



# Simply the Best

LIONS CLUB OF TRIANGLE

We serve

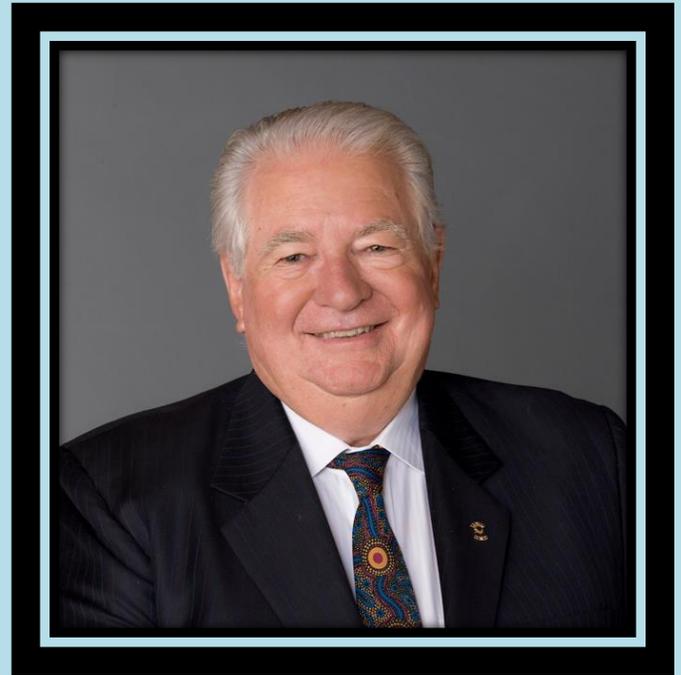


Vol # 1 / Issue # 3

August 2013

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## *Barry Palmer - Lions Clubs International President 2013-2014*

Barry J. Palmer, of Berowra, NSW, Australia, was elected president of Lions Clubs International at the association's 96th International Convention, held in Hamburg, Germany, July 5-9, 2013. President Palmer was a real estate company director.

A member of the Hornsby Lions Club since 1976, President Palmer has held many offices within the association, including club president, zone chairperson, cabinet secretary, cabinet treasurer and district governor. He has served on numerous committees and as the Host Committee Chairperson for the 2010 Lions Clubs International Convention in Sydney, Australia.

In recognition of his service to the association, President Palmer has received many awards, including the 100% Club President Award, the 100% District Governor Award, six International President's Medals and the Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest honor the association bestows upon its members. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow. In addition to his Lion activities, President Palmer is a recipient of the Australian Medal issued by the Australian Government, the Australian Childhood Cancer Research Award and the Spastic Centre of NSW Award. He was a Pioneer Volunteer at the Sydney Olympics and a member of the New South Wales Paralympic Committee.

President Palmer and his wife Anne, also a Lion and a Melvin Jones Fellow, have three children and eight grandchildren.



Just beyond the modest home I grew up in was the Australian Bush, where kangaroos, wallabies and kookaburras roamed amid gum and wattle trees. My father Jack, was an accountant who took the same train to work and sat in the same seat day after day. I trained to be a wool classer, rotely producing wool. But I dreamt of doing something more influential. So eventually I went into real estate and built up my business.

As a Lion, I also dreamt of making a big impact. So when a young Australian woman spoke to our club about an orphanage she worked at in India, my club dove right in. The parents of many of these children had been killed by rebels. We helped them get better housing, and from that point many thrived in school. For years I had another dream I kept to myself. I saw the remarkable ability of Lions to change lives and I wanted to fully devote myself to Lions. The dream came true a few years ago when I learned that I was to be nominated for International President.

***Lions, follow your dreams.*** They will not lead you astray. Nearly every great accomplishment began as a wildly ambitious dream whether it was landing a man on the moon, running a 4-minute mile or webbing together the entire world through computers. Listen to your heart. Don't ever impede a great idea whose time has come. ***To me, dreams are not visions that arise in sleep but plans that don't let you sleep.***

Identify your dream and work to achieve it. Its up to you to decide what your dream is. Plant the seed and let it grow. Find inspiration and guidance from other clubs and from Lions Clubs International. ***As I like to say, don't tell me to aim for the stars when there are footprints on the moon.***

Anne and I look forward to you Following your Dream in 2013-2014. Good luck, Godspeed and congratulations – great service is the inevitable result of pursuing dreams.



## Band Night - Jazz Invitation

The weekend Lions Club of Triangle had been waiting for, was finally here. The much anticipated Band night fundraiser was ready to roll. Our guests, Jazz Invitation were wired up, sound checks completed and emails were flying about this particular night.



We had the pleasure of meeting the band beforehand, and once the Lions (with manes) got over the beautiful ladies of J.I, we were all 1 unit and behaved as a team should.

The night itself was great, it had started off quite mellow, but with 2 bars running continuously, it didn't take long to get the party really started. Jazz Invitation, lead by the famous Kelly Rusike really know how to put on a show. They played music from different genres, each song was sung beautifully, and the ladies Tina and Courtney had the crowd singing along all night.



The evening's host was Lion James of Chiredzi Lions Club, so looked super cool in his outfit of choice. Lion Brian of Triangle said a few words on behalf of the Lions. In the middle of it all, we had a

minute's silence for the late Lion Andy. After that the band played a song in remembrance of Andy, "Dobie Gray – Drift Away"

The highlight of the evening was definitely when Kelly Rusike sang the song from the most favourite TV advert of the early 90's "Ngwere ngwere Sadza"



All in all it was a great evening, which could not have been as successful, had we not had the support of all Lions members. A special mention and thanks to Lion Piraishe of Chiredzi, who not only came to meet with the band when they arrived, but also helped out in the one bar, the whole night. Thanks Lion Piraishe.



We have since been given great reviews by the community, for bringing such great entertainment to the Lowveld. "When are they coming back?" is the question that keeps getting asked. After all, WE SERVE!

(Lion Brian/Lion Les)





## *A Tribute to Lion Andy*

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2013, was a sad day for Lions Club of Triangle, as well as the Lowveld community as a whole. Lion Andy lost his battle with cancer. He had been diagnosed in early April and just 3 months later, he was gone! Lion Cosmas had the difficult task of speaking at the memorial, on the 17<sup>th</sup> August, but did a tremendous job talking all about Andy – The Lion.



“It is very difficult to summarise the life and achievements of a highly successful and well accomplished lion—one who served with passion and commitment just to put a smile on the faces of the less fortunate. A lion who shared his personal resources and family without seeking benefits or favours in return—a lion who never asked for reimbursement for his expenses in carrying out his obligations as a lion—A lion who shared his time

with those in need and a part of his life for a cause he believed in and cherished. His definition of lions ,An association of like minded persons for service to the less fortunate in our communities—the reward,a smile and joy of witnessing the happiness and true appreciation by the recipients

Lion Andy was a passionate and contagious,in the good sense of the world.Those who had the opportunity to meet and work with him or attended his schools of instruction would forever remember the fun,the inspiring presentations,his philosophy and vision of lionism.He made other members feel that just being a lion was such a great achievement in their lives.He was very humble and never accepted credit but shared success with fellow lions.Never the one to judge others but always seeking to understand them better(How do you get along with some of these guys?),was a question often asked of him. As a lion cognicent that humanitarian service extend beyond the boundaries of his own community, lion Andy demonstrated his generosity and concern for the less fortunate by getting involved with orphanages and schools in rural communities, organising supplies as well as donating computers.

On the occasion of this memorial service, we,lions of district 412, extend our sympathy to the family of Lion Andy and we assure them of our respect, our esteem and our love to the husband and to the father they have lost.

We pray that Lion Andy rests in peace and possesses the knowledge that he is missed and acclaimed by his fellow lions in district 412 but most of all the Lions club of triangle.





### **His Service to lions**

- Lions Club of Triangle:  
Served as club president  
Club treasurer(for life)  
Youth and environment portfolio  
Tailtwister (of naught)  
Convenor of several successful projects
- District 412 Cabinet  
Served as zone chairman  
Region Chairman  
Cabinet officer for youth and environment  
Cabinet Tail twister  
Facilitator of schools of instruction  
Leadership Coach
- Contributions  
Orientation of new and old lion members  
Presentation on how to kickstart a club(with Lion Benny)  
Development of simple club to zone reports and zone to Cabinet reports to replace narrative reports.
- Awards and achievements  
Numerous club awards.  
Several district awards.  
Lions International recognition awards.  
The best ongoing youth projects.

### **His Rear**

- Simply the best banner
- Cyclone eline disaster response
- District 412 convention-Mush in the bush I(1996)
- District 412 Convention-Mush in the Bush II(1998)
- District 412 Convention-(Space Odyssey)(2001)
- The Murray Mac school around Zim Tour
- The Umzingwane Youth Camp
- Christmas Day visits to Orphanages

### **The Spark(Lighter Moments with Lion Andy)**

- Mutare District 412 Convention-The Ostrich Dance and the safari scouts theme

- The Bulawayo District 412 Convention-Men in Black(the notorious 5)
- The Vic Falls Convention-the traditional dance troupe
- Malawi Expedition with Lion L Mwenje-The aspirin prescription for the emmigration officer
- Malberegign Cabinet Meeting-the valentine red rose provider
- Bulawayo-the chase-Lion Dhiru and the3 am morning coffee and cake

### **The Voice Of Reason**

- "Don't get tense,it will be alright,"Followed by the famous handshake and the laughter
- The JJ corner-except for the Gin and Coke-telling it like it is.
  - Candor-it does not hurt to know the truth and deal with it, after all there is nothing a drink can't fix.
  - It's easy to mend a broken child than to mend a broken adult-but then to fix an adult you need to break them first.

\*\*We say goodbye to a great Father,a friend, a hero, a greater leader and a visionary for the youth.He has gone to higher service where he joins his Late Lion friends, Lion JJ, Lion Neil, Lion Langton and Lion Steve.\*\*  
(Read by Lion Cosmas)





## Mutikizizi Old People's home visit



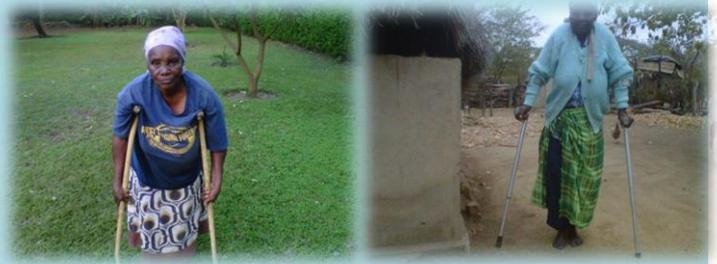
We went to Mutikizizi on 7<sup>th</sup> July to deliver ten blankets and second hand clothing. It really was a pleasant surprise because the old folks were not expecting us. We got there at around 1500hrs and the grandpas and grandmas busking in the sun. We presented the blankets and the clothes. There was great joy with a lot of singing thanking the Lions Club of Triangle for thinking of them and The Almighty God for giving us the wisdom. We were touched by the tidiness of their kitchen and rooms. DDF sunk a borehole close to the home, giving them easy access to clean water. Mr Mutikizizi, the founder of the Home, urged the Lions to be there on the official opening at a date to be advised. We spend about an hour and a half with them.

Lion Onismo and Lion Fidelis



## Thank you Lions

We got an appeal for crutches from E Mutanda for Mbuya Mafurutu. She was using makeshift crutches which were making her armpits soar. She would walk when she really had to, preferring to crawl where possible. We gave her a pair of hand crutches. It took her a day to learn to use them. Now she says she is very mobile, thanks to the Lions Club of Triangle.



\* \* \* \* \*

Dear Lions Club of Triangle

Just a few photos of Peypies on his International Student Convention Tour in the USA that you helped make possible. He exceeded our expectations and came home with two gold medals! One for discuss and one for shotput. Many different countries participated and he competed against more than 36 participants in the one event. We are really very proud of him and are glad he is back home safe. He enjoyed the trip and learned a lot. He and all of us wish to thank you for your contribution to make this experience of a lifetime possible for him. We believe this achievement will open doors for him in the future.

Ezelle Schimper  
Lirhanzo Childrens Village





## Annual Soccer Fundraiser

The fundraising idea which came up at the bar in January 2009 after the Committee Meeting became an annual event. One senior Lion suggested; ‘‘Hey, why don’t you arrange to raise funds for these disabled persons in need of assistance?’ This question challenged the convenor’s mind and became a dream come true. By public demand the Soccer Fundraiser became an annual event held in August sponsored by **Main Protective Clothes(Private) Ltd.**

This year’s soccer fundraiser was held on August 24, 2013 and had 12 soccer teams, 5 netball teams, 3 tug of war teams and 6 donors, **Main Protective Clothes (Private) Ltd.** being the main sponsor as usual.

Participants had a lot of fun for the whole day interacting with **Main Protective Clothes (Private) Ltd.** as the main sponsor. It was like beehives of activities whilst people and sponsors partner with the lions and contribute to the accomplishment of our mission.

The most exciting event was the women versus men tug of war where men were defeated by ladies who proved the essence of gender equality.

This fundraiser is helping us to take major steps to rebrand lionism across the local community social classes and to project an image of lions as important and relevant. The local community now understands and appreciate the purpose of lions. This was evidenced by the support given by the local community as per table below.

Special thanks must go to **Main Protective Clothes (Private) Ltd.** for the outstanding sponsorship of the tournament, Lion Ishmael Patel for the donation of meat, donors from our Business Community, Triangle Community Development Department for the use of Gibbo Stadium and the Triangle Community for their support.

**Below is self-explanatory table on Soccer Fundraisers held from 2009-2013**

YEAR	AMOUNT RAISED	SOCCER TEAMS	NETBALL TEAMS	TUG OF WAR TEAMS	DONORS	OTHER GAMES	SPECTATORS
2009	\$558.00	6	2	2	12	20	83
2010	\$561.00	9	4	2	13	34	83
2011	\$754.00	14	6	2	7	26	159
2012	\$957.00	13	6	4	13	60	190
<b>2013</b>	<b>\$640.00</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>161</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3470.00</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>676</b>

**RAISED \$3 470.00 FOR THE**

**DISABLED 2009-2013**

Congratulations Lions on believing in ourselves and inspiring others to believe in us.

Thank you Lions of Triangle, for your unwavering support which contributed to the success of this project, now we can lift off and fulfil our mission of service year after year.

A.J.Musiiwa  
Project Convenor





## Questions & Answers Lion Onismo

### **How do others see you?**

Most people say I'm a very gentle and honest person.

### **Any hidden talents?**

I think I'm very analytical. I don't take things at face value.

### **What makes you laugh?**

Tickling!!!! I love humour. And I can laugh!

### **Greatest achievement?**

Being a great husband and father!

### **What is your passion?**

I love to make people happy. To bring a smile to a person's face makes my day.

### **Who is the boss in your house?**

My three- and -half year daughter. She is the tyrant Queen of the house.

### **Favourite food?**

I love traditional foods, especial sadza remhunga and nemuboora une dovi with a cup of mahewu.

### **How would you describe your own personality?**

I am very accommodating and passive. But at times, I'm a scorio by the way, I do sting.



### **How do you react in a 'crisis' situation?**

I stay calm always, and 'steady the ship' out of the crisis if I can.

### **Where did you grow up?**

I was born and bred in the Lowveld. Born and stayed in Triangle upto Grade 5, then went to Chiredzi. Left the Lowveld to attend high school and college *chete*. Ah, and to get married to Diana!

### **Why Lions?**

I have always loved to serve the less privileged especially the old folks. I have a soft spot for kids. Lions provides a good platform for me to serve this group of people in our community.

### **What do you like to do in your spare time?**

Listening to music, real music. To keep the peace with my son, there are a few of these high techno-songs I can tolerate. And of course watching comedies.

### **Dream holiday destination?**

Ini na Diana ku Hawaii !!!

### **Favourite characteristic about your spouse?**

Her frankness. I don't have to second guess how she feels about anything, and I mean anything.





## President's Induction Dinner

The Induction Dinner took place on 6<sup>th</sup> July, at TCC, where we almost had 100% attendance. The night was a great social and a great feel of true Lionism. Dinner was divine – Lamb (or Lamp as Lion Andrew calls it) shank with mash potatoes and veges. The evening was entertaining, with Presidents awards being handed out to some of the Lions. Lion of the Year award went to Lion Cosmas ! Well done.



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## Food for thought - 1 In 5 Keeps Our Dream Alive

Members join for a number of reasons:

- \_ To serve their community
- \_ To be involved with a specific service or cause
- \_ To serve with friends or family
- \_ For the opportunity to become a leader

Members leave because many of those reasons are not fulfilled. It is critical that new members are made to feel welcome, and that their opinions are sought. It's equally important to involve all members in club activities, and that activities are meeting the needs and desires of club members. This might mean finding new ways to serve; updating club traditions; starting new traditions; and being open to new ideas. It may also mean ensuring that all members are given an opportunity to lead – either as a club officer or chairperson of a club project. Retaining our members is incumbent upon all Lions.

Although we enjoy a very high level of recruiting, I wonder how many more members we could recruit and retain, and how much better we can make their

volunteer experience with the proper care, creativity, and dedication to providing a meaningful experience? Recruiting new members has never been a major problem. Each and every year, we recruit on average 200,000 new members. But at the end of the year, when final numbers are tabulated, our net gain is a small portion of that. Why? We simply are not retaining enough of our members. Over the past 5 years, if we had reduced the percentage of members who left by 20%, our membership today would stand at nearly 1.5 million, with positive net growth in every constitutional area. In other words – if we had retained just 1 out of every 5 members who left over the past 5 years, our membership would have increased significantly, thereby helping us keep pace with the growing needs of our communities. A positive club atmosphere and meaningful service activities are the most important factors in member satisfaction. The primary tool available to clubs to ensure overall success is the Club Excellence Process (CEP), available on the LCI website. It amounts to a comprehensive guide to a more meaningful club experience. Two items in the Club Excellence Process checklist pay particularly big dividends – the *Community Needs Assessment* and the “*How Are Your Ratings?*” survey. Completing both of these items has the potential to re-energize a club's atmosphere and improve member satisfaction. Ultimately, we want to retain each and every member and see our clubs continue to flourish, allowing us to continue to provide the service our communities have come to expect from the global leader in humanitarian service.

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### *In our Next issue...*

*Gwarimba Night*

*World Sight Day*

*Getting to know Lion Cosmas*



### **Drinker's corner!!**

