



'We Serve'

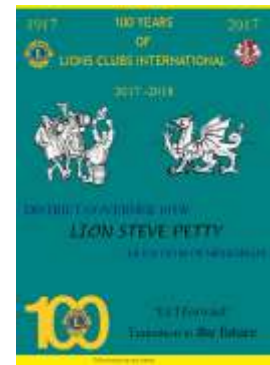
ordinary people doing amazing things

LIONS Clubs International

105W NEWS UPDATE

Lion Steve Petty - District Governor

November 2017



www.lions105w.org.uk



Dear Fellow Lions.

October started with even more club visits across the district, which meant that crossing the Severn Bridge and traveling the M4. This has now become a very familiar routine. I thank all the clubs that I have visited, for the warm welcome that each and every one of them has given me, along with some interesting and sometimes challenging conversation. West Wales is a fair journey for someone from the east of the

district, but by staying a few days at a time during the visits, I have also enjoyed ad hoc day time encounters with several local Lions and the pleasure of taking in some of the magnificent scenery that we have in Wales.

I have also attended some of your charters and thank every one of you for a wonderful time. I do apologize for walking away with some of the raffle prizes, but promise to recycle them at future club events☺

One other event that I attended this October was a membership drive evening, where members were made to think long and hard about why they are Lions and how that information can be used to encourage new and younger members of the public to join them. It was a most interesting and educational evening organised by Devizes Lions Club and using a professional facilitator.

Can I thank all of you who asked to be nominated for the Symposium being organised by PID Phil Nathan in December. Five candidates were selected and their names have now gone forward to Phil Nathan to be rubber stamped. I hope that all of the nominations meet Phil's expectations and that you have a very productive symposium.

For those of you who did not make that list, I am very grateful to you for taking the time to apply and I am pleased to know that we have so many younger members in the pipeline to take over from us oldies when the time comes. Yes, I know that sentence is going to cost me by the cabinet tail twister at the next meeting.

I finish the month with my second Council of Governors week-end at Solihull.

November is usually the time when we are all nearing completion of our usual fundraising Christmas activities and getting that information out into our communities. I

know that most of you will, but after attending the CIO meeting last month and listening to some common organisational faux pas, can I ask that you all make sure that you do your risk assessments, keep records of everyone helping at the event including your friends, family and club helpers and make sure everyone is familiar with your event protocol. It's always the little things that get overlooked and can spoil what should be a wonderful day.

The district convention is being held at the Best Western Aberavon Beach Hotel, Port Talbot on the 2nd and 3rd March 2018 and is now being advertised on our 105W website with booking forms. Go to:

www.lions105w.org.uk/2018ConventionSocialBooking.pdf

If you have not attended a convention before then please come along and see what we do, and if not staying overnight, then just come and enjoy the main event on the Saturday. You will be most welcome.

The MD105 Convention on 4-6 May, 2018 in Basingstoke is also looking to be another outstanding event with a promising international speaker.

Lion Steve Petty, District Governor, 105W.

Membership Welcome ...

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

Forest of Dean	Lynne & Roger Gardner
Hereford	Grant Hughes
Llandrindod Wells	Christopher & Denise Hartley.

105W Members end of October – 906

Higher Service ...

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

Eric Russell, Chepstow & Caldicot Lions Club

Peter Hammond, Abertillery Lions Club

District Governor, Lion Steve, and all Lion members, extend sincere condolences to their families.

Social Media Questionnaire ...

It's that time of year where you can share your hearts desires when it comes to social media. This is your chance to tell us what you need when it comes to support.

It is open to anyone to complete. Please spare 5 minutes to complete and help shape our approach.

Go to: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SJ6Z9TC>

Chris Davies, 105w Social Media Officer.

Lion Peter Hammond.

Peter, a member for over 30 years, Immediate Past President of Abertillery Lions Club, passed to higher service recently. Peter served as president, secretary and as membership chairperson on several occasions. Only illness during the last two years stopped him playing a full part in club activities recently, but his incisive interventions will be missed by the club and by visiting zone and district officers. We as a club will also miss his humour and kindness. He will also be missed by the wider community, where he was a well-respected citizen. He will be greatly missed by all in the club.

Our thoughts go to Lion Rose and family.

Darren Webb, Secretary, Abertillery Lions Club

Lion Eric Russell.

Chepstow and Caldicot Lions are deeply saddened at the sudden passing of Lion Eric Russell, who has been a staunch member of the club for the last nineteen years. Lion Eric and his wife Pam played a great part in the Annual Christmas Parcel Collection for those in need, ensuring that the parcels were sent to the correct people by liaising with Social Services and other care groups.

Eric was a great family man who loved his golf and sport. Unfortunately, a stroke in 2007 severely restricted Eric in doing some of the things he liked. In later years, even with the onset of Parkinson's, Eric continued to attend meetings and events along with his wife Pam.

He was also an active member of the Welfare Team, always ready to give advice and assist with many projects. Eric was renowned for his sartorial elegance and was always immaculately dressed at dinners and meetings. Everyone at the club admired and respected Eric and he will be sadly missed.

Our Club extends deepest sympathies to his wife Pam and his family.

Glyn Williams, Chepstow & Caldicot, Zone F Chairperson.

Double your money ???

Well here's a chance! The Medic Alert Early Start Programme was included as a Centennial Project earlier this year. This gives Medic Alert cover for children with serious medical conditions for the first ten years of their lives for the sum of £295.00 for the ten years. As this is now an exclusive Lions project, Medic Alert have offered to match any donations from Lions clubs or individuals pound for pound. Give a family a surprise Christmas present this year by using some of your Christmas collections this way!

Harry Smith, 105w Medic Alert Adviser

Hereford Centenary Donations ...

To mark the centenary of Lions Clubs International, at a reception in the Town Hall, Hereford Lions Club presented £1,000 cheques to each of ten local charities.

The celebration was hosted by the Mayor, Cllr Sharon Michael and the guest of honour was Lady Darnley, Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Herefordshire, who handed out the cheques on behalf of the Club which was founded in 1960.

The ten charities chosen for the donations were: Aspire,

which runs a day centre for disabled; Barrs Court School for children with special needs; The Blood Bikes; Breast Cancer Haven, supporting women living with breast cancer; Dial a Ride, a valued community transport service; Megan Baker House, a great help for children with cerebral palsy; MS Therapy Centre; Parkinson's Hereford branch; Widemarsh Ventures, a skills centre for vulnerable adults and finally, Young Carers Support.

Club President, Ian Foster said: "Club members wanted to make a positive contribution to the community and to remind everyone of the Vision of one man, Melvin Jones who a century ago urged fellow citizens to become community volunteers."



Lion President Ian Foster (centre) with Lady Darnley and the Mayor Cllr, Sharon Michael and representatives of the ten charities.

George Thomas, Hereford

Peace Poster ...

Just a little reminder that the closing date for this year's Peace Poster is 15 November 2017. Please could you send your entries to me, Lion Chris Sheldon, 117 Kingrosia Park, Clydach, Swansea, SA6 5PJ

I am sure that they will all be excellent again and the Judges will have a hard job to pick the winner.

You can contact me on 01792 932698 or by email: peaceposter@lions105w.org.uk

Chris Sheldon, 105w Peace Poster Advisor

Tour De Lions ...

Severn Dean Lions club members took part in a 100 miles for 100 years, charity pedelec/cycle ride to celebrate LCI centenary.



The charity being supported by the riders was LCIF 'One Shot-One Life' measles vaccination appeal.

Eight riders left Newnham early on Saturday 23 September at the start of the ride and other riders joined the group to complete small sections. Six riders completed the whole 100 miles. Throughout the ride, they were supported by fellow Lions clubs from Ross on Wye, Monmouth, Newport and Usk, Chepstow & Caldicot and Forest of Dean. These clubs provided overnight accommodation, refreshments and donations towards the £1,000 fundraising target.

Anny Reid, President and ride participant, said, "This has been a wonderful effort by all the riders. It has been great way to celebrate the Lions centenary and raise money for a wonderful cause."

John Matthews, Vice President, Severn Dean.

Northleach & Fosse News ...



Northleach with Eastington Town Council administrator, Mary Cassidy in the town Square, planting some of the 100 crocus bulbs donated by the Club to celebrate the Centenary of Lions Clubs International.

100 crocus bulbs have been gifted to other communities

in the surrounding area, including Aldsworth, Bourton-on-the-Water, Chedworth, Cold Aston, Farmington, Hampnet, Notgrove, Sherborne and Turkdean.

At our business meeting we voted to support the LCIF disaster fund and also the Cheltenham Open Door Project, which works to relieve poverty, hardship and social or emotional distress.

We focused on planning for our first Lions Christmas Fair in Bourton-on-the-Water. As there will not be the usual riverside open-air fairground this year, we are arranging a Christmas Fair, on Saturday 9 December the whole upper floor at Victoria Hall will be the venue. Families can bring children to meet Father Christmas and receive a gift from him in his grotto.

Other attractions and stalls will include: Toys, Cakes, Tombola, Wine or Water Bottle 'Lottery', White Elephant, Books, CDs, Jewellery and Miscellaneous Gifts.

We are grateful for generous sponsorship by local Funeral Director, W J Wright.

Mark Ogden, PRO, Northleach & Fosse.

Membership Matters ...



I was going to ask why people don't want to join Lions, however, that would be wrong because in reality, people do want to join

Lions and we have new Members joining our Clubs every month. In the first 3 months of this year, we had 19 new members. Sadly, though, we lost 25 members. So you can see the problem, we don't have enough joining us to make up for those who are leaving.

Therefore, the question becomes: why are Lions leaving us? The answer is sometimes the inevitability of time - but not always. Do you know the answer for your Club? Are all your members happy - how do you know?

One suggestion for every Club membership Officer or President is to carry out a survey and there is a special one aimed at us by LCI. There is a Club Satisfaction Guide full of information and the survey is called 'How are your ratings?' It aims to help a Club to identify its strengths and weaknesses and find ways to improve. It is well worth a read, you will find all the information and help at:

members.lionsclubs.org/EN/strengthen-membership/index.php

Sue Wilding, membership@lions105w.org.uk

Young Ambassador ...

A gentle reminder, that the Young Ambassador Competition closing date is the 30 November 2017. This is in order to collate the information and send it to the Judges so they can prepare for the District competition in January 2018, and arrange the trophies for each candidate.

I look forward to receiving the entries as I am always amazed at the work our young people do in our communities, and the hard work clubs have in getting them to take part.

Any queries, contact me on 01792 932698 or email:

youngambassador@lions105w.org.uk

Chris Sheldon, Young Ambassador advisor

Double your money again !!!

Lions pledged to raise \$30 million for the One Shot Measles Campaign. This would be matched by the Gates Foundation and UK Aid. With two months to go \$4 million still needs to be donated to reach the \$30 million. Why not make your year-end donation now - every pound which you give will attract one more. If all clubs donated £1 for every member this will raise almost £2000. This will convert to around \$2648 which with matching funding will mean that nearly 5300 children will receive a life or sight saving vaccination. Encourage your Welfare Committee to give this serious consideration.

Harry Smith, 105w LCIF Officer.

DragonDaze ...

I joined Newport and Usk Vale Lions at the DragonDaze exhibition on Saturday the 30 September. Helping to sell raffle tickets was not the only job I was given, it turned out that it was also a time for recruiting.

The exhibition was of interest to those who enjoy space fantasy and gaming, and also to raise funds for several local charities. Lion President James Thompson and his members worked extremely hard, taking entry fees and talking to the members of the public about Lions Clubs International.



The highlight of the afternoon for the Zone Chair, was trying to recruit Darth Vader and his group of Imperial Troopers into becoming Lions, unfortunately they

decided to stay on the Dark Side!

Well done to the Newport and Usk Vale club for a very well organised day.

Glyn Williams, Zone F Chairperson.

Guinness Book of record attempt ...

As you know, at our next District Convention we intend to break the record for the longest chain of spectacles. We are looking for suggestions for VIPs to be involved.

Please contact me, chris.davies2001@googlemail.com with suggestions!

Chris Davies, Port Talbot Branch Secretary

Llandrindod Wells news ...

We welcomed new members: Chris & Denise Hartley, Lion Harvey Benton received his 10-year chevron Centenary banner, presented by District Governor Steve Petty. Grants were made to: - Town silver band for the provision of sheet music; a Defibrillator at the New Life Church; equipment for a young trainee footballer on trial

with Hereford FC; Lord Mayor's centenary project and we manned a road crossing for the Red Dragon horse event in Builth Wells.

Vic Everill, Vice President, Llandrindod Wells.

Lion Kay Memorial ...

Chepstow and Caldicot Lions, along with the Late Lion Kay William's family, presented a new information hub to the Haematology ward in the Royal Gwent Hospital. This will be used by the patients and families with blood cancer illnesses.

Lion Glyn Williams thanked the Ward Sister Alyson and the staff for their care and kindness shown to his wife during her illness and also the President of the club for the



Photo: members of the club, wives and nurses. Glyn Williams, Secretary, Chepstow & Caldicot.

kind donation helping to purchase the hub.

A plaque in memory of Lion Kay was unveiled at the same time.

Tenby & District News ...



Tenby and District Lions donated £500 towards the New Hedges Village Hall furniture refurbishment fund and provided Coheston football club with their



splendid new kit, sporting the **Lions** emblem.

Ben Munluctao, Zone A Chairperson.

Lions boost ophthalmology unit ...

Tetbury Lions Club, for its Centenary Community Legacy Project, decided to make a large contribution to the Tetbury Hospital Trust for the purchase of a new visual fields machine for the ophthalmology unit.

Visual field tests measure peripheral vision and a detect blind spots (scotomas), which could be a sign of eye diseases. The size and shape of a scotoma offer important clues about the presence and severity of diseases of the eye, optic nerve and visual structures in the brain. Many eye and brain disorders can cause peripheral vision loss and other visual field abnormalities. From 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017, 600 patients have had their visual fields checked at Tetbury hospital. Without a visual fields machine, the ophthalmology service is not sustainable and

this will impact negatively on current patients, particularly those with glaucoma who need to visit the hospital regularly to monitor their condition. The current unit will need to be replaced in April 2018.



We are proud to announce that Tetbury Lions has collected enough money to enable the purchase of a replacement, thereby, enabling eye clinics to continue in Tetbury. This donation of £15,000, one of our largest ever, was presented to Zena Dalton, Chief Executive, Tetbury Hospital Trust, during our Charter anniversary dinner last month.

In addition, the hospital is also looking to acquire an ophthalmic diagnostic scanner. With the Lions providing most, if not all of the funding for the visual fields equipment, it has freed up other funds that would allow the hospital to purchase the scanner as well.

Photo: Lion President Steven Parr, Susan Probert, Zena Dalton, Tetbury Mayor Stephen Hirst. Ken White, Tetbury.

Diary Dates November

- 1 **2nd VDG visits** Chepstow & Caldicot.
- 4 **Black Mountains Bonfire & Fireworks.**
Ross-on-Wye Bonfire & Fireworks.
- 5 **Cabinet meeting, Newport.**
- 6 **DG Visits** Severn Dean.
1st VDG visits Swindon.
- 7 **1st VDG visits** Melksham.
2nd VDG visits Forest of Dean.
- 14 **DG Visits** Brecon.
Lions World Diabetes Day.
- 18 **Calne 45th Charter/Centenary Banquet & Ball.**
- 20 **2nd VDG visits** Devizes.
- 23 **DG Visits** Ammanford.
- 24-25 **Sounds of a Century, Armouries, Leeds.**
- 24 **Keynsham Winter Festival Street Fair.**
- 25 **Glantawe Swansea Valley Lions Charter Dinner.**

December

- 4 **DG Visits** Gower & Llŵchwr Estuary.
- 5 **1st VDG visits** Radstock & Midsomer Norton.
- 4 **DG Visits** Caerffili.
- 12 **DG Visits** Newport.

March 2018

- 2-3 **District Convention, Aberavon Beach Hotel.**

December News Update ...

For December 2017 News Update, please submit articles to news@lions105w.org.uk by 25 November. *Editor Derek*