

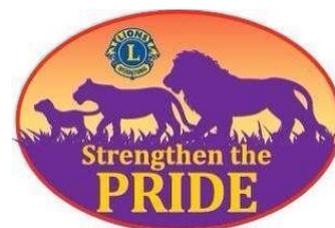


## DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER

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### FIRST CABINET MEETING AS DISTRICT GOVERNOR- 17<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST

I enjoyed chairing my first Cabinet meeting of this Lions year and I look forward to the rest of the year. The meeting was well attended including a number of visitors from around the District

The Cabinet is a mixture of experienced officers, together with a number of new officers taking on District officer roles for the first time. The cabinet is there to help and assist clubs to do the best they can and is a valuable source of information.



Before we started with the main Agenda I presented a Guiding Lion certificate to District Development officer June Lloyd-Adams. Guiding Lions are an essential part of the process of helping to support clubs who are trying to rebuild.

#### Health - Lions Eye Health Programme (LEHP) 'in Focus'.....

District officers presented any updates to their cabinet reports and each portfolio had the opportunity for a 5 minute presentation. District Sight and LEHP officer Linda Cross reminded Cabinet of the importance of Regular eye tests and that presenting LEHP was easy. Lions should encourage people to have a regular eye test, as many serious illnesses can be detected early by this means. It is also World Sight Day (WSD) on 9<sup>th</sup> October, a global initiative to promote awareness of avoidable blindness. A Lions leaflet is available at a small cost from MDHQ.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice District Governor Heather Jeavons presented the District Officers' recommendation list to Cabinet. The list was approved for circulation and the final list will be distributed by F&A chair, 1<sup>st</sup> VDG Heather Jeavons. However, the draft is as follows:

### DISTRICT OFFICERS' RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DONATIONS 2014/15

Clubs are requested to consider the recommendations below, and to make donations as soon as possible in this Lions' year, in order that the projects concerned can be up and running without delay. The list identifies the District Officers responsible for each project.

Donations should be made via the District Treasurer, and clearly identify the projects to which they refer and the amounts to be allocated to each.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

#### INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE - CHAIRMAN FEMI ONABOLU

##### Water Projects – recommended donation £100

We request the sum of £100 per Club for Water projects to continue this important work.

**District Officer : Lion Carol Moseley**

##### Edukits – recommended donation £170

We recommend that Clubs be asked for a contribution of £100 towards the cost of a kit, but Clubs may pay for a full kit at £170 each if they would prefer.

**District Officer: Lion Femi Onabolu**

##### Railway Children Organisation – recommended donation £50

Railway Children is one of the five Street Children projects chosen by the Multiple District and one that we in this District have already been supporting for many years.

**District Officer: Lion Carol Moseley**

##### LCIF (Undesignated) - recommended donation £100

The funds go into a pot from which emergency disaster relief grants are taken, along with all other grants for specific humanitarian purposes that are applied for by Districts.

Without these monies, LCIF would be unable to respond with immediate financial relief when a disaster occurs, such as the floods in the UK and the Balkans, the Earthquake in Japan or Typhoon in the Philippines. LCIF can also provide elements of funding for specific large Capital projects and Sight First projects on application by Districts for grant funding.

**District Officer: Lion Bill Ranautta**

**Please circulate to all Club Members**

**DISTRICT OFFICERS' RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED****Fendall Village School Project, Liberia, West Africa – recommended minimum of £200**

Last year, our District Cabinet approved the International Committee's proposal to work in cooperation with the Greater Monrovia Lions Club in Liberia.

The project is to fund the construction of a permanent school building for over 100 children between the ages of 4 and 14 years in Fendall village, in order to encourage children from the village to go to school. The nearest school otherwise is 7 kilometres away by foot. £7,000 is required to build the school with Toilet facilities.

This project was inadvertently omitted from the District Recommendations list of 2013/4 and, as a result, we only managed to raise £2,000 from 8 Clubs by the end of the last Lions' year.

We propose that Clubs should be asked for a contribution of a minimum of £200 each towards this project.

**District Officer Lion Femi Onabolu**

**North Sea Lions - recommended minimum donation £100**

As a district who are founder members of North Sea Lions we are committed to contributing to this project.

There are currently 2 projects on the table for 2014/15, and these will be confirmed after the Annual Meeting of North Sea Lions on 12<sup>th</sup> September.

Full details of the projects will then be circulated to all Clubs with a detailed request for funding.

**District Officer: Lion John Bush**

**One Shot One Life Measles Project - recommended donation £50**

LCIF and Lions are collaborating with the Measles Initiative partners to rescue children worldwide from measles.

Measles is one of the world's deadliest vaccine-preventable diseases: 450 children die each day. Yet, for less than US\$1, we can vaccinate one child for life.

Help us save 157 million children this year. Be a part of the solution through the One Shot, One Life: Lions Measles Initiative by supporting LCIF through the Gates Foundation Challenge Grant.

For every \$2 raised by Lions, the Gates Foundation will donate US\$1. Together, LCIF and the Gates Foundation will provide a total of US\$15 million to fight measles this year – this project is being continued this year. Learn more at [www.lcif.org](http://www.lcif.org).

**District Officer: Lion Bill Ranautta**

**Help2Read - recommended donation £50.00**

"A child born to a mother who can read ..... has a 50% greater chance of surviving past 5 years old".

"If all students in low-income countries left school with basic reading skills, **171 million people could be lifted from poverty**" (UNESCO)

"With many children in African Schools failing to master basic literacy, Africa is ill-equipped to generate jobs and take its place in a global economy" (2012 World Economic Forum).

**Help2Read** (Improving Lives. Forever)

**Our contributions to Help2Read will be used to educate children and adults in Malawi replacing the Malawi Education Fund.**

**HEALTH COMMITTEE - CHAIRMAN MARTIN HILL****Comprehensive Eye Services (C.E.S.) - recommended donation £250**

CES takes a holistic approach to eye care and aims to improve eye health in three ways:

1. Treatment of eye diseases and conditions.
2. Promotion of eye health to prevent diseases spreading and conditions going untreated.
3. Support for people who are incurably blind to help them integrate into their communities.

The CES programme is able to offer something to everyone with a sight related problem – a blind person is given rehabilitation or training, a blind child will be helped to access school and all other eye problems are dealt with appropriately through health education, treatment or surgery.

**District Officer: Lion Linda Cross.**

**Special Olympics - recommended donation £50**

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Special Olympics Great Britain (SOGB) and Lions Clubs International MD105 in May 2010.

MD 105's main role with SOGB is to provide matched funding to help, train and guide some 8,000 athletes with special needs on a weekly and sometimes daily basis. Some of the monies will also be used to provide kit for the athletes at future major events and that kit will include the Lions logo.

**English Federation of Disability Sport – recommended donation £50**

A similar memorandum exists between MD 105 and EFDS an organisation that Lions have been associated with for over 20 years.

Many Lions in this district have supported EFDS as volunteers but money is required to support their work.

**District Officer: Lion Danielle Benn**

**Please circulate to all Club Members**

**YOUTH COMMITTEE - CHAIRMAN CHRISTINE MOSS**

**District Youth Activities – recommended donation £50**

The suggested £50 would enable us to continue successfully and professionally our District Youth Projects.

*This appeal is completely separate from the request for £60 per club (now £4 per member) which normally appears on the January dues and which is for MD Youth Projects and goes to the MD Youth Trust fund).*

Full details of the District Officers Recommendations can be found on the 105M website <http://www.lions105m.org.uk/fanda/2014-2015%20District%20Officers%20Recommendations.pdf>

**YOUTH - YOUNG AMBASSADORS**

Cabinet were advised that there were 4 candidates for District 105M Young Ambassador. The District finals take place on 30<sup>th</sup> November with the candidates' presentations taking place at lunch-time, after the close of the Cabinet meeting.

Host families are also required for next years Youth Exchange programme - host names required by Christmas.

**1:2:4 PROJECT**

Immediate Past District Governor (IPDG) Simon Moss explained he had been asked to help promote a new Multiple District project, 1:2:4. The project is to purchase sewing machines for widows in India to enable them to support their families.

For every £50 Lions donate, the Lord Loomba Foundation will match a further £50, with LCIF further matching the £100 with a further £100. So an initial £50 makes a total £200 for the project. Look out for further details.

These are just a few items from the meeting which finished a little ahead of time at 12.15, thanks to all at the meeting for their input.

**MEMBERSHIP**

The District gained new members in August and I would like welcome them to our Lions family

- |                            |                     |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Coventry Godiva            | Harshad Kotecha     |
| Coventry Mercia            | Devinder Singh Gill |
| Kingswinford & Stourbridge | Peter Miller        |
| Rowell & Desborough        | Michael Fletcher    |
| Shirley                    | Andrea Lees         |

**As at Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> August, Worldwide Membership is 1,362,786**

**WORCESTER FESTIVAL**



Immediately after the Cabinet meeting Joy and I made our way back to Worcester for the Worcester show, where Worcester Lions had a successful day, raising funds and joining in the show. Again the Lions Tombola stall proved to be very popular.

**PERSHORE PLUM FESTIVAL..... OH, DID IT RAIN!**



Evesham and Pershore Lions joined the many and varied exhibitors with a tombola and with Lions awareness information at Pershore Plum festival, centred near to Pershore Abbey. There was a vintage car display as well as hundreds of exhibitors.

Despite the torrential rain, spirits were high and it was a very successful day with many happy winners of cuddly Lions at the Tombola. It raised much needed funds and allowed Evesham and Pershore Lions club to be visible in the Community, now a club of 3 members and working hard looking for more.

Evesham and Pershore club were supported at the event by Lion June from Shakespeare club and Lions Pauline and John from Warwick. It was a fabulous event and Joy and I will go again next year.....rain or no rain!

**Please circulate to all Club Members**

**WORCESTER LIONS RIVER BOAT TRIP**

That same evening..... more rain!  
 Joy and I joined Worcester Lions and many Lions from clubs around the District including Bedworth, Birmingham Chinatown, Bromsgrove, Kidderminster, Kingswinford & Stourbridge and Sandwell....great fellowship.

It was an eventful night which started with a small fire in the engine room and power cut! The faulty part was though soon replaced and the trip along the River Severn went ahead. We enjoyed a meal on board, followed by a fantastic firework display to mark the end of the Worcester Festival.



**BAGGERIDGE COUNTRY FAYRE – BILSTON & WILLENHALL LIONS**

We visited the country Fayre organised by Bilston and Willenhall Lions club on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> August. The Fayre was well supported despite very mixed weather on the day. Attractions included a mini zoo with Reptiles and Birds of Prey, a dog agility show, Morris dancers, bouncy castle and a Punch and Judy show to name a few. The Fayre concluded with a singing Queen Elsa from Frozen!



The Fayre, as well as being a Fund raising opportunity, is a great community event promoting Lions generally and Bilston & Willenhall in particular.

**CHEESE, CHEESE AND MORE CHEESE...**



Shirley Lions organised a social event hosted by Lions Jaap and Claire de Jonge. It was a great event with a magnificent choice of over 60 cheeses! It was well attended by Shirley Lions, with other visiting lions from around the District.



**SPOT LIGHT.....ON AUTUMN FORUM**

which is arranged for Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October at st. John's Hotel, Solihull.

The programme is great mixture of speakers, interactive sessions, business updates and the chance to check your diabetes risk.

There is a speaker from SIFA Fireside, a dynamic Birmingham-based charity tackling homelessness. We have Lion Dave Upton telling us about dementia puppet therapy. We have an update from Lion Christine Moss about Me and Dee her chosen charity last Lions year.....we also have an update from Lion Liam Barrett - back from his trip with the Global Medical Brigade.

We have interactive sessions organised by our Development officer, Lion June Lloyd-Adams, and GLT Co-ordinator, Lion Pauline Fanti, to both guide and inspire - and they will be fun to do!

There will be table displays where you can meet specialist officers and take information back to your clubs.

A two course lunch is also available at £15. I look forward to seeing you all there.

**Please circulate to all Club Members**

**JOY'S CHARITY UPDATE**

**2,284 Items collected for the homeless centres around the district...** Thank you to everybody for donating items. Please remember we do want money though, so that we can purchase sleeping bags, rucksacks, flasks, sports water bottles and waterproofs for the rough sleepers.

An extensive list can be found on the website [http://www.lions105m.org.uk/downloads/Wanted%20List%202014\\_08\\_27.pdf](http://www.lions105m.org.uk/downloads/Wanted%20List%202014_08_27.pdf)



Thanks to IPDG Simon Moss who nominated Ian to do the ice bucket challenge ..... Ian has donated to my 'homeless appeal'



**Haffner's KeepItSimpleSilly Hat! for the homeless**



A hat created by Terry Smith for me who wants to knit, but only know the basics... Just think if we all knitted a hat - and I know some men can - PDG Ron Cross I'll expect one from you!!!

Terry's pattern can be found here... [http://www.lions105m.org.uk/downloads/Haffners\\_hat\\_for\\_the\\_homeless.pdf](http://www.lions105m.org.uk/downloads/Haffners_hat_for_the_homeless.pdf)

For you experienced knitters any chance we could have some gloves please?

**NORTHAMPTON HOPE CENTRE**



Ian and I visited Northampton Hope Centre, where Northampton 80 arranged a BBQ meal for staff and volunteers. There was some entertainment - not really competitive - Ian got into the finals and then came 2<sup>nd</sup>.

If you would like to see what was actually happening, come to my Fundraising Dinner on the 24<sup>th</sup> October and see for yourself. The meal will be cooked by the homeless and served by the homeless at Worcester. For further details, email me [lionjoy@thehaffners.me.uk](mailto:lionjoy@thehaffners.me.uk) for details.

While we were there, we had a guided tour of the centre, including the Art and creative writing room, IT room and the recycled clothes store. The visit was good fun, informative and inspiring.

*Joyx*

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

- 5<sup>th</sup> Oct Autumn Forum:  
St John's Hotel, Solihull
- 30<sup>th</sup> Oct-2<sup>nd</sup> Nov Europa Forum:  
Hilton Birmingham Metropole
- 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> Mar 2015 District Convention:  
Park Inn by Radisson, West Bromwich
- 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> May 2015 MD Convention:  
Hilton Birmingham Metropole

Details of all these events will be circulated by Joy during the year.

**Please circulate to all Club Members**

**CLUB VISITS**

So far I have visited 5 clubs and plan a further 5 visits in September.



At Wellingborough meeting I presented awards for 100% attendance of club meetings to PDG Roger Handcock, Martin Mckean and Wendy Mckean.

I also helped to induct a new member, Andrea, with Lion President Ken Barker at Shirley Lions.



I would like to thank all clubs for their warm welcome.

I have presented Long Service Chevrons to the following Lions:

**Knowle & Dorridge**

John Horton 25 years and Pete Smith 25 years



**Shirley Lions Club**

PDG Mavis Cooke 20 years



**Kettering & District Lions Club**

Michael Walsh 25 years and John Inns 35 years



Thoughts to Inspire ... The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched, they must be felt with the heart – Helen Keller...

**DG TEAM TRAVELS**

**DG**

**September**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Bedworth Club Visit
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Northampton 80 Club Visit
- 9<sup>th</sup> Evesham Vale Club Visit
- 10<sup>th</sup> Coventry Leofric Club Visit
- 12<sup>th</sup> Northampton 'Bring Your Pants Quiz'
- 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> Sandwell at Wolverley
- 16<sup>th</sup> MD Convention Meeting
- 17<sup>th</sup> Northampton Club Visit
- Date tbc DG Team Meeting

**October**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Bushby Club Visit
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Castle Bromwich & District Club Visit
- 5<sup>th</sup> Autumn Forum
- 8<sup>th</sup> Birmingham Moseley & Kings Heath Visit
- 9<sup>th</sup> Wolverhampton Club Visit
- 11<sup>th</sup> Marston Green Charter
- 13<sup>th</sup> Wellesbourne Club Visit
- 18<sup>th</sup> Wellingborough Charter
- 21<sup>st</sup> Solihull Club Visit
- 24<sup>th</sup> Joy's Fundraising Dinner Army Reserve Centre
- 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> Council of Governors Meeting
- Date tbc DG Team Meeting
- 30<sup>th</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> Nov Europa Forum

**1<sup>st</sup> VDG**

**September**

- 4<sup>th</sup> Rugby Rokeby Club Visit
- 9<sup>th</sup> LRP Meeting
- 9<sup>th</sup> Evesham Vale
- 16<sup>th</sup> MD Convention Committee Meeting
- 16<sup>th</sup> Birmingham Exhibition Club Visit
- 30<sup>th</sup> DG Team Meeting

**October**

- 18<sup>th</sup> Wolverhampton Charter
- 21<sup>st</sup> Finance & Admin Meeting
- 29<sup>th</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> Nov Europa Forum Assistance
- Date tbc DG Team Meeting

**2<sup>nd</sup> VDG**

**September**

- 4<sup>th</sup> Rugby Rokeby Club Visit
- 9<sup>th</sup> LRP Meeting
- 11<sup>th</sup> Marston Green YLiS Presentation Evening
- 15<sup>th</sup> 'End to End' Planning Meeting
- Date tbc DG Team Meeting

**October**

- 5<sup>th</sup> Autumn Forum
- 21<sup>st</sup> Finance & Admin Meeting
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Zone H Visit – Venue tbc
- 29<sup>th</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> Nov Europa Forum Assistance
- Date tbc DG Team Meeting

**Please circulate to all Club Members**