



# ***DISTRICT NEWS***

## **District Governor 2016-2017 Lion Steve Shields**

### **DG's Message**



Can you believe it, we're already into the second half of the Lions year, my DG's P45 is now in sight! However, I have a packed diary before I can put my feet up starting with the Council of Governors Meeting in Solihull. The resolutions to be put to the MD Con-

vention in April have to be agreed which, despite the hours spent discussing Re-districting so far, will not, I am sure, go through without a lot more debate. The core problem does not go away and it is very disappointing that we are thirty members down already this year.

We have, though, made it to 2017 and our one hundredth birthday celebrations begin in earnest. Many clubs have original ideas so please let PDG Shirley have pictures and stories – send them also to the MD publicity team at [pr@lionsclubs.co](mailto:pr@lionsclubs.co) and they will get them onto the Centennial Website and perhaps the Lion Magazine. Don't forget the District Newsletter too, although John Whitehouse is grateful to the half dozen or so clubs that regularly send him copy, new readers may not realise that there are over fifty clubs in the District doing an incredible amount of work in their own communities.

Plans for our District Convention are well advanced and we have a good variety of speakers, who will be very conscious of their allotted timeslots as we have to finish the business session well in time for the Centennial tea. Although it is free can I remind everyone to let PDG Shirley know if you will be going as the hotel does need to have numbers.

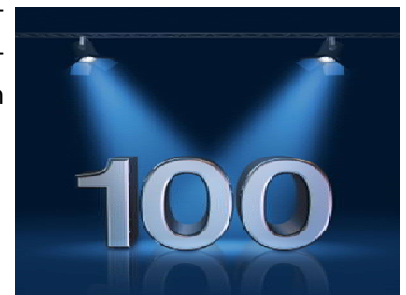
I have attended three funerals in January, Ian Young (Knutsford), Colin Benson (Urmston) and Barry Sutton (Stone) and although, of course, it is a very sad time for their nearest and dearest, I find listening to resumes of their lives very uplifting. All of them have achieved and given so much outside of their commitment to our organisation as well as the time given to Lions it's great to know that our friends and colleagues have lived such full lives.

As many will know the retired consultant urologist David Baxter-Smith who has facilitated most of the Prostate Cancer Screening events for Lions Clubs faced a General Medical Council Tribunal in December, having been accused of 'practicing' at such events. After eight stressful days he was cleared of any wrong-doing but must always include the word 'retired' in future. He had support from 10 Downing Street (a certain Mr. May had a test at a Maidenhead Lions event) and an expert witness provided by the other side actually in ten pages totally endorsed David's efforts to increase awareness and save lives for no personal gain. As we have said many times as the number of sessions increase David will not be able to travel to them all, especially those that are well established, but he is keen to continue to give assistance and encouragement to all who want to be involved.

We have many Charter celebrations coming in the next few months and we look forward to seeing many Lions throughout the District at one or another, as we pile on the pounds.

**Best wishes**

**Steve**



### A Busy December in Shropshire.

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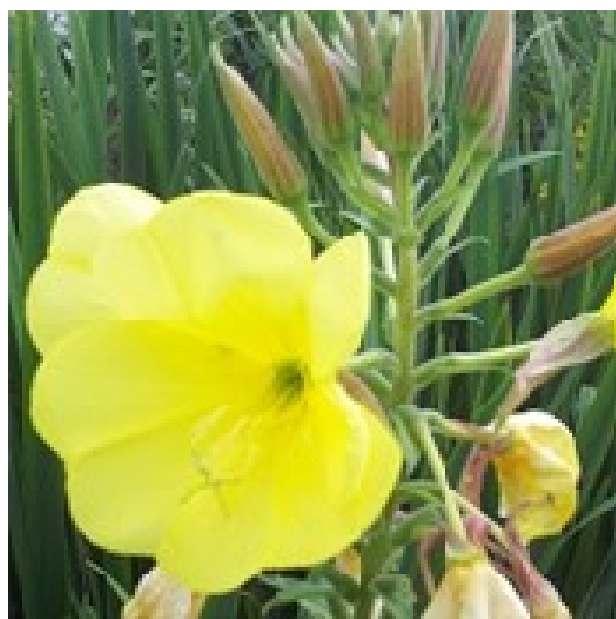
Ironbridge and Severn Gorge Lions, assisted by an increasing band of helpers, toured the streets of Telford with Santa and his sleigh in the run-up to Christmas, bringing joy to local children and raising money that will be handed out to needy local causes during 2017.

The club also amassed enough food donations outside supermarkets and from door-to-door collections to make up 130 hampers for needy families and elderly local people, as well as treating 25 young carers to a pantomime trip to see Sleeping Beauty.

John Marsh, President of Ironbridge Lions, said: "Every year we wonder how we can do as well as the previous one, but miraculously it just keeps getting better and better.



"December is a long old haul for our members, and unfortunately none of us are getting any younger, but the results make it all worthwhile. This year we distributed 130 hampers, each with around £45 worth of goods in them, equating to more than £6,000 worth of food going out to those in need. Our money collections raised £4,126 and every penny will be spent in the coming year to help worthy causes that apply to us for help."



### Environmental Monthly News.

Articles about Environmental.

This month article all about importance of butterflies and how we can help them by planting wildflowers.

Link for Lions Environmental Newsletters <http://www.lions105bs.org.uk/>

Christopher Evans. Environmental Officer.



## Santa Visits Alsager

Children and some parents at the Linley Tavern, here in Alsager, had a big surprise, when who should call in to say a big, "Ho Ho Ho" but Father Christmas. Alsager Lion Phil Westhead helped Father Christmas a little bit, in handing out presents to the excited children, as can be seen in the photograph. Alsager Lions would like to thank everyone at the Linley, management, staff and customers, especially the children for a fabulous evening.



Lion Dave Nixon popped into New Milton House a residential care home, here in Alsager, to wish all residents and staff A Very Happy Christmas, from all at Alsager Lions Club and left a few bottles of Mulled Wine for all residents and staff to toast each other and Christmas.

Picture shows Dave with residents Gladys Morris and Dorothy Shuttleworth and manager Louise Windsor.

Mr Lindsay Purcell from Alsager Community Trust approached Alsager Lions Club for some financial help towards the Trusts "My World Project," and was delighted to receive a donation of £500.00 towards the project

The project was aimed at year six pupils from Alsager Primary Schools, with some 45 pupils taking part and it's aim was for the children to learn the importance of team work and the many key life skills required in a working life. Workshops with organisations such as BAE Systems, Bentley Motors and Stoke City FC, all of whom gave great support to the project.



Picture by kind permission of the Alsager Chronicle, showing Lions David Nixon, Geoff Rimmer and Ken Livingston with some pupils from year six at Cranberry Academy and teaching assistant Susan Birkin.

Ken Livingston Alsager Lions Club

City of Bangor

Evelyn Butler

Newcastle under Lyme

Paul Ramage

Kath Ramage

Sale

Mary Delaney

Julia Smith

Vale of Llangollen

Paul Bickley

## A Warm Welcome to New Members

in January



# Centenary News



## This is it, centenary year!!

What is your club planning to do? Please send in a brief note of your plans to be included in the centenary specials list which will be displayed at convention.

Our organisation's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary is a great opportunity to raise our public profile, give extra service and show prospective members the value of our work.

Please continue to report your activities on MyLCI to help build a picture of what is happening in the district, nationally and internationally.

A number of clubs have reported interest from their local schools in the **100 WORDS FOR THE WORLD** competition, details in December mailing. It could be a great opportunity to develop links to primary schools in your area.



Our district appeal for Hearing Dogs currently stands at just under half a dog! Can your club help boost the fund? It would be great if DG's wife Jean could present a cheque for the full £10,000 at the end of her appeal year.

**NB** Please note the change of contact for Knutsford Lions Club and their major events, the exhibition and the fun day (all other clubs invited) – for information contact Lion Clive Heath at [clive.heath@virgin.net](mailto:clive.heath@virgin.net)

## Extended deadline

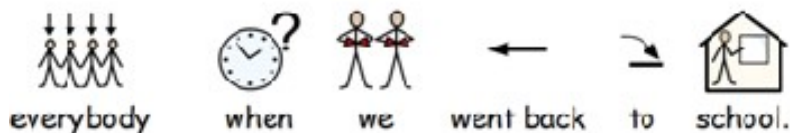
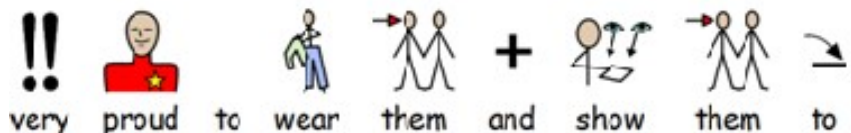


-For entries to Snap 100 competition, closing date has been extended to 28<sup>th</sup> February. Entries will be displayed at convention and prizes awarded.

-For tea party tickets, please send in your booking ASAP. Remember no cost but the hotel need numbers for catering purposes. Tickets should be collected from the Centenary stall in the convention exhibition area.

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





## Riding for the Disabled Rosettes

Lichfield Lions and Barton-u-Needwood Branch Clubs made donations totalling £500 to Gartmore RDA for them to purchase rosettes for the disabled riders for completing their course.

Both Clubs received this letter and photos, we thought you all would love to share this.





## TRAVELLING LIONS

Stoke on Trent	101
Llandudno	84
Ellesmere Port and District	76
Beaumaris Menai Aethwy	69
Wilmslow and District	66
Cannock	50
Tamworth	50
Telford	37
Flint and District	33
Urmston	23
Newcastle	21
Leek	19
Uttoxeter	19
Congleton	7
Prestatyn & Rhyl	7
Sale & District	5
Wallasey	5
Stafford	1

District travelling/visiting lions competition up to 15th January 2017.



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 .

Tamworth lions sponsored the production by 'My Inter Theatre Company ' who run inclusive performing arts sessions for people with and without learning and physical disabilities, including carers, friends, family and support workers.


It was a performance of Charlie and the chocolate factory. Vice President Becky Hall presented a cheque for £500 at the performance at the Coton centre in Tamworth.



**MY INTER THEATRE COMPANY** **The Upstages!** **TAKE A BOW**  
Performing Arts

PRESENTS  
*Rosald Dahl's*  
**Charlie and the Chocolate Factory**

JOIN US FOR  
A SCUMDIDLYUMPIOUS PREVIEW  
ON 19TH JANUARY 2017  
CURTAIN UP 7.00PM

THE COTON CENTRE, TAMWORTH Tickets £7.50 / £4.50  
SPONSORED BY TAMWORTH LIONS  [www.myintertheatrecompany.com](http://www.myintertheatrecompany.com)  
07746193644



**Important Observations from Anglesey**

When I linked into the e mail from the District Secretary, I clicked on the top of the page which listed Clubs. I linked to Anglesey Central, my own club, only to discover that the information was way out of date. It stated that we met at the Glanrafon Hotel in Benllech—closed for a number of years - and also Bull Bay Hotel where we do not hold meetings any more.

If we are to be an efficient organisation can we submit information on headed paper with current data and not obsolete data. Ok on this occasion it was myself a member that clicked on the site, but think what impression we could be conveying to potential members by quoting outdated information. Not sure if the twitter links to international officers on the said site are current.

**William Thomas**

**\* \* \* \* \***

**This space is here because YOU didn't tell me what you did last month.**

**Please get your Press Officer to send me an article and some pictures—  
we all want to know what you have been doing.**

**Ed.**

I do not apologise for repeating this notice, we need to shout about our successes.

***The copy deadline for the next issue of the District Newsletter is  
22nd February 2017***

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

Newsletter Contact for the January NL is :-

Lion John Whitehouse [bsnewsletter@lions105bs.org.uk](mailto:bsnewsletter@lions105bs.org.uk)

**Go on be brave, send me some news and photos about YOUR Club!  
We are all very interested to know what you have been doing.**



## Convention 17 Newsletter



**Not Booked Yet? – Not Booked Yet? – Not Booked Yet?**

**When? - 10th to 12th March 2017**

Where? @ The Best Western Plus, Stoke on Trent Moat House, ST1 5BQ

**We're Taking Bookings NOW!**

Hotel Bookings Telephone - 01782 609988 – Quote "LIO100317"

**REMEMBER!! REMEMBER!! REMEMBER!!**

JJJJ Book by 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb to ensure Convention Rates JJJJ

L Full hotel rates applied to bookings after 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb L

Card Details only taken at time of booking

Money taken 2 weeks before the event

***Social Events -- Social Events -- Social Events***

**Use the Booking Form Attached**

**Send Your Completed Form + Cheque**

**To**

**PDG Lion David Morris**

(Postal Address on the booking form)

Remember to note any dietary or other support needs

**All Attending and Day Delegates are invited to the**



**Birthday Party – Its FREE!!**

But you **must** book your ticket through PDG Lion Shirley Vaughan at

[lion.vaughan@btopenworld.com](mailto:lion.vaughan@btopenworld.com)

**All Banquet and Ball Attendees are invited to the  
DG's pre-dinner drinks reception**



**For further information and booking forms, please see the  
Club Information sheets.**

