

August/September 2015

LION

The magazine of the British and Irish Multiple District of Lions Clubs International

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



No Translation Required: WE SERVE

**Dignity.
Harmony.
Humanity.**



皆さんの国際会長を務めることを、大変光栄に思います。

These Japanese words mean "I am honored to serve as international president."

素晴らしい奉仕の1年となることを楽しみにしています。

That means "I look forward to a year of great service."

So how do Lions in Japan say "We Serve"? Well, it's "We Serve." Our motto is not translated. Lions throughout the world proudly proclaim "We Serve." The universality of our motto

underscores that despite language and cultural differences we Lions share a common purpose. And although I am the 99th international president, each of my predecessors having had their own priorities and approaches, international presidents have shared a common commitment to service.

So I hope my year as president is like any other as Lions continue to serve with tremendous enthusiasm and impact. Yet I also hope to make a difference in how we serve. My theme is Bringing Dignity to Others Through Humanitarian Service. That's something that has been inherent in Lions' service since Melvin Jones first gathered Lions together. But by intentionally focusing on my theme and keeping it in the forefront we can be sure to maintain and even improve our commitment to service. Learn the complete details of my program by reading the story on page xx.

As a doctor, I have always been dedicated to healing and to do so while treating patients in a dignified manner. A good doctor not only

treats illness but pays attention to the entire person—their worries, their concerns, their struggles. If you had asked me after many years as a doctor if I treated the whole person, I would have said, "Of course." But it took a serious illness for me to re-evaluate my approach as a doctor. Likewise, as Lions we are dedicated to service, but reassessing our approach and focusing on the dignity of others in all we do will take our service to a new level.

I ask each of you this year especially to bring dignity to children. Through a project or program I ask you to make their lives better. Working together, 1.4 million Lions can help the next generation prosper and secure good health, find opportunity and achieve happiness.

Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada
Lions Clubs International
President

MISSION STATEMENT OF LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL:



"To empower volunteers to Serve their communities, meet humanitarian needs, encourage peace and promote international understanding through Lions Clubs."



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Multiple District 105: www.lionsclubs.co
e-mail: mdhq@lionsclubs.co
Lions Clubs International: www.lionsclubs.org/

LION

WE SERVE

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT 2014-2015

Chairman: PDG John Savell

8 North Close, Tiddington, THAME, OX9 2LT
Tel: **01844 338 078**
Email: john@savell.uk.com

Deputy Chairman: PDG John Hall

28 Beacon Road, Bridlington, YO16 6UX
Tel: **01262 679 475**
Email: johnh5307@gmail.com

CONTACT GOVERNOR:

PDG Carole Godden

14 Bladon Avenue, Westbury Park, Newcastle, ST5 4JF
Tel: **01782 614 127**
Email: carole.hodgkinson@virginmedia.com

DG David Wells

7 Darrowby Close, Thirsk, N. Yorks, YO78 1FJ
Tel: **01845 526 549** or **01609 532 873**
Email: david07wells@btinternet.com

EDITOR:

Warners Group Publications Plc
Editor: Clowance Lawton
Tel: **01778 391177**
Email: lion.editor@lionsclubs.co

ADVERTISING:

Warners Group Publications Plc
Advertising Manager: Jayne notley
Tel: **01778 391189**
email: jaynen@warnersgroup.co.uk

Production Co-ordinator: Sue Woodgates

Tel: **01778 392062**
Email: production@warnersgroup.co.uk
The Maltings, West Street, Bourne, Lincs. PE10 9PH.

Patron of the Lions Clubs of the British Isles Her Royal Highness The Countess of Wessex

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MULTIPLE DISTRICT SECRETARIAT

257 Alcester Road South, Kings Heath, Birmingham B14 6BT.
Tel: **0121 441 4544**. Fax **0121 441 4510**

Editorial



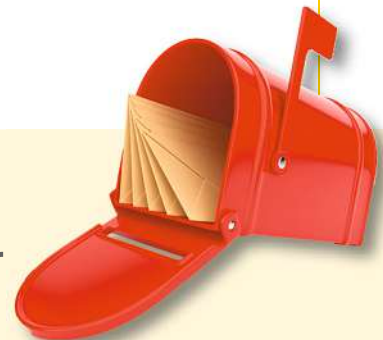
First of all I'd like to thank Nicky Rogers for editing the last issue whilst I was completing my degree: it is evident she did a fantastic job. I'd also like to thank her, as well as PDG John Savell and past-editor Margaret Kimberly for guiding me through the process in editing this issue. It was a very daunting prospect to attempt to fill the boots of someone like Margaret and I am very thankful for their invaluable support.

I have previously worked at Warners Group Publications, whilst I was undertaking a placement year at the University of Surrey. During this year I was involved with a number of editorial and marketing roles working on a variety of magazines. Upon graduating this year, I have moved back to the Lincolnshire/Cambridgeshire area where at the first available opportunity I have visited my local Lions Club in Peterborough – and what a lovely Club it is! All members were very welcoming and I particularly enjoyed helping them out at a local festival. I look forward to seeing them again on numerous occasions.

With regards to the magazine, as John stated in the last issue: the international board has decreed that the LION magazine must appear in digital format from July 2018. I aim to develop the magazine with this in mind. In upcoming issues there will be more information on technology, especially the use of social media and having an easy-to-use website, so that Lions Clubs can build a solid online presence to communicate with one another and to attract new members.

As previously mentioned by PDG John Savell, the LION magazine is on the cusp of change which will be apparent within in this issue. However, this is the LION magazine for British and Irish Lions. For this reason, I implore you, the Lions of MD105, to contact me via my email address lion.editor@lionsclubs.co to let me know what you do or do not like about the magazine as well as anything you'd like to see more of, or perhaps less of. Nevertheless, I hope you enjoy this issue as much as I have editing it.

Clowance (Clo) Lawton LION Magazine Editor















Letter to the Editor

Dear Sir or Madam

I was surprised to read in the article on Message in a Wallet (June/July magazine p14) that "if a vulnerable person collapses in the street the medical attendant can establish the patients' medical needs ... from Message in a Wallet". It is my understanding (from a retired paramedic) that the medical emergency services would NEVER open a person's wallet at the scene of an incident (as this could leave them exposed to all types of litigation). The first time anyone might examine a wallet would be at the hospital. There is also the

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issue of how much personal medical information you might wish to make freely available to anyone who might find/steal your wallet.

I'm told that paramedics at an incident would, however, recognise and use the established **Lions MedicAlert** bracelet, which is worn at the wrist or around the neck, both pressure points that paramedics are likely to examine - and that this disk contains only key information with more details available, only to medical staff, via a 24 hour phone number. Hence, while I can see the value of combining **MedicAlert** and **Message in a Bottle** (both Lions MD projects), I'm unclear how *Message in a Wallet* compliments this further.

Chris Southworth
Aberdeen Lions Club

Editorial Comment

Message in a Wallet is not a Lions project, it is recognised that many Clubs have taken on the idea but Council at least 3 years ago decided that because of the issues that PDG Lion Chris has highlighted that this was not a project they wish to support.

The principal is that Message in a Bottle operates within the house and that Medic Alert is for outside of the home, both are recognised and supported by the Medical Emergency services. The Lions involvement with Media Alert goes back many years but in later years it has been of less interest. Perhaps the time has come for Clubs to reaffirm their support for Medic Alert and encourage the purchase of bracelets and necklaces.

PDG Lion John Savell
Chairman



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dignity.
Harmony.
Humanity.



The Doctor Is In

Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada of Japan, our 99th international president, promises to advance the health of the association.

PHOTO BY JOHN TIMMERMAN



PICTURED: Yamada returns to Ajisai Nursing College, where he taught.

For 45 years Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada has donned surgical scrubs and, as families anxiously paced in the waiting room, operated on the brain, neck or back. Neurosurgery has not been his only occupation, he also served as a hospital director. Now Yamada serves all Lions, taking the oath as the 99th International President of Lions Clubs International on June 30 in Honolulu.

He promises not a major operation, not an overhaul—nor, on the other hand, a cursory checkup but instead a thorough, decisive and empathetic bedside manner. “My philosophy with medicine and Lions is to leave things in a better state than how I found them. That’s why we ‘treat’ and that’s why ‘we serve.’”

Medicine has enveloped Yamada’s life. His father was a doctor and having earned his medical degree from Nihon University in 1968 he prospered as a neurosurgeon. His healthcare colleagues attest to his coolness under pressure in the operating room but it is his innovative track record as a hospital administrator that sets him apart. Many patients came out of surgery

with disabilities or other medical challenges. To aid their journey to independence, Yamada added a rehabilitation centre to Kizawa Memorial Hospital.

Yamada didn’t stop there. Yamada’s daily experiences as a doctor swayed him to be bold and innovative as a healthcare leader. An encounter with a patient from years ago stayed with him. He told a post-op patient who was making good progress with her physical therapy, “Looks like you’re almost ready to go home.” She burst into tears. Still partially paralyzed, she did not want to be a burden on her family. Japanese law, then, separated medical institutions and elderly-care facilities. Yamada visited facilities in the US and Australia to learn about integrated care for the elderly. In 1988, a pioneer in Japan, he helped establish the Sawayaka Nursing Villa and a system of nursing and retirement homes.

His own sudden illness as a patient transformed him as a doctor. At just 39 years old, he was told he had liver cancer and underwent an emergency operation. A year later, still fearful of dying, he saw his

doctor again. “Why am I still alive?” he asked. The doctor matter-of-factly replied, “Your tumor was benign.” Yamada was incredulous. Post-op biopsies take a couple weeks or even days. “Why didn’t you tell me?” he demanded. The doctor stood his ground, however shaky. “I was waiting for you to ask,” he curtly responded.

Yamada resolved to henceforth provide the kind of care he expected for himself. He would no longer take life for granted and would strive to make life better for others. “I was so thankful. I felt there was a God. I wanted to serve. I wanted to give back,” he says. The next year Yamada became a Lion.

Yamada now ponders the question whether as Lions’ president he will favour innovation and risk as he did as a healthcare leader, “Expect the same thing,” he says. “There will be some changes... My expectations are always high. I’m idealistic. I set high goals. It promises to be an eventful year, a fun year, a year of turning corners with one foot in yesterday and one in tomorrow. We’re about to turn 100 years old. I think we’ve reached a turning point. We want LCI to last another 100 years. We need to look back at what we’ve accomplished and look ahead to what we can do. Some things that are no longer relevant we want to leave behind. It’s like the Lions logo that looks two ways: forward and backward. That’s how we will move ahead.”

Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada
Lions Clubs International
President

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HOW WRONG CAN I BE - Mr F, Lancs

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The Melvin Jones Fellowship

What is the Melvin Jones Fellowship?

The fellowship, which was created in 1973, takes its name from the founder of Lions Clubs International Federation (LCIF), Melvin Jones. The fellowship was established as LCIF's highest form of recognition to acknowledge an individual's dedication to humanitarian service. The MFJ is one of the highest awards the LCIF can bestow upon a member. If a Club wishes to honour

one of its number, it must make the required donation of US \$1000 to LCIF (this is around £650 or €900).

The Progressive Melvin Jones Fellowship

The Progressive Melvin Jones Fellowship (PMJF) programme is a way for donors to extend their commitment to LCIF. There are 54 recognition levels beyond the initial US\$1,000 MJF contribution with a unique pin for each giving level.



PICTURED : Melvin Jones 1879 - 1961

Melvin Jones Fellowship Award Recipients

Stony Stratford Lions Club

Stony Stratford Lions Club President Malcolm Pruskin presents Lion Verdun Webley with the Melvin Jones shield as a thank you for all his dedicated work for the Club, particularly in regard to maintaining

the clubs "fleet" of electric mobility scooters and wheelchairs which have gone to many deserving people in Milton Keynes. Verdun is moving to Nottinghamshire soon and he will be sorely missed by the Club.



PICTURED: Welfare Chairman and Pro Stony Stratford [Milton Keynes] Lions Club



Stevenage Lions Club

Lion Jackie Hubbard was presented with the Melvin Jones Fellowship plaque to thank her for all the work she had done for the Stevenage Lions Club over the years. Lion Jackie joined Stevenage Lions Club in 2002: even though she lived in Stotfold, Hertfordshire, she travelled to all meetings and was involved in most community and fundraising events. She was President twice and was Zone Chair in 2008/9. She was instrumental in raising funds for the Scouts, the Women's refuge, and the disabled children from Greenside School. Patricia Temple comments, "Without Jackie's unstinting hard work and her commitment to her Club's welfare and her humanitarian attitude to the community, the community would have been a lot poorer and the Club would not have been able to do what they have."



Bourne Lions Club's 40th Anniversary

This year we celebrate the Club's 40th anniversary. Chartered in 1975, the Club currently has 13 members including 2 life members, one of which is a founder member.

Bourne Lions Club raises funds by getting involved in service activities that directly benefit the community. Every December they take Santa for a tour around Bourne and the surrounding villages as well as looking after Santa outside the local supermarkets. On average they raise over £6,000 annually which is used to help local good causes.

Another annual event is their little blue Lions bus, painted in the local Delaine Bus Company colours. This is available for hire during the summer months at fetes and rallies to give rides to children of all ages. Again, this is always well supported by the people of Bourne and surrounding areas.

Their new venture is a Lions Fun Day which they hope will become an annual event to help raise monies for local charities and causes.



PICTURED: Lion Patricia Temple presents Lion Jackie Hubbard with the Melvin Jones plaque



Knowle and Dorridge Lions Club

Eight members of our Club were recently given awards for service and their longstanding contributions to the Club's activities. Seven were given Melvin Jones Fellowships (MJF), the eighth a Progressive MJF.

The first was awarded in March to Brian Gibbs. Sadly, Brian passed away not long after receiving his award which he dearly cherished. Five awards were made at the Club's anniversary lunch to Peter Smith, John Horton, Eddie Matthews, Maldwyn Jenkin, Barry Dale and Past District Governor and Charter Member, Brian Burgess. Lion Brian Burgess also received a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellowship for his outstanding service to the Club and to the District in a number of capacities. The final award was made to Jamie Walsh in June at the Club's last meeting of the year. All of the recipients had run events, chaired committees and most had been President, some more than once. The awards were provided by LCIF following the large donation made to their SightFirst programme.

Certificate of Appreciation



PICTURED: DG Terry presenting to Lion President Chris

Burgess Hill District Lions Club

DG Terry Mason presents Lion President Chris Muschamp from Burgess Hill District Lions Club, with a Certificate of Appreciation from our Patron, Her Royal Highness, the Countess of Wessex G.C.V.O. Lion Chris received this award for his 60 years of service to the community at the Club's recent 60th Charter anniversary.

CREDIT: LGM PHOTOGRAPHY



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Prague • Czech Republic • April 13-16, 2015

1. Singapore, Singapore, was selected as the site for the 2020 International Convention.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

1. Approved the engagement of Crowe Horwath LLP for the external audit and tax services of The International Association of Lions Clubs and Lions Clubs International Foundation, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, through June 30, 2017.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

1. Reviewed ongoing disputes and litigation in District 321-A3 (India) and established a three-year moratorium on district governor, first vice district governor and second vice district governor elections beginning with elections for 2015-2016 fiscal year officers.
2. Removed District 301-A1 (Philippines) as a district. Clubs within the former District 301-A1 will be provided the opportunity to transfer to other districts within the Manila area of Multiple District 301.
3. Revise Chapter III, Paragraph A.2.b.(2) and Paragraph B.4. to replace the phrase "twenty (20)" with the phrase "ten (10)."
4. Adopted a resolution to change the title of Chapter XV, Paragraph J, of the Board Policy Manual to "Dispute Resolution Procedures."
5. Revised the Standard Form District Constitution and By-Laws to establish standardized and mandatory district constitution and by-law provisions for election procedures effective July 1, 2016.
6. Effective July 1, 2016, revised the Board Policy Manual to adopt mandatory provisions of the Standard Form District Constitution and By-Laws.
7. Revised Chapter XV, Paragraph J.4., of the Board Policy Manual to establish a new District Governor Suspension Procedure.
8. Adopted a resolution to be reported to the 2015 International Convention to amend the International By-Laws to permit payment of dues up to 15 days prior to the close of credentials at district (single, sub- and multiple) conventions effective July 1, 2016.
9. Adopted a resolution to be reported to the 2015 International Convention to amend the International By-Laws to revise redistricting procedures.

DISTRICT AND CLUB SERVICE COMMITTEE

1. Changed the deadline date for the 2015-2016 Excellence Awards from September 30 to August 31.
2. Appointed Past District Governor Robert Fassouliadjian to serve as Coordinating Lion for the Republic of Armenia effective immediately through the 2015-2016 fiscal year.
3. Appointed recommended Lions from provisional districts to serve as district governors for the 2015-2016 fiscal year and Past District Governor Robert Talley to fill the vacancy of district governor-elect and to serve as district governor for District 30-S (Mississippi) through the 2015-2016 fiscal year.
4. Revised the District Governor Expense Reimbursement Policy for 2015-2016 to simplify the process and to give more flexibility to the use of funds.
5. Revised the policy regarding Publications and Information Available to Certified Candidates for the Offices of Second Vice President and International Director to allow data to be shared in an electronic format.
6. Changed the name of the "Club Excellence Process" to "Club Quality Initiative" (for English version) to alleviate confusion between the program and the Club Excellence Awards.
7. Revised the policy regarding the Priority Club Status to include new, cancelled and status

quo clubs, and changed the name to "Priority Club Designation."

8. Revised the Redistricting Policy to ensure effective communication and club support of redistricting proposals that are reviewed by the International Board of Directors.
9. Requested that a Constitutional Amendment be drafted that would allow a multiple district to approve a redistricting proposal (without the approval of affected full sub-districts) during the multiple district convention when the proposal consolidates one or more sub-districts of which one or more sub-districts has fewer than 35 clubs and 1,250 members.

FINANCE AND HEADQUARTERS OPERATION COMMITTEE

1. Approved the FY 2015 3rd Quarter Forecast, reflecting a deficit.
2. Approved a revised Retirement Income Plan Investment Policy Statement.
3. Approved that the exchange rate for the Lions of Venezuela to pay for new clubs and new member fees be 6.30 VEF per USD through June 1, 2015, and then transition to the SICAD 1 rate published on a monthly basis. Additionally the board approved the exchange rate for the Lions of Venezuela to pay for dues at 6.30 VEF per USD through June 1, 2015, and then transition to the SICAD 1 rate published on a monthly basis.
4. Approved crediting clubs in sub-districts O-1 and O-3 in Argentina the 35 percent tax imposed on credit card usage in Argentina when used to pay club dues and fees through March 31, 2016.
5. Determined that the international president may authorize Lions serving on special committees attending the board meeting to fly business class when total flying time for round-trip travel exceeds 10 hours, not including time on the ground for connecting flights. All travel expenses must be within the budgets allowed for board meetings.
6. Approved a housekeeping revision to Chapter IX and Chapter XXII deleting an outdated chart regarding the claim submission dates.
7. Approved adding Jason Cobb, Manager, Financial Reporting and Analysis, and Christine Hastings, LCIF Manager, Financial Planning & Analysis, as signers on all association bank accounts.
8. Determined that the Finance and Headquarters Operation Committee must approve a bank account in any country, unless the association currently maintains a bank account in that country or the account is temporary to support the operations at the international convention.

LCIF

1. Approved the report of the LCIF Finance Committee.
2. Approved the plan for a revised LCIF governance structure and will review policy changes at the June meeting, noting with thanks the contributions of the LCIF Governance Ad Hoc Committee.
3. Approved a grant in the amount of US\$450,000 to fund a low-vision research award in collaboration with Research to Prevent Blindness, with funding from the foundation's designated sight account.
4. Approved a grant in the amount of US\$47,376 for a Lions Quest project in collaboration with the NoVo Foundation, with funding from the foundation's designated youth account.
5. Increased the humanitarian grants budget for the current fiscal year by US\$2 million.
6. Approved 102 Standard, International Assistance and Core 4 grants totaling US\$5,173,980.
7. Tabled one grant.
8. Approved a grant in the amount of

US\$73,581 for a joint sanitation project with the Sujana Charitable Trust.

9. Approved a grant in the amount of US\$25,000 for a Lions Quest project with the Sujana Charitable Trust, with funding from the foundation's designated youth account.
10. Approved a pilot block grant in the amount of US\$200,000 for KidSight USA programs, with funding from the foundation's designated sight account.
11. Nominated three individuals for the 2015 Humanitarian Award, with the final selection to be determined by the international president.
12. Closed the foundation's designated humanitarian needs account, due to its redundancy, and approved that funds available be used to fund future disbursements for measles grants.
13. Amended the LCIF Operations and Policy Manual to reflect: a) housekeeping updates necessitated by a title change, b) an addition to the standard grant criteria, c) changes made to the International Assistance Grant approval process in order to streamline it, d) the inclusion of a description of the grant controls process, e) revisions to the Lions Quest awards and recognition, f) housekeeping updates to the Statement of Investment Policy related to investment manager performance measurement benchmarks, and g) revisions to the Forms of Recognition to include new programs for club recognition and major donors.
14. Amended the Board Policy Manual to reflect housekeeping updates necessitated by a) a title change and b) previous omission of a word.

LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

1. Approved a 2015-2016 Faculty Development Institute for qualified Lions of Constitutional Areas I and II.
2. Approved a 2015-2016 Emerging Lions Leadership Institute for qualified Lions of Constitutional Area VI.
3. Approved curriculum and funding support for a 2015-2016 Emerging Lions Leadership Institute for qualified Lions of Africa.
4. Increased the participant registration fee for Faculty Development Institutes to US\$150; increased the participant registration fee for Advanced Lions Leadership Institutes and Emerging Lions Leadership Institutes to US\$125. Both adjustments will take effect at the start of 2015-2016.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

1. Approved a processing fee of US\$100 to be assessed to club charter applications not approved by LCI, effective July 1, 2015.
2. Approved the advance payment of US\$30 for adding any additional charter members effective July 1, 2015.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

1. Made name badges featuring the centennial logo available for purchase through Club Supplies.
2. Authorized the addition of 100 medals each of the Leadership Award and Presidential Award for Lions Year 2015-2016.
3. Made various changes to Chapter XXI of the Board Policy Manual to reflect current practices.

SERVICE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

1. Selected the Top Ten Youth Camp and Exchange Chairperson Awards for 2013-2014.

For more information on any of the above resolutions, please refer to the LCI website at lionsclubs.org or contact the International Office at 630-571-5466.



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Casino Royale Charity Ball

Wokingham Lions Club raise £6,000 for Alexander Devine Children's Hospice Service



A good time was had by all at Wokingham Lions Club's first-ever Casino Royale Charity Ball on Saturday, 18th July. The event took place at the Holiday Inn Hotel, Winnersh Triangle, Reading, with 208 people in attendance. The Club raised nearly £6000 for the Alexander Devine Children's Hospice Service, with the money being used to help build a much-needed children's hospice in Maidenhead.

Guests arrived on a red carpet and entered a room decorated with a James Bond theme, complete with

black and white balloons and life-size James Bond cut-outs. The evening included a three-course meal, a silent auction, and a casino where guests could purchase fun money to use in the casino. A live band, Triple O from Twyford, played a variety of music and guests danced until midnight.

Lyn Baily, Charity Ball committee head, Wokingham Lions Club comments, "Currently there isn't a children's hospice in Berkshire, so we were very pleased to support the Alexander Devine Children's Hospice

Service. This is an exciting time for the charity, as building works begin in September in Maidenhead. So far, they have raised £4 million toward the £5 million needed to build the facility,"

Clare Dando, chair of Wokingham fund raising group for Alexander Devine, added, "It was a fantastic night, and everyone had a great time. The £5,500 raised is an amazing sum, and it will make such a difference to us. The casino and auction items were a big hit, and we are very grateful to the Wokingham Lions Club."

Sponsors for the event include Prospect Estate Agency, Johnson Controls Limited, SGI and Patrizia - Winnersh Triangle Management Office.

For more information on the Wokingham Lions Club, please visit: www.wokinghamlions.org.uk or call **0845 833 7384**.



In the last financial year, Wokingham Lions Club donated more than £36,000 to worthy causes in the Wokingham area.



National Junior Athletics Championships 2015

Lion Ian Clare, Liaison Officer from the English Federation of Disability Sport, thanks the Lions for their donations

The Championships have provided thousands of young disabled athletes from all four nations with the opportunity to develop their talent and compete against their national rivals. Many elite disabled athletes who began their golden careers at the event, remember these Junior Championships fondly.

This year, the Warwick University's athletics stadium in Coventry played host to the Typhoo National Junior Athletics Championships. The Graham Bool Memorial Trophy was

awarded to the region that accumulated the most points through individual performance and the North East team were delighted to lift the trophy for a second year, well done!

Barry Horne, Chief Executive Officer for the English Federation for Disability Sport comments, "We are really thankful to Lions Clubs of the British Isles and Ireland for supporting our regional and national athletics championships. From beginners to potential international champions, the events around England, encapsulate the meaning of true sports participation. Without the Lions, this particular programme would not happen. Your donation and volunteers at the events helped to give an added boost for everyone

involved. We look forward to working with you into the future."

Please continue to support this partnership by sending in donations to your District Treasurer endorsing the back of your Clubs cheques with the English Federation of Disability Sport.



CREDIT EFDS AND SIMON COATES

Charity Concert in aid of Wishes 4 kids

Oadby and Wigston Lions Club joined with the Bardi Wind Orchestra to stage their annual charity concert at the De Montfort Hall Leicester.

This year the concert was to raise funds for the local charity 'Wishes 4Kids'. This was set up in 2002 with the objective of granting a 'wish' for Leicestershire children with life limitations, terminal illnesses or who have suffered life-changing trauma. The Grand Gala Concert was held on a Sunday afternoon to enable more families to enjoy the music. A special guest artist for the concert was Dawn Allen, who earlier this year had taken part in the BBC's show *The VOICE*.



PICTURED LEFT: (L to R) Jenny Saunders (Soprano), Yvonne Cluley (President Oadby and Wigston Lions Club) Martin Ballard from Radio Leicester who compered the concert, Councillor Ted Cassidy (Lord Mayor of Leicester), Dawn Allen (guest artist), Resham Singh (Past High Sheriff of Leicester), David Morris (Tenor). With the collecting buckets: Robert Calow (Manager of the Bardi Orchestra) and David Calow (Conductor of the Orchestra).





MD Special Appeal for Blind Veterans UK and Blesma



Lions Clubs of the British Isles and Ireland are committed to raising £100,000 to be used to facilitate the completion of the building work required to refurbish three disused outbuildings at the Blind Veterans UK Centre (BVUK) at Llandudno.

Blind Veterans UK is a partnership organisation with Lions Clubs of the British Isles and Ireland and is proposing to expand its rehabilitation facilities to assist not only its own veterans but those of Blesma who have been severely wounded and disabled in protecting our country.

Both organisations are reacting to research carried out by the King's Centre for Military Health into the mental health and social well-being of disabled ex-service men and women. The research identified that many struggled with mental health issues including depression and anxiety; it was found that there was an increased prevalence of self-harming behaviour including substance abuse and alcohol misuse. In addition, it was found that many veterans struggled with social relationships after the loss of sight and/or limbs leading to the loss of independence which was a major concern for them. The research highlighted that these concerns were of greater prominence amongst younger veterans under the age of 50.

The Life Skills for Independent Living Project evolved from the needs identified by the research as a means of providing a tailored programme of counselling and training in purpose-built

PICTURED LEFT: >>
Andy Allen is blind as well as having lost his limbs

PICTURED FAR LEFT: >>
Hannah Campbell



accommodation for those younger veterans that need this vital support so providing a lifeline for working age ex-Service men and women. Blind Veterans UK and Blesma, The Limbless Veterans Association believe that the best way to meet the recommendations made by the King's Centre for Military Health Research is to provide these life skills in accommodation that replicate the home environment.

This is a major project being set up by Blind Veterans UK and Blesma, The Limbless Veterans Association. It is ultimately designed to provide rehabilitation training for our current and ex-service personnel whose lives have been immeasurably altered, indeed shattered, whilst they were protecting our safety. Please help us to show our appreciation for their sacrifices by fulfilling our goal of raising the target amount so that our current and ex-service disabled men and women are able to access a state-of-the-art Rehabilitation Complex that will provide essential services to improve the quality of their lives. When completed this complex will be used to deliver the Life Skills for Independent Living

project, which comprises of a tailored programme of counselling and training in purpose-built accommodation for those younger veterans needing this vital support.

To that end, three disused outbuildings at the Blind Veterans UK Llandudno Rehabilitation and Training Centre are to be refurbished to provide five separate residential units. Four will be self-contained apartments and one a two bedroom family unit. All five units will be linked together by an Entrance Foyer and Central Communal area.

The accommodation facility will be made available to veterans who have been identified as being at risk of homelessness or living in unsuitable accommodation. Veterans will be able to stay in the accommodation for between six weeks and six months and each will be offered an individually tailored programme that addresses their particular situation and challenges.



PICTURED: Proposed accommodation



The aim is to provide these disadvantaged veterans with the tools they need to be emotionally, physically and financially equipped for independent living. At the end of the programme veterans will be supported to find a permanent home.

The total cost of the building refurbishment work is £1,650,000: a successful grant application to the Armed Forces Covenant Fund is providing £1,250,000, meaning that a further £400,000 is being sought from other outside donors to fund the building work.

Blind Veterans UK are celebrating their Centenary this year. When Lion Phil Nathan launched his LCI Centenary proposals, at the Multiple District Convention in Birmingham, he explicitly asked that the Lions Clubs of the British Isles and Ireland to include support for this MD Special Appeal as part of a joint Centenary acknowledgment.

Donations should be sent to your District Treasurer endorsed 'MD 105 Special Appeal – BVUK & BLESMA'.

Lion Evan Jones, Liaison Contact for Blind Veterans UK



Cannock Lions Club's Largest Fundraiser Takes Off

Cannock Lions Club were proud to present a cheque to Midlands Air Ambulance for £5,025, which was the largest sum raised by the Club to date. The proceeds were from the fabulous St Georges Day Auction at the Moat House, Acton Trussel. Lion President Beverley Stanyer said, "I am so proud at what we have achieved and the amount raised exceeded all expectations."

Midlands Air Ambulance representative Jo Bailey commented, "Cannock Lions Club raised a fantastic amount and this money could save two lives."



PICTURED: Cannock Lions Club proudly present the cheque to Midlands Air Ambulance. (L to R) Lion Graham Stanyer, President Beverley Stanyer, MAA Chris and Lion Viv Woolf

105-BN Campaign Raises Vital Funds for LIBRA

After losing their daughter Gemma to Acute Myeloid Leukaemia, Lion Erica Collins and her husband PDG Lion Barry Collins from Warrington launched a year-long campaign to help raise funds for the Lions International Blood Research Appeal (LIBRA) in her memory. In 2014, Barry took up the role of District Governor for Lions district 105 BN and Erica selected LIBRA as her Partner In Service Appeal. A year on and the couple have raised more than £9,000 for the Lions appeal which solely supports the Haematology Department at King's College Hospital in London.

When Erica launched the campaign she said: "We miss Gemma and think of her every day. She had such strength and was, and still is, a true inspiration. In her memory we decided to launch the fundraising campaign for LIBRA to help save patients with leukaemia and other blood disorders."

For 12 months Erica and Barry worked tirelessly to promote LIBRA and organised a variety of fundraising activities. Perhaps the most memorable and notably brave activity was Erica's sponsored head shave in May, which inspired

supporters to give a significant amount in sponsorship monies.

Erica is thankful for all the support she has received from fellow Lions and commented: "I am so grateful to everyone who has helped me to raise such a substantial amount for a very worthy cause. Campaigning for LIBRA has been a super experience and I have many great memories of the fundraising activities I have been a part of.

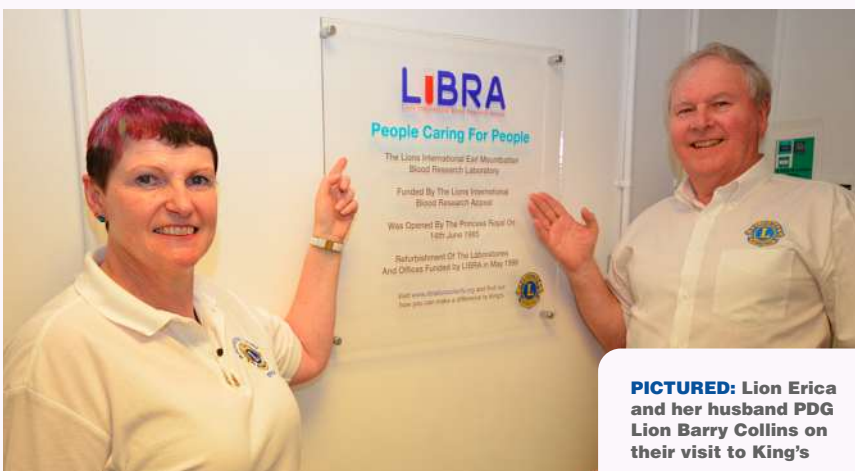
"Barry and I recently made a special visit to King's College Hospital to mark the end of the campaign. We met with LIBRA Chairman Andrew Lodge and Professor Ghulam Mufti, Head of the Haematology Department. It was interesting to speak to the Professor and find out just how beneficial the funds we have raised will be to the hospital. The Professor thanked us for supporting LIBRA and said that the funds will enable his unit to move towards the eradication of Leukaemia."

LIBRA Chairman Andrew Lodge added: "Erica and Barry are an inspirational couple and LIBRA is so very grateful to them both for raising such a substantial amount. The funds will go towards our Giving 4 Growth Campaign target of £200,000. This funding will help to cover the cost of some major laboratory developments at King's. The laboratory space will be used by Professors to develop new lifesaving treatments for Acute Myeloid Leukaemia and allied blood cancers."

If you would like to find out more about LIBRA and how you can get involved, please visit www.libralionscharity.org or call **01428 656283**.



PICTURED: LIBRA Chairman Lion Andrew Lodge, Lion Erica Collins and husband PDG Lion Barry Collins with Professor Ghulam Mufti, Head of Haematology at King's.



PICTURED: Lion Erica and her husband PDG Lion Barry Collins on their visit to King's

Lion Erica Shaves Her Head for LIBRA

We interview Lion Erica about having her head shaved in May. Well done Erica!

WHAT MADE YOU DECIDE TO SHAVE YOUR HEAD?

I am well known for my 'crowning glory' - my multi-coloured hairstyle is my signature. So this was a sacrifice and a little scary for me but I wanted to actually give something of myself and shaving my head also got attention and helped the appeal. Some people have to lose their hair because of chemotherapy so there was a symbolic link to the appeal. A few of my friends were horrified and two actually said they would pay me £100 each NOT to shave my hair!

WHAT SUPPORT DID YOU HAVE?

Many of the 53 clubs in our District contributed to the appeal and many friends and family sent money online. I also made special bow ties and decorations for specific events. One night I was up all night making 32 special bow ties for a Spanish themed evening. All profits from my handicraft went to LIBRA.

DESCRIBE THE DAY

On the day of the head shave I sat in the public area of a large shopping centre. The press attended along with friends, family and lots of members of the public. My personal hairdressers and his staff shut up shop to perform the deed. The event was filmed and can be seen on YouTube! www.youtube.com/watch?v=DUvFmw6jIlw

HOW MUCH HAVE YOU RAISED IN TOTAL?

The amount so far is £9,300 but cheques are still coming in and I hope to exceed £10,000 within the month.

WHAT WAS THE HIGHLIGHT OF YOUR EXPERIENCE?

The highlight of my experience was meeting Professor Mufti and his team at Kings College Hospital, London. He held my hand and thanked me for the donation and said, "Erica, I love you!" He is a lovely man, so clever and so modest. I wish him well with his ground-breaking research.

ANYTHING ELSE YOU'D LIKE TO ADD...

I shall continue to support LIBRA in any way I can and I believe that our Gemma will be so pleased with our efforts.



PICTURED: Before...



PICTURED: After...



PICTURED: During...



PICTURED: Erica's daughter, Gemma



Blackmore Vale Lions Swimathon Exceeds All Expectations



This year a total of 27 teams took place in the 28th year of the Blackmore Vale Lions Swimathon at Clayesmore School. Although, there were fewer teams than last year, the results exceeded the previous Swimathon's in every respect.

Even though there weren't any records broken, the customary enthusiasm was displayed by swimmers and spectators alike and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. The number of laps swam by the teams ranged from 35 to 108, which is a huge improvement on 2014's record. It is also noteworthy that the points scored by the winners exceeded last year's figures by arge margins. In total, teams swam 82km and raised £7,171 in sponsorship – a fantastic effort!

THE PRIZE WINNERS WERE:

- Best Group* **North Dorset Turbos Swimming Club**
- Best Senior team* **Stour Provost School PTA**
- Runner-up* **Clayesmore Master Swimming Club**
- Best Junior team* **North Dorset Turbos Boys**
- Junior Runners-Up* **Stour Provost School Pupils**
- Presidents Shield* **St Gregory's School Marnhull**

Half of the money raised was donated to the participants' chosen charities and the other half goes to Blackmore Vale Lions chosen charities. The Lions Charity beneficiaries this year were the NSPCC and Julia's House who were each presented cheques for £1250 by Lion President Colin MacCleid with a number of the school teams who took part.

Support for local Squadron Air Training Corps

Ellesmere Port Lions Club donated a cheque for £500 to 1074 (Ellesmere Port) Squadron Air Training Corps. The Club made the presentation to enable the squadron to provide the cadets with outdoor pursuit clothing for squadron exercises.

Lion Steve Talbot said, "The Squadron is led by Officer Commanding Carol Shickell, together with her supporting officers, guiding and instructing the cadets. The dedication of these officers, the enthusiasm and enjoyment of all the cadets

we met gave us great pride in helping such a fantastic, worthwhile organisation for the youth in our community to participate and enjoy."



PICTURED: (L to R) Carol Shickell (Officer Commanding), Lions Steve Talbot, Malcolm Legg and Julie Rattey from Ellesmere Port Lions Club and Air Cadets from the squadron



Lions for Lives and Limbs

Did you know that there are 800 million disabled people living in developing countries? Many of them are the poorest of the poor, facing entrenched discrimination and struggling to access the support they need. When an emergency strikes, the situation becomes desperate. The most vulnerable face severe difficulties accessing aid and the sad truth is that they are often forgotten.

**HANDICAP
INTERNATIONAL**

Since 1982 Handicap International has provided life-changing support to injured and disabled people affected by conflicts, natural disasters and poverty. We fit amputees with artificial limbs and provide vital rehabilitation care - often the difference between someone regaining their independence or living with a disabling impairment for the rest of their lives. In 2014 our rehabilitation teams helped more than 133,000 people.

One of these people is Roqaya from Syria. The 14-year-old was on the phone at home when a shell exploded nearby. In an instant, her life was changed forever. Her mum was killed instantly and Roqaya was badly injured. Both of her legs had to be amputated at the knee - she didn't know if she would walk again. When our team found her in hospital, we started providing physiotherapy sessions and arranged custom-made prosthetic legs for her. Less than a year later, she's walking independently again and, despite everything, she still has hope for the future. Watch Roqaya's amazing story:

<http://bit.ly/HIUK-Roqaya-walks-again>

In Syria, the brutal conflict is claiming the lives and limbs of innocent civilians. Explosive weapons have been used indiscriminately and more than two million children are living in highly affected areas. Every day our physiotherapists, orthopaedic specialists and psychologists work with disabled and injured refugees like Roqaya.

In the face of such injustice and human tragedy, Lions can make a real difference and help to ensure that these disabled victims are not forgotten. The best way for Clubs to get involved is by organising an event to raise funds and awareness in your local community. £128 could go towards providing an artificial limb and rehabilitation sessions to a child amputee like Roqaya.

One great opportunity to put on a local event is during our **'Forgotten 10 Challenge'** campaign (1st - 10th December), but Clubs can get involved throughout the year. We'd love to hear from Lions interested in taking part, and we can provide all the free resources you need to put on a fantastic event!

REQUEST A SPEAKER FOR A MEETING

If you would like to request a speaker for your club or district meeting, or to simply find out more, please contact John on **0870 774 3737**, or email campaigns@hi-uk.org

To request your free copy of our Action Pack full of ideas for events visit:
www.handicap-international.org.uk/F10Challenge



 **PICTURED:** Roqaya aged 14, Credit: Abbie Taylor-Smith/ Panos for DFID



Introducing the new Club profile page! Each issue this section will focus on a Club, their history and what they've been up to recently. To appear on this page, please encourage your President or Press and PR Officer to email lion.editor@lionsclubs.co with information and photographs (in a high resolution JPEG format).

Lions Club of Stowmarket and District

FOUNDED: 1980
MEMBERSHIP: Over 50
LOCATION: Stowmarket, Suffolk
MEETING POINT: Cedars Hotel and Restaurant, IP14 2AJ

CLUB HISTORY

Charter member Ernie Pearce, three times President of the Club, talks to Stowmarket LION Rob Hale about how the Club was formed:

Founded in 1980, it began nine Charter Members: Ernie Pearce, John King-Fisher, Douglas Whyte, Barry Gascoyne, Lewis Hart, Chris Philpot, Tony Logue, Peter Russell and Brian Thomas, who are all still members. According to Ernie, it was Lion Tony Logue, Deputy District Governor at the time, who instigated the setting up of the Club. Simila to

Melvin Jones's approach in 1917, Tony walked the streets of Stowmarket dropping leaflets into business people inviting them to form a Club. A meeting was convened at the Cedars Hotel and the Club was officially formed with Paul Wright elected as its first President. Some 35 years later Ernie is still an active member organising the successful annual Charity Boxing dinners (in conjunction with a local amateur boxing club) that he has headed for the past 20 years.

Interest in Lions Club

There will be another meeting of the proposed Lions Club of Stowmarket on Monday at the Cedars Hotel starting at 8 p.m.

This follows the meeting held in January which confirmed the interest in forming a club for the Stowmarket area.

Any man who feels he has an interest in local community service and fellowship in an international movement will be welcome.

The formation of the club is being sponsored by the St. Edmundsbury club. Among their many service commitments is the running of the Hospital Radio Service in Bury. The members' ladies assist the Lions in their work and Bury is also fortunate in having a Leo Club which is the youth section of Lions International.



PICTURED: Charter Night: President Paul Wright with Frank Brooke, Mayor of Stowmarket



PICTURED: Stowmarket Lions Paul Wright (original President 1980/81) Janet Pearce, Margaret Wright and Ernie Pearce

Fundraising Presentation

CLUB RAISES £15,400 FOR LOCAL AND NATIONAL CHARITIES

Lions Club of Stowmarket and District raise money through a wide range of activities such as boxing dinners, cycling events, golf tournaments, art shows and jazz nights. On 11th June 2015, 12 charities the Club regularly support were invited to the Cedars Hotel to receive their cheques and talk about the work their organisation carries out.

President, Kevin Parker presented cheques to each of the following charities:

- Mid Suffolk Citizens Advice Bureau **£1,000***

PICTURED: Stowmarket Lions Presentation



Terry Cook Memorial Charity Golf Day

This year, 24 teams competed at Stowmarket Golf Course for the Terry Cook Memorial Trophy raising over £3,000 for local and national charities. From dark skies and flashes of lightning to glorious sunshine, all 24 teams completed the 18-hole course. Prizes for the best individual players were awarded to Mike Picken from team 'Konica Minolta' who went on to win the overall Terry Cook Memorial Trophy and Debbie Alexander of team 'Abba' who was this year's runners-up.

The Terry Cook Memorial trophy is dedicated to Lion Cook who passed away last year. Warmly called

"Captain Cook", Terry was a well-respected member who recruited many members to the Club, including Rob Hale and President Kevin Parker. The Terry Cook Memorial trophy and the re-naming of the annual charity golf tournament pays homage to him and his love of the sport.



PICTURED ABOVE: Mike Picken admires a birdie!



PICTURED LEFT: Team Abba (L to R) Paul Alexander, Jay Brooks, Reg Brooks and Debbie Alexander with Lion President, Kevin Parker



- Suffolk Young Adult Carers **£700**
- Eastgate Boxing Club **£1,000***
- Suffolk Accident and Rescue Services (SARS) **£1,000***
- St Elizabeth Hospice **£1,200***
- Myeloma UK **£1,500***
- St Nicholas Hospice Care **£3,200***
- John Peel Centre for Creative Arts **£500***
- East Anglia's Children's Hospice (EACH) **£3,200***
- Ipswich Lions Club **£100**
- St John Ambulance **£500**
- Mid Suffolk Holiday Opportunity Play Scheme for Children with Disabilities **£1,500**
- A further cheque for **£1,500** will be presented to Myeloma UK

*Presented at the Terry Cook Memorial Charity Golf Day



PICTURED: Oliver and David Griggs



PICTURED: David Millward

Suffolk villages charity cycle ride

CLUB RAISES OVER £4,000 FOR MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT AND OTHER CHARITIES

Starting from Elmswell, riders had the choice of three well-signed routes; a 25k family route, a 50k intermediate route and the new 100k challenge route. David Millward from Cottenham in Cambridgeshire completed the new 100k route in a very impressive time of under three hours arriving back at Elmswell by 11.30 am.

It was also a breeze for Oliver Griggs, aged 10, who completed the ride with his father, David, in four hours and five minutes – that is a very impressive average of 15 miles per hour!

Lion John Drury, Chief Marshall and a keen cyclist said how delighted he was to see so many riders of all ages and abilities as well as families and friends supporting the event year after year. The glorious Suffolk villages and countryside and lack of traffic made the day all the more enjoyable!

The Suffolk Villages Charity Cycle Ride returns Sunday 19th June 2016.

To find out more about the Lions Club of Stowmarket and District visit: www.burystedmunds-lions.org.uk

***** NEXT ISSUE WE LOOK AT A CLUB FROM DISTRICT 105-I *****





PICTURED: Entrance gate to the Chernobyl reactor zone
Caption: Entrance gate to the Chernobyl reactor zone

Chernobyl Children's Lifeline



Lions Club of Keynsham support CCL

The Chernobyl disaster was a catastrophic nuclear power plant accident that occurred on 26th April 1986 at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant in Ukraine. A unexpected power surge and fire caused an explosion that released large quantities of radioactive particles over large parts of the western Soviet Union and Europe into the atmosphere, with Belarus receiving over 70% of the radioactive fallout. The World Health organisation (W.H.O.) reports that 500,000 children in Belarus are at risk of developing thyroid cancer, bone cancer and leukaemia.

The Chernobyl disaster is one of only two nuclear catastrophes that are classified as a level 7 event on the International Nuclear Event Scale.

The Bristol Link of the Chernobyl Children's Life Line is part of a national charity founded in 1991 by Victor Mizzi MBE. There are currently over 80 "Links" that have been established throughout the United Kingdom, raising money to support the children of Belarus and Ukraine, whose lives will be forever affected by the aftermath of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster in 1986. The work of the Bristol Link of CCLL is focused on the following core activities: raising the funds to bring children to Bristol each year for four weeks of fresh air, uncontaminated food, fun, love and attention as well as dental and eye check-ups. They come from the town of Osipovichi and surrounding villages (including Protachavici). Nationally over 2,000 children from

Belarus and Ukraine will be brought over by the charity's Links. The Bristol Link supports a school in Protachavici where the children are helped to grow the vegetables for the canteen and collect scrap metal to sell for learning resources. They also provide respite camps in Belarus for the children (and their families) who are too ill to travel are also funded. These facilities also have specialist medical resources and nursing.

In July, Chernobyl Children's Lifeline (CCLL) hosted twenty young people from Chernobyl in the wider Bristol area to provide them with a break, fresh air and uncontaminated food. The Lions Club of Keynsham in the form of the President and other members went with the children and some of





PICTURED: The abandoned city of Pripyat, where the nuclear reactor used to be, is open for tourists to visit but still has unhealthy levels of radioactivity in its atmosphere

PICTURED: This handheld device measures the level of radiation in the natural background in the ghost town of Pripyat near Chernobyl. The device shown measures the radiation as 7.32Gy. The average annual UK dose natural background radiation is 0.0022Gy



their hosts to 'Boots & Shoes' a shoe shop in Staple Hill to purchase new trainers for each visitor.

Lion President Alan Hale told us, "We are grateful to have the opportunity to work with CCLL in a small way as they come with very little, and to add to the benefits that these young people will enjoy whilst they are here. It is impossible to imagine what day to day life must be like for them. It also enables us to remind the generous people of Keynsham and Saltford just how we spend their money to help others. We are an international organisation and so this venture reflects that."

"We are very grateful to Keynsham Lions", said Andy March Chairman of CCLL Bristol Link, "for offering to support the visit of 16 Chernobyl children by funding the purchase of a pair of trainers for each of them. Without the help of local organisations we would not be able to continue our work helping the young people of Belarus who have to live with

the everlasting consequences of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster in April 1986. Thank you!"

The Keynsham Lions will also be hosting a barbecue for the young people, their carers and the hosts on a later date.

For more information on Chernobyl Children's Lifeline visit:
www.ccll.org.uk/bristol



PICTURED: The children with their trainers bought by the Keynsham Lions
Credit: Becky Feather, The Week In







Lions Boreholes in Kenya

LCIF supports Irish Lions to bring much needed drinking water

Westport and Carlow Lions Club teamed up and submitted a proposal to Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) seeking matching funding to build fifteen Drinking Water Boreholes in the most arid areas of Malindi in East Kenya.

The objectives of the project were:

-  **To provide clean drinking water to villages and schools where there is none available at present**
-  **To replace the use of contaminated water**
-  **To reduce gastric illnesses**
-  **To improve personal hygiene**

Since 2006, Westport Lions Club through the efforts of Lion Sean O'Malley have been funding projects which include the construction of classrooms, toilets, water storage tanks, drinking water wells and the installation of electricity in schools. Lion Sean realised that this was just "the low hanging fruit" and saw that the major issue was the need to feed the people and avert hunger. This was achieved by developing Community Cooperative Groups in the bush villages and introducing self-sustaining projects, which included livestock (goats mainly), poultry, beekeeping and horticultural schemes that have enabled people to become self sufficient and capable of

independent existence. Lion Sean spent several months each year living in the Malindi area of Kenya where he devoted his time to the identification of projects and the raising of funds to support these projects, which have cost more than \$250,000 to date.

In April of 2011 Lion John O'Donovan of Carlow Lions Club joined Lion Sean in the Malindi area to review the projects carried out to date and to identify new ones for the future. Resulting from this review, the "Drinking Water Boreholes, Malindi" project was submitted to LCIF in July 2011 on behalf of the Lions of District 1051, Ireland. The proposal





requested funding of \$33,650 to match the \$33,650 that had already been raised to assist in the construction of fifteen drinking water boreholes in the Malindi area. On the 13th November 2012 they were informed by LCIF that their application was successful and that in due course we would receive the full amount of \$33,650. The geographical area to benefit from this project is located within a 30km radius of Malindi on the east coast of Kenya. The region area consists of rural communities made up of subsistence farmers struggling to survive on less than \$3 per day in a country where social welfare is non-existent and famine and drought are rife. Priority was given to centres with the highest density of population and where no drinking water was available or that the existing water supply was too expensive and people could not afford to pay for it. It was then given to areas where a school had no drinking water supply and where water was needed for livestock and poultry as well as other sustainable food production e.g. fish farms, Ameal tunnels for fruit and vegetable growing.

The time-line for the project was 12 months, starting in October 2012 and finishing in October 2013. The work started on the 3rd of December



2012, within one month of receiving notification of the success of their grant application and was completed in June 2014. The extra time was needed to allow for the construction of five additional boreholes, which now brings the total number of boreholes to 20. This extension to the project was achieved through careful management of the project, additional funding acquired from Westport Lions Club and from the Humanitarian Aid fund of District 105-I.

The Lions Club of Malindi was chartered in April 2011 for which Lion Sean was the Guiding Lion and Mombasa Pwani Lions Club was the

sponsoring club. The Lions Club of Malindi continued with the work during the periods while Sean was back home in Ireland.

The final cost for all 20 boreholes was \$82,000. As a result 54,500 people now have clean drinking water, improved hygiene and a much healthier existence. Without the support from LCIF this project could not have happened and in the context of the Malindi Area it is but a drop in the ocean.



**Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION**



Schooling a Generation

Headteacher and Vice President of Keswick Lions, Lion Andy Cannon is also a salsa DJ! Over the years he has played for Salsa World champion Phil Kaila. Whilst Phil is based in Chorley, Lancashire, he comes from Zambia and sends all the money he saves from salsa back home. When Andy discovered this he enquired why and found that Phil's home town had been ravaged by HIV/Aids leaving traumatised orphans who are shunned and stigmatised by their own society. As a result, there is a

vast amount of children on the street who do not receive any form of education. There are no free schools in Zambia – all education has to be paid for. As a result, the most helpless children do not receive education thus leaving them illiterate and innumerate: these children are vulnerable to exploitation, unemployment and poverty for the rest of their lives. Phil wants to give these children a future.

Whilst other local people found homes and shelter for the children, Phil rented the old farm house next door to his family home for his niece, Exildah to run as a school for the most vulnerable children in their society. Exildah began with a handful of children who came in off the street. They now are bursting at the seams and need to limit the numbers to 120 children.

Lion Andy then found out about the building the school used and as a headteacher himself, was horrified. There is one toilet for all children and adults, two outside taps with only

cold water and no electricity, heating or kitchen. The tin roof is decaying and the school is set up in odd shaped rooms which are too small to teach in. The children have no resources; they use rocks a counters and the chalkboards are black paint on the wall. Phil has organised small scale fundraising to pay for children to be clothed and receive a rudimentary education. This pays for some teachers, yet many other teachers have to work for no wages. The fundraisers are organised into an official group and have their small finances audited but they are unable to get the significant jobs completed.

This is where Keswick Lions stepped in: they discussed their possible involvement with the school and decided that as an international cause they would commit to supporting these children. Phase one of their involvement is to rebuild/redevelop the current school to include three large classrooms. Various quotes were produced and after some management to ensure every penny would be spent where it





needs to be (a 5,000 mile gap can be a challenge when you are dealing with builders' fees), the Keswick Lions donated £6,756.00 or K70,000 (Zambian Kwacha) to pay the full costs of the redevelopment.

“ A child without education, is like a bird without wings ”

TIBETAN PROVERB

The town of Choma has its own Lions Club and Keswick Lions are now linked with them. The Headteacher, Exildah has also joined the Choma Lions so as to cement a permanent link and also provide a level of independent inspection of the work as it is carried out. Phase two will be to provide suitable educational resources to allow the teachers to enhance learning significantly as well as fencing, a library and much more. Yet, this is not the full story! Once



appropriate funding has been secured (currently £150,000 – £250,000) a new school will be built and the current school will eventually be turned into a nursery.

Keswick Lions are helping to create an amazing school for 120 vulnerable children, but the grand scheme may need multiple district support to raise such funds. If either



you or your Club could help Keswick Lions, please contact Vice President Lion Andy Cannon on: los.dj@btinternet.com

International Club Visit

What an interesting Club visit! My daughter Sarah and I visited a Club in the middle of the Dominican Republic whilst on holiday there. It took almost two hours to get there in a taxi, through many villages full of abject poverty but filled with smiling people. In one such village we passed a small motorbike with a man collecting his three children from school, they looked immaculate in their school uniforms.

Arriving at the meeting place, we were greeted by the President of the El Seibo Lions Club, Guillermina Mercedes Avila and several other Lions. We spoke little or no Spanish, and they spoke no English. Fortunately, through a very helpful receptionist at our hotel, who had also organised our taxi driver, they had arranged for a lady to come to the meeting to act as a translator - what a relief! The meeting place was open on three sides so we had an alfresco meeting. We were served with local drinks and biscuits. They asked many questions, as did we, and the young translator learned a lot about Lions Clubs International as she translated for us all. The building itself had been

given to the Lions Club and they were wanting to transform it into a Vision Centre and Medical Walk-in Clinic for the local community. The club has 34 members but, despite this, their fundraising efforts are very limited because of the very nature of the community in which they serve.

We went back to our respective clubs, told them our story and are looking into ways that we can help the Lions of El Seibo Club to achieve their aims. Watch this space!



PICTURED: Visitors Margaret Marsh from the Ellesmere Port & District Lions and daughter, Sarah Cowling from Sale & District Lions



Special Playground Brings Joy to Kids

With the help of your community anything is possible. For proof, look no further than Belton, Texas, where the smiling faces of children brighten a new handicap-accessible playground made possible by the efforts of local Lions, the community of Belton and Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF).

The story of the inclusive playground began in 2012 when city officials and the Belton Lions decided their town needed a place where all children could play, regardless of physical ability. As always, finances presented a challenge, but after raising US\$50,000 from the

community over two years—along with matching funds from the city of Belton—Lions were awarded a \$75,000 Standard grant by LCIF to cover the remaining costs. After years of fundraising and hard work, the playground began to take shape.

Over the next several months, Lion planners worked with Texas-based We Build Fun, Inc. to build the playground and assemble the equipment. In December 2014, the community of Belton came together to celebrate the partnership that made the playground possible. The project cost \$180,000.

“This is another great day in Belton,” City Manager Sam Listi told the Belton Journal at the opening of the park. “Both the Belton Lions Club and [LCIF] were a major part of this project, and local citizens contributed over \$50,000.”

The playground, which measures 5,400 square feet, features handicap-accessible equipment including slides, a merry-go-round, monkey bars and more. Multiple ramps allow wheelchair access to the full park, so special-needs individuals such as parents and guardians can observe the children. Padded turf adds further

accessibility by forgoing the gravel and sand found in most playgrounds for a material much friendlier to wheelchairs.

“With the help of individual donations from Lions members, the City of Belton and [LCIF], we were able to fund the playground. It was truly a joint community project,” said Robert Jones of the Belton Lions Club. “Wheelchairs can access all areas of the playground because of the artificial padded turf and multiple access ramps. The equipment is for all children, and is used daily by visitors, special field trips by local child care centers and Belton school special needs field trips. It is just an amazing facility.”

For information on Standard grants and to find out how your Lions club can apply, visit lCIF.org.



PICTURED: Padded turf on the new playground in Belton, Texas, makes it easy for wheelchairs to access the park

**Dignity.
Harmony.
Humanity.**



Bringing Dignity To Others Through Humanitarian Service

LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL • 2015-2016

PRESIDENT DR. JITSUHIRO YAMADA

EVERY YEAR, thousands of small cranes cross over the Himalayas at an altitude of 8000m in V formation for their seasonal migration. They are known as demoiselle cranes and they are the smallest species in the crane family of birds. During the summer, they reside in the steppes of Mongolia. As winter approaches they form groups and begin their southward journey to India. At 8,000 metres, the temperature is minus thirty Celsius and the oxygen saturation is only one third of the terrestrial oxygen level. Those brutal conditions make their migration a life or death journey in the truest sense.

This grueling route would be impossible for a small number of birds. By flying in a large V formation, each bird can make use of the backflow of air over the wings of the other birds in front of them and by doing so, reduce the total energy expended. The leading bird expends the greatest amount of energy so it is necessary to continually rotate new birds into the position. The demoiselle crane depends upon the cooperation and harmony of every other member of the flock. While each bird is small, every bird has great dignity.



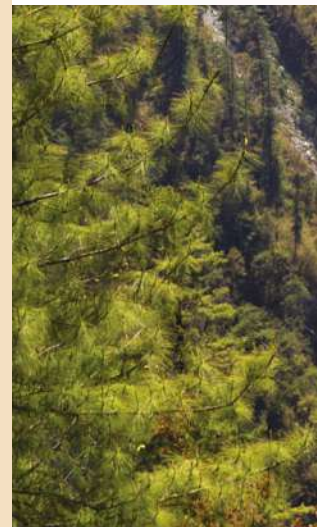
Demoiselle cranes seasonal migration over the Himalayas

The determination demonstrated, as well as other characteristics like teamwork, and their family structure, have endeared the crane to multiple cultures. In Japan, the crane has traditionally been a symbol of long life. In the Japanese art of origami, the crane is the most basic and representative form that all children learn how to make. There is a custom of folding cranes and giving one to a loved one who is suffering from disease or injury as a way to say, “we wish you a quick recovery and long life.” The folding of origami cranes is a meditative act that shows the heartfelt wishes of friends and family for the ill to become well again. But the crane has also become known as a symbol of peace – not only in Japan but around the world.

We Lions have been fostering international peace and harmony through service, giving hope to all people, and giving opportunity to live with dignity. As a medical doctor, I made a career out of fighting for the dignity of human life. A doctor might be able to save 10,000 lives over the course his career. By working together, our association can save tens of millions of lives each year through our programmes.



Japanese Origami



Peace, hope, determination, teamwork
and uniting people through service are
central elements of my presidential theme –



Childhood should be a happy time

Bringing Dignity To Others Through Humanitarian Service

“What should move us to action is human dignity: the inalienable dignity of the oppressed, but also the dignity of each of us. We lose dignity if we tolerate the intolerable.”

Unknown Author

There are many questions, scientific and otherwise, to which we may never have answers. But one thing is certain – human dignity should not be a privilege. One of the basic tenets of human dignity and self-respect is the ability to provide for oneself and for one’s family. Imagine being a parent, watching your children go to bed hungry, or having a child diagnosed with a treatable disease but with no means to afford proper medical treatment. Millions of people here on earth wake up each morning wondering if they will be able to feed their children that day, or provide for their healthcare. They face an uncertain future, with little hope of bettering themselves or giving their children a life of certainty.

Childhood should be a happy time, filled with pleasant memories – vacations with family, celebrating holidays, familiar and delicious aromas coming from the kitchen, favorite stories shared with friends. It should be a time dedicated to study and preparing for the future, with a support network in place.

But for many children, there is no school. There is no support network. There are 2.2 billion children in the world today, and nearly 1 billion of them live in poverty. Poverty has devastating effects on children. It is linked to substandard housing, homelessness, inadequate nutrition and food insecurity, poor academic achievement (even when education is available), lack of medical care, and so much more that most of us take for granted. And it isn’t only in developing countries.

Children of course are our future and tomorrow's leaders, yet they are in the most desperate need of our help. So service to children will continue to be a main focus area this year. Thousands of children die each day from treatable disease, hunger, and lack of fresh drinking water. Parents often watch helplessly because they don't have the financial resources, nearby reliable facilities, or both, to save their children. I want to help alleviate the needless suffering of children. No – we can't save every child. But just by strengthening or expanding our existing programs for children, we can make a difference. That is why I am introducing this year the Children's Dignity Initiative. Under this initiative, I am encouraging Lions to expand service to children by:

- Supporting and brightening the outlook of children in hospitals
- Responding to the needs of children in refugee camps
- Addressing the needs of hungry children
- Continue and expand the Reading Action Program

Those are only a few of the many services opportunities that address the needs of children. You can read more about the Children's Dignity Initiative on the lionsclubs.org web site.



Serving others. Those are not just words to Lions. Our organisation was founded on that very principle. Our tradition of service continues, and in fact has grown to meet the needs of our communities and a changing world. But we don't just serve. We don't simply provide food, shelter, or address the immediate need. We provide hope. We provide the promise of a brighter tomorrow. And yes, we restore dignity.

The question is "can we do more?" We MUST do more. Our 100 year anniversary is approaching. The centennial service challenge is an ambitious undertaking. In order to reach our goal of serving 100 million people in the areas of youth, vision, hunger and the environment between now and June 30, 2018, it will be necessary to triple our output of service in those areas. I know we can do it. Lions have shown time and time again their willingness and ability to exceed challenges when it means others less fortunate will benefit. We asked Lions to plant 1 million trees, and they exceed that ten-fold. There are countless other examples.



Service to others is changing the world. Think about it. As we serve others, we are sowing the seeds of harmony, understanding and peace. Our service programmes –restoring sight, protecting children from measles, feeding empty stomachs, planting trees, and so much more, are strengthening humanity and forming bonds of mutual understanding.



Children of course are our future and tomorrow's leaders

Harmony: Mutual Understanding Through Service

Anthropologists have identified hundreds – if not thousands – of cultures. But it doesn't take an anthropologist to point that out. Just in our own world of Lions, we know we have many outward differences. But as a neurosurgeon, I can tell you beyond all reasonable doubt that in spite of any outside characteristic like skin color, hair color, different features, the way we speak, or other factors that identify culture, on the inside we are basically the same. A heart is a heart. We all function in the same manner. That shouldn't be just a scientific approach; it should be the human approach – to dignity, to harmony and to humanity.

In this rapidly changing world, where cultures and people circulate and interact on a daily basis, those people who know how to communicate effectively across cultures, in both personal and professional contexts, will have a crucial advantage over those who do not. Cultural sensitivity requires empathy, curiosity and respect for other people's opinions and beliefs

Culture is a strong part of people's lives. It influences their views, their values, their humour, and their hopes and aspirations. People learn how to function and maneuver within their own culture from the day of birth. Sometimes people mistakenly draw the conclusion based on their own perspective that all cultures are alike, that if they understand their own culture, they can easily operate in others. Not so.



Global Projects For Harmony

It is important to understand and appreciate cultures unlike our own. There is no better way to cultivate better understanding and appreciation than through joint service projects at the district and multiple district level. I encourage district governors and council chairpersons to reach out to each other internationally. I have seen this international cooperation work first hand in projects between Lions of Japan and Lions of the Philippines. International joint service projects provide a different perspective to their routine and an appreciation for other cultures. Bringing people together to address the needs of others creates true harmony within the international community. This type of activity is at the heart of the Third Purpose of the Association – “To create and foster a spirit of understanding among the peoples of the world.”

Clubs can also get involved in international cooperation. Clubs that participate in our Twinning programme gain a unique understanding of another culture. Interacting with members from different cultures and with different points of view can go a long way in broadening our outlook and provides inspiration for activities in our own community.

“If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other.”

Mother Teresa



Bringing people together to address the needs of others

Lions serve with sincerity,
they serve with passion

More Members Equals More Service

Our members and our clubs are the heart of our organization. Lions serve with sincerity, they serve with passion, and they serve unconditionally.

We have enjoyed a lengthy period of membership growth. We have shown an increase in worldwide membership for seven years in a row. There are a number of reasons for our success; we have a dynamic Global Membership Team, effective marketing strategies coupled with easy to implement membership growth programs, dedicated leaders beginning at the club level and unprecedented outreach to women and family members, to name only a few. Together, we have built our membership to nearly 1.4 million members want to continue that growth. More members equal more service.

Club Presidents Hold The Keys To Our Success

Our association's energy radiates from each club. So naturally, club presidents are at the heart of our success. They have the power to succeed. They have the power to affect change. They have the power to transform the way we do business. So I am asking club presidents to transform the atmosphere of their club. Transform the club to one in which members feel confident, and to one which works in unison with the community it serves, thereby garnering respect. Wouldn't it be wonderful if new members came to us instead of the other way around? have come up with 7 points of excellence for club presidents.

"Ask One" Begins At Home

Lions volunteering with family is a great way for families to have fun and feel closer. It is even better when family members become Lions! If you ask one, you should ask your closest friend, the person you trust most – your loving spouse and partner. Share your commitment and enthusiasm for Lions with your family members. Families that serve together as Lions establish a family tradition of serving others.

The Ask One membership campaign starts at home. If Lions families are on the front lines serving their communities, the word will spread wider and faster. We will gain the recognition we deserve as the greatest service organisation in the world.

Humanity - Bringing It All Together

If clubs are at the heart of our community service, then LCIF is at the heart of our worldwide service. LCIF grants create goodwill, eliminate human suffering, and restore hope and dignity for people around the world. LCIF programmes and partnerships enable us to treat preventable blindness; provide free medical care and medical training for doctors and nurses; teach life skills to school children; and so much more. This year I am asking Lions to take every opportunity to support LCIF with your generous donations and Melvin Jones Fellowships. Your support underscores our ability to combine dignity and harmony while serving humanity.

Photo Credit: Dan Morris



Club President Keys To Success

1. Increased value in being a member *(better education for new members)* □
2. Making clubs that members are proud to be in *(improving club satisfaction)* □
3. High quality service projects *(relevant to the actual needs of the general community)* □
4. Serving with family members *(because "Ask One" starts at home)*
5. More female members / young members *(the ideal man to woman ratio is 1:1)*
6. Being leaders in the community *(more leadership training)* □
7. Thinking outside the box *(reform of inefficient practices, customs and policies)* □



Conclusion

As we approach our centennial celebration, we would do well to remember and meditate upon the words of our founder -

“You can’t get very far until you start doing something for somebody else.”

Melvin Jones

We have demonstrated throughout our history the ability to bring people together for a common cause. We have shown time after time that national boundary lines are nothing more than dots on a map. In spite of conflicts and disputes throughout the world, we work beyond differences – a grassroots coalition of peace through service.



**Bringing people together
for a common cause**



*“Be kind. Be open. Be curious. Be strong.
Be generous. Be sincere. Be loyal. Be honest.
Be a Lion.”*

Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada

Dignity

As we strive to serve the needs of others, let us always remember to respect the dignity of those we serve.

As we reach out to others with hands of service, let us always remember it is not a handout.

Harmony

As we build others up, let us always remember serving others isn't just an act of kindness; it is also a means to build understanding and harmony.

Humanity

As we show empathy for the less fortunate in our respective communities, let us extend empathy to all who are suffering around the world.

And as we continue to serve human kind, let us remember that serving humanity is not a duty, it is a responsibility.

I am immensely proud and extremely humbled to be the president of the global leader in humanitarian service – Lions Clubs International. I wish you 1,000 cranes. But most of all, I hope the service you bestow on others brings you tremendous love and fulfillment, and fills your heart with joy and peace.





Harpenden Lions Highland Gathering



CREDIT: STEVE GLEDHILL



CREDIT: DAVID JAMES



CREDIT: ALICE EDDIE



CREDIT: STEVE GLEDHILL



CREDIT: STEVE GLEDHILL

The annual Harpenden Lions Highland Gathering was another great success. It was held (in the local Rothamsted Park) on Sunday 12th July. Attendance was over 3,000 visitors and the event raised an estimated £18,000 for charity. The principal benefactors were the Bone Cancer Research Trust, Luton & Dunstable University Hospital Dementia Care Project and the Lions Life Skills Programme in local schools.

The Scottish themed event, which Harpenden Lions Club have run for the last 15 years, is a great day out for all the family. The pipe bands made their annual appearance and were very stirring as always. Arena attractions included the folk band 'Ceilidh Factor', who entertained visitors with their lively performance on the music stage, a

falconry display, a dog and duck demonstration and many traditional Highland Gathering activities. Dancing displays took place throughout the day and there were many stalls, refreshments, a fun fair, classic car display and much more. New to the Gathering this year was the 'Mane Attraction' horse display, which proved to be very popular. There were one or two brief showers but all this did was to drive people into the refreshment tents and craft stalls to buy even more!

The Harpenden Lions gratefully acknowledges the support of the pipe bands, dancers, heavy event competitors, stallholders, sponsors and advertisers, they also thank the Scouts, Army and Air Force Cadets, Harpenden Village Rotary and many others who assisted with

the setting up, running and clearing up after the event.



CREDIT: DAVID JAMES



CREDIT: DAVID JAMES



Lions Club of Exeter West Lifeskills Presentation



PICTURED: LC Exeter West-Lifeskills presentation Jun 23 2015 Caption: (L to R) Staff members from the 3 schools and Lion Jean Langmead & PDG Lion Clif Cane (LC Exeter West Welfare Chair)

Representatives of Kenn C of E Primary, Kenton Primary and St Thomas Primary Schools who attended Westbank in June to receive their "Life Changes" workbooks to help pupils who have suffered loss or bereavement in their early lives. The schools were given an informal presentation by Lion Jean Langmead (District 105SW Lifeskills Officer) and a practical demonstration of the activities from the book. The teachers were all very enthusiastic about Life Changes and thanked the Lions Club of Exeter West for their donation and arranging the event. A special thanks to Lion Keith Worters whose hard work and determination brought this altogether!

Rowland's Fair Fun Day

West Cornwall Lions Clubs put on a day of fun for local disabled children

On 7th June 2015, the Lions clubs of West Cornwall staged their annual Rowland's Fair Fun Day at Falmouth Rugby ground for disabled children and their helpers. Thanks to the generosity of Dave Rowland, his staff and the Lions, approximately 500 disabled children and their helpers had the opportunity to enjoy 2 hours of fairground fun that they normally would find difficult to do.

On a sunny Sunday morning Rowland's provided all rides free of charge and the Lions' clubs supplied free refreshments in the form of ice cream, ice lollies, crisps, biscuits, tea, coffee and juice for the children and their helpers. Lion members were also on hand to help people on get on and off the various rides.

At the close of this very successful event Lion Ken Polkinghorne, on behalf of the West Cornwall Lions, thanked Dave Rowland and his staff for their considerable contribution in making the day so enjoyable for so many people. He then presented a bottle of malt whiskey to Dave Rowland and a bouquet of flowers for Mrs. Rowland as thanks for their generosity.



PICTURED: Lenny the Lion being taken for a ride



Willen Hospice Receives Two New Nebulisers

Bletchley Lions Club and Asthma Relief have proudly presented two brand new nebuliser machines to the Willen Hospice, Hospice at Home team



The Hospice at Home team offers practical support and nursing skills to patients at home. The team are able to assess and assist other health care professionals to control patient's symptoms and help families working in conjunction with other professionals.

The two nebulisers costed £320 and this was raised by Lions Brian and Joan Phillips of Lions Club of Bletchley who presented the nebulisers to Sherri Hobbs, the Deputy Sister at Willen Hospice. Sherri commented, "We are very grateful to have received this generous donation and would like to thank the Lions Club and Asthma Relief Charity. The nebuliser will make a big difference to the many number of patients we visit."

Asthma Relief decided where the machines were to be placed, in this case Willen Hospice. The average recyclable lifespan of a machine is 6 years, so it is an ongoing commitment for the charity. They also provide a 24 hour helpline and support for Asthma sufferers.

For more information visit www.asthmarelief.org.uk



PICTURED: Brian and Joan (L to R) Deputy Sister Sherri Hobbs, Staff Nurse Jackie Williams, Lions Brian and Joan Phillips, Staff Nurse Tricia Cosford and Nursing Auxiliary Lynne Wycherley

Be Safe, Be Seen

Members of Beccles and District Lions Club presented reflective jackets to the Gillingham St Michael's CE Primary School Academy children and staff, to enable them to be seen and kept safe when walking off the school premises. Beccles Lions Club President Lion Chris Eglington said, "The aim is to ensure the children and staff are safe when they are out walking, either around the village or on any school trip and even at school events. We have made sure that the school's name and logo were put on them too so they can be easily recognised." The presentation was made during the school's assembly and Miss Church said, "It was very kind of Beccles Lions Club to make such a generous donation to the school as it will certainly mean the children can be seen as well as be safe when out walking on any school trip." The children certainly enjoyed receiving the reflective jackets and couldn't wait to wear them.

Lion Evelyn Crick, who had liaised with the school about this project said, "It was so

lovely to see the children's smiling faces as they tried them on." and Lion Dermot Wesley-Smith added, "This is just one of the ways we try to help the local community, whenever and wherever we can."

If you would like to know more about Beccles Lions and the work they do then please visit the Club's website at www.beccleslions.org.uk.



PICTURED: Gillingham School



Sprucing Up!

Bletchley Lions tidy up the MK University Hospital garden



PICTURED: Before 10am

Lions Club of Bletchley have taken over the maintenance with the help of Dobbies Garden centre of one of the many gardens at Milton Keynes University Hospital. The garden is where the patients are discharged from hospital after treatment. In 6 hours, the 12 Lions and 3 people from the Forever team transformed the area from



PICTURED: After 15.30 pm

2 metre-high weeds to a nice area to relax whilst waiting to leave hospital. They will be returning on a regular basis to put in new plants and do maintenance. If you are interested in helping with this project please contact the Club on **0845 833 9592**.

Sue Balchin MBE Memorial Bench

On 30th June, a bench in memory of Sue Balchin MBE was unveiled at Howard Palmer Park by Wokingham Town Mayor, Councillor Philip Mirfin. Inscribed on the bench are the words, "Donated in memory of Susan Balchin MBE 1940-2015 who worked tirelessly for the local community."

The mayor spoke of Sue's devotion to those less fortunate in the Wokingham community, and the many

organisations and individuals she was able to help. Her step-son Roger Balchin said those who sit on the bench can think of Sue in a quiet and very pleasant location.

In 2013, Sue was awarded an MBE for her service to the Berkshire community. In 1997, she became one of the first female members of the Wokingham Lions Club, as well as the first female President of the Club in 2004 and again in 2009. Sue also served as Club Secretary, Social chairperson, Welfare chairperson for several years, May Fayre chairperson, stalls organiser for both the May Fayre and Winter Carnival and Public Relations officer. Every year, she organised the Christmas carol singing around the restaurants and pubs in Wokingham. Sue recently became heavily involved with the Food Bank and the homeless in Wokingham. She was a great supporter of working with young people and encouraged the most recent youth project within the Club, the Creative Youth Collective.

The idea for the bench came from members of the Wokingham Lions Club, who attended the unveiling, along with members of Sue's family. "Sue touched many lives in Wokingham, and we miss her very much," said Tim Hanton, President of Wokingham Lions Club. Sue is remembered for her generosity, kindness and compassion.



PICTURED: The Sue Balchin Memorial Bench



Lions Help Parents to Spot Cyber Bullying

The Kilkenny Lions Club, in conjunction with other Lions clubs throughout Ireland, was delighted to recently give its support to an initiative directed at the parents of primary and secondary school students in the area

This initiative took the form of a very easy to read leaflet outlining preventative and guidance measures on bullying, in particular cyber bullying. Much of the work and background research was conducted by Sean Fallon, a retired secondary teacher from Dublin. Sean has supported teachers and leaders in Schools all over Ireland in the last 5 years to deal with this increasing problem through his website: www.antibullyingcampaign.ie.

The leaflet is supported by the Department of Education inspectorate and it explains, in simple terms, the many aspects of bullying including its symptoms, its prevalence, the rights of children and parents and the anti-bullying

policies which are now mandatory for schools.

Kilkenny Lions member Patrick O'Hanlon, a recently retired secondary school principal, coordinated the awareness programme in the Kilkenny region. All schools in the city and the environs were targeted and over 4000 leaflets were delivered for distribution to the parents. George Candler, President Kilkenny Lions said that he was delighted with the positive feedback the initiative has received from teachers, parents and school leaders and he added that schools are clearly seeing the benefit of this resource as they review their current anti-bullying policies and procedures.

Patrick O'Hanlon thanks the principals of the following schools who have participated to date in this project: Presentation Primary School, Gael Scoil Kilkenny, St John of God, National School Kilkenny, Kilkenny Model School, CBS Primary (Kilkenny), St Canice's Primary School (Kilkenny), Project School (Kilkenny), St John's Senior School (Kilkenny), St Kieran's College (Kilkenny), CBS Secondary School (Kilkenny), Loreto Secondary School (Kilkenny), Kilkenny College, Pobalscoil Oscrail Chill Chainnigh, Colaiste Eamon Ris Callan, Scoil Aireagail (Ballyhale).



Lions Clubs International Convention 2015

Lion David Thomas from Leyland and Cuerden Valley Lions Club reports...



The 98th Lions Clubs International Convention this year was held at Honolulu, U.S.A. This was to be my first International Convention and I really had no idea what to expect!

After thirty one and a half hours of travelling, without sleep, I arrived at Honolulu airport late at night. The first thing I noticed was the humidity and then the taxi driver shouting my name. As I turned around he placed a 'lei', a garland of fresh flowers around my neck and welcomed me with 'Aloha'. A very warm welcome indeed!

During the next few days, before the convention started, I became aware of more and more Lions arriving onto the island. It is thought that over 20,000 Lions from 120 countries made the journey to the convention, including 114 Lions from the British Isles and Ireland.



The exhibition hall opened on Friday 26th June 2015: throughout the day there were a number of seminars, training sessions, and visits to halls, stalls and much more.

The following day was the international Parade of Nations along Kalakaua Avenue, the main shopping street in Waikiki.



PICTURED: MD105 on the International Parade of Nations



The British and Irish Lions were told to assemble in Fort DeRussy Park at 9.30am for hopefully an 11.30am start. I had no idea what the parade would be like and little did I know it would be such an amazing experience. The atmosphere in the park was electric and exciting, even with the temperature well over 90Fahrenheit (roughly 32°C). The street was brought to life by the vivid colours of more than 10,000 participants, from over 120 countries in their traditional international dress. Everyone was shaking hands, taking selfies, making new friends, swapping pins and laughing – it was wonderful! At that point of time I had thought, if only the world leaders could witness so much harmony and love between nations, as I was witnessing now. It was an incredible operation coordinating the start of the parade, along with rows of portaloos and bottled water being delivered to everyone involved by people on electric carts. Even the police officers were enjoying it as they helped the parade onto the road, laughing and shaking hands.

The British and Irish Lions had arranged for the Hawaiian Celtic Drums and Pipe Band, complete with kilts, to lead them. They were followed by a Chevy car which had been draped with a Union Jack and Tricolour flags. They were then followed by over 100 British and Irish Lions, complete with banner. The British & Irish Lions were loved by the onlookers, who ran up to them to shake hands and were given British and Irish flags in return.

Truly, it turned out to be one of the best experiences of my life and made me even more proud to be a Lion.



PICTURED: Rocky (PDG) and Sylvia (MJF) Fosberry drive the MD105 Chevy with Lion David Jeavons in the back seat



PICTURED: (L to R) Paul Stafford, Ann Stafford, Patricia Phillips, Michael Phillips from District 105E



PICTURED: Hawaiian Celtic Drums and Pipe Band



PICTURED: Past International Director Howard Lee and his wife Claire



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Musical Director David Carter

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To make a donation please visit: www.handicap-international.org.uk



HANDICAP INTERNATIONAL



Lions Golf European Championship 2015



The Lions Golf European Championship 2015 (30th November – 7th December 2015) is an open tournament, for all golfers available with a handicap of -36 and better. It is a single Stableford competition, in 3 categories, over 36 holes on the two golf courses. Situated in the province of Huelva, on the western side of Andalusia, Golf el Rompido blends into the natural site of the Wetlands of River Piedras. Golf el Rompido is the only golf course in the region with 36 holes (North course and South course) and no property developments surrounding it. The two 18-hole courses, surrounded by pine and orange groves, cross the wetlands and open out onto the Atlantic Ocean with some spectacular views, giving those who participate a unique experience. The force of nature is evident with every step, turning the sport of golf into a pleasure for the senses.

Located in a beautiful picturesque fishing village, the Prestige El Rompido is the perfect hideaway for those seeking relaxation. The 5-star resort is idyllically situated on the coast in the heart of two beautiful golf courses. Holidaymakers have a selection of cultural expeditions in a beautiful natural setting. The hotel meets the natural beauty of the surroundings in comfort and quality.

There is a variety of fresh and seasonal cuisine as well as international dishes available for guests to choose from. There is also a full-service spa offering beauty treatments, the modern equipped gym, indoor heated pool and outdoor swimming pools and a variety of sports and recreational activities.

The closing date to enter the Lions Golf European Championship 2015 is October 15th 2015.

For more information on the Lions Golf European Championship 2015 please visit: www.lionsgolf.info.

Last year the Lions Golf Organisation Team transferred US\$125,000 of sponsorship money to LCIF which was then doubled by the Belinda & Bill Gates Foundation to US\$250,000. Considering this outstanding performance LCIF decided to give the LGO Team the mandate to build the Lions Golf World Tour with many more tournaments worldwide. Their goal is to build the biggest Golf Amateur Tour worldwide with the Lions and to support the people who need Lions' aid.

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor please contact Dr. Volker Bernhardt at charity@drgolf.info or (0034) 630794369.

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Hear Us Roar!



PICTURED: Past President Chris Huscroft greets the Mayor of Oadby & Wigston, Councillor Latif Darr

And of course 'Lenny the Lion' is always around >>

Always eager to get their name around, Oadby & Wigston Lions Club took part in the fun at Tesco's South Wigston. No fundraising this time, just a chance to tell the public about Lions activities and hopefully interest them in joining the Club.



Lion's Share

Peterborough Lions Club introduces a new way of fundraising

Lion's Share costs you nothing and is incredibly easy to use! Simply visit their website, www.lions-share.org.uk, and then shop as normal with any of the well-known online retailers they have there. The Club are then be able to collect a small commission from the retailer without affecting the prices you pay. There are frequently offered discounts which they can pass on to other members so they can get lower prices!

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Information correct at time of going to press. Please check the site for latest updates.
Lions' Share is operated by Peterborough Lions (Registered Charity 283355)

LION



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BLOG

August/September 2015



New update from MDHQ

Here we are and already the summer is slipping away – I hope you have all had a taste of some good weather especially those involved in fetes and festivals around the country.

The electronic version of the 2015-16 Directory has been circulated, if for any reason you haven't received a copy then get in touch with us at MDHQ. For those who have requested the printed version these will be sent out in the next week or so. Could I again ask all Clubs Secretaries to please keep their records up to date with MyLCI and if you are experiencing any difficulties in doing this then please contact us and we will help you.

We have some new Centennial products for sale at MDHQ and we shall be putting them on the MD website shortly but please phone us if you want some further information – we have Centennial ties, scarves, mugs and badges.

Many of the Multiple District Officers have now booked their meetings into the MDHQ calendar and we are pleased to report that for the next three months the rooms at HQ are booked virtually every weekend. Please could all Officers review their project information on the MD website to ensure it is up to date and still relevant. Please report any changes through to us and we will update the site.

Requests for Lions Message in a Bottle continues to soar. Since July 2014 we have moved 91 pallets of bottles around the country. Many Clubs have taken the opportunity to buy individual boxes of bottles from MDHQ and are thus able to become involved in the project.

Assuring you of our constant commitment to serve you.

Lion Brigitte Green (yes still dieting and happy to report 2 stone and 7lbs lighter – yippee)

Yours in Lionism
Lion Brigitte Green
MDHQ Manager



Whether it's providing volunteer and leadership experiences in our Leo clubs, sharing a positive message through our Peace Poster contest, or delivering Lifeskills teaching support materials, we invest in the future of our children and young people. Lions Clubs throughout the British Isles and Ireland support a number of established initiatives that help build communities of motivated and capable young people, or offer opportunities for individuals to get involved in helping others.

LEO CLUBS – LEADERSHIP, EXPERIENCE, OPPORTUNITY

Many Lions Clubs sponsor Leo clubs to encourage young people to volunteer within their local community.

There are school-based Leo clubs known as Alpha Clubs for 12-18 year olds and community clubs known as Omega Clubs for 18 +.

These clubs help young people to acquire leadership skills, organise projects, work in teams through cooperation and have fun in being involved in helping others.

LIONS LIFESKILLS

Alcohol, smoking, drugs, sexual health, gambling, body image, bereavement, obesity, bullying and self-esteem are some of the important life issues affecting children and young people.

Lions Lifeskills resources help them to gain better understanding, develop positive attitudes and apply effective skills in each of these areas.

The Lions Lifeskills initiative has developed a wealth of original educational resources for those

Lions Empower The Next Generation



working with children and young people on personal, social, health and well-being for the classroom and youth work setting.

YOUTH CAMPS AND YOUTH EXCHANGE

Hosted by Lions clubs members, these initiatives enable thousands of young people each year to travel overseas, discover more about different cultures, participate in team building experiences and local customs and build lasting friendships.



Youth Awards and Competitions

YOUNG LEADERS IN SERVICE AWARDS

Gold and silver awards are presented each year to hundreds of young people by Lions clubs throughout the British Isles and Ireland. These prestigious awards celebrate 11-18 year olds (school years 7 to 13) who make a commitment to help others. The Silver award is for 50 hours of community service and the Gold award is for 100 hours of community service.

YOUNG AMBASSADORS OF THE 21ST CENTURY

Passionate and dedicated community champions between 15-18 years of age are recognised as Lions Young Ambassadors. Individuals are acknowledged annually for their accomplishments by Lions clubs at local, regional, national and European levels. The





scheme aims to recognise, encourage and support young people who are actively involved in the welfare of the community.

PEACE POSTER COMPETITION

The Lions Peace Poster is a global schools competition held each year that invites young people aged 11-13 years old to participate. The Peace Poster Competition for 2015/2016 is 'Share Peace'. The aim is to express creatively their hopes and aspirations for the world.



YOUTH SPORTS

Lions clubs help young people to be active by organising and supporting local and national sports events.



For more information please contact Lions headquarters on **0121 441 4544**

Ripon Young Leaders in Service

Young volunteers have been recognised for devoting more than 7,000 hours of their free time to community activities in and around Ripon

The 44 students from Ripon Grammar School have committed a total of 300 days between them to being swimming and gymnastics coaches, helping disabled riders, working in charity shops and acting as peer mentors to fellow students. The volunteers have earned the title of Lions Young Leaders in Service and each were presented with a certificate and badge by Jane Armitage, Youth Coordinator for the Yorkshire District Lions.

Jane Armitage explained, "The idea is that young people get into the habit of volunteering by helping people in any way they can, whether that's being a carer, doing the shopping for a neighbour or helping younger pupils in their school."

Eve Turner (15) of Sharow, led the field for completing 327 hours in a year by helping at her local stables every Sunday. She was closely following by Eleanor

McGregor (15) of Leeming Bar, who helps with Riding for the Disabled at Catterick Garrison Riding Club.

The students' involvement in the Lions programme was organised by PE teacher and Ripon Club Lion, Helen Mackenzie, who has given much of her own time to volunteering.

Helen Mackenzie said, "I can't emphasise enough how important it is to give a little bit back to your community and this fantastic group of students have given so much. This achievement is also something the students can add to their CV when they come to apply for university and jobs."



PICTURED: (Front L to R) Headmaster of Ripon Grammar School Martin Pearman, Eleanor McGregor, Eve Turner and Lion Jane Armitage (Youth Coordinator). (Behind) Other students who have achieved their Lions Young Leaders in Service award



Leo Club

A warm welcome to the newly formed Roedean Leo Club!

Guests were greeted at the entrance of Roedean School by Leo Melody Law, soon to be inducted as the first President of the new Roedean Leo Club. They were then conducted by other members of the Club to the Studio. There, Lion President, Brian Slater and members of Brighton Lions Club, the sponsor of the new Roedean Leos Club inducted the new officers. They were supported by DG Lion Terry Mason, Lion Wendy Cattaway (Region Chair), Lion Bob Brown (Zone Chairman), members of nearby Clubs and Uckfield Leo Club as well as the Mayor of Brighton and Hove, Councillor Lynda Hyde. After the officers had been inducted, Leo President Melody Law inducted the remaining members of the Club. DG Lion Terry Mason presented the Leos with their membership pins and the Leo President with the Club's charter.



LEO CLUBS 2015/2016

District 105-A

- Fairlop
- Hadleywood
- London Hendon
- London Kingsbury
- Milton Keynes Central
- Royston
- Sudbury
- Wembley Brent

District 105-C

- Bradford Central Kings
- Todmorden

District 105-D

- Gueney
- Westbury
- Windsor Boys School

District 105-EA

- Maldon

District 105-I

- Banbridge
- Carrigaline
- New Ross
- Portumna
- Roscommon
- South Meath Fingal
- Athlone

District 105-M

- Coventry Godiva
- District 105NE
- Harlaw Academy
- Sunderland High

District 105-SE

- St. George's
- Thanet
- Uckfield

District 105-SW

- Millfield
- Newquay Towan Blystra
- Priory - Worle
- Torbay
- Treviglas Leos

District 105-W

- John Bettley
- Porthcawl
- Ross Youth Lions

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Message in a Bottle

Brent Council endorse Wembley Brent Lions Club's "Message in a Bottle"

Members of Wembley Lions delivered 300 bottles to Brent Council and one will now be offered to any Brent carer who applies for an assessment for local authority support.

The bottles, which are kept in a fridge at home, contain documents which list important information about the person a carer looks after such as emergency contacts, doctor's name, medication and information about allergies. They are not just for people who are on medication but for anyone who has a medical condition and knowledge of which may be needed in an emergency. The plastic bottle, which will be offered for free, holds a form for recording the vital information about a person. Once the form is completed it is put back into the bottle, which is then placed in the

fridge where the emergency services will look for it if they are called to the home.

Councillor Krupesh Hirani, Lead Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing, said:

"Thanks to the Wembley Lions for this great initiative. The bottles are a simple but highly effective way of being able to help somebody in an emergency if their carer is not around. We'll now be offering them to all the carers we speak to in Brent. Anyone can have an accident at home and this is very useful way to help reassure people."

Rohit Patel, Secretary of Wembley (Brent) Lions' Club, said:

"This scheme will really benefit carers because it means that if they are not around and the emergency

services need valuable vital details about the person they care for, they will be able to do so quickly, which will save them valuable time. It is a potential lifesaver and provides peace of mind to users and their friends and families."

Under the Care Act 2015 all the borough's carers are now entitled to be assessed by the local authority to find out if they are eligible for support which can include making your caring role easier by providing respite, additional care at home or other support.

For more information visit: www.brent.gov.uk/carers or call **020 8937 4300**.



LCIF Provides Sight and Hope in Colorado

"I'm sorry, but you are going blind. We can't do anything about it."

For many people diagnosed with age-related macular degeneration (AMD), these words can stir fear, anger and confusion. For 80-year-old Maurine Sanford, they spurred defiance. "I'm not going to let that happen!" Sanford vowed.

While Sanford's blue eyes may look healthy, her sight is mostly blurry and dark. She has geographic atrophy, a late stage of the dry form of AMD. When Sanford's good friend Mary Duncan, who lives with low vision due to glaucoma, learned about Sanford's condition, she recommended that Sanford visit the Enight Skills Center for Visual Rehabilitation in Fort Collins, Colorado.

Enight is the only nationally accredited, low-vision clinic in Colorado that offers a complete set of services to assist people who have low vision to improve their life skills, independence and self-confidence. The Fort Collins Lions Club has been a major supporter of Enight since the clinic was established in 2001. In 2013, Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) awarded a US\$200,050 grant to fund a three-year SightFirst project to expand low-vision mobile services throughout Colorado. As the implementing partner, Enight purchased a van and equipped it with eye exam tools and devices.

For the past two years, the Onsite van has traveled around rural Colorado promoting low-vision care, educating the local Lions and the community about tools and techniques available for people with low vision and providing low-vision evaluation and rehabilitation

services. More than 100 Lion volunteers have participated in low-vision evaluation and education events, provided logistical support or taken the lead in information sessions. More than 290 low-vision patients have received rehabilitation services and follow-up consultations including home visits.

Over the past two years, Sanford has met regularly with an occupational therapist and an optometrist, who have helped her identify ways to better use her remaining vision such as turning her home into a low-vision friendly space. Low-vision patients like Sanford are assessed simultaneously by therapists and optometrists, who provide a personalized plan of action including follow-up care such as phone calls and home visits.

Sanford is grateful to all who have helped her along the way. "Before, I walked around hunched down, not wanting to do anything for fear of

being hurt. But thanks to Enight and the Lions of Colorado, I am able to stand up straight and move forward to the next phase of my life," she says.

District 6 NE Governor Bob Kitchell and Enight Board Chairperson Lion Doug Hutchinson believe that the SightFirst project has successfully reached out to an underserved population who were not only losing sight but losing hope as well. Hutchinson, who has low vision, says, "I am amazed at how minor adjustments in actions and behavior can have major positive results in my day-to-day life. As a Lion, I proudly support our initiative and we look forward to helping more people in Colorado."

For information on SightFirst programs and grants, visit: lcif.org.



PICTURED: Melody Bettenhausen of Enight shows Maurine Sanford how to use a closed circuit monitor/desktop video magnifier to write a check

Photo by Wayne Crownhart



PICTURED: Kadeena is presented with her bike by the Wetherby Lions Club in the courtyard of Sant' Angelo's restaurant. (L to R) Lion Jon Handley (Vice President), Dean Buckle (Wetherby Bike Shack), Catherine Buono (Santa Angelo's Restaurant), Kadeena Cox, Lion Robert Rolfe (President), Lion Jo Maltby, Lion Robert Greene (Secretary)

The Kadeena Cox Story

Kadeena Cox is a young woman aged 23, who originates from Leeds, but is currently studying physiotherapy at Manchester University. She is also a national standard athlete who has struggled to break through onto the international scene. On 20th May 2014, after competing at Loughborough at an international competition, she was rushed to hospital after experiencing some odd symptoms and was diagnosed with a suspected stroke. Just two months later she managed to get herself close to her normal condition, with the support and guidance of her physiotherapist, Karren. Then came another massive blow. On 15th September 2014 she had a burning sensation in her arm. The following days it worsened to tingling and

numbness in the whole arm, then to her leg. She was rushed to hospital again with another suspected stroke. After extensive tests Kadeena, sadly, was diagnosed with the lifelong condition of Multiple Sclerosis (MS).

Since her diagnosis there have been a lot of ups and downs, but one thing has remained constant: she is determined that MS will not win. She has created a web site entitled, www.kadeenacox.co.uk on her website she says, *"MS does not define me, it's just a bully that I defeat every morning when I get up. I've created this website to help raise awareness of the condition and share my ongoing story..."*

Her website has already received a huge response: Dean Buckle from

the Wetherby Bike Shack decided to design and build a racing bike for Kadeena. The Wetherby Lions Club helped towards the cost of the bicycle by donating £250 that was raised at a tribute evening held at Sant' Angelo's Italian Restaurant.

Kadeena is determined to continue her training, with the objective of competing in the 2016 Summer Paralympics, to be held in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil from the 7th - 18th of September.

We wish her every success.



PICTURED TOP: The Lions Club Coast2Coast cycling team and mascot

PICTURED ABOVE: Cyclists dipping their tired toes in the Irish Sea

Lions Club Coast2Coast Challenge

Ashbourne and District Lions cycle from the Atlantic Ocean to the Irish Sea

The Ashbourne and District Lions Club's cycling team set out from Galway Bay at Oranmore Castle at midday on Saturday 23rd May 2015. They and cycled first to Athlone where they stopped overnight at the Shamrock Lodge hotel. By 9am, the team were back on their bikes leaving the long leafy hotel driveway and heading for Tyrrellspass Castle, then onwards to Trim Castle. The team finally arrived in Laytown on Sunday evening, and were greeted by a huge crowd of family and friends who had anxiously awaited their safe arrival.

At Laytown, the team poured the two bottles of different sea water they had carried with them into the Irish Sea. The bottle of Atlantic Ocean seawater was carried by the mascot and the bottle of North Sea water was carried by Stevie Doyle from the Edinburgh Lions Club in Scotland. There were only three

punctures on-route and these were repaired with the passion of a Formula One pit-stop team. The cycling team were also greeted by six other Lions Clubs on route including: Galway Lions, Oranmore Lions, Loughrea Lions, Athlone Lions, Navan Lions, and Drogheda Lions.

Tom Keenan, President of the Ashbourne and District Lions Club, comments, "We have created a really memorable cycling weekend that combined great fun with a great challenge that took in three castles and over 240km crossing Ireland, while at the same time raising a huge amount of funds for AWARE and other very worthy local causes through the Lions Club. A huge thanks goes out to all those who took part". In total over €11,000 was raised by the Lions Club in aid of AWARE and other charities.

The support crew consisted of two minibuses and four support Vans to

carry bikes, spare parts, luggage, water supplies and fruit. Everything over the entire weekend ran seamlessly and the Lions Club would like to take this opportunity to formally thank the following local companies for their tremendous support because without it, this challenge simply would not have been possible:

Martin Markham of ECL Chauffeur Drive, Tadg Riordan Motors, Rory McGuire Painting and Decorating, Mick Walsh of OMEGA Pest Control, Alan Clarke of Primary Protection Fire Prevention Solutions, Keeling Fruit, Cathal McInerney from Londis, Drogheda, Ashbourne Cover-up, Big Print Small Print and Kevin O'Farrell Printers.

A huge thanks also goes out to the Maldron Hotel Oranmore, Tom Brodericks Kilconnell, Shamrock Lodge Hotel, Tyrrellspass Castle, and Gilnas Bar in Laytown.



Lions District 105-BN Football Championship

The Kirkham Junior Blues are the under-14 champions of the North West!

In May 2015, District 105BN held its third annual under-14s, 7-a-side competition at the JMO Sports Park in Skelmersdale in Lancashire. All Lions Clubs within the District were invited to nominate an U14 team from a junior football club in their area to represent them in the competition. A total of 14 teams were entered this year and with each team being able to nominate a squad of 10 players.

On the day, the 14 teams were split into two leagues of 7 with each team playing the other six teams in their league once. When those games had been completed the top four teams in each league then went forward to the quarter-finals, the winners going forward to battle it out in the semi-finals. The day ended in a close final with the Kirkham Junior Blues having narrowly defeated Union Mills FC, from the Isle of Man, by 1-nil. District Governor Barry Collins presented the trophy and the

medals to the finalists as well as the Gemma Jones Trophy to the Lions Club that had entered the winning team. This was won by Kirkham & Fylde Rural Lions Club and was received by Lion Anne Studd on their behalf. Each team and Lions Club that took part also received a certificate that had been prepared by PDG Lion David Winsland, the District Youth Co-ordinator.

Organiser Lion Alec Sutcliffe said: "It was good to see Lions Clubs from within the District who had not entered the competition in previous years being represented this year, including the Isle of Man Lions Club who ran their own competition on the island before Christmas and brought the winners over to Skelmersdale."

In total there were 140 competitors who were well supported by friends, family and Lions.

All the teams were affiliated to their local County Football Associations and the competition was sanctioned by the Football Association.

PICTURED BELOW: District Governor Barry presenting the trophy to the Captain of Kirkham Junior Blues, Harry Curwood





The Special Olympics

Lion Simon Smith, MD105 SOGB Liaison Officer, talks to us about what the Special Olympics means to him and Lions

The Special Olympics Movement was founded in the USA in 1968 by the late Eunice Kennedy Shriver, sister of President John F Kennedy and reached Great Britain in 1978. Today the Special Olympics reaches over 4 million athletes in more than 170 countries worldwide. That sounds impressive until you realise that there are an estimated 1.2 million people with an intellectual (learning) disability in Great Britain. Today, Special Olympics Great Britain (SOGB) serves 8,000 athletes, with the help of 4000 volunteers in 150 clubs across Great Britain. That means only 0.66% of eligible people has access to the sports training! That leaves 99.33% without access.

For many Lions, the first they may have heard of SOGB was in the October/November 2013 issue of this magazine where it was featured on the front cover and had a two page article about our involvement with the SOGB National Summer Games in Bath. For my Lions Club it was when I approached them and asked for a Club donation to help bring some of the London 2012 Opening Ceremony Drummers to Bath to entertain the families of the athletes. For me, it goes back much further than that, however it was London 2012 that was the turning point in my volunteering experience. Even though I have been a Lion for 25 plus years, seeing what can happen at an event like London 2012 makes you look at what you can do. I searched for details about SOGB and found the need for volunteers at the Bath Games and signed up. Bath was amazing and as a result my involvement with SOGB has not stopped. When I was



offered the chance to be the MD Lions Liaison Officer for SOGB I did not hesitate.

So what can, or is that should, the Lions of MD105 do to help SOGB? Well first, the 2017 National Summer Games in Sheffield has been designated as a key event in our centenary celebrations. Once again the Lions have been asked to support the Families Programme and SOGB will be looking for volunteers from all aspects of the Lions family to help. SOGB is so much more than one week's sport every four years: there are opportunities for Districts, Zones and Clubs to forge new bonds with their local SOGB clubs. Many regions of the UK have very few SOGB sports clubs, but Lions know their community. For example, do you have a local athletics club or a swim club that are prepared to help train potential SOGB athletes? If they do, perhaps volunteer? This does not mean a once a week commitment at a sports club, although they would be grateful, but there are regional or national events nearly every weekend that cannot happen without volunteers.

At our 60th Anniversary Convention, in Leeds, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Lions of MD105 and SOGB. Now is the time to really show that Lions are committed to helping the Special Olympics movement in Great Britain!

Let me leave you with a couple of thoughts:

- 1) Eunice Shriver believed that the Olympic ideals of sport could give confidence and new hope to people with intellectual (learning) disabilities as well as to those who cared for them.
- 2) I was lucky enough to do 6 weeks at London 2012, but 3 days at Bath 2013 was far more emotional. I have already signed up for 2017.



**Special
Olympics**

OBITUARIES

These Lions of our Multiple District have recently left us. We honour their memory and the contribution they made in their Lionistic service for the good of others.



Send in obituaries to
lion.editor@lionsclubs.co
Please make sure they are no longer than 50 words (after the Lion's name and Club) to guarantee that they are published in full.

BINNIE: LION DAVID (68)

Winslow Lions Club. After a long and distinguished flying career with the RAF and latterly commercial airlines, he has sadly been denied a long and happy retirement with his wife, Liliane and family. A modest, polite person of great humour and humility, he will leave an enormous gap in our lives.

★ ★ ★

BOWEN: Lion Carol

Stevenage Corey's Mill Lions Club announce the sad passing of Lion Carol. Carol was on the fund raising team (even before she became Lion) with her valuable help and enthusiasm. Carol's contribution to the Club's activities, her warm smile and friendship will be deeply missed by the Club. Our condolences go to her family.

★ ★ ★

COLEMAN: Lion Ron (MJF) (92)

Chelmsford Lions Club members are sad to report the passing of Lion Ron, after 19 years of loyal service. Lion Ron was instrumental in the setting up and running of the Club's used spectacle collection, which has currently recycled over 75,000 pairs. Lion Ron will be sorely missed by the Club and his family.

★ ★ ★

CRAMP: Lion Mike

Torpoint and Rame Peninsula Lions Club. Lion Mike passed to higher service following a short illness. An enthusiastic Lion, twice Club President, Mike always had a smile and witty quip for all. He will be long remembered and much missed by his family.

★ ★ ★

CAHILL: Lion Maureen (MJF)

It is with great sadness that *Killiney Lions* report the sudden passing of their President and District Officer Lion Maureen Cahill. Maureen was an amazing lady who gave so much to others from her family, to the Lions, to the community at large and to both the young and the old.

DEWAR: Lion William (Bill) (70)

Bradford on Avon Lions Club. Members are sad to report the death of Lion Bill. Having joined in 2007, Bill was an enthusiastic and hardworking member having been the Fund Raising Chairman and Club Director and Trustee. Lion Bill will be sorely missed by all. Our thoughts are with his wife, Frances, and family.

★ ★ ★

DRAPER: LION Edwin (Ed) (78)

Camborne Redruth & District Lions Club are sad to report the passing of Lion Ed. Ed was a dedicated, respected and active Lion for the past 38 years. He was the Club's 9th President, treasurer for the past 20 years and organiser of the Club's successful ladies darts marathons. Ed will be sorely missed by all.

★ ★ ★

FOSTER: Lion Geoff

Letchworth & Baldock Lions Club are still in shock at the death of PP Lion Geoff Foster. Lion Geoff was a true Lion always involved in club activities: he helped to run the local visually-impaired club and the motor neuron disease club. Our condolences go out to his two daughters, he will be sadly missed.

★ ★ ★

GAY: Lion Charles (Charlie) (80)

Lions Club of St Austell members are deeply saddened by the death of Founder member Charles Gay. A former President, Charlie was an authority on all matters constitutional and could always be relied upon. He was also the driving force behind the creation of the Fowey River Lions Club. He will be sorely missed.

★ ★ ★

GOURLAY: Lion Brian (80)

Leatherhead and District Lions Club Members are saddened to announce the passing of the Founder and Charter member Lion Brian. A Lion for 46 years, he leaves a lasting legacy of a successful club. Granted the Melvin Jones Fellowship last year, he will be greatly missed by fellow Lions, thoughts are with his family.

HOWEY: Lion Dennis

Lancing and Sompting Lions Club. Lion Dennis passed away in March of this year and he is sadly missed by his Club. He was a good Club Lion and was our Welfare Chairman for quite a few years. He was very thorough and quietly carried out his duties helping people less fortunate.

★ ★ ★

Jessett: Lion David (95)

Devizes Lions. "Trooper" Jessett was a staunch, warm-hearted, respected Lion for 44 years who was always involved in many local activities. Born here in 1920, he lived and worked here most of his life, earning his nickname during the war in North Africa. Missed by family and friends alike.

★ ★ ★

JONES: Lion John Alun (75)

Colwyn Bay & District Lions Club. It is with great sadness we have to report the sudden passing of Lion Alun. He was a dedicated Lion having served in many roles within the Club for 24 years, most recently as treasurer. He will be sadly missed and our deepest sympathies go to his wife, Jean and family.

★ ★ ★

LEIST: Lion Dr Klaus Phd (MJF) (84)

London Host Lions Club. Members are deeply saddened to report passing of Lion Klaus. He was a Lion member for over 33 years and had served as President twice. He was humble, kind, and revered by the Club and District. Our deepest sympathies go to his wife of 53 years, Elizabeth, and her family.

★ ★ ★

MARSH: Lion Tess (64)

Denby Dales Lions Club. It is with sadness and regret that we learned of the sudden and untimely death of our good friend Lion Tess. A vivacious and active member, who was to be our 2015 Vice President: she will be keenly missed. Our deepest sympathies are with Glenn and family.

★ ★ ★

McGUIRK: Lion Ray (87)

Dudley Lions Club. With great sadness members report the passing of Lion Ray. Lion Ray was an active Charter member having served as Club President twice as well as other roles. Known as "Dad", he was a great supporter of youth activities and promoter of the family of Lions. He is greatly missed.

★ ★ ★

MOHINDROO: Lion Tajwant Singh

Southall Lions Club regret to announce the death of its longstanding member Lion Taj. A Lion for 37 years, Lion Taj was a dedicated and enthusiastic member of the Club and will be greatly missed. Our sympathies go to his wife Gobind and the family.

★ ★ ★

NELSON: Lion Douglas (83)

Blackpool Lions Club are sad to report the passing of our President Douglas. Douglas was a member for 29 years and served as President for a total of 10 years. Lion Douglas was the perfect Lion providing excellent service to the Club's welfare, activities and social events. He will be sadly missed.

★ ★ ★

OCTON: Lion Craig

Chepstow and Caldicot Lions Club are sad to report the sudden passing of their valued Secretary Lion Craig Octon. Lion Craig was a hard working member of the Club for 17 years whose commitment was evidence. As Secretary, he managed the clubs affairs with quiet efficiency. The Club's sympathies go out to his wife, Anne.

★ ★ ★

OGDEN: Lion Kenneth George (90)

Blackpool Lions Club are sad to report the passing of our longest serving member Lion Ken Ogden: Ken was a member for 40 years and served as President seven times. He was a loyal Lion providing excellent service in all aspects of our Club's welfare and activities. He will be sadly missed.

PARKER: Lion George

The Lytham St. Annes Lions Club announce with great sadness the death of past President Lion George. George has served the Club for 46 years and has never missed a Charter night! His devotion and hard work was awarded in 2005 with the Melvin Jones Fellowship. The Club extends their condolences to wife, Sylvia and family.

★ ★ ★

PRICE: Lion John (77)

Kenilworth Lions Club reports with sadness the death of Lion John Price. Lion John joined in 1981 and held many posts in the Club, including President. He instrumented the Kenilworth Lions Charity Furniture Store and was the driving force behind its success, remaining its Chairman until his death. He will be sadly missed.

★ ★ ★

RADIA: Lion Ramesh (71)

Lions Club of Moor Park. With great sadness members report the passing of Charter Member and past President Lion Ramesh Radia. During his presidency he raised a magnificent amount of £37,500 for Harefield Heart Foundation. Our deepest sympathies to his wife Kusum and family, he will be sadly missed. May his soul rest in peace.

ROBINSON: Lion Richard (70)

Saffron Walden Lions Club. Members are deeply saddened to report the passing of Lion Richard. Richard will be remembered for his great sense of fun and adventure. He was a dedicated family man, well-known and respected by all. The Club extends its deepest sympathies to his partner Ann and their family.

★ ★ ★

SHARMA: Lion Naresh (73)

Bexley & Sidcup Lions Club. Members are very saddened to report the passing of Lion Naresh. Serving his community for 27 years with pride and enthusiasm, Naresh was a great character who will always be remembered for his willingness to help and his charitable work. Our love and thoughts are with his wife, Ansuya and family.

★ ★ ★

TAYLOR: Lion Mike, MJF (76)

Sunderland Lions Club. It is with sadness that we report the passing of Lion Mike. A Lion for 41 years, Mike joined North Tyneside Lions Club as a Charter Member. In 1990 he transferred to Sunderland Lions Club and has served as President and Club Secretary. Our thoughts are with his wife, Chloe.

★ ★ ★

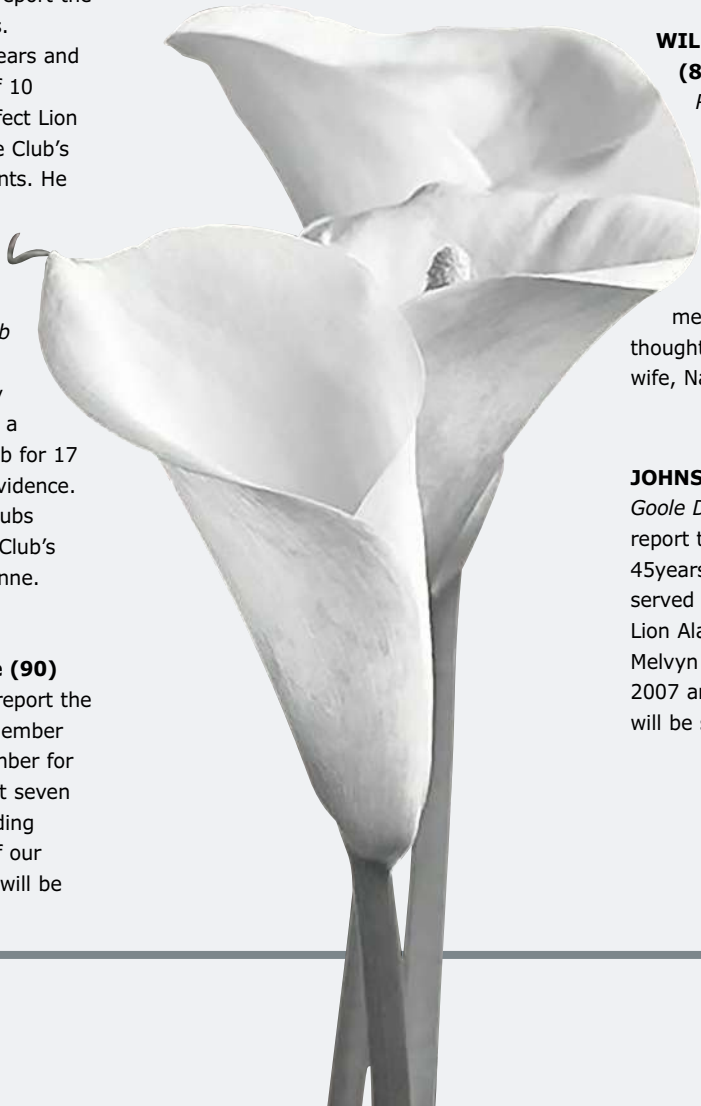
WILKINSON: Lion Edward (Ted) (85)

Rugby Rokeby Lions Club. Members are deeply saddened by the sad passing of Lion Ted. A Lion for 45 years, being formerly a member and Secretary of Daventry Lions, Ted was a highly valued and well respected member of the Club. We extend our thoughts and deepest sympathy to his wife, Nancy, and family.

★ ★ ★

JOHNSON: Lion Alan (88)

Goole District Lions Club. Members sadly report the death of Lion Alan, a Lion for 45years. During his time with Goole he served as President and as Secretary. Lion Alan after was honoured with a Melvyn Jones Fellowship in December 2007 and later made a Life Member. He will be sadly missed.





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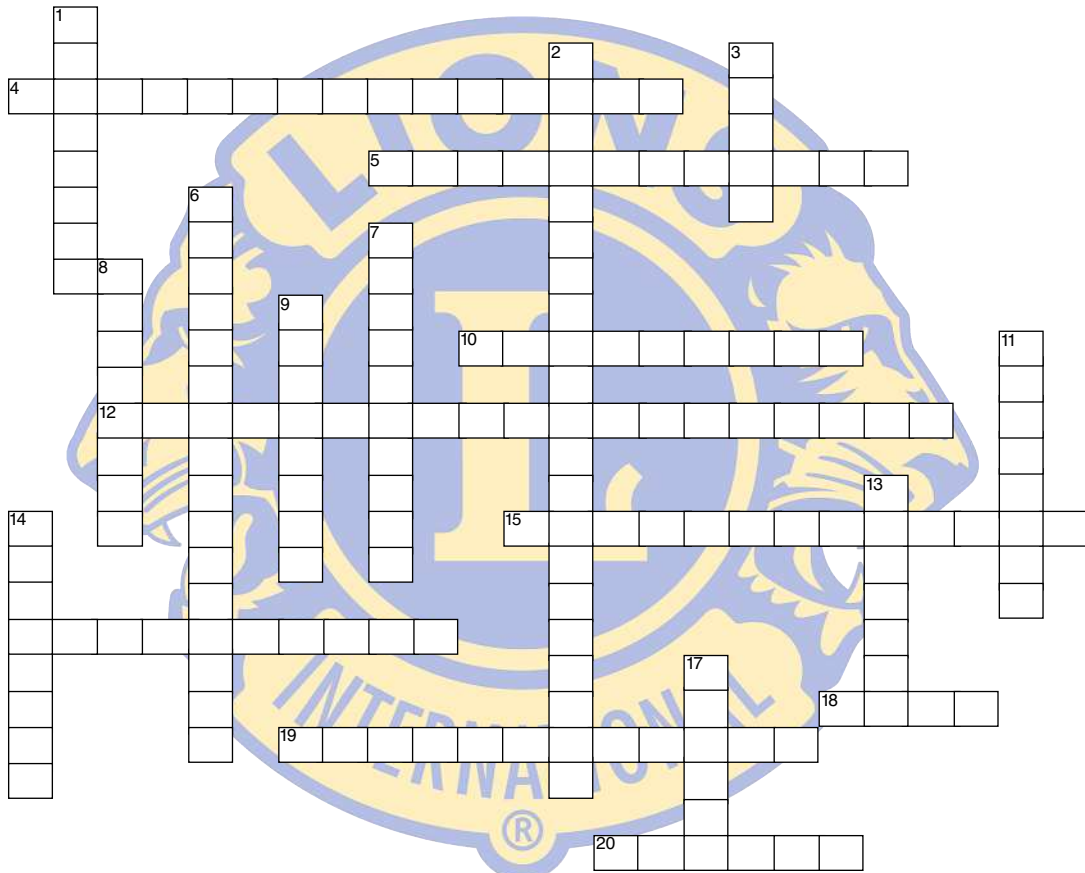
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Across

- 4. The new International President
- 5. Current Contract Governor
- 10. 2017 Lions celebration
- 12. Royal Patron of the Lions Club of the British Isles
- 15. The official colours of Lions Clubs International
- 16. The major International service commitment to Lions
- 18. Lions Club for children
- 19. Fill in the missing word for our slogan: "Liberty, _____, Our Nation's Safety."
- 20. In which country was the first Club formed outside of the United States?

Down

- 1. Founding City (US)
- 2. One of the highest Lions achievements
- 3. The predominant colour of a Message in a Bottle
- 6. Find them in the fridge – they save lives!
- 7. Lions MD 105 (British Isles and Ireland) HQ
- 8. How many districts are there in the British Isles and Ireland?
- 9. 2015 Lions Clubs International Convention
- 11. Lions HQ (US)
- 13. The association's motto is...
- 14. Location of the 2015 Europa Forum
- 17. Founding city (UK)

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