



DISTRICT NEWS

District Governor 2016-2017 Lion Steve

DG's Message



Perhaps the most memorable event of November for us was taking part in the Remembrance Parade in Whitehall. Although it was a long time to stand before we eventually, by the left, marched off, the banner with the ex-servicemen in the adjacent column was great. One Cornish ex-navy man, was very entertaining encouraged

by some 81% rum in his hip-flask.

A full varied programme is being put together for the Welsh UN Day, Sunday 2nd April 2017 for your diaries. The venue is the Maesgwyn Hall which is situated opposite Glyndwr University and the Wrexham Football ground, the doors will be open from about 12.30pm and the show will start at 2.00pm. There is no charge and we expect that it will be as good as the last one which everyone thoroughly enjoyed. I am very grateful to LP Joan Williams and the members of Wrexham Maelor Club for all their sterling work.

Without LP Joan and her colleagues Lions would have no involvement in the biggest event in the Principality, the International Eisteddfod in Llangollen. In our centenary year we want to make the most of the opportunity to make our great organisation known to the thousands of visitors. The AGM of the organising committee will be at Wrexham on Friday 20th January, I will be going to show my support and I hope that volunteers from as many clubs as possible will come along too and get involved.

Can I also draw your attention to an event that we enjoyed last year and will attend again - Crewe and Nantwich Lions' annual Christmas Carol service, but this year it is less of a service and described in the poster as a 'Festival of Song'. The Lions Youth Brass Band with Nantwich Voices & Young Nantwich Voices will be performing at St. Mary's Church, Nantwich on Sunday 11th December, 2.30pm start.

Thanks go to Knutsford club for being the first out of the blocks for organising a large Centennial event. Please note the date, Bank Holiday Monday 29th May, and make direct contact with the club if you would like to take part whether with your own fundraising stall or dressing up and entertaining the massive crowds. Let's hope with involvement from all over the District we can make it a really memorable day. It is hoped to also have a combined event along the North Wales coast.

One source of irritation that often gets raised on club visits is that District mailings are received twice and in some cases many more times. However I am pleased to let you know that after trialling our systems for some time we are confident that we can now achieve a mailing to every Lion in the District who has an email address listed on MyLCI (if yours is not or it is out of date, please get your club secretary to sort it out) so there will no longer be the need for Presidents and Secretaries to circulate items to their members. Cabinet endorsed this decision last weekend and this will be the first mailing under the new arrangement. I do hope though that someone will come to the rescue of anyone without an email address and print off what is relevant.

Christmas to many clubs means getting the Santa Sleigh out and on visits recently I have been amazed at how many cold evenings Lions plan to turn out in addition to daytime duties in stores and Garden Centres. We in Uttoxeter although involved in a few markets and our own Cracker event are saved from touring the town as the Rotary Club have the rights, and we can't be too greedy.

So when you can finally put the collecting tins down and the sleighs garaged for another year I hope all Lions can rest up with their families and have a truly wonderful Christmas and Jean and I wish you a happy and peaceful New Year.

Best wishes

Steve



A Warm Welcome to New Members in November



Cannock

Pervinder Choda

Sale

Nathan Frost

Uttoxeter

James Clarke

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Greetings from Portugal

Mark Thomas (Congleton Club) and Sheila Lee (Urmston Club) have moved to Portugal (as if you didn't know) !!!!!!!!!!!!!!! The better news is that we have now met the Lions of Caldas da Rainha who have agreed to welcome us into their club.

Thanks to all those Lions who have wished us well with the move and our acceptance into Caldas da Rainha Club. We hope to rekindle our friendships when we attend Urmston charter, Congleton charter and MD Convention in 2017.

Best wishes to you all in BS. Mark & Sheila

Environmental Monthly News.

Articles about Environmental Lions.

TREE LEAVES are not only for sweeping up in our gardens in late autumn; read all about them in the December Environmental Newsletter

There is also a very interesting article on **BATS**

Link for Lions Environmental Newsletters

<http://www.lions105bs.org.uk/>

then click on Community Projects.

Christopher Evans. Environmental Officer.



Clean Sweep for Stafford Lions

On a wild and wet morning in November four intrepid Stafford Lions braved the elements to tidy up the Lions Shelter at the National Memorial Arboretum near Alrewas, Staffordshire.

Barton under Needwood Lions Club Branch organise a monthly rota for Zone I clubs to spruce up the shelter opened in 2011 by the Patron of Lions Clubs, The Countess of Wessex, built from funds raised by Lion members of the United Kingdom and Ireland.

This facility, which will eventually be at the heart of the arboretum, is used by visitors to rest and reflect on the evocative monuments which cover this site and is regularly used by school parties.

Our mission is "to serve" and this shelter certainly offers a public service which helps to raise the profile of Lions Club International.

The photograph shows, left to right, Lions Ed Rule, Rose Cowley, Pauline Gay & Club President Roger Gay.



Stockport Club honours 42 years of Service by presenting the MJF Award to David Potts

Frank Glynn, President of Stockport Lions Club and Linda Cresswell Zone E Chair were proud to surprise and delight David when they presented him with the Melvin Jones Fellowship Award to acknowledge and to celebrate his years of service. David moved to Zambia in 1966 with his wife and family to take up a teaching post and in 1974 joined their local Lions Club. On his return to England Dave met with an old friend, David Forshaw, who introduced him to Stockport Lions Club and he has been an enthusiastic and committed member of the Club since 1980

Throughout his membership, David has taken on the mantle of President several times as well as that of Secretary and Treasurer, often combining the roles, and as the longest serving member he still plays an active role in the Club. Having devotedly served in LCI for 42 years David is a worthy recipient of this honour.



THE PROMS COME TO GNOSALL 2016

Saturday 19th November was again a night to remember in Gnosall with just under 100 people treated to a fantastic evening of music and singing courtesy of the brilliant Lea Hall Brass Band and Stafford's own Military Wives Choir. It was Gnosall Lions Club's 8th Annual Last Night at the proms evening in the Gnosall Memorial Hall

The evening commenced with the newly named Lea Hall Brass Band (formerly the Rugeley Power Station Band) with yet again a very lively and diverse programme of music from across the musical spectrum, all of which got the Hall rocking and the enthusiastic audience responding. They were followed by the Military Wives Choir from Stafford, resplendent in their evening dresses who again sang a varied programme and included poetry reading and some Christmas favourites.



This has been a very eventful year for the ladies as not only their membership changes due to the arrival in Stafford from Germany of two Royal Signal Regiments but also they have appeared 3 times with LULU in Concert. And also for the first time they joined other Military Wives Choirs in the recording studios for the cutting of the new CD.



After the Interval the Choir opened second half of the programme with two songs, both of which were the first renditions out of the recording studios for the girls. These were followed by Military Sing-along favourites, a poem and more Christmas songs.

We then came to the final part of the evening with the Band then returning to the stage to continue their programme with music from the shows, then a perennial favourite, Barwick Green (better known to us mortals as the Archers Theme) moving onto the grand finale. Here they were egged on by an enthusiastic audience all on their feet waving flags, programmes and singing their hearts out along with them to "A Fantasia on British Sea Songs", "Land of Hope & Glory", 2 encores of "Jerusalem" with the girls joining them again on stage for the "National Anthem."

A big thank you must go to both the Band and to the Military Wives Choir (Stafford) who both gave us an unforgettable evening. Both the Band and the Wives are full of very talented local people who we are so lucky have residing in our locality.

The Lea Hall Brass Band comprise of in excess of 28 members aged from 13 through to over 70, all of whom are so accomplished and professional. Amongst them I am proud to say are 5 youngsters all of whom are recipients of the Lions Young Leaders in Service Gold Award for in excess of 500 hours of unpaid Community service to their credit, absolutely brilliant.



Finally thank you to all who supported us as on the evening. After generous donations to both Band and Choir we made an amazing £500 which will all be used for Gnosall Lions approved local good causes in the locality.

Bridgnorth Lions PSA tests hit more than 5,000 men

Bridgnorth Lions reached their highest total ever with more than 930 men attending the latest screening event in Bridgnorth, Shropshire.

Since the programme began in 2009 the club has tested more than 5,000 men with an estimated 250 of them likely to have the disease. Experience has shown that ten per cent of the men will have abnormally high PSA levels, with half of them eventually being diagnosed with the disease. In the remaining cases other non-cancer reasons were found for raised levels.

IPDG and Bridgnorth club member, Chris Aked said: "It was another extraordinary night....we had 17 phlebotomists working flat out for more than four hours. This year we tried a new approach by encouraging men to attend in specific time windows, based on their surnames. This helped smooth the process and reduce waiting times. This is the eighth time we have run this programme and each year we are on the lookout to improve what we do to make it easier for the men who attend".



Bridgnorth has also started to extend its reach beyond the town to include several villages – in total club members distributed more than 7,000 leaflets advertising the event to local households.

LCI Peace Poster Competition 2016

Judging of this year's District competition took place during Cabinet on 20th November with a total of 10 students taking part and representing Cannock, Stone (2 schools), Ellesmere Port, Gnosall, Uttoxeter, Vale of Llangollen, Stockton Heath, Middle Marches and Wrexham Maelor Lions Clubs.

The standard of entries was, once again, extremely high and the judges were faced with a very difficult task but eventually Grace Medley of Chase Grammar School, sponsored by Cannock Lions Club, was chosen as winner.



Grace will receive a prize to the value of £75.00 from the District with another £75.00 for her school and these prizes will be presented during a school assembly very soon.

Grace's poster is now at MDHQ ready for the next stage of the competition and I am sure we all wish her the best of luck in the judging.

Maaz Malek , a Year 7 pupil at Stafford Grammar School and sponsored by Gnosall Lions Club has become the **local winner** of the LCI Peace Poster Competition 2016 with his winning Poster based on this year's theme , A Celebration of Peace. For his stunning work he was presented with a WH Smiths Gift token, as was the runner up Shirin Hes-sar .

The attached photo graphs shows the winner Maaz , the runner up Shirin and their Art teacher Mrs Paton together with their winning entries.



Maaz's Poster progressed to the District competition held in Chester and, although not the winner, was highly praised for its clean lines and detail by the judges and was adjudged amongst the top four entries. The Lions Peace Poster Competition is an International one, having been run for in excess of 25 years and attracting millions of entries worldwide from over 100 countries with the winning entry having to progress through a number of rounds with the eventual winner being presented in the US on UN Day with their prize.

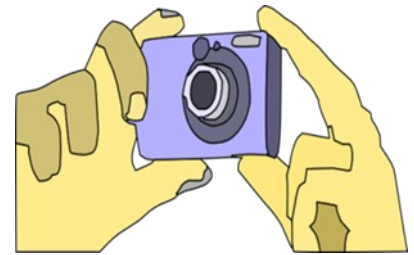


Centenary News

2017 will soon be here, there are three District 105BS centenary activities to take part in. Nothing difficult and no extra cost.

1. Enter the **Snap 100 competition.**

It's not too late- last date for entries is 31st January 2017. A photograph showing the numerals 100 is all that is needed –see July mail for details.



2. **100 words for the world-**



A competition for Year 5 and 6 in primary schools – write 100 words on how to make the world a better place, see next page for details. An opportunity to build links with local schools, offering a simple competition that can easily fit into curriculum plans.

3. **Centenary Tea Party**

On 11th March 2017 to celebrate our 100th anniversary we will be having tea and cakes immediately after the end of the convention business session so those travelling home can have some refreshment before they set off. The District Governor looks forward to welcoming as many members as possible.

There is no charge but we do need numbers for catering purposes. Tickets will be allocated to all who apply for them. These will be ready for collection from the Centenary stall in the main convention room.



Lions are asked to apply as a club if possible to ease administration but individual bookings will also be accepted. To book tickets please send name and number required to District Centennial Chair PDG Shirley Vaughan before 7th February.

100 words for the world

A one-off competition for Year 5 and 6 children linked to our centenary



Clubs are asked to seek entries from local primary schools – children are to write how to make the world a better place to live – using just 100 words.

This gives clubs an opportunity to talk about the Lions organisation and our 100 years of service



After local judging clubs should send the winning entry from each school to District Centenary Chair PDG Shirley Vaughan. Clubs should make their own decision re local prizes.

The district will award prizes of £25, £15 and £10 to the top three entries.

The rules are simple;-

Entrants should be in Year 5 or 6.

Entries should be the original work of an individual.

Hand written or typed entries are acceptable.

Last date for entry to the District competition is 30th June 2017.

Entries should bear the child's name, age and school on the back along with the name of the sponsoring club, also the language used if not English.

There should be one entry per school but clubs may sponsor any number of schools.

The judges' decision is final.

Winners will be announced at District Handover in July.

TRAVELLING LIONS

District travelling/visiting lions competition up to 20 November 2016.

Stoke on Trent	84
Ellesmere Port and District	70
Llandudno	69
Wilmslow and District	56
Beaumaris Menai Aethwy	53
Cannock	46
Tamworth	41
Telford	37
Flint and District	25
Urmston	23
Leek	19
Uttoxeter	19
Newcastle	12
Prestatyn & Rhyl	7
Congleton	7
Wallesey	5
Stafford	1



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

Please note

One person can only claim for one event per day. I have had a few forms sent to me which cannot be included for this reason so, for example, if you claimed for the business meeting at convention you cannot claim for the banquet and ball for the same day .

The copy deadline for the next issue of the Newsletter is

22nd December 2016

Please identify key people in any relevant photographs otherwise the impact of the story line may be lost.

Newsletter Contact for December NL is :-

Lion John Whitehouse bsnewsletter@lions105bs.org.uk

Please let me know what your Club has been doing during the Christmas period!

They're All Talking About

Convention

17

newsletter

10th to 12th March 2017 @ Best Western Plus Stoke on Trent Moat House, ST1 5BQ

We're Taking Bookings NOW!

Hotel – Card Details only taken at time of booking – Cash taken 2 weeks before
Social events – see booking form



Host Night - Theme – 'Party Time'

Any Theme of Party You Like

Fancy Dress Walk-By

Individual or Club 'PARTY PIECES'

Very Strict 3 Minutes

Why Not A Christmas Party?



A Happy Christmas From Your Host Team