



The Lions Club of Pambula-Merimbula Inc.

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27 November 2024

MEDIA RELEASE

An early life changing Christmas present

There were hugs and tears (of overwhelming joy) when Karen Mills received the gift of a diabetes insulin pump and voucher for medical consumables from local Lions Clubs, Pambula-Merimbula, Tathra and Bega.

This story began when Isabel Reeves, Nurse Practitioner at InRange Diabetes approached our club about Karen's particular, lifelong and significant medical issues stemming from her diabetes of some 56 years. Isabel explained that "only 13% of adults and 18% of kids with Type 1 diabetes in Australia are meeting blood glucose targets. Insulin pumps assist in the control of blood glucose and can improve the quality of life and health outcomes for individuals".

The local Lions Clubs of Pambula-Merimbula, Tathra, and Bega along with a generous contribution from Australian Lions Foundation and some individuals in our community, have funded the purchase of a diabetes insulin pump for this community member in great need. The pump is valued at over \$7,500 and a further \$800 was provided for medical consumables.

"I just want to let all the Far South Coast Lions Clubs and others to know the huge impact this has on my life. It is huge. I just cannot believe that Lions have been so generous, so kind. You have extended my life, thankyou Lions (and Isabel), said Karen.

Jon Webb, Pambula-Merimbula Lions Club President presented Karen with her early Christmas present and in turn received many grateful hugs.

Jon said, that "While we are not in the position to help everyone, Karen's story and need was particularly compelling, and on this occasion, we are so pleased we could work collectively to help out a local".

Given our motto - Where there is a need, there is a Lion, and one of our international causes is Diabetes, the Club rallied to provide this assistance.

November is Diabetes Awareness Month. As part of its Club's recent fundraising golf day - Fairway, Pambula-Merimbula Lions also undertook Lap the Map and contributed additional funds and kilometers to support the training of Lions diabetes assistance dogs.

You can learn more about what Lions is doing around diabetes through the Lions Australia Diabetes Foundation:

<https://sites.google.com/site/lions201n3/activities/diabetes-foundation>

Find out about our medical alert dogs at: <https://lionshearingdogs.com.au/medical-alert-dogs/>

Or, if you wish to know more about the many activities and projects, we do locally across the Bega Valley Shire, just give one of our clubs a call.



Big Hugs For Lions From Karen



Karen Mills – centre with Isabel Reeves, InRange Diabetes, and Jon Webb – Pambula-Merimbula Lions Club President



Tears of joy as Lion Jon Webb hands Karen her early Christmas gift.

If you want to learn more about Pambula-Merimbula Lions just visit our website: pambulamerimbulalions.com.au