



'We Serve'
ordinary people doing
amazing things

LIONS

Clubs International

'Serve with the Pride'

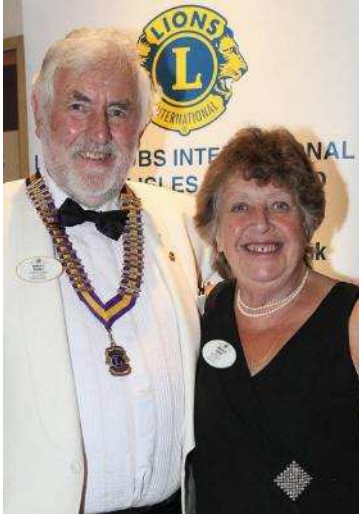
105W NEWS UPDATE

Lion Martin Ruddle - District Governor



www.lions105w.org.uk

January 2010



Fellow Lions

By now, all the Christmas sleighs and Santa suits will have been put away for another year, I hope the winter weather didn't make too big a dent in the takings, please accept my sincere thanks, for all your hard work and effort you put in, as well as braving the

elements to ensure there is enough cash in the coffers to meet the many requests we get for aid.

I did my last club visit for 2009 in mid-December and I will commence my first club visit for 2010 to Cheltenham on the 11 January, these visits give me an opportunity to meet you all on your home territory and a better understanding of how our clubs work.

Last month, I reported that Emma, sponsored by Letterston Branch Club had won the District Peace Poster Competition. Her entry now goes forward to the Multiple District Final and is displayed on page 4 of this newsletter. Congratulations to Emma.

We are now half way through the Lionistic year and we can now reflect on our progress during the past six months this will help us to plan our strategies for the next half year.

I was glad to see that so many clubs have appointed Membership Officers, but disappointed when I read the club minutes to find the abbreviated letters NTR, or nothing to report. Please Membership Officers, to help us retain members try the District Website > Members > Members Resources and download the Club Evaluation Questionnaire and

ask your club members to complete them anonymously. You will be surprised at some of the answers you get. One club found that the majority of the members disliked the venue, so they changed the venue with the result that meetings were better attended, but until they did the survey everyone thought that they were the only ones who disliked the venue.

A very useful aid to Recruitment, is the Recruiting Wheel reproduced on page 2 of this newsletter, please give a copy to your members and ask them to think of names of suitable people they know, to place in the eight segments of the Wheel so that they can be invited to attend club events with a view to joining the club. One of the best resources the District has is the MERL Team, please do contact them if you need any help or advice, they are willing to travel the length and breadth of the District to assist any club who invites them.

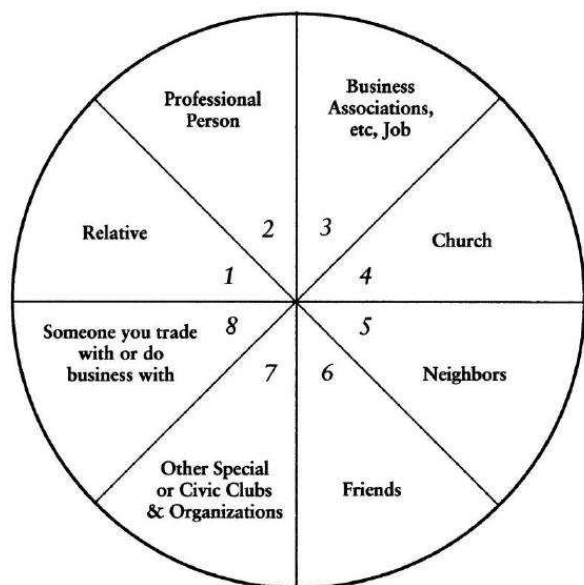
The 'Lions in Sight' week planned for the last two weeks in January provides us with a useful recruiting platform. You will find lots of helpful suggestions for 'Lions in Sight' in the International President's December Newsletter so please do submit a report even if the project was unsuccessful, that way we know what works and what does not and let's replace NTR, with PTR, "plenty to report", you really can make a big difference to our future.

Congratulations to Lion Julie Shearsby from Calne and Lion Mike Lloyd from Fishguard & Goodwick who have been selected to attend the Emerging Lion Institute this month and Lion John Mounty from Carmarthen who has been awarded a place on the prestigious, Faculty Development Institute in Bern, Switzerland in February.

Wishing you a happy and prosperous New Year.

DG Lion Martin.

The Recruiting Wheel



The Recruiting Wheel is reproduced by the MERL team for members to consider names of suitable people in their various walks of life that might be invited to join your Lions Club.

Happy New Year from Glantawe Lions Club ...

Glantawe Lions Club wish DG Lion Martin, Zone B Chairman Lion Alan, Glantawe Lion President Christine and all their fellow Lions Clubs International members and of course partners, whom although they may not be Lion members, we couldn't manage without, a very 'Happy New Year.' We look forward now, to a successful and busy 2010.

Our thoughts are with anyone with family and friends who couldn't celebrate Christmas at home, maybe currently serving in Afghanistan, or elsewhere in the world.

... and top marks for school quiz.

Glantawe Lions Club has hosted a Comprehensive School, Key Stage 3 Quiz, at Graig Felin Community Centre, Clydach. Three teams entered the first of what is hoped to become an annual 'Comprehensive School Quiz.'

Teachers and parents watched with great enjoyment, as quizmaster Lion Brendan Sweeney

put the questions written by himself, to the teams and shouts of "Yes," were sounded by the really enthusiastic pupils, as they learned they could help with that particular answer. The quiz therefore both helped pupils with their revision and also allowed them to enjoy a very pleasant evening in the company of their fellow pupils. It also showed the pupils the subject areas where they might need a bit more revision.



The winning team in Glantawe's School Quiz with Quizmaster Lion Brendan Sweeney, with Lion President Chris Sheldon.

One of the teachers on seeing how much the students enjoyed themselves expressed the hope that it would become a regular event. The schools that provided this year's entry teams said they would gladly attend again next year. It is also hoped that the competition will grow in the future and will see more comprehensive schools in the Swansea valley area get involved.

Cwmtawe Comprehensive School who won, will keep the shield presented by Glantawe Lions Club this year. Miniature winners and runners-up shields were presented to members of the respective teams.

Dursley LC get the MIAB message ...



Dursley LC Welfare Committee Chairman Bill Sweet gets to grips with 'Message in a Bottle' canisters ready for distribution to the elderly and vulnerable. Dursley Lions are promoting MIAB through press publicity and the club's notice board in Dursley's main street.

El Salvador appeals for cash aid ...

Once more, tragedy has affected a Latin American country, which has been reported in the news. A terrible flood catastrophe has killed more than 160 people and left almost 13,000 people homeless - a tremendous blow for such a small country.

District International Relations and UN Liaison Officer, Lion John Charles has received an e-mail from the District Governor of El Salvador requesting help.

District Governor of El Salvador, Roberto Ortega Barahona (there is only one District for the whole country) has requested help from European Lions via International Director Luis Dominguez from Spain.

Lion Luis will be the International Guest at our District Convention in Hereford in March. It would be good to be able to present him with a sizable cheque on that occasion. Please send your donations to District Treasurer: Lion Peter Wood, made payable to, 'Lions Clubs International District 105W' and endorsed on the back 'El Salvador Appeal'.

LCIF has opened a special disaster designated account called "El Salvador 2009", so when a Lion, club or District sends money they must mention that it is designated for "El Salvador 2009".

Lion John stresses that while many clubs have the tendency to give money to other non-governmental organisations when a disaster occurs they may forget our own LCIF which has been recognized as the world's premier disaster charity. Every penny received goes to the needy people, as has been done with the Tsunami Victims.

"So may I encourage you and your District to help 'El Salvador', and lets all do something though our own Foundation to help these people recover from this last natural disaster. On behalf of the District Governor of El Salvador, I thank you in advance for your help", said Lion John.

For more information go to the website http://www.lionluis.com/Leones/Ingles/eurolatinoamericano_002_ing.html

... and LCIF District donations.

Lion Viv Morgan, District LCIF Co-ordinator reports: "I have received the latest Multiple District LCIF Donation List which goes from the start of this Lionistic year in July until December 5, 2009. On behalf of LCIF, I congratulate the clubs

in 105w who have supported the LCIF Appeals during that period with the total sum of £10,295.10 which is a great result for the District. At the moment our District is top of the list of all clubs in the MD. Thank you and well done to you all".

Youngsters top the form ...

Gloucester Lions Club has continued its involvement with young people by running this year's quiz for teams representing local junior schools.

Since this competition, based on the "Top of the Form" format of yesteryear, was launched in 2005 it has earned widespread respect in the educational field locally. Support from teaching staff is evident from the record entry of 22 schools.



Marco Bortolami, the Italy and Gloucester Rugby star presented the prizes to Birdlip Primary School, winners of the Gloucester Lions Club schools quiz.

Mobile chemo unit on show at Convention ...

"The unit will be in the convention hotel car park for all to inspect throughout the day on Saturday 13 March, so everyone should get a really good chance to see what it is that we are raising so much money for" says District Hope for Tomorrow Advisor, Lion Tony Buchan.

He thanks DG Lion Martin, Convention Officer, Lion John Weatherall, and Christine Mills of Hope for Tomorrow for their kind help in allowing us to have the unit at Convention.

At a Zone G meeting in Lechlade, Lion Tony learned that at least one or two of our fellow Lions either have had or will be having treatment with the Mobile Unit and they all praise the benefits that it has given them in not having to travel a long distance to their nearest oncology centre. If ever

there was a recommendation of those benefits, this was it!



It is at times like this - snow and ice - that the MCU comes into its own, saving cancer patients a hazardous trek to and from their oncology hospital for essential treatment. Here the MCU is on duty in the snow at the Dilke Memorial Hospital in the Forest of Dean.

Lechlade Lions Club continue apace with their fund-raising and are making a substantial effort to reach the target that Lion President Dave Sharp has set them of £3,000 this Lionistic Year.

Belinda Bertie from Hope for Tomorrow writes: "We were saddened to read from Lion Tony Buchan's December up-date that one or two Lions have had or will be having treatment with the Mobile Chemotherapy Unit. However, we were equally glad to hear that they are able to make use of the unit and that it is making their lives a little easier by reducing travelling at such a difficult time. Our best wishes go to them and their families.

"Equipment is now being delivered for our second Mobile Chemotherapy Unit which is still on schedule to be launched in April, and no doubt the pace will pick up further next year! In the office we remain constantly busy with fund-raising too."

Belinda thanks all Lions for the amazing start they have given the appeal. "What you are doing is absolutely fantastic and I very much look forward to hearing about more of your successes in the future", Belinda added.

Saturday 13 March 2010 Convention
Bookings: www.lions105w.org.uk
with International Director Lion Luis Dominguez

Our Peace Poster Contest Winner ...



A young lady, 'Emma' won the 2009-2010 Peace Poster Competition. She was sponsored by Letterston Branch Club and here is her version of this year's theme - The Power of Peace.

Microsoft Word .docx

If you prepare documents using Word 2007 and save as a .docx file, then any recipient with a previous version of Word cannot open the document writes District IT Team Leader and Webmaster, Lion John Seymour.

It causes the recipient problems and is bad manners to expect your recipients to install extra software or a compatibility pack to read your documents.

The solution for those with Word 2007 is to set your defaults to always use the Word 97-2003 format. How? Click on the Office Button in Word 2007, go to Word options and click on Save link on the left. Click on the 'Save files in this format' drop down menu and select 'Word 97-2003 Documents (*.doc)' and confirm the change by clicking on OK at the bottom of the page. The alternative is to 'save as' each new document prepared in .doc format. Helpline: webmaster@lions105w.org.uk

Cockermouth Christmas ...

Zone Chairman Lion Derek Gudgeon, District 105BN, visited Cockermouth before Christmas and reports, "Heather and I had a weekend visit to family near Cockermouth and have seen the devastation caused on that town's structure, infrastructure and way of life.

"In the normally busy town centre every home and business was rapidly flooded to a depth of several feet, far higher than ever before. We were allowed to see inside the National Trust shop and garden of Wordsworth House on Main Street where the effects were typical of the widespread damage throughout large parts of the town. Mud on all surfaces up to several feet high, stock destroyed or contaminated or simply washed away. A dead trout in the cellar, the large gates washed away and the garden dramatically 'redesigned'.

"We were also privileged to meet some of the people who had been evacuated by boat or helicopter and re-housed more than once. Their stories, typical of hundreds, were awe inspiring and show how all Lions should, by whatever means, offer their support. The local clubs are, and will be doing, all they can but this is going to be a long haul. Lots of fundraising efforts are taking place locally and the disaster fund is growing but people will be months away from their homes. Main Street is closed to all traffic and is full of skips emptying Cockermouth.

"All around the town the traffic congestion caused by the closure of many bridges is only adding to the problems for the community. Despite all this we found that the spirit of the residents and business people will ensure that the town will overcome and re-emerge as the beautiful place it is. The Christmas lights will shine somewhat belatedly and shops have reopened in premises like the old Job Centre in spaces loaned by other businesses. A good example is the Toy Shop whose owner felt the need to open in these premises because local children were upset that all the toys had been destroyed just before Christmas".

Clubs can make a donation to the Lions flood recovery fund with a cheque to: 'Lions Clubs International District 105BN' annotated on the back 'Cumbria Floods' c/o 105BN District Treasurer Lion Beryl Kissane, 8 Hanwell Close, Leigh, Lancashire. WN7 3NU.

Barry LC help make coasts safer ...

Barry Lions Club President Nanette Langford presented a cheque for £360 to watch keepers of the National Coastwatch Institution to buy a special long range digital camera.



The NCI was founded in Cornwall in 1994 and their watch keepers are the 'eyes and ears' along the coast. Already there are between 30 and 40 stations stretching from Cornwall to Wearside. Each station is manned by a team of volunteers keeping watch year round during most daylight hours. They are trained to deal with emergencies and to report directly to the Maritime Coastguard Agency.

32nd Annual Lions Day with the United Nations in Vienna ...

The day will be on 26 March 2010 and will be held in the Vienna International Centre, Austria.

A booking form can be obtained from PDG Lion John Charles our District U.N. Officer.

Lions Clubs International is the only service club organisation to be afforded an annual day with the United Nations.

Since 1994 a similar Lions Day with the United Nations has been held every March at the Houses of Parliament, London, this year it is on Tuesday, 16 March. All enquiries to Lion John Charles john.charles@fsmail.net

A similar gathering is held in Scotland, Ireland and Wales and this year, in Wales, the event is hosted by our own District on Thursday 25 February at the Temple of Peace, Cardiff. All Lions are invited to attend one of these unique programmes.

Obituary...

It is with deep regret that News Update reports the death in December of Lion Alan Press, long serving member of Hereford Lions Club. DG Martin and all Lions extend their sympathy to Sue.

District Governor's Diary

January

- 11 Cheltenham Club Visit
- 13 Bridgend Club Visit
- 14 Lechlade and District Club Visit
- 17 Young Ambassador District Final
- 19 Hereford Club Visit
- 22-24 Council of Governors Meeting
- 25 Frome Club Visit

February

- 1 Swindon Club Visit
- 2 Gower and Lluchwr Club Visit
- 3 Tetbury Club Visit
- 4 Gloucester Club Visit
- 6 DG attending Chippenham Charter
- 9 Northleach and Fosse Club Visit
- 11 Thornbury Club Visit
- 19/20 Lioness Conference, Gloucester
- 20 DG attending Porthcawl Charter
- 21 Cabinet Meeting Holiday Inn, Newport
- 25 Lions Day with the UN, Cardiff

Membership Welcome ...

DG Lion Martin welcomes two new members into the family of Lions.

Tenby and Saundersfoot: Tom Winfer

Bridgend: David Sealey

... and an extract from the International President's December Newsletter ...

"I hope this message finds you in good health and high spirits as we celebrate the holiday season. Margit and I wish for you and your family much happiness, great prosperity, and continued success as you share this special time with those you love - your family, your friends and fellow Lions.

I am also extremely grateful for the way you have responded to this year's Move to Grow theme. Our results continue in a very positive direction midway through December. The strength of our service has grown by the addition of more than 12,500 net new members, the best results in more than a decade. And our network of service and fellowship has grown with the addition of 610 new clubs compared to 399 last year at this time - a 71% improvement. These are simply fantastic and remarkable results. Thank you.

"We are also seeing good results in reaching out to women and family members - with a wonderful

8,074 net increase in women members since July, and with Lions serving as a family now exceeding 13% of our members. And if I count all the young faces of new members I have inducted this year in my travels, I am convinced we are also making progress in reaching out to the younger generation and tomorrow's leaders

With cordial regards and best wishes as you Move to Grow".

Eberhard J. Wirfs

International President

Dates for your Diary

January

- 9 Dursley Lions Furniture Sale and every Saturday 9.30-11.30. The Den, May Lane, Dursley.
- 14 Zone F Meeting, Bells, Coleford
- 14-17 Lions Leadership Institute, Apollo Hotel
- 16 Zone B Charity Concert, Morrision
- 17 Young Ambassador District Final
- 19 Zone J Meeting Paulton Rovers FC
- 23 Forest of Dean Lions Burns Night

February

- 4 Zone E Meeting at Kington
- 6 Dursley Lions Furniture Sale
- 6 Chippenham Lions Charter Anniversary
- 13 Forest of Dean, Wyedean Car Rally
- 15 Zone B Meeting, Ynystawe CC, Swansea
- 19-21 Lioness Conference, Ramada, Gloucester
- 19-21 MD Young Ambassador Final, Dudley
- 20 Hereford Lions Race Night
- 20 Porthcawl Lions Charter Anniversary
- 21 Cabinet Meeting Holiday Inn, Newport
- 25 Lions Day with the UN, Cardiff
- 27 Devizes Lions Swimathon

March

13 Convention for all 105W members, Hereford. All weekend social events booking and hotel information: www.lions105w.org.uk

Contributions for the February News Update should be sent to news@lions105w.org.uk by January 25. Please help by filing your stories as *Word documents in Times New Roman font 12 point with pictures in jpeg format.*

Editor Lion Allan and the communications team wish you a happy and healthy New Year.

