



District Governor's Newsletter

District Governor 2011/2012 Beryl Roberts



DGs Latest Travels

Special points of interest:

DG relates her latest travels

I attended many Christmas functions throughout the district and enjoyed every one immensely. Throughout January I have been attending Zone Meetings and never fail to be impressed by the projects being accomplished by our clubs. Well done everybody.



Congratulations to Past District Governor John May of the Lichfield club and Lion Peter Hickson of the Vale Royal club who both received the MBE in the Queen's New Year's Honours list. (see page 3)

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Congratulations also to Lion President Theresa of the Buckley and Mold Lions club on her marriage to Don Nickson on the 7th January.

The International President's Wing-Kun Tam's dream of planting a million trees worldwide during his year of office has been a superb success. To date 7.5 million trees have been planted and we are just over halfway through the year. Please contact Lion John Vaughan our Environmental Officer for local details. John has been a tireless worker on this venture.

District Officer Beverley Stanyer held a very successful media workshop on the 15th January complete with audience participation. Well done Beverley.

District Officer David Durrington will be sending information packs to clubs about our 'Signature Projects' shortly. These projects are the Lions Eye Health Project and Young Leaders in Service. It is hoped that promotion of these projects will promote our organization throughout the Multiple District. Please help if you can?

Thank you to all clubs who have contributed to Eric's appeal for the Stroke Association. This year we will be trying to help the Stroke Clubs in our own district who are struggling to stay open.

On the 12th March International President Tam will be visiting the National Arboretum memorial and will be meeting Club presidents the same evening at Kegworth (not far from the Arboretum). This will be his only visit to the UK and we are very fortunate that he will be coming so close to our district. I sincerely hope we can get as many Lions as possible to meet with International President Tam and will be releasing further information as to our district plans for this wonderful occasion.

Our International President believes, as I do, in our family of Lions. Continue mentoring our new lions, nurture our existing lions, continue to serve and make a difference. Have fun doing it.

Yours in Lionism

Beryl

Continuing in Service Together



District Governor Travels Feb/Mar 2012

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Visit	Club	Visited by
06/02/2012	City of Bangor	2VDG Dave Handley
13/03/2012	Vale of Llangollen	1VDG Rob Brown

Important Note regarding DGT Visits

There are only 2 visits outstanding for the DGT. If neither of the above dates are suitable then please contact the Officer due to visit your club asap.

Contacts

DG Lion Beryl Roberts:- beryl.rob@hotmail.com

1st VDG Lion Rob Brown:- mrmap@talktalk.net

2nd VDG Lion Dave Handley:- davidhandley41@yahoo.co.uk

Good Luck in all you do.

Beryl

Welcome New Members

Name	Club
Pat Gagliano	Cheadle
Robert Gagliano	Cheadle
Anthony Want	Knutsford
Jennifer Want	Knutsford

District Convention 2012

Our Convention Team have also been working very hard finalizing our forthcoming convention at Mold which is now totally booked. Flint Lions the host club look forward to meeting you all in March. We are pleased to announce that our International Guest will be Past International President William L.(Bill) Biggs of Omaha Nebraska USA. (shown right). Not long to go now !



Visiting Lion Latest Results 2011-2012



Club	Points
Little Orme	317
Stoke-on-Trent	170
Stone	167
Cannock	149
Flint	134
Llandudno	104
Beaumaris	103
Telford	82
Tamworth	63
Leek	52

Send visiting lions forms to,
Trish Morris 32 Station Crescent
Craven Arms Shropshire SY7 9RR
trish@pamorris.plus.com

Lions & Classic FM Partners for Service

Please use this link to access latest news and a form to submit details of your fundraising events to The Classic FM Foundation. Let them know the information that you would like to get across and they may use that as a guideline to create online content on the Classic FM website. They may also be able to give you a plug on air using the information you have supplied. Follow link:- <http://webspace4you.org/wordpress/?p=626>





New Years Honours

This year there were only two honours awarded in MD 105 and amazingly these were both from our District 105BS

- a) **PDG John May MBE (Lichfield)** is the MD105 Physical & Learning Disabilities Officer and has been an superb ambassador for Disability Sports in addition to a major contributor and fund raiser for 30 years supporting many of the Talking Newspapers in the Staffordshire area. The award recognises, as second to none, John's relentless commitment to sport for disabled people and to Disability Sport Events as an organisation, – an outstanding achievement for an outstanding man.
- b) **Lion Peter Hickson MBE (Vale Royal)** is regarded as the inspirational chairman of a college for young adults with learning difficulties who has steered the Petty Pool Trust for 30 years. The award recognises his dogged determination and strong leadership which has changed the lives of hundreds of youngsters. The further education college based in Sandiway near Northwich offers specially designed vocational training and entry-level qualifications in art and media, hospitality and catering, retail, ICT, horticulture, animal care and independent living skills.

Many congratulations on both of these well deserved awards

Media Workshop (15th Jan 2012)

Lions from all over the area roared into the Roman Way at Cannock not to devour the Christians but to gain some words of wisdom on how to tackle the media.

First up we had some new insights from our own web Guru Dave Allen on his take on the internet. A very informative talk and more importantly live demonstrations and how we should be engaging with the younger generation using their means of communication and not our Old Stone Age methods.

Next to the slaughter was Andy Hill from Stafford Hospital Radio giving some very useful tips on how to be interviewed on radio and also ideas on how to make the connection with your local radio and to keep it! Some useful practical exercises were undertaken with different participants trying to put into practice what had been learned previously.

The gathering then broke for lunch and all chewed over the words of wisdom from the morning and trying to work out what our camera expert Martin Smith meant by ABC? Martin then went on to give some examples of good press shots and not so good shots and what the press look for in interesting colourful imaginative pictures. Most important of all do not just rely on the pictures taken at an event. To get the best out of photos destined for the press always consider posed photo shoots so that the shots are as good as possible, as you can always change the composition without fear that the moment has passed!

Finally John Filce was thrown to the lions and he explained some fundamentals about getting your article published in the Local press. Many of the tips we had all heard before but the most important one was to build a relationship with your local media and personalities and stick with them. Several bits of media jargon were very useful and would save you from some embarrassment with the press.

Overall a great day was had by all and if you took away only one gem or useful piece of advice in my book it was very worthwhile. Everyone that attended should be winners. The only losers were those clubs that were not represented and are probably complaining that they can never get into the press. A good well run day in good company with only representation from MD missing to hear some of the feedback on PR from the grass roots.

Report by John Marsh — Ironbridge & Severn Gorge Lions



News from Clubs

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Mold Alun Sponsor School in a Box (EDUKIT)

This is a Lions supported project with UNICEF and comprises a School-in-a-Box, a box of basic educational materials for about 40 students or more. The kit is used to fulfil some of the educational needs of children for whom there are no schools because of violence, natural disaster, or breakdown in the social/educational system. The Edukit is designed to be a low-cost, rapid response to an emergency by establishing a self-sufficient classroom. It is adapted to specific needs in each location.

These kits are distributed in Countries in which there is or has been some form of armed conflict e.g. Angola, Bosnia, Cambodia, Liberia, Mozambique, Rwanda, Somalia or Countries in which there are "silent emergencies" such as Afghanistan, Haiti, Iraq, Malawi, Sri Lanka, Zambia. Each kit costs £170-00 and enables 80 different children to benefit from a better Education -(40 in the morning and 40 in the afternoon).

In 2011 the School Council at Alun School, Mold in Flintshire decided to work with Buckley & Mold L.C. to raise funds within the school for this worthy cause. Recently £2280-00 was presented to Lions President Theresa, who is a teacher at the School. To mark this splendid effort DG Beryl Roberts arranged for a plaque to be made for presentation to the School Council. On 13th. January the plaque was presented, by our DG to the School Council in the presence of the Headteacher Mr, Ashley Jones and Theresa Nickson. The DG was accompanied by PDG Eric Roberts, PDG Frank Marnell, Laurie and Maureen Oatway and ZC Peter McCracken.

The DGs party was very well received and following the presentation there was an opportunity to discuss the work of Lions. Following this valuable donation 13 different Kits can be purchased, and we

hope to identify in which part of the world they might be used.

Report by Laurie Oatway (International Relations Officer)

Pictured left—Front Row Mold Alun School Council.

Back Row 2nd from left PDG Frank Marnell, DG Beryl Roberts, ZC Peter McCracken & DO Laurie Oatway.



Christmas Round-up : Cannock Luncheon

Cannock Lions Club provided an excellent home cooked Christmas Lunch for members of S.S.A.F.A. (Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association) in December. Lord Lieutenant Sir James Hawley KCVO TD carved the turkey. Santa was in attendance along with Lion's District Governor Beryl Roberts who said " This is what Lions do best, serving their local communities ". Cannock Ex

- Servicemen's Club Male Voice Choir provided the excellent entertainment including a visit from Ernie the Fastest milkman in the West !

Pictured left : Lion Mark Wyton, President Doug Smith, Sir James Hawley KCVO TD carving Turkey & D G Beryl Roberts with SSAFA Members. Below Lions Pam Gabbitas, Helen Addiss & Maureen Thompson.

Article continued overleaf.





Christmas Round-up : Cannock Luncheon cont.

Cannock Lions Club would like to thank Novellis U.K. for donating the wine to accompany the meal to make it a merry occasion and to Famous Grouse for the whiskey they sent as gifts.

Pictured left Santa handing out presents.

Below Mrs Santa, District Governor Beryl Roberts & Lion Mark Wyton



Christmas Round-up : Flint

The whole of December demanded a major commitment from all of the club members and many of their partners as no less than 12 separate day long collection sessions were completed at all the 6 major supermarkets in the area. In addition Father Christmas visits were made to 2 community hospitals and 3 residential care homes, the Daffodils, the Autumn Club, plus a number of nursery and primary schools.

Alongside this Christmas Hampers were provided to 16 needy families on Dee-side. The most amazing incident, whilst Father Christmas was on collection duty, occurred at a well known supermarket in Flint's area when one of the lady shoppers suddenly went into labour. It was clear that the supermarket was not fully geared up for such an emergency so Father Christmas in his high viz bright red costume could be seen in the car park helping the staff to clear a way through for the emergency ambulance crews.

The Lions never found out what happened to mother and baby because the incident happened on a day when all major roads in Flintshire were snow or ice bound resulting in the shopper being rushed into Chester Countess hospital rather than Bodelwyddan.

Flint Father Christmas (Bryn Jones) bottom right at Holywell Community Hospital, below with the staff at Llŷs Gwennffryd Care home and top right preparing to make a quick get away on his Zimmer frame from Croes Atti Care home.

Right - Father Christmas with Keiran & Ellie Preator just before the car park action.





Urmston Honour Local Volunteer

The work of local volunteer, Alan Vernon was acknowledged by Jean Black, President of Urmston Lions when she presented Alan Vernon with the Lions International Medal of Merit at the Urmston Lions 36th Birthday Charter at Davyhulme Golf Club. Jean said, "We are giving Alan this Medal of Merit to say thank you, on behalf of the Urmston community, for all the work Alan has done over the years. Recently Alan has been organising the annual Bonfire and Firework display at Chassen Fields, which has raised nearly £20,000 over the last 2 years for Swim Trafford, an organisation that supports competitive swimmers from the area. Whenever Urmston Lions have needed help Alan has been there. We are very happy to be able to say this special thank you to Mr Vernon."



Lion Beryl Roberts, District Governor, said, "It was a pleasure to be able to join with Urmston Lions in congratulating Mr Vernon. Lions Clubs always try to work with local people and organisations to make their communities a better place. The thing that drives Lions Clubs is our motto, We Serve."

Pictured left DG Beryl, Alan Vernon and LP Jean Black.

PR Corner

How soon February has come around. It has been very quiet of late. I have had very few articles from clubs. We want to try and get at least one article in the Lion magazine from our district. So please send me some articles. Our Media workshop was very successful last month and the feedback was very positive. Thanks to those who attended I hope you learned something new. The Website competition should have been judged now so good luck to all of those Clubs who have websites. Our International President will be visiting our District next month details will be sent out soon to all club presidents.

Bev Stanyer Chair Public Relations : coppa_chik@hotmail.com

The copy deadline for the next issues of the DG's newsletter Feb 20th & March 20th

Please send everything in electronic format (Word documents with **separate** Jpegs) to me. Can correspondents please check days and dates for accuracy. Newsletter Contact is:- john.hfilce@tiscali.co.uk

Many thanks. John Filce (Editor)