



MD 201 Convention DARWIN

The Darwin Convention will be held from 24 May 2024 until 27 May 2024 & will be very different, very sociable and relaxed. In other words, it will be very Darwin. Read on to find out what is new!...



Isn't that a little late for a Multiple District Convention?

Most Conventions are held early in May, but we wanted to be very sure that we cleared the Cyclone season in the top end. You can expect warm, sunny, dry days. May is the Damibila* Season when the Barramundi are biting, and bush fruit are in abundance.

**The Damibila Season is one of the seven tropical seasons recognised by the traditional owners, the Larrakia people.*

What will be happening?

Plan to register at the Convention on Thursday 23 May 2023 at the Darwin Convention Centre. This state-of-the-art Centre will house all our activities including the Council meeting, Convention and Exhibits. Surrounded by restaurants, lagoon, ocean and a shady park, it's both beautiful and functional.

Friday 24 May

Be ready to start at 8:30 am. Shuttle buses will leave from key points in the city to get our Conventioneers to the Centre and home, but many hotels are within easy walking distance.

The Convention Opening and Flag Ceremony is on Friday with keynote speakers and the important notices of motion session where you can get involved in making important decisions about our organisation.

Over 40 Lions projects will be on display in the exhibition area, right beside the auditorium in air-conditioned comfort. Make sure you wander over during the breaks to find out everything you need to know about our Foundations, projects and activities.

After the Convention closes for the day, we are doing something new! Join us at the Darwin Casino Foreshore for our Opening Gala Dinner!

This year we wanted to have our big Gala dinner early in the Convention when we are all fresh. The outdoor event will be a chance to catch up with friends, plan for the Convention, sample amazing food and watch the unique Darwin Sunset over Mindil Beach.

The dinner will start at 6:00pm to give you a chance to get settled before that sunset! Shuttles will be available from key city locations but it's only a short Uber/Taxi drive if you want to get there early.

Saturday 25 May

Get to the Convention Centre by 8:30am to hear from our amazing Leos in the Leo of the Year competition. Saturday will also feature more notices of motion, keynote addresses and project presentations.

And something special is happening at 12:30pm...

We know that our Lions will be travelling a long way to come to this Convention, and you will be escaping the onset of winter by coming to Darwin.

We wanted to give you the chance to see more of Darwin as well as continuing our great discussions.

With that in mind we are planning workshops at various locations in Darwin.

Register to join an open-air workshop led by our Lions at the Botanical Gardens, Darwin Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Military Museum or Careflight.

Shuttle buses will leave from the Convention Centre to take you to your destination and back. Registration includes transportation and a boxed lunch.

Workshops will be held for about 1 hour and then you will have time to explore these beautiful venues before returning to your accommodation. Partners are welcome to participate in workshops or just have a nice social visit.

Saturday late afternoon/evening is a great time for Districts to arrange some gatherings and get together. The Convention Committee is happy to connect you up with many great Darwin venues that would welcome Lions.



Sunday 26 May

Sunday will be a full day with our important Remembrance Ceremony, project presentations, speakers and hearing from our international guests. There will be opportunities to visit the exhibits and displays.

Sunday will finish at 4:30pm to give Conventioneers the opportunity to freshen up before heading to our VIP area at the famous Mindil Beach Markets for our Farewell Reception. Join us in the VIP Lions area at the Markets to watch another beautiful sunset, enjoy some refreshments and browse these amazing markets with crafts and foods from all over the Territory.

Shuttles will transport you from key locations to the markets and return. Register now for the Farewell reception. The cost will include transport and 20 "Mindil dollars". "Mindil dollars" can be used at the myriad of food stalls at the markets to buy your meal or crafts. (1 Mindil dollar = 1 Australian dollar.)

Monday 27 May

The last day of the Convention will feature the very popular Youth of the Year Competition and we hope to encourage visits from local school children to inspire them to get involved.

The Convention will close at 12:30pm.

Consider staying on to see more of this beautiful part of Australia.



Childcare / Creche

At the Gold Coast Convention, attendees requested information about the possibility of childcare or a creche at this Convention. This will be dependent on demand and cost.

To assist with planning, please e-mail the Executive Officer by 30 December 2023, if you plan to attend the Convention and would like to discuss the possibility of childcare arrangements.

Please e-mail eo@lions.org.au and include "Convention Childcare" in the subject line of your e-mail.

Tell me more...

The Convention is well supported, and you can expect to see high quality entertainment, keynote speakers and special events.

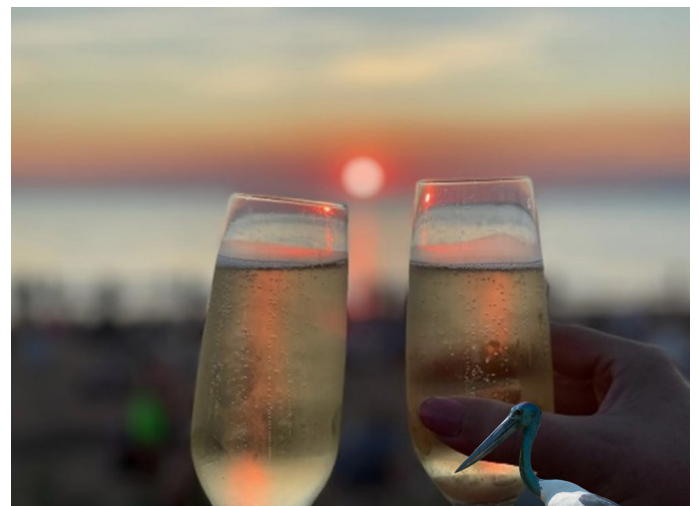
Register early!

Accommodation will sell out quickly, particularly in the more affordable brackets and air travel can be limited due to a scheduled airport upgrade. Please make your plans early to ensure that you can join us.

The registration form will be available online at the Darwin Convention website by mid-November.

Come join us and thaw out at the Top End; relax, eat, drink and have some fun in the sun.

We hope to see you there!



DARWIN

24-27 MAY 2024
www.mdconv201.com

