

## Lions Den: February 2024

2023 ended with a flurry of Lions activities that saw our members volunteering at they're finest. Two of the most enjoyable and we think most appreciated events are the Single seniors Christmas dinner, where we host our Island's single seniors to an evening of good cheer and sumptuous food. THEN the Santa ship event where Santa arrives at Miners Bay dock bearing gifts for the Island children. For the first time, the M.I. Santa visited Saturna on the next day to hand out gifts there. Our motto is "we serve" and these events "serve" both extremes of the island demographics. Mayne Island Lions volunteers nudged 4,000 hours in 2023, and likely topped this by a significant amount if members unreported hours were taken into account.

We have received much positive feedback and appreciation for our choice of Michael Dunn as Mayne Islander of the year. He joins a worthy group of Island recipients from previous years commencing 2002. See how many winners that you recognise from the adjoining list.

Later this spring, our 2024/25 Mayne Island Directory will be distributed. Thanks go out to advertisers who make this project possible and provide a major source of funding that make our various Lions events and donations possible. Lion Michael Barnes has done a masterful job in pulling this project together. The information contained in the white page phone listings is entirely dependent upon the public for their accuracy. Like in previous directories, the 24/25 directory will contain a page where changes to individual listings can be made, or you can make changes on the Lions Webpage [phonebook@mayneislandlions.org](mailto:phonebook@mayneislandlions.org). Additionally, the Lions website will be undergoing a major overhaul during the early part of 2024. If there are any changes or additions that you would like to suggest please do so by emailing [membership@mayneislandlions.org](mailto:membership@mayneislandlions.org).

The Lions/MIALS cook off fundraiser for the MIALS Day Tripper Bus program is set for Feb 17<sup>th</sup>. The Lions have guaranteed that a further \$2500 will be added to our previous donation of \$2500. If previous Lions cook-offs are anything to go by, we should well exceed this amount from the proceeds and this event is a great value family meal/night out. Here is how this event works. As you read this, the joint Lions/MIALS organising committee are soliciting teams of cooks representing various Island volunteer groups and businesses who will then develop their unique menus. Mayne Islanders are invited to come and select which group provided the best dish and vote for them with loonies or toonies. It will be the best value night out/dinner for the whole family. See postings for complete details, but in the meantime mark the date for a cheap night out while greatly benefiting the MIALS Day Tripper bus program.

Lions volunteer hours for December were 331 hours from 19 members.

Allen Slade, Past President