



**Lions  
Eye Health Program  
Australia**

## **WE DID IT!**

**We are so pleased to announce that we have officially exceeded our 2024 target of providing vision screening to 12,000 children!**

From these screenings, over 2200 children have been referred for further testing and follow up with an eye health professional.

This huge achievement is thanks to our team of almost 1000 qualified volunteer screeners from more than 380 Clubs across the country, as well as the many Clubs that have joined us in our mission to provide awareness of avoidable vision loss in adults and free vision screening for children.

### **A Message from the LEHP Chair**

The importance of regular eye examinations cannot be overstated.

**1 in 5 children** have a vision problem which such screenings can identify. As with most health problems the sooner it's identified and treated the greater the chance of success.

**80% of a child's learning** is acquired through their sight. The greater the problem the greater the barrier to a full education.

**PDG Bryan Hearn's full letter is available here:**

<https://tinyurl.com/LetterFromTheChair>

### **Introducing the newest member of our children's vision screening team...**

**Meet Roley, our new Children's Vision Screening Program mascot!**



The LEHP Committee voted to name our mascot after the late PDG Roley McAtee OAM, the third Chair of the LEHP Management Committee. PDG Roley served as Chair from 2007 – 2020 and played a major part in the design and implementation of the Children's Vision Screening Program.

Roley will be bringing some fun to our Children's Vision Screening Program so make sure you keep an eye out for him.

## Shirley's SharkPitch

Recently Shirley from Marino Digby Lions Club (V2) made an incredible pitch to secure funding to purchase vision screening equipment for the Club.

As a result of her efforts, Shirley received pledges of \$20,000 to go towards their set up expenses and more. What an incredible result!

*“Thanks to your generosity Merino Digby Lions Club will now be able to purchase all the required equipment such as camera, charts, laptop, printer and paper to start Vision Screening in the South West of Victoria. Not to mention, to assist those children's families who can't afford the spectacles required for their children's vision issues. We are so pleased to be able to now assist our young children in our communities to have the best opportunities in life through great vision.”*

*Shirley Menz – Merino Digby Lions Club*

**Watch Shirley's Presentation on YouTube:**

<https://tinyurl.com/ShirleysPitch>

## 50 Years of Lions for LEHP Treasurer

Our current Treasurer, PDG Bill Duncanson, recently marked 50 years since joining Lions and has spent half of those involved in LEHP in some capacity. Congratulations PDG Bill and we thank you for your long and valued service to our cause. PDG Bill has some thoughts and stories to tell and a very important reminder to share with everyone.

**PDG Bill's message can be found here:**

<https://tinyurl.com/BillsGoldenMemories>

## New Resources

Hot off the press, we have two new resources available to order:



**How to become a Children's Vision Screening Club**  
(DL brochure)

This brochure outlines all the steps a Club needs to take to get involved as a screening Club.



**This is LEHP (A5 booklet)**

A general booklet introducing LEHP and what we offer for adults as well as children. This is designed to give an overview of what we are all about.

LEHP Resources are available free of charge to participating Clubs.

**Please complete the Order Resources form if you would like to order some of the new resources or top up your supplies:**

<https://lehp.org.au/order-resources/>

## Downloadable Resources

We have also made a selection of our resources downloadable, including NEW activity sheets, logos and pull up banner artwork. We would like to encourage you to assist us to reduce printing and postage costs by downloading and printing what you are able to locally, as needed.

**Download resources from our website:**

<https://lehp.org.au/download-resources/>

## LEHP In Action



### MD201 and District Conventions

LEHP has been represented at a number of recent Lions Conventions, including the MD Convention in Darwin in May and several recent District Conventions. Look out for us at your local event and make sure to say hello and pick up some resources if you spot us!



### Management Committee Face to Face Meeting

In August the LEHP Management Committee met for our annual face to face meeting, this time at the Kings Meadows Lions Club in Launceston, Tasmania. We had a very productive two days together, discussing how we can improve our program and reach more people.



### Dunstan Seniors Forum

Representatives from the Lions Club of Burnside (C1) were invited to have a stall at a recent Seniors Forum and spoke with local residents and politicians about eye health and how we can help prevent avoidable vision loss.



### World Sight Day

Members from the Lions Club of Tahmoor (N2) set up a LEHP table outside of their local Woolworths on World Sight Day, 10th October, with giveaways and LEHP information and spoke to people about our program.

**Thank you for helping us spread the LEHP message in your local communities.**

## Frankie is now seeing clearly!



Three years ago, when Frankie was 5 years old, a screening team from Q2 conducted vision screening at her school. Her results came back as out of range, so the team referred her for an eye examination where she was prescribed glasses. This year the team returned to the school and were so pleased to meet Frankie again, now 8 years old. She told the team she likes wearing her glasses and they help her see clearly both at home and at school. Frankie's future is bright thanks to her vision issue being detected early through the Children's Vision Screening Program, allowing her to get treatment and improve her ability to learn, develop and thrive.

### **When did you last have your eyes tested?**

As we age, vision changes. 90% of vision loss from conditions such as Glaucoma, Age Related Macular Degeneration and Diabetic Retinopathy is preventable if detected and treated early.

**An eye examination every 2 years could save your sight.**

**Find out more about avoidable vision loss here:**

<https://lehp.org.au/avoidable-vision-loss-in-adults/>

### **Join Us!**

Thank you to all Clubs who have made generous donations to LEHP this year. This funding is vital to the success of the program and ensures we can continue our important work in the community.

For an annual donation of just \$4 per member, you can become a LEHP participating Club and access our resources and training materials, as well as help our message to reach more people.

Due to increased demand across Australia we are also looking to expand our vision screening teams into more Clubs so we can have an even greater impact on children's eye health. Screeners don't have to be Lions members so it's also a great way to connect with the community, introduce them to Lions and make a real difference.

**Become a Participating Club:**

<https://lehp.org.au/donations-participating-clubs/>

### **Find out more**

If you would like to book a LEHP Representative to speak at your Club, have any questions or would like more information about our program please get in touch with [enquiries@lehp.org.au](mailto:enquiries@lehp.org.au), phone 1800 010 234 or visit our website

<https://lehp.org.au>