

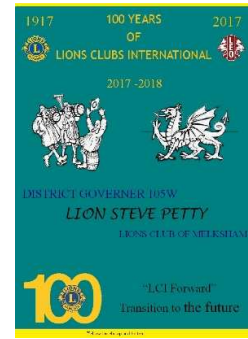


'We Serve'

LIONS Clubs International

105W NEWS UPDATE

Lion Steve Petty - District Governor



ordinary people *doing*
amazing things

April 2018

www.lions105w.org.uk



My Fellow Lions

In my last newsletter I predicted that we were heading into spring and times of better weather. How could I have known that Mother Nature was going to have the last word, prove me wrong and try to bring us to a standstill with a couple of heavy snow showers?

It was with great sadness that I had to agree to the postponement of our annual convention. The only members that stood a reasonable chance of getting there were from the Port Talbot branch club as the hotel reported there was no snow in Port Talbot. In expressing my sadness, the hotel along with the PA company and the entertainment were very considerate by applying no cancellation costs for which I thank them. I also thank those of the convention team that managed the cancellation and found time to keep me up to speed at all times. The re-arranged date of the 25 April is going well with half the rooms for the Wednesday night booked and almost half the rooms for Tuesday night booked. We also have several as yet un-booked members pledging to come and several members expected from 105M and 105SW. The normal convention day Banquet and Ball was downgraded to a meal only but due to the attendance we are thinking of adding to that? The cost will remain the same at £18.

It was also regretful that the school would not let our world record spectacle chain go ahead in the building preferring to stay closed during the weather until the Monday. This event will now take place on the 21st April at the same venue. Two problems have emerged from this re-arranged date in that the spectacles need to be got to Chris and his team several days before the convention. I understand that Chris is discussing this on the Face book page dedicated to the attempt?

It is possible that the French will not be able to attend convention. They usually bring the Medico van to take the spectacles back to France. I am in discussion with them and will know for certain in a few days.

It has been suggested that if they cannot get over, then we could organise a trip over there? This would involve travelling over on a night ferry, a morning visit to the Medico factory, the freedom to explore the town in the

afternoon followed by a night out with our French friends and staying in a Le Havre hotel until the ferry returns on the following day.

We feel that this would have support if organised so please keep your eye on your news updates etc.

I have now completed the list of club visits allocated to my schedule and thank every one of you for being friendly and accommodating.

The visit to Buckingham Palace was hailed to be a success with the exception of a camera failure. Thankfully there were two official photographers.

The Lions UN day at Westminster was also a great success and a chance to meet with our incoming International President Gudrun Yngvadottir. Gudrun will be the first female to take on the roll and we all wished her the best of luck for her year in office.

During the month I attended the 105SW convention in Croyde Bay along with many charters. Thank you all for your welcome and kindness. Travelling home from Black Mountains to Wiltshire in the snow on 18 March was a challenge but only took a few minutes longer due to my previous life skills in vehicle recovery. *(I sense a story here ☺ Ed)*

A final reminder for your existing, incoming and potential future officers to attend the officer training days coming up in Swansea on 22 April and Bristol on 29 April. So much has changed over the year, if you don't go, you **WILL** miss out.

Lion Steve Petty, District Governor, 105W.

Membership Welcome ...

During March, District Governor Lion Steve welcomed the following member to the family of Lions:

Tenby & District Nick Jones.

105W Members end of March 2018 – 897

Higher Service ...

It is with deep regret that News Update reports the passing to higher service of:

Mike Carey, Llantwit Major & C. bridge Lions Club,
Keith Humphrey, Llantwit Major & C. bridge Lions Club,
David Butterfield, Dursley Lions Club,
District Governor, Lion Steve, and all Lion members,
extend sincere condolences to their families.

PDG Lion David Atwell

It is with great sadness that Chepstow and Caldicot Lions Club reported the passing to Higher Service of Past District Governor David Atwell.

Lion David was a founder member of the then Chepstow Lions in 1971, and became one of its first Presidents in 1975. His love of Lions is reflected in the many roles he participated in at club and district level, from Zone Chairman through to District Governor in 1998.

His other roles included District Sight, Hearing and Speech, Multi District Leos Coordinator and even Sergeant at arms.

As well as serving Lions Clubs International, Lion David was councillor for his ward of Langstone for sixteen years, eventually becoming Mayor of Newport in 2016.

Lion David never did things at half speed and always had great affection for anything to do with Lionism, he will be sadly missed by all the members and our thoughts are with his wife Carole, herself a past Lion and their daughter Portia.

Glyn Williams, Secretary, Chepstow and Caldicot

Lions Brass 4 Youth ...

The Lions Youth Band in North Somerset is a project of District 105SW. It's 10 years since the band was formed and it is celebrating this with a concert at the Playhouse in Weston-Super-Mare, 30 June 2018 at 7pm. Tickets (a bargain at £7) are available online at <https://goo.gl/JN8fkT> or ☎ 01934 645544.

Ed at DG's request. www.lionsbrass4youth.weebly.com

Lions Clean Up ...

Northleach and Fosse Lions are teaming up with Northleach Town Council for a Spring Clean Up for the Queen's Birthday. Part of the national 'Great British Spring Clean', the event will be run on Saturday 21 April, which is the Queen's actual 'unofficial' birthday.

Supporting the event will be Cotswold District Council and Northleach Pavilion. CDC will be providing litter picker sticks, gloves, rubbish bags and Hi-Viz jackets, as well as agreeing to dispose of the rubbish collected. Northleach Pavilion, will be the gathering place for volunteers on the day. Last year the Northleach team won first prize in CDC's competition for all local community teams in the district who participated in the 'Great British Spring Clean'. Over 80 local residents turned out for the Saturday morning event and it is hoped there will be a similar response again this year.

Club members were disappointed to hear that their regular venue for car boot sales in Bourton-on-the-Water will no longer be available. The monthly Sunday morning event would normally be held in the Countrywide store car park. However the business is going into administration and could not guarantee use of the site in future. The sale planned for Sunday 8 April has therefore been cancelled. ☹ Our next planned event in Bourton will now be a 'Lions Famous Coffee & Cakes' days, at Victoria Hall on Tuesday 1 May.

Mark Ogden, PRO, Northleach & Fosse

Membership Matters ...



How visible is your Club in your Local Community?

Although we all try to get articles in local papers, some with greater success than others, that doesn't

have to be the only way to get seen and known. Let's try and think about visibility all the time when we are out and about on Service or Fundraising Activities. Make sure you have pop-up banners on show, tabards and clothing clearly badged and literature that shows you are proud and happy Lions. Share your Facebook posts on the pages that cover your area and make sure they show photos of your members and volunteers enjoying what they are doing. When you plan Activities, ask for volunteers to help you – many hands make the workload lighter- and give them all Lions tabards to wear.

Many Clubs invite Mayors to Charter Anniversaries – have you considered asking to meet with the Mayor(s) of your area to get to know them first? Also, ask to make a presentation to your local Council about Lions and how you are making a difference in the Community you (and they) serve?

We cannot remain hidden, we need to make people aware of our Lions Clubs and our Clubs need to be more visible in the Community.

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

Cheltenham Lions Holiday Caravan ...

Members have visited the Club's Holiday Caravan at Burnham on Sea to prepare it for the coming season. The first home was purchased in 1983 and replaced in 1991 and 2010.



The caravan is adapted for use by local disabled people. They are recommended by Acorns Children's Hospice, The Hopkins Trust and Gloucestershire Carers.

The annual costs are in excess of £4000 and various activities take place to cover this expense. A second hand Book Stall has just taken place in the Regents Arcade and another will follow in June. Giant Easter Egg Raffles are held at pubs and other venues throughout the town, this is the third year for this activity and now 46 Eggs are raffled. We collected at Morrisons Supermarket on behalf of Marie Curie and raised a very satisfying £1,346.

David Green, PRO

Teddies Bring Smiles ...

Top county gymnast, Eden, broke her leg after landing badly on a trampoline during a training session ahead of a qualifier to win a place in a national gymnastics competition in April.

The 10 year old Hereford schoolgirl needed cheering up after spending the night in the children's ward at the County Hospital, knowing her chance of competing at a national level was now on hold. Hereford Lions Club turned up next morning with a delivery of 100 teddies for the children's ward, bringing a big smile to Eden's face when club president Ian Foster presented her with the first one.

Said Ian: "Eden's big smile showed just how important the gift of a soft cuddly toy is to children facing hospital treatment. The club regularly donate teddies to the children's ward."



President Ian with Eden and lots of teddies.

We have also pledged £5,000 towards a £25,000 appeal fund to provide a space at the hospital's maternity unit. This will be for grieving families coping with still births, allowing them to cope privately with their loss

Hereford's March Race night, running for over 35 years, scored yet another great success with a sell-out attendance of 220 and a profit of some £3000. The monthly Pub Quiz continues to be a 'good little earner' and the Saturday Car Boots kick off the Spring and Summer season on Easter Saturday.

George Thomas, PRO, Hereford

Spectacular attempt ...

The spectacle world record attempt is approaching fast again after us having to cancel the previous attempt due to the extreme weather conditions which closed our venue.

The attempt will be now on the 21 April 2018.

Like our previous arrangement, we are looking for continued support on the run up and on the day. We are currently seeking spectacles and volunteers to help on the world record attempt day at Port Talbot.

Details and further information can be found online at <https://drive.google.com/open?id=1mE1ahhKhu8S2fBvviKNb131rPbkFXLGB>

Any questions? Please get in touch.

Chris Davies, facebook@lions105w.org.uk

Chepstow and Caldicot Centennial ...

As our centennial project, we are pleased to announce that we have now supplied twenty one defibrillators to local communities, the latest being presented to Mathern Village Community. Lion Ray Nash, Chair of Welfare and several Lion Members were able to attend the first of the training sessions given by Peter Richardson of the Newport and Chepstow First Responders on Thursday 8 March, at Mathern Village Hall.

The Centennial Project is set to continue for the foreseeable future with another nineteen communities needing defibrillators.



Lion Ray presenting the defibrillator to the community clerk, Mrs. Jane Kelly

Glyn Williams, Secretary, Chepstow and Caldicot.

Leos in 105W ...

A Leo Club is a sponsored activity of a Lions Club. Are they simple to start-up? No. Do they require ongoing attention to be successful? Yes. Can any Lions Club start a Leo Club? Yes, but you will need to know what you are doing and how to go about it. Paraphrasing the saying about owning a dog, Leos are not just for Christmas.

But the benefits from sponsoring a Leo Club are many. If you are prepared to give it the attention it deserves then the benefits to the community, your Club and of course to the young people involved is more than worth it.

It was never my expectation that Leos maturing and leaving school would actually join Lions straight away, but Ross-on-Wye Lions now have two ex-Leos in our Club and by the way, having young people mixing with us 'old Lions' is not a problem.



Ross Youth Lions Leo President Poppy with two of the Leos, presenting a cheque to a local charity, Marches Family network, at the Ross Lions Shop.

If your Club is interested in knowing more about this challenging but rewarding activity, give me a call or drop me an email. I would be happy to talk things through and come along to help progress things if needed.

*PDG Keith Wilding; District Leo Advisor
01989 562145 leos@lions105w.org.uk*

Competitions Corner ...

This would normally be the time to offer congratulations to the successful clubs, but unfortunately this year, the snow has delayed convention and the awarding of trophies.

Although the awards have not yet been made, the new fellowship competition has started and I await the arrival of points claim forms. I have not had many this year up until now, so please claim. Remember if you are going to convention to fill in the form and get it to me. You can claim points for club visits, zone meetings, training days, Charter Nights and attending other clubs' events, etcetera.

Sue Wooldridge, competitions@lions105w.org.uk

Activities snippets ...

Activity snippets sourced from the Activity Reports completed last month on MyLCI up to 27 March:

Black Mountains Club celebrated their 45th Charter and supported the Bob Cook Games.

Chepstow & Caldicot Club supply another defibrillator.

Keynsham & District Club supported the Bob Cook Games and collected more spectacles.

Lechlade & District Club cleared a path in Lechlade.

Radstock & MSN Club supported the Alzheimer's Society and a Children's Play Bus.

Swindon Club supported LCIF.

John Seymour, *Communications Team Leader.*

Note: 2nd VDG Lion Ian Gott now 07899 037901

Just another Wednesday ...

Drinks and nibbles at Buckingham Palace:

A report on a special occasion from Mike – a Lion for less than a year – who hired a car to ensure he made it to the event (slightly edited).

Despite the weather carnage of the previous week, I managed to get to and from Buckingham Palace relatively easily, given extensive media coverage and forecasts and Armageddon which was to hit. I met for the first time and travelled with new friend and fellow Lion John Thomas from Black Mountains Lions Club.

Buckingham Palace is as expected a fantastic building, even more so from inside. I joined around 300 fellow Lions in the state ballroom where we were met and greeted by very handsome young men & woman dressed in Buckingham palace attire who served various alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks accompanied by nibbles. I met a number of fellow Lions from various clubs across the UK: All bar none commented on how young I was, and how it was refreshing that Ross-on-Wye appeared to be attracting new members.

A hush ensued when the Countess of Wessex accompanied by Phil Nathan and her private secretary Matt Magee (7ft 3) entered the room. The Countess gave a very warm welcome to all and thanked us for making the effort given the weather conditions, for attending this centenary evening celebration. She outlined how proud she was to be the patron of Lions and complimented the Lions for the magnificent work and achievements completed over many years of service to the community at home and abroad.

Phil Nathan MBE, Past International Director of LCI, congratulated those of us representing our respective clubs for attending such a magnificent evening in celebration of Lions and he listed a series of achievements including:

Over \$1Billion dollars in grant funding over the years.

Helping to restore sight for over 9 million people Worldwide through cataract surgery.

Setting a target of collecting 1 Million spectacles, so far collecting 1.3 Million.

Worked out for UK business equivalent all hours volunteered equated to around £5 Million per annum to the British economy.

Phil went on to present the Countess of Wessex, her Melvin Jones award and plaque in honour of her support and patronage to Lions Clubs International. She then (carefully and gracefully) watched very closely by Matt Magee walked through the ensuing masses making her way slowly out of the ballroom.

John and I then trekked our way back to St James Park tube to find it closed, so managed to hail a black cab to get us back to where I had parked. John's wife had prepared him for the big trip with homemade Welsh Cakes and a large flask of coffee which he and I enjoyed driving back along the M4.

I was very proud to represent Ross-on-Wye Lions Club, and last but definitely not least John's wife makes excellent Welsh cakes.

Sue Wilding, *Ross-on-Wye.*

105W Club Officer Days ...

All continuing and Incoming Club Officers these days are for you!

The Only Thing in Life which is Constant is ???

CHANGE is the answer my fellow Lions, for us and our clubs it is Re-Districting, Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) status, Global Action Team (GAT) a different kind of volunteer, greater expectations from new members, clubs becoming more diverse and it goes on and on and on!.....

Now that most clubs have elected their 2018/19 Officers and added the names on MyLCI, it is time to book their place on the Club Officer Day most suited to their location/diary commitments.

The days are not only for elected/continuing Club Officers, they are also for those Lions who would like to know a little more about our Association before making the decision to become an officer in the future.

Newer members especially will be most welcome.

Fellow Lions please come along and make these days lively, interesting, enjoyable, worthwhile and days to remember, days that you will recommend your successors attend next year. The days are:

Sunday 22 April, 09.30 -16.00

Mercure Hotel, Swansea, SA7 9EG

Sunday 29 April, 09.30 -16.00

Aztec Hotel, Almondsbury, Bristol, BS32 4TS

Please advise of your attendance to ensure adequate seating and refreshments!

Lion Bill O'Neill leadership@lions105w.org.uk

District 105W Celebration ...

Several people have suggested that because we missed our Annual Banquet and Ball due to the cancellation of the District Convention, that we consider an alternative function. If any Lions are interested in a Summer/Autumn Dinner Dance please contact me and my little group will set the wheels in motion.

PDG Harry Smith, harry@harryandruthsmith.co.uk

LCIF Celebrates 50 years ...

By now most Lions will have heard that LCIF (Lions Clubs International Foundation) is celebrating its Half Centenary Anniversary this year.

The Chairman, Chancellor Bob Corlew has suggested that clubs should celebrate this by making a donation to the Foundation equal to \$50 per club member.

I am pleased to say that several clubs have already done this which is highly encouraging to the District Governor Team and me and I would hope that all clubs in the District will consider this, BUT remember that the \$50 per member donation is a suggestion. If your club cannot afford this amount a donation of any size will enable LCIF to continue and develop its work on our behalf around the world. You may of course be able to contribute more☺ So once again, thanks to those who have contributed and I hope to be thanking others in the next News Update.

PDG Harry Smith, LCIF Coordinator.

Diary Dates April

- 7 Gower & Llchwyr 48th Charter Dinner.
Highworth & District Race Night.
- 8 Marlborough Spring Boundary Walk.
- 13 Chipping Sodbury 47th Charter Dinner.
- 14 Frome Charter Lunch.
Lechlade & District Charter Dinner.
- 15 Radstock & MSN 41st Charter Lunch.

- 21 Spectacle Record Attempt, Porthcawl
Dursley 37th Charter Dinner.
Hereford Charter Dinner.
- 22 Incoming Officers Day, Swansea.
www.lions105w.org.uk/DistCalendar.htm
Clevedon Lions Classic Vehicle event.
- 25 **105W Extraordinary Members Convention,
Port Talbot.**
<http://www.lions105w.org.uk/Convention2018.htm>
- 29 Incoming Officers Day, Bristol.
www.lions105w.org.uk/DistCalendar.htm

May

- 3-4 Council of Governors Meeting, Basingstoke.
- 4-6 **MD Convention**, Basingstoke.
www.md105convention.uk
- 5-6 Ross-on-Wye Beer & Cider Festival.
- 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.

May News Update ...

For May 2018 News Update, please submit articles to news@lions105w.org.uk by 25 April. Editor Derek

MD CONVENTION BASINGSTOKE 4-6 MAY 2018



It is not too late to book for the MD Convention if you are quick.

Come along to Basingstoke, partake of the business on the Saturday and let your hair down welcoming our first (and last) Lady District Governor on Sunday. Those of you have been to a MD Convention know what I am talking about. If **YOU** have no idea, talk to someone who has been☺. It's a great experience.

- Friday afternoon – Registration and Exhibitions in the Hampshire Court
- Friday Evening – Cabaret evening at the Hampshire Court with hot international buffet and top class entertainment by Matt Black. Dress smart casual
- Saturday (day) – Registration, Exhibitions and Session 1 & 2 of Convention at the Hampshire Court
- Saturday (day) – partners outing to Winchester including guided tour of the Cathedral or guided tour of the City
- Saturday (evening) – Banquet & Ball at the Hampshire Court. Dress formal. By popular demand we bring back DJ Scottie from Blackpool 2017
- Sunday (morning) – Session 3 of Convention and close

Book online at <https://www.md105convention.uk/booking>

Derek Livsey, Ed.