

# PDG Irma Needham – A Pioneer, Leader, and Dedicated Servant of Lionism

## Nominated by the Lions Club of Collie

For more than five decades, **Past District Governor Irma Needham** has been an inspiring and influential presence within Lionism, serving with distinction through the Lioness movement, Lions Clubs International, and her broader community. Her leadership, compassion, and trailblazing spirit have made her one of Western Australia's most respected Lions.

## Club Leadership

Irma's involvement in community service began in **1972** as an active member of the **Lions Club of Collie Ladies Auxiliary**, supporting the work of her husband, PDG Jeff Needham. Her own Lionistic journey advanced rapidly from there.

Her club leadership roles include:

- **Lioness Club of Collie – Charter President (1986)**
- **Lions Club of Collie-Wellington – Member from 1992**
  - **President**
  - **Secretary**
  - **Treasurer**

Irma's commitment to service and strong leadership helped shape the development and success of Lions initiatives in the Collie region.

## District Contributions

At the District level, Irma has been a dedicated and highly respected leader, serving in numerous positions across administration, training, and Lioness support.

Her roles include:

- **Associate Lioness Chair**
- **Zone Chair**

- **Region Manager**
- **Region Leadership Training Coordinator**
- **Vice District Governor 201W2 – 2000/2001**
  - *The first woman in Western Australia to hold this position*

Irma's pioneering achievements paved the way for future generations of women in Lions leadership.

## Training & Development

Irma has been deeply committed to leadership education, completing:

- **Lions Leadership Course – 1993**
- **Lions Advanced Leadership Course – 1977**

Her training and expertise contributed significantly to the mentoring and development of Lions across the District.

She also served as:

- **Director – Lions Save-Sight Foundation of WA (2003)**

Her work supported vital sight-saving programs across the State.

## Honours and Recognition

Irma's decades of service have been recognised through numerous Lions awards, including:

- **Melvin Jones Fellowship**
- **District Governor's Appreciation Award**
- **100% Region Manager Award**
- **100% Zone Chairman Award**

These honours reflect her dedication, leadership excellence, and exceptional contributions to Lionism.

## Beyond Lions

Irma's community service extended well beyond the Lions organisation. She was honoured with:

- **WA Director General of Education's Certificate**
  - Recognising her service to education, especially her work with children with special needs

She also contributed significantly to local sport as a:

- **Life Member – Collie Women's Hockey Association**

Her involvement enriched education, community life, and sporting organisations across the region.

**PDG Irma Needham is remembered as a trailblazer, a compassionate advocate, and a leader whose influence has reached across Lions, education, and community service. Her legacy continues to inspire Lions and community members throughout Western Australia.**