



'We Serve'

ordinary people doing amazing things

LIONS

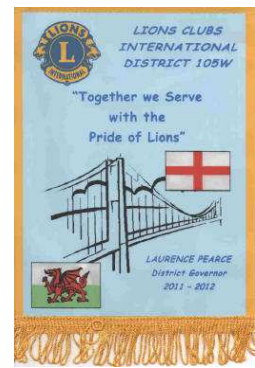
Clubs International

'Together we Serve with the Pride of Lions'

105W NEWS UPDATE

Lion Larry Pearce - District Governor

August 2011



www.lions105w.org.uk



Fellow Lions,

Hi everyone, it's already time for my second News Update. We have both returned safely from Seattle and have recovered from the jet lag and intensity of the whole Convention experience which climaxed with the

final induction celebrations.

The incoming International President has asked us all to continue to promote the same four elements of Lions projects as last year, namely, Youth, Sight, Hunger and the Environment.

Dr. Tam kicked off the environment campaign by asking us, the DGE's, to pledge to plant 1 million trees in the coming year. The Governor Elects pledged a total of 4.75 million.

No, I haven't put our district down for half a million, just one tree per member will be good. Perhaps we could have a competition to see which club plants the most per member? As you can see from our introduction photo, Julie and I have planted our Districts first sapling along with all the other DG's whilst at the convention.



'I Believe' is the International President's motto. I too believe, because it is YOU, each individual Lion that makes a difference, with courage, commitment and action.

Courage - to see what needs doing, Commitment - to begin and never give up and Action to bring about the change in people's lives.

It was a challenging and exhausting week, but to be with fellow Lions from across the world, all striving to improve society was uplifting and also humbling.

Club visits will soon be under way and I look forward to meeting new faces and old friends on my travels.

Please could clubs check the online events calendar at <http://www.lions105w.org.uk/DistCalendar.htm> before booking charters anniversaries, etc, to reduce the risk of clashing with District and National Lions Events which the DG's team should be attending.

Well I set you all a target for membership last month, this month it is a target for retention. Please try and keep all the lions we have, remember we are a pride, a family working together. So let's aim to reduce our member losses from 3.1% to 2% this coming year.

*Yours in friendship, fellowship and Lionism
DG Lion Larry*

Action for Children ...

The District Governor's preferred national charity 2011-2012 is 'Action for Children'. It was the National Children's Homes but it now cares for young people as close as possible to family units and not in isolation. Their expenses for fund raising and running the society are similar to ours, only 4p in the pound is used for administration expenses the rest goes into child care.



Please visit www.actionforchildren.org.uk for an overview of the work of the charity. They have a lot of willing volunteers ready to come and speak to Clubs and Zones, also a whole host of events which could be marketed sharing the Lions banner. Please contact our Charity Liaison Officer Lion Tony Buchan charity@lions105w.org.uk and he will point you in the direction of your local team.

Membership Welcome ...

District Governor, Lion Larry, welcomes the following new members to the family of Lions during July.

Fishguard & Goodwick: Nicholas Walker.

Calne: Mercy Baggs.

Chippenham: Gill Clancy & Martin Clancy

Forest of Dean: Barbara Head, Paul Head
& Andrew Tooze

Gloucester: Richard Jolliffe

Keynsham: Robert Watson.

Tetbury: Basil Smith.



District Handover ...

Saturday 23 July saw the last day as District Governor for Lion Colin Duncan. The District owes Colin a great deal of thanks for steering it through the last year. District Handover was held at the Coldra Holiday Inn and the evening was enjoyed by many District Lions, partners and guests.

DG Colin presented certificates of appreciation to fellow



Lion members but was most pleased to be able to present the first Founders Medal to Sergeant at Arms, Lion Byron Hughes, Chippenham Lions Club. *Photo left*

Colin's final presentation as District Governor 105W was to hand over the chain of office to Lion Laurence (Larry) Pearce with cheers from his family and members of Porthcawl Leo Club. *Photo below*



I don't think we have heard the last of IPDG Colin....Ed

Glantawe Lion joins Teddies ...

Glantawe Lions Club were invited to run a fundraising stall at St David's Church where they are raising funds for a £250,000 renovation and restoration programme.

The highlight of the day was Rev. Alun Brookfield's abseil down the St David's Church 56ft tower. Children were also invited to fetch their Teddies, which after registering, were taken to the top of the tower, where they then took a bungee jump. First aid was available to check the Teddies over after their huge jump. Teddies received a certificate for their effort, whilst their owners received a badge.

Rev. Edward bear, the same height as the Glantawe Lion, together with the numerous teddies on the day, made the Glantawe Lion feel it had wandered too far and found itself in amongst a sleuth of bears.



Photo: The Lion lost amongst the bears.

An enjoyable day was had by the Glantawe Lions, John, David, Brendan & Christine, despite the often wet weather. Fortunately, the rain held off for the

period that the abseils took place. Lion David stated how in Abercrave they say, if you can't see the top of the mountain in front you, it's raining, whilst if you can see the top of the mountain, it'll be raining shortly!

Christine Sweeney

WaterAid ...

Lion Jackie Warren has just taken over the role of UN Liaison Officer for District 105W and asks that you consider raising monies for water aid by hosting a ceilidh or barn dance for WaterAid. The aim is to have as many ceilidhs as possible taking place across the world on 15 October. It's really easy to get involved - all you need is a venue, a band, a caller and a crowd! More information on this at

www.bignationalceilidh.co.uk

Contact Jackie at jackiewarren50@sky.com

2011 Thanksgiving Service ...

Plans are well ahead for the District Thanksgiving Service in Cadoxton Methodist Church, Barry on Sunday 9 October. Hosted by Barry Lions Club a musical contribution will be provided by the Cadoxton Church Group and light refreshments will be served after the service in the Church Hall. Please invite your Mayor, Mayoress and any local dignitaries. Out of courtesy please will you contact them now, a sample letter and full details of the day are on the District website. Would you kindly let the Secretary of Barry Lions Club [Lion John Arbourne](#) know how many will be attending from your Club for catering purposes.

Northleach & Fosse Handover ...

At the start of this Lion year, the Northleach and Fosse Lions Club moved to a new meeting venue, namely The Wheatsheaf Inn in Northleach.



Lion Ray Savill, (left) Club President for the last three years, handed over the chain of office to Vice-President Lion Stuart Asquith (right) at a black tie dinner on 1 July.

Lion Nick Stroude and Lion

Corina Sherman remain as Club Secretary and Club Treasurer respectively.

With a new meeting venue and a new President, the Northleach and Fosse Lions Club are actively seeking new members.

President Stuart Asquith

Higher Service ...

With 38 years service, it is with deep regret that News Update reports the passing to higher service of Lion Geoff Durham MJF, Charter Member of Glantawe Lions Club. District Governor Lion Laurence Pearce and all Lion members extend their condolences to Emily and the family.

Lion Gerald Stuart Williams MJF

For over 40 years Gerald was a well liked member of Frome Lions Club. He served as President and Chairman of the fund raising committee, where he started Frome Lions Fun Run and also a version of "it's a knockout". He was awarded a Melvin Jones Fellowship by the club, for his outstanding work and fundraising. He introduced many new members to the club and found time to speak to everyone, especially new members, to make them feel valued and welcome.

Outside Lions, as a businessman he expanded his father butcher's shops and bought and rented properties in Frome. He served as a magistrate in Frome for many years.

He was also a keen sportsman, firstly cricket where he played for Frome Cricket Club, then squash and tennis and later on golf where, he captained Orchardleigh and Critchill clubs near Frome.

Gerald was touched by tragedy when his mum died at a young age. His first wife died at 39 leaving three young teenage children to bring up and then one of his daughters became handicapped through a childhood illness too. He leaves behind his second wife Linda, his three children and two grand children.

He lived life to the full and enjoyed every minute. RIP.

Lion Geoff Durham MJF

Geoff was a Founder member of Glantawe Lions Club, which was started in 1973 at the Glanyrafon Country Hotel, Ynysmeudwy, under the Presidency of the late Terry Thomas of Terry Thomas Estate Agents in Swansea, who was a very close friend of Geoff.

He was one of only three people who have been awarded Life Membership of Glantawe Lions for over 25 years service to the club and the Swansea Valley Community. He was a very active fund raiser for the club for 38 years, and had been one of the leading lights in helping Glantawe Lions raise hundreds of thousands of pounds for good causes in the Swansea Valley since their inception.

He was made a 'Melvin Jones Fellow', for services to the Swansea Valley Community, and every Christmas used to personally deliver dozens of food parcels to pensioners in the Pontardawe area.

His personality was such that when Glantawe Lions Club ran the Clydach Carnival, Geoff would always be the first to welcome the very attractive female stars, put his arm round their shoulders and say "Welcome to Clydach, Cariad". Nerys Hughes, Louise Jameson, Una Stubbs and Alexandra Bastedo were just some of the big names who were touched by Geoff's very warm Welsh welcome.

He was a pupil at Godregraig School and then Pontardawe Grammar School. He joined the RAF at the age of 18 and was posted to Kinloss in Scotland. He left the forces and went to work for the RAC as a Patrol Officer which he was very proud of as he had to salute the RAC members that passed him. He then had a job in Players Clydach where he was a fitter, only stayed there for a while until he got offered a job in the "Tick Tock" factory where he was made a shop steward and met his lovely wife Emily.

With Geoff, his family was the most important job in his life. Every opportunity he had would be spent with the family on the boat down in Mumbles, Geoff and Julie would go tearing around the bays while Emily and Debbie would rather paddle in the little dinghy close to land.

Geoff leaves a widow Emily, two daughters Julie and Debbie, and 4 grand children James, Victoria, Joanna & Molly.

Directory Amendments ...

Caerffili Treasurer: Lion Howard Mallet, 114 Porset Drive, Caerphilly, CF83 1PN.

Tel: 02920 882747 howardmallett44@aol.com

Northleach and Fosse: have changed their business meeting venue to: The Wheatsheaf Inn, West End, Northleach, GL54 3EZ. Tel. 01451 860244

Pembroke & Pembroke Dock Secretary:

Lion David Britt: d.britt@btinternet.com

Maesteg President:

Lion Virender Sharma: ykrani.sharma@gmail.com

Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) ...

On Behalf of LCIF, I would like to thank all the Clubs of District 105W who gave their great support to LCIF, in the Donations in this past Lions Fiscal Year 2010/2011 in response to the disaster appeals in the wonderful Sum of £53,734.30 and also the sum of £5,270 for undesignated funds for Melvin Jones Fellowships, and future Melvin Jones Fellowships.

The undesignated LCIF donations are sent to Clubs in disaster areas for emergency use as an initial payment to help this work

The amount varies depending on the size of disaster.

Can we ask all Clubs not to forget the Undesignated Fund so that it can be kept topped up following the large outlay during in the past year.

Thank You

Once again District 105W is top of the Multiple District list LCIF Donations.

Viv. Morgan & Barbara Travers, 105W LCIF Coordinators

Hope for Tomorrow & Tenovus ...

The total raised for Hope for Tomorrow has now reached £21,368, including £1,000 from Calne Lions. Belinda Bertie, Hope for Tomorrow writes:

“The Charity Polo Day was once again a terrific success with approximately 250 VIP guests in the marquee. Since the photo below was taken with NHS Wiltshire in the background, the final total after costs has just topped £36,000 which we feel is quite remarkable! There was a bracing wind to cope with and so the champagne reception was moved to the marquee.

This new arrangement worked very well and the Hope for Tomorrow stand – also in the marquee – certainly benefitted with record sales.



Geoffrey Bray, Chairman of Fleet Support Group, Christine Mills, Founder, HFT, Lord MacLaurin, Chairman of HFT Trustees and Charity Patron Derek Bell receiving the cheque for the total (at that stage) raised at the 2011 Charity Polo Day.

You can also see part of our new branding, the Hope for Tomorrow rainbow, which will in future be a feature on our Units. Not only does the rainbow look wonderful, but it is also a sign of hope.

In the meantime two more superb fundraising events are approaching: The St James's Place Charity Golf Day in support of HFT, Friday 9 September (held at the Manor House Golf Club, Castle Combe), our fifth annual Rainbow Charity Walk in Westonbirt Arboretum on Friday 16 September (short walk 2.5km, longer walk 5km). Dogs on leads welcome.

Details on both can be obtained via Lion Tony”.

Tony writes: “The total raised for Tenovus MCSU has now reached £3,560, including £1,000 from Brecon Lions. This donation has been made towards the cost of a Defibrillator for the Tenovus MCSU.

The grand total raised for both the charities now stands at: £24,928 - a brilliant effort by all of you.

There will be an article in the LION Magazine in September telling everyone in MD105 about the brilliant efforts our District has made. I am very hopeful that our Multiple District fellow Lions will take-up the challenge and widen these efforts considerably over the coming months”.

Tony Buchan. charity@lions105w.org.uk

Lions 5 Nations Youth Football ...

The Community Shield is on 7 August with the 2011-12 Premier League starting on 13 August. Now is the time to canvas your local U14s Boys Youth Football team to enter this season's competition. I am sure Llantwit Major & Cowbridge Lions Club would welcome some competition having won the 105W District Cup the last couple of seasons. This can be very rewarding for the Football team and the Lions, the Boys get to play teams that they would not ordinarily meet and the Lions Club gets access to parents, families and supporters that they may not otherwise meet. There is a great opportunity for local PR, especially if your team should win.

Members always mention the cost: MD and District will each pay a third of travelling expenses by way of a coach for away ties. The club could make up the difference by charging a small fare to parents, families & supporters – saving them driving and the high cost of petrol. This is also a great opportunity to speak to people whilst on a coach about Lionism, a good source of potential new members.

All details and entry forms are on the MD website but time is short – entries must in to MD by 31 August.

David McKirdy – Youth Football Advisor

District Almoner & LION Magazine ...

During the current Lionistic year, DG Larry has combined the role of District Almoner and LION Magazine Distribution. I have been charged with the responsibility of making this combination work.

DG Larry wishes to ensure that the value and worth of all Lions, past and present is recognised. To this end the District Governor has instructed me to ensure all new members receive a “welcome” letter from District. For members leaving (for a reason other than in “Good Standing”) I would ask that Club Secretaries let me know if there is any reason why a “leaving” letter should not be

sent. As an example – an acrimonious departure might be further inflamed by such a leaving letter. Otherwise a letter and a short questionnaire will be sent, which may help the District evaluate how to improve the service offered to members.

Finally, DG Larry is keen to ensure that the relatives of those who have passed into higher service receive a letter, which recognises the invaluable contribution any late member has made to their Lions Club.

As to the LION magazine distribution, I have already worked on establishing a monthly reporting system which will allow MDHQ to update their 105W database in an efficient and timely manner.

In order to make the new system work, I need the cooperation of Club Secretaries. In relation to magazine distribution, I ask that I am notified of new members (and relevant addresses) by no later than the 25th of each month. I can then include them on the monthly return which I submit to MDHQ by the last day of the month. Names received after the 25th of each month will be included in the next monthly return.

Of greatest importance, is when we communicate with relatives of our members who have passed into higher service. Would Club Secretaries please ensure you let me have details of family members to whom I can write on behalf of the District, together with any special or significant matters that Clubs feel should be addressed in such a letter of condolence.

Your help in enhancing the recognition of our members at District level will be greatly appreciated.

Communication should be sent via email to:

almoner@lions105w.org.uk

Stephen Simmonds – District Almoner

Clubs and the Press ...

Some Clubs have been fortunate in having a working relationship with their local paper resulting in their Club's news being reported. Some however, some find it difficult to get an article in their local paper. May I suggest that if possible you invite an editor, or a sub-editor, to one of your social events to try and establish a relationship.

If this does not work not all is lost; in almost all instances there will be a village, parish or church magazine local to your Club. Find out, in what form would the editor like to receive articles and pictures and then submit something each month – you could have more success than with the newspapers.

Ron Clarke. marketing@lions105w.org.uk

Club Secretary Reporting ...

This is a reminder for Club Secretaries to complete their monthly 'M' Reports online, direct into the WMMR database. Activity Reports can be done at the same time. Your User Name and Password can be registered from the Club 'M' and 'A' Reporting link in the footer of the District website.

Million Tree Challenge ...

Watch this space for details of this Lions initiative or visit the District Website homepage for details.



Diary Dates ...

August

- 1 **DG** visits Tenby and Saundersfoot Club
- 2 Youth Exchange guests go to Millfields Camp
- 2 **DG** visits Hereford Club
- 2 **1stVDG** visits Calne Club
- 4 **DG** visits Letterston Branch
- 4 **2ndVDG** visits Gloucester Club
- 8 **DG** visits Highworth and District Club
- 9 **DG** visits Haverfordwest Club
- 10 **DG** visits Llandrindod Wells Club
- 11 **DG** visits Swansea Club
- 14 **Bob Cook Memorial Games**
- 15 **DG** visits Devizes Club
- 18 **DG** visits Cirencester Branch
- 19 Lechlade & District Medina BBQ
- 22 **DG** visits Frome Club
- 26/27 Dursley Lions Frocester Beer Festival

September

- 1 **1stVDG** visits Dursley Club
- 5 **DG** visits Gower & Llwhwr Estuary Club
- 6 **DG** visits Kington Club
- 6 **1stVDG** visits Calne Club
- 7 **DG** visits Black Mountains Club
- 8 **DG** visits Thornbury Club
- 8 **1stVDG** visits Chipping Sodbury Club
- 12 **DG** visits Keynsham Club
- 13 **DG** visits Newport Club
- 19 **DG** visits Bath Club

Busy October for Members ...

October is always a busy month for Lion members during

Lions Awareness Week.

- 1 October District Autumn Forum – Hilton Newport
- 8-16 October Lions Awareness Week
- 9 October District Thanksgiving Service
- 13 October Lions World Sight Day
- 15/16 October Lions World Sight Weekend
- 15 October WaterAid Day

September News Update ...

Articles for the September edition of News Update please to news@lions105w.org.uk by 25 August.

Thank you – Ed