



'We Serve'

LIONS

Clubs International

We Serve Together

105W NEWS UPDATE

Lion Sally Marsh - District Governor



ordinary people *doing*
amazing things

August 2018

www.lions105w.org.uk



Lions of 105W,

When the last News Update was published I had just arrived in Las Vegas for International convention. Was it really only a month ago that we were walking through the streets of down town Las Vegas as part of the International Parade on the first day of convention. What an experience it was, from beginning to end, from the International show to the youth

choir and the Rat Pack. However three things will remain with me forever; International President Gudrun Yngvadottir's address to convention, keynote speaker George W Bush and the friendship and support of my fellow District Governors.



International President Gudrun said that, "out there somewhere Beyond the Horizon there is a world of service yet to be reached. To reach beyond our limits, we must reach within our clubs, communities and ourselves. This year's focus is a challenge for all Lions to move beyond their service barriers, if the horizon is viewed as an evolving destination that can be reached through kindness and compassion, then

together Lions can provide more good to more people than we ever thought possible."

Since arriving back I have made my first two official club visits to Chipping Sodbury and Devizes. I saw and heard how these clubs are working towards their New Horizons, by either developing established projects or beginning new ideas and looking at how they can attract new members. The more members we have, the more people we can serve in our communities. By sharing our stories, our communities will understand who the Lions are and what we do. Social media can help us get our message out and give us the opportunity to invite others to join us. Please

ask someone if they would like to help Lions make a difference in the community.

I attended my first Council of Governors meeting in Birmingham over the weekend of 27 to 29 July. Lots of business was discussed, with fellowship and fun included. The last nine days of July have been particularly busy as Colin and I hosted two Youth Exchange Students. Again this year we have worked closely with 105SW to provide a programme that has shown the students the history and culture of our corner of the British Isles. From the SS Great Britain in Bristol to Glastonbury, from the Willsbridge Mill to Weston-super-Mare's sand sculptures and beer festival. As the three students from Brazil, Indonesian and Norway depart for youth camp in 105SE, we know that they will enjoy the remainder of their stay as they make new friends and explore another part of MD105. Please accept the challenge of reaching beyond the horizon; we can start by adding the new District Project that I have already spoken about - a District Litter/Plastic pick, with us all working together to clear our communities and stop waste getting into the oceans, to the existing District spectacle collection.

The Horizon is ours fellow Lions. **LETS GO AND GET IT.** *Lion Sally Marsh, District Governor, 105W.*

Membership Welcome ...

During July, District Governor Lion Sally welcomed the following members to the family of Lions:

Melksham Glynis Gaskell, Phillip Gaskell.
Ross-on-Wye Janet Holder, Stephen Holder,
Lawrence Spratt.

105W Members end of July 2018 – 881

DG Team for 2018/2019 ...



2ndVDG Ben, DG Sally, IPDG Steve and 1stVDG Ian at District Handover. Heronston Hotel, Bridgend on Sunday 22 July. Ed.

Wayward banner !!!

HELP - HELP - HELP

If there is a Lion or a club who think that they have a Lions 'pop-up' banner written in Welsh amongst their equipment etc. will you please check it! I thought that I had a banner for the Bristol Oporto Twinning Association in my car only to find that I had a Welsh banner. If you find my banner let me know and I will arrange a swap.

Thank you,

PDG Harry Smith, harry@keynshamlions.org.uk

Creating Community Links ...

The question facing many Lions clubs is how do we maintain lasting relationships with the communities which we serve? Upon receipt of this year's International President's message, we have applied each of the components of her vision to individual projects within our club.

WE SERVE THE WORLD AND OUR LOCAL COMMUNITIES WITH PRIDE, COMPASSION AND KINDNESS.' This is at the heart of what we do within our club, looking at local, national and international need, and addressing each one within the work of our club.

We thought we would apply the International Presidents approach to a local community project we are involved in to see how it works.

CHARTING OUR COURSE

We were approached by a group of community volunteers initially for financial help. A local park at the heart of a village was maintained by the local council, but due to funding constraints the council reduced the financial allocation and staff time to maintain the park. As a result the park went into a state of disrepair, including its tennis courts, bowls green and buildings.



A group of volunteers took over the maintenance of the park, and each Saturday they meet and look after the park, tidying, planting flowers, pruning shrubs, and generally upgrading the facilities.

Representatives from our club went to a site meeting, and the President, met with the volunteer committee to see how the club could support the project. Following the visit and the meeting, it became clear we had the same aim – to support the communities we live in and serve by *REACHING BEYOND, TOGETHER* and identifying *WHERE HORIZONS MEET*. Through joint working we

could *CHANNEL THE CURRENT*, harnessing the power of the club and committee of volunteers.

Looking at our International President's concept of being *AT THE HELM OF DISCOVERY* and identifying The Programs that Will Carry Us to Greater Service – the volunteers and the Lions club agreed on what we could do to work in partnership, looking at the knowledge, skills and talents across the volunteers and the Lions club. Individual Lions had skills that could aid the volunteers in fulfilling their need for greater community involvement.

SETTING SAIL

Following weeks of discussion together we organised an 'Afternoon of Song'. The venue, (the park) was the responsibility of the volunteers. We communicated through our membership, to local uniformed organisations, churches, chapels and choirs. We designed and printed the song sheet for the afternoon, arranged poems, readings and reflections that encompassed nature, growth and working together. The choir was booked bringing with them a keyboard player and a PA system (all of which would have been an additional cost if Lions members did not have contacts already established). The afternoon was a great success with over 100 people from the village and beyond supporting the event.



We were proud to present a cheque towards the refurbishment of the park pavilion, again strengthening the relationship between the club and the communities it serves.

CHART YOUR DESTINATION – initially we thought we had got to our destination, however the success of this event underpinned a family afternoon of fun, including a dog show. Opportunities developed for us to run several stalls to raise funds for our Challenge 155 – where we are raising money for the UNICEF 'School in a Box' appeal, (something that was unlikely to have happened if we hadn't been involved in other events held in the park). On the day we ran a children's tombola, Adults' tombola, Jewelry Stall and a 'Splat game'. The whole village seemed to turn out for the event - our tombola stalls sold out and we raised enough money to buy a 'School in a box' from this single event.

THE HORIZON IS YOURS Go and get it. You're a Lion. The challenge now is how to maintain our relationships, and how on each journey our horizons may change as we take a different course, but our aim remains the same - 'WE SERVE THE WORLD AND OUR LOCAL COMMUNITIES WITH PRIDE, COMPASSION AND KINDNESS.'

Jim Thompson, President, Newport and Usk Vale.

Black Mountains Lions ...

We are happy to able to support Emily Guinane at the start of her journey towards studying Veterinary Science at university in 2019. Emily is a local girl who has studied at Gwernyfed High School achieving high GCSE grades of 10 A* and 2 A's.

She is planning a 2 week trip to the Kruger Park in South Africa as a volunteer, and will be shadowing a vet who

specialises in valuable work with vulnerable species such as the big 5. The welfare of these animals is imperative to stabilise the fragile ecosystem. The Black Mountains Lions have contributed £500 towards the £2390 she needs to raise.



Lion President James presenting the cheque to Emily.

This trip will give her a unique insight into the rehabilitation & clinical work that is carried out by professionals in the Reserve and will provide exceptional experience for her start at Vet school. It will also provide important content for her Personal Statement and CV.

We wish her success and look forward to seeing her again at our 7 November meeting when we will be hearing all about her experiences.

Cheryl Hyde, PRO, Black mountains.

1000 Books celebrate 100 years ...

Severn Dean Lions Club created an innovative Centennial Legacy Project when they launched their 'Library Books for Schools' centennial project last December. The Club chose this initiative after careful consideration of the Lions Club Centennial Planning Guide and decided to 'Make a level 3 Community Impact', by expanding school libraries within our service area making a lasting gift to the community.



18 local Schools, made up of 2 Secondary, 1 Special and 15 Primary, received support funding to assist with the purchase of additional books for their School Library or Reading area. Those with less than 100 students received £100 whilst those with larger numbers received £1.00 per student. The total sum allocated was £3,623. At the end of the 2017/18 Academic Year a total of 1000 books have

been purchased by the schools to support literacy development for over 3,500 students. Every book has had a commemorative sticker placed within the front cover.

The schools were delighted to receive the grant money and all believe that their current and future students will benefit enormously through the wide range of books purchased. One Head-teacher said, 'This is a wonderful initiative that will benefit so many young people over many years'.

John Matthews, President, Severn Dean.

Membership Matters ...



Summer time is busy and we all have plenty going on but it is never the time to take our eye off the ball of Membership.

We did well last year in recruitment – 31 Clubs have taken on at least one new Member over the last year. However, we should never be complacent and think that this is enough. We need to keep our numbers growing so that when our Members leave (as they do from time to time) then we will still have enough Lions to carry out our Service Activities.

There is fantastic news coming out from our Clubs, very keen Presidents who have plans for their year already under way. We also need to ensure that there is someone focused on Membership in every Club – someone who will look at ideas and resources that are available and put a plan together to help to recruit over the next 12 months. Sometimes the best people to have on a Membership group are the newest Members themselves! They have fresh ideas, know new people and have an interest in bringing in new Lions to join them.

Please remember that there are Lions all over the District who will help with this, just waiting to be asked. That includes me, so I look forward to anyone who wants to talk Membership to get in touch.

Lion Sue Wilding. District Membership Officer (GMT-D)
membership@lions105w.org.uk

Keynsham & District News ...

We are grateful to 42 local business organisations that sponsored Corporate Ducks for our duck race this year. At £25 each, these raised over £1,000 for our Charity Funds. This was in addition to our usual 'smaller' racing ducks which also raised several hundred pounds.



Corporate Ducks in 'formation' with the winner, Harvem Ltd., Keynsham, out in front.

A presentation of the Corporate Trophy was held at the company's premises in Bath Hill, when DG Sally attended.

Following the success of their 'bike trail' last year, Keynsham Town Council decided to hold a scarecrow trail this year for Keynsham in Bloom, so we added a 'Lion King' to our bike and it did look rather grand.



Unfortunately some thought it would be good fun to ‘unsaddle’ him and rough him up a bit. We were able to retrieve and re-instate him but sadly he has gone walkabout again.

Brian Worlock, PRO, Keynsham & District.

Chippenham Presentations ...

The Lions Club of Chippenham held their annual Presentation Evening on Friday 22 June, where they invited 17 local Charity Organisations along to Chippenham Golf Club to meet the Lions, and receive donations to help them in their work.

The evening was introduced by the 2017-18 Club President, Ted Greves and donations announced by Sue Gilbert, chair of the Community Service Committee.



Andrea James of ‘Young Carers’, receives a donation presented by the Chippenham Mayor, Cllr Andy Philips

“It’s always good to meet those to whom you are giving to put a face to the organisation and to hear about what they do and how the money will be spent”, said Ted.

“As club President, I am also able to nominate my own charities, and in the last year, my charities were Wiltshire

Air Ambulance and Young Carers. Their representatives came along to receive their donations. We were pleased that the Mayor of Chippenham, Cllr. Andy Phillips and Mayoress, Cllr. Nina Phillips were able to support us in our work with the Mayor formally presenting the donations for us.”

Martin Horton, PRO, Chippenham.

Northleach Charter Fair ...



Club members behind their stall at the annual Northleach Charter Fair.

As well as the two tombolas on offer, the club was also promoting its 100 Club, which was launched at the same event in 2014, with the view of raising funds for the Children’s Play Area on the King George V Playing Field in Northleach. We are about to donate £2,000 in support of this initiative, having previously donated £750 to the same project. All future proceeds from the 100 Club will be used for local community projects.

The next ‘Lions Famous Coffee & Cakes day’, will be at Victoria Hall, Bourton on the Water on Tuesday 31 July. All proceeds will go to community and charitable causes.

Corina Sherman, President, Cotswold Fosseway Club

Activities snippets ...

Activity snippets sourced from the Activity Reports completed last month on MyLCI up to 26 July.

Black Mountains Club held their Handover Lunch at Upper Newton Farm.

Carmarthen Club donated to a children's support group for their new minibus.

Chepstow and Caldicot Club planned their funding requests.

Dursley Club held their weekly furniture sales every Saturday.

Gower and Llŵchwr Estuary Club raised funds at the Community Fun Day which included the Schools Choir Competition.

Keynsham & District Club hosted 16 children from Chernobyl and their hosts to football, cricket, tennis, soft ball and a tea party.

Radstock & Midsomer Norton Club held their Annual Duck Race at Midsomer Norton Town Fayre.

Severn Dean Club supported local schools for the purchase of library books marked with the Lions logo.

Swindon Club assisted Swindon Dressability adapting clothing to provide fancy dress costumes for disabled children.

John Seymour, Communications Team Leader, 105w.

Treorchy Male Choir ...

On a Saturday in May, the world famous Treorchy Male Choir performed at the Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury on behalf of the Cheltenham Club. This is the tenth concert the choir has given for the Club since 1993, raising in excess of £32,000 for various projects. In addition the Club has been involved with five concerts for Acorns Children's Hospice, raising a further £10,000.

As a result of the Tewkesbury concert, £2,500 has been presented to FOCUS at Cheltenham Hospital to help with local Prostate Cancer Care.



Gerry Mitchell (Welfare Chairman), Vice President Tom Pettigrew, Concert organiser David Green, Dr. Nick Reed Consultant Oncologist and President David Storey.

The Club is very proud of their association with the Choir. Apart from raising valuable funds, the Choir bring great pleasure to the audiences, as proved by the last two sell out concerts in Tewkesbury and Cheltenham.

As an enjoyable way to raise funds, Cheltenham recommend the Treorchy Choir. They are easily assessable through their web site.

David Green, Cheltenham Club.

Duck Race @ Town Fayre ...

Midsomer Norton Town Fayre, 14 July weekend, started with the annual Radstock and Midsomer Norton Lions Duck Race. Having removed cans, glasses and bottles from the river, enough to fill three bin bags, the water flow down the Somer was excellent and we had no problems with ducks getting stranded, in fact we had to be vigilant and captured 30 potential escapees!

As the river is fairly narrow, we were unable to send all the ducks off in one go, so had a number of 'heats'. The first 10 ducks from each heat then took their place for the final race.

Joan won the duck race with the £50 first prize, Karen and Lucy collected the runners up prizes of £30 and £20. Our thanks to everyone for their support, we raised over £500 for Lions' charity funds.



Lion Tony catching the lead ducks of one of the heats, watched by an excited audience.

Derek Livsey, Sec., Radstock & Midsomer Norton.

Diary Dates ...

August

- 2 **1st VDG visits** Fishguard & Goodwick.
- 3 Hereford Am-Am Golf Day.
- 5 Brecon 10 mile road run.
- 6 **1st VDG visits** Severn Dean.
2nd VDG visits Swindon.
- 7 **2nd VDG visits** Bristol Brunel.
- 8 **DG visits** Bridgend.
- 9 **1st VDG visits** Thornbury.
- 12 Bob Cook Games.
- 13 **DG visits** Pembroke & Pembroke Dock.
- 14 **1st VDG visits** Newport.
- 15 **2nd VDG visits** Marlborough & District.
- 19 105W Cabinet Meeting, Holiday Inn, Newport
- 23 **1st VDG visits** Ammanford

September

- 3 **1st VDG visits** Gower & Llŵchwr Estuary
- 4 **DG visits** Porthcawl.
2nd VDG visits Melksham.
- 5 **1st VDG visits** Black Mountains.
- 10 **DG visits** Keynsham & District.
- 11 **1st VDG visits** Brecon.
2nd VDG visits Cotswold Fosseyway.
- 15 105SW Extraordinary Convention,
Exeter Court Hotel, EX6 7UX.
- 23 105CW Extraordinary Convention,
The Chase Hotel, HR9 5LH.
- 27 **1st VDG visits** Aberystwyth
- 30 105SC Extraordinary Convention,
The Stones, SP4 6AT.

The diary dates are extracted from the District Calendar on our Website, www.lions105w.org.uk. ANYONE can enter events onto this Calendar, but contact webmaster@lions105w.org.uk to amend or delete entries.

September News Update ...

For September 2018 News Update, please submit articles to news@lions105w.org.uk by 25 August. *Editor Derek.*