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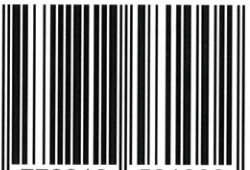
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**Lions
Mayne
Islander
of the Year**

**Sue
Duncan**



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Sue Duncan: Lions 2024 Mayne Islander of the Year

When the Lions received the Mayne Islander of the Year nomination for Sue, it contained the following endorsement.

“Sue’s name has become synonymous with the Mayne Island Assisted Living

(MIALS) Lunch Bunch program where she has prepared over 5000 meals over the last seven years. Her passionate caring for those around her shines through both her meals and interactions with others. She also manages Meals on Wheels ensuring those who are in need receive nutritious meals as well as a connection and conversation.

Through her meticulous attention to individuals, she also pairs volunteers with those who need a hand, a visit, travel to an appointment, and more; she intuitively knows who would appreciate each other and fosters further companionship and connection in the community. Sue inspires and motivates everyone around her to be more caring, compassionate, and selfless in helping our neighbours on Mayne”.

Born in Worcestershire, England, where she lived with her family until the age of three when they all moved to Cardiff in Wales, and she stayed there until she was 17. Over the years, she had developed a burning desire to travel and in 1974, a few days before her 18th birthday, with 30 UK pounds in her pocket, Sue moved to Toronto to take a job as a nanny to a family

with four children. The job did not turn out to be as advertised, so Sue moved on to another Toronto family. They had a second home on Lake Simcoe where many good times were spent. She stayed for 3 1/2 happy years, during which time she applied for and received her Canadian landed immigrant status.

She met her husband Geoffrey and in 1985 they moved to Pickering, Ont. where her son David was born. They visited Vancouver for Expo 86 and soon after sold up in Ontario and moved to Victoria. Her daughter Sarah was born in 1987. Sue took a job as a beauty consultant with Mary K and quickly built her sales team to 26 and became a sales director, receiving several performance awards in the process.

But in 1998, Sue and the family sold up and moved back to the UK to be close to her aging Father and Mother-in-law. They settled in the northern industrial town of Darlington where they stayed for two enjoyable years, however, as the call to return to British Columbia was strong in 2000, they moved back and bought a home in White Rock. Sue took a job, again in the beauty business, with Avon Canada as a district manager and capitalizing on her previous success with Mary K and benefiting from the excellent training programs provided by her employer, her sales grew, earning her trip rewards to Italy and the Caribbean. But the work involved a lot of driving and in 2006,

... Article continued on next page



Sue receiving the award at the Lions Charter Night Dinner. Photo Robin Walsh.



Dishing up Meals on Wheels. Photo Tom Hobley.



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following a bad car accident, Sue left her job and in 2007 moved to Mayne Island.

Her move to Mayne felt right from the start and she volunteered with the Mayne Island Welcome Wagon so she could welcome Island newbies and introduce them to the magic of Mayne. She took a position with Home Hardware running the Decor store and quickly learned all about kitchen and bathroom planning and installations and built a strong network. She left in 2010 and started her own catering business. In 2017, she saw an advertisement in the MayneLiner, calling for a cook/administrator for Mayne Island Assisted Living (MI-ALS). Encouraged by friends, she applied for and was offered the position. This has been a dream job for Sue, combining her talent as a cook with her organizational skills and ever-present kindness.

The Lunch Bunch program held at the Community Centre, provides a healthy meal often with guest speakers and entertainment and good friendship. She is responsible for preparing and serving up to 50 meals with the help of her team of willing volunteers.

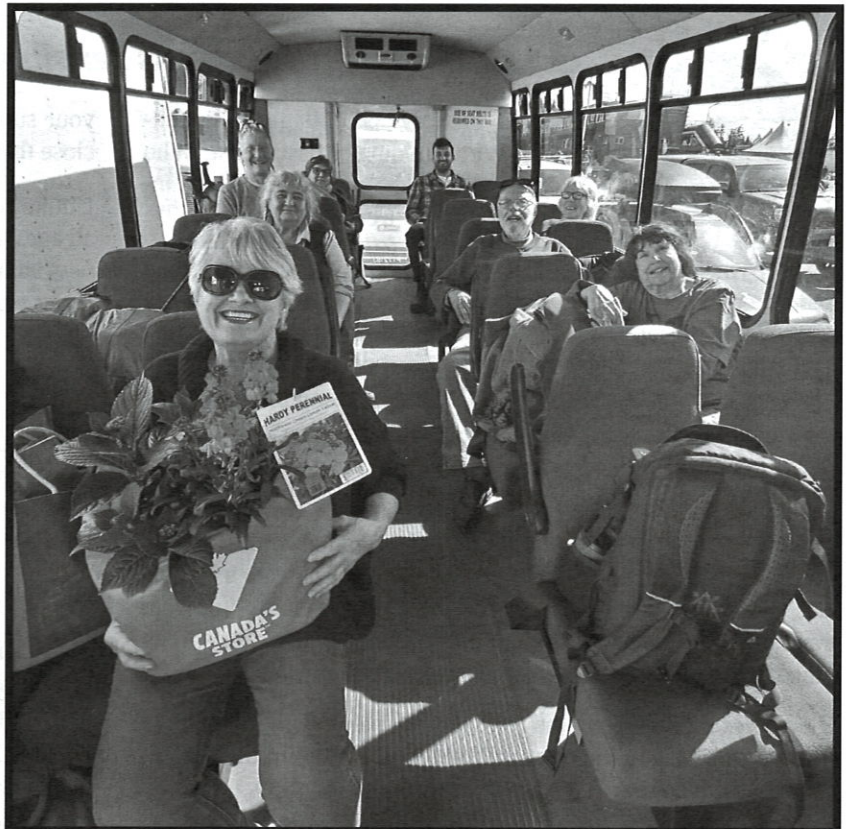
When MIALS took over the Meals on Wheels, Sue found herself with another program tailor made for her skills and the number of participants continued to grow. Sue often takes on the volunteer role of “cruise director” on the weekly Day Tripper Bus to Sidney and Victoria. The bus program is coordinated to allow Islanders to attend their medical appointments, go shopping and often has trips to attractions like Butchart Gardens. As Sue jokingly says, “they haven’t lost anyone yet”. New MIALS programs are being added including the Creative Café and the latest being Dance exercise.

Over and above her position with MIALS, Sue has been involved in the organizing of several volunteer fund-raising events, including the very successful “Mayne’s Got Talent”. She has always been a good friend to the Lions on Mayne and is always there for when they reach outside of their membership for help with events.

Sue especially looks forward to visits from her 6 ½ year old granddaughter Charlie, who lives in New Westminster with her Mum Sarah. Charlie, in turn enjoys her monthly visits with her Nana and loves to help at the Lunch Bunch. Sue has always loved animals and has two dogs, Bella 15 yrs. and Precious 1 yr., and when not working, she will be seen in her garden with them.

The Lions congratulate Sue for all her work within the Community of Mayne Island, where she makes a real difference.

Allen Slade,
Past President, Mayne Island Lions



"Cruise Director" on the Day Tripper Bus



Sue and the Meals on Wheels crew of volunteers. Photo Tom Hobbey.

