

LEHP Bulletin April 2025

Helping Australians See Clearly.

A Message from the National Chair

Dear Club President,

It is with a great deal of pride that I can report that 2024 was the most successful year yet for LEHP and in particular, our Children's Vision Screening Program. Our screening target was set at 12,000 children but in reality our wonderful screening teams actually undertook 15,026 screenings. This resulted in almost 3000 children being identified with previously undetected vision problems.



Community service at its best.

This success was due in no small part to the support and commitment of Lions Club members around Australia and I cannot thank them all enough. In order to consolidate these results I have once again set the target of 12,000 screenings for 2025. In doing so I am hopeful that not only will members continue to support the program but numbers may actually increase with more trained screeners coming on board as part of the program. Remember, screeners can be Non-Lions.

It is now just over a year since we appointed our new National Program Manager, Stephanie Field. During that time we have quickly come to appreciate her talent and ability and found that her enthusiasm has been infectious. Steph is now a well respected, valuable member of our team.

Our training program and all the associated relevant material has been reviewed and updated via the Centre for Eye Health at the University of NSW. Manuals and all other publications can be viewed and downloaded via our website at lehp.org.au.

Further information about the program or the training on offer can be obtained from any of the District Representatives on the National Management Committee or our National Program Manager. Contact details for all these individuals can be found in the Multiple Districts Directory.

I am once again inviting all Lions Clubs to become a LEHP Australia Participating Club by making an <u>annual</u> voluntary payment of \$4 per club member.

For Clubs currently conducting screenings, whether using their own equipment or District equipment, please remember that to continue being part of the program this annual contribution is the minimum required. These funds help in covering the costs of brochures, stickers as well as LEHP and District owned equipment. We very much appreciate every donation received.

Don't forget to check out our new range of merchandise and once again I thank all members and clubs for their support. I look forward in anticipation of receiving future contributions to this vital Program.

Yours Sincerely



PDG Bryan Hearn OAM JP National Chair Lions Eye Health Program – Australia



Contact Us



2024 Wrap Up

Lions Eye Health Program

Australia

15,026 child vision screenings conducted



2833
referred for further testing

Detailed results including individual District screening numbers are available from lehp.org.au/news-lehp-events



2024 was a record breaking year for our Children's Vision Screening Program, with over 5000 more children receiving a free vision screening than the previous year.

Across Australia we now have over 1000 LEHP Qualified Screeners, over 240 LEHP Accredited Facilitators, more than 40 LEHP Qualified Instructors and many more volunteers registered who are partially trained and working towards their full qualifications.

Last year we also moved the National Office from NSW to SA, produced two brand new brochures, introduced our new Children's Vision Screening Program Mascot, Roley, and updated our suite of screening forms. We received enquiries about the program from politicians, eye health professionals, school nurses and from new remote locations including Thursday Island and even New Zealand!

Over 2000 children have already been screened in 2025 with many more screenings booked in.

LEHP Visits the West Coast of Tasmania

After months of planning, in 2024 a vision screening team from T1 delivered the Children's Vision Screening Program to several schools on the West Coast of Tasmania for the first time. Approaches to businesses on the West Coast were made and we were delighted when Bluestone Mines Tasmania and Petuna offered financial support to make these screenings possible.

The reception from the participating schools was awesome and staff were especially helpful with providing good facilities, preparation and ensuring the flow of children went smoothly. All of them said how much they appreciated us making the effort to deliver the program and how impressed they were with it. Over four days, the team screened over 100 children. There are more visits planned for the future to deliver this valubable service.



Above: Anne Fagg and Dorothy Harvey present Bluestone Mines Tasmania Operations Manager, Nathan Parsons, with a huon pine plaque in recognition of their financial support.

Anne Fagg, LEHP Vision Screening Instructor, Rocky Cape Lions Club (T1) & Stephen Smith, LEHP T1 District Representative, Clarence Lions Club (T1)

Good news screening stories from around the country:

• From the parent of a student from WA: "I wanted to say a massive thank you. Without you checking my 7yr old daughter's eyes at school and flagging her for further testing here we wouldn't have been alerted to her Astigmatism. So again,

thank you."

- From a school in V2: "All members of the Lions club are amazing with our children. You can see the enjoyment on their faces, making the testing process fun and engaging.
- The Lions Club are to be commended for their work and it is greatly appreciated by all at Koroit and District Primary School."
- A child from T1 was unable to read the second line of the acuity chart. They were prescribed with glasses but the parents were unable to cover the cost, so Lions helped out financially to ensure treatment was received. The child is now doing very well at school thanks to Lions recognising the importance of good vision.
- A three year old ELC student in SA was referred to an optometrist after the Spot Vision Camera picked up an issue. They were found to have significant vision loss. After being fitted for glasses, the child's behaviour changed and learning improved. The teachers commented that this was 'life changing' for the student.

Get Involved

Your Lions Club can become a LEHP Participating Club for a small, minimum contribution of just \$4 per Club member, per calendar year (minimum amount required). Your Club's support allows us to continue delivering our message, providing resources and conducting free children's vision screening sessions across the country. All donations are very gratefully received.

Please note: Participating Club contributions do not accrue awards credit

To join us, please complete the attached Participating Clubs Registration Form.

For more details on how to become a LEHP Vision Screener go to lehp.org.au/cvsp-training-courses or email training@lehp.org.au



Above: Members of the Leopold Lions Club's vision screening team.

"Our Club considers LEHP's Children's Vision Screening Program one of the best initiatives we have ever undertaken. You can actually see the people you're helping and you can see the immediate difference it makes. And they're kids, which is our future. That's why I find it really rewarding."

Carmel Vella, Leopold Lions Club (V2) LEHP Screening Facilitator



We have recently launched a new range of merchandise including enamel pins, foldable shopping bags, USB memory pens, stubby holders, card magnifiers, lens cleaners and much more. Your purchase will help us to continue our work and help more Australians to see clearly.

Visit <u>lehp.org.au/merchandise</u> to order yours or see the range at our booth at the 73rd MD201 Convention in Traralgon.



Vision Screening Kits



If your Club has a fully trained vision screening team and are interested in purchasing your own screening kit containing all the equipment you need to conduct a screening session, we have a limited number now available. We recommend applying for a grant to assist with the cost and we can provide guidance with this process if required.

For more details and to register your interest please email lehptreasurer@gmail.com



100 Year Anniversary of Helen Keller's Call to Action

In June 1925, Helen Keller addressed Lions at the International Convention in Cedar Point, Ohio, USA.

"The opportunity I bring to you, Lions, is this. Will you not help me hasten the day when there will be no preventable blindness; no little deaf, blind child untaught; no blind man or woman unaided? I appeal to you, Lions, you who have your sight, you who are strong and kind and brave. Will you not constitute yourselves as Knights of the Blind in the crusade against darkness?"

Lions accepted Helen's challenge, and our work ever since has included sight programs aimed at preventable blindness.

In response to this call, the
Lions Eye Health Program was
established in the year 2000
in Victoria. Today, the program
operates nationwide, thanks to
generous donations and support
from Lions Clubs across
Australia and the commitment
and efforts of our amazing
team of volunteers.

Will you join us?

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Date: Friday 2nd May 2025 Time: 1:00pm -1:30pm AEST

Venue: Gippsland Regional Indoor Sports Stadium, Traralgon, VIC Zoom meeting details available on request.

Agenda: Welcome and Introductions Apologies

Receipt and adoption of 2024 AGM Minutes
Chairman's Report

Treasurers Report / Auditors Report / Appointment of Auditor General Business

Questions welcome

Please direct any apologies, questions or comments to the LEHP National Program Manager, Stephanie Field. enquiries@lehp.org.au or 1800 010 234.

Resources



LEHP Resources, including brochures, posters, vision screening stickers, activity sheets and promotional items are provided free of charge for Participating Clubs.



Order online or download the order form from lehp.org.au/order-resources

Selected resources are also available for instant download: lehp.org.au/download-resources/



National Office:

PO Box 178, Seaford, SA 5169 enquiries@lehp.org.au 1800 010 234 lehp.org.au

Participating Club Registration Form - 2025

Please complete and return this form with your payment to:

Bill Duncanson Lions Eye Health Program - Australia PO Box 86 **CAMPERDOWN VIC 3260**

Email: lehptreasurer@gmail.com

Club Name:		_ District:
President:		Phone:
Secretary:		Phone:
Club Email:		
Enclosed is a cheque (drawn from Clubs Activities Account) for participation in the Lions Eye Health Program during 2025 An EFT payment has been sent on//		
Please note: Participating Club contributions do not accrue awards credits		
EFT PAYMENTS: Account Name: Lions Eye Health Program BSB: 633 000 Account Number: 108 999 475 *PLEASE USE YOUR CLUB NAME OR NUMBER AS THE REFERENCE*		
Signed:	ned: Date:	
Free LEHP Resources		

Order directly from the LEHP website: lehp.org.au/order-resources/ or download from: lehp.org.au/download-resources/