

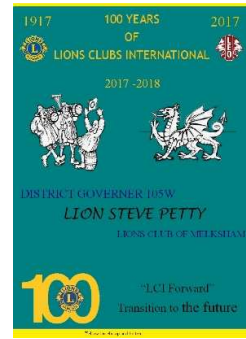


'We Serve'

# LIONS Clubs International

## 105W NEWS UPDATE

Lion Steve Petty - District Governor



ordinary people *doing*  
amazing things

May 2018

[www.lions105w.org.uk](http://www.lions105w.org.uk)



### My Fellow Lions

After such a sad and unproductive March due to the weather, April has brought us back on track.

April started with the annual trip to our twin district 103 Normandie and their spring congress. This year it

was held at a casino in Dieppe and I was accompanied by our International Relations Officer Lion Juan Nuevo. We arrived at Dieppe around 5pm and hardly had time to rest when we were requested to attend the Friday night Gala Banquet. After looking the other way as I passed the doorway to the casino en route to the Banquet hall, the evening proved to be an excellent event of aperitifs, food, wine, good company, more wine and a very late return to our rooms. I think it was sometime after 1am?

Saturday started around 7.30am with a quick breakfast before attending the convention start ceremony at 9am. The format was similar to our convention, with early business followed by many guest speakers and award winners from Lions and Leos. I was particularly impressed by a young 16 year old Leo reading a citation on "Science has made us like gods even before we deserve the right to be mortal". She expressed such passion and presence with her efforts being awarded a standing ovation from the audience. My congratulations also go to all the other prize winners and to the election of Lion Jean-Yves Courtois as DGE for 2018-19.

Before returning home on the Sunday evening we enjoyed a day of relaxation by visiting a chateau overlooking the harbour and a good lunch. My thanks to our French hosts who I know are reading these newsletters.

On 21 April the world record spectacle attempt went ahead with our congratulations to Lion Chris Davis and his team for exceeding the current record (subject to verification). A total of 36,000 spectacles were collected during the attempt and over 21,000 used. A big thank you also to all clubs that participated in the collection and delivery of spectacles to the event.

On 25 April we finally held our own convention at Port Talbot with an attendance well in excess of what

we thought we would get for a mid-week event. Our guest speaker was Lion Geoff Leader, MD105 candidate for International Director and who gave us an excellent thirty minute speech. My congratulations also go to Lion Sally Marsh who is now officially our DGE, Lion Ian Gott, our 1st VDGE and to Lion Ben Manluctao, our 2nd VDGE. I wish you all a very successful term in office.

We welcomed 103NIE DGE Lion Jean-Yves Courtois and his partner Lion Corrine along with PIRO Lion Albert Gillett, 105D DG Peter Burnett, several DGE's and other attendees from 105A, 105M, 105SW and 105SE. A big thanks to everyone that came.

During April our GLT and GMT teams held two club officer training days with talks on the new GAT structure, CIO status and the changes to data regulations with GDPR along with why we need to change to attract new members. Congratulations to all those who attended on becoming more informed with how lions are evolving. My thanks to the organisers and helpers.

April was a month when I crisscrossed the district attending many club charters. An experience that I always enjoy even though my waistline is now at breaking point again.

Finally I look forward to seeing many of you at the MD convention.

*Lion Steve Petty, District Governor, 105W.*

### Membership Welcome ...

During April, District Governor Lion Steve welcomed the following members to the family of Lions:

<b>Aberystwyth</b>	Frank Bridle
<b>Chipping Sodbury</b>	Emma Doney.
<b>Frome</b>	Alan Cottle,
	Allison Rummung.

### 105W Members end of April 2018 – 891

### Higher Service ...

It is with deep regret that News Update reports the passing to higher service of **Margaret Weakley**, Cardiff Lions Club.

District Governor, Lion Steve, and all Lion members, extend sincere condolences to her family.

## Lion Keith Humphrey.



Lion Keith passed away suddenly on Tuesday 20 March 2018.

Keith joined Llantwit Major and Cowbridge Lions Club Lions in June 2017.

He was a quiet unassuming Lion who got on with the job in hand quietly but effectively.

He could be relied on to

support the club's activities. He was the first to turn up and usually the last to leave.

He will be greatly missed by the club.

We offer our condolences to his family and all who knew him.

*John Wordley, Sec., Llantwit Major & Cowbridge.*

## Lion Mike Carey.



Lion Mike passed away on Thursday 22 March 2018.

Mike had been battling cancer for over a year - every time he cleared one hurdle another would appear.

He bravely dealt with his illnesses and treatment in a very matter of fact manner, nothing seemed to faze him.

Mike has been a member of Llantwit Major and Cowbridge

Lions Club since April 2005.

He was club president in 2009/10 and has been club secretary.

He would always turn out and help out even when he was under the weather.

Two weeks before he passed away he was with us collecting for Marie Curie.

We offer our condolences to his family and all who knew him

*John Wordley, Sec., Llantwit Major & Cowbridge.*

## Competitions Corner ...

It has been a slow start to the Fellowship Competition. You can submit your claim forms via email as well as through the mail. Remember to take claim forms with you when you visit other cubs or go to events. The more members that attend events, the more points that your club will win, so long as you submit the forms. If you have not submitted claims, it still not too late to join in.

I know you have been in suspense for some time now, especially after the postponement of the District Convention, but all can be revealed now.

Competition winners were:

Best maintained website: **Ross-on-Wye.**

Bill Smith Trophy of largest % increase in membership: **Pembroke & Pembroke Dock.**

Environmental Photo: Ken White, **Tetbury** with his photo of a thistle.

Fellowship Competition: A clear winner with **Glantawe Swansea Valley.**

Peace Poster: Poppy, sponsored by **Black Mountains.**

Overall best club: **Calne.**

*Sue Wooldridge, [competitions@lions105w.org.uk](mailto:competitions@lions105w.org.uk)*

## Centennial Project ...

Newport and Usk Vale Lion's Club Centennial Project is the provision of Bee Friendly native wild flower seeds to community groups, buildings and individuals to help them enhance the communities in which they live in the years to come.

The club bought large sacks of wild flower seeds and sub divided them into small packets for distributions to groups and individuals who requested them. Instructions were provided with each pack of seeds about how to plant a wild flower meadow as well as information on what Lions Clubs do.



*Club members making up smaller wild flower seed packets.*

Through social media, people were asked to contact us to request their packet of seeds. It took less than 2 weeks for all the packets of seeds to be distributed. Our aim was to distribute 100 packs of seeds, one for each year Lions International had been formed. In all over 150 packs of seeds were distributed!

Church groups, community halls, village communities, cubs, brownies, the WI have all requested seeds.

The Sisters of St Joseph at Llantarnam Abbey in Cwmbran were one of the first organisations to receive their seeds and Roger, their gardener ensured they were sown within the grounds of the Abbey. The General Manager of the Abbey, Lion Dave Watts, took some seeds on the Good Friday morning walk up Twmbalwm to watch the sunrise and planted seeds on the hill.

We have requested everyone to let them have pictures of the seeds being sown and of the resulting wild flowers when they are in bloom.

We have found this activity a real benefit in raising the profile of the work of Lions clubs within South East Wales.

*Jim Thompson, President, Newport and Usk Vale*

## Black Mountains Charter ...

Black Mountains Lions celebrated their 45th Birthday in style on Saturday 17 March 2018.

Black Mountains was founded in February 1973. Members & guests gathered at the Black Mountain Lodge in Glasbury for a dinner to celebrate, followed by a disco.

Weekend snow was threatened but it didn't stop members and guests attending. President Jim Gamon welcomed special guest Josie Person, MBE, Paralympian Gold Medalist who lives in Hay-on-Wye. After an introduction she answered questions from the floor about her life and

current work. Among the guests were local MP Chris Davies, his wife and Talgarth Deputy Mayor Cllr. William Powell.

We all enjoyed a terrific meal after which concerns about the heavy snowfall forced most guests to head for home. There were a few diehards who remained for a short while before struggling off into the driving snow. We only just made it home in the blizzard before being snowed in for a few days.

Well done everyone for the good attendance in the snowy wipeout!

*Cheryl Hyde, Black Mountains.*

## Lions Spring Clean ...



*Northleach & Fosse Lions Club members Mark Ogden, Gayle and David Murphy outside the premises of funeral directors W J Wright in London Road, Moreton in Marsh, one of the many roads we helped to clean up during the town's annual spring clean & litter pick.*

The trio joined with 15 local residents who gathered at the Town Council offices on the morning of Saturday 24 March. Cake and hot drinks were on offer to all participants when they returned to the offices at midday with sacks full of paper, cardboard, food wrappers, tin cans and empty glass bottles.

The Moreton in Marsh event was part of the national 'Great British Spring Clean' during March and April. We were also helped to organise a similar event in Northleach, on the morning of Saturday 21 April, the Queen's actual 'unofficial' birthday. Participants were again rewarded with hot drinks and cakes baked on this occasion by Club members.

Both events were supported by Cotswold District Council who provided litter picker sticks, gloves, rubbish bags and Hi-Viz jackets, as well as disposing of the rubbish collected.

Last year the Northleach team won first prize in Cotswold District Council's competition for all local community teams in the district who participated in the 'Great British Spring Clean'.

Our next planned event is the first of four 'Lions Famous Coffee & Cakes' days, at Victoria Hall in Bourton-on-the-Water from 11am to 4pm, Tuesday 1 May.

*Mark Ogden, PRO, Northleach & Fosse.*

## Membership Matters ...



Firstly, it has been good to meet up with many of you at our District Training sessions and at our Convention. It is encouraging to see that there are so many Clubs interested in all the many and various

aspects of Membership.

My question for this month is for the leaders in our Clubs: how are you going to keep Membership in the thinking and planning in your Club? One way is to make sure that the topic of Membership is always on your meeting Agendas. Another way is to make sure that one person in your Club is in charge of Membership.

Our smaller Clubs need to find time to plan how to recruit members but so do our larger Clubs!

None of us can take our eye off the ball, after all more members = more service.

In our Zones we need to think about how we are going to help each other so that we all grow and develop together. In our District we will continue to search for ideas that work and share them with you all. Please remember that if you need ideas or help with Membership, we have a District Team and lots of helpers so please get in touch.

*Sue Wilding, District Membership Officer (GMT-D)*  
[membership@lions105w.org.uk](mailto:membership@lions105w.org.uk)

## Veteran Lions Honoured ...

Three long serving members of Hereford Lions Club were honoured with Melvin Jones Fellowship awards at the club's 58th Charter anniversary. Between them they have clocked up 115 years of loyal and active service: Michael Bolt – 55, John Golding - 40 and John Edmunds (20.



*L-R: John Edmunds, Michael Bolt & John Golding.*

The club's first three planned car boot sales of the season got washed out, but the sun was shining on Saturday 21 April and 47 booters and a big crowd of buyers resulted in £382 in the charity kitty.

Our monthly pub quiz attracted 14 teams of four and raised £436.

A new venture for the club is 'sports on the village green' at the Hereford River Carnival, Saturday 5 May, a hugely successful event started three years ago by volunteers and seen by the club to be both an awareness opportunity and a fund raiser.

*George Thomas, PRO, Hereford.*

## Chepstow and Caldicot ...



Chepstow and Caldicot lions club held a bucket collection at Chepstow Garden Centre in April and raised a grand total of £188 which will go to the Children's Christmas Party in December.

*Photo: Lions John Jenkins and Ray Nash.*

We thank the management of the Garden Centre for allowing them to hold the event and all the members of the public who donated to the fund.

*Glyn Williams, Sec., Chepstow & Caldicot.*

## Severn Dean Presentation (etc.) ...



At a recent business meeting, Zone F Chairman Lion Glyn Williams was delighted to present a Gold Centennial Membership Badge to Lion Nigel Sampson for his success in introducing new members. Glyn then went off on where he spent a great deal of his time in Southern Spain helping his old club Vera (pronounced Bera) and District Lions club

with several of their projects.

Glyn arrived on the Saturday and went straight into action on the Sunday helping out at a major fund raising event in the city of Vera. The club had organised a Lion Aid day to raise funds for local good causes, with the help of the Mayor of Vera who allowed the club to use the local park, a dozen or more local groups and performers gave their time free to play a various mix of music.

The club organised three large bars and food stalls and a selection of stalls selling locally made jewelry, paintings and loads of other goodies.

The Zone Chairman was put in charge of the information desk opposite the main entrance, ensuring that visitors both English and Spanish were informed about the work that the Lions Club does locally and Worldwide.

Lion Glyn was their Charter President in 2011 when the club was formed by expats.

The funds raised on the day exceeded €5,300 after all expenses, and on top of that the club also raised €400 to help an Expat Paul Morrison who at the age of 43 has developed aggressive MS.

Paul has to travel to Russia to receive a Stem Cell transplant which is not available in the UK or Spain, and needs to raise €40,000 to pay for the treatment, so far the fund stands at €25,000, contributed by local businesses, Expat groups and their Spanish counterparts.

Vera and District Lions have pledged to pay for Paul's airfare to Russia when the fund reaches its target.

One of the club's other major projects is its contribution to the local food banks: every Thursday members travel around the area collecting fresh produce from the many fruit and vegetable packing plants that abound locally. The owners of these companies supply fresh fruit and vegetables that are in season, free of charge.

This food is then taken to the Anglican Church in the village of Turre, it is carefully packed into bags for distribution to the poor and needy by the Lions on Friday morning. The Church also provide non-perishable goods to accompany the fruit and vegetable from the club. Any products left over are then taken to the Vera food bank to bolster their supplies.



*Zone Chair Glyn waiting for the food bank to open*

## Diary Dates

### May

- 3-4 Council of Governors Meeting, Basingstoke.
- 4-6 **MD Convention**, Basingstoke.  
[www.md105convention.uk](http://www.md105convention.uk)
- 5-6 Ross-on-Wye Beer & Cider Festival.
- 7 Devizes Lions May Fayre.
- 9 Devizes Lions & Rotary Charity Golf Day.
- 13 105W Cabinet Meeting, Langstone, Newport.
- 17 Zone E meeting.
- 18 Keynsham & District Charter Anniversary Dinner.  
Ross-on-Wye Charter Anniversary Dinner.
- 19 Royal Wedding.
- 20 Wild Boar Chase Cycle Challenge, Forest of Dean & Severn Dean Lions.
- 30 Devizes Lions' Den.

### June

- 3 Brecon Charter Lunch.
- 29 International Convention, Las Vegas.

## June News Update ...

For June 2018 News Update, please submit articles to [news@lions105w.org.uk](mailto:news@lions105w.org.uk) by 22 May. Editor Derek.

# PLEASE NOTE EARLIER COPY DATE!

# DISTRICT CONVENTION 25 April

As DG Steve has already said, district convention this year was a mid-week event, being rearranged after the white stuff caused a very late cancellation of the original arrangements. All credit to the organising team, despite starting over an hour later than usual all necessary business was dealt with in the usual efficient manner.

One disadvantage of holding the event during the working day was that some lions who have paid employment were unable to attend.

## Highlights ...

Lion Byron Hughes called convention to order at 11:00 and we were off!

Flags were paraded by Zone Chairmen and other Lion members.

Lion members who have passed to higher service were honoured and for each a yellow rose was presented by members of their clubs. These roses remained at the front of the convention hall for the duration of convention.

There were only two resolutions presented, one to facilitate redistricting and the other to adopt the Standard Form District Constitution and By-Laws. Both were carried.



Candidates for the DG team were duly proposed and seconded and each addressed convention. Voting by secret ballot took place over lunch and all three were elected. Your team for 2018-19 will be DG Lion Sally Marsh, (Radstock & Midsomer Norton Club), 1st VDG Lion Ian Gott, (Chipping Sodbury Club) and 2nd VDG Lion Ben Manluctao (Aberystwyth Club).

Presentations of best practices took place, Lion Keith Wilding standing in and doing his best to be knowledgeable. The best

practices were Music Magpie, a way of shifting those hard to sell books that keep appearing on book stalls and the use of credit cards to accept donations! These would have been presented by Lion Greg Powell, Ross-on-Wye but he was engaged in paid work ☹

The keynote address was given by Lion Geoff Leader, the MD candidate for International Director.

*Ed.*

## Spectacle record attempt ...



On Saturday 21 April, Lions from around our district and beyond all converged on Ysgol Bae Baglan, Port Talbot to make a grand spectacle in aid of the our clubs spectacle collection.

The day saw over 50 volunteers, comprising of Lions, partners, youth and the public, attempt to break the current Guinness book of records for the longest chain of spectacles



(presently standing at 16,530 pairs, 2,011m, created in Japan, 5 May 2011).

The event was over a year in the planning and saw clubs from all over the district get involved.

Although on the day it took longer to complete, we are proud to say that we were successful in the attempt.

The chain measured 2,461m comprised of around 21,000 spectacles, a massive well done to all clubs involved.



But it gets better! In addition to the 21,000 spectacles used, we had an extra 15,000 spectacles which we weren't able use due to the lack of time. This means the clubs across the district will be sending over 36,000 spectacles to Medico France to be recycled to give the gift of sight.

Now we are preparing a report to persuade Guinness World Records to accept this as an official record.

To everyone involved, thank you for support and effort. We will keep you updated with our application process.

*Photo: The van from Lions Medico France with Lions Colin, Clive, Rhian, Dave, Liz, Sally, Ben, Dave, Nellie, John and Larry.*

*Chris Davies, Social Media Officer, [facebook@lions105w.org.uk](https://www.facebook.com/lions105w.org.uk)*