



DISTRICT 105BS NEWSLETTER

District Governor 2014-2015

Lion Carole Godden



DG's post Christmas News.

Happy New Year to you all. I hope you had a wonderful Christmas with your families and friends.

December was a very busy month, with many clubs working extremely hard to raise money for deserving causes and at the same time, promoting Lions Clubs International and having great fun. Seems to sum up the way we work! I am sure we are all looking forward to a good rest and some warm evenings relaxing at home.

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As I write this, Edward and I are preparing to go away for a week on a Nile cruise. We are both very much looking forward to some sunshine, to catching up on some reading and to seeing the historical sights. We have never been away at Christmas so it will be a new experience for us.

I was delighted a few days ago to hear from your Youth Chair, Rick Talbot that Police Authorities have set in place plans to make extensive use of Lions Young Leaders In Service for police cadets. I am sure DO Rick will update us all at the next cabinet meeting. This is a splendid opportunity for us to promote the work of Lions through one of our signature projects.

In December's newsletter, I mentioned our growth in membership in the first part of this Lionistic year. I also said I hoped this growth will continue as we move into the second half of the year. I am confident that we can sustain the growth started. Our GMT are meeting early in the new year ready to make plans to support clubs in need of help. If your club could benefit from help, please contact me or our GMT. Please also let us know if you are planning a recruitment campaign.

January looks like being another busy month with several club meetings and two meetings of Council. The Council meeting towards the end of the month will see us welcoming the Vice District Governors for the first time, in preparation for them taking over from us in July.

I can hardly believe how quickly this year is passing. In only a few weeks we will all be gathering for our annual District Convention in March. Many of our plans for the weekend are in place and we can look forward to an interesting business session and great fun at the social events. As you know, PIP Jimmy Ross will be our international guest. It will be a great privilege to host him and to hear what he has to say to us. Booking forms are available on our web site.

It was a great pleasure on Sunday 14th December to join Crewe and Nantwich for their annual Carole service in the beautiful St Mary's Church in Nantwich. Lions Youth Brass played as the congregation assembled and they accompanied some of the Carol singing. As always, they were wonderful. Thank you to Crewe and Nantwich for inviting me to your service. It was a great tribute to the late Harold Foster who started the tradition many years ago.

Working together is the way forward. Great teamwork and more lions mean more service. Let us move into the new year keeping uppermost in our minds the centennial theme, "Where there's a need there's a lion."

With very best wishes to you all,

Carole



Christmas Not Just for Kids

Cannock Lions Club were invited by Morrisons Cannock to help Santa on his visit to the town earlier this month. He greeted customers young and old as they came in. Santa's beautiful sleigh was built and donated by J Kelsall Builder's Merchants to the Lions Club. The gifts were also donated by Morrisons.

A fabulous time was had by all and Santa brought a smile to many faces as our photo shows; Gladys having a chat—who says Christmas is just for kids?

Bev Stanyer - Cannock Lions.



Ironbridge Lions Send Out 2.5 tons of Food to Telford's Needy

130 hampers containing around 2.5 tons of food were today handed over to social workers to be distributed to needy families in the Telford area.

The hampers were put together by Club members assisted by many volunteers who, at the beginning of December, walked the streets pushing 3,000 leaflets through letterboxes asking for donations before going back to knock on 3,000 doors and collect the food.

President Colin Thompson said: "The effort on behalf of both the public and members of the club has once more been phenomenal, but I would like to say a massive 'thank you' in particular to all the amazingly generous people who donated food during our door collections and visits to local supermarkets with Santa and his sleigh. Without such generosity the work we do at Lions would not be possible. Volunteers are hugely important when we undertake big tasks like this".



Members of Ironbridge Lions put finishing touches to 130 food hampers

Top Ten TRAVELLING LIONS to 16th December 2014



Stoke on Trent	169
Stone	103
Tamworth	79
Telford	71
Cannock	62
Ellesmere Port	49
Leek	47
Llandudno	47
Little Orme	43
Beaumaris	36

Visiting/Travelling Lions forms need to be sent to me within 21 days of the event so that I can get the forms to head office within 28 days.

Lion Sarah Cowling
22 Foxlair Road, Manchester.
M22 9RN



TAMWORTH COLLECT THEIR 50,000th PAIR OF SPECTACLES!

Tamworth Lions have just collected their 50,000th pair of spectacles from the people of Tamworth.

The club makes a regular collection from Opticians and Charity shops in and around Tamworth, and also collect unwanted hearing aids.

The spectacles will be sent on to Chichester Lions, the Lions UK sorting centre, where the spectacles will be graded according to the lenses and size, and sent on to the Lions European shipment centre, for inclusion in shipments all over third world countries.

The picture shows from left to right, Lion President Trish Lambert, and Lion Vice President Pam Trevena, packing in the last few pairs of spectacles in the carton that contain the 50,000th pair.

Lion Geoff. Trevena



Mulled Wine Stall in Alsager

Alsager Lions held their now Annual Warming Mulled Wine stall at the Alsager Christmas Light Switch



Ken Livingston Alsager Lions

On and after a worrying slow start for sales there was a sudden high demand for our mulled wine, with the addition of Christmas Mince Pies. To all our delights we had sales of £735.00 giving us a profit of around £425.00 towards local good causes. When we got to the busy bit, I was just glad it wasn't my day job, I think it could be called "Exhausting fun."

Picture shows from the left President Sam Alcock, Lion Pam Lowerson, Sandra Wood and Vice President Dave Nixon prior to the rush and a behind the scenes look of an idle hand, prior to, Many hands making light work."

RUGELEY LIONS CARING CHRISTMAS

Christmas is a time for children and as part of their busy Christmas schedule Rugeley & District Lions found time to extend their season of good will to support a variety of local youth causes.

Primary schools and other young peoples' organisations took part in the annual Lantern Parade - a torchlight procession through the town ending with a nativity play and carol service - and Rugeley Lions once again were on hand to act as marshals. The club also presented certificates of appreciation and Advent Calendars to all participants.

As part of the nationwide Salvation Army Toy Appeal Rugeley Lions helped with the collection and delivery of over 200 toys to their nearest citadel and enjoyed taking part in their carol concert. It is hoped that this worthy cause will become part of the Club's annual welfare commitment.

And with those less fortunate in mind to endorse their Zone's Spring Fling project Rugeley & District Lions gave twenty-two Young Carers in the neighbourhood an early Christmas, presenting them with crammed Santa Sacks. Club Welfare Officer, Jane Stephenson, organised a trolley dash round a local bargain store with the ages and first names of Young Carers supplied by Social Services.

'Twas the season to be merry and Rugeley Lions certainly know how to host a party!

Ed Rule Rugeley Lions



The Marple Santa Dash



On the day, the weather certainly wasn't too kind to us and the numbers were well down on last year. However, we still had a respectable 156 hardy souls who braved the elements and provided us with another successful event.

Romiley, Marple and District Lions Club raised just over £1,000 from the event. Any sponsorship money raised by the Dashers themselves will help Kidney Research U.K. to continue their wonderful work.

The Santa Dash became part of Marple's annual Christmas Cracker week-end thanks to the faithful and dedicated groups and individuals who have stayed with us.

Our personal trainer and the local St. John Ambulance personnel look after the well-being of the Dashers and Sainsburys of Romiley provide the mince pies to refresh them after their exertions. Teas and coffees are served at Marple Garden Centre and Santa Specials are arranged by the Dragon Miniature Railway. Smiths of Marple are then on hand to provide transport back to Marple if it is required.

Thankfully, the route seems to have been negotiated without mishap and both Marple Band and the bagpipes were waiting to welcome the Dashers when they arrived at the Garden Centre. Our Catering Officer had delivered the mince pies and everyone was suitably refreshed by the time they clambered aboard the train.

Our Crowd Control experts handled the situation firmly but fairly and there were no arrests! Santa's fans subsequently departed on Smiths' coach and order was restored. There are many others working away in the background and providing equally valuable services. I thank them all and hope to be back with them next year. Teamwork!!

On behalf of the Club, I wish everybody Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Terry Harding - Welfare Chairman, Romiley, Marple and District Lions Club



Lions Christmas Concert Raises £600 for Brain Injury Victims

An annual Christmas concert held in Wellington has raised £600 for the brain injury charity, Headway.

The concert, organised by **Ironbridge and Severn Gorge Lions** was dedicated to Sam Monk. Sam, a former member of the club who organised the concert for many years, died following an operation for a brain tumour in 2013. The concert was held at Wellington Methodist Church on November 29th.

TADLOP, The Gallery Singers and Wellington Brass Band performed free of charge and Ironbridge Lions provided refreshments, all of which helped to once again keep down ticket prices for those who attended.

Principal organiser, Lion June Softley, said: "A great deal of hard work goes into the staging of our annual Christmas charity concert but this year was especially worth the effort as eight Headway clients were clearly delighted to be able to attend with their carers and one of them even managed a vote of thanks. The icing on the cake though, was when one of them won the first prize of a hamper in the raffle. Such was the enjoyment that the evening concluded with the audience joining in with the performers."



Alsager Lions Christmas Tree

Just to show off Lion Pam Lowersons design qualities - the local Methodist Church, every year, invites all parties whether business, schools or charities to decorate a Christmas Tree.

Some 50 trees are available in the church and then over a couple of days the public are invited to have a look at the fine efforts of all the groups and it gets Christmas off to a lovely start.

We think Lion Pam excelled herself this year.

Ken Livingston Alsager Lions



Lions Keep The Big Build Fed and Watered

Catch up on i-player, 18 December 2014 at 8pm on BBC 1, the Lions Club of Gower & Llŵchwr Estuary have worked with DIY SOS, the BIG BUILD - helping within their community over 9 Days.

During the hottest week of the year the Lions members served much needed cold drinks and special DIY SOS cake for 70 -80 volunteers and crew every day.

Fifteen-year-old Jack Morris was born with a rare form of muscular dystrophy, which has led to a lifetime of painful operations. His mother Helen has always been his rock and his elder brother Daniel his best friend.



Santa Delights Children at Weekend Christmas Lights Switch-on.

Santa Claus and his Elf had a busy day in Madeley on Saturday when they visited the town's annual Christmas event before going on to the Christmas lights switch-on in Ironbridge.

Between 12 and 3pm dozens of youngsters were guided into Santa's Grotto in Madeley Library by members of Ironbridge and Severn Gorge Lions who were on hand to help at both events.

Rushed off his feet, Santa then went on to Ironbridge where he delighted a long line of children who had gathered to see him appear at the window of the Tontine Hotel before meeting many of them in person in his mobile grotto.

Ironbridge Lions President Colin Thompson said later: "Santa told me most of the little girls he spoke to wanted Disney Frozen ice skating dolls, whilst favourite with the boys was Transformers Chomp and Stomp Grimlock. But his heart really melted when one little girl just asked for a chocolate orange."



Photo by Alec Connah



Panto treat for young carers

Twenty young carers from Telford gathered excitedly at Oakengates Theatre on Saturday to see the matinee performance of Beauty and the Beast.

The youngsters were guests of Ironbridge and Severn Gorge Lions who met them at the door before the show and presented each of them with a goodie bag.

Ironbridge Lions are long-time supporters of Telford Young Carers and for many years sponsored a small number of children from the group to join the "Child Flight" charity trip to Manchester Airport to see Santa Claus. Last year they decided to purchase tickets for the panto at Oakengates Theatre instead so that more young carers could benefit.



June Softley, Past President, said: "These Young Carers are all of school age and have to juggle their family caring role with their school life on a daily basis. To see their faces when they are all out together with no other purpose than to have fun is a joy and Ironbridge Lions are delighted to give them that opportunity."

A Warm Welcome to New members

Vale of Llangollen:

Winston Jones

Wallasey:

John Kennedy



The copy deadline for the next issue of the District Newsletter is 22nd January 2015

Please send everything in electronic format as attachments

(Word documents, Calibri 11 pt. with separate Jpegs)

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:- Lion John Whitehouse bsnewsletter@lions105bs.org.uk

Many thanks and a Happy New Year to you all.



Hello fellow Lions hope you are all well rested from the festivities and raring to roar in 2015.

As you know it is Lions' Worldwide Service Week commencing 10th January so let us know what you are doing. It celebrates our founder Melvin Jones so Happy Birthday Melvin ! This is what you need to do.

Plan your project – Host a service project that benefits youth, vision, hunger or the environment during the week of January 10-16.

Share your project – Invite your community to serve with you to showcase your club and the power of service.

Report your project – Report your service on the MyLCI Service Activity Report to earn a Centennial Banner Patch for your club.

Celebrate Your Service

Share photos of your project on social media so everyone can see what a difference you're making in your community. Use the hashtag #Lions100, and your images will be shared on LCI Facebook page.



I have a meeting at MDHQ the first weekend in January. I have had a few comments on the Community report so I will pass them on and any news I will let you know in the next NL

So Happy New Year Lions let's make 2015 our loudest yet.

Beverley xxx

Lions Eisteddfod Committee Wrexham

As a number of clubs in the District have supported the Lions Eisteddfod event by giving financial assistance or manpower support, I have been requested to inform all clubs that there will be an AGM in late January 2015.

The purpose of the AGM is to review the past year and also carry out a democratic election of officers for the coming year along with the formation of the committee for 2015. There is also a need to draft a constitution for the committee.

A letter of notification of the AGM is being sent to all Zone C and local clubs along with clubs that have supported the event this last year.

Should you require any further information or wish to nominate a lion to serve as an officer or a committee member, then please contact either myself or District Governor Carole.

PDG David Morris District Nominations and Constitutions Officer