

# LION

SPRING 2018



## JEMIMA BROWNING IS OUR YOUNG AMBASSADOR OF THE 21ST CENTURY 2018

SEE PAGE 40

### 'LEN WHITE, OUR ENGLISH DAD

SEE PAGE 25



### LIONS DAY WITH THE UNITED NATIONS

SEE PAGE 26



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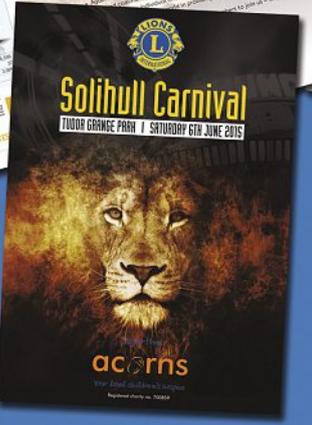
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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



## Let us Link Arms

### Namaste!

Each one of us can only reach as far as our arms will go. But what happens when I take your hand, and you take your neighbour's hand?

There was a story in the news last year. A family swimming in Panama City Beach, Florida, got caught in a rip current. Nine people — including two children and an elderly woman — were trapped. People heard their cries for help and began forming a human chain. Seventy to 80 strangers, hand-in-hand, were able to pull each person out and to safety.

Think about this. Not one of those people could have saved the victims on their own. A police officer tried, but had to turn back, the current was too strong. But together. Together! One by one they pulled the family members to safety.

“LCIF HELPS LIONS FORM A HUMAN CHAIN TO PULL PEOPLE TO SAFETY”

### BAND TOGETHER

This is what we do as Lions. As Lions, we reach out to people who are drowning in life. But as individuals we can only do so much. Sometimes the current is too strong and help can only reach those in need when we band together. I call this the Power of We.

This is what LCIF does. It helps Lions form a human chain to pull people to safety. LCIF can respond in ways individual Lions and Lions Clubs cannot. Since 1968, LCIF has given just over US\$1 billion dollars in grants. In the wake of natural disasters, LCIF can mobilise funds swiftly, getting much needed help on the ground within days. For example, LCIF awarded a US\$100,000 grant to support relief and reconstruction in Puerto Rico after the devastating hurricanes

there this past autumn. That is money that could immediately get to work providing relief for victims.

LCIF enables Lions in Indonesia to partner with Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, in a campaign to provide vaccines to 95 percent of Indonesia's children between the ages nine months and 16 years by the end of 2018. This is an incredible goal, and one that they are swiftly closing in on. LCIF has eradicated river blindness in Colombia and Ecuador — the first time any country has completely eradicated the disease. They're doing it! And they're doing it because they've joined hands. They've linked arms. They've become a greater whole than the sum of their parts.

### JOIN HANDS

LCI is the world's biggest service association by membership. However, we should also try to become the world's biggest in fundraising through LCIF. I never feel right to ask for a lot from a few, so I ask for a little from everyone. Even an average donation of US\$1 per week from each member will double our annual funds raised.

This month, I challenge you all to look to your neighbours to your left and to your right. How might you join hands? And consider how donating to LCIF may extend the service you do.

**Dr Naresh Aggarwal**  
Lions Clubs International President



WE SERVE

### 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

WE SERVE

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## COVER STORY

EMIMA BROWNING IS OUR YOUNG AMBASSADOR  
OF THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY 2018  
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## Editorial



### HELLO THERE

Well, it's been a hectic couple of months since our last issue but without doubt, the highlight for me was the Young Ambassadors of the 21st Century awards in February. It was the most wonderful day, full of hope, love and tears – and who doesn't love shedding tears of joy?

Each outstandingly impressive candidate was an inspiration – and we think we're busy as grown-ups – these individuals work their socks off in their communities as well as handling school exams and all the other trials and tribulations of teenage years. Deeply, deeply impressive young people.

We've got a lovely story on page 25, about Beverly Lion, Len White, who has been supporting Joyceland Preparatory School in Kenya with his Club. He's another one with a seemingly endless supply of energy and verve.

On page 32, is a report on the Lions Centenary celebrations at Buckingham Palace. Lions travelled there from all over the country in the most appalling weather conditions as the 'Beast from the East' made its presence felt, but where there's a will, there's a way. It was hosted by our patron, the Countess of Wessex G.C.V.O. and it was a remarkable event.

Not every Centennial occasion has to glitter so brightly, and on page 34, you can read about how Lions up and down the land have been carrying out their projects to leave lasting reminders of the past 100 years of Lionism.

Here's to the next 100 years – if you have the energy!

### SEND YOUR STORIES IN

Lion magazine is read by non-Lions as well as Lions and it works as a valuable tool to encourage new members to join. As such, it provides an ideal opportunity to show potential members just how much local communities benefit from Lions' hard and caring work.

So when you send in your photographs to illustrate your stories, please remember to send ones that show Lions 'at work' in the community, rather than posing for the camera. A word about photographs again – I get hundreds of images sent in for publication that are just too small for us to use and that's such a shame. So when you email images, please make sure they are at least 1MB and 300dpi.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

**Nicky Rogers**  
**Lion Editor**

### DIGITAL LION

Don't forget, you can read Lion magazine when you want and where you want via your web browser, iPad, tablet or smartphone.

### MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE PIN

We have produced some pins to encourage a wider knowledge of the Message in a Bottle scheme. They cost £3.00 each (plus £1.80 p&p). If you'd like one, please call MDHQ on: **0121 441 4544** or email: [mdhq@lionsclubs.co](mailto:mdhq@lionsclubs.co)



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# NEW MEMBERS



## THE PRIDE OF LIONS

Lions respond where there is a need and there is power in numbers, so we are delighted to welcome our new members who joined in January and February 2018.

### DISTRICT 105-A

Amersham & Chesham	1
Amphill District	1
Banbury	2
Biggleswade-Sandy	1
Feltham & Whitton	1
Harrow & Pinner	1
Letchworth Garden City & Baldock	2
London Central Host	1
London Kingsbury	1
London Park Royal	2
London Seven Kings	1
Northwood	1
Osterley	1
Ruislip	1
Stanmore	1
Witney	1
<b>TOTAL NEW MEMBERS</b>	<b>19</b>

### DISTRICT 105-C

Beverley Westwood	2
Bradford Central	2
Bramley and Wickersley	1
Brighouse & District	1
Denby Dale District	1
Derwent	1
Driffild District	2
Elmet	1
Featherstone	1
Huddersfield	1
Maltby Rother Valley	1
Mexborough	1
Rotherham	2
Todmorden	1
<b>TOTAL NEW MEMBERS</b>	<b>18</b>

### DISTRICT 105-D

Farnborough	1
Fleet	1
Gillingham Mere & Shaftesbury	2
Hayling Island	2
Isle of Wight Newport	2
Maidenhead	4
Newbury	1
Poole	2
<b>TOTAL NEW MEMBERS</b>	<b>15</b>

### DISTRICT 105-E

Ashby-de-la-Zouch & Coalville	1
Caistor & District	2
Horncastle & District	2
Melton Mowbray	1
Rutland	1
Skegness	1
Southwell & District	1
Spalding	1
Swadlincote & District	1
Vale of Belvoir	1
Woodhall Spa	1
<b>TOTAL NEW MEMBERS</b>	<b>13</b>

### DISTRICT 105-M

Bedworth	1
Birmingham Acocks Green	1
Bromsgrove	1
Castle Bromwich & District	1
Coventry Godiva	2
Solihull	1
<b>TOTAL NEW MEMBERS</b>	<b>7</b>

### DISTRICT 105-W

Brecon	1
Calne	3
Cardiff	1
Dursley	1
Forest of Dean	1
Llantwit Major & Cowbridge	2
Marlborough & District	2
Newport	2
Ross on Wye	1
Wotton under Edge	1
<b>TOTAL NEW MEMBERS</b>	<b>15</b>

### DISTRICT 105-BN

Accrington	1
Douglas Valley	1
Furness	1
Kirkham & Fylde Rural	1
Prestwich	1
<b>TOTAL NEW MEMBERS</b>	<b>5</b>

### DISTRICT 105-BS

Congleton	1
Flint & District	1
Sale & District	1
<b>TOTAL NEW MEMBERS</b>	<b>3</b>

### DISTRICT 105-EA

March	4
Billericay	1
Brentwood	2
Halesworth	1
Ipswich	1
Rayleigh	1
Swaffham & District	1
Taverham & District	1
Thetford Breckland	1
Whittlesey	2
<b>TOTAL NEW MEMBERS</b>	<b>15</b>

### DISTRICT 105-NE

Alnwick	2
Darlington	1
Easingwold District	2
Morpeth	2
Stonehaven & District	3
<b>TOTAL NEW MEMBERS</b>	<b>10</b>

### DISTRICT 105-SE

Battle Villages	1
Brighton	1
Crowborough & District	1
Farnham	1
Henfield & District	1
Horley	1
Malling District	1
Paddock Wood & District	1
Southborough	1
Southbourne West Sussex	2
Tenterden	4
Tonbridge	1
Woking	2
<b>TOTAL NEW MEMBERS</b>	<b>18</b>

### DISTRICT 105-SW

Babbacombe & St Marychurch	1
Barnstaple	1
Budleigh Salterton	1
Clevedon	3
Crediton & District	1
Holsworthy	2
Newquay Towan Blystra	2
Plymouth	1
Seaton & District	2
Tavistock	1
Torpoint & Rame Peninsula	1
Wadebridge	1
Worle	3
<b>TOTAL NEW MEMBERS</b>	<b>20</b>



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# Supporting Lions. Serving Humanity. Giving Hope



Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) is turning 50 this year, and along with a golden anniversary, this year brings wonderful stories from beneficiaries around the world, and exciting new changes on the horizon. In fact, every indication is that LCIF is in its prime. Gearing up for a new capital fundraising campaign, restructuring grant offerings to better serve the needs of Lions, and preparing to support LCI's new global causes, LCIF has the right mix of experience and energy to help those most in need. LCIF has been supporting the service of Lions for 50 years, and that's just the beginning.

LCIF has helped Lions accomplish a lot in its 50 years.

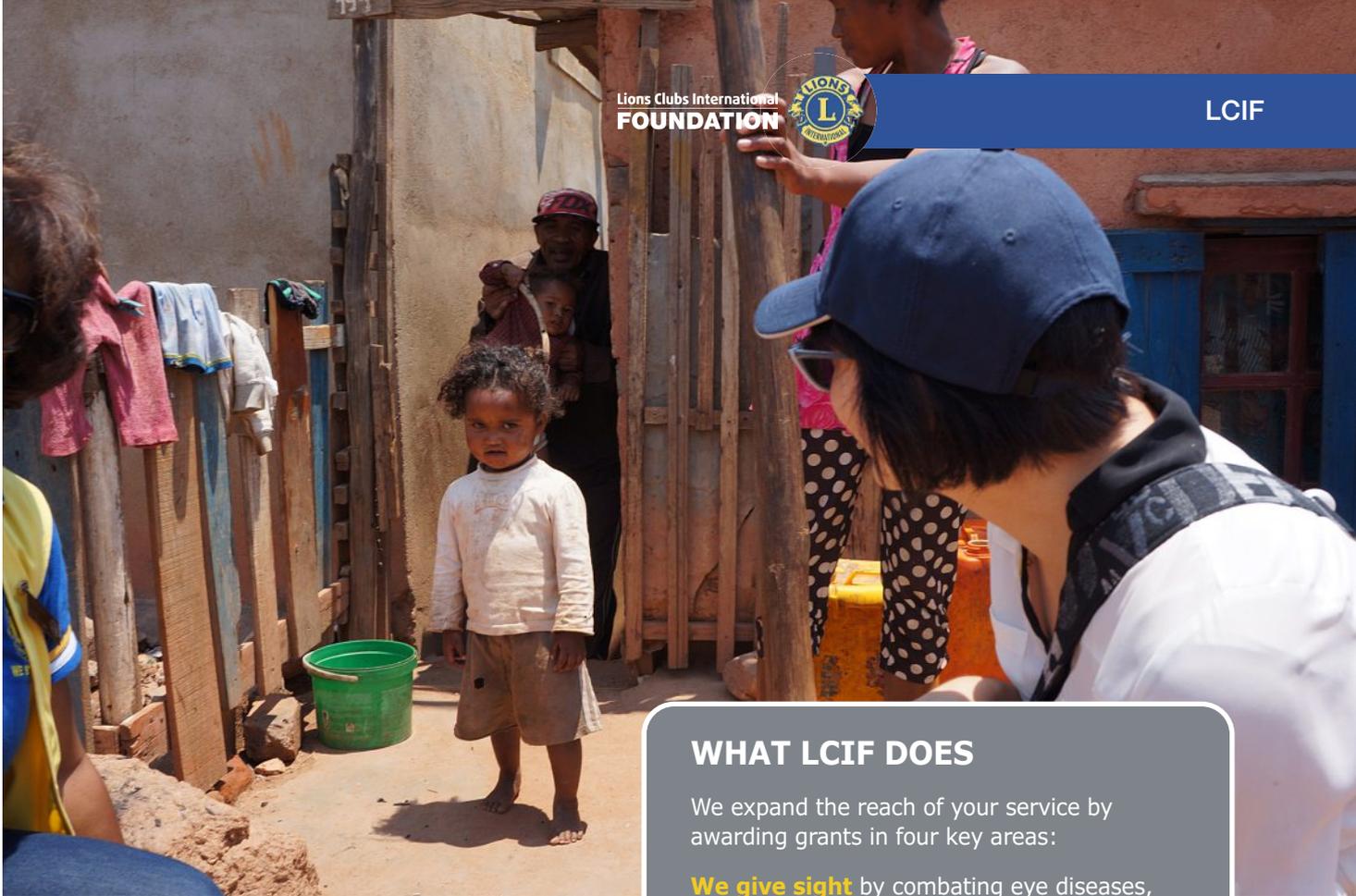
LCIF was incorporated as a foundation in 1968 to take the mission of Lions Clubs International to new heights, tackling global problems and assisting Lions with large-scale humanitarian projects. LCIF distributed its first grant four years later, and hasn't slowed down since.

With more than US\$1 billion in funding awarded through more than 13,000 grants, LCIF has restored sight to parents who had not been able to see their children. It has rebuilt communities devastated by earthquakes and wildfires. It has fed hungry children and empowered youth to become healthy, productive adults. With the support of LCIF, Lions built water wells and latrines that are helping to control the spread of blinding diseases. People who were once hidden from the world because of a disability, denied education and companionship, now attend school and contribute to their communities. This US\$1 billion has shown the world that Lions care and LCIF helps.

#### LCIF'S FIRST GRANT

**9th June 1972.** In Rapid City, South Dakota, a cold front moved across the eastern slope of the Black Hills. Dew points rose as the air became heavy with





clouds. By 6pm a continuous line of thunderstorms blanketed the eastern Black Hills. Steep canyons funneled the water toward the dry plains. Water levels of Rapid Creek, above Rapid City, rose 12 feet in just two hours. By 5am on 10th June, Rapid Creek was again within its banks, but not without taking the lives of 238 people. Three thousand people were injured and 1,335 homes were destroyed.

Lions were among the first on the scene to provide help to the devastated community. The foundation made its first grant to District 5-SW for US\$5,000 to assist the South Dakota flood victims, beginning a legacy that continues today.

### TODAY

Since that first grant, LCIF has provided funds to projects all over the world. Communities are supported around the globe and around the corner. LCIF focuses on four main areas — sight, youth, disaster and humanitarian efforts — ensuring help goes where it is most critically needed.

### SIGHT

The child of a farming family in Gujarat, India, Jyotsana Nisarta was only two years old when she contracted polio. Even with medical intervention, Jyotsana was left with considerable visual impairment.

With limited opportunities for people with disabilities in India, Jyotsana remained dependent on her family. That's when the Blind Welfare Council in Dahod changed her life. With support from a US\$63,000 grant from LCIF, Lions of District 323-F1 helped to expand the council's vocational training centre. The council was able to take on more computer trainees and introduced several new programmes that train about 100 people per year for respected and well-paying jobs.

## WHAT LCIF DOES

We expand the reach of your service by awarding grants in four key areas:

**We give sight** by combating eye diseases, creating infrastructure to improve eye care delivery, increasing the number of trained eye care professionals, and making vision care more equitable and sustainable.

**We support youth** by helping children learn to work together, make positive decisions, and serve their communities, and by constructing schools, youth centres and vocational training centres.

**We provide disaster relief** by helping devastated communities survive after disasters and by bringing hope through assistance in long-term efforts to rebuild homes and lives.

**We address humanitarian needs** from global health issues such as measles, diabetes, hunger, and childhood cancer to empowering those with disabilities to lead more independent and fulfilling lives.

Within months Jyotsana had completed her training and was immediately hired as a computer operator. The skills she learned in her classes at the Council enabled her to further her career, and Jyotsana was soon hired for a government job. She takes photos and thumbprints and issues identification cards to members of her community. Her monthly income has nearly doubled, which enables her to help her family as well as pay her own living expenses.

Read more about what LCIF is doing to combat blindness at: [LCIF.org](https://www.lcif.org).





CONTINUED FROM PAGE 09 &gt;&gt;

### YOUTH

At Grapevine Middle School in suburban Dallas-Fort Worth, students sit in a circle and take part in a directed dialogue. The Lions Quest exercise is intended to help build community. These students will eventually create their own code of conduct — a set of expectations that they use to hold each other accountable.

“The students started correcting each other. It’s something they come up with, so they own it,” says Juneria Berges, former principal at Grapevine. As a result, attendance at the school rose and students demonstrated much-needed critical thinking skills. Studies have shown that students are more likely to achieve academically when their school environment is safe, warm and supportive — just the sort of environment being created at Grapevine. “Lions Quest teaches ethics, caring about others and responsibility for oneself,” says Berges. “The kids learn they have choices in life, and you have to make the best choices for yourself.”

Whether they are living in the suburbs, cities, or small villages, these life skills are universal. And nowhere can those lessons be better put to use than the South Sudan. Located in East-Central Africa, South Sudan gained independence in 2011. Twenty years of civil war left the country with essentially no infrastructure. Only a handful of areas have running water, electricity, clinics, schools, or paved roads. Half of the population lives below the international poverty line, which is less than US\$2 per day. It is not surprising then that only one in three South Sudanese men and one in 10 South Sudanese women can read. Very few speak English, which is the official language of South Sudan.

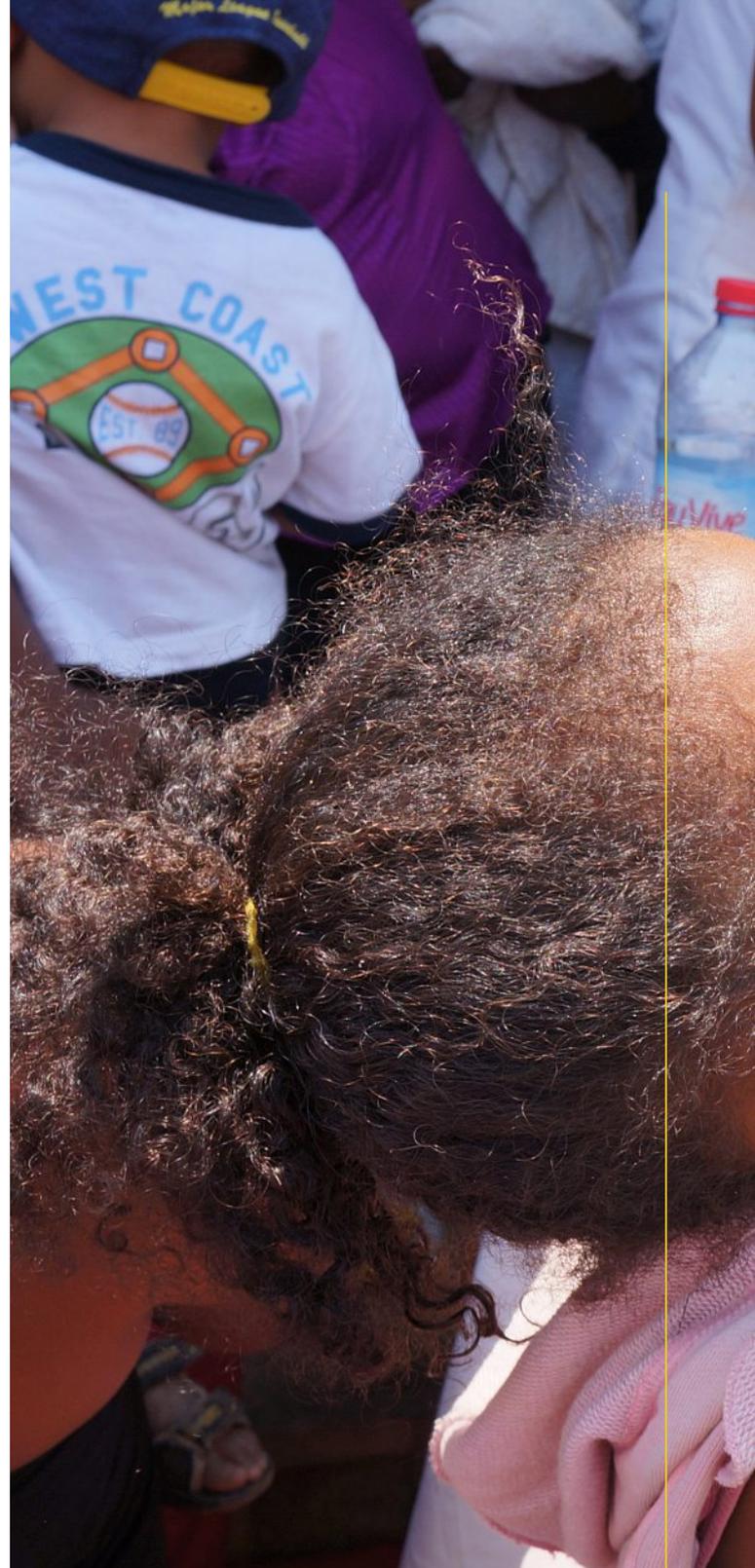
In an effort to bring life skills and hope to the country’s young people, 38 teachers from 14 schools and institutions were trained in Lions Quest *Skills for Adolescence*. At least 6,832 students ages 12 to 18 will benefit from the Lions Quest programme.

“As teachers, we have been equipped with the skills we needed to reset the mindset of young people to look at their situation differently and positively,” says Emmanuel Ladu, head teacher at Juba Model Secondary School.

To read more about the Lions Quest programme or to request materials for a school in your district, visit: [LCIF.org](http://LCIF.org)

### DISASTER RELIEF

When Hurricane Matthew hit the Caribbean in October, 2016, it quickly became the strongest storm to hit Haiti since 1964 and the third strongest for the nation on record. Bridges washed away. Many of the main roads became impassible. Food and drinking water were in short supply. Five hundred and forty-six people died, though reports of unconfirmed deaths rose as high as 1,600. Two hundred thousand homes were completely or near-completely destroyed and 1.4 million people were left in need of humanitarian aid.



The Lions of Haiti, victims themselves, quickly went into service mode. They requested assistance from LCIF and were awarded an initial US\$10,000 Emergency grant to address the immediate needs of the victims. Twenty Lions and 10 Leos from Port-au-Prince traveled to Petit-Goâve to work with clubs there. Together, they distributed 550 relief kits to residents and later packed 1,500 kits of food and medicine that were distributed in Les Cayes.

As a nation that was still rebuilding after the devastating earthquake in 2010, the Haitian government lacked the resources to adequately respond to the new disaster. Emergency grants from LCIF are specifically designed to help



provide basic immediate needs including food, water, clothing, and medicine to victims.

After immediate needs are met, victims of disasters are not forgotten. LCIF remains committed to the important work of rebuilding homes and lives, often long after a disaster occurs. Through Major Catastrophe grants, LCIF supports long-term reconstruction projects to help victims return to their lives and regain their independence.

LCIF provided a US\$200,000 Major Catastrophe grant for relief in the wake of devastating floods that struck Paraguay in December 2015 and January 2016. Now, two years later,

relief work is ongoing. Lions and LCIF are still there, supporting communities as they rebuild.

Local Lions recently finished repairs on five primary schools that were destroyed by flood waters. Because of this important work, 1,725 students have been able to return to school.

For information on how your club can apply for Disaster Preparedness, Community Recovery, or Emergency grants, visit: [LCIF.org](http://LCIF.org)

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12 >>

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11 >> HUMANITARIAN**

## CHANGES TO GRANTS

Grants from LCIF allow Lions to amplify their service work and reach more people.

If you believe your project could benefit from a grant, be sure to contact your district governor.

### New grants

- Leo Service Grants: Leos can now assess, plan and implement their own service projects.
- District and Club Community Impact Grants: a percentage of contributions to LCIF are transformed into grants that fund local projects in alignment with the foundation's areas of focus.

### New structure

Core 4 grants and international assistance grants are now rebranded under the category of humanitarian grants, which encompasses:

- Matching grants (previously called Standard grants)
- Lions Quest grants (previously called Core 4 Lions Quest)
- Diabetes grants (previously called Core 4 Diabetes)

All of the criteria for these grants will remain the same, as well as the application deadlines.

Remaining deadlines for the 2017-2018 fiscal year:

- 12th May: Application deadline for SightFirst grants to be reviewed at the August 2018 SightFirst Advisory Committee meeting
- 14th May: Application deadline for matching grants, diabetes grants, and Lions Quest grants to be reviewed at the August 2018 board meeting

SK Talantang is an elementary school located in rural Sabah, Malaysia, amongst tall rubber trees and marshy rice fields. Until recently, more than half of the children who attend the school had to walk up to four hours to school and four hours back home, often barefoot to preserve their shoes. Others used their parents' motorcycles or packed into rickety vans. During the rainy season, many students missed school due to the treacherous conditions. Because of this commute, some parents did not enroll their children in school at all.

Thanks to the efforts of Lions clubs in Korea, the Lions Club of Kota Kinabalu Host, and LCIF, a dormitory was built to house 100 of these children. The dormitory is just a short walk from the school building and includes beds, bathrooms, a dining area, and a kitchen that serves meals five times per day. Many of the amenities are not available in their private homes.

The children of SK Talantang are now able to live and study in a place suitable for learning. They are also able to stay after school to participate in extracurricular activities.

Of course, attending school is only beneficial when children have the nutrition needed to focus and concentrate. But around the globe nearly 800 million people do not have enough food to eat. The situation is most dire in developing countries, where one out of six children is underweight. The Venezia Host and Venezia Angelo Partecipazio Lions Clubs in Italy teamed up with the Koudougou Baobab Lions Club in Burkina Faso and LCIF to address food insecurity in several villages in the West African nation. The Italian Lions received an LCIF International Assistance grant (IAG) for US\$54,267 to support the project.

The Lions had two main objectives. The first was to form a field school to train women in rural areas to use a drip irrigation system. Second, they would use that drip irrigation system to create a village vegetable garden. Women from nearby areas would be taught how to cultivate crops using the new system, as well how to use those crops to feed healthy meals to their families. Water storage towers, compost pits, a storage shed, and fences played important roles in helping the project reach its goals.

Drip irrigation is a low-water, low-pressure system that keeps plant roots moist. By applying water directly to plant roots rather than the surrounding soil, drip irrigation systems use less water than some traditional systems. Drip irrigation is particularly beneficial where water sources are scarce.



Lions got to work. They secured and cleared nearly 2.5 acres of land. They dug a well with a solar pump and a storage tank and planted onions, other vegetables, and fast-growing Moringa trees. Once the crops were planted, Lions from both countries trained local women on using the drip irrigation system and tending to their gardens.

The field school pilot programme trained seven women from the Kyon District. It is expected that up to 60 women will be trained annually. The Lions hope that these women will grow enough excess food that they may start their own village market and sell their produce for a profit, leading to economic stability and independence.

"We Lions are fighting poverty and securing food for women and children in rural Burkina Faso because malnutrition is widespread," says Lion Giovanni Spaliviero of the Italian Lions Association, MK Onlus. "We hope these vegetable gardens will help to significantly improve the health and the living conditions of children and their families."

For more information on LCIF's newly restructured grants, and how Lions can apply, visit: [LCIF.org](http://LCIF.org).

### THE FUTURE

Lions should be proud of the work they've set in motion through LCIF over the past 50 years. Through their hard work and generous donations, LCIF's two previous capital fundraising campaigns, Campaign SightFirst and Campaign SightFirst II, have raised US\$143 million in 1994 and US\$205 million in 2008. Those campaigns led to considerable progress in the global fight against blindness.

A new capital fundraising campaign, officially launching in July, will be LCIF's most ambitious yet. With a goal of raising US\$300 million, LCIF will support Lions' efforts to triple their humanitarian impact and serve 200 million people per year by 2021. In order to reach this goal, LCIF will expand its areas of focus. Moving forward, in addition to its current core competencies, LCIF will focus on projects addressing diabetes, the environment, childhood cancer and hunger, all under the humanitarian umbrella. These are issues that LCIF grants have addressed in the past, but this new focus will bring additional solutions and service to the world's most pressing global problems.

As our world continues to change, LCIF will be there, growing and evolving to meet new challenges. To address new concerns and best serve communities and future generations, LCIF is looking to the next 50 years to make its greatest impact yet.

LCIF relies on the generosity of Lions. When you make a donation to LCIF, you can make a difference both locally and globally. Talk to your Club's LCIF Co-ordinator for information on how you can support LCIF, then spread the word on the important work LCIF is doing.

With continued support from Lions, LCIF can continue to be the shelter in the storm, the light in the darkness, the hand reaching out to make our communities safer, brighter, more humane.

## ONE SHOT, ONE LIFE

Lions work with LCIF to stop measles.

### What is measles?

- Found in every part of the world
- A contagious viral infection that first attacks the respiratory system, then creates a rash
- Ninety percent of those without immunity will contract the virus when exposed
- Immunity can be easily acquired through a vaccine
- Six times more infectious than the flu

### How Measles impacts the world

- The cause of death for 89,780 people per year; around 245 people every day
- The world's leading cause of vaccine-preventable deaths among children
- Thirty percent of survivors experience complications, which can include permanent hearing loss, blindness, and death

### LCIF Impact

LCIF financial support along with GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance matching funds has enabled:

- A projected 87.7 million children to be immunised
- 97.8 million doses of measles or MR vaccine procured
- 61,000 future deaths averted
- By the end of 2017, it is estimated Lions and LCIF mobilised more than US\$85 million toward the global fight against measles

Lions are proud to be a contributing partner in bringing the annual measles death rate below 100,000 for the first time in history.

## DID YOU KNOW?

In 2017 LCIF received its sixth consecutive 4-star rating from Charity Navigator for its effective fiscal management and its commitment to accountability and transparency.



# Another Brilliant Day for our Guests

While most of us were wrapped in our blankets on 18th February, a cold crisp Sunday morning, almost 150 volunteers converged on Harrow Leisure Centre to prepare for more than 700 senior citizen guests and their carers. Lion Naresh Gupta reports.

Now in its 18th year, the senior citizens' celebration was the brainchild of Lion Parveen Verma and is organised by the Lions of District 105A. The current committee is made up of 18 Lions from various Clubs in the District. Parveen Verma (Chairman) Lions Ken Rouse, Dilip Shah, Margaret Rouse, Manish Chotai, Lesley Spence, Amar Obhie, Alf Sanders, Meena Gupta, Peter Codrai, Veena Sharma, Jane Codrai, Tony Hurley, Minesh Mehta, Alastair Joel, Andrew Allen, Naresh Gupta, Mukesh Palan and Doreen Allen. All worked tirelessly with a posse of Lions from the district, with one focus – to give as many of our guests as possible the time of their life.

Some 70 tables were immaculately decorated with tablecloths, balloons and glitter and arranged in different colour zones, which helped guests to quickly identify the seating arrangements.

Almost 150 Lions, Leos, their friends and families gave up their Sunday to put on this wonderful day of celebration; recognising all that our senior citizens have done over the years for their own communities.

Lunch for the volunteers was donated by Parveen's daughter, Anushka, and her fiancée, Anil, while tea, coffee and refreshments were provided by other Lion volunteers. It was great to see the involvement of over nearly 50 Clubs in the biggest annual service activity of our District.

## NOT ALL FOOD!

Entertainment was provided by J. Kumar and his troop of dancers. Musical hits were enjoyed from the 50s, 60s and 70s by Recollection, which took so many of our guests back to their childhood. Adding to the excitement was a round of bingo and a raffle draw.

St John's Ambulance were on hand to meet any eventuality. Guests who found it difficult to walk were wheeled to their tables by St Johns Ambulance cadets. This year, we had nearly 20 guests on wheelchair. Once there, they had a chance to mingle and speak to other guests or those on neighbouring tables.

Harrow Leisure Centre has been the chosen venue for the Senior Citizens Celebration since its inception in 2000. Although costs have spiraled over the years it hasn't deterred Lions from holding the event. One 53 seater and six 16 seaters carried our guests from all over the Home Counties to enjoy this special day.

Event organiser, Lion Parveen Verma, was overjoyed with the response and said: "This major event only goes to show what Lions can do when we put our heart and soul into it. The camaraderie amongst Lions throughout the day was truly amazing. Fellowship, fun and service is a brilliant combination."



**PICTURED:** Thumbs up all the way!



**PICTURED:** No such thing as 'too much tea'





**TV STARS**

This year, it was an extra special event as for the first time, the entire event was recorded by Zee TV. It was aired on 3rd March at 7.30pm and on Sun 4th March at 9:30 am in their OUT & ABOUT programme. Zee TV UK is one of the largest network serving the South Asian diaspora, and it gave Lions great publicity.

**THANK YOU NOTES**

"Another well-delivered event. It was clear that the senior citizens had a ball. Bravo to all of you. My two girls, Talya and Alana had a really good time and enjoyed meeting the guests and selling raffle tickets."

"Thank you Lions Clubs for a wonderful party. On behalf of the guests I would like to say a huge thank you for organising their places and giving them a warm and enjoyable time.

"The food was very nice and thank you for sorting out the food for the diabetics first. The entertainers were brilliant and our guest who won the raffle was so excited with her prizes. The volunteers at the door were lovely and very welcoming. Well done to everyone." **Mind in Harrow and Harrow Care Plus co-ordinator, Anjie**

"I was tired and and my feet hurt but [it was] so worth it!

"It was great to see so many Lions and volunteers working together to put this day on. I'm very proud to be one of the team, thanks Parveen and everyone else for making it happen."

"Wow what an experience!

"Seeing the expressions of the clients enjoying the food and entertainment will stay in my memory for a long time." **Lion Melissa Murphy, a Lion from 105M**

**PICTURED:** Elvis is in the building



**PICTURED:** The organising committee



**PICTURED:** Tea is served



**PICTURED:** Dancing time

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Find out more at: <http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/index.php>

## Windsor Lions' Silver Lunch



**PICTURED :** Windsor Lions' Silver Lunch

Windsor Lions held it's annual 'Silver Lunch' for the elderly on Sunday 11th February, where over 120 Windsor and district residents were wined, dined and entertained by a wonderful mix of music and song.

Fondly known by the Club as the 'Silver Lunch', guests were transported to and from the venue, SportsAble, the disability sports club in Maidenhead, for a two course lunch prepared by the Windsor Lions team, led by Lion Graham Alston.

The event had an old time music hall theme with a sing-song led by keyboard and song artist Phil Phillips, and Tony Liotti who had the audience in raptures with songs and magical guitar.

Lion Vice-President Diane Purchase, who organised the event, said: "It is probably one of the Club's most worthwhile events of the year – it is so much fun, our members love doing it and our guests have a whale of a time.

## Trees for Walnut School



**PICTURED:** Lions, children and teachers of Walnut School

The world-wide tree planting campaign by LCI has resulted in nearly seven million trees being planted around the world so far. The Lions Club of Bletchley planted 400 trees in the Milton Keynes area, including some in the grounds of the Walnut School in Bletchley, with the help of the school children and teachers.

The idea is that the autistic children react well to trees, the opportunity to touch them and watch the seasons alter their colour. The trees and their blossom will sustain insects, including bees and provide food for wintering birds.

The trees were supplied by the Woodland Trust and sponsored by IKEA.

### THE FOOD CUPBOARD WITH MK LIONS CLUBS

Bletchley Lions donated £929 to the Food Cupboard in Bletchley, the money was collected at Tesco's in Bletchley and Morrison's in Westcroft just before Christmas. Three Lions Clubs have joined together to support the new Food Cupboard which has been renamed 'The Food Cupboard with MK Lions Clubs'.

The emergency food supplies go to families in crisis in the local area and are delivered to the client's door by volunteers.



**PICTURED:** (L-R) Lions Vic and Ken with John Sturgess from the Food Cupboard and the Food Cupboard team



# Spalding Lions

Spalding Lions held their fifth gin tasting night recently, only this time, it also included prosecco tasting. A welcome gin cocktail to start was followed by three different proseccos and three different gins with various mixers and botanicals. A ploughman's supper was also served.

**PICTURED:** Spalding Lions enjoying the gin tasting night >>



# Mersea Island Lions Thank You Evening

The Mersea Island Lions 'thank you evening' is when they make donations to local charities and deserving causes as a result of their fundraising throughout the year. It also provides the opportunity to thank their volunteers and those who sponsor their fundraising events. Over the past year, they have given more than £11,000 to charities and deserving causes.



**PICTURED:** Mersea Island Lions 'thank you evening'

# Hi-Viz Vests

Maidstone Lions presented Allington Primary School with 140 hi-vis vests recently. They cost the Club £388.70 and are a great way of keeping the schoolchildren safe when on school trips. They were first used when pupils went to the church Christmas service and have already been used twice since.



**PICTURED:** (L-R) Lion President Derek Ransley, Headteacher, Carolyn Howson and Lion Malcolm Luxton

# Road Tax Sorted!



**PICTURED:** President, Simon Winckles, with Jenny Bowyer and Sarah Whittingham of Moore Allen and Innocent

Back in 2014, the Department for Transport asked for bids to access a £25m Community Minibus Fund. So Lechlade & District Lions, led by David Sharp, submitted one of the 300 successful bids. The Lions team specified what was needed and the minibus was commissioned as an air conditioned, 16 seater with an automatic wheelchair lift cassette. Happily, the minibus has been sponsored for several years now by Lechlade estate agents, Moore, Allen and Innocent, who pay for the road fund tax.



**PICTURED:** Harrogate Lions-funded defibrillator

## Harrogate Defibrillator

Thanks to a grant from the Co-op Community Fund, Harrogate Lions Club recently bought a defibrillator, which is sited at the front of Pannal Primary School, making it accessible to everyone, all of the time.

## New Century Lions Washbag Donations

Lions Jenny and David King of the New Century Lions Club of East Anglia presented 40 washbags to the 'moving on team' at the Norwich branch of the charity, Break. Break has six mainstream children's homes in Norfolk and Cambridgeshire and a therapeutic fostering service that offers single placements to traumatised young people

Each wash bag contained towels, toiletries and hygiene products for both male and female young adults, who are learning to live and budget with limited resources – what money they do have, usually has to go on food.

Shelly Whitby for Break said: "We are overwhelmed by the generosity of the Lions for providing the washbags for our young people who are living in residential homes or receiving help on leaving care."



**PICTURED:** The washbags provided by New Century Lions Club of East Anglia



## Southam & District Lions Poetry Competition



**PICTURED:** Southam & District Lions poetry competition attracts entries from the very young to the very old (and everyone in between)

Ever since Lion Dave Brough launched it in 2008, Southam & District Lions have been running an annual poetry competition for local residents of all ages.

In 2009, the Arts Council provided a grant of £2,000, which helped to put the competition on a firm footing. Since then, additional funding from Southam Town Council each year helps the competition continue to flourish.

Every year all the entries are put into a book of collected competition poems, which is then sold at production cost. There is an awards evening, when prizes are presented to the competition winners and this year, Crosscountry Trains donated money and trophies to present to primary schools that sent in the best poetry.

At this year's awards evening in January, cheques and trophies were presented to the winning school and the runner-up. Individual prizes (book tokens) were awarded to for the best poems from Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 pupils.

The evening is a great community event where there is an open mic session, when anybody can read their poem(s) to an appreciative audience. As well as promoting an appreciation of poetry and the arts generally, it also helps the Lions to learn the needs and aspirations of the local community and how best they can be served.



**PICTURED:** Award winners at the presentation evening

# The Dream Scheme

Clevedon Lions Club's third annual Dream Scheme presentation evening was held recently when 13 successful local clubs and organisations collected their awards.

Each Christmas, the funds collected on the Lions Santa float and at local supermarkets are earmarked for the Dream Scheme, where during January, local groups can apply for funding to see their dream project come true and be completed more speedily, with the Lions topping up funds that the clubs have already collected.

This year, almost £6,000 has been allocated, meaning that the Club has donated £15,000 to the local voluntary sector over the three years, in addition to their other fundraising and community support efforts.

Among the beneficiaries this year were the Rainbow Guides for five to six year-old girls and a Happy Companions Club of 80 to 90 year-olds. In the middle age range were local sports clubs who now wear the Lions logos on their kit. Clevedon Lions also supported their

community-owned Cirzon Cinema (running continuously since 1912) which takes films into care homes.

Lion President, Paul Pollock, said: "The Dream Scheme has been tremendously successful as it bring a huge amount of publicity and media opportunities for the Lions."

To find out more about the scheme, please email: [clevelandlions@gmail.com](mailto:clevelandlions@gmail.com)

# Bei-jingo, it's the Chinese New Year



**PICTURED:** (L-R) Lions Peter Sterling, John Slynn, John Fullwood, Rick Talbot and John Ison, by the dragon

For the second year running, Gnosall & Newport Lions Club helped to fund Newport's Chinese New Year celebrations and helped the organisers to set up the site for the event.

Despite the rain and the cold, St Mary's Street in Newport came alive with Chinese lanterns swinging from the stalls, Chinese music and dancers and of course, the Chinese dragon, as the community celebrated and shared the start of the Chinese Year of the Dog.

Organiser, Lucy Luk, said that although the weather was awful the event was a big success. She thanked Gnosall & Newport Lions Club for their ongoing support and hoped that next year's event would be even more successful.

# It's Amazing What Lions will do to Raise Money!

Keith Lawson-West, of Oadby & Wigston Lions Club, joined fellow supporters in walking across hot embers to raise money for the Bridge Project, which runs a shelter for homeless people in Leicester. At the time of writing, this event had raised over £3,750 with donations still arriving.

**PICTURED:** Keith's walk of f(1)ame >>





# Newquay Lions Club Needs You!

For the past 25 years, Newquay Lions Club (and more recently with Towan Blystra Lions) have provided a week's holiday for needy families or groups.

Set in 80 acres of landscaped Cornish parkland your sponsored family or group will stay in a self-contained eight-berth holiday home at the award-winning Hendra Holiday Park in Newquay, on a self-catering basis, arriving on 28th September and departing on 5th October 2018. Last year we hosted 21 families and groups.

## WHAT YOUR CLUB NEEDS TO DO:

- sponsor a needy family or group to come and stay with us;
- arrange transport from their home to Newquay and return. (If this is by public transport, we will collect them from the local train or bus station); and
- provide us with a payment of £350. This charge includes all accommodation in one holiday home, all on-site activities, travel and entrance fees to all of the venues.

## WHAT NEWQUAY LIONS WILL DO

We will take care of your sponsored family or group and ensure they have a great holiday.

We will:

- organise the whole week;
- provide a welcome pack;
- provide daily excursions and activities; and
- provide our minibus and coaches for all transport.

A typical week will include (subject to finalising):

- arrival night BBQ;
- trips into Newquay for shopping and exploring;
- visits to local attractions such as Dairyland, Camel Creek Adventure Park and Newquay Zoo;
- horse riding;
- tenpin bowling;
- karaoke, pasty, pizza and magician evenings;
- a family or group photoshoot; and
- indoor swimming and fun pools.

## WHAT YOU NEED TO DO NOW

If you are interested in sponsoring a family or group, please contact one of us for more information and an information pack:

**Lion Graham Jelly**  
[lanherne@btinternet.com](mailto:lanherne@btinternet.com)  
01637 860159

**Graham Willmott**  
[Willmo.newquay@btinternet.com](mailto:Willmo.newquay@btinternet.com)  
01637 878377

**Lion Chris Rodger**  
[chrisrodger@live.co.uk](mailto:chrisrodger@live.co.uk)  
07979 147508





# LCIF, Lions Make Major Measles Impact

By Jamie Konigsfeld

The goal has been reached! Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF)'s US\$30 million commitment to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance was reached at the end of December 2017.

At the Lions Clubs International 96th annual convention in Hamburg, Germany, LCIF made a commitment to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, to raise US\$30 million to help protect tens of millions of children in some of the world's poorest countries against measles. If LCIF could accomplish this ambitious goal, these funds would be matched dollar-for-dollar by Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance and their partners, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the UK Department for International Development. LCIF is pleased to announce that thanks to the generosity and service of Lions, this goal has been reached, bringing the total amount raised to US\$60 million.

## MEASLES IS PREVENTABLE

Measles is a highly contagious virus that can cause serious consequences such as hearing loss, blindness, and death. It usually begins by attacking the respiratory system and causing a high fever. A rash will then develop and spread across the body. The virus is so contagious that 90 percent of people who come in contact with it will become infected if they are not immune to it. Though the risk of infection is great, measles is preventable with a vaccine.

Lions and LCIF are working together to ensure that every child has access to the vaccine. The impact of LCIF's financial support and the Gavi matching funds is projected to be 87.7 million children immunised, 97.8 million doses of the measles or measles-rubella vaccine procured, and 61,000 future deaths averted. For the first time in known history, the annual measles death rate has declined to less than 100,000 deaths per year. LCIF and Lions are applauding that achievement and are happy to be a partner contributing toward it.

## INDONESIA

Lions around the world support measles vaccination campaigns with aid from LCIF. For Lions in Indonesia, the goal is to eradicate measles in their country by 2020. After a successful first phase in 2017, Lions of Indonesia are now planning their second phase this coming autumn. They have already begun to prepare for this campaign, which is larger than the last. Covering the 28 provinces outside of Java Island, the campaign will involve four Lions districts.

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

Though LCIF and Lions have made great strides to end measles, there is still so much left to do. Measles has an average daily death rate of 245 people, most of them children. To ensure Lions can keep fighting this terrible disease, please consider making a donation to LCIF. Make a donation in honor of World Immunisation Week which is coming up soon. Make a donation to show gratitude for the healthy children in your life. Or make a donation to extend a helping hand to children in disadvantaged areas of the world who have not yet received their immunisation.

**Together, LCIF and Lions can help end measles for good.**



**PICTURED:** Boy receives measles vaccine as part of a global initiative to eradicate the illness



# Insights into Inheritance Tax planning

**B**ritain has some of the highest death duties of any country<sup>1</sup>. Beneficiaries have to pay 40% tax on each extra pound that is inherited above the nil-rate band of £325,000 (£650,000 for married couples or civil partners).

Yet the Conservative government has long promised to reform these so-called 'death duties'. In October 2007 the then shadow chancellor George Osborne announced that, if a Conservative government came to power, it would raise the IHT threshold to £1 million. However, the new government's first Budget in June 2010 did not contain any such proposal and, over the five-year parliamentary term, the tax was left largely unchanged. Consequently, the former chancellor announced that, from April 2017, a new dedicated tax-free allowance, then called the 'main residence nil-rate band', would be introduced to specifically help protect a residence from IHT.

## Standing by

The new allowance is totally separate from the existing nil-rate band, as it will only apply on transfers of a residence to direct descendants. It began its phasing in at £100,000 from April, increasing in £25,000 increments annually to £175,000 in 2020/21. From then on, it will increase each year in line with the Consumer Prices Index.

Like the existing nil-rate band, any unused fraction of the new allowance may be transferred to a surviving spouse or civil partner. Given this option, a couple could potentially have a total IHT tax-free limit of £1 million from 2020/21.

However, the rules are not straightforward and not everyone will gain. While the new allowance is consistent with the government's pledge to take most family homes out of IHT, it's also consistent with the former chancellor's fondness for finding complex solutions to simple problems.

For example, the new allowance only applies to a residence that is passed to children and grandchildren (including adopted, foster and step children), not to other family members. So those who do not have children cannot benefit from an increased allowance. What is more, unmarried partners cannot pass nil-rate bands to each other, meaning they can only have one £325,000 nil-rate band, and one £175,000 residence nil-rate band by 2020/21. This gives those individuals a maximum total allowance of £500,000.

**Furthermore, the allowance is progressively withdrawn once an estate tops £2 million (after deducting any liabilities, but before reliefs and exemptions such as Business Relief). The rate of withdrawal is £1 for every £2 over the £2 million limit. Thus an estate worth £2.2 million in 2017/18 will have no residence allowance at all.**

There will be many people who will be unable to take full, or indeed any, advantage of the additional allowance. For these individuals, lifetime gifting, trusts, charitable giving and other allowances will remain vital components of estate planning.

*The levels and bases of taxation, and reliefs from taxation, can change at any time. The value of any tax relief depends on individual circumstances.*



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<sup>1</sup>www.taxfoundation.org, March 2015

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# Black Mountains Lions Annual Schools Quiz

Local schools each entered a team of four pupils for the Black Mountains Lions annual schools quiz hosted by Gwernyfed School.

The winners were pupils from Hay-on-Wye, so Bill, Sam and Izzy accepted the

winners' shield, a £300 cheque for the school and a £20 book token each.

Second place went to LLangors School, with Roly, Anna, Megan and Ruby Skye winning £200 for the school and a £10 book token each.

In third place was Llyswen School, so Oscar, Jack, Grace, and Alfie won £100 for the school and a £10 book voucher each.

The runners up team from Clyro School all received a £10 book token.



**PICTURED:** Winners, Bill, Sam and Izzy



**PICTURED:** Roly, Anna, Megan and Ruby Skye took second place



**PICTURED:** Third placed, Llyswen School



**PICTURED:** The Clyro runners up



**PICTURED:** Southam Lions Dave Brough, with Town Mayor, Cllr L Ellard, and the winning and runners up schools

## Southam and District Lions' Poetry Competition

Town Mayor, Cllr L Ellard, presented prizes to the winners of this year's poetry competition (supported by Southam Town Council, and Cross Country Trains) in front of a packed audience at the GAC, Southam.

Over 250 poems were entered and the winner was Stockton School, who received a trophy and cheque for £200. St James School was runner up, they received a trophy and a cheque for £100, supplied by Cross Country Trains.

# Our 'English Dad'

Beverly Lion, Len White, has developed a close relationship with Joyceland Preparatory School in Aila, which is in the Rongo district of Kenya. Lion editor, Nicky Rogers reports.

A Lion since 1978, Len is one of the original charter members of the Matlock Derwent Valley Lions Club. In 1990, he transferred to Beverly Lions Club and has been a member there ever since.

A serendipitous meeting between Len's late wife, Joy, and Beatrice in Jersey in 2002 eventually led Len all the way to Kenya and a little school built of corrugated iron sheets, with no doors or windows and only a small hut to cook the pupils' food.

Going back to Jersey, Beatrice, from Kenya, worked as a receptionist in the hotel that Len and Joy were staying at and they became friends. Like many of us do when we're away and make new friends, we always think we'll keep in touch but never do. In this case though, they did and when Joy died in 2006, Beatrice and her husband, Paul, made a special effort to go and see Len to offer their condolences. As Len had no children of his own, this kind and especially thoughtful gesture led Beatrice and Paul to become just like family to him.

This strong friendship still continued and in 2007, Len travelled to Kenya to stay with Beatrice and Paul. At a family dinner, Len was introduced to Beatrice's father, Samson, as 'our English dad' a title that has firmly stuck.

## SCHOOL IN NEED

Beatrice's brother, Tom, taught at the main secondary school in Rongo, and was trying to establish the Joyceland Preparatory School, which would take care of local orphans and destitute children. At the time of Len's first visit, there were 150 children on the register.

Len saw the need for help and once home, he spoke to fellow Lions in Beverley and they came up with a plan to support Tom and his school. Since then, Beverly Lions and their supporters have updated the school with fit-for-purpose buildings, clean water, desks, teaching equipment and even uniforms.

During Len's visit last December (his sixth), the number of pupils had grown to 280, Len said: "On each visit I have been able to do some manual work to help, and it gives me so much pleasure to do what I can, even if it's just playing with the children."

As the school gets no financial help from its local authority, every penny is

precious. In 2017, Beverly Lions donated £250, which was spent on two, 90kg bags of maize for the children's meals and it also funded the poultry project that supports the school.

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE

The school's annual report emphasises the support of Beverly Lions and Len, the latest report states: *Mr White has devoted his time and his life, despite his advanced age trying to see that education reaches the interior parts of Africa. This has opened a new chapter in the lives of many unfortunate young people.*

In a letter to the secretary of Beverly Lions, Tom Okoth Obonyo, head teacher and project co-ordinator, wrote: *I wish to register our inner appreciation and say that we are greatly indebted to your organisation. It is difficult to say thank you since we cannot actually find the best way to do it.*

*Your Lions Club has a share in the transformation of the lives of those less fortunate and disadvantaged young children. History will judge Mr White as the school sponsor, and Beverly Lions have helped to guarantee lifelong benefits for these children."*

It is very important to note that as this article goes to press, Len is now preparing for his next trip to the school. Even more remarkable is the fact that Len, a supreme example of Lionism, is 95 years-old.

Long may 'our English dad' continue his life-changing work.



**PICTURED:** Joyceland pupils in their uniforms



# Lions Day With the United Nations



The MD Lions Day with the United Nations was held on Tuesday 13th March at the Palace of Westminster, London. Nicky Rogers, Lion editor reports.

The annual United Nations Day was held as usual, in the Palace of Westminster in Committee Room 14. MD International Relations Officer, Lion Evan Wm Jones welcomed over 180 Lions from MD 105 together with International guests from Iceland, Belgium, Germany, & Canada.

Chairman of Council, Lion Balvinder Singh Sokhi, reflected on the work that the UN and Lions have carried out in the 70 years since the end of World War II, to improve the lives of millions of people around the world. He said: "This is a time of great change and challenges, but we can build on our successes and move forward, picking up new members on the way."

He went on to say that Lions should be proud of what they've achieved and "It's a wonderful thing to be a Lion, we do amazing things when we work together."

## REFUGEES

Lion Howard Lee updated delegates on the continuing plight of refugees around the world, particularly the growing number of deaths among those who try and escape to Europe by crossing the Mediterranean. Even though the risk of the journey is increasing, when the refugees do get to Europe, they frequently find that it's hard to move on as countries close their borders to them, or just rush them through. He said: "Hungary is not allowing the formation of any new charities to help refugees and is taxing existing charities."

Close to one million refugees from Syria are now in Turkey. Local Lions are helping them settle into society once they have been released from the transit camps, by for example, providing first aid back packs and school supplies etc. Swedish Lions have set up child-safe areas in Turkey and Lebanon, Lions from Greece and Italy provide survival packs and in Germany, Lions have produced a guide to help refugees settle there and organise

social events to encourage them to mingle with their new local communities.

UK Lions have provided help via the UN and UNHCR and is working with both organisations to identify areas of greatest need.

## GLOBAL NATURE OF LIONS

James Cleverly MP, President of the Palace of Westminster Lions paid a flying visit to the event during his busy Westminster day and said that we should celebrate the very long relationship between Lions and the UN. He said: "The global nature of Lions is so very important as we think about what we can do to help organisations like the UN and we should be very proud of Lions' work."

## CHERISH THE UN

Lord Wood of Anfield, is the Chairman of the UN Association-UK. In his address he said: "If the United Nations wasn't around, we'd have to invent it, so we should cherish what it does, as it will continue to be needed.

"The case for international cooperation starts with individual countries and we are now looking at some of the biggest challenges we have ever faced.

"The UN Association-UK ties in with Lions in that it goes to places where suffering is endemic, it is often first in and last out."

He finished by saying that he hoped the partnership between Lions and the UN continues.

## UNESCO

Next to speak was James Bridge, CEO and Secretary General of the UK Commission of UNESCO. He said that he'd brought a



• James Cleverly MP



• Lord Wood of Anfield



• James Bridge



• Mia Reed with Lions Gudrun Bjort Yngvadottir and Balvinder Singh Sokhi



message with him from the Icelandic Head of UNESCO, who was very proud that Lion Gudrun Bjort Yngvadottir was going to address delegates at the event.

James said that the UK needs to show the world that it is reaching out, particularly in war zones, but, "partly thank to the UN, some areas previously at war are now peaceful, if we don't continue to invest though, conflict may flare up again."

He quoted part of UNESCO's constitution that was written just after World War II, saying: "Since wars begin in the minds of men and women, it is in the minds of men and women that the defences of peace must be constructed."

**PEACE POSTER WINNER**

The peace poster competition is open to 11 to 13 year-olds who are briefed to illustrate their vision of peace. This year, every single district sent in an entry, and the winner was Mia Reed, who was sponsored by Clacton-on-Sea Lions 105-EA. Mia was presented with her framed poster by Lion Brigitte Green (MDHQ), a certificate and a cheque for £100. Accepting her award, Mia said: "I'm a great believer in peace, and my picture depicts my vision of the future of a multi-cultural world where people are valued as individuals.

"Let's hope my poster turns art into reality."

For people with restricted vision, or no vision at all, painting a poster isn't an option, so this year we ran an essay competition with the same theme of peace. The winning essayist was Tom Connell, sponsored by City of Liverpool Lions Club. As he has no vision at all, Tom was accompanied by his tutor, Dave Benbow for his presentation. Tom is only just starting to read and write in braille so very impressively, he had memorised as much of his winning essay as possible so that he could recite parts of it. He received a standing ovation.

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

In 2017, the UN issued a formal 'General Comment on Children in Street Situations' which provided a legal framework to protect the rights of children – but more importantly this was the first time that Children in Street Situations was given explicit recognition and it is binding on all countries that are signatories the Children's Rights Convention of the United Nations.

In order to strengthen the collaboration between LCIF and LCI and the two important NGOs active in street work; Dynamo International (a Belgian Lions NGO) and the Consortium for

Street Children (CSC), Oak Brook developed a Memorandum of Understanding.

The Memorandum was then signed by IVP Lion Gudrun and Lion Philippe Gerondal on behalf of LCI, and Lion Max Mongia on behalf of CSC. The Memorandum had already been signed by Julien Ribaud, a Director of Dynamo International.

**INTERNATIONAL 1<sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT, LION GUDRUN BJORT YNGVADOTTIR**

Gudrun is our first female International 1st Vice President, and she started by saying: "My theme as International President will be 'We Serve', which ensures that Lions do not forget that we must focus on service.

"I am very proud to be able to show the world that we now have parity – men and women can lead and serve together.

"Celebrating the partnership between the UN and Lions, let's hope for a brighter future for the world.

"Lions have already made a difference, but collaboration with other organisations can help us do so much more, the UN has embraced the idea that it must constantly evolve to succeed – adding new agencies to address new challenges.

"Lions have also evolved during the past 100 years to meet the needs of our societies, and we must now reset our service framework to now serve 200m people annually."

She closed her speech by saying: "It makes perfect sense for the UN and Lions to be partners – we all believe in service even though we speak different languages and have different faiths.

"Lions never back away from a challenge, we value our UN partnership and together, we can make a difference."

**Q&A**

The Q&A session following the speeches focused on the harrowing news coming out of Syria and the growing homelessness problems closer to home, specifically, how Lions can help.

Lion Peter Burnett gave the vote of thanks as the event was closed by Lion Evan Wm Jones.

**PICTURED:** The winning peace poster by Mia Reed



• Lion Philippe Gerondal



• Tom Connell with his tutor, Dave Benbow



# Sounds OF A Century

Philip Goodier, Council Treasurer, reports on the Sounds of a Century celebration. It was two years in the planning but only 48 hours in the execution, and will live long in the memories of those who were there.

As part of the programme of events to celebrate our Centenary, the Centennial Committee organised a music festival, depicting the music, fashions and styles of every decade since the birth of Lionism in 1917.

The Royal Armouries in Leeds, was the venue for this exceptional event, providing a superb venue, excellent food and good service over the two days.

## FUN FRIDAY

We started on the Friday night with a Cockney sing-a-long, recalling the songs of the First World War. Then, slightly out of chronological order due to availability, we savoured the voice of Beverley Savarin and her tribute to Whitney Houston. A beautiful voice and a beautiful tribute.

With Tessa Smith & The Applejacks, we found ourselves tapping our toes to the music of the 1920's and 1930's, the era of the Charleston and the Lindy Hop and it was pleasing to see a surprising number dancing to the Charleston.

Moving forward in time we were entertained by the Hotsie Totsies, an all-female, all singing, all harmonising trio with a

super repertoire of WWII classics from acts such as The Andrew Sisters and Ruth Eating and a cheeky line in patter! Lois 'Legs' Laurelle, Minnie Maloney and Rita Roo Rossiter were fabulous!

After a short break to allow the audience to get their breath back we moved into the rock and roll of the 1950's and were treated to an hour of classic tracks by The Claytons, before Martin Jarvis reprised his Tom Jones tribute act. Welsh, whiskered and witty, Martin has had a long career in the music profession and it showed as he eased us into the early hours of Saturday morning.

## SUPER SATURDAY

Everyone was buzzing at breakfast on Saturday morning, re-living Friday and looking forward to another 10 hours of music.

Everyone was seated early for Saturday afternoon, where, after a sumptuous afternoon tea, the main event was the Jersey Guys, the UK's premier tribute to the Jersey Boys and the music of Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons, who got us off to an amazing start. Wow – what a show!

A quick change and off we went again. Saturday night, yes, 'fever' no, just high expectations!

We began our seven hours of music on the Saturday with 'The King'. Many Elvis tributes defer to his 'Vegas' era, all rhinestones and jump suits. Not Lee Jackson, he is young, he has the looks, the eyes, he wears the clothes, he sings and plays the guitar and he sent a shiver down many a lady's spine when he came on stage.

How do you follow 'The King'? With the Beach Boys! We were now well into the 1960's and enjoyed 60 minutes of amazing sounds. 'I can hear music', yes, we could, and we certainly got 'good vibrations'.

The music continued, as we moved from the 1960's into the 1970's. The 'Bootleg Bee Gees' took us through nearly 50 years of amazing hits, some of which the audience had forgotten were written by the Bee Gees, such is their repertoire. The 'jive' was really 'talkin'.

Into the 1980's and 1990's we moved with Nicola Marie giving her tribute to two iconic female stars: the 'Material Girl' herself,



Madonna, and Amy Winehouse. Amy Winehouse was the act we worried about the most, would the audience relate to her?

Nicola was very clever, singing well-known songs in the style of Amy. Nicola's performance showcased her remarkable likeness to Amy's voice: the richness, the depth, the quality, everything. Neither was the performance derogatory to Amy herself. To our considerable relief, everyone seemed to enjoy the show.

**FABULOUS FREDDIE**

How do you end two days and 16 hours of music celebrating the 100 years of Lionism? With the most iconic showman of the late 20th century – Freddie Mercury. Gary Goodmaze is possibly Europe's leading Freddie Mercury tribute act. Gary has an uncanny resemblance to Freddie Mercury: with the looks, voice and showmanship, he was 'guaranteed to blow our minds'. Very few people had left before Gary, as Freddie and the Mercury's came on stage and we were rewarded with an outstanding piece of musical theatre.

What an ending – 100 years of music, truly, the 'sounds of a century'.

The Centennial Committee thanks Jackie Dyer, who acted as our booking agent and arranged all the acts, and Andy Wilsher, who performed his 'Rat Pack', 'Michael Bubl ' and 'Robbie Williams' tributes at different times over the weekend.

So, what did the attendees think?

- "What a fab day and night of music and friendship and fun – I was bowled over, it was great."
- "I thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon tea and the wonderful music (this from a non-Lion).

In addition, there have been many, many positive comments on social media, along with photos and video clips. To quote one:

- "In my 30 years as a member of this great association, I have enjoyed hundreds of social events up and down the country, but this weekend has been the best ever. A weekend of top-quality tribute acts and music, served with good food in a perfect venue."

Among the audience were several individuals, both Lions and non-Lions, who made us aware that their careers were as professional entertainers or music teachers; all of them commented favourably on the quality and musicianship of the performers, and how pleased they were to listen to 'live' music.





# Message in a Bottle Update

Lion Brigitte Green Lions HQ Manager updates us on the Lions 'message in a bottle' scheme.

At the last 'message in a bottle' (MIAB) District Officers meeting at Lions HQ in Birmingham, we talked about how the project was evolving and about creating a new form.

We have now put that new form together and it has been presented to the District Governors at the recent Council meeting.

The good news is that the new form now incorporates dementia and Alzheimer patients and it is a useful tool not only to the ambulance service and paramedics, but also to the Police, who spend many valuable hours searching for patients with dementia, often without a clue where to start looking.

The Police have told us that any search for such a person starts at their home, therefore, the additional information on the MIAB form will be critical in attempting to find them if they go missing.

We now have a stock of the new forms at MDHQ. A couple of officers have asked if they should go back and replace old forms they have given out in the past, but that seems almost an impossible task to complete.

As the word gets out I think many people with a message in a bottle in the fridge may request a new form only to update the details. There is an electronic version of the form as well on the MD website.

## PRODUCTION DELAYS

Sadly, we must report that we are experiencing some long delays at Garth Prison. Firstly a part had broken on the moulding machine and that had to come from London. Then the part that came was not the correct one and another one ordered. Then the machine started producing again and we had everything crossed to catch up – to then be told by the prison that they had decided to move workshops

and they would have to shut down production again for approximately three weeks.

We are currently 10 pallets behind but assure you we are in contact with the prison every other day to keep the momentum going and hope we can catch up soon.

Every day at MDHQ we get between 10 and 20 enquiries about this project, mostly on where to obtain a bottle – the requests for bottles continues to grow, and we do all that we can to satisfy those demands.

Unfortunately the price of a pallet has had to increase. John Reid Trucking have increased the price of moving a pallet by £5.00, they asked for the increase from 1st January but we have negotiated the price rise from 1st February.

Of course the new leaflet in the bottle has also caused an additional price rise in print costs and that means each pallet has an additional print cost of £15.00.

In total therefore, the cost of each pallet will increase by £20.00. The new cost per pallet is now be £730.00.

## FANTASTIC WORK

For that additional print cost, we have produced a new more professional-looking form with bigger spaces for completing the information, and new relevant questions covering areas now being requested by health professionals.

This is an exciting time for the MIAB project. All of you do such fantastic work in our own Districts and I am sure many of you will be already talking with dementia groups and other such bodies and if we can help you then please let us know how we can support the work that you are doing.

I hope the information here has been useful – if you would like to share any



**PICTURED:** The message in the bottle scheme is a lifesaver

MIAB information, please let us know so that we can put another update together for you.

### Details can be sent to:

Lion Matthew Bungard MIAB  
MD Officer  
Email: [lionmatty@hotmail.com](mailto:lionmatty@hotmail.com)

or to

Lion Brigitte Green Lions HQ  
Manager. 257 Alcester Road  
South, Birmingham B14 6DT  
Email:  
[Brigitte@lionsmd105hq.org.uk](mailto:Brigitte@lionsmd105hq.org.uk)  
Tel: **0845 833 9502**

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# Celebrating the Centenary at Buckingham Palace

Patron of Lions Clubs of the British Isles, The Countess of Wessex G.C.V.O. held a reception at Buckingham Palace on Wednesday, 28th February to celebrate a 'Century of Service'. Lion Philip Goodier reports:

The reception was held in recognition of the contribution made by LCI and each individual Lion over the course of the past 100 years.

Members from across the British Isles, who were selected by their Clubs, were joined at the reception with representatives of the organisations' charity partners.

When Lion Phil Nathan presented his proposals for the MD Centennial programme in January 2015, he hoped that it might be possible to have a royal reception as part of the celebration.

Submissions were made and in early January 2018, we were able to announce that we had been granted the opportunity of a reception at Buckingham Palace, to be hosted by our Patron, HRH The Countess of Wessex, GCVO.

The timescale was very tight but by the end of January, the guest list totalled 405 and work continued into early February to ensure the correct details of those



attending were submitted. A commemorative brochure (pictured) was compiled, approved, proofed, printed and delivered and invitations were posted.

## BRAVING THE ELEMENTS

On the day, the 'Beast from the East' arrived – the weather was the worst we've had for many years with strong winds and snow. It was bitterly cold as Lions from across the MD began their journeys to London, some possibly more in hope than expectation, public transport was heavily disrupted in places and the wind chill factor took temperatures well below zero.

Sadly, some did not make it to London, however 380 did – a remarkable achievement that says much about the determination of those invited to attend this very special occasion.

Some Clubs nominated their longest serving member while others nominated their newest member so the age range of attendees was very wide, from two Leos beginning their service in the community to members in their 80s and 90s who have given many, many years of service.

The Reception itself was held in the ballroom, where the Countess, in a wonderfully appropriate address, acknowledged the Leos and her admiration for the drive and commitment they show at such a young age. She complimented her fellow members on the work they have done (and continue to do) for their communities over many years and expressed her pride in being 'our' Patron.

In response, PID Phil Nathan thanked her and summarised the many successes achieved in our Centennial programme. He looked to the future by outlining one of our major challenges; the recently agreed partnership with Brain Tumour Research.

He presented the Countess with a Melvin Jones Fellowship and it surprised her just as much as any other recipient. Acknowledging the recognition of her work, the Countess said that it was her privilege to be a visible focus for the exceptional work done by so many.

After the formalities, our Patron spoke to as many of the attendees as possible, to



• Phil Nathan responding to the address by HRH



• Yallan Townsend, Garstang Lions Club, CC Balvinder and HRH



• Younger Lions



• The gathering

the pleasure of all – we even saw some joining the line further down for a second conversation!

This was a remarkable event. Words from the feedback we received include: wonderful, lovely, memorable, outstanding and exceptional. To quote another two words: brilliantly organised.

We must thank everyone for their hard work in the run up to the event and at the event itself. We also thank the members of the Centennial committee. The Palace staff were a pleasure to work with, in fact many attendees commented very favourably on the exceptional warmth and desire to help that they showed.

We are indebted to the Countess, not only for her continuing support and encouragement, but for showing that she is a superb and knowledgeable speaker, we are fortunate to have such a wonderful ambassador for Lions Clubs International.

During her address, the Countess made reference to seeing Lions walking across the snow-covered Buckingham Palace courtyard under darkening skies in single file, heads down against the blizzard: saying it was a scene reminiscent of the painting 'French retreat' by Illarion Pryanishnikov.



• HRH addressing the audience

### PICTURE PRESENTATION

Lion Rabi Chowdhury said: "It was a pleasure and honour to attend the Centenary celebration of LCI at Buckingham Palace, on behalf of Milton Keynes Central Lions Club.

"Lion Phil Nathan introduced me to HRH Countess of Wessex so I could present her with a photo of the Queen Mother having tea with my great uncle and aunt, Mr and Mrs P M Chowdhury. My uncle was the Indian Ambassador at the British Embassy in Paris in 1956.



"The picture was taken just after they had all attended wedding of Grace Kelly to Prince Rainer."



• HRH responding to the Melvin Jones presentation



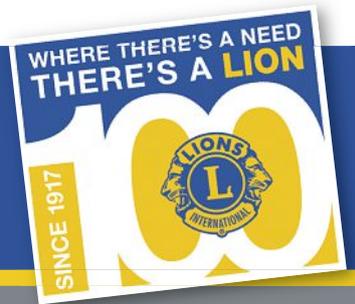
• HRH and Lions



• The audience



# CENTENNIAL PROJECTS



## Centennial Celebration Membership Awards

The Centennial Celebration Membership Awards provides all Lions and Lions Clubs the opportunity to earn special Limited Edition awards for inviting new members and helping to organise new clubs.

To find out more, visit: <http://members.lionsclubs.org/EN/lions/awards/centennial-membership-awards/index.php>

## 105 M Zone C Centennial Project

At the first Zone meeting of last year, Lion Brian Hornsby of Balsall Common Lions Club, suggested that funds should be raised to buy a 'duplicator', an essential piece of equipment for the Solihull Borough Talking Newspaper Association.

Zone Chair, Lion Jaap de Jonge, said: "This demonstrates what Lions are all about and although this piece of equipment is not something a lot of people see, Lions is about sight and the talking newspaper is very important to around 200 people in our area with bad eyesight."

**PICTURED:** Presenting the duplicator to the Solihull Borough Talking Newspaper Association >>



**PICTURED:** Winslow Lions settling in their Centennial tree

## Winslow Lions' Giant Redwood

The Lions Club of Winslow wanted to mark the Centennial, with a project that would benefit new residents of Winslow for years to come.

Following the bulb planting in the Tompkins Park and Arboretum, they decided that a Giant Redwood (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*) would be fitting.

With help from their friends at 'Men In Sheds' in Winslow, who built the wooden tree protector and the commemorative plaque, the sapling is now planted in the Arboretum for the residents of Winslow to enjoy.

## Seaton's Centenary Tree

Seaton and District Lions Club have commemorated the centenary by planting a tree in the town. East Devon District Council Streetscene suggested that it would be a good idea to replace a tree in Windsor Gardens that had died. The new tree is a *Cercis Candadensis* (Forest Pansy). Its small, bright-pink flowers appear in clusters on bare stems before the leaves appear in the spring and its heart-shaped, deep purple leaves turn to orange, bronze and red-purple in the autumn, so it's a good all year round tree.

**PICTURED:** Seaton and District Lions in Windsor Gardens >>



# Teesdale and District Lions Club Centennial Project

As their Centennial project, Teesdale and District Lions Club responded to an appeal by the Friends of the North Pennines Trust, to help install a new kissing gate where the Pennine Way bypasses the remote Widdybank Farm, in Upper Teesdale.

Once in place, members of the Club, Durham County Council and Moor House Upper Teesdale Nature Reserve, were invited by the Trust to inspect the gate on a freezing day in November.

After meeting up with representatives from the Trust, an intrepid party of Lions negotiated the track up to the farm then ventured out into the teeth of the blizzard, to see the gate.

The party lingered just long enough for a few photographs, admired the ceremonial plaque that is attached to the gate, then fled back to the warmth of the Reserve Resources Centre for tea and coffee.

The second of the Club's Centennial projects is a partnership with a local environmental group, who are managing the



**PICTURED:** The kissing gate



**PICTURED:** Teesdale and District Lions wrapped up against the elements

riverside area known as The Demesnes in Barnard Castle. The Club has provided a large amount of hay meadow seeds for this area, which hopefully, will provide a wall of colour next year, as well as attracting wildlife.

# Clitheroe Lions Club Take a Pause for a Rest



To celebrate the Centenary, Clitheroe Lions approached the local council and offered to pay for the refurbishment of six benches in the heart of town, which were in urgent need of repair.

The work was completed in February and the benches were officially unveiled as a thank you to the people of Clitheroe and District for their 35 years of support since the Club was founded in 1983.



**PICTURED:** One of the Clitheroe Lions' benches



**PICTURED:** The Lord Lieutenant of Staffordshire, Lion Ian Dudson, with members of Stoke on Trent Lions Club

# They Hit a Six!

Stoke on Trent Lions Club marked the centennial by buying and installing a life-saving defibrillator in each of the six towns which make up the City of Stoke on Trent, which are Stoke, Hanley, Fenton, Longton, Burslem and Tunstall.

The scheme has the full backing of West Midlands Ambulance Service and Stoke on Trent Lions are working with AEDdonate to ensure that training will be given to anyone wanting to learn how to save lives in the event of cardiac arrest.



# The Shape of Our Water

By Erin Kasdin

Water is, quite literally, everywhere. The most abundant substance in the world; it covers more than two thirds of the Earth’s surface. It makes up 70 percent of our bodies. It comes down on our heads when we leave the house without an umbrella. Yet, in Cape Town, South Africa, there is none to drink.

The Pacific Ocean is home to most of the islands in the world — 25,000 atolls, archipelagos, and islets. It’s also home to the Great Pacific Garbage Patch — a soupy vortex of marine rubbish that, as of October 2016, was estimated to span more than 1.7 million square miles. The patch isn’t really a solid mass, but an area of high concentration of litter at the surface, with most of the debris comprised of very small pieces of floating plastic that may not be readily visible. It was only recently discovered, but debris has been washing ashore on Pacific coast beaches for decades, creating hazards for humans and wildlife, and bearing a chilling reminder

that what we throw away doesn’t really go “away.”

## WATER EMERGENCY IN CAPE TOWN UNITES SOUTH AFRICAN LIONS

Cape Town, South Africa is facing a frightening crisis, with municipal water taps set to run dry on 12th April 2018. Despite being surrounded by some of the world’s most beautiful beaches and seas, the ‘Mother City’ city is suffering a severe drought that started in 2015 and has steadily depleted its natural resources, leaving residents of Cape Town facing a disaster unlike anything seen before.

Area Leader and Past District Governor, Carl van Blerk, founding member and Charter President of Edens Lion Club, based in the coastal town of George, just under 300 miles from Cape Town, notes the ingenuity that residents of Cape Town have shown, turning to inventive ways to save water. “Never before have toilet habits been so well-debated by men and women,” he says. With phrases such as: “If it’s brown, flush it down,” and “if it’s yellow, let it mellow,” now found printed on papers and stuck on toilet doors across the city, residents are holding each other accountable. However, they haven’t curbed their water use enough and the



## Cleaning up the Coasts One Piece of Plastic at a Time

In 2012, a 165-ton floating structure washed up on Agate beach along the Pacific coast in Oregon.



**PICTURED:** Cleaning up the coasts  
(IMAGE COURTESY OF BRANSON TARR)

The 66-foot-long piece of concrete and steel was seven feet high and 19 feet wide. And it happened to have come from across the Pacific Ocean.

It was a Japanese dock that had been torn away during the 2011 tsunami, taking just over a year to make its way to a remote area of Oregon’s famous coastline, where it promptly beached itself. It was, essentially, a large piece of marine debris.

Marine debris has become a growing concern over the past few decades as more and more of what we consume is considered ‘one-use’ and made of materials that do not degrade. The result is an accumulation of floating debris across the world’s seas. Weather conditions wash items ashore and fish and wildlife become entangled or eat the debris and become sick. “And it’s also kind of a public nuisance. People come out to our beaches and they expect to see a very wild place and they’re very surprised to see things like rope and



city has now limited usage to 50 litres (just over 13 gallons) of water per person, per day.

South Africans from all over are coming together to help, with people sending bottles of tap water in trucks from as far away as Johannesburg — nearly 900 miles from Cape Town. van Blerk notes that as well-intentioned as these efforts are, tap water from unreliable sources, poured into unsanitary bottles, and shipped on the back of trucks over long distances can spell a secondary health disaster.

Recognising the need for a co-ordinated effort to get clean water to residents of Cape Town, the Edens Lions have stepped in and designated the Cape Town Water Project a priority for the Club. They have called on residents of South Africa — and the world — to look at donating funds.

All funds raised will be used to buy bulk water at greatly reduced prices from water suppliers just outside of Cape Town, where the drought has not taken affect. The five litre (1.3 gallon) sealed bottles of water, are then transported by



**PICTURED: Residents wait for water**  
(IMAGE COURTESY OF AP)

the supplier in suitable trucks, to a central location in Cape Town and distributed to Lions Clubs throughout the region. The local Clubs then distribute the water where it is needed most — such as homes with elderly, young children, or the sick.

An eight-ton truck can carry approximately 1,600 bottles of fresh water and can be delivered for around US\$1,600 — just a dollar per bottle.

Local schools from across the country have been asked to join the Lions Water for Cape Town drive by collecting enough funds to buy and send a truckload of water to a school in Cape Town, along with a message of hope and love for those who are in need.

“Residents from across South Africa have come together in a way that South Africans have proven in the past they can do so well,” says van Blerk.

plastic bottles,” says Carole Bernthal, Sanctuary Superintendent for Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary, in Port Angeles, Washington.

In 2007, the Clallam Bay Sekiu Lions Club joined other local organisations to form the Washington Clean Coast Alliance. The Alliance then launched CoastSavers to co-ordinate the efforts of individuals and volunteer groups that had been cleaning up Washington’s Pacific Coast since 1971.

Nancy Messmer, from the Clallam Bay Sekiu Lions Club, and Environmental co-Chair for Multiple District 19, was one of the Lions instrumental in organizing CoastSavers. Messmer and her husband, Lion Roy Morris, wanted to use the collective power of all the individuals and groups who were interested in keeping marine debris at bay. “Lions don’t ever need to work alone. You can always work in partnership,” she says.

Lions Clubs along the coast in the US and Canada now participate in three yearly cleanups along the outer coast of Washington and into the Strait of Juan de Fuca. Their signature event, the Washington Coast Cleanup, began as a series of separate beach cleanups but now draws 1,200 – 1,400 participants and moves more than 20 tons of debris.

“Individually it is really overwhelming, especially when you look at the rates of marine debris buildup,” says Bernthal. “[But] by working together we can really make a difference.

And we have to, there’s no choice. I don’t want to give our children and their children a sea that is devoid of life.”

Bernthal believes that working with Lions may be an important key to success in the fight against sea rubbish.

“I would love to see this spread all across the Pacific Rim. And an organisation like Lions Club is really key to that because you are located in many, many communities around the world. So you have the ability to tap into people that I have no access to,” says Bernthal.

Messmer thinks it’s important to broaden the picture of what it means to be a Lion. Protecting the environment isn’t necessarily new to Lions, she says. “So many parks are Lions Clubs parks. We take care of trails, we clean our community. All of us do that. Much of that is protecting our environment.”

The goal, of course, isn’t to see the number of volunteers at beach cleanups — and the corresponding amount of rubbish collected — continue to grow. The ultimate goal is to stop the flow of rubbish into the seas to begin with, says Messmer. “When you go out on a wild beach and you pick up marine debris and you’re lugging bags of marine debris around, it makes you very sad. And then it starts to make you mad. And our idea is that people that are both sad about marine debris on beaches and mad about it, will start asking where this stuff is coming from. And that’s the start of working on prevention.”





CONTINUED FROM PAGE 37 >>>

Even if you aren't a beachgoer, marine debris can impact on you. In addition to the tons of rubbish that make it to shore, all over the world there are large amounts of concentrated debris formed into patches by rotating sea currents. This floating rubbish has economic ramifications in addition to the stunning environmental damage it causes. For example, The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) reports that a team of researchers found that by removing derelict crab pots in active fishing areas, the blue crab harvest could increase by nearly 24 percent — a difference of US\$33.5 million.

But mostly, the members of CoastSavers believe that caring for our seas is part of being good stewards of the Earth — for ourselves, other living creatures, and future generations.

"We're all downstream from somebody," says Messmer.

### REDUCE YOUR WATER FOOTPRINT

According to a 2014 Government Accountability Report, 40 out of 50 state water managers in the US expect water shortages under average conditions in some portion of their states over the next decade.

Reduce your water footprint with some easy adjustments.

**Check your taps:** Leaks account for more than one trillion gallons of wasted water every year in the US, or 10,000 gallons per household.

**Replace your lawn:** Some municipal water suppliers in the US are paying people to replace their lawns with drought-resistant and native species, sometimes called a 'cash-for-grass' programme.

**Take shorter showers:** One 10-minute shower with a traditional showerhead uses about 50 gallons of water. Replace your showerhead with a low-flow model and cut that in half.

**Turn off the tap:** Letting the water run as you brush your teeth or wash dishes wastes two gallons per minute — as much as 3,000 gallons of water per year.

**Choose less meat:** A lot of resources — especially water — are needed to produce meat. Replacing one pound of beef with vegetables once a week can save more than 94,000 gallons of water per year.

### WHAT IS MARINE DEBRIS?

Marine debris is any rubbish that somehow ends up in the sea. A plastic water bottle you threw away several months ago in your kitchen bin can blow away and end up in nearby sewers or waterways where it eventually makes its way to the sea.

Commercial fishing boats may lose gear in storms and nets, hooks, and other nasty things end up adrift, damaging coastal fisheries and killing marine life that gets caught in the lines or swallow the debris.



PICTURED: CoastSaver  
(IMAGE COURTESY OF HEIDI WALKER)

## Help Keep Rubbish Out of the Sea

#### Reduce

- reduce the amount of waste you produce by using products that have recyclable or reusable containers;
- reduce the amount of litter in waterways by ensuring your rubbish and recycling receptacles have properly fitting lids; and
- avoid buying products with excessive packaging.

#### Reuse

- use reusable shopping bags;
- at work, bring your lunch in a reusable lunchbox or cooler; and
- pack sandwiches, snacks, and drinks in reusable containers rather than in plastic bags and disposable bottles.

#### Recycle

- know what your community recycles and what it doesn't; and
- buy products made from recycled materials.

No matter where you live or what kind of work you do, you can help reduce marine debris.

To learn more about CoastSavers visit: [Coastsavers.org](http://Coastsavers.org)



# Project Ideas

Whether you are a beginner or an experienced environmentalist, here are some ideas to get your Club going:

**Plant trees:** Consult your local environment authorities to determine a location and the type and number of trees needed.

**Clean up a natural area:** Pick a beach, a park, or a favourite trail and meet monthly to pick up debris.

**Collect used mobile phones:** Set up a donation box just as you would for spectacles, then distribute them to individuals in need.

**Reduce water waste:** Survey your homes and community for leaks in sinks or communal water fountains. Contact local officials if repairs are needed.

**Start a community recycling drive:** Ask for hard-to-use items that can be donated to charity organisations.

**Organise an environmental-themed mural competition:** Place the winner's artwork in an appropriate area to beautify your community and promote environmental awareness.

**Raise native plant awareness:** Plant a demonstration garden using native plant species to encourage community members to landscape in an ecologically sustainable way.

**Build a garden:** Work with local schools to establish organic gardens and composting programmes to improve the quality of school meals and reduce waste.

## WATCH LIONS IN ACTION PROTECTING THEIR ENVIRONMENT:

CoastSavers cleans a Pacific coast beach:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OIWT6DhdXh0&feature=youtu.be>

Jamaican Clubs reforest their land:

<https://www.facebook.com/lionsclubs/videos/vl.1655014488098574/10153218086477492/?type=1>



PICTURED: Lions cleaning up the beach  
(IMAGE COURTESY OF BRANSON TARR)



# Our Young Ambassadors

Lions of MD 105 gathered in Dudley for a weekend recently to honour the truly inspirational young people who were hoping to become the Young Ambassador of the 21st Century 2018. Lion editor, Nicky Rogers, reports.

The Young Ambassador scheme operates throughout Europe and aims to recognise, encourage and support young people who are actively involved in the welfare of the community. Candidates are selected by a Lions, Leos or Lioness Club and each Club is responsible for actively sponsoring the candidate as they progress through the levels of the competition.

So even before they got to this MD final stage, all the entrants had won at Club and District levels; then the winner of the MD final goes on to the European final held at Europa Forum.

All finalists win a bursary of £500 and the overall winner receives a further bursary of £1,000 and a silver rose bowl, which they keep for a year. These bursaries are to be used to support the candidates' projects, or for training to develop the candidate's potential to carry out their welfare work.

## GROW OUR FAMILY OF LIONS

Cath Kendall, MD105 Young Ambassador Chair, opened this magical event by saying: "This weekend is a great weekend, in fact, all Clubs should start to look for next year's candidates already."

"There are many, many more out there just like them, so get out there and find them."

She said: "We are here to honour and learn about the support the Young Ambassadors give to their communities and further afield, these young people are at a crossroads in their lives, as they tackle GCSEs and A Levels, just where do they find the time to do so much?"

"We'd like to keep them in our family of Lions."

## COOL, CONFIDENT MR CURTIS

Last year's Young Ambassador, James Curtis, received a standing ovation even before he began his speech. He told his audience how he had spent his £1,000 bursary and is travelling to Arizona later this year to launch his peer-to-peer network for young people who are deaf.

## THE 2018 FINALISTS

Over the awards weekend, the candidates were interviewed by judges, Jill Hood (the lead judge) Chris Train and Shez Webb, then on awards day itself, each candidate gave a three-minute presentation to a packed audience of Lions and parents. To stand



on a stage and speak though a microphone is nerve-wracking enough, but a good half of the candidates were also struggling with winter illnesses, sore throats, coughs and colds, but every single one soldiered on, which is a measure of their tenacity and commitment to their cause.

A common theme developed during the morning as we listened to each candidate in turn. Something in their lives had challenged them, something that could have broken lesser

## THE 2018 FINALISTS

• <b>Adele Bayman</b>	Windermere & Ambleside Lions Club	<b>District BN</b>
• <b>Tanguy Billet-Masters</b>	Jersey Lions Club	<b>District D</b>
• <b>Jemima Browning</b>	Selby Lions Club	<b>District C</b>
• <b>Hannah Carthew</b>	Shirley Lions Club	<b>District M</b>
• <b>Georgia Flatman</b>	Fairlop Lions Club	<b>District A</b>
• <b>Abi Henderson</b>	Beaumaris Menai Althwy Lions Club	<b>District BS</b>
• <b>Charlie Latimer-Camilleri</b>	Clacton-on-Sea Lions Club	<b>District EA</b>
• <b>Jess Newton</b>	Retford Lions Club	<b>District E</b>
• <b>Chloe Parrott</b>	Horsham Lions Club	<b>District SE</b>
• <b>Beth Rowe</b>	Scarborough Lions Club	<b>District NE</b>
• <b>Laura Woodman</b>	Thornbury Lions Club	<b>District W</b>



**PICTURED:** All the candidates with last year's winner, James Curtis (far left, front) and at the back (L-R) judges Shez Webb and Jill Hood, with Cath Kendall, MD105 Young Ambassador Chair



**PICTURED:** Jemima Browning, the Young Ambassador of the 21st Century 2018

individuals, but a spark in each and every one of these young people grew into a determination to overcome, and it drove them to share their experiences to help others. Some had received help from other organisations or individuals at just the right time, some just saw a gap where help was needed. No matter the route, these heroic young people have changed their own lives and are working to change the lives of those who are still in need.

### THE CANDIDATES

It would be wrong to single out any of the candidates for particular praise, but one-by-one, they spoke passionately and emotionally to an audience, which at times, held its breath. Some of the presentations included the personal stories that had driven the candidates to take their particular course in life, for example, **Charlie Latimer-Camilleri** lives with autism, and she started her presentation by telling us that as part of her condition, she can't filter out background noise, she could hear the air conditioning system whirring in the room and she could hear audience members turning the pages of their programmes. She hosted an autism awareness evening recently and she recruits other people with the condition to raise awareness of it.

**Chloe Parrott** felt very frightened and alone when she was in hospital

following a diagnosis of Type I Diabetes. In her presentation she said: "It was so frightening to be told that there was no cure, and if I win this award, I will make activity packs for other newly-diagnosed young people. It will help them to understand the medical words used in connection with the disease and also to make it clear that no-one is alone. We will stand up to it and remember; Type I Diabetes doesn't stop you doing anything!"

**BETH ROWE** has lived through dark times. From a very young age, she has been a carer for her mum who had depression following domestic violence. In her powerful presentation, Beth said: "I had to give up my childhood. My mum tried to commit suicide and I blamed myself. I had low self-esteem and didn't even bother to wash." Beth was referred to The Young Carers Service and slowly, began to realise

her value and gradually grew more positive. "But", she said, "The effect of being a young carer lasts a lifetime and I now help other young carers to cope with the challenges of their role and to be positive." Beth leads the Young Carers Youth Council and their #wecare campaign.

**Georgia Flatman** is only 15 and ploughing her way through her GCSEs and her silver Duke of Edinburgh Award. Enough of a challenge you'd think, but she is also a member of the Young People Development Group in Barking and Dagenham, which is developing the first 'Youth Zone' in London and when it opens in 2019, it will provide a safe place for young people to congregate, somewhere for them to find someone to talk to and ultimately, will contribute to





**PICTURED:** Shipshape Award winner, Beth Rowe, with Lions Phil and Heidi Nathan



their health and wellbeing. Georgia has received the Young Leaders in Service award four times already and she eventually wants to become a youth worker.

**Jemima Browning** opened her presentation by saying that everyone is equal and everyone deserves the same opportunities. Except, we don't all get the same opportunities do we? Jemima's brother has Down's Syndrome and she quickly became aware that he and his peers simply don't have the same opportunities as her. She said: "They can achieve, they just need extra time and help." Jemima set up Tadcaster Stingrays, a swimming squad for young people with intellectual and physical difficulties, but the focus is firmly on the swimming and each individual's abilities. She is involved in the Play Unified initiative, which encourages people of all different abilities to play sports together. As part of the (take a deep breath) Special Olympics Europe Eurasia Youth Activation Committee (phew) Jemima and her brother are now helping to shape the Special Olympics, specifically, supporting swimmers to navigate the rigorous classification process. She is one of only 20 people *in the world* to receive the Diana Award, which is awarded to courageous, caring, compassionate young people who transform the lives of others in the name of Diana, Princess of Wales.

**Jess Newton** is a lifesaver. Literally. Her heart and soul goes into teaching children to stay safe around water, but lifesaving is also a competitive event and it has taken her all over the world. She will use her bursary to buy a tablet to record the progress of her young lifesavers and she will continue to teach them the skills they need to keep themselves safe around dangerous water.

**Abi Henderson** is a climber and encourages members of youth groups, adult groups and disabled and special needs groups to overcome the challenges associated with climbing. She is so passionate about her volunteering that at a dinner on the Friday evening of the awards weekend, Abi was 'coaching' one of her young pupils, Lily, by phone and text as Lily worked her way up a tricky part of a climbing wall. Abi is raising funds to build a climbing wall at a local primary school and she wants to continue to encourage young women and girls in particular to take part in sports and to be happy, healthy and confident.

**Hannah Carthew** is another young carer looking after her mum. She remembers feeling very isolated, but recognising this, she started a peer-mentoring group for young carers, then transferred the model to her school. She helped to design the school's programme where she is now a young leader and a peer-mentoring buddy. She

has won three awards at school for her voluntary work, has a part-time job and still manages to keep on top of her sixth form academic work.

**Laura Woodman** began her presentation by signing her first introductory words. She volunteers at Incredible Kids, where she is a playworker for children with special needs, where she encourages them to communicate in whatever way they can. Her work also helps to develop the children's social skills and Laura's said that her reward is to see them progress every week. She also volunteers in the pre-school section at Little Acorns, where she works to provide very young children with the skills they'll need to grasp every opportunity that comes their way when they eventually start school. She's a Sea Cadet and is also helping a community in Nepal to build a much-needed library in a local school that was damaged by an earthquake. She said: "I feel lucky to have such a busy and rewarding life."

Bi-lingual **Tanguy Billet-Masters** is passionate about, well, everything! But specifically, the Love Hearts Appeal, linked to Great Ormond Street Hospital, and which funds pioneering research into cardiac conditions. He is an accomplished musician, uses sport, especially table tennis as the basis of the fundraising events he organises from scratch and has ambitions to become a lawyer eventually. Closing his presentation he said: "I aspire to be as good as Lions."

**Adele Bayman**, was the last candidate to make her presentation and battled valiantly to get the better of her failing voice. She is a passionate Girl Guide and she said that organisation really inspired her volunteering life and it gave her a real sense of belonging. Now too old to be a Girl Guide, she has moved up to the senior section and has just embarked on their young leaders course. She's going to Romania this summer with the Guides to work in residential homes for either children or the elderly. She said: "I want Girl Guides to get the recognition they deserve for giving so much to girls."

This was a mightily impressive group of very young people, all destined to change people's lives for the good. Their



### GET INVOLVED

The 2019 final will be held over the weekend 22nd – 24th February.

Visit the 'youth' pages at: <http://lionsclubs.co> for more information about sponsoring a candidate for next year's event.

youth and passion for the wellbeing of fellow citizens demonstrates wisdom way beyond their years. We haven't seen the last of any of these people, they have set themselves on a path that will probably influence everyone they will ever meet.

#### THE MAYOR OF DUDLEY

In his address, Councillor Dave Tyler, Mayor of Dudley, said: "It is a gift and a joy to meet the inspirational Young Ambassadors.

"They help to dispel the myths of nastiness related to youth, but don't forget, they all need the support of adults and that's where Lions come in.

"This has been an inspirational event run by an inspirational organisation."

#### THE WINNERS

There was an overall winner, the Young Ambassador of the 21st Century 2018, and also a winner of the annual Shipshape Award. This award is given by the Jubilee Sailing Trust (JST), a charitable organisation that brings the adventure of four-mast sailing to individuals, including those with a disability. The JST owns and operates two ships, 'Lord Nelson' and 'Tenacious' and this award is presented to the candidate, who in the judge's opinion, would gain most from a voyage on one of the tall ships.

#### SHIPSHAPE AWARD WINNER

As evidenced by the standing ovation, Beth Rowe was the very worthy winner of the Shipshape Award this year. It goes to the candidate that the judges feel would benefit most by learning additional leadership skills. She received her magnificent trophy from Lions Phil Nathan and Heidi Nathan.

#### AND THE WINNER IS...

The Young Ambassador of the 21st Century 2018 is Jemima Browning, sponsored by Selby Lions Club. Jemima received her award from Chairman of the Council of Governors, MD 105, Lion Balvinder Singh Sokhi. Making the decision was incredibly hard according to Jill Hood, Chairman of the Judges, but a unanimous one. Jill said: "We judge young people so quickly, in fact we make up our minds about someone within 10 seconds of meeting them, but we just don't know how worn out some might be feeling – especially those at school who also have caring duties.

"Our Young Ambassadors are amazing, this weekend, they have made us laugh so much, but also made us cry.

"The media can be very unkind to young people, but reporting of this event could start to turn this around.

"Jemima is exceptionally confident and ambitious. She realised early on how low self-esteem and poor communication skills often comes as part of a disability, but that unification can come through sport, and young people have the power to change the world."



Abi Henderson



Adele Bayman



Beth Rowe



Charlie Latimer-Camilleri



Chloe Parrott



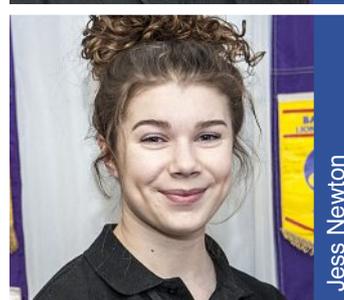
Georgia Flatman



Hannah Carthew



Jemima Browning



Jess Newton



Laura Woodman



Tanguy Billet-Masters



**PICTURED:** North Notts Lion, Eddy Wietscher and pupils at Misterton Primary School

# Update on the North Notts Lions Sight Video Project

In the December/January issue of Lion magazine, we reported on the project undertaken by North Notts Lions to produce a video for Sight Week, by working with pupils of Misterton Primary School. Here's the latest update.



**PICTURED:** The result of surgery to one eye

World Sight Day is observed annually on the second Thursday of October and draws attention to blindness and visual impairment. Since it was initiated by the LCI SightFirst Campaign in the 1990s, the programme has played a key role in reducing global blindness.

North Notts Lion, Eddy Wietscher, says that by showing the 'Sight Video 2018', more than 7,500 people will become aware of what Lions are doing in their community. Based on past experience they expect to add hundreds of pairs of spectacles to the more than 3m pairs already collected by Lions worldwide. Eddy said: "After discussions with local head teachers and staff the project has now been expanded.

"Teachers were universally supportive of the project and they had some suggestions that we have been pleased to incorporate into our film. They felt that by creating two films on one DVD; we would be better able to reach children by having a peer to peer film, using primary school children to appeal to the younger children and using older, secondary school children to appeal to the older ones.

"They also were very keen for us to include material that could be used to teach the children more about the subject. They suggested showing children how to approach and guide a blind person and for those children who showed an interest, we could teach them to read and write Braille.

"This has now become quite a project, but the interest shown by schools has encouraged us immensely."





**EXPERT HELP**

The West Cumbria Society for the Blind has now offered support to the project and is supplying some teaching aids for this purpose, which North Notts Lions plan to supply with each DVD – now in the final stages of production. The Society and its staff have contributed £200.

The extra work involved does mean that the DVD will now cost £6 to buy, however Eddy says that the extra content will make this very worthwhile.

Under the leadership of DG Stephen Green, Lions of District 105 E are also getting behind this project. Stephen said: "If every Club in our District approached only one school each, we would be contacting more than 32,000 people.

"The collection of spectacles alone make the project worthwhile, however the PR is invaluable and you can't put a price on it.

"Already, one Club has arranged to visit 10 schools, so you can why this has our backing."

**NEW SIGHTFIRST COFFEE MORNING DVD**

Unlike the Sight Week video, which is limited to Sight Week, this film or DVD can be played at any time during the year.

There are hundreds of retired peoples' clubs not to mention the very many WIs in your area. Were you aware that they are all looking for speakers to attend their meetings and give them an interesting talk?

Now you have the perfect opportunity to tell these people about what Lions have been able to achieve through LCIF. Cataract surgery through Lions LCIF costs just \$30 US, so for a little over £21 you can bring light into someone's darkened world. This DVD can be used at coffee mornings, afternoon teas or summer BBQs. Use the material to give your talk. Play the DVD either through a computer or a TV – you can also use a projector with the computer. Here is an opportunity to spread the word about your Club and your support for LCIF.

Most of these host clubs give a donation to your favourite charity, so you can take a collection tin along. Imagine how many people's lives you can change forever.

This DVD is now available for just £6.00 plus postage. To order contact: [coffee@northnottslions.uk](mailto:coffee@northnottslions.uk)

**STOP PRESS!**

Tony Giles, who is blind, deaf and truly inspirational, has had documentaries made about his travels, and seen recently on the BBC is now also involved in the project. He has seen the trailer of the DVD and was so pleased to have been asked to talk with the children.

This interview and some of the film of his travels will be added to the DVD so that teachers can use it to teach their pupils about blindness. It's the positive bit of film that Eddy had been looking for. He said: "We really do want people to understand that while blind and deaf, Tony has not let this stop him.

"He is an inspiration to us all."

You can see Tony on facebook @Tony Giles or [www.tonythetraveller.com](http://www.tonythetraveller.com)



**PICTURED:** Tony Giles

**HOW YOUR CLUB CAN GET INVOLVED**

Individual Lions Clubs can help to guarantee the success of this project by getting involved. If you do nothing, nothing happens.

Register your Club's interest in the DVD at: [sightvideo@northnottslions.uk](mailto:sightvideo@northnottslions.uk)



1



2



3

**PICTURE 1:** A grandmother regains her sight

**PICTURE 2:** People queuing in Nepal with their Lions paperwork

**PICTURE 3:** Surgery taking place



# New Century Lions Diabetes Awareness Day

Members of New Century Lions Club carried out a diabetes awareness and assessment day.

Members of the public visiting Hick's Lodge for cycling and walking activities were invited to be assessed using the latest equipment loaned for the day by Diabetes UK. Their representative, Rachel Mann-Bradbury, was on hand to give training and assistance to the Lions where necessary.

Once the readings were taken, advice was given regarding diet and lifestyle in general and in some cases, letters were given for referral to their GP.



**PICTURED:** New Century Lions at the diabetes awareness day

# Cheque Presentation to the Sandra Chapman Centre

Beccles Lions Vice President, Chris Lambert, and Club members presented a cheque for £2,000 to Lucy Goldspink, the Haematological Malignancies Co-ordinator of the Sandra Chapman Centre at the James Paget University Hospital.

The Sandra Chapman Centre is a day centre providing treatment for people with oncology and haematology disorders. Since it opened in May 1992, around 50 to 60 patients have attend the centre each day for treatments.

Thanking Beccles Lions for their generous donation, Lucy said: "By using the centre on a day care basis, it has meant patients who previously had to stay in hospital for several days can now stay at home. Donations to the centre are spent on the latest medical equipment and staff training, developing the service we provide and improving the comfort of the patients and their relatives."

**PICTURED:** Beccles Lions Vice President, Chris Lambert, presenting the cheque to Lucy Goldspink



**PICTURED:** (L-R) Karl Hills and Lucy Goldspink from the Sandra Chapman Centre with Beccles Lions Vice President, Chris Lambert, and Welfare Chair, Lion Dermot Wesley-Smith





# Brighter Futures

Lechlade and District Lions were thrilled to present a cheque to the the Brighter Futures Radiotherapy Appeal at the Great Western Hospital in Swindon. The £500 donation was a result of the raffle at the senior citizens' Christmas parties held in Lechlade and Fairford, which raised £373. Lions made this up to £1,000, and split it equally between the Radiotherapy Unit and the Wiltshire Air Ambulance.

- £500 to the Unicef Winter Appeal – supplying blankets for child refugees, and
- £500 to the Lions Sightsavers Trust – to aid global efforts to help combat blindness.

**PICTURED: (L-R) Lions President, Simon Winckles, Brighter Futures Head of Fundraising, Catherine Newman, and Lions Welfare Chairman, Keith Musson**



## MORE DONATIONS

At their February meeting, Lechlade and District Lions made these donations:

- £500 to Severn Freewheelers – a group of volunteer motorcyclists who offer a free out of hours delivery of blood, human tissue and essential medical items between NHS facilities in Hereford and Worcester, Gloucestershire and North Wiltshire.
- £250 to Cirencester foodbank van
- £240 to Toilet Twinning – in conjunction with St Lawrence School Lechlade. Bringing safety, dignity and hope to some of the world's most vulnerable people.
- £500 to the LCI Eye Centre in Ghana.



# Portishead Lions and Harbourside Patients Help Doctors

Patients of the Harbourside Family Practice who are keen readers have used the Portishead Lions' bookshelves at the practice to raise money for much needed equipment.

Lions David Fitzpatrick and David Colston have presented a cheque for £1391.28 to the practice, all the money raised by the sale of books.

The main piece of equipment bought with the money was a baby sats monitor, which is used to measure pulse and oxygen levels in children who are acutely unwell. It helps the doctors to identify if a child needs to be seen urgently in hospital. Other items bought were needed to make up a GP registrar bag. It is important to have this equipment to ensure that any locum has everything they need to make a holistic assessment of a patient.

In the current economic climate, it is vital that medical practices can supplement their budgets so that much needed equipment can be bought which would otherwise be unaffordable. Patients are encouraged

use the bookcase by giving donations for any books taken, returning books when read and donating more books. All the money raised will be used to buy items that the Harbourside Family Practice identifies as being of benefit to patients.



**PICTURED: Lion David Colston, healthcare assistant, Emma Rice, Practice Manager, Fran Upshon and Lion President, David Fitzpatrick**



# Fleetwood & Cleveleys Lions Help Local Lady

Fleetwood & Cleveleys Lions have been helping a local lady, Vicky Nash, who suffers from a rare illness, Ehlers-Danlos syndrome. She needed expert help to fund any on-going diagnosis and treatment.

President Pamela Hamilton and Chair of Welfare Committee were pleased to present Vicky with a cheque.

Hopefully, any donations she receives will help to investigate this complicated illness and give her a better quality of life.



**PICTURED:** Chair of Welfare Committee, Margaret Harris and President Pamela Hamilton with Vicky



**PICTURED:** £5,000 for the Bayb's Maternity Appeal

## Funds From Furness

The lovely Lions of Furness Lions Club has donated a massive £5,000 to a local hospital.



## Marie Curie Daffodil Appeal

Members of the Lions Club of Clacton on Sea braved the cold on Friday 9th and Saturday 10th March to collect for the 2018 Marie Curie Daffodil Appeal. They collected £1,271.84p over the two days, beating all previous figures.

**PICTURED:** Clacton-on-Sea Lions, Bob and Rose Gudger

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ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY COLLECTION BOXES

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**NEW EXTENDED COLOUR RANGE**

The Eco Box is a round conventional donation box that is made from recycled Milk and Juice cartons.

It has a recessed secured lid with tamper seals and is ideal for street and counter top use.

Full colour wrap around labels are available for this box to advertise your campaign.

**For more information visit**  
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# From Aberystwyth to the Philippines



Lion Benjamin Pula Manluctao, Zone Chairperson in District 105 W, explains how he and Lion Dave Hurst, both Aberystwyth Lions, travelled to the Northern Philippines last November and December, to contribute to the new strategic LCI Forward plan.

They contributed to humanitarian activity projects co-ordinated by the Laoac United Lions Club and the Pangasinan Coast Lions Club in Northern Philippines, to enhance service impact and improve the profile of Lions.

### SHARING THE VISION (distribution of reading glasses) CAMPAIGN

This was carried out on 15th December at the Don Mariano J Umipig National High School in Nancayasan, Urdaneta, Pangasinan, where 225 pairs of reading glasses were distributed to local people according to their particular sight problems. The glasses were provided by Medico France.

### PREVENTING HUNGER (feeding programme)

This programme took place in Camanang, Urdaneta, where 165 children and 95 adult members of the community were given nutritious food. Lots of parlour games were played to the delight of the children and

adults alike and the top three winners were given a prize. This project was funded by Laoac United Lions Club members.

### CHRISTMAS

To pursue new service frontiers and to enhance service impact as envisioned in the LCI Forward, 117 children in the Pangasinan Region 1 general hospital's paediatric unit were given Christmas presents.

### READING ACTION PROGRAMME (book donation)

Thanks to Glantawe (Swansea Valley) Lions Club, 800 books including encyclopedias, dictionaries and other reference books, were donated to the Laoac National High School in the Municipality of Laoac, Pangasinan to augment the very limited reference and reading books in the school library. These are invaluable school materials in the students' efforts of becoming literate.





**PICTURED:** Groceries and clothes distribution



« **PICTURED:** Ready to give Christmas presents to patients in the paediatric unit

**PICTURED:** Christmas presents



**PICTURED:** Glasses ready for distribution



# VOTING AT 2018 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

## Voting for Executive Officers and International Directors

Every Lions club in good standing can participate in the election of executive officers and international directors and can vote on amendments to the association's bylaws by assigning delegates to represent the club at the international convention.

At the International Convention certification and voting will occur at the same time in the convention Voting Area. As soon as you are certified, you will receive a ballot and will be able to vote immediately. Certification and Voting days and times are:

- **Sunday**, July 1, 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM (13:00 – 17:00)
- **Monday**, July 2, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM (9:00 – 17:00)
- **Tuesday**, July 3, 7:00 AM – 10:30 AM (7:00 – 10:30)

## Assigning Club Delegates

Club Delegates for the 2018 International Convention of Lions Clubs can be assigned by the club president or secretary, using one of the options below:

- Log on to MyLCI >>> My Lions Club >>> International Delegates
- Submitting the [Club Delegate Form](#) to LCI headquarters, at the address below.

Clubs using MyLCI can assign their club delegates at any time between January 1 and June 27, 2017.

Clubs using the Club Delegate Form to assign their delegates will need to mail the form to International Headquarters by May 1, 2018. If you are not able to mail the form by May 1, 2018, bring the signed form to the convention site. The form will also be available online.

For more information on voting at the International Convention go to:

<http://lcon.lionsclubs.org/EN/seminars-events/certification-voting.php>

Lions Clubs International, Member Service Center, 300 W. 22nd Street, Oak Brook IL 60523

**Email:** MemberServiceCenter@LionsClubs.org • **Fax:** 630-571-1687 • **Phone:** 630-203-3830

### INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CLUB DELEGATE ENTITLEMENT TABLE

Membership	Delegates Entitled	Membership	Delegates Entitled	Membership	Delegates Entitled
1-37	1	263-287	11	513-537	21
38-62	2	288-312	12	538-562	22
63-87	3	313-337	13	563-587	23
88-112	4	338-362	14	588-612	24
113-137	5	363-387	15	613-637	25
138-162	6	388-412	16	638-662	26
163-187	7	413-437	17	663-687	27
188-212	8	438-462	18	688-712	28
213-237	9	463-487	19	713-737	29
238-262	10	488-512	20	738+	See below*

Delegate count is based on the club's membership as shown by the records of the international office on the first day of the month last preceding that month during which the convention is held. See Article VI, Section 2 of the International Constitution and Chapter XVII – Membership, Board Policy Manual.

\*Delegate entitlement is one delegate for every 25 members or major fraction thereof.



## CLUB DELEGATE FORM



Club Delegates for the 2017 International Convention of Lions Clubs can be assigned using one of the options below:

- Log on to MyLCI >>> My Lions Club >>> International Delegates
- Submitting this form to [LCI headquarters](#), at the address below.

Confirmation of the Club Delegate assignment will be emailed to the Club Delegate. When the email address of the Club Delegate is not available, the Confirmation will be emailed to the club officer.

Club Number: .....

Club Name: .....

Club City: ..... State:.....

Country:.....Delegate Member Number: .....

Delegate Name:(first middle last).....

Delegate Email Address: .....

Delegate Preferred Ballot Language: .....

Authorizing Club Officer:(select one)  Club President  Club Secretar

Officer Member Number: .....

Officer Name:(first middle last) .....

Officer Signature:.....

### MAIL FORM BY MAY 1, 2018 TO:

Member Service Center – Lions Clubs International – 300 W. 22nd St. – Oak Brook, IL USA 60523  
[MemberServiceCenter@lionsclubs.org](mailto:MemberServiceCenter@lionsclubs.org) • Phone: 1-630-203-3830 • Fax: 1-630-571-1687

Clubs using this Club Delegate Form to assign their delegates must mail the form to International Headquarters by May 1, 2018.

If you are not able to mail the form by May 1, 2018, bring signed form, along with your government issued photo I.D.to the convention site.

Clubs using MyLCI must assign their club delegates by June 27, 2018.





# Bracknell Lions Travel Back to The Gambia

In February, Mike and Brigid Hendy, two Bracknell Lions travelled to Gambia to celebrate the opening of the water supply in Gunjar Kunkujang. The water project was launched in August 2016 and by June 2017, had raised £8,000. The Club applied for an LCIF International Assistance Grant for matched funding and at the end of that October, they found out that they had been successful and got a matching grant equivalent to £7,200 – enough to complete the project.

Mike and Brigid went to The Gambia in November 2017, secure in the knowledge that they had the funding to authorise the contractor to start work. They also contacted Banjul Kairo Lions Club, who would monitor the work. With the help of Lion Kebba Cham (ex-Burnham Lions Club) meetings were held to approve the final design and the contractor was instructed to start work.

For the official opening in February, they were accompanied by their daughter and son-in-law as their daughter's school (St Teresa's Academy) twinned with the school in the village and, as well as fundraising for the main fund, had donated many items of stationery to the school.

The ribbon was cut by the Director of Water Resources for The Gambia and also the Leader of the new National Assembly, the event was broadcast on the national news and Gambian Radio.

The next project is to provide solar powered electricity in the nursery school by July with funding split equally between Bracknell Lions and St Teresa's Academy, and as five members of staff sleep on a floor because they cannot afford to travel home each night, Bracknell Lions will raise funds for them to buy beds and mattresses locally, which ensures the money goes back into the local economy.



**PICTURED:** Lions name riding high



**PICTURED:** Director of Water Resources cuts the ribbon

Please visit Bracknell Lions' Gambia Appeal: [www.gambia.bracknellforestlions.org.uk](http://www.gambia.bracknellforestlions.org.uk) to contribute via the My Donate if you'd like to help.

You can also make donations there to the Bracknell Forest Lions Gambia Appeal if your Club wants to be involved.



**PICTURED:** Getting ready to dash

## Romiley and Marple Lions Santa Dash

On a bright, chilly Sunday morning in December, Romiley and Marple Lions welcomed 221 Santa dashers (and numerous dogs in their Christmas outfits) to take part in the ninth annual Santa Dash.

More than £4,300 was raised for Kidneys for Life. Ethan, one of the youngest Santas was only five, he took part with his mum and raised an amazing £255.81. He has since taken his very well deserved fundraising medal and certificate into school to share his success story with his classmates.



# District 105C Convention

The Lions of District 105C met at the Cedar Court Hotel, Harrogate in February for their 53rd convention, and were welcomed by Governor Michael Boldero, his wife, Lion Carole, the host committee and International Director, Elisabeth Haderer.

The Pirates of the Caribbean-themed fancy dress night on the Friday was followed by the main convention on Saturday, which was opened by the Mayor of Harrogate, Councillor Anne Jones.

The local Air Training Cadets carried out the flag ceremony and members of Tewit Youth Band performed at the opening of the event. Lion Michael Boldero chaired the convention and delegates were thoroughly entertained by the guest speaker, Tricia Stewart, one of the original 'calendar girls'.

The Saturday evening's banquet and ball was a great success, and on the Sunday, the question and answer session was well attended and some interesting discussions took place on membership.



**PICTURED:** The Convention Host Team



**PICTURED:** Caption Some pirates of the Caribbean, or possibly, members of Normanton Lions Club

## The Cheetah Outreach Project

Five years ago, Hayley Kats approached Ruislip Lions to help her go to South Africa to follow a dream of working with big cats.

Thanks to their help, she is now a fundraiser for the Cheetah Outreach project.

Subsistence farmers were losing stock to cheetahs and lions – in retaliation, the farmers were shooting the wild animals. Some American research identified the Anatolian Shepherd Dog, which thanks to its size and loud bark could be used by the farmers to protect their goat herds by scaring off the big cats.

After Ruislip Lions watched a Lions webinar on twinning they realised that if they twinned with a South African Lions Club, they may be able to work together to support Hayley's project.

A generous offer by a local artist and Rotarian, Peter Townsend, put a twist in the tale, he painted a beautiful

picture of a Lion's head and presented it to Ruislip Lions.

The painting was presented to DG Meena Gupta and her husband, Naresh, as a reminder of Meena's mantra during her year, 'Fire up the Lion in You'. It also seemed appropriate that Naresh could use the picture to raise money for his project, Compassion in World Farming.

### PUPPY!

Meena and Naresh gave Ruislip Lions a welcome donation to the Club who planned to buy a puppy for Hayley's project and a retailer in Ruislip High Street donated a further £50.

At a recent business meeting, Ruislip Lions decided to call their puppy 'Hope' and as you see in the picture, Hope is doing very well.

This is a lovely example of Lions making a real difference, supporting a young person's dreams to help a struggling community.



**PICTURED:** Hope



**PICTURED:** An Anatolian Shepherd Dog on duty



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



**School Aid**  
Building Partnerships with African Schools



Lions David Skinner  
District Lifeskills Officer for the South East

20 March 2018

Dear David

Thank you very much for the Lions generous donations to School Aid in 2017. Your donations of Lions Lifeskills resources will help us considerably with providing for underprivileged children in some of the most challenging educational environments in the world.

Each day millions of children in Africa are unable to attend school, often due to a lack of basic school equipment. Without a good education, escape from poverty is impossible and without the resources necessary to learn, an education can be hard to come by. School Aid works to bridge this gap by providing good quality educational materials to meet the diverse needs of young people in disadvantaged communities.

Your donations in 2017 have gone to Malawi, Tanzania and South Africa. Through our programs in those countries we have reached over 100,000 children across 136 schools and without donations like yours this simply would not be achievable. Please pass on our thanks to your wonderful members who make all of this possible.

Yours sincerely,

Thomas Broom  
UK and Africa Operations Manager  
Tel: 01753 883853  
Web: [www.school-aid.org](http://www.school-aid.org)

The sticker could be [put] on the window of the caravan nearest to the door, and of course the second one on the fridge. This is of utmost importance as fridge doors are faced in the same material as the other cupboards, which of course, would highlight the fridge location. Most sites are seasonal i.e. [they operate between] March and October. That said, there are a few that are open all year [round] so in a cold spell, the placing of our MIAB could be life-saving.

There are headquarters of both organisations in East Grinstead and Coventry, so it is quite possible [that] with personal contact to these offices, MIAB could become an official request.

Good luck in your quest and think of the lives we could save.

Yours in Lionism,

**Barrie Cannon**



## True Texan Welcome

Dear Editor

I was interested to see your article in a recent Lion magazine about Conroe Noon Lions Club in Texas and their 300 plus members. On a business trip to Houston a few years ago, I was taken by Lions from the Houston Sports Lions Club to a charity dinner auction in Conroe, organised by the local Lions in aid of the Texas Lions Summer Camp for disabled and disadvantaged children.

I was amazed then to hear the size of the Conroe Club and all the activities that they put on. The auction, in true American-style, raised several thousand dollars to provide buses to take kids to and from the Camp – and included my own modest contribution of a small Scottish quiche (drinking bowl). On the same trip, the Houston Sports Lions also took me to a lunch meeting of the Houston Downtown Lions Club, whose claim to fame is that they are as old as Lions itself, being a Founder Club – one of the original Clubs that bonded together to form Lions in 1917.

**Chris Southworth**  
Aberdeen Lions Club



## Message in a Bottle Campaign

Dear fellow Lions,

Do you have either a Caravan Club, or Caravan & Camping Club site in your area? Have you taken a Message in a bottle (MIAB) advert or a few sample bottles? Could I suggest that with over 300 caravan sites throughout the British Isles, that we target these areas?

The reason behind this is if and when, on the rare occasion the services (mainly ambulances) are called to an illness or accident, with the information at hand via the MIAB, it would be so much easier and quicker for the attendees to get to the medical information.



**PICTURED:** Macmillan representative, Nikki James, and The National Autistic Society representative, Eric Kent, accepting the cheques

# Christmas With Llandudno Lions

For many organisations, Christmas is not a holiday but a very busy time for community service and fundraising. So the Lions Club of Llandudno have been supporting their Christmas charity, St David's Hospice, and also helping to marshal the Llandudno Town Council's Christmas parade.

Leading up to Christmas, Lions had their Santa's grotto outside Adsa. Then, 130 brave souls took part in the Lions' annual 'Boxing Day Sea Dip'. On hand to make sure the dippers were safe on the cold and wet day was the Llandudno Lifeboat and St John Ambulance.

**PICTURED:** Santa's grotto at Adsa



**PICTURED:** Dippers in the water  
(IMAGE COURTESY OF GREG J T ROBBINS - LLANDUDNO LIONS CLUB)

# Southam & District Lions Christmas Float

The response to Southam & District Lions Christmas float this year as it toured the district with Father Christmas and his helpers was fantastic!

Because of this, Club President, John Barr, presented cheques to two children's charities; Macmillan Cancer Support (Paediatric) and The National Autistic Society. Each charity received £2,500.

# Cowes Red Funnel Christmas Fayre

For the sixth year running, Cowes Lions Club manned Santa's grotto at the Red Funnel Christmas Fayre in December 2017 at Cowes Marina. Santa was helped by several elves and assorted 'Mother Christmas's' throughout the two-day period.



**PICTURED:** Santa, aka Lion Roger Huntley (even Santas get peckish!) >>

# Lechlade Parties

Following their fundraising events in December, which raised more than £3,400, the Lechlade and District Lions Club hosted their annual senior citizens' Christmas parties at Lechlade's Pavilion and Fairford's Palmer Hall. More than 100 people attended and enjoyed afternoon tea and entertainment.

The raffle raised £373, so Lechlade and District Lions Club made this up to £1,000, which was split equally between the Wiltshire Air Ambulance and the Great Western Hospital Brighter Futures Radiotherapy Unit in Swindon.

**PICTURED:** Lechlade and District Lions Club senior citizens' Christmas party >>





# Professors Work to Keep Patients in Remission For Longer

Great strides are being made with the development of immune therapies to tackle blood cancers, according to Professor Farzin Farzaneh, who heads the research at King's College Hospital in London.

He recently presented on a range of ground-breaking new treatments that are being created for blood cancer patients with the support of Lions International Blood Research Appeal (LIBRA). The Professor made an inspiring speech at the 105-SE Lions Centennial convention held in Uckfield

He explained: "While chemotherapy is successful at inducing remission of acute myeloid leukaemia (AML), the disease has a high probability of relapse. We need to continue working towards preventing relapse and to keep patients in remission for longer."

## GOOD NEWS

"The good news is that our development of a new immune gene therapy for Acute Myeloid Leukaemia (AML), the first of its kind in the world, is progressing very well. We recently gave our first patient, who at such an advanced stage in disease progression had a predicted survival time of only a few months, three doses and by the third injection her immune system responded. She is now in remission and we continue to monitor her progress.

"This vaccine capitalises on the window of opportunity provided by the chemotherapy-induced remission to make the immune system fight the AML and thus achieve a deeper and longer lasting remission. The next step for us is to study the effect of this vaccine in larger numbers of patients to assess its safety and to better understand its mechanism action. This information should help with the development of similar treatments for other leukaemias.

"Another major project for us is to create a treatment for patients with B-cell malignancies including leukaemia and lymphoma. In studies led by Dr Reuben Benjamin in

Haematology at King's College Hospital, immune cells from the patient or a healthy donor are genetically modified to make these immune cells recognise malignant cells so that they can destroy them.

"A particular form of this treatment has recently been licensed in the USA and is expected to be licensed in Europe. However, this treatment costs over £500,000 to treat one patient. Therefore, we are looking to develop a more cost-effective form of this treatment. This work involves taking cells from healthy donors and then using them to treat multiple patients, hence the likelihood of substantial reduction in costs.

"Also, two new studies have been approved in the last few months. As part of this we will soon start testing another autologous AML cell vaccine for a new subset of acute myeloid leukaemias, with the specific aim of delaying and eventually preventing the recurrence of the AML in patients who go into remission with standard chemotherapy, but cannot be offered a haematopoietic stem cell transplant for instance due to absence of suitable donors."

## FUNDS NEEDED

To ensure these studies can continue, LIBRA urgently needs to reach a £100,000 target for its 'Tree of Life' campaign. Funds raised will cover the cost of four items of specialist equipment needed for clinical studies into Acute Myeloid Leukaemia, Lymphoblastic Leukaemia, Myeloma and other life limiting blood conditions.

Find out how you can support LIBRA at:  
[www.libralionscharity.org](http://www.libralionscharity.org)



# IN MEMORIAM

These Lions from MD105 British Isles have recently left us. We honour their memory and the contribution they made in their Lionistic service for the good of others.



**ADAMS: Lion William Gerald Adams MJF BMA**

*Exeter West Lions Club*

\*\*\*\*\*

**ALCOCK: Lion Sam (also known as Alan) MJF (79)**

*Alsager Lions Club*

\*\*\*\*\*

**AUSTIN: Lion Stanley**

*Hereford Lions Club*

\*\*\*\*\*

**BEBBINGTON: Lion Liz**

*Shepshed Lions Club*

\*\*\*\*\*

**BROWNLIE: Lion Alexander (82)**

*Helensburgh Lions Club*

\*\*\*\*\*

**BRYANT: Lion Carol**

*Coningsby & Tattershall Lions Club*

\*\*\*\*\*

**CANN: Lion George MJF (73)**

*Macclesfield and District Lions Club*

\*\*\*\*\*

**CHANDLER: Lion David**

*Chelmsford Lions Club*

\*\*\*\*\*

**CRAIG: Lion John**

*Rottingdean and Saltdean Lions Club*

\*\*\*\*\*

**GABRIE: Lion Inderjit Singh**

*Ealing Lions Club*

\*\*\*\*\*

**HALLIDAY: Lion Sandy MJF**

*Little Orme Lions Club*

\*\*\*\*\*

**KENNEDY: Lion Frank**

*Crosby & District Lions Club*

\*\*\*\*\*

**KISSANE: Lion George MJF**

*City of Liverpool Lions Club*

\*\*\*\*\*

**KNIGHT: Lion Dave**

*Bedworth Lions Club*

\*\*\*\*\*

**LAYBOURNE: Lion Robert**

*Yarm Lions Club*

\*\*\*\*\*

**MATTHEWS: Lion Tony**

*Lowestoft Lions Club*

\*\*\*\*\*

**PARKER: Lion Terry**

*Swale Lions Club*

**POWELL: Lion Mick**

*Newquay Lions Club*

\*\*\*\*\*

**SCOTT: Lion Alex Duncan**

*Chorley Lions Club*

\*\*\*\*\*

**TURNER: Lion Gordon**

*Malling District Lions Club*

\*\*\*\*\*

**WIGHTMAN: Lion Alan Edward**

*Shepshed Lions Club*



To read full, unedited obituaries of all those Lions listed on this page who have passed to Higher Service, go to: <http://www.lionsclubs.co/Obituaries/Index.html>

**Almoners:** please email obituaries to the Lion editor at: [nicky@warnersgroup.co.uk](mailto:nicky@warnersgroup.co.uk)

There is no upper word limit and you are very welcome to include photographs.

## LIBRA PENS NOW AVAILABLE



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Lions International Blood Research Appeal

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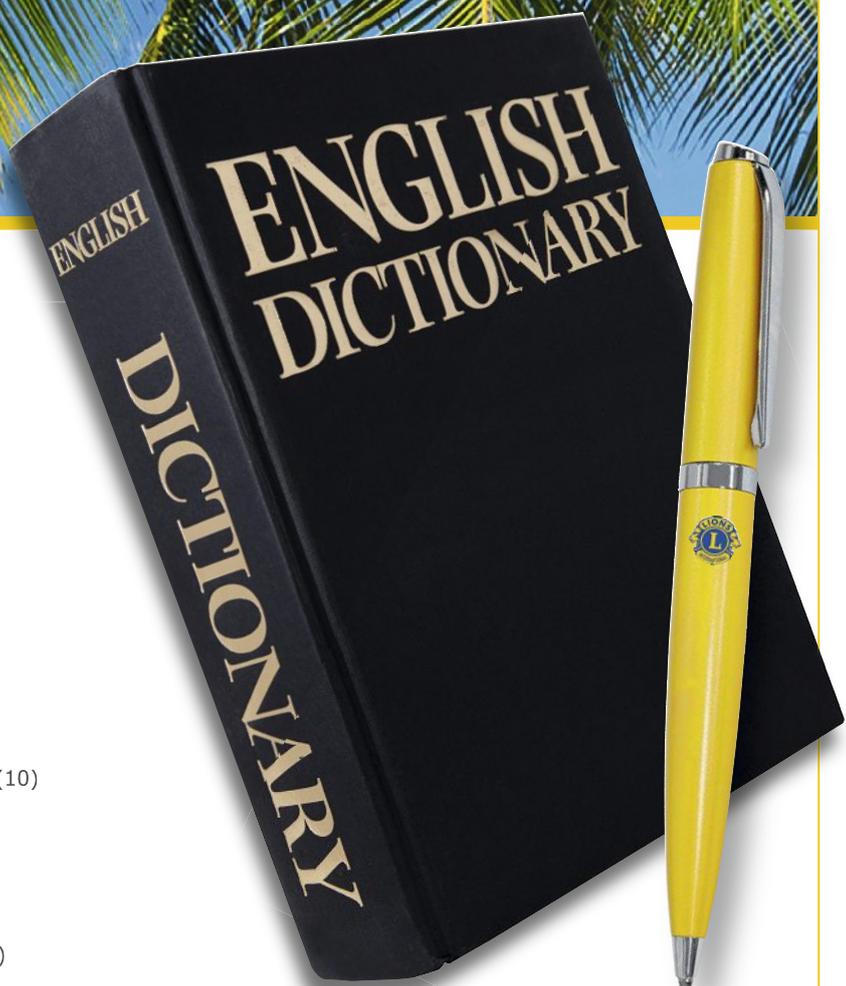
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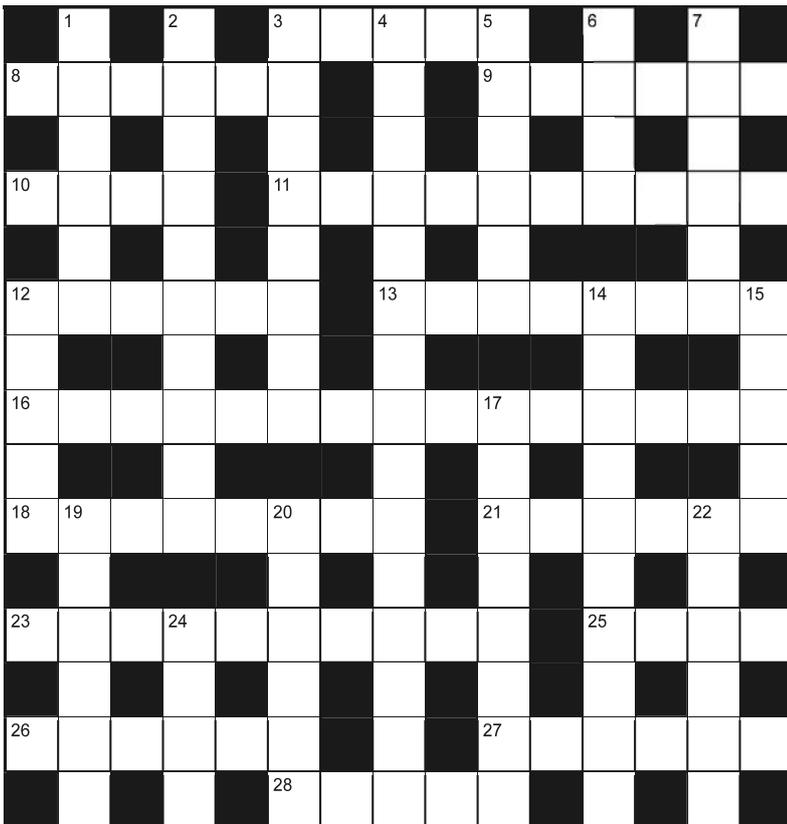
Call Anna Marie on 01778 392048

[annamariieb@warnersgroup.co.uk](mailto:annamariieb@warnersgroup.co.uk)



**ACROSS**

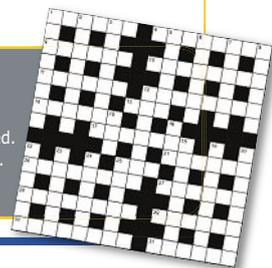
- 3. Old East German follows river to find perch (5)
- 8. Fool is one from Italian city (6)
- 9. Everyone is accommodating English friends (6)
- 10. Two notes from operatic heroine (4)
- 11. Not moving goods yet (5-5)
- 12. Thus African country produces African (6)
- 13. Capsize open vessel (8)
- 16. Gaunt young Irene performs in musical (5,3,4,3)
- 18. Teen reformed with gaol stretch (8)
- 21. Police force has those people on film (3,3)
- 23. New peer's given ring portraying Zeus's daughter (10)
- 25. US general's the dregs (4)
- 26. Give daughter a note perhaps (6)
- 27. The Italian is after fast food (6)
- 28. Play about District Attorney in the present time (5)



CREDIT: WWW.ALBERICHCROSSWORDS.COM

**DOWN**

- 1. American who inhabits the White House? (6)
- 2. One toiling at unravelling lawsuit (10)
- 3. Wine gets Sir Nigel drunk (8)
- 4. Over the moon, having climbed Everest? (2,3,2,3,5)
- 5. Deal with equipment (6)
- 6. Idiot wants 150 books (4)
- 7. Retailer of wine collection, say (6)
- 12. Very hard worker is left inside bar (5)
- 14. Back home, I'll follow cake with pasta (10)
- 15. Group of musicians not touring Tyneside (5)
- 17. Working honestly or dishonestly? (2,3,3)
- 19. Ollie upset wife so keep out of sight (3,3)
- 20. Computer manufacturer needs time to produce program (6)
- 22. Quote me retrospectively? It'll make you sick (6)
- 24. Openers for Sussex caught and bowled but this chap's not out (4)



February/March 2018  
**CROSSWORD ANSWERS**

**ACROSS**

- 1. sorbet. 4. baroness. 9. gasket. 10. fumigate.
- 11. portal. 12. sentinel. 13. jar. 14. seeker. 17. devious.
- 21. tenant. 25. guy. 26. operator. 27. Racine. 28. entrails.
- 29. vicars. 30. listener. 31. defend.

**DOWN**

- 1. signpost. 2. reserved. 3. elevated. 5. abuser.
- 6. opiate. 7. Elaine. 8. seemly. 12. saviour. 15. red.
- 16. hut. 18. sedative. 19. badinage. 20. stressed.
- 22. do well. 23. deltas. 24. karate. 25. goalie

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