



# **Lions Club Meeting Discussion Series**

A Year of Inspiration and Engagement



***Lead To Serve, Serve To Lead***



# Lions Club Meeting Discussion Series: A Year of Inspiration and Engagement

## Welcome

This document contains a collection of 24 short discussion pieces created especially for use in your Lions Club meetings. Each topic is designed to:

- Increase member understanding of Lions Clubs International
- Celebrate the achievements and values of our organisation
- Encourage pride, participation, and thoughtful conversation
- Provide a flexible, easy-to-use tool for engaging club members

## How to Use This Resource

- Frequency: Use one discussion piece at each meeting, ideally near the start or end of your meeting. They are designed to last 5–7 minutes, including discussion time.
- Format: Each piece begins with a question to ask the members, followed by a short talk and optional discussion prompts. A club officer or volunteer can simply read the script aloud, or use it as inspiration for a more personal presentation.
- Who Can Present?: Anyone! Presidents, secretaries, newer members, or even guests can be invited to present a topic – it's a great way to involve more voices in the club.
- Flexible Use: Use them in sequence, seasonally, or pick topics that suit your club's activities or interests. You can also include one as part of a speaker-free meeting or fellowship evening.

## Why It Matters

- Many Lions don't fully appreciate the scale, history, or impact of the organisation they belong to. These discussion starters help build connection, knowledge, and motivation – and remind us all why being a Lion is something to be proud of.
- Let's keep the spirit of service alive in every meeting – and keep growing, learning, and serving, together.
- I have produced this full year's resource with a view to extending training down to the club level at every meeting. I hope the contents will prompt lively discussion and help increase members' appreciation and understanding of Lions International. Do try and use it and let me know if you find it helpful in engaging your members at the regular club meetings.

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# 1

## Who founded Lions Clubs International – and why?

### Opening Question

*Who was the founder of Lions Clubs International, and what was his vision for the organisation?*

### Talk Script

Lions Clubs International was founded in 1917 by a Chicago businessman named Melvin Jones. He believed that personal success was not enough – that people who were fortunate in business and life should also give back to their communities.

His guiding principle was: “You can't get very far until you start doing something for somebody else.” With that idea, he gathered like-minded individuals and created an organisation that focused not just on networking, but on service.

That small club grew rapidly. By 1920, Lions had become international, with the first club outside the U.S. established in Canada. Today, we are in over 200 countries and have more than 1.4 million members.

What’s inspiring is that this entire global movement started with one man’s idea and a simple commitment: to serve. As Lions, we’re part of a living legacy – and each of us carries forward Melvin Jones’s dream of making the world a better place through voluntary service.

### Optional Discussion

#### Prompts:

- Why do you think Melvin Jones’s message has endured for over 100 years?
- How does our club reflect his original vision?
- What’s one new way we can carry that vision forward today?

## 2

# What does the Lions motto ‘We Serve’ mean today?

### Opening Question

*What is the official motto of Lions Clubs International – and how does it guide our work today?*

### Talk Script

The motto of Lions Clubs International is “We Serve.” Just two words – yet they capture the entire heart of our organisation.

It’s not “we fundraise” or “we organise” or “we attend meetings” – it’s we serve. That means action, empathy, and commitment to others. Every Lions Club interprets that motto in a way that reflects the needs of their community – from feeding the hungry and supporting young people, to protecting the environment and fighting avoidable blindness.

In today’s fast-changing world, that simple phrase continues to guide Lions everywhere. Whether we’re responding to global disasters, supporting local charities, or helping a neighbour, the motto reminds us of our purpose.

It’s also a powerful message for new members. People want to feel they’re part of something meaningful. “We Serve” is not just a slogan – it’s a promise that every Lion, in every corner of the world, is doing something to make life better for someone else.

### Optional Discussion

#### Prompts:

- What does “We Serve” mean to you personally?
- Is there a local issue we aren’t yet serving that we could be?
- How can we help new members connect with the motto more deeply?

# 3

## How did Lions Clubs get involved with sight conservation?

### Opening Question

*What was the moment in history that led Lions to focus on preventing blindness and helping people with visual impairments?*

### Talk Script

In 1925, a pivotal moment in Lions history took place. At the Lions International Convention in Cedar Point, Ohio, a young woman rose to the stage and issued a bold challenge. That woman was Helen Keller, and she was both deaf and blind.

She called on Lions to become the “Knights of the Blind in the crusade against darkness.” Her words stirred the entire room — and from that moment on, Lions committed to the cause of vision and sight preservation.

Since then, Lions have supported countless sight-saving projects around the world. We’ve launched eye camps, donated glasses, supported guide dog programmes, and funded sight-saving surgeries. Through our global initiative, SightFirst, we’ve helped restore vision to over 9 million people and prevented blindness in many more.

Today, with avoidable blindness still affecting millions, our commitment remains strong. Every time we help someone see — whether it’s a child receiving their first pair of glasses or an adult receiving cataract surgery — we honour Helen Keller’s challenge and reaffirm our identity as Lions.

### Optional Discussion

#### Prompts:

- Has our club ever supported a sight-related project?
- How could we do more in this area?
- What does it mean to be a “Knight of the Blind” today?

# 4

## What is LCIF – and what has it achieved globally?

### Opening Question

*What does LCIF stand for, and how does it help Lions make a global impact?*

### Talk Script

LCIF stands for the Lions Clubs International Foundation. It's the charitable arm of Lions Clubs International – and it helps us turn big ideas into real-world impact across the globe.

Through LCIF, Lions fund projects that tackle global problems such as disaster relief, childhood cancer, hunger, diabetes, and environmental challenges. LCIF gives grants to Lions Clubs who need extra funding for projects that go beyond their local capacity.

For example, when a natural disaster strikes – whether it's an earthquake, flood, or wildfire – LCIF is often among the first to provide relief funding. During the COVID-19 pandemic, LCIF distributed over \$5 million in emergency grants to Lions around the world.

But LCIF also supports long-term initiatives. Its SightFirst programme has restored vision to millions. It funds youth empowerment, health clinics, education, and more. Since its founding in 1968, LCIF has awarded over \$1.2 billion in grants to Lions-led projects.

It's a reminder that while we serve locally, we are part of something global – and every donation to LCIF, no matter how small, helps make that possible.

### Optional Discussion

#### Prompts:

- Has our club ever received or contributed to an LCIF grant?
- What global issues matter most to our members?
- Should we consider a fundraiser to support LCIF this year?

# 5

## How do Lions help during disasters around the world?

### Opening Question

*When disaster strikes anywhere in the world, how do Lions respond?*

### Talk Script

When disaster hits — whether it's a tsunami, earthquake, flood, fire, or war — Lions are often among the first to respond. Through LCIF Disaster Relief Grants, local Lions clubs can quickly provide food, water, shelter, and medical care to victims in crisis.

What makes this so effective is that Lions are already there — we have local clubs in over 200 countries. That means help comes from trusted community members who know the language, culture, and immediate needs. It's grassroots help with global backing.

For instance, when earthquakes struck Türkiye, Nepal, and Morocco, or when Ukrainian families were displaced by conflict, Lions mobilised to provide direct assistance. Our donations to LCIF helped provide shelter, support centres, medical aid, and trauma relief.

But disaster response isn't just about crisis — it's also about preparedness and recovery. Lions help communities rebuild schools, restock supplies, and prepare for future emergencies.

By acting swiftly and compassionately, Lions show the world that service is not just what we do — it's who we are.

### Optional Discussion

#### Prompts:

- How would we respond if a disaster hit close to home?
- Could we do more to support international relief?
- Do we have a disaster plan or emergency contacts in place?

# 6

## What is the Lions Peace Poster competition all about?

### Opening Question

*What is the Peace Poster competition – and how does it promote Lions' values?*

### Talk Script

Every year, Lions Clubs around the world invite children aged 11 to 13 to take part in the Peace Poster Competition. The aim is simple: to express their vision of peace through art.

Since 1988, over 4 million children from nearly 100 countries have participated. Each year has a unique theme – like “Peace Through Service” or “Dare to Dream”. Children use pencils, paints, and creativity to share what peace means to them.

It's more than just an art competition. It's a powerful way for Lions to engage with schools and communities, promote international understanding, and encourage children to think about building a better, kinder world.

Winning entries go from club level to district, then to national and international judging. The grand prize winner receives \$5,000 and a trip to Lions Day with the United Nations.

Even if a child doesn't win, they gain a sense of connection, expression, and inclusion. And clubs that participate often find stronger community ties and new volunteers as a result.

### Optional Discussion

#### Prompts:

- Have we ever run a Peace Poster contest in our area?
- Which local schools could we approach this year?
- Could we host a community display of the entries?



# 7

## What does it mean to be a global citizen through Lions?

### Opening Question

*What connects you, as a Lion, to members in places like Brazil, India, Kenya, or Japan?*

### Talk Script

Being a Lion means more than serving your town — it means you're part of a global family. Lions Clubs International has over 1.4 million members in more than 200 countries and territories. That means, wherever you travel, you'll find fellow Lions working toward the same goals of service, kindness, and community.

This global identity makes us global citizens — people who care not only about their own street or city but about humanity as a whole.

We share values, traditions (like the Lions Code of Ethics), and even global causes — such as vision, hunger, the environment, and childhood cancer. We celebrate cultural differences while uniting behind the simple idea that we serve where there's a need.

And through events like International Convention and Europa Forum, Lions from different continents meet, learn from each other, and build lifelong friendships. Whether you donate to LCIF, join a global cause, or simply welcome a visiting Lion, you're helping shape a world where borders don't limit compassion.

### Optional Discussion

#### Prompts:

- Have you ever connected with Lions from another country?
- Could we twin with a club overseas or share ideas?
- How does being a Lion make you feel part of something bigger?

# 8

## What makes Lions different from other service clubs?

### Opening Question

*What sets Lions Clubs apart from Rotary, Round Table, Inner Wheel, or other service organisations?*

### Talk Script

Many service organisations do wonderful work — but Lions Clubs International is unique in several key ways.

First, we're the largest service club organisation in the world, with more than 48,000 clubs. That means more hands to help and more resources to share.

Second, we focus not just on fundraising — but on hands-on service. Lions are known for rolling up their sleeves and getting involved, whether it's cleaning parks, screening eyes, mentoring youth, or distributing food.

Third, we have global reach and local impact. Lions clubs operate independently in their communities, but they're backed by a massive international network and the support of LCIF. This combination is powerful.

Finally, Lions have a unique emphasis on vision and health. Since Helen Keller's challenge in 1925, no other club has matched our scale in the fight against blindness and visual impairment. But maybe most importantly, Lions are not just about service — we're about leadership, fellowship, and lifelong learning. We train leaders, nurture young talent, and invite all ages to contribute meaningfully.

### Optional Discussion

#### Prompts:

- What originally drew you to join Lions over other groups?
- How can we highlight what makes us different in our publicity?
- Are we making the most of our unique strengths?

# 9

## What are some of the biggest Lions service projects in history?

### Opening Question

*Can you name one of the largest service projects ever undertaken by Lions Clubs International?*

### Talk Script

Lions Clubs have been behind some truly incredible service projects — many of which have had a lasting impact on global communities.

One standout example is the SightFirst initiative, launched in 1990. It was designed to combat preventable and reversible blindness. Through this programme, Lions have raised and invested hundreds of millions of dollars, restoring vision to more than 9 million people and funding over 1,200 eye hospitals and clinics.

Another historic effort was the Measles and Rubella Initiative, in partnership with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and GAVI. Lions helped vaccinate tens of millions of children in developing countries, saving lives and preventing disability.

At the local level, some clubs have built hospitals, schools, mobile clinics, and food banks. Others have delivered long-term projects such as water sanitation systems in Africa, disaster recovery villages in Asia, and environmental restoration projects across the globe.

These aren't just acts of charity — they're strategic, well-planned efforts by committed volunteers. And they show what Lions can achieve when we work together with passion and purpose.

### Optional Discussion

#### Prompts:

- What's the most significant service project our club has done?
- Could we do more by partnering with other clubs or districts?
- Which global cause could we support this year?

# 10

## How do Lions support health initiatives like diabetes and childhood cancer?

### Opening Question

*What two global health challenges are now priority causes for Lions – and how are we helping?*

### Talk Script

Lions Clubs International has identified five global causes, two of which are: diabetes and childhood cancer.

Diabetes is one of the world's fastest-growing health threats. Lions clubs are helping communities by hosting screening days, promoting awareness, supporting healthy eating programmes, and even creating exercise parks.

Our work doesn't stop with education – Lions also raise funds for local clinics, provide glucose meters to vulnerable individuals, and work alongside healthcare providers to prevent complications like blindness and amputation.

Childhood cancer is another growing concern. Each year, over 400,000 children are diagnosed with cancer worldwide. Lions support affected families by donating to children's hospitals, building treatment rooms, providing comfort kits, and raising awareness about early detection.

In both cases, Lions help bridge the gap between families in need and the healthcare resources that could save or improve their lives.

By making health a priority, we demonstrate that service is not only about helping today – it's about building healthier tomorrows.

### Optional Discussion

#### Prompts:

- What originally drew you to join Lions over other groups?
- How can we highlight what makes us different in our publicity?
- Are we making the most of our unique strengths?

# 11

## What does your Lions Club's history say about your local community?

### Opening Question

*How well do you know the story of our club – when it started, why, and what it has achieved?*

### Talk Script

Every Lions Club has a story – and it's often closely tied to the history and character of its community.

Who were the founders of our club? What inspired them to charter it? Perhaps it began during a time of need, such as a local crisis or economic downturn. Or maybe a group of civic-minded people came together with a shared belief in community service.

The projects your club has undertaken over the years – building playgrounds, helping seniors, hosting community fairs – reflect the evolving needs of your local area. Your club is a mirror of your community's past and present.

Celebrating your club's history is not about nostalgia – it's about building pride, continuity, and connection. It reminds long-standing members why they joined and gives new members something meaningful to be part of.

So ask: what has our club stood for over the decades? And what legacy do we want to leave behind?

### Optional Discussion

#### Prompts:

- Can someone share a memorable project from our club's past?
- Should we document our club history for new members?
- How has our community changed – and how can we serve it now?

# How are Lions using technology to improve service?

## Opening Question

*How has technology helped Lions become more effective in service, communication, and leadership?*

## Talk Script

Technology is not just for convenience — it's a powerful tool for service. Lions Clubs are increasingly using digital tools to stay connected, promote their projects, and expand their reach.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, many clubs turned to Zoom and virtual meetings to stay active. Online events and fundraisers allowed us to continue serving while keeping members engaged and safe.

But it doesn't stop there. Social media helps clubs share their work with the world — encouraging community involvement and attracting potential members. Online training helps leaders gain confidence and skills. Digital newsletters and WhatsApp groups help clubs stay coordinated and energised.

Even service itself is changing — with Lions using apps to track donations, digital tools for diabetes awareness campaigns, and virtual learning for youth programmes.

Technology should never replace personal service — but when used well, it amplifies everything we do.

## Optional Discussion

### Prompts:

- Are we making the most of technology in our club?
- Could we train members who feel less confident using it?
- What simple tools could make our meetings or projects more effective?

# 13

## Why is leadership important in Lions – and how can you get involved?

### Opening Question

*Who in this room has served as a Club Officer – and what did you learn from the experience?*

### Talk Script

Leadership is at the heart of every successful Lions Club. It's not about holding a title – it's about taking responsibility, inspiring others, and getting things done.

Every club needs leaders – not just presidents, secretaries, and treasurers, but people who step forward to chair projects, welcome new members, or organise events. Lions provides countless opportunities to build and use your leadership skills in a supportive, respectful environment.

The best part? You don't need to be a professional speaker or seasoned manager to lead in Lions. You'll find mentoring, training, and encouragement at every step – from online learning tools to district workshops.

Taking on a leadership role helps you grow in confidence, learn new skills, and feel more connected to your club and your community. It also sets an example for others.

Leadership in Lions is not just for the few – it's for everyone who's willing to step up and serve.

### Optional Discussion

#### Prompts:

- What might be holding members back from stepping into leadership?
- Could we do more to support first-time officers?
- Who in our club could we encourage to take the next step?

# What is the Lions Global Cause Framework?

## Opening Question

*Can you name all five global causes currently supported by Lions Clubs International?*

## Talk Script

Lions Clubs International has identified 8 Global Causes to help focus and align our service efforts around the world. These are:

1. Vision
2. Hunger
3. The Environment
4. Childhood Cancer
5. Diabetes
6. Youth
7. Disaster Relief
8. Humanitarian Efforts

These causes were chosen because they address some of the world's most urgent and widespread challenges — and they are areas where Lions have the passion, reach, and experience to make a real difference.

Focusing on these causes helps Lions clubs locally while linking them to a larger international movement. Whether you're planting trees, serving meals to families in need, or organising an eye screening event, you're part of a coordinated global effort.

That doesn't mean clubs can't do other projects — quite the opposite. Lions remain flexible and responsive to local needs, but the global causes give us a shared identity and collective power to do even more.

## Optional Discussion

### Prompts:

- Which of these eight causes have we already supported?
- Which one should we focus on more?
- How could we involve the wider community in one of these causes?



# 15

## Why do we have district and multiple district structures – what do they do?

### Opening Question

*What do the terms "District," "Multiple District," and "MD105" mean in Lions – and why do they matter?*

### Talk Script

Lions Clubs are part of a well-organised global structure that ensures support, coordination, and leadership development. At the local level, each club is part of a District, which typically includes about 30–40 clubs in a geographical area. We have just over 60.

Districts are led by a District Governor, who helps support clubs, provide training, and share resources. Districts also run important programmes such as youth exchanges, officer training, and regional service initiatives.

A group of Districts forms a Multiple District (MD). In the British Isles, we are known as MD105. This structure allows us to work together nationally, influence Lions policy globally, and host large-scale events like conventions and Lions awareness campaigns.

These layers of structure aren't about hierarchy – they're about enabling clubs to thrive. They provide the backup, tools, and leadership that individual clubs may not be able to develop alone.

Being part of a district and MD105 means that no club is isolated – we are all part of something greater.

### Optional Discussion

#### Prompts:

- Have we made use of our District or MD resources?
- Could we benefit from more collaboration with other clubs?
- Are we encouraging members to attend District or MD events?

# How can Lions Clubs attract younger members and new ideas?

## Opening Question

*How many members under the age of 40 do we have in our club – and how do we attract more?*

## Talk Script

Attracting younger members isn't just about numbers – it's about ensuring that Lions Clubs stay fresh, relevant, and forward-looking.

Younger generations are eager to serve, but they often look for flexibility, inclusivity, and impact. That means offering meaningful projects, being open to new ways of doing things, and creating a club culture where every voice is valued.

We can start by listening – asking younger people in our community what issues matter to them. Then we can invite them to join us not just to support our ideas, but to bring their own.

Younger members may also prefer short-term commitments or digital involvement. That's okay – Lions has space for different types of service. And once people see the value, they often stay and grow with the club.

The future of Lions depends on how well we welcome new energy, fresh ideas, and modern approaches, while honouring our proud traditions.

## Optional Discussion

### Prompts:

- What might a younger person think about our meetings or projects?
- Could we offer a flexible or family-friendly membership option?
- Do we regularly promote our work on social media or community forums?

# What's the story behind Lions' partnership with the United Nations?

## Opening Question

*Why does Lions Clubs International hold a special annual event at the United Nations?*

## Talk Script

Lions Clubs International has a unique and long-standing partnership with the United Nations — one that goes all the way back to 1945.

When the UN was founded after World War II, Lions Clubs were one of the few non-governmental organisations invited to help shape the future of global cooperation.

Since then, Lions have shared the UN's values of peace, dignity, development, and human rights.

Each year, Lions celebrate this partnership through Lions Day with the United Nations — a special event where Lions leaders, youth ambassadors, and UN officials come together to highlight how service organisations and global institutions can work hand in hand.

This partnership is more than symbolic. Lions and the UN often collaborate on initiatives related to health, youth, disaster relief, and education.

It's another reminder that being a Lion connects you not just to your community — but to a worldwide commitment to progress and peace.

## Optional Discussion

### Prompts:

- Have we ever marked Lions Day with the UN locally?
- Could we involve young people in peace, education, or global citizenship projects?
- How can we highlight this international partnership in our club materials?

# How can members shape the future of their own Lions Club?

## Opening Question

*Do you feel that your voice is heard when it comes to our club's direction and priorities?*

## Talk Script

Every Lions Club belongs to its members — not to any one individual. And that means every member has the power — and the responsibility — to help shape its future.

Whether you're a long-serving Lion or a new member, your ideas matter. Fresh perspectives lead to new projects, stronger connections, and greater impact

Too often, clubs fall into routine — doing the same fundraisers or service projects year after year. While tradition has value, it's vital to listen to new voices, invite honest feedback, and adapt to changing times.

One way to do this is to schedule an annual "club review" — a meeting where members reflect on what's working and what could improve. Another is to assign mentors to new members so they feel included and empowered from the start.

A successful Lions Club is one where everyone feels they can contribute, influence decisions, and take ownership of what we do.

## Optional Discussion

### Prompts:

- What's one change or improvement we could make this year?
- How do we encourage quiet members to speak up?
- Are we truly living up to the phrase "your club, your voice"?

# What small acts can make a big impact as a Lion?

## Opening Question

*What's the smallest act of service you've done as a Lion that made a real difference to someone?*

## Talk Script

Not all service is grand or headline-making. In fact, many of the most meaningful moments as a Lion come from small acts of kindness — helping someone carry groceries, sitting with a lonely neighbour, driving a elderly neighbour to an appointment, or even just listening with care.

These gestures may seem simple, but for the person on the receiving end, they can be life-changing. That's the beauty of Lions — we don't always need big budgets or big teams. We just need big hearts.

Small actions build trust in the community, show younger members that everyone can contribute, and often lead to bigger opportunities for service.

So let's never underestimate the ripple effect of kindness. Every member, regardless of age or ability, has something to give. In Lions, every little bit counts.

## Optional Discussion

### Prompts:

- What's one small act of kindness we've seen within the club?
- Could we introduce a "mini mission" every month for members?
- How do we ensure quieter members feel their contributions matter?

# How can we better welcome and retain new members?

## Opening Question

*What happens in our club when a new member joins – and is it enough to keep them engaged?*

## Talk Script

Joining Lions can be exciting – but for some, it can also be confusing or overwhelming. If we don't welcome and integrate new members properly, we risk losing them before they ever feel like part of the team.

A strong induction and mentoring process is key. That means more than handing over a badge and directory. It means explaining how the club works, encouraging them to attend events, assigning them a "Lions buddy," and asking them what they're passionate about.

It's also about listening and learning. New members bring fresh perspectives and energy. They may not want to do things the way they've always been done – and that's okay. Change can be healthy.

If we treat every new member like a valuable contributor from day one, we help them become not just participants, but future leaders.

## Optional Discussion Prompts:

- What does our club do well to welcome new members?
- What could we improve in our induction process?
- Could we run a "getting to know you" evening for new and current members?

# How does Lions support young people through programmes like Leos and Youth Exchange?

## Opening Question

*What opportunities does Lions offer young people locally and internationally?*

## Talk Script

Young people are not just the leaders of tomorrow – they're the partners of today. Lions Clubs support youth through programmes like the Leo Clubs and the Youth Exchange Programme.

Leo Clubs are for young people aged 12–30, offering leadership development through service. Leos plan and run their own activities with the support of a sponsoring Lions Club. They learn teamwork, build confidence, and often grow into full Lions themselves.

The Youth Exchange Programme allows young people (typically aged 15–21) to spend a few weeks living abroad with a host family, learning about new cultures and building international friendships. It's not a holiday – it's a life-changing experience that fosters peace and understanding.

By investing in youth, Lions build the next generation of compassionate, skilled leaders.

## Optional Discussion

### Prompts:

- Could we start or support a Leo Club in our area?
- Do we know any young people who might benefit from Youth Exchange?
- How can we involve youth more in our current projects?

# How can Lions contribute to protecting the environment?

## Opening Question

*What has our club done to support the environment – and what could we do next?*

## Talk Script

The environment is one of Lions' global causes – and it's also something that directly affects every community.

Lions clubs are taking action by planting trees, cleaning up parks and waterways, promoting recycling, and supporting sustainable practices.

These projects not only help the planet – they bring people together. An environmental project can be a great way to attract families, schools, and youth groups to participate in service.

Even small actions make a difference. A community litter pick-up. A wildflower planting. A talk on reducing plastic waste. It all adds up – and shows that Lions care about the future.

Protecting the environment is not a trend – it's a responsibility. And Lions are well placed to lead by example.

## Optional Discussion Prompts:

- What environmental issues affect our local area?
- Could we partner with a school or community group on a green project?
- How can we make our club meetings or events more sustainable?



# Why do Lions wear pins, badges, and vests — and what do they symbolise?

## Opening Question

*What's the story behind our Lions pins, vests, and symbols — and why do we wear them?*

## Talk Script

You've probably seen Lions wearing yellow vests, lapel pins, or name badges at events — but have you ever stopped to ask why?

Lions attire is about more than tradition or uniformity. It's a symbol of pride and visibility. When we wear our vest or pin, we signal to the community that we are ready to serve, that we are approachable, and that we're part of something bigger.

It also helps with recognition and awareness. People may ask, "What's Lions?" — giving us a chance to share our story and invite them to get involved.

Some pins have deeper meaning — for years of service, roles held, or international connections. They become conversation starters and badges of commitment.

We should wear our symbols with pride — not out of obligation, but because they connect us to every Lion, past and present, who has stood up to serve.

## Optional Discussion Prompts:

- Do we explain the meaning of Lions symbols to new members?
- Could we do more to promote visibility at public events?
- Do members have a favourite pin or badge with a story?

# What does it really mean to be a Lion?

## Opening Question

*If someone asked you, “What is a Lion?” — how would you answer in one sentence?*

## Talk Script

Being a Lion is not just about attending meetings or wearing a pin. It’s about living a spirit of service — making time for others, using your skills for good, and always looking for ways to improve your community.

A Lion is someone who sees a need and says, “How can I help?” — not just once, but over and over again. It’s someone who finds joy in teamwork, pride in belonging, and hope in human kindness.

Being a Lion means choosing action over apathy. It means sharing your time and energy without expecting applause. It means being part of a network that stretches across continents, cultures, and generations.

And above all, it means living out our motto — “We Serve” — every day, in ways big and small.

## Optional Discussion

### Prompts:

- What does being a Lion mean to you, personally?
- When did you first feel like a real part of Lions?
- What would you say to someone thinking about joining?