



# ***DISTRICT NEWS***

District Governor 2016-2017 Lion Steve Shields

## **DG Message**



Here we go into a new year with high expectations, and with the Centennial activities now starting to gather momentum, it looks as though we will be very busy. But what an opportunity it is to tell the outside world about Lions and the service that is given throughout the world as well as in our local communities. It can also be a bit of fun for us too, Shirley Vaughan's snapshot idea will accompany this newsletter. I understand that 'our Bev' of Cannock Club has suggested to their incoming President (husband Graham) that they have a different 100 target each month, which is a great way to stimulate ideas and get everyone involved.

As I write we are trying to pack for the trip to the International Convention in Fukuoka, Japan and I can't believe it is twelve months since we went to Honolulu to see Chris become District Governor. I have recorded my thanks to Chris, and Carole before him, on occasions for the open and helpful way they each, in turn, have led the team and I will carry on in the same vein with Teresa and Steve Talbot. Some changes with Cabinet each year are necessary to keep things fresh and up to date but a consistency is also vital. Reducing numbers in line with the streamlining at Multiple District level to save on costs and improve efficiency is also one of our objectives.

The District Governor Team approach to club visits over three years has proved a great success and I hope to have visited the remaining third on my list before Christmas. This is probably the most pleasant part of the job, seeing all the different personalities and hearing about the various activities.

Membership is always a concern but given the desire of the clubs in North Wales to help one another, shown at the recent gathering in Llanwrst, we have something to build on and hopefully spread throughout the District.

The Emergency Resolution at the MD Convention in Eastbourne that scuppered the redistricting plans, possibly only delaying them for twelve months, will keep pressure on the Council of Governors but hopefully we can come up with a plan to carry us forward after Ireland go their separate way in July 2017.

For the moment I will say *sayonara* (goodbye) one of the three words of Japanese learnt so far!

Best wishes

Steve



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Oswestry  
**Brian Willis**

Uttoxeter  
**Dawn Copeland**

Wirral  
**Graham Knights**

Wrexham Maelor  
**Amelia Lloyd**



**A RIGHT ROYAL OCCASION**

Guest of Honour at Stoke on Trent Lions Club's charter celebration in April 2015 was the Lord Lieutenant of Staffordshire, Ian Dudson who joined Lion President Ann Goodwin and her partner Dennis Allman, Lion President Elect Neil Jenkins and his wife Lion June and PDG Carole Godden and her husband Lion Edward at the top table.

Conversation during dinner flowed, with the Lord Lieutenant showing great interest in the activities of Stoke Lions. He was particularly keen to hear all about the service members give on a regular basis to a local facility for adults with learning and physical difficulties - a centre which is dear to his heart.



So impressed was Mr Dudson that in December 2015, he invited all six lions to represent the club at a Buckingham Palace Garden Party.

The appointed date was Tuesday May 10<sup>th</sup> 2016 which dawned very grey and very wet! Undaunted, the six Stoke Lions donned raincoats, carried umbrellas and set off for London and a date at the Palace, which

they thoroughly enjoyed.

The highlight of the day came when a close up photograph of the Queen was captured through a gap between two rather large hats, at the very moment the crowd burst into a rousing rendition of, "Happy Birthday Your Majesty."

Six tired lions made their way back to the hotel and a celebration bottle of champagne!

They all agreed it had been a lovely day, a wonderful experience and above all, a great honour to represent Stoke on Trent Lions Club and to wish her Majesty a very happy ninetieth birthday.

PDG Carole Godden





## Working together is the way forward.



On Saturday 28th May, lions from clubs in zone G along with Ed and Rose from Rugeley lions club worked as a team in support of SOGB at Northwood Stadium in Hanley. Their jobs ranged from running some of the field events to stew-arding competitors. Whatever the task being undertaken, there was much fun , camaraderie and banter.

Athletes from all over the Midlands took part in a wonderful day of track and field events. Some of them didn't find it easy to reach the finishing line but determination shone through. To see the smiles on the athletes' faces was won-

derful. So many of them achieved great results, with many breaking their own previous best times and

scores. They all made their coaches and families proud.

The sun shone all day, en-

hancing the happy atmosphere. Medals and ribbons were presented to the sound of much cheering and encouragement from the grandstand.



Late afternoon saw the event brought to a close with relay races which were very exciting and very fast! Once the last one had been run, tired but happy athletes and lions made their way home. All agree it had been a very worthwhile day. Together, we serve.

PDG Carole Godden.

## Wilmslow Support Dearing Dogs for the Deaf.

Wilmslow Lions Club had a stall at Handforth Dean. They promoted Lions, giving out flyers, balloons and Message in a Bottle. They also held a bucket collection for Hearing Dogs. The proceeds from this will go towards our donation of £500 to this cause.

**LION LAURIE OATWAY (FUND RAISING CHAIRMAN) AND LION MAUREEN (SECRETARY)**



# Centenary News

## Planning ahead

We are now only six months away from our centenary year and it's time to pick up the pace.



The centenary is a great opportunity to let the public know more about who we are and what we do. The big numbers for our targets were specifically chosen to attract attention and help gain publicity. Please continue to report your activities via MyLCI so we can reach them. Remember it's very easy to do;-

Go to MyLCI then to MY Club-Select Service Activity-Select Add activity-Select signature project – then a drop down menu will list all the MD targets-Select from the list and enter details then save.

### Looking ahead 1

Knutsford Lions are thinking ahead and have a large scale milestone event planned for Bank Holiday Monday 29th May 2017 on Knutsford Heath. Other clubs are invited to take part in what promises to be a major profile raising day. Look out for more details from the club or contact Lion Ian Young ( [youngat-lingcroft@hotmail.com](mailto:youngat-lingcroft@hotmail.com) ) to find out more.

### Looking ahead 2

This month's mail out also sees the launch of our Centenary SNAP 100 photo competition. All you need to do is take a picture of the numerals "100" and send it in. Lions are known to be ingenious and inventive so let's see what unusual forms and positions we can find. Judges will be looking for creativity as well as quality prints.

You can find the numerals in the environment or create them yourself using any materials you like. A few suggestions to get you thinking;-



Please let us know if you are taking part in any centenary project. Any photographs or news items would be welcome for the special centenary edition of the newsletter for 2017.

**For more information contact District Centennial Chair PDG Shirley Vaughan**



## GNOSALL LIONS GOLF DAY 2016

Gnosall Lions were yet again blessed with fantastic weather on their Annual Golf Day held on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2016 at the Aqualate Golf Club near Newport. This good weather made for great conditions and competition much to the delight of the golfers. At the 10<sup>th</sup> Tee all the players were served bacon butties with tea, coffee or soft drinks by our President Pam Talbot, assisted by Lions Helen Bundy and Janice Bleasdale. The course looked a treat and my thanks must go to John Ison for helping me set it up and to Danny & his team at the Aqualate Golf Centre.

The competition itself was closely contested and in the end resulted in a win for Steve Courteney. Steve was the winner of a new trophy, the Howlett Memorial Trophy in honour of a great supporter of Gnosall Lions Golf Day, Symon Howlett from Market Drayton who drowned in Majorca attempting to save his son Jay who was swept off a rock by a freak wave

This year we had 4 ladies competing with Jenny Davies from Lilleshall Golf Club winning the So Gorgeous Trophy. Special thanks must go to Lynne Stone from Gnosall for her efforts in getting so many lady friends to play this year, unfortunately she was the only lady to go home trophy less although she is the current holder of the Lion District 105BS Trophy which she won in March

However it wasn't all about winning as the aim of the day is not only to raise money but also to have fun with a number of other trophies available. The traditional Nearest the Pin was won by Steve Huyton from Telford. Steve also took home the Fish & Chip Trophy from, you've guessed it, Gnosall Fish Bar.

Finally and most importantly we made a fantastic sum, again in excess of £700 with thanks to the players from local clubs and societies in their generosity but also to our many local sponsors who continue to sponsor both ourselves and many other organisations throughout the year.

Rick Talbot

## TRAVELLING LIONS

District travelling/visiting lions competition up to 20th June 2016.

Stoke on Trent	63
Llandudno	54
Wilmslow and District	48
Beaumaris Menai Aethwy	44
Ellesmere Port and District	39
Telford	34
Cannock	34
Urmston	23
Tamworth	21
Leek	19
Uttoxeter	16
Newcastle	12
Congleton	7
Flint and District	4

**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 .**



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**

## LIONS YOUTH BRASS ROARING AT THE NATIONALS!

At the recent National Youth Brass Band Championships 2016 held at the Royal Northern College of Music, all the bands of the Lions Youth Brass were successful. In the Championship Section, Lions Youth Brass conducted by Nigel Birch won the Silver Award and William Dakin of the band was judged the best instrumentalist. Lions Youth Brass Junior under Tom Hancock in the Junior Section was awarded Gold, one better than last years Silver. The Beginners Section saw Lions Beginners under Chris Thompson judged the Band with Most Potential. In addition to all these awards, chairperson Jane Stubbs was awarded the "Brian Hicks Memorial Trophy" for her dedication to Lions and youth banding.

Lions Youth Brass was formed in 1989 with the help of sponsorship from local Lions clubs of South Cheshire and North Staffs and Macclesfield & District Lions Club from the beginning has regularly sponsored the band.

Macclesfield & District Lions is holding a musical concert by All Three Bands of the Lions Youth Brass on Saturday, 16 July at King's School commencing 7.30pm. – retiring collection for Lions Charity Trust Fund.

Tickets from Cherry Blossom Bakery, 6 Church St., Macclesfield or Arthur Clenton 01625 829438.



In the last financial year 2014-

2015 Macclesfield & District Lions made over 60 grants for a total of more than £20,000, the largest being to BBC Children in Need, Middlewood Riding for the Disabled, CRE8, East Cheshire Hospice, Lions Clubs International Foundation - Disaster Relief, Mary Sunley Canal Boat Charity, Lions Youth Brass, 2 schools in Bollington to help purchase defibrillators and a substantial donation to Prestbury Park Playground.

£1000 was donated to the Bosley Disaster Appeal.

# This could be YOUR CLUB's space!

Tell us what you have been doing

We really do want to know.

ED



## CHICKS CHATTING

Zone I invited Matt Nickson, Regional Fund-raiser for CHICKS, to their recent business meeting and heard how the organisation, which is a national charity, provides free country respite breaks for disadvantaged children and young carers across the UK.

Children aged between 8 and 15 years are given a week's holiday which includes care, bed and board and a variety of outdoor activities which focus on childhood fun and to date over 13,000 young people have benefitted from these breaks.

A week's respite costs over £900 per child and several Zone I clubs have already supported CHICKS by offering service at their nearest centre in Derbyshire or made financial contributions. Co-ordinated by Mark Kyte from Tamworth Lions, the Zone Clubs have been considering which cause to make their project this year and it was finally decided to make a combined donation to CHICKS of £1850.

As one 12 year old youngster said:



"CHICKS has made me feel like I can believe in myself and made me feel more confident."

If your club would like to help disadvantaged local young people find out more at [www.chicks.org.uk](http://www.chicks.org.uk)

Ed Rule

DO Youth

## In Memory of Lion Judy Stewart.

Lion President Malcolm Legg and District Officer Lion Margaret Marsh of Ellesmere Port & District Lions Club present a cheque for £1000 to Helsby Golf Club "Powered Wheelchair Appeal" for young people. Following the passing of Lion Judy to higher service recently, her family requested that any donations should go to Ellesmere Port & District Lions Club.

It was thought appropriate by the club members the donations which totalled £1000 should be presented to the Powered Wheelchair Appeal in Judy's memory. Judy had served on the committee for many years doing sterling work for the appeal.



Ellesmere Port & District Lions have supported the appeal for a number of years and to date a total of 346 powered wheelchairs have been donated to local children.

Proud to Serve.

**The copy deadline for the next issue of the District Newsletter is 22nd July 2016**

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



## Knutsford Lions invited Vikings to the "King Canute" Street Fair

Participants in this year's annual Street Fair on Bank Holiday Monday 30 May were invited to come along as Vikings. In 2016 the town of Knutsford is celebrating 1,000 years since King Canute (or Cnut) the Great became King of all England and reputedly 'forded' the River Lily, thereby giving rise to the name Canutesford – as recorded in the Domesday Book in 1086. The traditional sanding of the streets for the Knutsford May Day also has links back to King

Canute – so we also arranged for a bit of sanding in King Street (see picture).

Past President Peter was kindly loaned a splendid costume by the Ydalir Viking group and was delighted to have the opportunity to wear his crown again – this time as King Canute (last year he was King John)!



Brook Street Chapel have been regular stallholders over many years and this year they really excelled themselves with their colourful Viking costumes and hair styles – they were worthy winners of the best stall award! We were grateful to the Town Mayor elect Councillor Jan Nicholson (formally enrolled the next day) and this year's Knutsford

Royal May Queen for attending to assist King Canute with the stall judging.

Once again we involved the Knutsford Academy Studio who designed and built some special Viking panels for the corners of our Lions encampment stall.

The event provides an opportunity for many local organisations/charities to raise money and awareness for their causes – including the local Lions Clubs of Wilmslow, Urmston and Macclesfield.

Several other "King Canute" events will be taking place in Knutsford later in the year – in particular a mass fording of the River Lily in September (not difficult these days - as it now just a stream!!). A giant community artwork is also being put together by Russell Kirk – Knutsford Hosts worked with him at our shared stall at the Street Fair to help youngsters to produce some of the first shields for this project.



For more pictures see our Facebook page.

Clive Heath, Knutsford & District Lions