

# LION

June/July 2016

The magazine of the British and Irish Multiple District of Lions Clubs International



**LONDON  
MARATHON  
2017**

*Clean for*  
**THE QUEEN**

**MD105**  
*Convention*

**ARUNDEL**  
*Castle*

*The Countess*  
**OF WESSEX**



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**Introduction**

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**Who are Lions?**  
Lions Clubs International British Isles & Ireland

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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



## Take a Bow, Lions, for Incomparable Service

Many Japanese admire the teachings of Confucius, particularly his thinking about Onko Chishin. This means "he that would know what shall be must consider what has been." Though elegantly expressed in the writings of Confucius, the concept is simply common sense, a sentiment appreciated by people worldwide. In fact, the idea is even incorporated into the longstanding Lions logo. One of the Lions on the logo looks back while the other looks forward.

As I enter the last month of my presidency, I find myself looking both back to the past and forward into the future. This year we built upon the success of Lions in the past. We continued to save lives through the measles campaign. We kept saving sight. We improved our communities in countless ways.

Lions also continued to be great champions and protectors of children. At the start of the year I urged Lions to reach out to children as part of my theme to promote Dignity, Harmony and Humanity. Sadly, the waves of refugees are a human tragedy the world has not

**Dignity.  
Harmony.  
Humanity.**



seen in decades. Lions are responding with vigor, supplying food, water, necessities and kindness after kindness.

Looking to the past to prepare for the future has been especially meaningful for Lions this year as we near our centennial. Lions have made great progress toward achieving our Centennial Service Challenge of serving 100 million people by June 30, 2018. I don't want to jinx us, but I am utterly confident we will easily surpass that goal.

We also need to have the courage to change and sometimes even need to

end longtime traditions. Our association needs to evolve to stay relevant to the needs of society. It may come with pain, but we must always have the next generation in mind.

It's been a great privilege to serve as international president. On our frequent journeys Toshiko and I have met thousands of warm and gracious Lions who exemplify the best of the human spirit. We Japanese take pride in our hospitality, but Toshiko and I learned that nothing tops Lions' hospitality. We also have been deeply impressed and inspired by Lions' dedication to service and their importance and accomplishments in their communities. Please continue to serve—the world needs us as never before in the last 100 years.

**Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada**  
Lions Clubs International  
President

### MISSION STATEMENT OF LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL:



"To empower volunteers to Serve their communities, meet humanitarian needs, encourage peace and promote international understanding through Lions Clubs."



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# LION

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# Editorial



Welcome to the June/July 2016 issue. This issue, as the cover suggests, has a slightly royal theme as we wish Her Majesty, The Queen a happy 90th birthday. On page 29, we celebrate the Clean for the Queen campaign; many Lions clubs have undertaken this quest to clean up the countryside in time for the Queen's birthday. We also take a look at our Multiple District's relationship with the Royal Family. Lionism in the British Isles began in 1950 with HRH Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, but there is more to this story, find out more on page 40! This year also marks the 60th anniversary of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award. Our patron HRH The Countess of Wessex will be undertaking the Diamond Challenge to celebrate this anniversary. HRH is asking for help from Lions, please see page 39.

We also celebrated our 65th Multiple District 105 Convention at Eastbourne in May. It was a fantastic weekend and we were blessed with gorgeous sunshine! Sadly, myself and partner didn't see that much of it, but we did enjoy listening to the intense debate upon the redistricting and restructuring resolutions. You can read more about the discussion and results on pages 36 – 38.

Again, I am in awe of the sheer scale of projects Lions have undertaken in the past few months. From fashion shows, to classic vehicle events we really can do anything! Keep up the good work and do not hesitate in sharing your stories and images with your Lion District Editor ad Press Liaison.

On a final note, I am aware that my email address (as printed on this page) has had some difficulties in receiving emails. If you do find that your email has been bounced back, please try sending your email to [clowance.lawton@warnersgroup.co.uk](mailto:clowance.lawton@warnersgroup.co.uk).

Enjoy the sunshine as we finally welcome summer!

**Clowance (Clo) Lawton**  
**LION Magazine Editor**



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# Melvin Jones Fellowship



## LANCASTER AND MORECAMBE LIONS CLUB

Melvin Jones Fellowships were presented to Lions Rosie Ryder and Keith Walker at their Charter Lunch in Morecambe. Prior to this, the Club has only awarded six Melvin Jones Fellowships in its 47 year history. Rosie is also the first female in Lancaster and Morecambe Club's history to receive a MJF. Both Rosie and Keith are past presidents of the Club and have been involved in a wide range of club activities including collections, road race marshalling, book stalls and the Club's Christmas and summer senior citizens' parties.

Rosie is a former residential child care officer and has worked with children throughout her career. She is now a partner with her husband, Neil, in their journalism and photography business specialising in agriculture and rural sectors. Keith was an operations engineer at Heysham Power station until semi-retiring and still works part time at the station. He moved jobs to Heysham 30 years ago after working at Dungeness and Hinckley stations in South East England. Keith and his wife Sue now live in Morecambe. Both say they are still on 'cloud nine' after receiving their awards from Club President, Graham Haddington. Lion President Graham comments, "Rosie and Keith have put in a tremendous amount of work for the Club over many years. We could not have given the award to two more deserving and nicer people."

The event also saw District Governor, Mike Bagnall, present a string of long service awards representing over 200 years of service to the Club. The line-up included: Nigel Alston (15 years); Mike Kaliszczak (20 years); Alvin Atkins (30 years); John Shaw (35 years); Joe Pearson (35 years); Andrew Dodgson (40 years); Neil Ryder and Rosie Ryder (15 years each).

In addition, Mike presented his District Governor's Appreciation Medal to Susan Dodgson for her work with the district music competition.



## WINDSOR LIONS CLUB

Windsor Lions presented the Melvin Jones Fellowship to their long-serving member and Past President, Lion Diane Purchase.

It recognises the huge amount of dedicated service Lion Diane has given to the Club over her 16 years of membership of Windsor Lions, including her year as President in 2004/2005 – the first lady President in the Club's history.

Lion Diane commented: "I am absolutely thrilled and very, very surprised. I had no idea that the award was even being considered. I am honoured and not a little flattered that my colleagues in Windsor Lions Club should feel that I merit such a prestigious honour. I am very grateful."

Lion Diane continues a long and distinguished tradition of the Purchase

family and their involvement with Lions. Husband Lion Harry Purchase, a Past President of Windsor Lions on more than one occasion, was also awarded the Melvin Jones Fellowship several years ago. Their four children have all been involved with the Lions organisation; their eldest daughter Lynsey is currently joining Windsor Lions and her brother Alaster is a current member. Daughters Serena and Naomi have also been members of Lions and its 'junior' arm, the Leos. To complete the family connections, Lion Diane's parents were members of Farnham and Arundel Lions Club, her father being Lion President on three occasions.

Lion President Bob Taviner, who proposed the award, said: "I cannot think of a more deserving candidate than Lion Diane. She is a fantastic Lion and is generally at the heart of everything the Club does."





# Melvin Jones Fellowship



## THE LIONS CLUB OF BLETCHLEY

Lion President Mike Bartlett presents Lion Bob Webb with his Melvin Jones Fellowship for serving Lions for 17 years and helping to promote the aims of the Club. Lion Bob joined the Lions in 1999 and his first office was in 2000/1 as PR Officer. His big job this year was organising an evening to promote Lions which was held at Bletchley Park. The Mayor and Pete Winkleman among others attended.

For about five years from 2000 onwards Sandra and Bob had organised trips to Thorpe Park and later to Chessington World of Adventure for underprivileged children.

As Club President (2001 - 2002) Bob launched Message in a Bottle, from then onwards to date he has taken an active interest in the scheme and still thousands are given away every month. He was Club Treasurer from 2003 - 2005, and Club Secretary from 2005 - 2007.

Bob was a senior officer in the London Fire Brigade until he retired in 2003. He was responsible for managing the Brigade's Control Centre. In the 1999 New Year's Honours List, he was awarded the Queens Fire Service Medal for Distinguished Service (QFSM).

# PDG Dick Harris

Serving his country and community (1925-2016)



A death of a Lion is a sad time; family, friends, Lions and the organisation have all lost someone dear to them. But, it is also a celebration of a person's life and PDG Lion Dick Harris had certainly lived life to the full!

Aged 14 at the start of WW11, Dick was evacuated with his twin sister to Vancouver, Canada. Then in 1943 he enlisted into the Royal Canadian Air Force and joined 428 Squadron (The Ghost Squadron). As a Flying Officer he became a navigator on Lancaster bombers and during the rest of the war completed 11 operations over enemy territory, from his squadron base in Middleton St George, March. Then he embarked on a Pathfinders Navigational Training Course, before being discharged from the RCAF in September 1945.

Dick then returned to Canada to complete a degree course at Vancouver University in Commerce, before eventually returning to the UK. Once back in Blighty, Dick engaged in a



successful career in Insurance Broking in the City of London.

His life in the Lions began in 1971 at Gravesend Lions Club, and always beside him was his wife Audrey, who he married in 1954. Together they were a formidable and loving partnership and those that remember his days as District Governor will recall his speeches, penned by Audrey in comical prose and delivered with aplomb by Dick. Dick and Audrey loved the gathering of Lions at Conventions





### OKEHAMPTON AND DISTRICT LIONS CLUB

Lion President Walter Jory and 105SW District Governor Lion Lesley Clarke present a Melvin Jones Fellowship award to local Okehampton businessman and Chamber of Trade stalwart Mr Donald Rooke. An MJF usually presented to a member who has contributed outstanding Humanitarian work, however in the lead up to and during the Lions Clubs International forthcoming Centenary, a number of these awards have been set aside for clubs to donate to a member of their community who they feel has made a significant contribution to it. Donald has been instrumental in the town over many years. Amongst many of the community activities he undertakes, he can often be seen watering and maintaining the annual hanging baskets, putting up and maintaining the various banners that adorn the many lamp posts along Fore Street, as well as the town's bunting and flags for special occasions such as St.



Georges Day. He has been a long standing Edwardian Evening Coordinator and he has been the mainstay of the towns infamous Christmas Lights and trees. Donald was presented with the MJF at the

Club's Okehampton Charter Anniversary Dinner in front of the many local guests and Lions from across the South West who were in attendance for the celebratory evening.

and their very imaginative costumes at Host Nights were always a centre of attraction.

Over the years he served in various capacities, Club President in 1975-76, in 1984-85 he was elected Deputy District Governor and then in 1985-86, District Governor. Then following his very successful years in serving District 105SE, he was subsequently to serve a second term as President of his Club in 1988-89.

For his great dedication to Lions and to his community, especially his lead role in the "Operation Cataract" initiative, Lion Dick was rightly awarded the Melvyn Jones Fellowship. Subsequently, Dick left Gravesend Club to join a newer Club, Darent Valley Lions, where he was joined by Audrey, who became a Lion herself. Then in 2006 they both joined their present Club, Northfleet & Ebbsfleet Lions, where Dick's vast experience in Lions was of great help to the members.

In later years, sadly, his battle with illness was to catch up on him and he was to need all the love and care that you would expect from Audrey and his three daughters. Not without one last hurrah, he proudly attended the Bomber Command Memorial Unveiling and Dedication Ceremony in Green Park, London on 28th June 2012. A fitting memorial for the brave bombers of WW11 was long overdue, but with Audrey and other members of his family, he witnessed the unveiling by HRH The Queen. Dick was finally to receive the medal he so deserved, at an event also attended by many senior members of the Royal Family and Dick was privileged to meet and shake the hand of Prince Charles.

The Lincolnshire Lancaster Association doesn't have too many veterans left as members, but Dick was always very proud to meet up with old colleagues on regular occasions to exchange stories and recall memorable moments.

On Saturday 9th April 2016 we sadly lost a very popular and enthusiastic Lion, Past District Governor Richard (Dick) Harris MJF, after a long illness. He will be remembered as a loving husband, father, brother and grandfather. He was a modest man, a real gentleman and a dedicated Lion.






# Letters To The Editor

**Dear LIONS,**

I have been a member of Devizes Club for more than 25 years, and have always liked meeting Lions from other clubs and countries, and have always found members I have met have been friendly, positive and respectful. Until I attended my first MD Convention the day before yesterday, that is.

With three fellow members, I attended because we were keen to vote on the redistricting proposals. We knew there would be a debate on the Emergency Resolution and that if that resulted in a positive vote, our journey would have been wasted, which, of course, it was.

However, we were prepared for this eventuality, and from our vantage point in the auditorium, we had a good view of both the stage and the main seating area. I was disgusted by the behaviour of some delegates. Whilst appreciating there were strong feelings being aired, particularly from Districts C and EA, there wasn't much respect being given by some delegates, especially when all the Council members are the same as us, first and foremost, Lions members. Those delegates who think that shouting, heckling and verbally deriding the efforts of those we have put into positions where decisions are required, should be utterly ashamed of themselves. You know who you are, and I don't believe you showed the compassion and the depth of feeling expected of Lions in good standing.

We are faced with challenging times, and showing such disrespect for hard-working VOLUNTARY officers is well below the standards of behaviour we would tolerate in our Club.

Yours in Lionism,

**LION**  
**Roger Stratton**

**Dear Editor,**

Sadly, Seahaven Lioness Club will close on 30 June after 23 years serving our local communities and Lions International.

The closure is a direct result of the way the Council of Governors, after discussions with the Charity Commission, made the decision to merge Lioness clubs with Lions clubs – a decision made without any consultation or discussion with Lioness clubs, sponsoring clubs or other Lions clubs.

Neither were we informed about the discussions with the Charity Commission, despite being a registered charity in our own right with a board of trustees.

We are aggrieved and angry about the autocratic way the decision was made and the cavalier way it was communicated.

To be informed indirectly in October that we must merge or close followed by the news the merger deadline was June this year, later changed to June 2018 – albeit with reduced independence for Lionesses – compounded our disappointment with the organisation and the thoughtless way it has treated loyal volunteers.

After much discussion and heart searching we held a ballot of our members. For me personally and others, the key issue was our independence as Lionesses. A significant majority decided to resign as the new arrangements reduce this independence over the next two years and end it completely after July 2018. Therefore, the club will close and cease to be a member of Lions Clubs International from 30 June 2016.

This is not a reflection on Newhaven, Peacehaven and Seaford Lions Club, our sponsoring Club which has always been supportive, as have other clubs in our area – Adur East, Brighton Lewes, and Rottingdean and Saltdean.





» Our small Club of committed members – the majority of very long standing - have raised more than £118,000 for charities, organisations and individuals in Newhaven, Peacehaven and Seaford as well as for Lions national and international appeals.

All our members are sad the Club is closing but we'll keep in touch with each other and some may choose to continue to support local Lions events. But we were proud to support independent Lionesses, organising our own fundraising and social events, and making our own decisions. Unfortunately, this isn't an option under the Council's new arrangements and the losers will be our local communities and Lions International.

Yours in Lionism,

**Pat White**  
**President Seahaven Lioness Club**



#### **A Question:**

I have just returned from the MD Convention in Eastbourne, very interesting especially the discussions on re zoning.

One of the speakers was a young lady Lion who reported that when she was in a shop and talking to the shop assistant that it was her first time in Eastbourne and was asked was she on holiday, no was the reply. I'm here for the Lions Convention. Who are they a ladies club? We've all had that, are we the rugby club, a football team etc. The young lady was concerned that people do not know who we are. We many may be largest VSO in the world but we are the best kept secret. The young Lion suggested that with all the extra money that re zoning would produce we hire a professional person to promote the Lions.

Notwithstanding there is a MD PR team and 13 District PR Teams and we are still the best kept secret.

What can we do you ask to promote Lions? Well currently to improve and promote Lionism the MD has decided that the paper copy of the Lion Magazine which is the best PR tool we have is going digital. Why?! It can currently be distributed through, doctors and dentists, golf clubs etc to promote Lionism. It can be used during membership drives to show prospective members what Lions do, they can even take the copy home. It is also upto date. We could increase our production run and distribute the extra copies. You can't do that digitally.

Our greatest rival Rotary are doing just this certainly in SE. They think it makes sense. They are also promoting the Inner Wheel our equivalent being the Lionesses I understand. We are closing ours.

Rotary has been around all my life even at 10 I knew the President of Rotary. They have been in UK since the 1920's, Lions since 1950. Our local club is 90 years old. Lions club 44 years. That's one of our problems.

I have a question how many Lions in MD 105 regularly go to our website or even your district website. Not many me thinks, so how many will regally read the digital Lion Magazine? Did you know there was a digital LION Magazine on the international site?

As a Lion of over twenty years standing if I've looked at our MD or District site perhaps 20 times in total that would be a lot and international no more than 10.

I know it saves money by not producing a paper copy but it is burying Lionism from the general public not promoting it. If we want to be here in the next 100 years we have to work at.

I am currently the Editor of the SE News I promote what the Lions of SE do to make it the Best District in the World. Copies go south to Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. All over Europe, to Past and current International Directors, Past International President, Oakbrook and not forgetting our Council of Governors. It can also be used to promote Lionism locally. That's what I do to promote Lionism.

I hope in a small way I have answered your question. Why don't people know who we are?

**DO Lion Mike Shaw MJF**  
**Editor SE News**

#### **Editor's Response:**

With regards to the format of Lion magazine, the board policy states that the Lion will be printed 4 times a year and digitally from 1st January 2019, the number of digital copies is a matter for individual MD's. This is the board's decision. Referring to Mike's points about marketing and PR, it really is the only way that the public will ever hear about us. I strongly encourage Lions to think about what their Club is doing to promote themselves. Wearing your tabards out and about is a good start but it's often not enough. Community open evenings (with wine and cheese – always works!) are a fantastic opportunity to talk about who you are and what you do. Go into secondary schools and colleges with PowerPoint presentations and club posters: there are countless young people who need volunteering experience and we need young people knowing about Lions. Social media and your website is equally important, we can't ignore the fact that the majority of the population will only find out about us through the internet, so let's make sure a) we are present online with a Facebook page or website and b) that these are regularly updated. If the last post is from 2012 it will not encourage prospective members to join as it will lead to the assumption that your Club is no longer active. I understand that not everyone is familiar with websites and Facebook so if you need any guidance please visit:

[www.lionsclubs.co/MembersNews/pr-and-marketing](http://www.lionsclubs.co/MembersNews/pr-and-marketing)  
We're fantastic at achieving awareness for other organisations so let's take the time to focus on getting our own recognised. Let's not be the best kept secret anymore!



# Abseiling Arundel Castle

On 12th March 2016, Worthing Lions Club member, Peter Rixon abseiled down Arundel Castle in aid of Winston's Wish, a charity which supports bereaved children.

On the day, the sun fortunately showed its face as Peter and other fundraisers made their way to the top of the tower. All the participants had to climb 140 steps to get up to the top of the highest tower which is around 200 ft. above ground level. On the ground, Worthing Lions provided the public address system and refreshments for volunteers and guests in the castle grounds. As Peter was about to jump the Club played Skyfall by Adele on the PA system, much to the amusement of the crowd watching below.

After the abseil was successfully completed Peter remarked that it had been a bit nerve-wracking looking over the top of the turret, but once he had started the descent everything went very smoothly. He was presented with two certificates, one from Winston's Wish and a special award from Worthing Lions Club.

Leigh-Beth Stroud from Winston's Wish said that it had been a great day and thanks to the 80 volunteers who took part in the event. The charity expect to receive up to £15,000 in donations to their very worthwhile cause.

## ARUNDEL CASTLE

Located in West Sussex, Arundel Castle is one of the longest inhabited country houses in England. Built at the end of the 11th century by Roger de Montgomery, Earl of Arundel, many of the original features such as the crenelated Norman keep (a keep with battlements), gatehouse and barbican and the lower part of Bevis Tower survive. Between the 1870s and 1890s the house was almost completely rebuilt and the magnificent architecture in Gothic style is considered to be one of the great works of Victorian England.



PICTURED: Peter Rixon (73)



# Torpoint and Rame Daffodils

2016 and once again the Torpoint and Rame Peninsular Lions carried out their annual daffodil picking and selling over two weekends. With the kind permission from the local farmer, Jeremy Oatey, a field was allocated from which the Lions could pick the flowers. The daffodils were then sold from the Kernow Mill and Cremyll ferry office. Farmer Jeremy also donated professionally picked flowers to sell alongside what the Lions had picked.

The weather was not very kind for the first weekend: the Lions were met with a cold wind blowing across Whitsand Bay whilst hard at work in the field at Penlee Point. Layers of clothing and flasks of hot drinks were the order of the day! Picking took place on the Saturday and Sunday morning, then roster organiser Lion Helen Willoughby and husband Andrew delivered the picked and bunched flowers to the selling Lions. Very efficient!

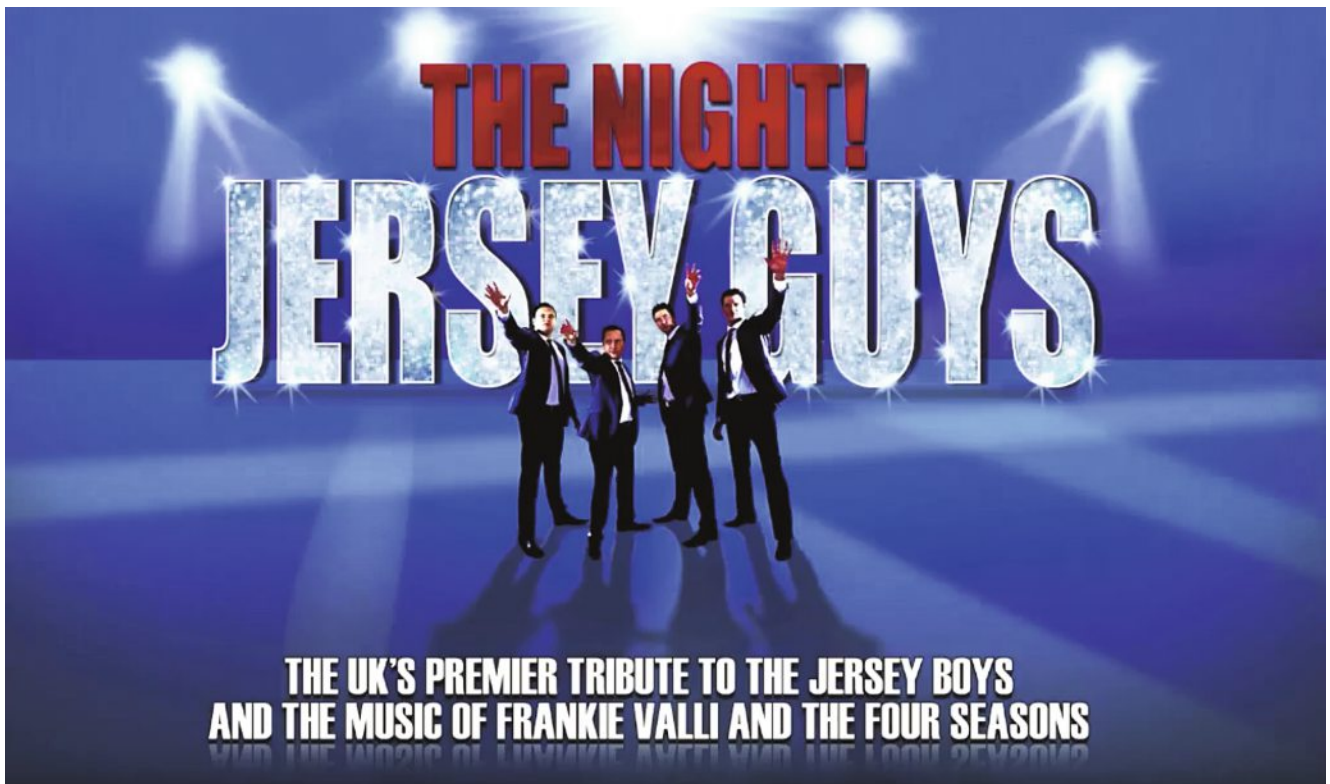
The second weekend of picking was Mothering Sunday weekend. It was equally as cold, but as this field was further from the coast there was thankfully less wind. Picking continued again on the Saturday and Sunday. On Sunday, the Lions were joined by students from Torpoint Community College members of CATS (Community Action Through Sport) who helped with the picking and selling. The girls were a great help speeding up the process and the buying public were able to buy very fresh daffodils for mothers and themselves at a great price.

Well done to all the Lions and helpers including the students, as well as a massive thank you to Jeremy Oatey and the staff as Kernow Mill and Cremyll ferry office. Despite the cold and hard work, a very rewarding sum of £860.44 was raised.





# Oh, What a Night!



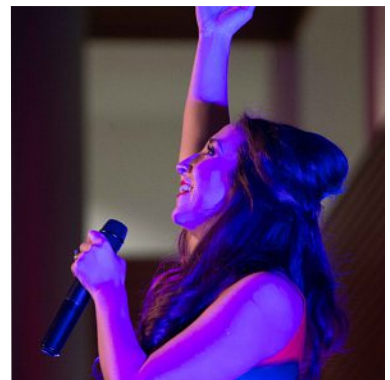
A night of 60s and 70s music proved a huge success on 2nd April 2016. Audience members took to the floor, reliving the best hits of the era which were performed by the Jersey Guys and their accompanying "gal" dancers.

Singing all the greatest songs from Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons, the hall at Caterham School was alive with the sweet sounds of blue-eyed soul and upbeat pop rock.

Jersey Guys have performed at countless public and private events to thousands of people. The group is made up of a

hugely talented cast of professional performers with extensive training from dramatic, performing, theatrical, or musical arts schools and/or with several years of experience and professional credits as performers.

Organised by Caterham, Oxted and Godstone Lions Club the evening was a huge success raising over £1,100. Lion President, Lesley Day said: "Our annual concert is a big highlight of the year. The Jersey Guys, once again, put on a super show. A huge thank you to everyone who came to support the evening and enjoy the wonderful entertainment."





# Going for Gold

Before the start of a recent Malvern Hills Lions Club meeting, Lion President Dave Jeavons made presentations of different amounts to a number of young people to help them with the funding of their various projects and activities. Two of the recipients were leading sportswomen who will be representing our country at their respective sports.

Emma Witherford had been selected to be a member of the GB Freestyle Kayaking Team. This qualified her to compete at The World Freestyle Championships. She regularly trains at the Wychavon Kayak and Canoe Club based in Pershore and travels to the Thames Valley for coaching and practice. Emma believes that the coaching sessions helped her to finish Joint 1st overall in the Junior Women's category at the GB Selections. Her aim is to be in the top 5 paddlers at The World Championships. In the 1st year of competing internationally she finished 4th in The Europeans Championships and 3rd in the World Cup Series. Emma has raised money herself in a number of ways; the very kind donation from Lions will really help her get to the European Championships in Germany this year.

Aimee Stephenson spends as much time on the water sailing as possible. Sometimes this can involve a round trip of 300 miles to attend training and coaching courses. She has regularly competed with RYA GBR Squad members sailing in Toppers and Laser Radials and came first in the Junior Coronation Cup. She has also beaten Adam Rowlet in his Laser Radial to come first in the Junior John Morgan Cup. Aimee at present trains with the UK youth squad and has recently competed in the National Winter Championships in which she was sailing in Arctic conditions with incredibly strong winds. Her aim is to go to the World Championships in Ireland in June 2016 and then the National Championships in Scotland. Aimee's mother thanked the Lions for their donation and said that as a single parent, any help to support a talented young person financially was very welcome.

PICTURED: Aimee Stephenson



PICTURED: Emma Witherford





# Lions Saving Lives

## Diabetic Treatment from Hornsea District Lions Club

Hornsea District Lions are in the fortunate position of having a very busy charity shop, which is very well supported by both locals and visitors to the town. The amount of donations they receive are astonishing; during the last fiscal year their shop received donations of £89,000. Because of their "wealth" the Club is always

willing to give financial assistance to local worthy causes.

At the end of each President's year in office, a sum of £5000 is donated to a local good Cause as decided by the outgoing President.

Donations in recent years have included funding the local music festival, putting street lighting in a local park so that it is safe for people to walk through at night and a fitted kitchen for the new Town Hall.

This year, Lion Jean Robinson selected the Eastgate Medical Practice as her choice for the money. She had discovered that they were in need of specialist equipment (not available on the NHS) related to the diagnosis/treatment of diabetes. A number of items, which have proved invaluable, were purchased. These included a mobile ECT system which can be used anywhere in the building or in a person's home as it does not need to be connected to a computer. This will greatly enhance the diabetic screening facility.

The resident diabetic nurses were delighted with the new equipment and commented: "We cannot thank the Lions enough and with 980 diabetics on our books, the equipment will be well used."



**PICTURED BELOW: L to R: Lions Mel Watson, Dave Robinson, ZC Ken Thorpe, David Cameron, Lynn Cartwright, PP Jean Robinson, Dr Koshy and Carol Naylor**

## A New Defibrillator from Llandrindod Wells Lions Club

Llandrindod Wells Lions Club, has brought a defibrillator which will be placed at the Tesco store in the town for cases of emergency, 24 hours a day, all year round.

members of the store's staff to use the life-saving equipment. Over the next few weeks, further volunteers from Llandrindod Wells Lions Club and the town's Round Table will also undertake the training programme.

The £800 cost of the unit was raised during Barry Hicks (MBE) year of office as Club president, together with a grant of £400 from the British Heart Foundation. The location has been registered with the ambulance service and the first responders in the town.

Mr. Hicks along with the current president, Jim Moore made the presentation to Sarah Mason of Tesco, who is responsible for training 15



PHOTOGRAPH REPRODUCED BY KIND PERMISSION OF MR. ERNIE HUSSON

**PICTURED: Barry Hicks MBE presents the defibrillator to Sarah Mason of Tesco, Llandrindod Wells**



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# Funding Required to Improve Patient Care at King's

The Lions International Blood Research Appeal's (LIBRA) Giving 4 Growth Campaign continues to receive widespread support, but this special Lions appeal still needs our help to reach its £200,000 target. The Haematology Department at King's College Hospital in London is relying on LIBRA and its supporters to raise funds for urgent laboratory and ward developments. LIBRA is well over half way to reaching its campaign target, but there is some way to go.

As part of the Giving 4 Growth Campaign LIBRA Trustees have agreed to fund developments within the hospital's Davidson Ward. The Haematology Department requires more than £53,000 of funding to cover the cost of essential equipment

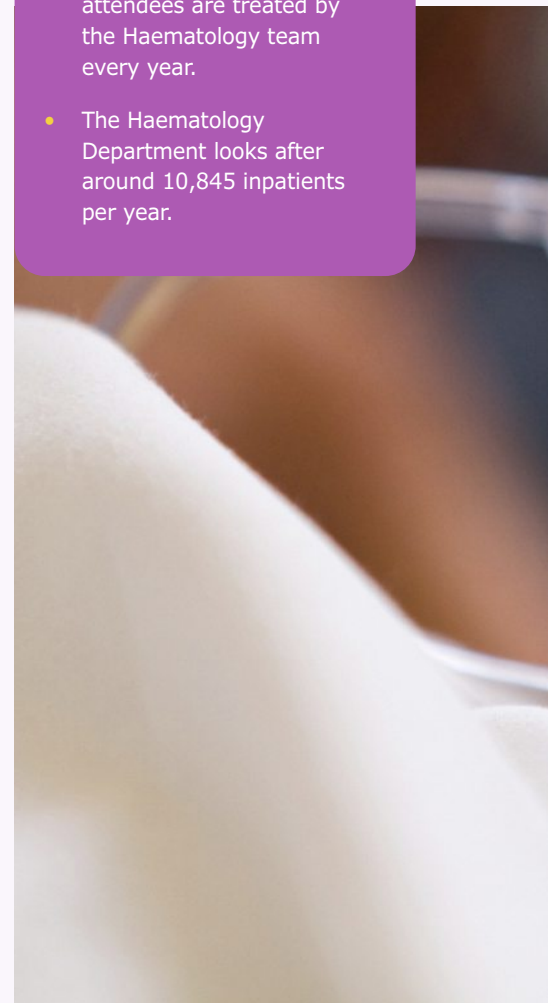
so that a new Ambulatory Transplant Unit can be created later this year.

The Davidson Ward is named after Professor Davidson, who was the first Professor of Haematology at King's. It is a transplant and chemotherapy ward which specialises in the treatment of patients with blood cancers and disorders – with a focus on those undergoing bone marrow and stem cell transplants.

King's are calling on LIBRA for the funding as they don't have existing funds to cover the cost of the specialist equipment required for the new unit. Funding will make it possible for the Haematology Department to undertake outpatient allogeneic bone marrow and stem cell transplants.

## SOME INTERESTING FACTS

- King's is a major centre for the treatment of leukaemias, including rare forms of the disease.
- King's is a leading national and international centre for the diagnosis and treatment of blood cancers.
- King's is now the largest blood and bone marrow transplant centre in the UK.
- The Haematology Department carries out more than 200 bone marrow transplants each year.
- They also carry out over 200 stem cell transplants each year.
- The Haematology Department looks after around 19,397 outpatients each year.
- On average 20,000 day attendees are treated by the Haematology team every year.
- The Haematology Department looks after around 10,845 inpatients per year.



## About The Unit

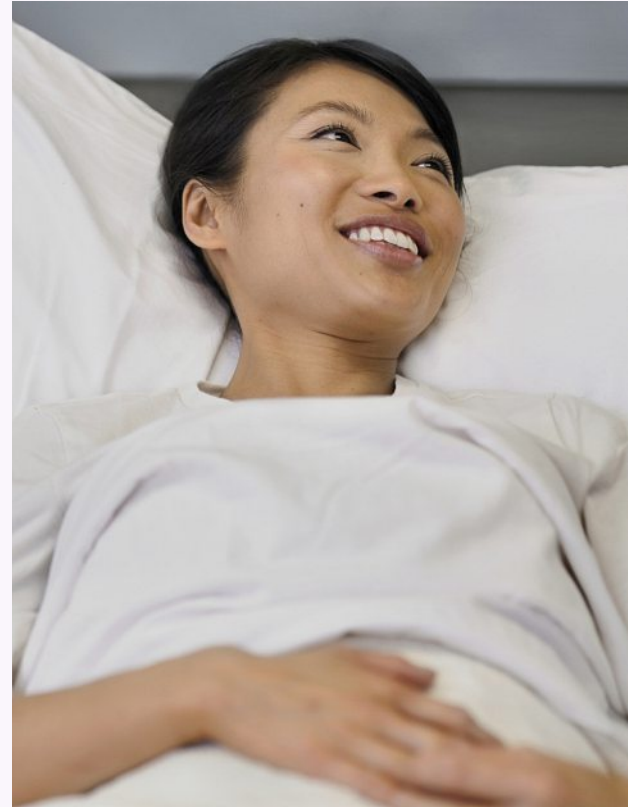
The new Ambulatory Transplant Unit will contain six chairs and patients will attend daily for treatment with chemotherapy as part of their transplant protocol, blood checks, transfusions and any other care required as part of the transplant process.

A dedicated ambulatory care team will staff the unit. Patients will be able to return to accommodation, located on the hospital site, with a family member or carer for the remainder of the day and overnight. This will greatly enhance the patient experience by increasing independence, contact with family and decreasing the time required for inpatient stay. A bed will be reserved in the Davidson Ward to allow for direct admission if required.

Victoria Potter, Haematology Consultant at King's College Hospital, said: "The equipment we urgently need funding for is vital for the set-up and daily functioning of the unit and hence will greatly advance patient care.

"As health professionals involved in the care of patients going through a very difficult time we look forward to the opening of the Ambulatory Transplant Unit at King's College Hospital as we continue to strive to be at the forefront of innovative and holistic patient centred care."

If you would like to find out how you can help fundraise or if you would like to make a donation online, please visit [www.libralionscharity.org](http://www.libralionscharity.org)



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**Help a child like Nirmala walk again.**

**Donate today and your gift will be doubled by the UK government.**

Nirmala lost her leg in the Nepal earthquake. A year on, thanks to Handicap International, she is taking her first steps.

Many more amputees desperately need our help. Just £30 could buy an artificial limb for a child.

**Please help.**

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#EveryStep

# Every Step Counts When You're Learning to Walk Again

On 25th April last year, Nirmala's life changed forever. The 8-year-old girl was trapped under rubble during the largest earthquake in Nepal in over 20 years. Rushed to hospital, Nirmala was among the first survivors to undergo a life-saving amputation that day.

Nirmala quickly began emergency rehabilitation sessions with Handicap International. She worked hard with physiotherapist Sudan to learn how to walk again with her new prosthetic leg. Her beaming smile and positive attitude helped speed up her recovery and Nirmala soon started to laugh again.

Physical rehabilitation is the vital first step towards regaining independence, giving people the opportunity to be self-sufficient and lead independent lives. Sadly, disabled people often struggle to access this essential care and can easily find themselves excluded and forgotten. As they grow, a child amputee like Nirmala will need a new artificial limb every 6 to 12 months.

Nirmala's future has been transformed but there are still many children who can't get the care they desperately need.

Our Every Step Counts appeal aims to raise essential funds to help disabled and injured people walk again by supporting sustainable rehabilitation care in countries like Nepal, DR Congo, Jordan and Afghanistan.

**You have an amazing opportunity to double your impact! All donations made to the appeal before 18th July will be doubled by the UK government.**

We hope that your club will play a special role by organising a fundraising event to support the appeal. It could be a sponsored walk, dinner party, or bake sale – Every Step Counts!

To get your club involved, please order your Every Step Counts fundraising pack today at: [www.everystepcounts.org.uk/pack](http://www.everystepcounts.org.uk/pack) by emailing [john.mcgeachy@hi-uk.org](mailto:john.mcgeachy@hi-uk.org) or calling **0870 774 3737**.

To donate, visit [www.everystepcounts.org.uk](http://www.everystepcounts.org.uk)

*Thank you!*



## EveryStepCounts



Each issue this section will focus on a Club, their history and what they've been up to recently. To appear on this page, please encourage your President or Press and PR Officer to email [lion.editor@lionsclubs.co](mailto:lion.editor@lionsclubs.co) with information and photographs (in a high resolution JPEG format).

Holsworthy is a small town in rural North Devon, close to the Cornish border and the seaside town of Bude. It is a small town with a population of approximately 2000 (including out-lying parishes). Despite that, they have a thriving Lions Club with 20 active members at this time. This year is the 40th anniversary of their charter which they celebrated on 23rd April 2016. They still have one of the original charter members in the Club, but, sadly, their first president passed away last year.

# Holsworthy & District Lions

The Club has an active social life and, despite their size, won both the District 105SW skittles competition and the District Quiz this year.

In November, they organise and run the Holsworthy Carnival. It is always the last carnival of the season in their area. The Club took over the running of the carnival in 2014 when the existing Carnival Committee resigned and the community were faced with demise of this treasured event. For the Club members, it would be fair to say that it has been a steep learning curve, as there was a lot to learn, and quickly! Since then, they have had two successful carnivals that were attended by over 1000 people each year.

The highlight of their Lionistic year is the annual "Fun Day" for kids and adults with disabilities. This takes place on the Sunday following the carnival in November, in Holsworthy Memorial Hall. That weekend is a very busy one for the Club; the fun fair comes to Holsworthy with the carnival and they

pay David Rowlands to leave behind a couple of the big rides for use on Fun Day. Attractions also include a pony and trap ride, animals for the children to pet, a bouncy castle for the younger guests, disco and magician, plus free burgers, hotdogs, candy floss, sweets and fizzy drinks, and even the opportunity to look inside a fire engine, courtesy of Holsworthy Fire Brigade. All the guests take home a commemorative photo at the end of the day. The event is usually attended by Holsworthy's Mayor, the Portreeve, and Holsworthy's Carnival Queen. Every year there is also a theme to the day, partly for fun and also so the guests can easily recognise the Lions.

The guests come to Holsworthy from all over the south-west; from as far away as Truro in the west and Weston-super-Mare in the east. Lions from around the area, including Bodmin, Okehampton, Tavistock, South Molton, Weston-super-Mare, Barnstaple, Bideford, Truro and Newquay are always on hand to help.





**ANNUAL EVENTS**

- They source and erect the Christmas trees in the town's square every year. They have done this since the 1980s and will continue to do so. The putting up of the trees is a three day event. Lions Trevor Jones and Ray Fursdon choose and cut the trees on Friday, and various club members endured Saturday afternoon's rain storms to drag the four trees half a mile from the places they fell to a trailer, ready to be transported into town on Sunday morning. In 2014 and 2015, the trees were kindly donated by Mr and Mrs Stevens from Chilsworthy. Before this, the Club bought the trees.
- Every January the Club host a senior citizens' lunch. This year, a total of 116 guests enjoyed a three course dinner and drink from the bar at what is, traditionally, the Lions first major event of the year. Entertainment on the piano was provided by Margaret Parfett while the guests enjoyed a meal comprising of vegetable soup, roast beef with all the trimmings, and apple pie with Devonshire cream.
- The Club hosts an annual Children's Christmas party open to all kids in primary school and it always includes a visit from Santa! Last year 162 guests paid £1 each to take part in the festive fun in the Memorial Hall in Holsworthy. The party featured a disco from Lion and professional DJ Andy King, magic tricks and entertainment from "Mr Wacky", as well as more traditional party games, such as pass the parcel. Fizzy drinks and ice-cream were free for the kids and adults. One youngster setting a new record for managing to eat eight ice-creams in the space of three hours! The afternoon finished with a visit from a Santa who gave every child a present. To see the smiles and laughter on the kids' faces is great – it really is what being a member of the Lions Club is all about.
- Helping the Marie Curie Daffodil Appeal by taking part in their bucket shake. This year it was 2nd April at Sainsbury's supermarket in Bude.
- In association with Holsworthy Community College the Club gives an award to a pupil who has does outstanding work in the community.

**MAIN FUNDRAISING EVENTS**

**Annual Easter Egg Draw** This usually makes a couple of thousand pounds. Thirty-two eggs are delivered to various pubs, clubs, shops and other locations in Holsworthy, Bude and the surrounding area over a couple of days. The handmade eggs are just over a foot tall and weigh 1kg each. Draw tickets are £1 each and all proceeds made will be divided between two charities.

**Annual Speed-Pool Competition** For one evening only in various pubs and clubs around the Holsworthy area. The competition involves teams of six attempting to pot as many balls as they can in one hour. This year's competition was won by 'The Shed' with 534 balls potted in one hour! The highest individual scorer was Leo McDonnell with 96 balls. The competition raises around £1,000 the money will go towards the Lions' annual "Fun-Day" for kids and adults with disabilities in November.

**Lions' Barbecue** The Club takes the BBQ to various events in and around Holsworthy, such as the town square during St Peter's fair week. There are bands in the square most nights in the week and the Club is there for the final night when the square is packed to watch the final band of the week. Other examples would be the Bude vintage car rally and late night shopping night in December. They will be using it next for the Queen's birthday celebrations on 21st April.

For more information see their [website at www.zig-d.co.uk/lions](http://www.zig-d.co.uk/lions)





# Little Dresses for Africa



Thanks to the efforts of **Cheadle Lions**, other local Lions Clubs and those happy to sew across the UK, Little Dresses for Africa (LDFA) UK was able to send 840 dresses to orphans in Africa last year.

The dresses are made using recycled pillowcases, they are very easy to make and have a massive effect on the girls' lives. Girl orphans are among the most devalued and abused in their culture, and face such oppression. It is reported that girls wearing a new little dress are much less likely to be abducted, abused or molested because it shows that someone cares about them. This is not just about sending pillowcase dresses – it is about sending HOPE!

Nicole Watson, wife of Cheadle Lions President Nick Watson, is the UK coordinator for this charity and has enlisted the help of church groups, U3A, school textile classes and anyone who can sew for support. Help can be provided in a number of ways: donating pillowcases or sewing supplies; making dresses or elasticated shorts for the boys; and donations towards the shipping costs to Africa. Nicole even managed to get Nick to run the Ashbourne Half Marathon which raised over £400!

Nicole Watson's recent trip with Little Dresses for Africa to Ghana was a great success. Thanks to help from the people of Cheadle and all over the UK, LDFA managed to distribute 480 dresses, 94 pairs of shorts, 90 t-shirts, hundreds of pairs of pants, books and lots of toys. They also managed to take the older children on a field trip to Cape Coast Castle to learn about their history. It was a great day as the children also got to dip their feet into the Ocean, which they'd never done before!

Nicole told us: "There is vast poverty in Ghana and it was an emotional experience seeing how hard life can be there. It really makes you appreciate what we have here in the UK! In Ghana there is no social assistance whatsoever; if you are ill there is no NHS, and if you have no money you go hungry. However, it is amazing to see just how resilient the people of Ghana are, especially the children. They literally have the clothes they stand in but nearly always have a smile! You can't just walk around holding the hand of a child because in reality you end up walking with a child attached to each finger!!"

Nicole visited The Holy Heart Foundation orphanage which is based just outside the capital of Accra. There are about 25 children aged from 3 to 15 who live at the orphanage. Some live there because of the death of parent(s) and others turn up having spent time living on the streets with nowhere else to go. During the day there are over 120 who turn up for free schooling (you







have to pay to go to school in Ghana) and to receive what is probably going to be their only meal of the day. The meal comprises rice with a sauce, so, on the last day of the trip they treated the kids to a feast of rice but this time with chicken, cabbage, tomatoes and carrots! As you can imagine word got round and a lot more children turned up that day! The schooling is amazing considering what they have to work with. However, all the children know their times tables by the age of 5, can read and write and they even learn French!

Nicole said: "When you see a child receive the gifts of clothes made by volunteers in the UK it makes me feel very proud that we have helped to give a child hope; to give a child a reason to smile. It is a privilege and an honour. Thank you to everyone in the Cheadle area and beyond who has helped to makes this possible."

For more information and to see pictures of the trip to Ghana please visit their Facebook page **Little Dresses for Africa - UK**.

If you would like to get involved in this amazing charity or would like to make a donation towards shipping costs, please contact Nicole Watson on: **ldfa-uk@hotmail.com** or call **07530 613760**. You can also see more information on their FaceBook Page: **Little Dresses for Africa – UK**, or by visiting **www.littledressesforafrica.org**.





## High Marks for Lions Quest in Finland

By Cassandra Rotolo

Social-emotional learning has been proven to decrease problem behaviors such as bullying and substance use and increase positive behavior patterns such as self-discipline and conflict resolution. Lions Quest is LCIF's social-emotional learning program (SEL), and the Lions of Multiple District (MD) 107 in Finland have successfully implemented Lions Quest. The Finnish government has recognized MD 107's programme as a leader in educational curricula for children, and the Ministry of Education and Culture even awarded MD 107 a grant to conduct teacher training workshops.

Local Lions' involvement is key to Lions Quest's success, and over the last 20 years Finnish Lions have raised more than US\$6 million to support and grow Lions Quest. Since the first workshop in 1991, more than 16,000 teachers have been trained to implement the program in Finland. Eight certified trainers host teacher training workshops throughout the country. Teachers are trained to work in multicultural classrooms, focusing on diversity and addressing the educational needs of refugee children.

Finnish Lions have expanded Lions Quest beyond the traditional classrooms to focus on youth sports. Trained in much the same way teachers are, coaches encourage good sportsmanship, teamwork and conflict resolution.

Understanding that the needs of today's students are ever-changing, the Lions also created a guide to Internet safety and cyber-bullying

prevention. "Responsibility is Mine" teaches children not only how to keep themselves safe online but also discourages them from hurting others.

Taking the programme even further, Finnish Lions have become global leaders in the research of SEL. In collaboration with the University of Helsinki, MD 107 conducted a study that showed that Lions Quest training is effective at building teachers' ability to develop social and emotional skills in their students. This research was published in the European Journal of Social and Behavioural Sciences.

Lions leaders in Finland work with local Lions on Lions Quest, serving as an example of what can be achieved when Lions are committed to a goal.

### A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRPERSON

A recent visit to a large school in Quito, Ecuador, reminded me of how powerful Lions Quest can be. It was amazing how Lions Quest has improved the attitudes and performance of the students there.

A key to their initial success is the unwavering support of the school board. All of the teachers have been trained. What is unique about their approach is that they also trained all their counsellors and school nurses and some administrators. They even trained some parents, which means the lessons continue at home. When a problem surfaces, everyone involved can effectively deal with the situation.

One of the greatest things about Lions Quest is its flexibility. The curriculum is grade-specific, and can be taught with other subjects or on its own. It can be taught daily, weekly or occasionally. Lions Quest can be adapted to meet each school's needs.

In my opinion, this flexibility is also the programme's greatest weakness. It is taught sporadically while other classes are ongoing and build upon previous lessons. It might be implemented only for a year whereas other subjects are taught in every single grade. I worry that, when used on a part-time basis, the program does not reach its full potential.

I am grateful to schools, no matter how they choose to teach Lions Quest. But for maximum impact, please encourage your schools to make a longer term commitment to teach Lions Quest on a regular basis and at multiple grade levels.

As Lions, we should be proud of Lions Quest. We just need to spread it to more schools and classrooms so that we can reach and positively impact more of our young people. I hope reading this story about Lions Quest in Finland inspires you to become more involved in your local programs.

Sincerely,

**Joe Preston**  
Chairperson, Lions Clubs  
International Foundation



Lions Clubs International  
**FOUNDATION**



**PICTURED:** In Finland, youth hockey coaches bring Lions Quest lessons alive on the ice



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Savannah, Georgia, USA, March 1-4, 2016

### CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

1. Established the Ad Hoc Committee to Review Third Vice President and International Director candidate requirements with seven (7) members appointed by the Executive Officers and requested further review by our successor Constitution and By-Laws Committee.
2. Empowered the Executive Committee to fix by contract the duties, term of office and compensation of a treasurer.
3. Revised the District Governor Suspension Policy in Chapter XV of the Board Policy Manual to require a majority of the clubs in good standing in the district to request review under the policy.
4. Revised Chapter III, Paragraph E.6. of the Board Policy Manual to reflect the new LCIF Board of Trustees structure.
5. Revised Chapter XV, Paragraph C and Paragraph L of the Board Policy Manual to remove unnecessary language.
6. Revised Chapter XV of the Board Policy Manual to make it consistent with previous changes related to the reinstatement of the office of International Third Vice President.
7. Revised the District Governor and First and Second Vice District Governor Elections Procedure in Chapter XV of the Board Policy Manual to allow for more flexibility in who may file a complaint and to allow for the formal complaint documents to be filed by electronic means.
8. Revised the definition of good moral character and reputation in one's community in Chapter XV of the Board Policy Manual to allow clubs to decide if a member of their community meets the requirements to be a member and, in certain circumstances to preserve the image of the association, to authorize the Constitution and By-Laws Committee and the International Board of Directors to review club membership.
9. Adopted a resolution to be reported to the 2016 International Convention to amend the International By-Laws to change the name of the Public Relations Committee to the Marketing Communications Committee.

### CONVENTION COMMITTEE

1. Revised convention bid policy to allow the association to select the convention site seven (7) years in advance.
2. Selected Montreal, Quebec, Canada, as the site of the 2021 Lions Clubs International Convention.

### DISTRICT AND CLUB SERVICE COMMITTEE

1. Extended protective status to the Tabubil Lions Club of District 201-Q2 (Australia) through September 4, 2016.
2. Extended District 351 (Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq) to include the State of Palestine.
3. Approved an amendment to the redistricting proposal submitted by Multiple District 3 (Oklahoma), which was approved on October 5, 2015, to change the names of the new districts to District 3-E, District 3-SW and District 3-NW and delay the redistricting one year so that the new districts take place at the adjournment of the 2017 International Convention.
4. Approved a resolution to merge District 305-S1, District 305-S2 and District 305-S3 to create District 305-S (which will take effect at the close of the 2016 International Convention) and instructed the members within these districts to hold an election to elect a district governor to serve during the 2016-2017 fiscal year.
5. Approved the Lion leaders who were recommended by the local Lions from the provisional districts to serve as district governors for the provisional districts for the 2016-2017 fiscal year.
6. Revised the Board Policy Manual by amending the Standard Club Constitution and By-Laws to include a club LCIF Coordinator.
7. Revised the Board Policy Manual to include the State of Palestine and the Republic of Kosovo as official countries of Lions Clubs International.
8. Revised the Board Policy Manual to allow the International President to deny expenses for the International Convention if the District Governor-Elect does not attend the full District Governor-Elect Seminar.

### FINANCE AND HEADQUARTERS OPERATION COMMITTEE

1. Approved a change of General Fund Investment Policy to match the asset allocation of the Emergency Reserve Fund Investment Policy.
2. Approved the FY 2016 3rd Quarter Forecast, reflecting a deficit.

3. Approved amendment to the Defined Benefit Plan Funding Policy.
4. Approved amending the General Fund Investment Policy Statement contingent upon the adoption of the proposed resolution at the 2016 International Convention to amend the International Constitution related to the Emergency Reserve Fund.
5. Approved additional funding for the combined budget of the October/November and March/April 2017-2018 board meetings and approved an exception to the Executive Officer Travel and Expense Reimbursement Policy allowing up to two additional days for added travel time.
6. Approved increasing New Member Entrance Fees and Charter Fees to US\$35 each effective July 1, 2017.

### LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

1. Approved funding, beginning in 2016-2017, in the amount of US\$2,000 per year for the next three years to support club level training for the Lions of Papua New Guinea.
2. Contingent upon approval of the 2016-2017 proposed budget, approved curriculum and limited funding to support two Emerging Lions Leadership Institutes (ELLI) during 2016-2017 for qualified Lions of Africa. All planning and implementation will be handled by the GLT of Africa.
3. Contingent upon the approval of the 2016-2017 proposed budget, approved the addition of one Faculty Development Institute (FDI) to the 2016-2017 Lions Leadership Institute schedule for qualified Lions of the ISAAE area.
4. Contingent upon approval of the 2016-2017 proposed budget, approved the addition of one Faculty Development Institute (FDI) to the 2016-2017 Lions Leadership Institute schedule for qualified Lions from the USA, its affiliates and Canada.
5. Contingent upon approval of the 2016-2017 proposed budget, approved the design, development and implementation of a new Certified Lions Instructor Program beginning in 2016-2017.

### MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

1. Revised the Leo and Student Membership board policy to remove the language to support the change of respective applications being a dependency on the acceptance of either membership type.
2. Revised board policy manual to include the word "Awards" in the title to be "Membership Awards Programs."
3. Revised board policy manual related to Key Awards to remove the language specific to award reporting and processing details.
4. Removed the GMT District Coordinator Extension award from board policy.
5. Removed the award requirements listed in Chapter X of board policy for the Charter Monarch and Monarch Milestone Chevrons.
6. Revised board policy to add the new section related to Chevrons in Chapter XVII.
7. Revised board policy to remove the countries that will be affected by the sunset provision.

### PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

1. Approved Second Century program with changes recommended by the LCI marketing team and Public Relations Committee to be reflected in the final program draft for review by the Executive Committee.
2. Proposed amendment to change the name of the Public Relations Committee to "Marketing Communications Committee."

### SERVICE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

1. Awarded the 2014-2015 Top Ten Youth Camp and Exchange Chairperson Awards.
2. Updated Chapter I to reflect current practices.
3. Updated Chapter XXII to reflect current practices.
4. Discontinued the Lions Environmental Photo Contest at the conclusion of 2016-2017.
5. Adjusted the Leo Club Program Advisory Panel Term.

For more information on any of the above resolutions, please refer to the LCI website at [www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org) or contact the International Office at 630-571-5466.



# Clean for The Queen

As mentioned in the last issue, *Clean for the Queen* is a national campaign to clean up Great Britain in time for Her Majesty the Queen's 90th birthday, which will be officially celebrated in June 2016.

When Elizabeth II came to the throne



**PICTURED:** Shirley Lions President Martin Wright at work with his grabber and bright purple "Clean up for the Queen" bag

litter was not the problem that it is today. Food packaging, plastic bottles, takeaway meals and cigarette butts have all contributed to a growing menace that affects our wildlife, streets, countryside and sense of pride. What better way could we show our gratitude to Her Majesty than to clean up our country?

In the April/May edition of the magazine we focussed on the Lions Club of Launceston who had already partaken in this campaign. This issue we look at Shirley Lions Club and the Malvern Hills Lions Club who have also picked up those elegant purple bin bags to clean up their communities.

**Shirley Lions** joined in the national *Clean for the Queen* by organising not just one, but two litter picks on the same Saturday morning. One was held in Shirley Park, a venue well used by the Lions for their annual Shirley Carnival whilst

simultaneously, another took place in the local Bills Wood Nature Reserve. At the Shirley Park venue the Lions were assisted by some Shirley Young Leaders in Service members and also Shirley Sea Cadets of whom a number are also YLIS. At Bills Wood, a number of local residents even helped the Lions clear the area.

Organised by Malvern Hills Conservators, members of **Malvern Hills Lions Club** joined more than 20 other volunteers to help in one of the events organised locally as part of the national Clean for the Queen campaign.

32 enormous bags of litter were collected from the edges of the woodlands around the Retail and Industrial Park in the Malvern Link area of the town.

Beck Baker, Community and Conservation Officer for Malvern Hills Conservators said: "We were so please to see so many volunteers come along to help clear up this section of woodland. I'm amazed at how much we collected in just over two ours."



# Tynedale Beer Festival



The 2016 Tynedale Beer Festival will be up and running once again this year between Thursday 16th – Saturday 18th June at Tynedale Rugby Football Club in Corbridge, set within the delightful countryside of the Tyne Valley. Last year, the Beer Festival was a resounding success with all three days attracting large crowds of beer and cider lovers, families and friends from the local community and beyond. Many visitors return year after year to enjoy the festivities, such is the pulling power of this now well-established regional event.

Last summer, the friendly Beer Festival attracted 6,500 visitors who sampled a staggering 20,000 pints from the 140 draught beers and ciders on offer, all in tip top condition. Some 230 bottles of Prosecco wine and 75 bottles of Pimms were also consumed. Also available were a selection of table wines, soft drinks





and a wide range of good food from the onsite caterers. Throughout the Festival, as always, there was a great variety of live music to generate a party atmosphere from rousing local bands to the more gentle swing of jazz.

For families on the Saturday afternoon there was an emphasis on children's entertainment, magicians and face painting to please not just the smaller ones but adults too. Those wishing to remain reflective could also enjoy watching a sedate game of cricket on the adjoining site on Saturday afternoon or a rather more energetic rugby sevens competition on the first team pitch. The aim of the Festival is simple – to make sure that everyone who comes has a really great time!

The event is a joint venture between Tynedale Lions Club based in Hexham and Tynedale Rugby Football Club and has grown steadily since it first began in 2002. The Festivals have now raised over £450,000 along the way and 2015 was, as anticipated, a record-breaking year with the biggest attendance ever. The Festival is, however just one of Tynedale Lions Club's fund raising activities. Every penny of profit from the Festival goes to benefit charities and projects in the local area and further afield. The Club members really do enjoy the Festival as much as the visitors do as they join force to raise funds for charitable purposes and good causes in general. Much more information about Tynedale Lions Club can be found on their website [www.tynedalelionsclub.org](http://www.tynedalelionsclub.org)

Many will know that late in 2015 Tynedale Rugby Club was seriously flooded. Almost six inches of rain fell over the River South Tyne catchment on December 5th as Storm Desmond struck following a very wet November. This was the most devastating flood event in living memory and statistics released subsequently by the Environment Agency indicated that this was indeed the most catastrophic flooding incident since The Great Flood of 1771 which affected the whole of the North-East. At Corbridge river levels reached 5.76m (19 feet), the highest recorded by the EA at

Corbridge since meters were installed there in 1996. It is no surprise therefore that with the whole of the Rugby Club area submerged for 48 hours that much of the Beer Festival equipment which was stored there had to be scrapped. The Beer Festival Committee is, however, undertaking an ambitious programme to build new bars and to purchase new beer pumps, coolers and ancillary equipment as required. Although the Rugby Clubhouse will remain out of bounds for this year's event, a bigger than ever marquee will ensure that there will be plenty of room for everyone.

The 2016 Beer Festival will be ready in June and will be bigger and better than ever. The Beer festival achieves so much with the support of its

sponsors and many visitors alike. The named charities which will benefit this year are Northumberland County Blind Association, St Oswald's Hospice and Northumbria Blood Bikes.

You can learn much more about the 2016 Festival at: [www.tynedalebeerfestival.org.uk](http://www.tynedalebeerfestival.org.uk) which includes directions on how to get there, many images plus a video. Please support the Beer Festival. Come along and join in the fun. Once again visitors can take the opportunity to use the Festival as a camping, caravan or motorhome base from which to explore the attractions of Northumberland. Tickets for the Festival can be purchased in advance online or at Corbridge or Hexham Tourist Information Offices.





# Clevedon Classic Vehicle Event

On Sunday 24th April 2016, Clevedon Lions held their first Annual Classic Vehicle Event where 160 cars and bikes were took part. The event had previously been organised by Brian and Mary Curtis from Street, Somerset who decided to retired having previously raised £45,000 for the Children's Hospice SW.

The event was opened by Alex Lovell, a presenter from BBC Points West, with the cars having been on public display at Cadbury Garden Centre, Congresbury, Bristol all morning. Alex waved off all the cars and spoke to all the drivers. At lunchtime the cars took a 28 mile route through the

North Somerset countryside, passing by bluebell woods and the Bristol Channel coast, to Clevedon for a further public display where the sea front site was heaving with local people viewing the superbly restored and maintained cars. Local publicity and social media promotion certainly helped draw the crowds!

With such a large public audience expected, the event programme included details of Lions activities and invited interested people to come to an informal meeting regarding membership. Club PRO, Peter Marlow said, "This was too good an opportunity to spread the word about

Lionism and encourage people to find out more and get involved."

The raffle with a Balloon ride and Bath Rugby Club tickets as prizes proved very popular, raising £3,500 which will benefit Lions charities as well as the Children's Hospice and Great Western Air Ambulance.

With such a resounding success, where members of other Lions Clubs brought along their cars, the event will be a firm commitment in the Clevedon Lions Club calendar. The feedback from both owners and drivers has been excellent – they are already looking forward to 2017!







**PICTURED:** Lions members with Alex Lovell (BBC Points West) waving off the first car, owned by Lion Ian Boyd





# A Night of Fashion



Carrickmacross Lions Club go back to basics for fundraising by exploring tried and tested events of the past. The Club's calendar this year consisted of many interesting events including Fashion nights, Music Recitals, BBQ and a fun sports day including a traditional coconut shy, pie eating contest and sack races.

These events are altogether a bit retro and will attract more parents and grandparents for nostalgic reasons. With parents and grandparents come children who will just love these activities, they won't even notice that there is no screen to swipe or buttons to press!

The Club hosted their first ever Night of Fashion on 15th April 2016 at the Nuremore Hotel & Country Club. There had not been an event of this size or elegance for many years in the area. With such a fantastic location, the Club had an amazing space to work with. The Lions Club teamed up with eight local businesses in the area to create a





catwalk show of designer fashions from casual to formal wear. There was also a competition on the night for the best dressed lady and gent which attracted a crowd of fashionably dressed visitors from all over. The Club also contacted two well-known milliners in Co. Monaghan who also took part in the Catwalk show. With a fully seated and packed ballroom their fashion night was a great success. Local retailers sold out on certain lines over the week following the event which was very encouraging as it means the Club can start planning next year's event!

The funds raised from the Fashion night went towards the Alzheimer's Patient Transport, a weekly service for Alzheimer's patients the Club's our local area. The Autism Assistance Dog fund was also topped up from the Fashion night. Each dog costs €15,000: their first assistance dog VIVA is currently in training and they are on track to purchase a second dog for a Child with autism in the Carrickmacross area. A donation was also made from Carrickmacross Lions Club to the local association of Cystic Fibrosis which many people in Co. Monaghan benefit from.

President Ann Brennan encouraged the audience to donate and spoke about where every cent goes when they support Carrickmacross Lions.





# MD105 CONVENTION 2016



## 7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> May 2016, what a beautiful weekend in Eastbourne, and what splendid weather!

The weekend started with a bang with the London themed host night. Lions enjoyed an evening of good food and a bit of "banter" from Gordon Bennet, the international cockney entertainer who led them through the night's theme of "London through the ages". The Lions' costumes were terrific!

The next morning marked the beginning of the Convention. After receiving PID's Phil Nathan and Howard Lee, and as the Mayor of Eastbourne, Councillor Janet Coles. The national anthems were sung with gusto and the ceremony of the flags commenced. Once the flags had been handed to the stage party we were welcomed by Chairman of Council, Simon Moss. The Candle of Peace was lit and followed by a moving service of remembrance with invocation. Unfortunately, International President Yamada was unable to attend our Convention due to a clashing of schedules, however he promises to visit next year as LCIF Chairperson. The Convention was then officially opened by the Mayor of Eastbourne.

After the initial declaration of convention procedures (be polite and Council Chairman has final say) we moved onto the endorsement of candidate PID Phil Nathan for the office of 3rd International Vice President. Lions voted and the result was in Phil's favour, with 367 in favour 76 against and 1 ballot was spoilt.

After the formalities of the Minutes from the 64th convention being received and signed, the agenda moved onto the topic of MD105 Structure and Governance including redistricting. A presentation was given by DG Paul Stafford and David Wells explaining the proposed resolutions which then opened up the debate.

## RESOLUTION 7: RESTRUCTURING AND REDISTRICTING

Some of the questions asked and statements made in the debate by Lions are as follows:

- Why has it taken so long to re-structure? **District E**
- With the reduction in officers and the reliance on the internet and Skype, how can you guarantee people living in the sticks will get the connection and receive all the information they need? **District BN**
- Communication needs to be improved, there needs to be consultation between Council, districts and clubs. **District 105C**
- Why reduce the number of MD officers and give more work to co-ordinators? How many elected District Governors are elected unopposed, more people need to stand and become candidates. Redistricting is in favour of this. **District SE**
- What will be the cost of re-branding to each Club? Logos, banners and more will need to change. **District 105D**
- Redistricting can't come soon enough. We should change from a position of strength, not necessity. District costs have been increasing, 40% of District Officers will not have jobs if we redistrict, each area will need a structure. It has also been felt that there is a geographic apartheid between Scottish Lions and English lions. Scotland does not have a District Cabinet and it is felt that this is again the principles of Lionism. In our district our District Governors have to travel anyway. One of their twinned clubs in Africa are part of a district that covers Ethiopia and Uganda. **District NE**
- Members have not been consulted properly, the costings and details have not been said in person or print or in enough time. Cost of re-branding comes at £35,000 per district, far greater than the saving of £12,500 from district. It was also said that the procedure had been rushed, only 3 weeks' notice were given to debate it. There was a lack of support to get financial information. Due diligence should be allowed for people to



understand and have their say. Another member claimed that delaying the decision will only add cost. And will there be a better resolution? **District EA**

- The proposals present two problems; separation and distance. Travelling the distance from one end of the District to the other will incur a huge financial cost. We should be celebrating and getting new members, not adding more problems. We should be focussing on meaningful recruitment programmes. **District 105C**
- Communication has been poor and it will be unfair for incoming District Governors. It's not all about money, 8 districts would be okay. Redistricting needs to happen but done in the right way. **District 105SW**
- We have to modernise. We need to spend money on a marketing manager, no-one knows who Lions are! **District 105M**
- Regarding the extra distance, we are lucky to have districts that are so small compared to other countries, America for example. We will keep and make new friends redistricting, it is a chance to build strength. Redistricting has been in the pipeline for years, be as brave as this year's council and vote for restructure. **District 105A**
- Is this not the old guard looking after their own jobs? We need to change to get new, younger members. **District 105M**
- How can we serve all clubs if we are hundreds of miles away? There needs to be a focus on using IT correctly first. As districts get bigger they will need to get smarter. **Incoming DG, District 105C**
- Each Lion wants their own option. There will never been an ideal solution, thus there needs to be a compromise. M, for example, is being split in three directions. The districts are but a line on a map. We are Lions first and foremost, not a district. **District 105M**
- What are districts for? To help clubs and Lions. The previous organisation has failed to find new members, new clubs, retain members and to guide clubs with change. **District 105W**
- Many of the resolutions proposed by Lions members/ clubs were rejected constitutionally as they failed to meet the standard; accurate financial information wasn't provided or evidence and supporting material was

needed. There was not enough time to go back to the Clubs to tell them why. **Council Chairman, Simon Moss. District 105E** disagreed with this statement and stated that the constitutional route wasn't followed and that guidelines need to be given as to how and what to propose. CC Simon Moss rejects that the proposed resolutions were rejected because they didn't want to be debated. He agrees the process could be improved.

Please note that these are just a few of the remarks made during the debate, there are, of course, more. I must also state that these remarks are of individual Lions and not of the magazine.

The consensus was change is needed, but many Lions felt that the whole membership hadn't been consulted and a suitable resolution hadn't been proposed. Thus, the emergency resolution was passed and a decision will be made at next year's convention in Blackpool.

If you do wish to voice your opinion on the matter please visit the Lions member forum at [www.lionsclubs.co/forum](http://www.lionsclubs.co/forum)

## RESOLUTION 6: IRELAND TO LEAVE MD105

As much as it is sad to lose Ireland, it is what they want. Lions agreed they would support Ireland and let this happen amicably, rather than let it go to the International Board. The result of the vote is as follows: 380 were in favour of the Resolution, 30 against and 2 spoilt ballots.

Other topics on the agenda included updated from the various officers and their portfolios; one to note was the call of action from Ian Gott to encourage clubs to increase the amount of effort they put into their own PR, such as contacting the local press with stories. Another topic was whether clubs should be registered as charities. The answer is yes. The Charity Commission is a regulatory body but is becoming more intrusive with audit and inspections. Its focus has turned to Lions Clubs as collectively we are raising £7.3 million a year! If your club is not and you require support, please contact Charities Treasurer Tom Berry at [charitiestreasurer@lionsclub.co](mailto:charitiestreasurer@lionsclub.co)

Following suit from the banquet and ball the night before, Sunday was a much more light-hearted affair. We celebrated our plans for the centennial as guided by Phil Nathan, please see the table that shows our targets and where we are currently. There really is something there for every Club and every member, regardless of size or





» experience. Every idea has been picked up by one of the District Officers to work on, develop plans and run with until the end of 2017. Don't forget to register your service on MYLCI so it can be recorded!

After this presentation, there was a very jovial, but informative presentation on prostate cancer from retired Consultant Urologist Mr David Baxter-Smith. He explained the symptoms (he always carries a walnut on his travels!), treatment and most importantly how invaluable prostate screenings are in stopping over 10,000 men a year from dying from the disease. Lion John Mack, from the Reading Lions Club then explained how a Club can go about organizing a screening for their community. If your club is interested in running a screening you can read about Windor Lions Club's experience on page 53.

This was followed by an international perspective by PID Howard Lee, a presentation from our Young Ambassador 2016, Gurleen, the announcement of the winner of the Peace Poster Competition, as well as the Bert Mason Memorial Trophy that was awarded to Corinne Ashburner from District NE, which was accepted by DG David Wells on her absence.

We then welcomed in the new District Governors to the sounds of many whistles, horns and party poppers! What a fabulous display of comradery and support from everyone! The incoming District Governor's photographs and biographies will be available in the next issue of LION for your perusal.

The Council Chairman Elect, Heather Jeavons, then addressed the audience and spoke about her plans for the upcoming year which you will be able to read in the following issue of LION. Following this several presentations were made: the MD Travelling Lion Trophy was awarded to Babbacombe Lions Club, the Scrap Book Competition was awarded to Bletchley, Milton Keynes Lions Club and the Environmental Photography Competition was won by Lion Brian Winter from Yeo Valley Lions Club.

Before the Convention closed, international certificates of appreciation were awarded to: Brigitte Green, John Kyte, Linda Picton and Tom Berry. Leadership medals were awarded to Ian Gott and Mandy Broadbent and the International President's Award was given to Chris Bryant and Simon Moss.

**Next year's convention will be held in Blackpool at Norbreck Castle.**

Centennial Programme	Target	Current
Measles vaccinations	100,000	63,000
Hearing Dogs	14	2
Clear Paths (miles)	100	41
Prostate Screening	100,000	
Diabetic Screening	100,000	15,000
Contact with the Elderly	100,000	tba
Endangered species – Sea Lions ( The Deep )		
Household batteries	1,000,000	167,000
Donation or Transport of pints of Blood / Plasma	100,000	2,500
Planting trees	100,000	2,000
YLis hours	100,000	114,293
LEHP Sight Referrals	100,000	Programme currently being revamped – information to come
Hearing Aids	10,000	13,739
Spectacles	1,000,000	543,670
Swim lengths (50 metres)	100,000	6,643
Hunger (feed people)	100,000	5,000
MJFs to the community	1000	369
BMHAs	100	5
Message in a Bottle	1,000,000	378,280
Diabetes Journey Mile	100,000 or 1000?	332
Bulb Plants Seeds	100,000	3,510,000

**CONVENTION ATTENDANCE FIGURES**

Delegates: 460 • Alternatives: 42 • Other: 104 • Clubs: 261



# The Diamond Challenge

## My Fellow Lions

Some months ago, I was asked by The Duke of Edinburgh's Award to take up a challenge in celebration of its 60th Anniversary. I have personally witnessed the incredible impact the Award has on every young life it touches, so I had no hesitation in agreeing to play my part.

In fitting with the ethos of The Diamond Challenge, it had to be something outside my comfort zone and challenging enough to require a high level of personal commitment. Cycling is something I only tend to do occasionally and it is something I've always found to be one of the more testing forms of exercise physically and mentally, so cycling it had to be!

As you may already know, in September this year I shall be cycling 445 miles from the Palace of Holyroodhouse in Edinburgh to Buckingham Palace.

I am training hard and getting to grips with the kit, the fitness level, the seat(!), the aching shoulders, wrists and legs, the terrifying roads, the hills and worst of all the cleats! The training is hard work but I am determined to be fit enough to complete my journey.

I believe every young person should be given the chance to take up The Duke of Edinburgh's Award. It offers each participant the chance to realise their potential regardless of their background, ability or culture, and in many cases it turns lives around for the better.

By doing this bike ride, I hope I will not only help the charity achieve their Diamond Challenge goals, but may also inspire others to complete their own challenge, no matter how big or small. I know that Lions all over the UK are so supportive of so many charitable efforts themselves and I am always so proud of my association with them.

If you think you could do something for The Duke of Edinburgh's Award this year, you will be helping thousands of young people all over the country.

Thank you for your kind support.



*HRH The Countess of Wessex GCVO*

Patron, Lions Clubs International in the British Isles and Ireland

To support The Countess of Wessex on her Diamond Challenge you can send a cheque to your District Treasurer. Please write 'Diamond Challenge – The Duke of Edinburgh's Award' on the reverse. Alternatively please visit The Countess' JustGiving page -

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Countess-of-Wessex>

For more information on the Diamond Challenge please visit the following: [www.dofediamondchallenge.org](http://www.dofediamondchallenge.org)



PHOTOGRAPHS BY: CORPORAL JONATHAN VAN ZYL RLC,  
ARMY MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS



# Lions Club International, MD105 and the British Royal Family

This year marks Her Majesty The Queen's 90th birthday. As such, it's fitting that we looked at our relationship with the royal family. As many Lions will know, it was thanks to the support of the Canadian Lions and the intervention of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth, (the Queen Mother) that the first Lions club in London was founded in 1950.

The Queen Mother is acknowledged as the catalyst for the introduction of Lions Clubs into the British Isles. During the war, many Canadian servicemen visiting London were appalled by the way the children of the Blitz lived, with poor food, few clothes, frequent danger, mothers serving in the factories and fathers fighting overseas and so many homes destroyed. Some of these Canadians were members of Lions Clubs and they decided they wanted to help.

Funds were raised in Canada and at first it was thought that the money would be distributed by British Lions Clubs, but there weren't any! The Queen Mother at the time the patron of the Church of England's Children's Society and arranged for the Society to distribute the funds on behalf of the Canadian Lions.

As a result of the invaluable support that the Canadian Lions has provided for children orphaned by the Second World War, the Queen Mother sent her equerry Colonel Edward Wyndham (later Lord Leconfield) to Canada to thank them. Whilst he was there, he asked if there was anything he could do in return, to which he was invited to visit the Chicago Headquarters of Lions Clubs International; they wanted Lord Leconfield to see what Lionism meant. He was so impressed, that shortly after his return, he got together with a group of professional and business men and formed the first Lions Club known as the 'Host Club' in London, which was kindly



**PICTURED: HRH Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother**

sponsored by the Windsor (Ontario) Lions Club. The rest is history!

Today, HRH The Countess of Wessex is a member of the Wokingham Lions Club and Royal Patron of the Lions Clubs of the British Isles. The support of the Countess has included carrying out the opening ceremony for the Lions shelter at the National Memorial Arboretum.

In 2015, LCI joined with The Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Trust with the aim to eliminate blinding trachoma in two Commonwealth countries in Africa. LCIF has a long history of working in blindness

Lions Clubs in Ireland have long received the backing of the country's President, most notably at Eric's Party in Dublin, which first began in 1962 and is now attended by over 500 homeless people. President Michael D. Higgins and his predecessor, President Mary McAleese, have both been a proud Guest of Honour at the event.

prevention and shares the Trust's vision of a world free from blinding trachoma.

LCIF has provided US\$2 million in grants to the Trust and is considering a request for a similar or greater level of funding in the future to support the delivery of sight-saving and pain-relieving surgery to people with advanced stages of the condition, known as trichiasis, in Uganda and Kenya.

Between 2014 and 2019, the Trust's Trachoma Initiative plans to fully eliminate blinding trachoma in Kenya and Malawi and make significant advances towards elimination in Mozambique, Nigeria, Uganda and Tanzania. It will also tackle the disease in other Commonwealth countries in the Pacific and in Australia.

Dr Astrid Bonfield, Chief Executive of the Trust said, "I am delighted that Lions Clubs International Foundation has joined forces with The Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Trust to eliminate the world's leading infectious cause of blindness. LCIF has decades-worth of experience in blindness prevention and their community has made extraordinary progress in bringing sight to many millions of people around the world. The collaborative spirit of LCIF and the unfaltering dedication of its members is an inspiration to the Trust's work across the Commonwealth. Thanks to the generosity of LCIF, this partnership will save the sight of some of the world's poorest people, leaving a lasting legacy in honour of Her Majesty The Queen."

Today we celebrate 66 years of Lionism within the British Isles. Although the needs of the community have changed since the Blitz, the Motto 'WE SERVE' holds as true today as it did then.





# London Marathon 2017

Could you run for the Lions Centennial Team with a guaranteed place in the 2017 London Marathon?

Lions Clubs are seeking runners for the 2017 London Marathon that are company sponsored or can raise as individuals £2,500 (minimum) plus Gift Aid.

All monies raised through Chester Lions Club Gold Bond places in the London Marathon will be donated to Blind Veterans UK Llandudno Centre in providing new rehabilitation facilities to enable those with sight loss to live an independent life.

For almost 100 years, sight has been the most important single issue for Lions Clubs International who help to run eye clinics, eradicate preventable causes of blindness and collect spectacles for recycling.

If you're interested in running, please contact Evan Jones on **0845 833 5067** or [e.w.m.j@btinternet.com](mailto:e.w.m.j@btinternet.com)

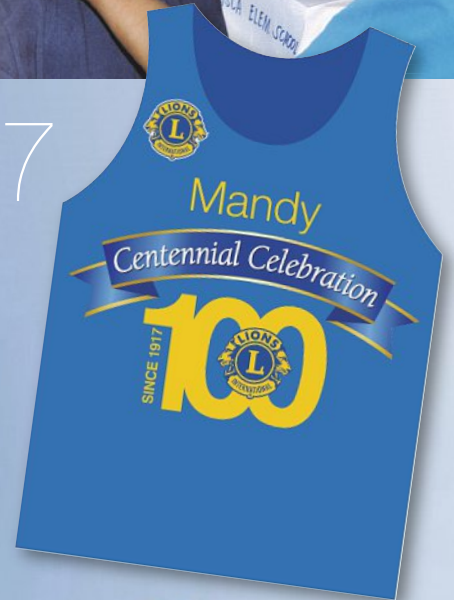


Photo credit: Evening Standard





# Lions Environmental Photo Contest

The Lions Environmental Photo Contest provides a way for Lions to portray, through an original photo either black and white or colour showing their pride and commitment to improving, protecting and preserving the environment. Every Lion from a Club in good standing can enter a photograph.

The photo must be taken within MD105 and therefore show immediate surroundings without people.

To learn more about the Environmental Photo Contest, or to submit and entry please contact:

## Lions Clubs International

257 Alcester Road South,  
Kings Heath,  
Birmingham B14 6DT

**0121 441 4544**

Email: [mdhq@lionsclubs.co](mailto:mdhq@lionsclubs.co)

## CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES 20<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2017

*Judging takes place at the COG meeting at the end of January 2017*

## ENTRY GUIDELINES

This year's Lions Environmental Photo Contest includes the following five categories:

- Animal life
- Plant life
- Urban or natural landscape
- Weather phenomenon
- Special theme: Dignity, harmony, humanity-celebrating the peaceful coexistence of species.

### Photo size 8"x10" (20.3 x 25.4 cm)

The contest begins at the Club level and winning photographs will advance to the District, Multiple District, and International Competitions.

Winning District photos must reach MDHQ by the time of January council so that the Governors can choose the overall winner. The chosen photo will be sent to Lions Clubs International HQ and will be displayed at the International Convention where registered attendees will vote for their favourite in each category, as well as their overall favourite

photograph. The six photos will appear on the contest winners' page and the Lions photographers will receive an award.

Lions from clubs in good standing can enter an original, unaltered, black-and-white or color photo (without people) of the environment of their Lions Club.

The impartial judging of photos should focus on originality, artistic merit, and portrayal of the environmental theme.

- LIONS CLUBS select and submit one winning photo and send it to their District and after judging one photo can be forwarded to MDHQ.
- LIONS DISTRICTS select and submit one winning photo to MDHQ by January 15, 2016 is the suggested deadline for Districts to submit one 8" x 10" (20.3 x 25.4 cm) printed photo to the Multiple District.
- MDHQ will organise the judging and select and submit one winning photo to the International Contest.

Lion photographers accept responsibility for the cost of taking and processing all photos. Contest photos become the property of Lions Clubs International. Lions Clubs International reserves the right to disqualify entries that do not meet contest criteria or that may be viewed as inappropriate or objectionable.

E-mail contest questions to:

[mdhq@lionsclubs.co](mailto:mdhq@lionsclubs.co)

All photographs must be taken within the geographical area of MD105 i.e. in Ireland, Wales, Scotland, England.





*Winner of the Lions  
Environmental Photo Contest  
2016, Lion Brian Winter of  
Yeo Valley LC MD 105-SW*



THERE WILL BE A DESK CALENDAR AVAILABLE FROM JULY 1ST SHOWING A VARIETY OF MD105 PHOTOGRAPHS THAT YOU CAN PURCHASE FROM MDHQ.

# Photography Tours in the Beautiful Adriatic

**Duration:** 6 Nights • **Location:** Dubrovnik, Croatia • **Price:** £850



ADRIATIC IMAGES

The Dubrovnik region, with the crystal clear Adriatic Sea, stunning mountains and breath-taking historic monuments, is a photographers' dream and on this photography experience in Dubrovnik, whether you are a passionate beginner, have a camera complex or you're an old hand, the photography team will design a tailor-made experience that will leave your memory card crying for more.

Take full advantage of the outstanding Dubrovnik region and learn to capture stunning images of Mediterranean sunsets, beautiful landscapes, night-time scenes in the medieval city and so much more. Take your passion for photography to another level and make your own unforgettable memories!

The Adriatic Images photography experience includes visits to the glorious Trsteno Arboretum, where you will have the chance to photograph a wide variety of flora from all over the world. Also trips to the Elaphiti Islands and the Hills of Orasac where you will have the opportunity to experience panoramas and natural beauty photography, as well as a visit to the historic Old City of Dubrovnik for vibrant night scenes.

From a point and shoot to a professional DSLR, our aim is it to teach you how to get the best from your camera. All you need are batteries, memory cards and an enthusiasm to learn.

We don't have a minimum spec for the type of camera on our photography tours as we want you to learn with the camera you have.

One-on-one private bespoke packages are available.

If you've ever thought to yourself – "I wish I could take better photos" then join the Adriatic Images experience in Croatia to learn all the skills in the Pearl of the Adriatic – Dubrovnik.

**BOOK YOUR EXPERIENCE**  
**[www.adriaticimages.com](http://www.adriaticimages.com)**





Image courtesy of

“If you want to see  
paradise on earth,  
come to Dubrovnik”  
**George Bernard  
Shaw**





# JUNE 2016 VP CANDIDATES

## Candidates for Second and Third Vice President

As of press time, there were three candidates for the office of second vice president and six for third vice president. The election is scheduled for June 28 at the 99th International Convention in Fukuoka, Japan.

### Second Vice President Candidates

#### SALIM MOUSSAN

Salim Moussan of Beirut, Lebanon, served as an international director from 1997 to 1999. A member of the Beirut St. Gabriel Lions Club, he has twice been a board appointee and group leader and has chaired several leadership forums. He is fluent in three languages, has visited 91 countries and has attended 27 consecutive international conventions, 62 area forums and more than 40 regional conferences.



#### WALTER R. "BUD" WAHL

Walter R. "Bud" Wahl of Streator, Illinois, served as an international director from 2003 to 2005. A retired risk manager and foundation coordinator in the health care field, he is a charter member of the Streator Hardscrabble Lions Club. A Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, Wahl is also active in many professional and community organizations. He has served as chairperson of the 2011 USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum, as a national coordinator for Campaign SightFirst, as chairperson of the 2012 Elections Committee and has been a presenter at LCI national and international seminars.



#### GUDRUN BJORT YNGVADOTTIR

Gudrun Bjort Yngvadottir of Gardabaer, Iceland, served on the international board of directors from 2010 to 2012. A member of the Gardabaejar Eik Lions Club, she is the vice director of the Institute of Continuing Education at the University of Iceland and has served as a faculty member and presenter at many Lions Leadership Institutes and international conventions. A Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, she is active in several community and professional organizations and has received many LCI awards.



### Third Vice President Candidates

#### JUNG-YUL CHOI

Jung-Yul Choi of Busan, Republic of Korea, served as an international director from 1996 to 1998. The president of a real estate company, he has been a member of the Busan Jaeil Lions Club since 1977 and was host committee chairperson of the 95th International Convention and chairperson of the 39th OSEAL Forum. He is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow with a humanitarian partnership and the recipient of the Ambassador of Good Will Award and has been a director of the Busan Sports Association and vice chairperson of the Dong-A University Alumni Association.



#### STEVEN D. SHERER

Steven D. Sherer of New Philadelphia, Ohio, has been a member of the Dover Lions Club since 1980. A licensed public accountant and retired finance officer/CFO of New Philadelphia Public Schools, he is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow and has received numerous Lions and professional accolades. Sherer served as an international director from 2006 to 2008, was a GMT area coordinator for four years and currently serves on the LCIF Quest Advisory Committee.



#### CAROLYN A. MESSIER

Carolyn A. Messier of Windsor Locks, Connecticut, served as an international director from 2011 to 2013 and a board appointee from 2014 to 2015. She is the retired executive director of the Lions Low Vision Centers and a low vision therapist who joined the Windsor Locks Lions Club in 1990. A Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, she has presented or moderated at six USA/Canada forums, is active in the New England Lions Council and is the recipient of the Ambassador of Goodwill Award as well as numerous other professional and LCI recognitions.



#### PATRICIA 'PATTI' HILL

Patti Hill of Edmonton, Canada, is a psychologist and a member of the Edmonton Host Lions Club. An international director from 2007 to 2009, she has been a committee member of the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum, a multinational coordinator for Campaign SightFirst II, a past director of the Lions Eye Research Institute of Northern Alberta and a presenter at multiple forums and conventions. A Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow and GLT Constitutional Area 2 Leader, Hill received the Inspiring Woman Award and is active in many professional and community organizations.



#### FABRÍCIO OLIVEIRA

Fabrício Oliveira of Catolé do Rocha, Brazil, served as an international director from 2006 to 2008. He is a businessman and business administrator, and has been a member of the Catolé do Rocha Lions Club since 1985. He is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow and has received the Global Vision Medal Award, the Ambassador of Good Will Award and 10 International President's Awards. Twice a District Governors-Elect seminar group leader, Oliveira is also active in many professional and community organizations.



#### ROSANE TERESINHA JAHNKE

Rosane Teresinha Jahnke served on the international board of directors from 2008 to 2010. A member of the Jaraguá do Sol Lions Club in Brazil, she was a teacher and is a lawyer. A Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow and a Helen Keller Knight of Sight recipient, she has participated in 18 international conventions and 13 FOLAC forums. Active in many community and professional groups, Jahnke promotes the rights of children with special needs and cancer prevention awareness.



# LION



## BRITISH & IRISH EDITION

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### EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

President Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada, Minokamo-shi, Gifu-ken, Japan; Immediate Past President Joseph Preston, Dewey, Arizona, United States; First Vice President Robert E. Corlew, Milton, Tennessee, United States; Second Vice President Naresh Aggarwal, Delhi, India. Contact the officers at Lions Clubs International, 300 W 22nd St., Oak Brook, Illinois, 60523-8842, USA.

### DIRECTORS

Second year directors Svein Øystein Berntsen, Hetlevik, Norway; Jorge Andrés Bortolozzi, Coronda, Argentina; Eric R. Carter, Auckland, New Zealand; Charlie Chan, Singapore, Singapore; Jack Epperson, Nevada, United States; Edward Farrington, New Hampshire, United States; Karla N. Harris, Wisconsin, United States; Robert S. Littlefield, Minnesota, United States; Ratnaswamy Murugan, Kerala, India; Yoshinori Nishikawa, Himeji, Hyogo, Japan; George Th. Papas, Limassol, Cyprus; Jouko Ruissalo, Helsinki, Finland; N. S. Sankar, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India; A. D. Don Shove, Washington, United States; Kembra L. Smith, Georgia, United States; Dr. Joong-Ho Son, Daejeon, Republic of Korea; Linda L. Tincher, Indiana, United States.

### FIRST YEAR DIRECTORS

Melvin K. Bray, New Jersey, United States; Pierre H. Chatel, Montpellier, France; Eun-Seouk Chung, Gyeonggi-do, Korea; Gurcharan Singh Hora, Siliguri, India; Howard Hudson, California, United States; Sanjay Khetan, Birganj, Nepal; Robert M. Libin, New York, United States; Richard Liebno, Maryland, United States; Helmut Marhauer, Hildesheim, Germany; Bill Phillip, Kansas, United States; Lewis Quinn, Alaska, United States; Yoshiyuki Sato, Oita, Japan; Gabriele Sabatosanti Scarpelli, Genova, Italy; Jerome Thompson, Alabama, United States; Ramiro Vela Villarreal, Nuevo León, Mexico; Roderick "Rod" Wright, New Brunswick, Canada; Katsuyuki Yasui, Hokkaido, Japan.

# CONVENTION CALLING



In compliance with Article VI, Section 2 of the International By-Laws, I hereby issue the Official Call for the 2016 International Convention. Our 99th International Convention will be held in Fukuoka, Japan. It begins at 10 o'clock June 24 and ends June 28. The purpose of the convention is to elect a president, a first, second and third vice president and 17 members of the International Board of Directors and to transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Fukuoka is a charming, graceful city that marvelously balances the old and new. Fukuoka is the home of the oldest Zen temple in Japan yet it is celebrated for its cutting-edge gourmet food. This city has an abundance of fresh seafood, traditional festivals and the most yatai (street food stalls) in all of Japan. Historically, it is the merging of two cities: the picturesque castle town of Fukuoka and the bustling port city of Hakata.

The five days will feature inspiring speakers, world-class entertainers and native music, dance and food. Lions also will enjoy convention traditions such as the grand parade, the swearing-in of the new international president and three plenary sessions that demonstrate the amazing range and scope of Lions' service. Kailash Satyarthi of India, a human rights activist and the 2014 Nobel Peace Prize winner, will give the keynote address. Doctors Without Borders will receive the 2016 Lions Humanitarian Award. Another highlight is the announcement of the Peace Poster and Essay Contest winners.

Convention Week is a wonderful, remarkable experience packed with fellowship, fun and learning. The Lions of Japan will embrace visitors with omotenashi, the spirit of hospitality. I strongly encourage Lions to strengthen their commitment to Bring Dignity to Others by joining tens of thousands of your fellow Lions in Fukuoka.

Signed by me in Oak Brook, Illinois, United States of America, this 2nd day of May 2016.

Warmest regards,

**Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada**  
Lions Clubs International President





# The Ivan Holmes Community Award Presentation

The first annual Ivan Holmes Community Award was presented to Christine Pinsent by Mandy Holmes at the Beccles and District Lions Club Charter Dinner. This award is in memory of the late Lion Ivan Holmes MJF, who was a member of Beccles and District Lions Club for over 35 years and the majority of that time he was the Club's secretary.

Throughout that time Ivan was also an ever present figure within the Beccles Community, and, through this award it is hoped to recognise those people who, like Ivan, tirelessly serve their community helping to improve the lives of others.

Lion President Keith Moore said "Lion Ivan was an inspiration to lots of people and we as a Club know there are others doing the same good work within the community, so we see this award as our way of acknowledging these individuals and we are very honoured that Mandy is with us tonight to present this first annual award to Christine Pinsent."

Before presenting the award to Christine, Mandy said: "The intention of this award is to act as an

inspirational and motivational legacy, to continue Ivan's good work. I know the Club received lots of nominations, and one nominee stood out amongst them all, and that was Christine. I know Ivan and Christine had been involved with many projects in Beccles over the years and I feel it would be safe to say that at times they tried each other's patience and yet, through the true community spirit, it all came together at the right time and I do feel the local community benefited from it. I would also like to acknowledge and thank every other nominee for their tireless work, within the local area, which of course is all voluntary. So to all the volunteers, whether clubs, societies or individuals, that help to improve our community - thank you."

In response Christine said: "Mandy, I would like to thank, Beccles Lions Club for this lovely award. It is completely unexpected. I know Ivan and myself have occasionally not seen eye to eye over things when planning the next project, although in the end it always seemed to come together and was a success. I feel very honoured and moved by this

award, because Ivan was such a presence within the community and to even be considered for the award is an honour let alone receive it. It's very encouraging to see so many people doing so much for the community, long may it continue. I will treasure this award, thank you."

Christine Pinsent is a member of the Beccles Business Association and a keen supporter of the Beccles Lions Club. Together they have organised the Christmas Lights and Switch On each year in Beccles. Christine has also organised the Annual Beccles Antique Market and been involved with the annual Beccles Food and Drinks Festival. She is a key person in the Beccles Regeneration Programme, through her efforts and encouragement to businesses funding was obtained from Jewson, the Builders Merchants, through their national funding scheme to help local areas with large projects. The programme for Beccles meant the development and transformation of the railway station at Beccles into a community hub for people to meet and for small businesses to use. Equally Christine has raised monies for local groups within the town too. One being the May Centre, which allows elderly people to get together on a regular basis and just chat with tea and biscuits. Anywhere, or anyone, in Beccles that is seeking help and support, Christine will be aware of and doing her best to try provide that help and support to them.

Mr Peter Aldous, their MP said: "I can only echo everything that has been said tonight and I know from speaking to people just how much Ivan was appreciated within the community and this award is a fitting tribute not only to him, but to the Beccles Lions Club and equally Christine is a worthy recipient."



**PICTURED:** L to R: Christine Pinsent, Lion President Keith Moore, Peter Aldous MP and Mandy Holmes.



# OFFICIAL NOTICE

2016 International Convention, Fukuoka, Japan



**ITEM 1:** A RESOLUTION TO REMOVE THE PROVISION RELATED TO THE EMERGENCY RESERVE FUND TO ALLOW FOR MORE FLEXIBILITY IN FUNDING PROGRAMS AND SERVICES. *(THIS AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION REQUIRES A 2/3 VOTE TO ADOPT)*

SHALL THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION BE ADOPTED?

BE IT RESOLVED, That, effective beginning with the 2016-2017 year, Article IX of the International Constitution shall be deleted in its entirety and the remaining Articles renumbered accordingly.

**ITEM 2:** A RESOLUTION TO REVISE THE DESIGNATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS. *(THIS AMENDMENT TO THE BY-LAWS REQUIRES A MAJORITY VOTE TO ADOPT)*

SHALL THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION BE ADOPTED?

BE IT RESOLVED, That, effective beginning with the 2016-2017 year, Article III, Section 3 of the International By-Laws shall be amended by deleting the phrase "senior executive administrator and/or executive administrator, treasurer and secretary, and such other" and replacing it with the term "administrative".

**ITEM 3:** A RESOLUTION TO RENAME THE PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE TO THE MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE. *(THIS AMENDMENT TO THE BY-LAWS REQUIRES A MAJORITY VOTE TO ADOPT)*

SHALL THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION BE ADOPTED?

BE IT RESOLVED, That Article IV, Section 1(i) of the International By-Laws shall be amended by deleting the phrase "Public Relations" and replacing it with the phrase "Marketing Communications".

## Joining with Gibraltar

On Wednesday 27th April 2016, the Lions Club of Launceston and the Lions club of Gibraltar formalised their Club Twinning agreement. Lions Christine and Peter Rowe travelled out to Gibraltar to represent the Lions Club of Launceston and were very warmly received by members of the Club.

The ceremony was sealed by the signing of the Twinning document. The Lions Club of Gibraltar, presented the Launceston Club with a crystal Rock of Gibraltar (handmade on the Rock by Gibraltar Crystal) mounted and engraved.



**PICTURED:** Lion Christine Rowe is pictured with Lion President Pepe Palmero





# Lions Give Youth a Sportin



## WORLD SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL GAMES 2016

A vital grant of £1,000 from the Kenilworth Lions Club helped send the Kenilworth School Young Sports Leaders Team to the World Schools Education Games in Athens in April

2016. The team of four boys and four girls was selected last November to represent England at the Games, organised by the International School Sport Federation. Their England kit they wore during the Games also prominently featured the Lions logo.

This year the World Educational Games were staged for the third time, over the last week of April concluding as the Greek religious festival of Easter commenced. 73 students from 8 delegations and 6 countries participated in this year's Games (Brazil, Bulgaria, China, Cyprus, England, France, and Special Olympics Great Britain).

For the first time the students were accommodated at the International Olympic Academy (IOA) which is located immediately adjacent to the ancient site of the Games. They participated in the guided tour of the beautiful Olympic park, strolling through the historic and atmospheric site of statues and ancient buildings, populated by wild olive and plane trees. They also enjoyed a memorable experience of running in the original ancient Olympic "Stadium Run" of 192m and were awarded an olive wreath as a token of participation. The students were then given a fascinating guided tour of the park: some of the stories of





# g Chance



the rules and practices in the ancient Games were a revelation for many!

The International Olympic Academy hosted local Physical Education teachers and their respective Association organized a mixed 5-aside football event and Greek dancing (including the sirtaki) in the impressive grounds of the Academy. A memorable and marvellous atmosphere of fun and enjoyment!

The start venue for the Athens Classic Marathon the Olympic Games' Classic Marathon provided the ISF Education Games with the perfect stage for the young participants to experience the historical significance of the marathon. This year, the ISF Educational Games students were able to watch Rosa Mota running a leg of the Olympic Torch as it completed its run around the country of Greece, before it was handed to host nation 2016 Brazil.

The final day included a guided tour through the archaeological remains in the city centre including the Acropolis and then the spectacular Panathenaic Stadium, the venue of the 1st Modern Olympic Games in 1896. What a spectacular place to complete the formal programme!

With the great support of the City of Athens, Marathon and Olympia, the International Olympic Academy, the International School Sport Federation, and the Kinder+Sport program the young people had the opportunity to develop a range of skills with the purpose of acquiring fair play attitude and to enhance their physical activity.

Lion President Paddy Murphy said: "Kenilworth can be justly proud of its young people being chosen to represent England at this unique event. The Lions are delighted to have been able to help the school and parents raise the funds necessary. We look forward to hearing all about the team's exploits on their return."

Read more about the Games at [www.isfsports.org/news/the-olympic-flamme-illuminated-the-3rd-isf-world-schools-educational-games-2016](http://www.isfsports.org/news/the-olympic-flamme-illuminated-the-3rd-isf-world-schools-educational-games-2016)

## EFDS JUNIOR DISABLED GAMES

Thirty-one Lions and Leos from 15 clubs responded to the call for assistance by District Officer Lion Erica Collins after she sent out a passionate plea for members to support the EFDS Junior Disabled Games at Sport City, Manchester.



## English Federation of Disability Sport

Lions from Stretford, Birchwood, Leyland and Cuerden Valley, Heywood, Bury, Upholland and Tawd Vale, Bolton, Darwen, Blackburn, Rochdale, Chorley, Lytham St. Anne's and the Ucan Leos braved the cold and the rain and made sure that the event was a very successful and enjoyable one for the young athletes.

Everyone worked really hard and District Governor Lion Mike thanked them all on behalf of Lions Clubs International. The National Finals will take place on 2nd- 3rd July 2016 at Warwick University and their District is looking for more volunteers who are able to attend this event.

EFDS (English Federation of Disability Sport) is a national charity that exists to make active lives possible. They are dedicated to disable people in sport and physical activity. Their vision is that disabled people are active for life.





# Priory Leo Club set to Work in The Glade, Worlebury Woods



Assisted by 3 Worle Lions Club members, 6 members of Priory Leo Club, aged 12 to 16, gave up one of their half term days to clear invasive laurel and bramble growth in The Glade at Worlebury Woods. Leos Amy-Leigh, Sinead, Rhiannon, Maisey, Kayleigh and Poppy decided that they wanted to undertake the work as their annual environment project, giving back to their local community.



The girls certainly got stuck into the work and ended up clearing an enormous amount of laurel to open up the area and create more space for the local groups that use it during their visits to the Woods. Not only did they clear the area, but they also burnt most of the removed greenery to complete the job. Worlebury Residents Association, who are responsible for keeping the area tidy, stated that the results were certainly impressive and conveyed their thanks to all involved.



The Leos will now put together a scrapbook of their project which will be entered into a District Leos Environment Project competition in March. A competition they have won for the past 2 years and have made a great effort to keep up their good record!





# Prostate Cancer Event Exceeds Expectations

## Windsor Lions hail a major success with its Prostate Cancer Awareness initiative

Windsor Lions have reported an amazing success with its free-of-charge Prostate Cancer testing event held on 12th April 2016 in Windsor. Over 560 at-risk males attended giving their blood samples during what was reported by many as "a very well organised event."

The event was organised and manned by members of Windsor Lions with top professionals in attendance carrying out the blood tests, which were subsequently analysed at Wexham Park Hospital. A top Urologist Mr David Baxter-Smith was also on call on the day and has subsequently analysed all the blood test results using a 'traffic light system': 93% of those tested were found to be 'green' (all clear), 3% 'amber' (further tests recommended in the future) and the balance 'red' (urgent attention required). All the results have been communicated in total confidence to the attendees.

Event Organiser Lion Diane Purchase enthused: "We are all so pleased with the way this event went. We were wonderfully busy with far more attending than we ever expected and yet the whole process of blood sampling went like clockwork. Our optimistic target was 500 attendees so we beat that number comfortably with an attendance of 572. It is so pleasing that all our hard work promoting the event paid off bigtime. My sincere thanks to all those who very generously made donations which all help to cover our not insignificant costs - we collected an amazing £1,650 in our donation buckets."

Statistics demonstrate that about 5% of those tested will show positive results for previously undetected cancer which will require immediate attention and a further 5% will need close ongoing monitoring. Whilst being the most common form of

cancer in men, a testing capability for prostate cancer within the NHS is hard to find - some GPs refuse to do them which explains why this Windsor Lions event, as well as other similar events currently being held by Lions Clubs all over the country are being so well attended.

Lion Diane continued: "We are very grateful to all those who supported us so willingly - the phlebotomists, David Baxter-Smith, Wexham Park Hospital, Combermere Barracks and all the personnel involved, and our sponsors The Shanly Foundation and Savills of Windsor. High praise too to all our friends in the media who helped us spread the word - we are very grateful to them. We all feel very good about this event, that we have done a real service for the local community - just what being a Windsor Lion is all about."





**LIONS CLUB OF WINDSOR**  
(International Association of Lions Clubs)



# 1 in 8 men will get prostate cancer.

**A simple blood test could save your life.**

The Lions Club of Windsor invite all males (aged 45 and over) to come for a **FREE** Prostate Cancer Check: a **simple blood test**.

Combermere Barracks, Windsor  
on Tuesday 12th April 2016 4.30pm to 8.30pm.  
No need to book an appointment.  
Please see or download a leaflet for more information,  
or call 07973 884648.

Sponsored by



**[www.windsorlions.co.uk](http://www.windsorlions.co.uk)**



# My Personal Prostate Experience



This is my personal experience aimed at persuading:

- (1) *Zones or individual Clubs to do their utmost to arrange Prostate Screening Sessions*
- (2) *Men to attend such Screenings and on a regular basis.*

Statistically 1 in 8 men will suffer from prostate Cancer at some point in their life. At your next Club meeting look around the room and think about that simple statistic.

In March 2014, I was the District Governor for 105D and in addition to the usual Official Visits and Charter Anniversaries I, along with Lion Diana, attended many functions and events organised by Clubs around the District. One such event was a Prostate Screening Session arranged by the Lions Club of Reading – an event I attended on my own! Whilst there I decided to have the PSA blood test, after all I was fit and healthy, what did I have to lose?

After the event I was one of 5% of men attending that year who received a "red letter". This stated I

had a high PSA reading of 9+ (the usually accepted maximum is around 6) and urged to see my GP.

Following another PSA blood test – again 9+, an internal examination and the NHS questionnaire which I passed with flying colours suggesting I was in the clear – I was referred to the Royal Berkshire Hospital in Reading for further tests and a biopsy.

The outcome was the diagnosis that I did have prostate cancer. A devastating blow as I had no idea and had none of the 'classic symptoms': no problems passing urine, no blood in my urine and no pain or discomfort.

I was offered 4 alternative procedures and we agreed with the consultant I would undergo brachytherapy – where, under a general anaesthetic, radioactive seeds were implanted in my prostate with the aim of killing off the cancerous cells.

Since then (December 2014) I have had regular consultations and PSA blood tests of which none have been above 2 and I am a healthy individual

doing all those things I love to do.

Not only are we immensely grateful to Reading Lions for organising these screenings and so prolonging my life expectancy I now speak to groups about my very personal experiences and pass on these messages to everyone reading this article:

- (1) *Zones and Clubs should seriously consider arranging such sessions – they work and are successful*
- (2) *Gentlemen – have a PSA blood test and regularly as you have no idea what may be lurking inside you*
- (3) *Ladies – just make sure 'your fellow' has regular PSA blood tests.*

**PDG David Merchant**

**PICTURED:** In 2012, a free prostate cancer screening event was organised by Reading Lions following the death of two members and was hailed a big success. Last year, the event at CircleReading hospital pulled in its biggest crowd yet. A total of 700 men, including Sir John Madejski and Reading Mayor, Councillor Tony Jones, attended for a Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) test.





# Cats Can Swim!

*Every year Lions do a fantastic job of organising and hosting swimming marathons up and down the country and Melton Mowbray Lions and South Woodham Ferrers Lions are no exception...*

## THE 16TH MELTON MOWBRAY LIONS SWIMARATHON

On Saturday 16 April 2016, the 16th Melton Lions Swimathon was held at Waterfield Leisure Pools starting at 10:30AM with the last teams taking the plunge at 4:30PM.

21 teams took part comprising of 105 swimmers and a total sponsorship pledge of £3,657 on the night.

The average number of lengths swam by each team was 123 and the average funds pledged by each team was £150. Again, Bob Wells's Melton Mencap's Swimcaps teams pledged the most money on the day with £675. However, it was Kris Zabaski's team of Wednesday

Night Misfits swam the most lengths with 214 lengths in 55 minutes.

The Lions District Governor, Paul Stafford, who attended the opening ceremony with the Mayor, even offered to help out a team of two girls (Oxygen is Overated) as some team members had dropped out last minute. Spare trunks and a towel were found for him and they swam a very creditable 114 lengths!

The money raised was donated to the Air Ambulance, Melton MENCAP, the Mayor's Appeal (Belvoir Castle Cricket & Countryside Trust), Emmaus and Lions projects within the Borough.

Organiser **Melton Lion Sabrina Tate** would like to thank the participating teams who all thought up amusing names in the hope of winning the 'Most Amusing Team Name' award. Team names included: Shrimps and Sardines, Oxygen is Overated, Just Add Water, Swimcaps and Deependers, Speedos, Flipping Floppers, and Batman, Robin and the Sidekick to name but a few.



## THE SOUTH WOODHAM SWIMMING RELAY

The South Woodham Ferrers Lions were looking for an event that would raise money for two children's Cancer charities, Teenager Cancer Trust and CLIC Sargent (Cancer and Leukaemia in Children). They also wanted to involve children and promote team work. A friend of the Club runs a swim school teaching children from 3 to 15 years old and suggested that Club organised a sponsored swim and by setting a target distance that only a team of swimmers could reach by adding their length together. This created the team event they were looking for because now no one person could go alone: every length counted whether you could swim one length or one hundred lengths, they were all just as important.

At the swim school there are many children that could not swim unaided, so the rules were quite simple; you had to touch the wall on both ends of the pool, you had to get from one end to the other without touching the bottom, you can be either way up, use whatever stroke you wanted and you can use arm bands floats or woggles. This gave the three year olds beginners the chance to join in. There were 350 pupils at the swim school, the competition was then opened to parents which encouraged whole families to take part. Lions Club members and their families also swam to help reach the target.

The target set was 100 miles which is 6437 lengths of a 25M pool or 8046 lengths of a 20M pool. The sponsorship





### THE BIG SPLASH! THE 20TH WINDSOR LIONS ANNUAL SWIMATHON

On the 17th May 2016, 41 teams of over 250 swimmers, swam all day at Windsor Leisure Pool to raise money for their own good causes in what the Windsor Lions has described a major fundraising success! Over £8,000 was raised on the day and a great deal more is expected to roll in over the coming weeks as sponsorship money is collected.

Teams consisting of young and old swimmers raced enthusiastically up and down the pool striving to raise as much money as possible for their good causes. Event Organiser Lion Mike Sells was delighted: "What a fantastic day! We had a really good turnout -

everybody gets so excited about the event, especially the youngsters, that it becomes infectious and creates a huge buzz around the pool. It's great!"

Once again, the Mayor of the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead, Cllr Eileen Quick, was in attendance to see her Team get proceedings underway at 9.00am. Well over 2000 laps (a lap was two lengths of the pool) were recorded throughout the day by teams representing the Brownies & Guides, SportsAble and Electric Eels, Windsor Horse Rangers and cancer charities amongst numerous others. New teams this year included a very enthusiastic

Clewer Green school and St Mary's School in Winkfield. Even a member of the public joined in at the last moment and made her donation for the privilege.

The Swimathon is one of the major fundraisers of Windsor Lions' annual calendar and has raised over £160k over its twenty year history, all of which has been donated back to the participating charities.

Lion Mike concluded: "We have had great feedback and a dozen teams are already booked in for next year. We will look forward to another record breaking year in 2017!"

was twofold, all the swimmers had a personal sponsor form on which they were sponsored per length and then we had some corporate sponsorship in which they pledged on the team reaching the target.

The event was incredible all of the children swam their hearts out, the parents got right behind them shouting encouragement. All of the sessions, when the lengths were counted the atmosphere was electric. All the classes were given 30 minutes to do their swim, one normal class length. The lengths that the teachers and water assistants swam were counted towards the total. The total reached was 206.4 miles and the event raised just over £10,000!



# OBITUARIES

These Lions of our Multiple District have recently left us. We honour their memory and the contribution they made in their Lionistic service for the good of others.



Send in obituaries to  
[lion.editor@lionsclubs.co](mailto:lion.editor@lionsclubs.co)  
Please make sure they are  
no longer than 50 words  
(after the Lion's name and  
Club) to guarantee that  
they are published in full.

**ARCHER: Lion Patricia (73)**

*Whitehaven & District Lions Club.*

Members are sad to report the passing of Lion Pat, a Lion for 13 years who remained a very active member after her husband, Lion Ray, passed away in 2008. The Club benefited enormously from her culinary and social skills and her presence will be much missed.

\*\*\*

**BALLARD: Lion Michael**

*Maldon Lions.* It is with regret that I advise that one of our long standing members sadly passed away this morning; Lion Michael Ballard who has for years been a great support to the Maldon community and a strong member and past President of the Club.

\*\*\*

**BOWRING: Lion Doug (80)**

*Lions Club of Dorchester and District.*

Doug was President twice in his 18 years as a Lion and was very active in all aspects of the Club's programmes, infecting everyone with his sense of humour. Doug's service to the town included being Mayor. We and his many friends will miss him greatly. Our thoughts are with Brenda and family.

\*\*\*

**BROWN: Lion Kenneth Frederick Collingwood (99)**

*Leicester Host Lions.* Aged 99, Kenneth was a much respected doctor and had been a Lion for 46 years. A keen bibliophile, his expertise helped Lions raise over £30,000 in book sales and his garden, another passion, was the scene of many successful summer fairs. A gentleman, family man and a true friend.

\*\*\*

**CARTER: Lion Albert (88)**

*Rottingdean & Saltdean Lions Club.* is sad to announce the death of Lion Albert Carter who with 43 years membership was the only surviving charter member of our club with unbroken service. He was a past President of the Club and a very active member during the Club's formative years.

**DUNNE: Lion Paul**

*Ironbridge & Severn Gorge Lions Club.* are very sad to announce the passing of Lion Paul Dunne. He died peacefully in the local hospice after a short illness. After joining our club in 1977, he served on many committees including Welfare, Activities, and Fundraising and was always a very willing and hard-working helper at all of our events.

\*\*\*

**FRANCIS: Lion Douglas (Doug)**

*Malling District Lions Club.* In the 39 years of active membership Lion Doug had been President and Treasurer and Chairman of both the fundraising and welfare committees. Doug was always a willing and enthusiastic Lion who wore his badge with pride. First to volunteer, he was a man with a huge heart and generosity.

\*\*\*

**GARDNER: Lion David James (62)**

*Garstang & District Lions Club.* Members deeply regret the sudden death of Lion David, our current Treasurer, after a short illness. A member 15 years, he served as President in 2011/12 for 2 years. Garstang born and bred, he was involved in many organisations in the Town and organised many of the Club's charity events for the local community. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

\*\*\*

**HAMILTON: Lion John MJF (89)**

*Swindon Lions Club* s saddened to report the death of one of their oldest and longest serving members. Lion John joined the Club in 1978 since then he has served in many different roles including President three times. He also served as Zone Chairman. He will be greatly missed both as a dedicated Lion and a valued friend.

\*\*\*

**HARRIS: PDG Lion Richard (Dick) (91) MJF**

*Northfleet & Ebbsfleet Lions Club (SE).* A Lion for 45 years, Dick originally joined Gravesend Club, where he was a very active and valuable member, with sight

related projects very dear to his heart. He undertook various roles in the Club; he was President twice before going on to serve as District Governor in 1985/86. Subsequently, he moved to Darent Valley Club and then to his present Club. Dick was a modest man, a real gentleman, remembered so fondly by so many.

\*\*\*

**HILDITCH: Lion Chris MJF**

It is with great sadness that *Stafford Lions Club* reports the death of Lion Chris. He had been an active and devoted member of the club for more than 30 years, initiated many successful and long-standing projects and held a number of offices at both club and district level.

\*\*\*

**HOBBS: Lion Jack (99)**

*Southeast-on-Sea Lions Club.* A Lion for 38 years in which he held various positions within the Club including treasurer. We were all looking forward to attending his 100th birthday in two weeks-time, but sadly it was not to be.

\*\*\*

**JANES: Lion Doug MJF**

*Newhaven, Peacehaven and Seaford Lions Club.* A past president of two clubs, Doug transferred to NPS in 1996 after 10 years with Ponteland Lions Club. He was well-liked and respected by both Lions and the community he served. A true gentleman and a lovely person. One of the best, Doug will be missed by all. Our thoughts are with his family.

**KHANNA: Lion Lalit (78) MJF**

*London Host Lions Club.* A retired Commander in Indian Navy, Past President, Past Zone Chairman, and a Lion for over 34 years, Lalit was humble, kind, considerate and always ready to help. A great supporter of all activities, he will be sadly missed. Our thoughts go to Santosh and family.

★ ★ ★

**LEESE: Lion David (73)**

It is with sadness that *Skegness Lions Club* report the passing of Lion David. Although he only joined the Club some 8 years ago, Lion David fully committed himself to all activities of the Club, having been a director and then serving 2 years as President. Lion David will be sadly missed and our thoughts are with Jenny and the family.

★ ★ ★

**LEWIS: Lion Chris (MJF)**

*Telford Lions Club* are sad to report the death of Lion Chris. A member for 20 years he was well liked and respected both by Lions and the local community, his contribution to the club and the town will be greatly missed. Our deepest sympathy goes to his wife Mary and the family.

★ ★ ★

**MARSHALL: Lion Joy**

*Leatherhead Lions Club* are sad to announce the passing of Lion Joy. A member since 1997 she was an active member of the Community Services Committee organising charity collections at local schools for the Shoebox Appeal. She enjoyed helping on the Lions stalls at local fetes and carnivals, and even persuaded her daughter to take part in a company sponsored swimming event in aid of the Lions. She will be sorely missed.

★ ★ ★

**MAYES: Lion Norman**

*Swanley & North Downs Club* members are sad to report the passing of Lion Norman. He had been a good friend, a respected club member for 18 years, and was a Past President, who, until his illness intervened, had been an extremely active Lion who worked tirelessly for the club, his parish church and his local community in West Kingsdown.

★ ★ ★

**RATHOD: Lion Narendrasinh (80) MJF**

*Southall Lions Club* members are very sad to announce the passing of their long standing member Lion Narendra after 40 years of dedication to Lionism. He served the Club in various positions and attained the positions of Zone Chairman and Deputy District Governor. He was respected by all and his humour will be missed.

**ROLLES: Lion Ray**

*Hastings Lions Club.* It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Ray having served forty six years as a Lion with our Club. Ray was an active and keen member and will be well remembered for his larger than life personality and his many years as our jovial Tail Twister. Our thoughts are with Sue and their family.

★ ★ ★

**SLOAN: Lion Robin (75)**

*Lions Club of Llantwit Major and Cowbridge.* Robin was a Charter Member and President in 1995 and 2002. Always an active member and esteemed organiser of the Clubs social side. His reliability, service to others and humour will be sadly missed by all who knew him. Our condolences to all his family.

★ ★ ★

**SPENCER: Lion Roy (91) MJF**

*Ashbourne and District Lions Club and Cowbridge.* (Derbyshire) Lion Roy Spence was the Club's Charter President in 1985, and President again in 1995. He was a huge influence developing a strong and successful club. He held many officers roles and on his 90th birthday he saw the Club celebrate its 30th anniversary last year. Lion Roy had received the Bert Mason Award.

**STEPHENS: Lion Malcolm**

*Burgess Hill District Lions* are sad to announce the death of Lion Malcolm. Malcolm joined Lions in 2000 and during his 15 years of service he sat on various committees and served as President and treasurer. He was also co-ordinator for our Christmas collections and our link with Burgess Hill Rotary who we work in partnership with for the annual Burgess Hill Bike Ride. Whatever Malcolm did he always gave 110%.

★ ★ ★

**WEST: Lion Wendy**

*Past President of Cirencester Branch Lions Club* and a member of Northleach & Fosse Lions Club, Lion Wendy passed away at far too young an age. During her term of office, in addition to suffering ill health, Wendy worked away from home through most of the period. She also ensured the Club ticked over at a difficult time both for her and the Club. Last year, she handed over the baton to her 21 year old niece, Lion President Jess Turner. Daughter of two Lions, our thoughts are with this great Lions family.



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**Across**

- 1. City of ancestral suffering (9)
- 6. Evasive about son being comfortable (4)
- 9. Sue assumes two fellows in charge to be enough (7)
- 10. Disrupted most of literary film preview (7)
- 11. Blades appearing when people have a row (4)
- 12. Note lack of talk about one displaying toughness (10)
- 14. B in test characteristic of a certain group (6)
- 15. Calming drug is vet's idea possibly (8)
- 18. Reliable-sounding Scottish city (8)
- 19. They work with a tool (6)
- 22. Applaud – yes, one goes wild, see (4,4,2)
- 24. Encourage some of our generation (4)
- 26. A complex plot's beginning to engross Peter perhaps (7)
- 27. Loose rocks by church make an unpleasant sound (7)
- 28. Advance payment for poet first off (4)
- 29. Former Blue Peter presenter wearing vest? (9)

**Down**

- 1. Stick it to the end, leaving after the others (4,3)
- 2. Tent fire destroyed one Egyptian queen (9)
- 3. A family related by blood (4)
- 4. Two letters read aloud in tent (6)
- 5. Crooked Eritrean lawyer may ask for one (8)
- 6. Generous cleaner's given one board (10)
- 7. Ring lost in bar or beauty parlour (5)
- 8. Country producing oil we hear (6)
- 13. Middle name put first in place for telephone operators (4,6)
- 16. I close home – that's serious (2,7)
- 17. E.g. insert mobile numbers (8)
- 18. For example, American backed Charles (4,2)
- 20. Chap is to walk with female (7)
- 21. Relative keeps us in money (6)
- 23. Decorate for a party with sailors (5)
- 25. Exam offers alternative to a student (4)

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