch you young ladies swim naked nor to make you get out". He hold up the bucket and says "I'm here to feed the alligator".

## ROCK RAFFLES APRIL to JUNE

MAY	2 <sup>ND</sup>	DAVE BUTTS	CHRIS LOGAN
	9 <sup>TH</sup>	TONY CONDON	BRIAN FENNESSY
	16 <sup>TH</sup>	RON MCNICHOLL	SHIRLEY MCNICHOLL
	23 <sup>RD</sup>	CHRISTINE BRADLEY	MURRAY BRADLEY
	30 <sup>TH</sup>	MARG GERKEN	SONIA FLETCHER
JUNE	6 <sup>TH</sup>	JACKIE CODYRE	MARTIN DYER
	13 <sup>TH</sup>	MIKE COUSINS	IRIS COUSINS
	20 <sup>TH</sup>	MATARIKI DAY NO ROCK RAFFLE	
	27 <sup>TH</sup>	JOHN KNOWLES	VAL KNOWLES

**ROCK RAFFLES** - Please let MARG know when you swap or aren't doing your turn.

**REMEMBER TO CONTACT THE OTHER PERSON YOU ARE ROSTERED ON WITH & BE PREPARED TO START AT 5.30PM AT THE ROCK IN ROLLESTON**

**IF UNABLE TO DO DUTY PLEASE ARRANGE A REPLACEMENT. LEAVE A \$50 FLOAT.**



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU      HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU**

**MAY 2025**

**IRIS COUSINS - 4<sup>TH</sup> JOSEFA GALODAMU - 10<sup>TH</sup>**

**KIERON DUNCAN - 20<sup>TH</sup> ROBIN JONES - 23<sup>RD</sup> DAVE BUTTS - 24<sup>TH</sup>**

**NATALIE MUNRO - 27<sup>TH</sup>**

### **TAURUS ZODIAC SIGN - Date Range April 20<sup>th</sup> to May 20<sup>th</sup>**

**Taureans are amazing!** Their name says it all:

**T** for trailblazing

**A** for ambitious

**U** for unwavering

**R** for reliable

**U** for understanding

**S** for stable

**Element:** Earth

**Colour:** Green, Pink

**Day:** Friday, Monday

**Ruler:** Venus

**Lucky Numbers:** 2, 6, 9, 12, 24

**Birth Flowers:** Poppy, Rose, Daisies, Violets, Primulus

**Birthstones:** Emeralds, Amber, Sapphires

**Strengths:** Reliable, patient, practical, devoted, responsible, stable

**Weaknesses:** Stubborn, possessive, uncompromising

**Taurus likes:** Gardening, cooking, music, romance, high quality clothes, working with hands

**Taurus dislikes:** Sudden changes, complications, insecurity of any kind, synthetic fabrics

**EARTH SIGNS:** Taurus is an Earth sign, and has the ability to see things from a grounded, practical and realistic perspective. They find it easy to make money and stay on same projects for years, or until they are completed. What we often see as stubbornness can be interpreted as commitment, and their ability to complete tasks whatever it takes is uncanny. This makes them excellent employees, great long-term friends and partners, always being there for people they love. Earthly note makes them overprotective, conservative, or materialistic at times, with views of the world founded on their love of money and wealth

### **GEMINI ZODIAC SIGN – Date range: May 21 - June 20**

**Gemini are amazing!** Their name says it all:

**G** for generous

**E** for emotionally in tune

**M** for motivated

**I** for imaginative

**N** for nice

**I** for intelligent

**Element:** [Air](#)

**Colour:** Light-Green, Yellow

**Day:** Wednesday

**Ruler:** [Mercury](#)

**Lucky Numbers:** 2, 3, 15, 20

**Flowers:** White Rose, Orchid

**Lucky Gem:** Pearl & Ruby



**Gemini likes:** Music, books, magazines, chats with nearly anyone, short trips around the town

**Gemini dislikes:** Being alone, being confined, repetition and routine

Expressive and quick-witted, Gemini represents two different personalities in one and you will never be sure which one you will face. They are sociable, communicative and ready for fun, with a tendency to suddenly get serious, thoughtful and restless. They are fascinated with the world itself, extremely curious, with a constant feeling that there is not enough time to experience everything they want to see.

## WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBER - HELEN RIDEN



Welcome Helen from all the Club.

\*\*\*\*\*

## OUR CHANGEOVER NIGHT

### CHANGEOVER DETAILS

**WEEDON COUNTRY CLUB - Weedon Road**

**FRIDAY 27 JUNE 2025 - 6.30 PM**

**\$30 per person**

**Anzac day - do you know the meaning of the colours in the Poppy**

## Poppy Appeal: What do the different coloured poppies mean?

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/45975344>

Many people choose to **wear a poppy** in November for **Remembrance Day** to show respect for the people who died fighting in the First World War and the conflicts that followed it.

But there are other coloured poppies too - purple, black and white - that have different meanings.



The red poppy is the most famous symbol used to commemorate those who sacrificed their lives in World War One and conflicts that followed. Wearing a poppy was inspired by the fields of poppies that grew where many of the battles were fought. The red poppy is connected to the Royal British Legion - a charity created by veterans of World War One. They say that the red poppy represents remembrance and hope.



The purple poppy is often worn to remember **animals that have been victims of war**. Animals like horses, dogs and pigeons were often drafted into the war effort, and those that wear the purple poppy feel their service should be seen as equal to that of human service. In particular, many horses were killed or injured in World War One. Donations to the Purple Poppy Appeal, will go to charities like World Horse Welfare and Blue Cross.



The black poppy has two different meanings attached to it. It is most commonly associated with the commemoration of black, African and Caribbean communities' contribution to the war effort - as servicemen and servicewomen, and as civilians. The campaign organisers say that while they also support the red poppy, they feel that the black poppy highlights this contribution and the place of black, African and Caribbean communities in remembrance.



Some people feel that the red poppy glorifies war and conflict. Instead they might choose to wear a white poppy. The white poppy is handed out by a charity called Peace Pledge Union, which promotes peace. They say that the white poppy commemorates people who died in conflict, but focuses on achieving peace and challenging the way we look at war.

## REMEMBERING THE QUIET LOYAL HEROES

Today, we remember not just the soldiers who served, but also the quiet, loyal heroes who walked beside them - like Caesar, the brave bulldog of 'A' Company, 4th Battalion, New Zealand Rifle Brigade. The first New Zealand dog to go to war. Caesar wasn't just a mascot. He was a trained Red Cross dog, part of a special group sent into battle to search for wounded soldiers. With his handler, Rifleman Thomas Samuel Tooman, Caesar marched proudly in the 1916 parade down Auckland's Queen Street before embarking on a journey that would take him far from home - to the deserts of Egypt, and then the devastating fields of the Somme. Caesar was trained to seek out the wounded, to carry medical supplies, and bring back personal items to help rescuers locate unconscious men. He didn't bark. He didn't flinch at the sounds of gunfire. He was trained to recognize friendly uniforms, to move silently, and to guide the injured back to safety. Through the mud, barbed wire, and shell craters of the Somme - a battlefield especially cruel for a small bulldog - Caesar found many men who may never have been discovered in time without him. He gave hope in hopeless places. Caesar was eventually shot and killed in No Man's Land, found beside a soldier with the man's hand resting gently on his head. It's believed they died together, Caesar staying by his side until the very end. ❤️ He was buried alongside the soldier near a Casualty Clearing Station. Caesar was more than a dog. He was a friend, a rescuer, and a symbol of love, loyalty, and courage. Today, as we honour our ANZACs, we also remember all the animals who went to war just like Caesar — the little bulldog with the heart of a lion



When you see bees like this, don't be afraid. Don't call firefighters or civil protection, don't move them, don't poison, don't kill!

It is bees traveling. They won't hurt you. They only stop for 24 hours. Don't disturb them and avoid getting close.

🌿 If you want to help them, put a flat plate or a flat container with a light layer of sugar water. Watch them feed, grab energy, and go their way.

We all must protect the traveling swarms. Bees are our survival insurance.

🌿 If bees die, we die later. Without bees, no human being will remain on the face of the Earth.

Please be careful and don't kill bees! 🐝🐝🐝

## Seenager

I **JUST** discovered my age group! I am a **Seenager** (senior teenager).

I have everything that I wanted as a teenager, only 55-60 years later. I don't have to go to school or work. I get an allowance every month. I have my own pad. I don't have a curfew. I have a driver's license and my own car.

I have ID that gets me into bars and the wine store. I like the wine store best. The people I hang around with are not scared of getting pregnant, they aren't scared of anything, they have been blessed to live this long, why be scared? And I don't have acne. Life is Good!

Also, you will feel much more intelligent after reading this, if you are a **Seenager**. Brains of older people are slow because they know so much. People do not decline mentally with age; it just takes them longer to recall facts because they have more information in their brains. Scientists believe this also makes you hard of hearing as it puts pressure on your inner ear.

Also, older people often go to another room to get something and when they get there, they stand there wondering what they came for. It is **NOT** a memory problem; it is nature's way of making older people do more exercise.

### **SO THERE!**

I have more friends I should send this to, but right now I can't remember their names. So please forward this to your friends; they may be my friends, too.



## **BULLETIN MARG'S PLAY WITH THIS MONTH'S WORDS**

**Hi Everyone**

I'm afraid most of our mornings now have that definite autumn feel about it. I have had my fire on a couple of nights as well as I'm a bit of a night owl.

It doesn't seem long since Christmas.

See you all on Wednesday.

**Marg** 😊

### **DATES OF IMPORTANCE - PUT IT ON THE CALENDAR**

**05 May - MAY DAY**

**07 May - OUR TEA MEETING**

**11 May - Mothers Day**

**21 May - OUR BOARD MEETING**

**29 May - Ascension Day**

**01 June - 1<sup>st</sup> day of Winter**

**04 June - OUR TEA MEETING**

**13 June - Black Friday**

**18 June - OUR BOARD MEETING**

**20 June - Matariki**

**21 June - Shortest Day**

**27 June - OUR CHANGEOVER NIGHT**

**28 June - School Holidays begin**

**Santa Parade - 7 December 2025**