

# Extraordinary District Convention 25 April 2018

As DG Steve has already said, district convention this year was a mid-week event, being rearranged after the extreme weather 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*