

# NEWSLETTER District Governor 2015-2016 Lion Chris Aked

# **DG Message for September**

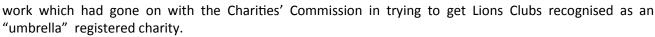
# Dear fellow Lions

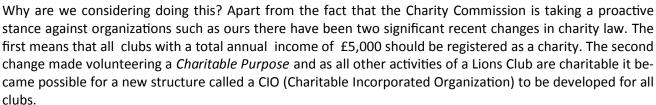
August may have been a holiday month but the DG team were well into their stride, involved in many projects, both national and local.

Steve, Teresa and myself visited a dozen clubs during the month and found everyone in good spirits, in some cases involved in summer projects, in others already planning for the autumn.

Early in the month more than 85 people enjoyed a fantastic event in Chester where Carole officially handed over the reins. Several tributes to her efforts were made...as well as to her hard working spouse, Edward.

Our first Cabinet meeting took place a week later. In addition to receiving various reports I provided an update on two very important topics which had been discussed at the Council of Governors meeting in late July. The first involved an update of the





In simple terms the benefit for the clubs would be that the members would gain a limited personal liability in the event of a claim against the club and, potentially, they could claim the equivalent of "gift aid", currently around 25%, on their membership subscriptions. This sum would be returned to the club's funds for whatever use was desired. A couple of Districts will be involved on a "pilot" basis with a view to eventually rolling the scheme out around the country.

The second topic will undoubtedly have a major impact on our District as discussions are taking place on the way in which the Multiple District (MD) is governed...and how many Districts we have (currently 13). Both of these items are really important because they involve the future of Lions in this country in the long term, as well as the costs of running the organization – which in turn affects the dues we pay.

I explained to Cabinet that the Council of Governors intends to reduce costs and streamline the administration of the MD. This issue has been discussed for several years but the need for action to be taken was raised in importance when the council was notified that District 105I (Ireland) plans to discuss a proposal to become a single district, separate from MD 105.

Whatever the Irish decide your Council have decided to have two working groups to review the potential impact, particularly on the financial side of such a move. As District BS we are represented on these teams which will report back to the Council of Governors at the next meeting on October 23-25.

Various rumours are circulating on the future of our District but I must stress that no decisions have been taken by anyone. Eventually, it's highly likely that resolutions will be tabled for MD's convention in May – when Clubs will have an opportunity to accept or reject whatever is proposed.



Best regards Chris



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Lion appears in Bake Off!

#### **Bev's PR Bit**

Where did the summer go? Did we really have one? I know you all soldiered on through the storms and rain. Have you any funny stories at all? Please share.

There have been a few emails hacked over the last month, if you receive an email from someone you know and in the subject line is also their name, do not open the email just delete it. I have had quite a few just lately.

Did you know that we have a pallet of MIABs ready and waiting? These are a great PR tool. DO Bill Hodgkinson would be delighted to hear from you with your orders.

As you know we will be 100 years young in 2017. The Lions Quarterly briefing is available on line, and you can download it to use for PR "meet the Lions" events. Here is the link <a href="http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/news-media/videos/lq.php">http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/news-media/videos/lq.php</a> In fact if you have a browse around the LCI site there are lots of videos to download as well as posters, with the centenary logo, that you can insert your own club's info into. Use it where you can. I have a couple of pop up banners if any club wishes to borrow them, let me know.

That's all for now, don't forget to tell us what you have been doing, it could be useful to other Clubs.

Love Bev xxx

Cannock

Alan Preece

Stafford

Norman Liddell

June Liddell

Wallasey
Paul Stuart

A Warm Welcome to New Members in August







Fellow Lions,

I was touched and thrilled to be presented at District Handover with the most elegant and exquisite Pandora necklace. I would like to express my sincere thanks to you all for your contributions towards this most beautiful gift which I will treasure and wear with great pride.

I cannot thank the Lions of BS enough for the support I received as DG. It was a great honour to be your representative on the Council of Governors and to lead our super district.

A new year has brought a new role for me, as chair of our Global Membership Team. I look forward to the challenge.

Once again, my thanks to you all.

With kind regards, Carole Godden.

## **Busking Around Alsager**

Recently, Alsager Lions Club held a "House Full" musical evening at a local social club with Mr Eric Newton and his clarinet, Eric telling his story in words and music of his "Life and Times of a Busker". From his early days auditioning for a place at the Northern College of Music to a totally random telephone call to, as it turned out a Mr Dick Whittingham in Australia. Subsequently, this lead him to complete 18 marathons, whilst also playing his clarinet a total of 648 times to the tune of "When the Saints Come Marching In" during the runs.

Eric included the joys and tribulations as a busker on the streets of Cheshire and Staffordshire plus many stories and anecdotes which treated his audience to a thoroughly enjoyable evening..

Thanks to Eric and the raffle, with prizes kindly donated by some local hostelries and shops plus one of Eric's own CD's, Alsager Lions managed to raise some £470 towards "Good Causes."

Lions President Dave Nixon thanked Eric and his clarinet for a cracking evening.

Ken has added:- "should any club in Cheshire and Staffordshire wish to have a superb evening of chat, a bit of clarinet trad jazz thrown in and a great way of raising money, I'm sure Eric could well be your man".



Eric showing President Dave how it's done



### **Barton Up and Splatting**

Barton Lions held their first fund raising event on 8th August at the Holland Park Sports Club, it was the annual Argos Fun Day.

We had a stand where we promoted MI-AB and also Splat the rat. We raised £80,

half of this will be donated to Argos Charity of The Year 'McMillan Nurses'







#### **Barton Donate**

At Barton u Needwood, we have made our first Charity donation. It was to Miss Georgina Ireland. She is completing a World Challenge and, so far, she has raised over £2000. We presented the cheque for £100 at our August meeting.

#### **NEWSLETTER**

Yes, I know it was the month of August and most of us have been holidaying, but now we are all back and fired up to go, please, please tell me what you are doing. It helps and inspires us all! Ed.



# **TRAVELLING LIONS** to 18th August 2015



I have had it confirmed by multi district head office that Branches can compete in their own name if they want to.

Please can you send the completed forms to myself within 21 days of the event so I can get them to MD by 28 days.

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



#### **Little Orme Presents**



On Monday 13th June a cheque was presented to Lion Ian Turner on behalf of the Alzheimer's Society.

On Thursday June 25th Little Orme Lions presented a cheque to the headmaster of Glanwydden School, a local primary school to be spent on

their echo Project.

On Thursday 23rd July the club sponsored a group of children from Belarus to the show "Annie" at Venue Cymru Llandudno. The 13 children and 2 helpers were on a visit to Wales organised by the Chernobyl Children Lifeline. The children loved every minute of the show.



#### .....And There's More!

Little Orme Lions club presented a Phlebotomy chair to the Emergency and Accident Dept. at Glan Clwyd Hospital. The money was raised by holding various fund raising events in the community and this included the money raised by our collection of

the Daily Post Wish tokens. The photo shows Senior Sister Michelle Hughes being presented with the chair by Lion Sandy Halliday, President of Little Orme Lions club.



Senior Sister Michelle Hughes, Lion Steve Savory (treasurer), Deputy Sister Jenny Jones, Lion Tudor Jones and President Lion Sandy Halliday.

# \*\*\*\* Stop Press \*\*\*\*

#### **Fellow Lions**

I am pleased to announce that PDG Dave Handley has stepped forward to take over the position of Insurance, health and Safety officer for the District. The position had been vacant after Allan Gardiner had decided that ill health would prevent him from continuing.

Dave has extensive experience in this area from his service with the RAF and with his later involvement as an HR Manager.

Once again, my thanks go to Dave - he takes on this position in addition to his role as GLT chair.

Regards, Chris

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

Please send everything in electronic format as attachments

(Word documents, with *separate* Jpegs)

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

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