



DISTRICT 105BS NEWSLETTER
 District Governor 2014-2015
 Lion Carole Godden



DG Carole's final "Bit!"

As I write this, I am finding it hard to believe how quickly the last three years have passed. It seems like only yesterday when I first stood up at the convention in Flint to ask for District to support me going forward as 2VDG. Since then, the journey has been one of learning, leading and above all, getting to know the Clubs and members of our District.

I began the journey with some degree of trepidation, knowing that I had undertaken a very great responsibility. I thank you all for trusting me to lead our District and thank you for the tremendous support I have had through each and every day, week and month of my term.

Inside this issue:

DG Carole's Bit	Pg 1	I cannot begin to thank individuals so I will simply say a massive thank you to every single member of MD 105 BS.
Golden Egg	2	I am extremely proud of our district. The Lions motto, "We Serve," most certainly applies to our fantastic clubs and our fantastic members.
Travelling Lions	2	During the year, we have gained a significant number of new lions and to you I say a very warm welcome and I sincerely hope that you enjoy being a member of this great organisation. I hope you will find the friendship I have found since I became a Lion.
Biker Angels	3	Sadly, just as we have gained new members, so we have lost many who have been called to higher service. My thoughts go out to all who have lost family members and Lion friends.
Young Leaders in Service	3	Fellow Lions, I had high hopes that our district would have a net growth this year but despite our success in recruitment, that now looks very unlikely.
PR	4	I mustn't dwell on the downside! It has been a great pleasure to be involved in the forming of our newest branch club at Barton-under-Needwood. I look forward to seeing that branch prosper and grow. I would also like to say that I look forward to the day in the not-too-distant future when Hednesford reaches the magic number and gains its well-deserved charter.
Welcome	4	I cannot close without making mention of the absolute generosity of our Clubs. Always willing to help in a time of devastation and great need, our clubs have recently donated not far short of £20,000 for the children orphaned by the Ebola epidemic and for the people of Nepal whose lives have been turned upside down by two major earthquakes. Thank you Lions of BS.
Medic Alert Dogs	5	Before I hang up my chain of office, I would like to extend my very best wishes to DGE Chris, 1VDGE Steve and 2VDGE Teresa and to say that I am sure they will be a great new team serving an already great District.
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My kindest regards to you all,
 Carole



Club News & Travelling Lion



**Presentation of the Stone Lions Golden Egg Award
A record year for Stone Lions**

On Monday 13th April Lion President Rod Niven accompanied by fellow lions visited the Swan Inn Stone to present the Golden Egg award to this year's winner.

The manager Alex Hemmings and her team managed to raise the magnificent sum of £500.00, having sold tickets for five eggs.

This is the most money ever raised from one establishment in the history of the fund raising event, and the total amount raised net from the 28 venues involved was £2151.

This fantastic amount has gone into the Lions charity account where it will be used to help the many worthy causes that the lions support throughout the year.

The President and members of the Club would like to thank all the premises who took part. and a big thank you to all those who purchased a ticket in the various draws.

Having raised the money for the lions the Swan is now in the process of trying to raise over £1100 to provide a defibrillator for public use.

The defibrillator will be housed on the outside of the premises; this addition to the other units already in the town will give more or less full coverage of the central area.



When the lions heard of the proposed project from Alex, they thought it would be appropriate to give them their support. Photos show Lion President Rod presenting the golden egg award and also a cheque for £200 to Alex.

Lion Mike Potter, Stone Lions Club Pro.

Left to right
Lion Glenys Sanders, Lion President Rod Niven, Alex Hemmings (manager) Lion Bob Mackie, Lion John Sanders and Ben Errington (one of the Swan team)

**Top 12 TRAVELLING LIONS
to 17 May 2015**

Please note:-
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**



Stoke on Trent	73
Stone	38
Tamworth	35
Ellesmere Port	25
Llandudno	26
Leek	22
Newcastle	21
Cannock	11
Little Orme	9
Flint	9
Urmston	7
Congleton	2



Gorge visitors support biker 'angels'

Visitors to the Ironbridge Gorge helped raise hundreds of pounds on May 3rd for one of the country's most unusual charities by putting down coins on tape laid across the Iron Bridge.

During the second of this year's now famous 'Silver over the Bridge' collections which were started by Ironbridge and Severn Gorge Lions more than twenty years ago, a total of £445 was collected by Ironbridge Lions and the members of Shropshire and Staffordshire Blood Bikes who came along with collecting buckets and merchandise to help promote their cause.

Ironbridge Lions President Colin Thompson said: "We decided to dedicate one of our Silver over the Bridge collections to Blood Bikes after they came to talk to us. Bikers in general come in for a lot of criticism and few people seem to be aware of Blood Bikes and the good work they do right across the country, so it was great that Ian Skoyles could come along with his 1300cc machine and raise some awareness.

"Nationwide Association of Blood Bikes (NABB) volunteers use their own bikes and give their time freely to transport blood and other medical items that are urgently needed when a patient's life is at risk. The huge advantage of transporting these items in this way is that they are readily available out of hours and are rarely delayed in traffic. And as well as saving lives they also of course save the NHS money."

"Apparently in 2010, just one NABB member group made 2,500 deliveries and travelled over 100,000 miles at a cost of around £25,000 – all of which was paid for by charitable donations. If the NHS had used taxis for the same journeys it would have cost more than £120,000."



From left, John Boydell (Ironbridge Lions), Gordon Weston (Ironbridge Lions), Ian Skoyles (Blood Bikes volunteer).

Young Leaders in Service.

Due to the work carried out by PDG Frank Marnell I am pleased to say that we have reduced the amount of paperwork and time on the above. We no longer have to send paperwork to Oakbrook, with the UK and Ireland side of the award now carried out over here. There is also no requirement to fill out one A4 per person as there is now a spreadsheet form which can be sent to you by myself on request. I have also produced a Powerpoint presentation which clubs can also request. Both can be modified and personalised to their own requirements as I have changed it about each time I have used it to suit the target audience.

I am also willing to come along on request to a club or Zone and do a presentation to them or for a Youth Group.

Finally Clubs can now order YLiS badges in batches of 10 direct from Frank Marnell in the metal version at £2-00 each (£20) or the cloth version suitable for Scouts and Guides at £1-00 each (£10) plus postage. Please contact Frank regarding billing on 01244 323779 or 07801 064211

Rick Talbot



Bev's PR Bit.

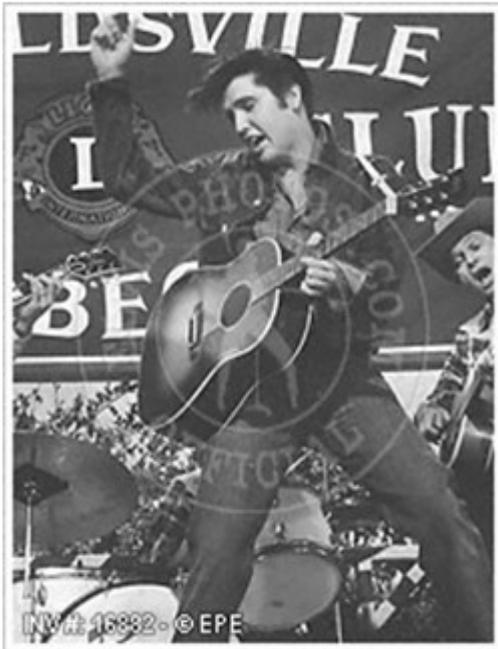
Well our Lionistic year has flown by, hope you have all roared.

First of all congratulations to Stoke Lions Club who won the MD Scrapbook Competition - Well done! In fact 105BS did rather well at MD. International President's Certificates went to MDO Lion John Saunders & PDG Lion Frank Marnell.

At MD convention it was mentioned that The Lion magazine will be online sometime in 2018 and only a digital version will be available.

Also there is what they call a Lions PR toolbox. Details will be available soon. There was also a presentation on our 100 year celebration I am sure PDG Shirley will be letting us know all about it.

There is something that every club can get involved in. Please take a look at the new MD website it is looking great.



Did you know that there is a 'donate button' for the public to send money to LCIF for the Nepal Disaster Appeal? Here is the link. <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/donatesteps.aspx?beneficiarycampaignid=2347>

Please post on your Facebook pages, Twitter etc. So far £2000 has been donated by the public so promote - Every Penny Counts.

There are posters to download as well. Please check website regularly resources are always available.

Luv Bev



Even Elvis performed at a Lions' event.

A Warm Welcome to just one
New member in May

Chester:
Anne Warner





Lions roaring on Bridge to raise awareness of Medical Alert Dogs

Members of a local Lions club were urging people to visit Ironbridge on Sunday 24th May to support a charity that provides and trains dogs to assist people in the everyday management of complex medical conditions that put them at physical risk.

Ironbridge and Severn Gorge Lions were raising awareness and collecting coins laid on a tape across the Iron Bridge in aid of Medical Alert Assistance Dogs. They hoped to be joined for part of the day by Samantha Sutcliffe and her assistance dog, Charlie, who came from the charity.

Elaine Bradburn, a member of Ironbridge Lions, put forward the suggestion to support the charity after meeting Sam through her next door neighbour, a former work colleague of Sam's, and being moved by her story.

Forty-year old Sam, who lives in St Georges, Telford, with her partner Gary and 9-year old daughter Lydia, was forced to give up her job with Wolverhampton University in 2012 due to two medical conditions and subsequently became housebound. Getting Charlie has completely changed her life.

Sam suffers from POTS (postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome) and HMS (hyper mobility syndrome). The two conditions combined mean that every single day she suffers between one and ten episodes of spontaneous semi-conscious 'blackouts', severe fatigue, lack of co-ordination and muscle weakness.

Until Charlie came along Sam was at great risk, even when she was at home, as she has no warning before suddenly passing out and crashing to the ground. But even though Sam has no warning Charlie amazingly knows it is going to happen and licks Sam's hand furiously to tell her, giving her enough time to get into a safe position. With Charlie attached to a belt around her waist she has even gained sufficient confidence to go out for short periods.



"Charlie is the most wonderful dog," says Sam, "a gentle giant full of loyalty, strength and love. Even after the long wait to get him I couldn't believe that I could be so fortunate to have such an amazing dog.

"Before I got him it was dangerous for me to leave the house alone because a blackout causes me to be paralysed and semi-conscious, so I was at huge risk of danger. Since getting Charlie last September though, I have been able to go out for short periods.

"I walk really slowly, but Charlie just looks up at me and adjusts his pace as if to say 'it's OK, I've got this'. Often I get stranded and can't move, but even as I'm just starting to wobble Charlie instinctively looks up and is by my side so that he can help me to get safe. He truly is my guardian angel keeping me safe from harm every day.

"I was very nervous back in March when we were assessed for qualifying as an accredited assistance team, but Charlie was amazing and we passed with flying colours. He now walks proudly in his official coat and I love it because it no longer says 'in training', and so people no longer assume I'm his trainer!"

Elaine Bradburn said: "Meeting Sam and Charlie was a humbling experience and it instantly struck me how dogs like Charlie can literally change people's lives. I hope that we will be able to provide someone else like Sam with another Charlie – although I am sure

Sam would say there cannot ever be another 'Charlie'!"

Samantha Sutcliffe and Charlie, the Medical Alert Dog



Ellesmere Port & District Lions Club.

Ellesmere Port Lions Club responded to an urgent request from Mayfield Care Home in Overpool, Ellesmere Port to assist with the purchase of a replacement mini bus with rear lifting facility, as the old one is well past its operational duty. The transport is vital to allow groups of the forty six residents who unfortunately suffer dementia to be taken out on trips etc.



After visiting the home and seeing the fantastic efforts and dedication of the staff, many of them volunteers and the care given to its residents, Ellesmere Port Lions presented them with a cheque for £1000 to help with the purchase of a minibus.

In the photograph from the left are Alison Thompson, Co-ordinator, Steve Talbot, Ellesmere Port Lions. Josie Bell, Care Home Manager.

Steve Talbot Ellesmere Port Lions Club

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

I would like to say a great big thank you to all those of you who have contributed to our News Letter over the last year. Without your contribution, there would be no NL. Perhaps more Clubs will submit entries in the coming year. Also many thanks to District Secretary Dave Slack (Slacky) who has been extremely patient and helpful when I have been on my travels.

Ed.



Very Busy Lions

We have been quite active just recently so I thought I would give you an update while everything is still fresh in my mind.

Various pubs and clubs in the area very kindly supported our Easter Egg Raffle and helped us to raise several hundred pounds. Many thanks to them and their customers.

Marple Conservative Club was the venue for our quiz and hot pot supper last week and we raised almost £200. Again, many thanks to all those who turned out to support us. We hope they enjoyed themselves and will return to the Club for our next event there (details to follow).

Having boosted our funds, now was the time to put some of the area's hard earned money to good use. At Tuesday night's meeting, Nicola Graham (from Reuben's Retreat) was our guest speaker and we presented her with a cheque for £500. Isaac, Reuben's brother, was with her and I have attached a lovely photograph of them receiving the cheque from Lion President Pat Brady. I have also attached details from the recent Reuben's Retreat magazine and hope that you will be prepared to support and publicise this incredible project. The Club has been with them pretty well from the word go and we wish them every success. Please let me know if you need any more information.

At the same meeting, we also arranged to donate £500 to assist the victims of the terrible earthquake in Nepal. The following morning, Lion President Pat visited Rose Hill School and presented a new scooter to the Resource Base Class. There are seven children in this class and they each have complex needs, five of them being autistic. As they find the mainstream playground too noisy and crowded, they have their own separate playground where they can be offered play opportunities to develop their confidence and ability to take turns using the various items of equipment, whilst having fun with their friends and enjoying themselves in a stimulating and safe environment. It is hoped that using the new scooter will help them to develop their gross motor skills. The attached photographs show three very happy and proud Lions enjoying a wonderful morning with the children, mums and teachers.



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

The Retreat

We are pleased to announce that at 150 hrs on Wednesday the 23rd of April 2014 Reuben's Retreat made the property purchase.

At 153 hrs Reuben's Mummy received the call from Bromleys Solicitor's Paul W to advise that Reuben's charity were now the proud owners of a property situated in parkland in the peak district.

A substantially sized property, encased in 1.63 acres, currently boasting over 21 bedrooms and also a separate lodge.

This is a huge project to undertake, and the building lends itself to being refurbished in phases. Firstly the plans are to renovate the lodge and this will be our bereavement counselling and support centre. Then we move on to revenue generation and community engagement. This will serve at the middle part of the building, for local park access. Followed by refurbishment to each side of the main building, converting this to a daycare facility and we hope 4 large self catered apartments for our beneficiaries.

We now need YOU more than ever and Reuben's Mummy always says "Everybody has something to bring to Reuben's Retreat" - so any talents, skills, trades, materials, offers, support, opportunities you have to bring to this incredible project, please get in touch.

We very much want this to be a community project built on generosity, love and trust. We will commence work on phase one this Autumn and depending on funds and grants phase 2 will start next year.

The trustees have agreed that any renovations or repairs exceeding £20,000.00 will go through a tender process. Please mail mummy@reubensretreat.org or all@reubensretreat.org to find out more.

Many thanks and we look forward to gaining lots of new support and thank you in advance for being a part of Reuben's new journey, and his forever project.

" Nicola and the team would like to extend a huge THANK YOU to Paul, Natasha and all the team at Bromleys Solicitors in Ashton under Lyne, for their valued time, generosity, compassion and support carrying out extensive work to secure the property purchase that is now Reuben's Retreat. We won't ever forget your kindness and you will always remain an integral part of Reuben's journey"

