

**WE BELIEVE  
EVERY CHILD  
DESERVES A CHANCE  
AT A HEALTHY LIFE**



**May 2020  
Newsletter**

Hello to you all

What a different world we have learnt to live in, thankfully as isolation restrictions ease albeit at different times and conditions depending on which state you live in, life will begin the long journey back to normal. I wrote a letter to all Clubs a while back and I thank those of you who were able to respond with a donation from existing Club funds to enable us to continue our funding of our current projects. My heartfelt thanks goes to one Lion in particular who responded in a different way - Lion Bill King (Pambula Merimbula Lions N2) decided he would make a personal donation and invited his fellow members to join him - this resulted in a \$1400 donation from the members which was matched by the Club - the generosity of Lions continues to make me proud to be a member of such an organisation'

Four Years ago, at the MD Convention in Echuca, we were presented with the launch of the joint \$4 million ALCCRF/LCIF "Lions Kids Cancer Project" - with the task of funding ALCCRF \$1.2 million share. With the help of all of you around the country, we were able to meet our commitment and made the final payment in June last year. The Trustees will soon receive a final report on the project as the last few of the 400 children are whole Genome sequenced by Garvan Institute

Once again, I give my thanks to all the Lions Lioness and Leos all around the nation for your support, we are getting closer to eradicating Childhood Cancer, but not there yet - we still need your help. - enjoy our Newsletter

**John Thorpe ALCCRF National Chairman**

***"We believe every child deserves a chance at a healthy life"***

I apologise for the size of this Newsletter, but due to Covid-19 unfortunately not much fundraising is happening. So if your Club has any photos and information on fundraising for ALCCRF please send them to me for inclusion in a future Newsletter. My email address is [sandy.royal@adam.com.au](mailto:sandy.royal@adam.com.au).

Sandy Royal  
Newsletter Editor  
Secretary and C Districts Trustee



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April 2020

Lions, Lioness, Leo Club as addressed

### ALCCRF and Covid-19

Dear President and members,

Just a short message to let you know how we are reacting to the unprecedented and difficult times we are experiencing.

The Board of Trustees has suspended both our major fundraisers:

Lions Biggest BBQ as been suspended until the National situation improves and restrictions have been lifted.

The attempt on the Guinness World record for longest coin line has been postponed until 2021

As you can imagine, our cash flow in the coming months could be dramatically reduced as a result of lack of Club activity. At this point the foundation is able to meet its financial commitments of quarterly payments to ALCCRF Fellowship recipient Sara Khan, Biobank Specialist Caroline Drinkwater, Cancer Australia - Neuroblastoma project and Telethon Kids institute Immunotherapy Project for the foreseeable future, this will be reviewed at the end of the Financial Year

In the meantime we will continue the preparation for 2020-21 so that we are ready to resume our efforts when the circumstances return to normal

Even though world focus is on Covid 19 at present, Australian Mums and Dad's are still being told every day the 4 words that no parent ever wants to hear - "*Your child has Cancer*"

If your Club is in a position to make a donation, we and the children would greatly appreciate it, the amount will be recorded as a credit for any future Awards

Our direct deposit details are BSB 085 397 account 94 294 7951 - please use your Club name or number as a reference

Stay safe, stay well and hopefully we can all get back to our mission of giving every child a chance at a healthy life

*John Thorpe*

ALCCRF National Chairman

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*"We believe every child deserves a chance at a healthy life"*

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The Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation is a Category 'A' Project of Lions Australia



Bill King, Penny King,  
DG 201N2 Gordon Matthews and  
President Phil Hall

## News from the Lions Club of Pambula-Merimbula

Lion Bill saw the letter circulated by ALCCRF Chair John Thorpe and realised the Club couldn't do their April Fundraiser, so he decided to make a personal \$100 donation and invited other members to join him. They collected \$1,400 and then the Pambula-Merimbula Lions Club decided to match this amount, and a total of \$2,800 was donated.

The Club presented Lion Bill with an ALCCRF Gold award and following President Phil's idea a new sticky board (to replace is old one) was also presented to Lion Bill at a special club meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2019.



The theme of the meeting was "The Man from Snowy River" as Bill is from the Monaro and likes nothing better than to recite that poem whenever we let him! That explains the predominance of Akubra's and RM Williams gear in the photos.

ALCCRF would like to say a special "Thank You" Bill King for his initiative and drive to improve the lives of young Australian children over a long period as well as other generous members for their ongoing support.

Prior to the COVID-19 shutdown Clubs were raising funds for the 2020 Biggest BBQ. Let's hope things are back to normal soon.

 Australian Lions Longest Coin Line  
5 March at 15:31

Thank you very much to the Coolum Beach Lioness Club for your fundraising efforts for the Australian Lions Longest Coin Line attempt



Although our Longest Coin Line project has been postponed till 2021 Clubs are still helping with our fundraising

 Lions Club of South Perth Inc  
8 March

We had a successful day at our sausage sizzle yesterday, raising funds for Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation (ALCCRF), and raising awareness about the amazing work done by Lions. Thanks to everyone for their hard work, and special thanks to our Friends of Lions, Carla, Mark and Yezmin for working so hard with us!



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**Professor Terry Johns,  
Head of Telethon Kids Cancer Centre**

### **Update from the Telethon Kids Cancer Centre, based at Telethon Kids Institute in Perth, WA:**

Since March, we like virtually every other workplace have experienced disruptions caused by the pandemic. While it is not business as usual, projects are still progressing well, including the many immunotherapy projects supported by the Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation.

Telethon Kids Cancer Centre laboratory experiments were ramped down before Easter to ensure social distancing requirements and the safety of our teams. During this time, small vital laboratory projects have continued but the majority of our team has taken the opportunity to undertake work possible to do from home that is important but unfortunately often postponed due to the daily demands of laboratory research.

Senior staff have been writing manuscripts for journal publication and grant applications to keep our future research projects funded. Junior staff have been conducting what is called “bioinformatic” research: detailed genetic analysis using computational approaches. Students have been assisting in this writing, drafting their theses, and reviewing current scientific literature. All of this was work that needed to be accomplished anyway.

With Western Australia workplace restrictions beginning to lift as of 18<sup>th</sup> May, we are well placed to resume the laboratory component of our work soon. A sad truth is that more children will die of cancer in one month than will likely die of COVID-19 in the next few years. Our mission remains clear, and we are committed to finding new therapies and cures for children with cancer.

### **Update from Telethon Kids Institute on COVID-19:**

Telethon Kids Institute is Western Australia’s largest medical research institute and, in addition to cancer research, is home to world-leading infectious disease, respiratory, and clinical trials researchers and epidemiologists who have become an integral part of the scientific global response to COVID-19. Our researchers are currently searching for lifesaving answers to SARS-CoV-2 and COVID-19 with projects including randomised clinical trials of drugs to save lives and contain the spread, mapping and tracking virus transmission in schools and the community, and reduce the long term impact of this pandemic on families. You can learn more about all of Telethon Kids Institute’s COVID-19 research projects at [www.tacklingcovid19.org.au](http://www.tacklingcovid19.org.au)

The current pandemic highlights how health research has never been more important than it is right now. This is true for COVID-19 and it is true for childhood cancer. At Telethon Kids Institute, we’ve spent 30 years asking “why” and seeking new solutions to help children suffering from disease or disadvantage. As scientists, answering the “why” is our job and we’re so grateful to supporters like the Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation who help make our work possible.



# Word Finder Puzzle

## ALCCRF

P D E K Q C E H L N S Y B A I  
R O I X G Z A N Y S H J D L H  
X O V Z K F K N E A Y R Y C Y  
W H D E O M B N C D R G V C Z  
D D H O N H E L M E C T E R L  
V L B N A R I M A E R D U F P  
W I L P A O V L K G V I L T N  
B H B W N I O I C N R U B O V  
N C A S H H L F Y T I Z F X A  
O K X R E S E A R C H P S W M  
U W L G J W J P R V Z Q D Q S  
K O O L T U B T V T Y T J U T  
N O I T A D N U O F S L Z J J  
Z R P Y S G S C A J K U A F A  
H K M H L B I O P F D L A E X

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Be a HERO to  
a child with cancer  
Donate today at [alccrf.lions.org.au](http://alccrf.lions.org.au)



- **Our Vision**  
100% survival for kids with cancer
- **Our Mission**  
Prevent kids with cancer dying by raising funds nationally and donating these funds to the best high impact childhood cancer research conducted right across Australia.