

TEAM CW

Changing the World

May 2024



I would like to start by saying thank you to all those members who have shown their support to your editor, Lion Jenny, after her accident just before Christmas and the 3 months she spent in hospital and rehabilitation centre. Although still having to use a wheelchair she is now back home and has put together both this Newsletter and the previously issued Convention Newsletter.

This month I can formally welcome Wolverhampton Nepalese Lions Club into the CW family. Congratulations to IPDG Rav Sandhu for all his hard work in establishing yet another new club. I sincerely hope that all the new members enjoy working in support of their community and look forward to meeting them in the near future.

Last month we celebrated our 5th anniversary in style at the Parkway Hotel & Spa in Cwmbarn. I believe all those who attended had a good time, whether they stayed for the entire weekend or came for the Convention itself. I would strongly recommend to members, particularly our newer members, that they consider attending the 6th anniversary in Stratford. I am sure that it will be another top class Lionistic weekend. Convention is an excellent opportunity to meet old friends and make new ones, networking with other Lions will inspire us to introduce new ideas to our own clubs.

Congratulations to Lions Stu Young, Susan Wilding and Glyn Williams on their election to DG, 1VDG & 2VDG respectively. I wish you every success in the coming year in the knowledge that you have a superb Team behind you. It is this strong team that has been built up since CWs inception giving CW a good reputation throughout the Multiple District. This can only happen with dedication and hard work.

The May Bank Holiday weekend sees many of us travelling to Weston-Super-Mare for the MD Convention. The challenge for the weekend is to find the sea. News about this convention will be published in our next edition.

Our GLT, Lion Melissa, has circulated a comprehensive online training programme for Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers and Membership Members. I urge you to attend this online training as there is always something new – it is not just aimed at Lions new in post, the more experienced can also benefit from the sessions and perhaps contribute to others by conveying their own experiences. A lot of work goes into setting up this training so please take advantage of it.

It has been a great pleasure during the last few weeks to attend Club Charter celebrations and learn about all the good work being carried out in support of our communities, more to attend in the coming weeks. Thank you very much for all the invites to help celebrate an important occasion in the club calendar. Whilst I do hear about excellent service I do urge you to ensure that the details are entered onto the Lions Portal, we should tell the world what we as Lions achieve and contribute. GST Lion Paul will be only too delighted to help if necessary.

This month has seen the introduction of the new Lions Portal. It is different from the old and probably fair to say that further development is needed. On playing around with it I have found data that I previously wished I could access whilst other data that I was used I cannot find. Like all new IT systems we will have to be patient as am sure that a lot of hard work is behind this development.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS



Here we are in May, drawing close to the end of the Lions Year. Now is the time to make sure you have someone in your Club who is leading on all things Membership. Whilst we all agree that we all have a responsibility to grow our Clubs, we need someone in every Club who leads the Membership Action. We need someone who makes sure we put a plan together and then take some action that will offer the opportunity to be a Lion to more people.

An extract from the Membership Presentation at District Convention :

Once upon a time, a short while ago or a long while ago, someone asked you to join your Lions Club.

You are now a strong proud Lion so you have to pay that onwards.

Just as someone once asked you to join, you must ask others.

Give them the opportunity to belong and part of our worldwide movement for good.

Just Ask.

If any Club Membership Officers need some help and advice about Membership Planning and growing their Clubs – just get in touch and let's talk about it!

Sue Wilding gmt@lions105cw.org.uk

Lions' Podcasts

Do you listen to podcasts?

Would now be a good time to start?

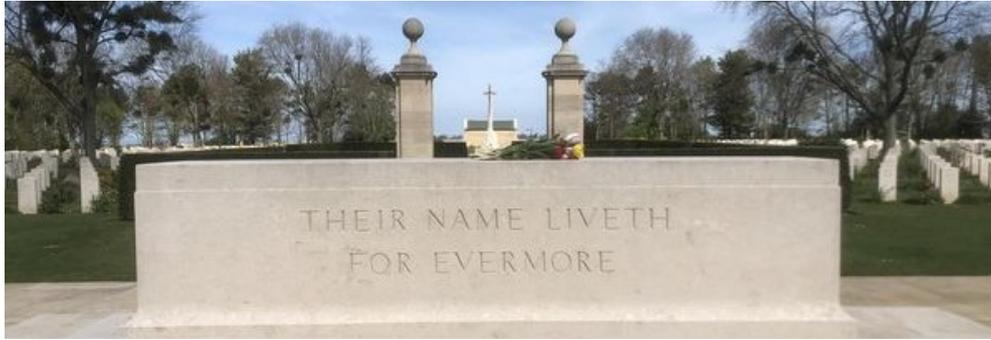
Below are details of two LION podcasts launched on **Step Forward and Volunteer**:

1. John Oldham from Yeo Valley Lions talks about a very special project the club set-up and run which is a secure stay and play area, called Kingsmour Playground. John tells the listeners how the project came about and what it means to those using the playground.
2. Trish Sail, the Community Connections Coordinator for RNIB and supporter of Crediton & District Lions shares her own experience of living with sight loss as she has an eye condition called Uveitis which affects the inside of the eye originating in a part of the eye, called the Uvea. Trish is no stranger to adventures and with her best friend Cathie Rowe entered the Race Across the World screened by the BBC in the Spring of 2023.

You can hear the full LION Podcasts 'Step Forward and Volunteer' through the following link <https://lionsclubspodcast.podbean.com/> or through the Lions website

<https://lionsclubs.co/Public/lion-podcast/archive/>





105 CW LIONS visit 103 Normandie

Having struggled to find a new way to give a meaning to the twinning between our district and 103 Normandie after Brexit complicated the transport of the spectacles that were collected at Convention, the idea was formed to travel to Normandy and assist our fellow Lions with the picking and selling of tulips in aid of cancer research. We also wanted to have a look at Medico, the French Lions owned spectacles recycling operation in Le Havre.

On 11 April various ferries traveling from Portsmouth to Caen had some Lions on board. In total 10 UK Lions arrived in Caen, ready to pick tulips the following day in a field with French Lions not far from Bayeux. In the afternoon a number went to Bayeux to admire the tapestry while others went to sell at a supermarket in Douvres-la-Délivrande. Just behind what was D-Day's Juno/Sword beach. So on the way there Lion Richard Stannard with wife Tina and myself with Lion Claire passed Bény-sur-Mer Canadian War Cemetery. As the car was full with tulips, we were able to leave a floral tribute to our fallen liberators.

We had a beautiful day in the sun selling tulips, which went smoothly. The next day we did it again in 2 locations. The location in Caen was supported by a large number of Leo's and a number of scouts. In the evening we had dinner together with Lions from the Caen Reine Mathilde club, celebrating the success of our sales. We sold out. and passed the takings of 2023, so our trip paid off!

Then on Sunday participants did different things, a number travelled to Mont St. Michel, while others visited a chateau.

Monday we visited the Medico facility where French Lions recycle 5 million spectacles annually and also take in medical items like wheelchairs, beds and distribute them worldwide. It is quite an operation with 7 full time staff. I understand that UK Lions are studying ways how we can renew the cooperation which got disturbed in the wake of Brexit. It would be nice if we can work together again and ensure that our spectacles will get to their end destination handled by Lions.

The aim of the trip was to support our fellow Lions and enjoy the good food and touristic sites Normandy has to offer. The trip delivered on all the points and the plan is to repeat this in April 2025. If anyone wants to be kept in the picture regarding that trip, please email lionjaap@gmail.com and you will be kept informed about the plans.





COMPETITIONS UPDATE

Congratulations to the following 2023 calendar year competition winners as announced at our 105CW District Convention in March. And thank you to District Governor Lion David McKirdy and PID Dr Gary Anderson for presenting the trophies.

The Membership Growth award went to **Rutland Lions**

Lechlade & District Lions won the Best Kept Website

Best Social Media was awarded to **Sandwell Lions**

And the Visiting Lions trophy went to **Bromyard Lions**

The five Photography category winners were:

Animals - **Lion Brian Waters**, Chepstow and Caldicot Lions

Birds - **Lion Brian Waters**, Chepstow and Caldicot Lions

Plants - **Lion Paul Murphy**, Sandwell Lions

Other Nature - **Lion Barbara Gray**, CWBI 2020 Virtual Lions

Weather - **Lion Martin Conlon**, Shirley Lions

All thoroughly well deserved and gave our judges a hard task.

Looking forward, are you working towards an award for YOUR club in 2024? Remember – the competitions year is from 1 January to 31 December – giving time for winners to be chosen and trophies presented at Convention. Some Visiting Lion forms and photographs have already been sent in – please keep them coming!

Lion Jan Watson

105CW Competitions Officer

competitions@lions105cw.org.uk



LOCAL GIRL, YOUNG VOLUNTEER, WINS TWO AWARDS

Local girl, Rosa Wetherall, has received awards from both Southam and District Lions Club and Rugby Borough Council. Rosa, who is a student at Southam College, became part of the Young People in Service scheme, led by Lion Dave Thing in 2023 and this year is led by Lion Ben Wide. Since then she has put in over 100 hours of voluntary work, thus receiving the Gold Certificate and £100 from the Southam Lions club. At the Southam Lions' meeting on Wednesday 6 March, Lion Ben Wilde introduced Rosa and her family and explained that Rosa had completed 104 voluntary hours within the community involved primarily with Football Coaching for young people at Rugby Borough Football Club, particularly helping children with additional needs and with groups of both under eight and twelve years. The Chair of the Football Club wrote to Ben outlining his delight that Rosa was being recognized for her enthusiastic input and even suggested that the future of the Club was in good hands.

On Wednesday 10 April Rosa attended the Rugby Borough Council Awards and won the Rugby Young Volunteer Award for 2023, the award was sponsored and presented by the Rugby Rokeby Lions Club.



Left:

Rosa receives the Gold Certificate for Young People in Service award from Southam Lions' President Pam Thomas.

Below:

Rosa receives the Rugby Borough Council's Young Volunteer Award 2023 presented by The Rugby Rokeby Lions' Club Vice-president, Gillian Nelson.



Birmingham Handsworth Lions Club CIO

supporting

Marie Curie Cancer Research



At least 3 - 4 times a year, Members and friends of Birmingham Handsworth Lions Club CIO undertake supermarket tin collections at various locations within our vicinity to support Marie Curie Cancer Research. We tend to raise anywhere between £3,000 - £5,000 annually for the cause.



Our brave volunteers ranging in age, from 11 through to 70+ weathered the onslaught of the dangerous traffic of ruthless customers at Morrisons, Wednesbury on Saturday, 9th and Sunday, 10th March 2024 waving our tins, smiling relentlessly, and trying to look fashionable in our colourful gear. We are pleased to announce that we raised circa £1,000 in this instance and look forward to continuing support for our charitable endeavours.

NORTH SEA LIONS PROJECT, from CW opened on 16 March 2024

After a number of years of hard work, our project in the Philippine town of Laoac was officially opened.

Our thanks go to Lion Ben Manluctao who worked incredibly hard on this project, overcoming many hurdles as they spring up. He followed it from home as well as during regular visits to the site. We owe him our gratitude to see this project through.



Balsall Common Lions – a small submission for the District Newsletter

Thanks to everyone in the District 105CW who attended our Fiftieth Anniversary Charter, recently.

As a result of your amazing generosity we were invited to attend a meeting with Councillor Mrs Diana Holl-Allen MBE, Mayor of Solihull, where we presented a cheque to the value of £1,600 to the Mayor's Charity (Marie Curie Hospice, West Midlands).

Lions don't do what they do for the thanks, but it's nice when it happens!



WARWICK LIONS - Jazz Night



Present a Jazz Night

Organised by Warwick Lions Club @ Warwick Racecourse

Friday 17th May 2024

Doors 5.30pm - Music Starts 6pm

Tickets: £20

@ <https://www.thejockeyclub.co.uk/warwick/events-tickets/jazz-night/>

2 LIVE BANDS:

**RICHARD EXALLS SHOOTING STARS
& WASHINGTON WHIRLIGIG**

Refreshments Available

Drinks - Windmill Hill Brewery - Warwickwickshire Gin

Thanks to Jazz-a-matazz for their assistance

Kenilworth Lions Use DIY Skills for Refuge UK

Kenilworth Lions have recently been exercising their DIY skills and interior design “knowledge” assisting Refuge UK to make properties recently acquired through the Dispersed Accommodation project, welcoming and attractive places for their clients to bring themselves and their children to safety. In this activity we were very grateful for the assistance of the Kenilworth Soroptimists, who do fantastic charitable work in the area, and have very close ties with Refuge UK.

The work involved putting up curtain poles / rails, shelving, window blinds, video doorbells, post-boxes, TVs, and a bit of furniture assembly; converting the refurbished, but sterile, houses into homes to live in. Some of the properties were fully wheelchair accessible and suitable for disabled residents, which required slightly different approaches to both design and installation. The final part of the package was achieved with the help of another wonderful charity, Kidsout UK, who have access to loads of large toys and playhouses. We were able to collect literally a vanload of interior, and exterior toys and play equipment – these were VERY well received by the children at the properties.

Kenilworth Lions are predominantly a grant-awarding club, so it was a pleasant change to be able to offer physical assistance to this very worthwhile cause.

For further information on the organisations mentioned, please follow the links below:

[Soroptimists Kenilworth](#)

[Kidsout UK](#)

[Refuge UK Dispersed Accommodation Project](#)



ZONE 7 REPORT - Marie Curie MAN SHED open for business

In 2019, the seven Lions Clubs of Zone 7 joined forces in honour of a fellow member who died a few months earlier and donated £10,000 to the Men's Shed group so work to build a workshop and meeting room could begin in the grounds of the Marie Curie Hospice in Solihull.

Brian Hornsby, a member of Balsall Common Lions club, was cared for by the hospice during his 10-year battle against prostate cancer.

It has taken approximately five years, but we are proud to announce that the Man Shed at the Marie Curie Hospice in Solihull is finally OPEN for business. In truth, the Man Shed was formally opened in 2020. Note the date – it was ready the day before lockdown, and remained unused until September 2023, and it now going strong once more, where on a Tuesday about a dozen men gather on a weekly basis.

And finally, on 16 January, representatives from the seven clubs of the Solihull Seven finally got to visit the Man Shed, and the Lions Plaque mounted proudly on the exterior.



ZONE 10 REPORT



SOCIAL EVENING ON 9 JANUARY 2024 AT HEREFORD WELSH CLUB

Good to meet up with other Lions at Zone 10 Social Evening. Hereford Lions hosted the Skittles evening at the Hereford Welsh Club who provided a splendid buffet on the 9th of January.

Hereford Lions Club now take over the Zone Trophy for being hosts, which was presented to Jon von Anrep the President by Keith Wilding of Ross-on-Wye Lions. We also had the pleasure of meeting up with members from Severn Dean Lions, and Forest of Dean Lions. Lots of good ideas were shared as well as the fun of skittles.

HEREFORD LIONS

Hereford Lions Car Boot

Hereford Lions have been very busy preparing the Field for our first Carboot of the year on Easter Saturday 30th of March. We are working with St Michaels Hospice and all funds raised on that day will be donated to them.

Hereford Lions Bingo Night 7 March 2024

Hereford Lions pulled out all the stops once again for another very successful Bingo Night. Great fun was had by all, at the same time raising a Grand total of £740 to give back to the Community of Herefordshire.



HFYFC 2024 Drama Competition - Hereford Lions

(Herefordshire Young Farmers)

Hereford Lions were very proud to provide Sponsorship to Herefordshire Young Farmers 2024 Drama Competition again this year. Dramas' from Teme Valley Allensmore. One Plus/Shining Stars from Allensmore, Lugg Valley and Welsh Newton. This was a huge success with over 1200 people coming through the door over the four nights from 15 February. It is a pleasure for the Hereford Lions to work alongside these talented Young Farmers. Working with these young people will encourage them to become young Lions members in the near future.



Global Leadership Team Lead

Did you know there are many online courses available in the Lions Learning Centre?
Have a look and see what interests you. A couple of titles that stood out to me are:

- Effective Teams
- Introduction to SWOT Analysis
- Creativity and Innovation

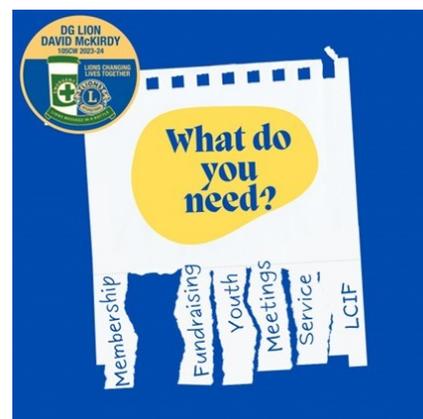
There are so many to dip into!

Go to <https://lionslearningcenter.litmos.com/home/library> to find out more.

If there are any other topics for a workshop that you as a Lion think would be helpful to others too, please get in contact and we will see if it can be planned and arranged.

Yours In Service

Lion Melissa Murphy (GLT Lead)



Note From Editor

Dear fellow Lions,

Could you please submit your articles for the next Newsletter in a Word Document with Calibri type. Also good quality J-PEG images and uncropped, please. Unfortunately, LINKS attached to Articles submitted do not work as the PUBLISHER Document is then converted to a PDF Document ready for distribution.

Many thanks.

Lion Jenny McKirdy

