



## DISTRICT 105BS NEWSLETTER

District Governor 2013-2014

Lion Dave Handley

*And A Happy New Year***Special points of interest:****International**

IP Lion Barry is full of praise for your efforts, the imaginative ways in which you work as part of the international family of Lions, and for the support shown for the Philippines and the Life Saver water purification jerry cans. Much more is on the LCI web page and I would ask you to visit the latest news column. MD105 has donated in excess of £100,000 to the funds now available to the local Lions to help with the rebuilding of their communities.

**My Thanks (again)****Inside this issue:**

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To each and every Lion for their work to make Lionism both effective and fun in 2013 and long may you all continue in 2014. I know that 1st VDG Lion Carole and 2nd VDG Lion Chris join with me in wishing you all the very best for the New Year; we hope it will bring you health and happiness as Lions, as moms and dads, grandmas and granddads and to all of your families. We have enjoyed our visits to you and your clubs, that we have done so far this Lionistic year, and we look forward to those visits yet to be made.

As I write this, we as a District are in a position of positive growth and I must thank our Lion Presidents and Membership Chairs for their efforts in making this possible. Please do keep up the very good work you do as Lions, and please keep up the very good work in making your community aware of Lions and the benefits we bring to your people in need of support – be it just for now or for the longer term.

**A Challenge**

May I close by giving you a bit of a challenge – please help our district produce more candidates for Young Ambassador than in 2013; please help our district increase the number of entries in the Peace Poster Competition than in 2013; please enrol more Young Leaders In Service than in 2013; please share your successes with everyone through the Newsletter and your club webpages and Facebook pages and finally, please help every Lion to enjoy their Lionism more than ever in 2014!

**DG Dave****Welcome to the new members in December....**

Anglesey Central - William Smith

Birkenhead - Patricia Gill, Sue Walker

Oswestry - Ian Moir

Tamworth - Corey Keeling

Wallasey - Irene Crumpton



### Collecting by the Aged!

Little Orme Lions have started on their Xmas collections.

Lion members were given permission to collect for local charities outside the Co/op Store in Penrhyn Bay. The public were very supportive & the Lions who took part enjoyed their time there chatting



to customers & showing what lions do for their communities.

The first photo is of the two oldest members of the club next birthday will be a big one! The other lion is none other than our President for this year.

I wonder if that's why he has a chair & the other two had to stand!

Joyce Jones ( sec. )



### Macclesfield and District Lions Club 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Charity Swimarathon

Macclesfield and District Lions Club organised their 27<sup>th</sup> Swimarathon on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2013 at the Leisure Centre, Macclesfield, at which many local organisations including the Scouts, local schoolchildren with ages ranging from eight to eighteen, and adults with ages from twenty one to nearly eighty years old. There were twenty nine teams taking part, from amateurs to the really professional swimmers

Over its twenty seven year history the event has raised well over £125,000 (that's an eighth of a million pounds folks), for BBC Children in Need, Riding for the disabled and Lions Charities. Over £4,500 has already been promised this year so far and the total is expected to be well in excess of this figure.

The event is organised by Past District Governor Arthur Clenton, ably assisted by Macclesfield members and their wives and ladies

Lion President Barry Cooper is pictured with one of the teams, 1<sup>st</sup> Prestbury Scouts, who swam 39 laps (A lap is two lengths of the pool). Later that evening after the event the Lions enjoyed a lovely supper of cottage pie with all the trimmings at the home of Arthur and Joan. Joan cooked a lovely meal for thirty of the Lions after taking part herself in the swim

In all a lovely afternoon and evening





## News from Clubs & District

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### Sam's Charity Concert raises £700 for head injury charity

An annual charity concert staged at Wellington Methodist Church has raised £700 for the Shropshire branch of Headway, the charity that works to improve life after brain injury.

The concert, staged on Saturday evening by Ironbridge and Severn Gorge Lions, has been held each December since 2008 when it was initiated by Sam Monk, a former member of the club who died earlier this year.

Known this year as 'Sam's Charity Concert' in memory of its creator, the event was attended by a packed audience who were entertained by the award winning Gallery Singers, Telford and District Light Operatic Players (TADLOP), Temponilla and local mezzo soprano singer Helen May.



Mince pies and coffee were served in the interval by members of Ironbridge Lions and at the end of the evening Lion President June Softley presented a cheque to Alex Hiam from Headway Shropshire. "Headway does fantastic work in the county," said Mrs. Softley, "and Ironbridge Lions are delighted to have raised £700 through Sam's Charity Concert to help them continue to provide support to people over 18 years of age with an acquired brain injury, along with their families and their carers.

"We are also delighted that Sam's widow Sheila could be with us for the event. The annual fundraiser concert was Sam's 'baby' and its success this year was a fitting tribute to his many years of hard work to help others."

Left to right – June Softley (Lions President), Alex Hiam (Headway Shropshire), John Ankers (Headway Shropshire), Will Hayward (TADLOP), Andy Calderbank (The Gallery Singers), Helen May (The Singer), Maxwell Shaw (Temponilla)

### And the Winner Is - - - - -

Beatrice Lofthouse, a Year 8 pupil of Bridgewater High School in Stockton Heath, Warrington, sponsored by Stockton Heath Lions Club is the winner this year District 105BS stage of Peace Poster Competition.

Beatrice, sponsored by Stockton Heath Lions Club was initially the winner of her school round which attracted 300 entries. This amazing figure was all down to the enthusiasm of her school and in particular to the enthusiasm of her Art Teacher, Mrs Amanda Silver.

At the District finals held at the Mercure Hotel in Chester, Beatrice's Poster, was judged the outright winner by all three judges and was forwarded to the Multi District Finals in Birmingham. Unfortunately Beatrice's work, this time, was unsuccessful as the winner announced on December 11<sup>th</sup> was from District SE.

The theme of the competition this year was "OUR WORLD - OUR FUTURE". The poster Beatrice produced was outstanding in its originality, simplicity and workmanship. Comments from the professional artist judges, included :- "Clear and simple and so original", "Very cleverly executed", and "Clear, concise, and beautifully drawn".

As part of the competition Beatrice also had to make a Quote on her poster, based on the theme and her actual artwork. She wrote **"To live for others, not ourselves will bring peace to our future"**. Beatrice added that the idea for her Poster was based around the thought that *"In the same way that flowers need water to bloom, the countries in the world need peace and unity to ensure the safety of our future."* A wonderful, thought provoking quote from a gifted and caring young lady, and one that those in power positions in the world could perhaps take on board.

Her Head Teacher, Mr Tim Long added that the school was thrilled at Beatrice's success adding his own comment, "Beatrice has produced a creative and original take on the theme "OUR WORLD - OUR FUTURE". She has beautifully combined the ideas of love, unity and nurture to symbolise how an ideal world might be."

Beatrice, along with her parents Mr and Mrs Philip Lofthouse, together a representative of her school, have all been invited to the Lions District 105BS Convention at the White House Hotel in Telford on 16<sup>th</sup> March for lunch and the presentation of prizes to both her and her school, where her poster will be on display for all delegates to see and admire.

**Rick Talbot 105 BS Peace Poster Officer**



### Dickensian Success for Lymm Lions

Lymm Lions held their annual mulled wine stall at the local Dickensian Festival again this year. We have our own recipe which has proved very popular over the years. The weather was kind and the rain kept away.

It was a very busy day and £649 was raised for local charities. We also ran a raffle for a Christmas hamper which was won by a local resident.



Travelling Lion	2013/14
Points as at 10.12.13	
Club	Points
Stoke on Trent	217
Stone	121
Cannock	93
Tamworth	87
Llandudno	68
Little Orme	60
Flint	53
Beaumaris	52
Newcastle under Lyme	47
Telford	45

### ***The copy deadline for the next issue of the District Newsletter is 22nd January***

Please send everything in electronic

format (**Word documents with *separate* Jpegs**) to me.

Can correspondents please check days and dates for accuracy.

Please identify key people in any relevant photographs otherwise the impact of the story line may be severely compromised by the omission.

Newsletter Contact is:-

[bsnewsletter@lions105bs.org.uk](mailto:bsnewsletter@lions105bs.org.uk)

**Many thanks and a Happy New Year to all our readers. John Whitehouse (Ed)**





### Lion John Conquers Everest!?!

Lion John Vaughan made it to Everest Base Camp on 19<sup>th</sup> November, he also reached the summit of Kala Pattar at 5,545m from where he could look down on the site that will be back in use in a few weeks when the climbing season begins.

Telford Lions club bannerettes now fly at both base camp and Gokyo Lakes. The photograph also features one of John's travelling companions, Geoff the Gnome who is the Radio Shropshire mascot.



"I would like to thank all those clubs and individual Lions who supported me with kind messages and donations to Hearing Dogs for Deaf People. Once the last promised monies come in I will have raised over £3,000. So if anyone has pledged sponsorship but not yet paid, Hearing Dogs and I would be glad to receive outstanding payments".

### Tins and more tins for Lymm Lions

Lymm Lions carried out their annual tinning campaign in November and December again this year and were overwhelmed by the generous donations from the people of Lymm.

President Kath Buckley said "Each year we undertake to give some cheer to those in need at Christmas by giving them a food parcel. We couldn't do this without the generosity of the people of Lymm



who donated over 3,200 items this year. So I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who donated as well as to those volunteers who helped us collect, make up and deliver the parcels."



The Lions delivered 133 parcels as well as giving 33 boxes of chocolates to those who needed a little cheer. Due to the size of the donations we were also able to donate food to WODAC which is a local charity providing hot meals to homeless people.



### Horse Power for Santa

Gartmore Riding School near Lichfield provides a safe, stimulating environment for individuals with special needs and disabilities. Children and young adults in particular gain a great deal from the time spent with horses and ponies.

Lichfield and District Lions Club supported a recent event for children from Queens Croft and Rocklands School's to develop their confidence and riding skills with the highlight being a visit from Santa who handed out rosettes of achievement and of course, the all important early Christmas present.

Our picture shows Santa surrounded by proud recipients of their rosettes and Lion President Ross Ward presenting a cheque to Tracy Francis, Principal of the School.



As you would expect for such a special visit Santa left his reindeer at home resting up for Christmas opting instead for horses!

This event is one of many supported by Lichfield Lions, now in their 41<sup>st</sup> year serving the local community – during this time having raised an amazing £3/4m from the folk of Lichfield.

### Bev's PR Bit

Happy New Year ! Hope you are not too exhausted by your Christmas projects. It's time to reflect on what has worked for you PR, wise and what hasn't. Please consider social media as a way. Big companies use it, and if it is good enough for Coca Cola and Apple it's good enough for us, and best of all it's free! Please check that your websites are up to date. The District Website Competition will be judged soon by someone from another district.

You are now able to order supplies online from HQ on the MD website, and pay online. Please take a look, there are lots of different things on there, and logos and manuals to take a look at. Also on our site there is a power point presentation on the strategy of their PR plans for the future. What we must remember is that we do not have copious amounts of cash for advertising like the big charity companies do. Our association with Marie Cure would have cost us nearly a quarter of a million pounds if we had to pay for our name mentioned on their literature. Our partnership with them has reached far and wide. If you were a Rotarian you would be asked to pay £2.50 on top of your subs for advertising - I can imagine what would happen if we were to ask. Even though they have the cash their numbers are dropping.

**So shout loud and be proud and lets ROAR into 2014.**

That's it folks ! Love Bev





### Laura Regains Her Independence (Thanks largely to Vale Royal Lions)

Around 5 years ago local teenager Laura Hunt was diagnosed with spastic paraparesis, resulting in her reliance on other people to push her around in the heavy wheelchair supplied by statutory services. What she longed for was a lightweight manual wheelchair so that she could propel herself around and regain some independence.

Newlife Foundation, a leading children's disability charity, launched an appeal to raise £2,801 for the purchase of this wheelchair to transform Laura's life. Vale Royal Lions quickly recognized this deserving case and, after just over £800 had been donated by local concerns, committed to provide the total balance of £1,928.

Laura formally received the new lightweight wheelchair at a presentation at her school, Hebden Green in Winsford, Cheshire on December 9<sup>th</sup> 2013. Laura is shown together with, left to right, Lion Charles Cahill, Immediate Past President, Lion Peter Allsopp, head teacher Alison Ashley and, crouching next to Laura, Weaver Vale MP Graham Evans.

Laura's mum Dawn added that the new wheelchair will boost her confidence and her ability to socialize, and she will not rely on others for her mobility.



### Boxing Day Dip Llandudno 2013

We had 152 dippers this year. One of the largest number we have had. Our charity this year was cancer care and research, plus local charities. However from the registration forms our dippers have been supporting a vast number of good causes. These range from Help For Heroes, Mari Curie,



Motor Neurone Disease and many more. The registration forms show that not only did we

have local dippers but we had people from Liverpool, Manchester, Wrexham and as far as Essex. There was a couple on a Christmas break in Llandudno from New Zealand who took part in the dip.



On the steps of the St George's Hotel we have Lions President John Boyle alongside our own club member councillor and Town Mayor, Lion Garry Burchett and the Town's Miss Alice - Katie Thompson.