



Ukraine—Lions Clubs in border countries need our help

LCIF having received inquiries from Lions in Romania and Poland about potential grant support for refugee relief have already sent \$15,000 to each country. Staff are now working with leadership in each country to develop a project plan for LCIF to support Lion-led distribution of immediate needs. Care packages will include food, water, hygiene items, and clothing.

LCIF has setup a “Refugees and Displaced Persons” fund for donations to this disaster. Donations can be sent to the District Treasurer in the usual way endorsed, Campaign 100 Ukraine – Refugees and Displaced Persons.

I would like to ask you during your coming business meetings to decide the size of the funds you can donate to the appeal. The people escaping are people like you and me.

What happens to them today, can happen to us tomorrow.

We are Lions Clubs International, please show your support for the 100,000’s refugees like you have never done before.

District Governor 105CW—Lion Jaap de Jonge

News from our DG—Jaap

February was a month in which the preparations for the District Convention slowly reached towards a crescendo. My thanks to the Convention committee as a whole who take this so personal. Who all want to give you the best possible event you can imagine. After 2 years we can come together. Your team has tried to think of everything and I expect a great attendance. Please do make an effort to attend. It's your convention –we need you there.

I had the joy to attend Kingswinford and Stourbridge LC Charter. A club located in the Black Country, which is now the Green Country. A club that is beavering away in its area and takes the I of International serious, donating to North Sea Lions (NSL) and LCIF generously. They also presented a cheque of £400 to Brain Tumour Research. Serving your local community, your national and international community are all sides of the same coin.

I believe and feel free to disagree, that some part of club's donations should be earmarked for international projects. We might be living on an island, but we are not an island. We are part of a bigger organisation, called Lions Clubs International. We need to remember that. So please, dedicate a proportion of your funds to North Sea Lions and our foundation Lions LCIF.

This month we have our District convention and a month later the MD convention in Birmingham. I will be at both (surprise, surprise) and hope to meet many of you.



DISTRICT 105 CW CONVENTION
SATURDAY 12 MARCH 2022
THE BANK HOUSE HOTEL & SPA,
BRANSFORD, WORCESTER, WR6 5JD
WITH INTERNATIONAL GUEST SPEAKER
PID ELIZABETH HARDERER ... BOOK NOW!

DG March Agenda

- 5 105A Convention
- 3 Coventry Mercia LC Fundraising
- 6 Youth Projects Zoom
- 9 Kington LC, my last business Meeting.

92 clubs visited over 3 years. First one was Towcester LC!)

11-13 CW Convention weekend

25+26 103NIE Convention



Competitions Update - Written 18th February 2022

How time flies! Here we are heading into Spring and the competitions are starting to warm up, giving the judges and the Competitions Team lots to think about.

Remember, we have a range of competitions for you and something for every Lion and every Club to aim at:

Membership Growth – something that we are all keen to see as we plan our service activities. More hands mean lighter work – and prize opportunities.

Photo Competition – running in four categories and judged by an internationally renowned professional photographer. Set your sights high for this one and choose your area of focus (see what we did there?):

- Plants
- Weather phenomenon (lots of that going on as we type this)
- Animals
- Other aspects of nature, including landscapes, seascapes etc

Travelling Lions – and we have a new format for you: Live AND virtual visits. So, there's no reason not to go meet old friends and make new ones whilst earning those points. New forms are being distributed. Let us know if you'd like an electronic copy to share with your Club.

Best Kept Website – organised and chosen by Lion Sophie Moseley, our District PR and Website Officer – let's give Sophie plenty to smile about

Best Social Media – – After an audit of Facebook pages Lion Melissa Murphy the 105CW Social Media officer chose a short list of 15 of the best club pages and those details were sent to a PR company to independently chose the winner. Thank you to Lion Sophie Moseley for the contact!

We are already heading into March so there's no time to lose. Polish the lenses, clean that keyboard, organise those club visits and set your Lion sights on taking a prize.

We will be at Convention in March too, so why not come and say hello, congratulate the 2021 winners, share some ideas and give us some feedback?

Lions Jan & Ralph Watson

Your Competitions Team

competitions@lions105cw.org.uk

Huge Congratulations to Team CW!



You are great recruiters!

An email received from our international leaders contained some very good news. It told us that we are third amongst all the Districts in Europe for the number of Lions who have sponsored new members. This was great news to receive. It means that we have membership-minded Lions in CW who are actively inviting new members to join us. The more members we have, the wider our reach. We can make a wider impact on our communities and help more people. We have a fantastic number of new Lions in our District so far this year, welcome to each and every one of you. Hopefully, many of you will be attending District Convention at the beginning of March and it will be lovely to see you all there. Please come and say hello.

Remember the phrase that is important in this “alone we can do so little, together we can do more”.

Being together, carrying out Service projects together and enjoying the company of like-minded people is why we love being Lions.

We are a great team doing amazing things – keep spreading the word and growing our reach.

Welcome to our new Lions

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Balsall Common | Gary Hall | Kenilworth | Joan Hardy | Rushden & Dist | Leora Pacheco |
| Balsall Common | Gary Hoover | Kenilworth | Robert Hardy | Rushden & Dist | Albino Lopes |
| B'ham Chinatown | Jaspal Mann | Melton Mowbray | Robert Preston | Wellesbourne | Christine Davies |
| Moseley & Kings Heath | Chandrash Ajayakumar | Nuneaton | Sahab Dhillion | Wellesbourne | Howard Davies |
| Moseley & Kings Heath | Kim Beverley | Nuneaton | Kulwinder Singh | Black Mountains | Deborah Landymore |
| Central West Virtual Club | Clare Lally | Nuneaton | Gurjinder Mann | Fishguard & Goodwick | Lynda Thompson |
| Dudley | Michele Preece | Nuneaton | Kulwant Sandhu | | |
| Dudley | Nigel Preece | Nuneaton | Jaswinder Singh | | |

Blood. The need for speed

As Lions we are often using the slogans “We Care” “We Serve” and “Where there’s a need there’s a Lion.” This is so true during a course of events that started on 27th January 2022 and involves 3 clubs working together - Gower & LE. Ceredigion Invictus and Laoac Invictus.

Lions David Hurst and his partner Morena are members of the small club of Gower & Llŵchwr Estuary, Morena is from the Philippines and has a large family that spreads worldwide.

Morena received news that her uncle Peter, an American citizen who is retired from the Navy, was visiting in the Philippines and had been taken ill. He went to the hospital where they found out that he was positive with Covid.

While at the hospital Peter started to experience chest pains and, on more research, they found that he needed to have a heart operation. The dilemma in the Philippines is no money no blood no treatment but the problem was not that there was no money, but because of a shortage in the pandemic, blood was not available. The planned operation had to be cancelled for Friday so what do they do?



Peter's family reached out for help.

Lion David as a Guiding Lion for Ceredigion Invictus Lions contacted his good friend Lion Ben Manluctao their President who also Chartered Laoac Invictus Lions Club in the Northern Philippines asked for help and assistance.

The hospital needed 40 units of blood for the operation to take place, this was rescheduled for Monday 31st January. Thankfully this was achieved in time for the operation to go ahead.

Morena's cousin and friends arrive in time

Peter's operation started at 9.30 am and finished at 00.30 the next day however, his recovery did not go well. More blood was going to be needed by 7am on Wednesday morning as Peter needed dialysis and the hospital needed more blood on hand.

Four more donors rushed to the hospital a total distance of approx. 49 miles, but while they were there donating, there was a code blue alert. Sadly, Peter passed away, but the batch of blood given by these donors was donated to the hospital to help others.

It highlights the fact of it doesn't matter who you are, if you don't have the blood, you don't have the operation.



We take for granted here that blood is always available for us, this isn't the same in so many countries.

Lions and others stepped up by offering to donate their blood in order for the operation to be able to take place and of course this was all achieved swiftly without meetings or voting to make decisions which we must do in many circumstances. However, when necessary, we can act quickly, especially where life is concerned. We may be nearly 7,000 miles away but it's just a phone call bridges that gap.

Lions David and Morena coordinated these achievements from Borth Ceredigion Wales also paid personally the volunteers for their petrol, a meal and a token of thanks in trying to save Peter.

“Lions without Boundaries”

Shakespeare Lions Club



Shakespeare sends more than 15000 Recycled Spectacles for Onward Distribution to the Developing World

For decades Lions Club International has been at the forefront in promoting and supporting vision awareness in the developing world. One vital component is the distribution of recycled spectacles to those in need.

The Global Pandemic curtailed the distribution of

the recycled spectacles but Shakespeare Lions Club continued to collect from opticians in Stratford upon Avon, Leamington Spa and Evesham. They were then packed by our Club's members and stored.

On Friday 21st January we were finally able to deliver in excess of 15000 recycled spectacles to Lions Club's UK Headquarters in Birmingham to be sorted. These spectacles will then be transported to Medico France in Le Havre for grading and shipment worldwide.

Commenting on this development, Charles Williams, President of Shakespeare Lions Club, reflected: ***“As the world's largest volunteer organisation it is our mandate to Serve Individuals, Families, Charities and Youth Organisations in Need in both our Local and Global Communities. Finally, we can look forward to more than 15000 Children, Women and Men achieving their basic right to proper vision”***

Alcester & District—thanks to Waitrose

Alcester & District received a donation from their "Give a little love campaign". Presentation was by Tina, the Community Matters liaison partner at Waitrose and was in recognition and compensation for our inability to perform our usual Christmas bag packing.

Our thanks were of course given to Tina and Waitrose for £300 and we expressed the hope that next Christmas we will all be able to resume our normal fund raising partnership with Waitrose. The funds already been used for the benefit of the community in Alcester.



Chepstow & Caldicot Lions support Kids Cancer Charity

Chepstow & Caldicot Lions have recently donated £2,200 to the Kids Cancer Charity.

The donation will be used to help four families, affected by cancer, from the Chepstow and Caldicot area. Chepstow & Caldicot Lions are old friends of the charity, having helped on numerous occasions since 2009.

Julian Canning, Appeals Officer for the charity

commented “We are so grateful to Chepstow & Caldicot Lions Club for their continuous support. Like most charities we rely on the generosity of the public to keep our services going. Every donation of £550 means we can send a family away for a much needed break to one of our luxury caravans on the Welsh coast. Thank you so much”.



Focus on WARWICK LIONS

Warwick Lions club was formed in October 1960 and chartered on 20th February 1961 with 21 charter members.

Over the years the club has met at Iris Lees Day Club, The Roebuck Inn, and the Glebe Hotel before settling at the Warwick Arms Hotel.

We currently have 23 members six of whom are women, and lengths of membership spanning from 50 yrs to a few months with ages stretching from the early twenties to the mid eighties.

In 1964 charter member Frank Denby became President and rose to become District Governor of what was then district 105B. Frank masterminded the formation of 14 new clubs, Coventry, Leamington, Shakespeare, Rugby, Rokeby, Northampton, Solihull, Kenilworth, Coleshill, Daventry, Southam & District, Wellesbourne & District, Wolverhampton, Balsall Common and Banbury and a further 39 clubs can trace their descent from the offspring of Warwick.

In 1977 Warwick also twinned with the French club Saumur in the Loire Valley.

In 2011 Neil Chisholm, Club President in 1997/98 and 2015/16 became District Governor of what was by then District 105M and the club has also provided over the years a deputy District Governor and several Zone Chairmen.



Although we wholeheartedly support North Sea Lions projects and international disaster appeals we tend to look first to help local charities and good causes.

Over the years we have organised many diverse fund raising events from raft races on the river leam, horse racing days at Warwick Race Course big band dances, champagne nights and the now defunct Warwick Carnival.

Our main fundraisers these days are The Town Bonfire and Fireworks and the Christmas Carol Concert at Warwick Castle both run jointly with the Rotary Club of Warwick and an Easter egg raffle. We regularly support Marie Curie, Safeline, the Warwickshire and Solihull Blood Bikers and the Side by Side Theatre Company, among many others. In December we organise a canned food collection and deliver around 200 food parcels to needy citizens. During the COVID pandemic Lion Tamara Friedrich hit on the idea of making up and selling from our market stall child friendly Halloween, Christmas and Easter treats and we have continued delivering food parcels and providing laptops to less well off families as well as making our usual donations of white goods and other essential household items to struggling families.



In July of last year to mark our 60th anniversary and with funds running low each member agreed to undertake a personal fundraising challenge featuring the figure '6' to tie in with our 60th year. Our oldest member and incoming President set the ball rolling with a sponsored Wing Walk which netted nearly £6000.

Paul Levien - Warwick Lions

SOUTHAM & DISTRICT LIONS HAVE STAYING POWER

At their first February meeting this year, seven Lion Club members received 'Milestone Chevrons' to attach to their badges in recognition of the years of service they have given to the club. These 'Milestone Chevrons' are awarded, by the Lions' District Governor, for 10 years of service and upwards for each 5 years thereafter. Lion Terry Grey has been a member for 35 years and Lion Derrick Evans for 45 years! Many other club members have also been awarded long-service chevrons in recent years.

It is a fact that very few members leave the club; those who have done so have mostly been for reasons of leaving the area or passing away.



This raises the question: ***Why do members stick with the club for so long?*** The answer is that the members wish to serve the community (The Lions' motto is 'We serve') and find that doing so is very rewarding to themselves personally.

The club has received many heart-warming letters of thanks from the many individuals and charities it has helped over the past 50 years.

Also running the various fund-raising events is lots of fun, the club members work well together and enjoy the craic, and camaraderie. The meetings each month, necessary for administration and the smooth running of the club, are held with a light touch but very efficiently. There is much banter so that these meetings are not considered an ordeal. The club comprises a collection of like-minded people who regard each other as friends and, indeed, are there for each other, whenever a need should arise.

All these long service awards are testament to the success of the club, which is now in its 50th year. Unfortunately, it also means that the average age of club members is increasing. More members (male or female), especially younger members, would be very welcome. The opportunity that membership gives for serving the community is very rewarding and most enjoyable.

THE ENVIRONMENT - A LIONS GLOBAL SERVICE PROJECT

To support this worthwhile project, members of **Wellingborough & District Lions Club**, together with friends of Lions and a few regular volunteers, spent a sunny but chilly Saturday at the beginning of February planting 250 trees at Sywell Country Park.

The Lions had agreed to purchase fifty trees to celebrate the club's 50th Charter Anniversary next year; and in recognition of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee agreed to participate in a major legacy project involving planting trees as part of the Queen's Green Canopy.

The Park Rangers gave Lions a very warm welcome, explaining about woodland management and making the area friendly for birds and wildlife. It was pleasing to hear that all the trees are native species to the UK and come from a nursery in Lincolnshire. They demonstrated how to plant the saplings with their stakes and protective sleeves before surrounding with copious amounts of wood chippings to prevent them drying out.

Lions are pictured alongside the trailer used for transporting the volunteers and necessary tools to the designated site, taking a well earned rest with refreshments, including lovely jam doughnuts, kindly supplied by the Park Rangers.



Warwick Lions say it with flowers.

Warwick Lions Club have received high praise for the work that we have been doing in conjunction with a local Community Centre during the pandemic, initially delivering food parcels to isolating families but more recently collecting surplus time dated food from supermarkets for collection from the Centre by individuals

In an important extension to this activity the stores have now also started offering flowers which although still in perfectly good condition are due to be binned due to their sell by dates in what store staff said is the most upsetting part of their job.

It seems that huge amounts of flowers are normally wasted in this way on a daily basis. As the stores are not allowed to sell

them neither are they legally allowed to give them away to their staff.

These blooms are now collected by our members and taken back to the Centre where they are distributed among service users, many of whom are experiencing emotional traumas having recently lost

partners or loved ones, have suffered relationship breakdowns, depression or illness. The flowers are like an ice breaker providing a starting point for the sharing of stories or acknowledging of emotions and doing much to raise peoples spirits. On a larger scale the flowers have also helped to enhance work environments in Care Homes public reception areas and school staff rooms.

Bradley Stoke President Alisha Young is planning to swim 50 lengths of the Riverside Leisure Centre, in Patchway, Bristol as part of the events **Brunel Lions** are doing to celebrate their 50 years of service. Alisha commented (I am not a great swimmer, so this is quite a challenge for me!)

Brunel have already donated 50 packs of daffodil bulbs, 50 British Tree saplings and President Duncan is currently walking 50 times around the Bristol Rovers Football ground to name but a few of the things done.



MD105 convention. Lions It's a Kind of Magic

Great news, we will be having a 'physical' MD Convention this year to celebrate our 70th anniversary at the heart of our MD in Birmingham. More details are available by clicking the link [presentations](#) and can also be seen on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/dVD5On1yMy4>

Bookings are open at <https://www.md105convention.uk/index.html>. We look forward to seeing you all at our 70th Convention.



MD105 Convention - Birmingham 29th April to 1st May 2022



Lions It's a Kind of Magic



- Friday 29th April - Evening
 - Social to Celebrate our 70th Anniversary
- Saturday 30th April - Morning / Afternoon
 - Convention - Our AGM
 - Partners visit the many local attractions
- Saturday 30th April - Evening
 - Gala Dinner - Dress to Impress
- Sunday 1st May - Morning
 - Convention - Meet the Council of Governors

<https://www.md105convention.uk/booking>

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Closing date for articles is 25th of month