

# 105 SC



Lion Bob conquers Everest! - see page 6




# SENTINEL

JULY 2020 EDITION



Charlie's angle...

See page 7



The International Association of Lions Clubs

## District 105SC

District Governor 2020 - 2021 ♦ Lion Steve Petty

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# The new DG's Leader...

## *My Fellow Lions*

IT HARDLY SEEMS POSSIBLE that it has been twelve months since the new district came into existence and we have all had to make new associations with friends from the various old districts. I won't say that it hasn't had its challenges but thanks to all of the District officers and professionally led by our now Immediate Past District Governor, Lion Jarvis Macdonald, we can say it has been a very successful transition.

We have sadly lost a couple of Clubs over the year and anticipate the loss of one or two more. Thankfully, many of the members in those Clubs have transferred to other Clubs and are continuing their, much appreciated, life of voluntary service. We, at District, will do our best to mitigate those Club losses with more effort being put into both new member recruitment and retention events. We are also seeing a heightened interest in forming branch Clubs and speciality Clubs which we will pursue.

Can I, at this point, welcome our colleagues from the Swindon Chautari Lions Club. The Nepalese Club was chartered last October and I look forward to meeting you all.

As we move into a new Lionistic year, I have undertaken some small changes to the District structure in an aim to make it more open, accessible and accountable to you, its members. We have done away with one level of administration between Clubs and Districts by removing the Region chairmen. From now on the Zone chairmen will talk directly to District as an integral part of the District Governors Advisory Team. The 1st Vice District Governor will chair this meeting at regular intervals and Zone chairmen will be able to report (and share) their activities, learn about the changes in advice (and regulation) that comes down from above, on a regular basis, along with inviting guest speakers to their meetings. I hope that this will give Zone Chairmen more enthusiasm to engage with and enjoy the process.

A big welcome to all of the new Zone Chairmen and I look forward to meeting, and working, with you. Can I also thank the Zone Chairmen who are continuing in service for another year.

We have made some changes to the District Officers as two very important Officers have now retired from their posts. They have not gone entirely but I thank them for their loyal and professional service in getting I05SC off the ground.

Our new Secretary is PDG Lion Peter Burnett who takes over from PDG Lion Roger Huntley, our new Treasurer is Lion Tim Hanton who takes over from Lion Linda Picton, our new Sergeant-at-Arms is Lion Dave Rose who takes over from PDG Lion Peter Burnett and our new Global Membership Team leader is IPDG Lion Jarvis Macdonald who takes over from Lion Tim Hanton.

# The new DG's Leader - page 2

We have created a new role of Social Media Support Officer which will be occupied by Lion Dave Rose who has a reputation of helping Clubs around the world understand the complexities of social media. His skills will be most welcome in his own District.

All Officers, including me, will be contactable via the District's generic email addresses so Clubs and members will not need to change their contact lists.

Life is currently very challenging with the current pandemic hanging over us but hardly a week goes by where I don't hear about the Clubs which are finding new ways of conducting their monthly meetings and serving their communities. The "New Normal" is becoming quite impressive as Clubs are holding some very professional online meetings, some well supported fundraising events, recruiting and badging up new members and even meeting up with some existing "at large" members who were unable to attend the normal face-to-face meetings and can now attend virtually at home. If you haven't thought about opening up your Zoom meetings to prospective members, then please think about it now and advertise your meeting out to your community via Facebook, Twitter and websites, etc.

I know the jury is out on whether to return to our past ways or continue as at present but the old adage of "Your Club, your way" has never been so apt.

To end, I am going to repeat the last lines of IPDG Lion Jarvis's first article in July last year as I cannot put it better.

**"We are all volunteers and give of our time freely", let us enjoy ourselves and spread fun, joy and laughter as we do what we do best - We Serve"**



Stay safe and also remember the International President's words  
**"Kindness Matters"**

*Lion Steve*

**DG 105SC**

## Meeting by ZOOM!

District 105SC now has its own Zoom account, which may be used by Clubs who don't have their own account. Just email [zoom@lions105sc.org.uk](mailto:zoom@lions105sc.org.uk) to request a meeting, giving date and time and name and email address of the member who will act as host.

# Matters of Moment

## KEEPING THE PROMISE!

From MD105 Vision Officer Lion Sue Taylor

Lions continue to answer the call of Helen Keller and remember some 95 years later

Even the most optimistic person at the Lions International Convention on 30 June 1925 in Ohio, USA would have found it hard to imagine that the challenge issued by a blind and deaf woman in a speech to the delegates that lasted under ten minutes would have a continuing impact around the world almost one hundred years later.

Helen Keller, an American author, political activist and lecturer and a tireless advocate for people with disabilities was that woman. Blind and deaf from the age of eighteen months she broke through the isolation imposed by a near complete lack of language to be able to communicate with the help of her exceptional teachers. She went from communicating through sign language, learning to read, write and speak. She was also the first blind and deaf individual to graduate.

Born on 27 June 1880 Keller was 45 years of age when she addressed the Lions Convention and her achievements in life were well known and widely publicised and known to most Lions in the audience, some of whom had involvement with service projects for the blind. She was at the time an ambassador for the American Foundation for the Blind. It is said that witnessing Keller on stage share her emotions for the plight of the blind captivated all who were present. Her most stirring words came at the end of her speech hoping that Lions would partner with the American Foundation for the Blind and lend their support as an organisation to those who had lost their sight.

'Will you not help me hasten the day when there shall be no preventable blindness; no little deaf, blind child untaught; no blind man or woman unaided? I appeal to you Lions, you who have your sight, your hearing, you who are strong and brave and kind. Will you not constitute yourselves knights of the blind in this crusade against darkness?'

It is written that before the Convention was over Lions International unreservedly dedicated itself to making Keller's dream a reality. Lions would become Keller's 'Knights of the Blind'. Since Keller's appeal Lions around the world have changed the lives of hundreds of million people through their vision related work.

This work materialises in many different ways around the globe and around UK, all working towards ending preventable blindness and aiding the visually impaired.

In 1971 the Board of Directors of Lions Clubs International declared that 1 June would be remembered as Helen Keller Day.

Sadly the fight against preventable blindness will never end and our efforts must never fade. Our challenge to engage with sight-related projects that do make a difference is still as strong today as it has ever been.

**What can you do as a Lions Club and as an individual Lion that will make a difference?**

By embracing the new UK-wide programme **Lions In-Sight** (which replaces the old Lions Eye Health Programme) you really will be able to make a difference to very many visually impaired people across this country. At a national level we are looking at linking Lions Clubs International with Visionary and RNIB in partnership. Then, by linking visionary member organisations (180+ across UK) and RNIB, to individual Lions Clubs across the UK we would together be working to ensuring a better quality of life for visually impaired people.

Lions HQ Birmingham has produced a guide **Developing local partnerships** that will help prepare your Club for possible partnerships, as well as identify and approach potential local partners. (such as your local blind society, Blind Bowlers, Talking Newspapers, etc.).

Another excellent toolkit produced by Lions HQ in Birmingham is a **Service Project Planner for VISION SUPPORT GROUPS** and, as a part of the Lions In-Sight Programme, it's intended to help local Lions Clubs set up, together with their local societies for visually impaired people, groups or activities for blind and partially sighted people.

**Guides and toolkits are all on the Lions International Clubs UK website.**



## Welcome New Lion!

Since the June edition of the *Sentinel* MyLCI reports only one new Lion in our District, so a warm welcome to Lion William Lenihan of the Lions Club of Basingstoke.

DG Lion *Steve*





# The bigger picture

## Global Service Team News

### A NEW LIONISTIC YEAR BEGINS

Let us make 2020-2021 the best year for service yet. The current situation has meant so many changes to the way we work in our communities but with the gradual easing of lockdown we can go back to more traditional ways of serving. However, I am sure some of you will have made new contacts during this time and you will want to continue to help them in the future. My own club has been establishing links with our local schools and this will continue. Not only can we provide service to the young people in our areas but hopefully their parents will become more aware of Lions and could become members.

All Service is important and indeed our motto is "We Serve". However GST (Global Service Team) is concerned with Vision, Diabetes, Environment, Childhood Cancer and Hunger. Whilst our MD also include other aspects of community service such as Deaf Awareness in 105SC I am just responsible for the 5 "Pillars" of Service. I will be updating you on advances in these as they happen through the year. I am always please to hear about what clubs are achieving and all your service should be reported on the My Lion section of the LCI website. Secretaries, especially those just taking up the post, please do make sure you report your service regularly. It is now quite easy to do.

I am always willing to come and talk to Zones and Clubs about my role and the topics included within it. While we are meeting virtually it would be very easy for me to join in your meetings if you so wished.

There are various important dates during the year relating to the GST topics and I include some of them below:

**Thurs. 8 October 2020 - World Sight Day**

**Fri. 16 October 2020 - World Hunger Day**

**Sat. 14 November 2020 - World Diabetes Day**

**Thurs. 22 April 2021 - World Earth Day**

**Sat. 5 June 2021 - World Environment Day**

**Sat. 5 June 2021 - World Hunger Awareness Day**

**June 2021 - Diabetes Week (UK)**

I hope these dates will be observed by Clubs and that they will try to do something to celebrate them. I will be outlining suggestions in good time to help you get started. I know the MD Sight Officer is going to issue guidelines for World Sight Day and I will forward these to you as I receive them

I wish you every success in your Service projects over the next 12 months

*Lion Judith Goodchild*

PDG Judith Goodchild 105SC GST Coordinator  
gst@lions105sc.org.uk Tel: 0118 981 2260



I hope by now most of you will have read the article in *The Lion* magazine concerning the LCIF grant that was awarded to MD 105. The grant total is one of the largest that has been awarded during the current pandemic and counts towards the 38 awarded to projects in constitutional area IV (Europe).

The grant for MD 105 supports the amazing and challenging work carried out by Air Ambulance crews up and down the country. The emergency Covid-19 grants have now closed; 292 grants were awarded totalling \$4,744,752. There are still many grants run by LCIF that can be applied for and these will continue to support work carried out by Lions around the world, wherever there is a need. During the fiscal year 2018 – 19, 798 grants totalling \$40 million were awarded.

If you are interested in the work of your Foundation, LCI are running 'Foundation Friday' webinars that you can register for. Go to the International site, Coronavirus tab and look for Virtual Events in the drop-down box. There are past events that you can catch up on or you can sign up for forthcoming ones. The next is on 10 July from 2.00 to 3.00 pm and will be looking at how Campaign 100 Empowers Service. Please look, particularly if you are interested in putting yourself forward as your Club LCIF Officer. The Annual Report for 2018 -19 is also available to read on the International site and there is a small piece starting on page 35 of the current edition of *The Lion*.

During the 2018 -19 fiscal year, Clubs in this District donated \$49,286. This is an amazing figure and the only words I have are, thank you. The work carried out by Lions worldwide due to receiving a grant and Lions reacting when a natural disaster occurs, these happen because your club has donated to your Foundation.

Stay safe and well.

*Lion Ann Huntley M&J*

District 105SC LCIF Coordinator

## News around the Clubs (virtually)...

### Founding Member Celebrates his 90th Birthday

Lion David Fowler was a member of Basingstoke Lions Club at a time when the Club became too large and had a long waiting list of prospective members waiting to join.

So, it was decided to set up a new Club to serve the area bounded by Basingstoke, Newbury and Reading.

Lion David took a pivotal role in setting up the Loddon Valley Lions Club and became its first President when it was chartered into the fold of Lions Clubs International in October 1975.

Lion David has remained a staunch and enthusiastic member ever since and was elected President again in 1997-98 and for a third time in 2013-14. During the 1990s and early 2000s, he also held various positions on the then District 105D Cabinet. He continues to actively support the Loddon Valley Club today and had it not been for Covid-19 would most likely have celebrated his birthday by helping run the Tadley Treacle Fair, one of the Club's main fundraising events each year, with his wife Pat in charge of the Tea Tent.



The picture shows current President Lion Vanessa Tolson (who should be fined for not wearing the Presidential gong!), suitably socially distanced from Lion David, together with a bottle of Chateaufort du Pape from the Club, a card hand-stitched by

the wife of a Club member and a small Bougainvillea plant. David's card depicted many facets of his life including Lionism, farming, installing supermarket checkouts, engineering, his love of traction engines and generally tinkering with all things mechanical.

With superb weather over the 'Treacle Fair' weekend, David was able to participate in a small celebration as each of the residents of the small Close in which he resides enjoyed a picnic, no doubt suitably well lubricated, in their front gardens and were able to shout their congratulations across the road to him.

Thanking the Club, Lion David said he would endeavour to drain the bottle with alacrity and transfer the Bougainvillea to the garden, where he doubted it would match the magnificence of Mediterranean examples, but promised he would do his best to see that it at least survived!

### HOOK AND ODIHAM LIONS HELP THEIR SCHOOLS DURING THE PANDEMIC

Since mid-April Lions Mark Hazell and John Lancashire have volunteered to carry out the delivery service on Wednesday afternoons for the Whitewater Pharmacy in Hook for residents in Hartley Wintney, Hazeley Bottom, Hook, Rotherwick, Mattingley and Greywell. For two weeks in May they covered all the afternoon deliveries while the permanent driver was on sick leave.



Lions keeping their distance

The Club have also been taking part in a Lions Project to help schools and children while they have been unable to attend

school. Members hope to assist all nine schools in the area the Club serves and to date have provided ten PCs or lap-tops to pupils from Buryfields Infants in Odiham and Hook Junior and Hook Infants schools. It is hoped to be able to provide more for other schools as PCs and laptops become available.

All eight local schools have been contacted to ask how they could be further helped at this time. To date the Club has supplied money to purchase stationery sets to Greenfield and Oakwood Schools in Hartley Wintney. Funds have been provided for the junior school in Hook to make up lost PTA funds which would have provided additional school meals and online learning platforms and, for the infants, money to buy fruit and vegetables. Schools in Odiham have also been supported making it possible to build a pond at Mayhill Junior School and to assist with free school meals when vouchers were not available for pupils at Buryfields Infant School.

To date the Club has helped nearly 1800 children.

The Club also hopes to be able to help Robert Mays School in Odiham which is the senior school for our area and Whitewater Primary school in Rotherwick and Long Sutton Primary School.

### Bradford on Avon Lion climbs Mt Everest!



Bradford on Avon Lions Club's Lion Bob Farrimond, utilised his time while in Covid 19 lockdown, by walking to the top of Mt Everest, a distance of 8,800 metres.

He achieved this by ascending and descending his home stairs 50 times a day over a period of 78 days. This equated to 3,900 ups and downs, a total of 50,000 steps.

He also raised £1,900 for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Bob is pictured at the end of his walk.



## More news from the Clubs - virtual and otherwise

### Windsor Lions still working for the community during lockdown

Windsor Lions have been keeping themselves busy during lockdown even though many of their usual fundraising and community service activities have had to stop. Nevertheless in April, Lions Nick and Teresa Jones took on a puppy to be trained as a Hearing Dog for those with hearing impairments. She is called Ciara and apparently



is incredibly cute but requires a lot of attention. Teresa (pictured here with Ciara) describes Ciara as 'fun and a good distraction' and this is the third such puppy the animal-loving couple have taken on.

Former President and now a Privileged Member, Lion John Jenkins has signed up to be an NHS responder for *Call and Chat* and Lion Tiia Stephen has been operating her excellent Wellbeing Hub providing

sustenance for key workers, ably assisted by Lion Diane Purchase and soon-to-be Lion Martin Shea. Lions Paul and Carol Maxwell have been busy assisting with the Windsor Foodshare by packing up hundreds of food parcels for delivery around the town to those who need help.

The Club is operating a call coordinating service for a team of volunteers helping residents who are either self-isolating, shielding or vulnerable to connect with local volunteer helpers. The Hub responds to requests ranging from shopping, collection of prescriptions, collection of *Click and Collect* from supermarkets.

Looking ahead Windsor Lions are planning their very popular Santa Sleigh outings and very much hope that they can go ahead during the run up to Christmas provided Santa hasn't had to furlough his Elves!

### Charlie on duty with Wareham Lions



Charlie (aka Choo) is Wareham Lions PRO Lion Paul Cady's grandson and he's been helping out with his family's initiative of raising funds for the Wareham Lions' Ambulance and the NHS.

Manning a roadside stall, the family are selling plants and to keep social distance are taking the money at an 'honesty box' up the road.

"People are obviously donating their loose change but we are also getting notes and someone even left some Love Heart sweets in the tray," says Lion Paul. We are also promoting Message in a Bottle and have a bucket for collecting old specs'

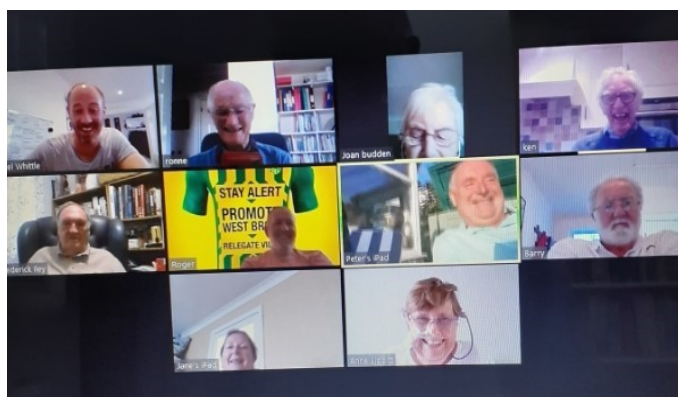
*I have found that if  
you love life, life  
will love you back.*

Arthur Rubinsten

# More news from the Clubs...

## The Lions and Lockdown

Wimborne and Ferndown Lions Club, like many similar groups, have been trying to continue their activities as best they can during the national lockdown. At first, in March, we concluded that we would simply have to wait. But as it became clear that the lockdown period would be a lot longer than had been hoped, other ideas were sought.



Thanks to the initiative of Lion Dan (top left in picture) we were introduced to the Zoom video conferencing app, now familiar to many people, and Lion Dan organised us to hold virtual club meetings. At the time of writing (mid May) we have held three such meetings. There have been a few hiccups, to do with passwords and positioning the home cameras, but it works.

Since not everyone in the Club has the equipment needed, the meetings have been informal and enjoyable social occasions as you can see. Whether we develop this format for formal meetings remains to be seen and obviously depends on when and how lockdown restrictions are lifted.

One of our members, Lion Joan, has made 575 scrubs bags for nurses to send their scrubs in straight to the laundry. These have gone to Dorchester and Poole hospitals and elsewhere.

## PDGs down under

PDGs Lions John and Judith Goodchild (Loddon Valley and Hook & Odiham Clubs respectively) had planned a five week tour of Malaysia, New Zealand, Australia and Singapore, leaving Singapore almost immediately prior to the Covid-19 Lockdown.

During their time in Australia, it had been arranged to stay for ten days with a friend of Judith's, who lives about fifteen miles south of Sydney. Lo and behold, they discovered that the Kogarah Lions Club (District 201N5) met at an Australian equivalent of our British Legion Clubs situated just a three minute walk from their friend's house and were due a meeting during their stay. Contact was made and they were told they would be made most welcome at that meeting.

Lion John explained that the British Lions had a project to provide the Australian Lions with specialised water tanks in the fight against the recent bush fires which had been raging and received a spontaneous round of applause when he told the Australians that his Club had donated sufficient money to purchase one tank. Comments were heard, "Those tanks don't come cheap". Fortunately the fires had not taken hold in the area served by the Kogarah Club.

A pleasant and convivial evening was enjoyed by all, exchanging notes about the activities of the three Clubs, with Lion Judith explaining that her Club too, had made a donation towards the cost of a water tank and also how her Club had negotiated a grant from LCIF for a project at an eye hospital in Uganda.

It is traditional at such meetings for the Clubs to exchange bannerettes and our picture shows Lions John



and Judith receiving Kogarah banners from Lion Robert Greenhill, President of the Kogarah Lions

Club. This Club was in the process of raising funds to provide a specialised wheelchair for a child at a local school they have supported for many years.



## And still more...

### **LIONS PUB QUIZZES RAISE ALMOST £4,000 FOR WOKINGHAM HUB TOTAL DONATED TO WOKINGHAM HUB IS ALMOST £5,000 WITH £1,000 GRANT**

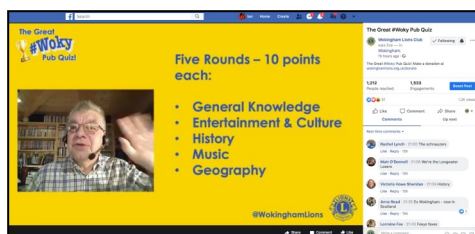
Since 1 April, the Wokingham Lions Club has been running weekly virtual pub quizzes on Facebook, organised by Lion Ian Grange. Since pubs will be opening soon, the last pub quiz takes place on Thursday, 2 July.

So far, the Club has raised more than £3,900 from quiz participants, which has been donated to the Wokingham Borough Community Hub, to support individuals and families in need. In addition, the Club donated another £1,000 from a grant from Lions District funds, bringing the total so far to £4,900.

Emma Cantrell CEO, First Days Children's Charity, one of the partners at Wokingham Borough Community Hub, said: "We would like to thank everyone who has participated in the Great #Woky Pub Quizzes over the last 14 weeks. The donations you've made have helped us send out more than 4,500 food parcels, supporting hundreds of families in our Borough through Covid-19. It's with the support of all of those who take part in wonderful activities such as The Great #Woky Pub Quiz that allow us to be there for those who need us. We cannot thank you all enough!"

Lion Ian Grange, the quiz organiser at Wokingham Lions added: "What I've been really pleased with is not just the money that has been raised to support Covid-19 relief in our community, but also the sense of fun and community the quiz has generated amongst those taking part. I'm really going to miss running it on Thursday nights. But I hope we can go out with a bang at our final quiz on 2 July!"

The Great #Woky Pub Quiz takes place on Thursday evenings at 8.00 pm and is live-streamed over Facebook, with more than 250 teams taking part each week, and over a quarter of a million minutes of quiz video being viewed to date on the Facebook page



@WokinghamLions. More than 700 questions have been asked, which have been set by the Wokingham Lions. Special guests at the quiz have included new Wokingham Town Council Mayor Cllr Tony Lack, and a live link-up with Jono Holmes on BBC Radio Berkshire.

Friends and families who can't be together have formed virtual teams, with Wokingham members being joined by friends and family across the UK and the world, including players in New Zealand, Sweden, Singapore, Canada, Portugal and the USA.

## News from the M3

Basingstoke Lions have been joined by Bill Lenihan. He got talking to Lion Ann Vicars at our World Sight Day stall in the Malls and she persuaded him to join us at a dinner meeting at The Hatch. It was the usual rowdy, good-humoured affair and he was pretty much sold on us. Lion Ann finished him off with her usual rack and steam hammer approach and he has volunteered to take on our most important role, chairman of Fundraising. Whoopee!

But life is full of ups and downs and Barry Morgan (Mr. Fixit) has felt obliged to stand down due to ill health after 23 years as a Lion (the one is not a direct result of the other!). At one time or another he has voluntarily taken on nearly every role in the Club, and always delivered. But one of the nice things about our departing members is that they all opt for the umbilical cord of our distribution list. So, when they get the Minutes and recognize that we have a problem, they often weigh in by helping to organize and take part in activities such as Easter Egg raffles, tin shakes, etc. There is an old saying that no good deed goes unpunished. So it actually pays to recruit masochistic members. On which subject I hope to have further good news next month.

The value of the Fleet Club's IT renovation project cannot be overstated. One of our volunteers had the good fortune to deliver a particularly large screen and keyboard to a family with a disabled child. The reaction was apparently an absolute joy to behold – the sort of outcome that really makes you feel it's all worthwhile.

We also became aware that one of the charities which we have helped in the past was running into a short-term funding shortfall to operate its food-bank. We stepped in with a loan of £1,000 to cover two days' operating costs. The Basingstoke Voluntary Association (BVA) organized bunches of flowers to be delivered to carers. They needed drivers to deliver them. Quiz question: "Which member of the Club made the deliveries to a village just outside Basingstoke? Hint: A character once played by Doris

Day – No, not Calamity Jane (however appropriate that might be), the other sharpshooter! But during the deliveries our one was spotted "loitering" on a corner causing several motorists to slow down in a suggestive manner. (Cop speak!).

**Stop Press:** We just received a very nice thank you letter from the CEO of our local NHS Trust in respect of the additional hand creams we supplied to the hospital. Isn't that nice!



# And finally...

## Brightening up Bishops Waltham House

The Meon Valley Lions Club had a request from the State run care home with 22 bedrooms, in Free Street, Bishops Waltham. As their gardens were looking a little sad, to help brighten up the gardens, we donated planters to cheer up the residents.



## IN FOND MEMORY

IT WAS with great sadness that Loddon Valley Lions received the news that their current Secretary, **Lion David Petrie**, has passed to higher service. Lion Dave passed peacefully away in his sleep during the night of 19/20 June. Lion Dave joined Loddon Valley Lions in 2003 and served as the Club's President in 2007-2008, having previously served the Club with great sensitivity as its Welfare Chairman for two years. For a number of years, Lion Tailtwister Dave used his wry charms to extract fines from members for a multitude of obscure reasons and served as the Club's liaison Officer with the Lions Community Store in Fleet for many years until his untimely death.

Prior to his retirement, Lion Dave worked for the BBC at a number of its monitoring stations around the world, ending his career at the Caversham Monitoring Station. This experience led him to recount many interesting and amusing tales after Club meetings.

Loddon Valley Lions send their sincere condolences to Lesley and all members of the family on their and the Club's sad loss. Lion Dave will be remembered with fondness and gratitude for his much valued service to Loddon Valley Lions.

Blandford and District Lions Club reports the passing to higher service of **Lion Talbot** in 25 May 2020 and Henley-on-Thames Lions Club reports the passing to higher service, also in May 2020, of **Lion Barry Holmes**.

Wareham Lions Club reports the passing to higher service of **Lion Dennis Farley** (98), a Lion for 21 years and Secretary for many of them. His passing was not Covid-19 related.

Each of these Lions will be a sad loss to all who knew them and the *105SC Sentinel* sends sincere condolences to their families, friends and fellow Lions.





# Sentinel's eye on...

## Keeping the Promise of Vision - Part 2

Continued from page 4

### **Guides and toolkits are all on the Lions International Clubs UK website**

As a unintended pilot for the Lions In-Sight Programme, the six Lions Clubs in Northumberland were approached by their local society for the blind, NCBA, for volunteers to provide a telephone support service of 600+ vulnerable visually impaired people during COVID-19. This is working very well, and outcomes for visually impaired people - and the people who are phoning them - is excellent. (I know, I am one of the Lions volunteers)

We were intending to launch the new Lions In-Sight Programme at the 2020 Birmingham Convention, but ... So I am now working with Lions HQ on two new Sight leaflets/posters and looking at how best to ensure everyone's involvement.

Another way to meet the challenge is through the **collection of unwanted and damaged spectacles** which are sent to Chichester Lions Club which processes tens of thousands of recycled spectacles each year. Sorted spectacles are then sent for grading and distribution to Medico France in Le Havre. Spectacles are also sent directly to contacts running eye clinics in Papua New Guinea, Sri Lanka, Ghana, Nigeria and Nepal. In addition, volunteers from the 'Unite for Sight' charity are supplied with spectacles to take with them on missions to countries across the world. Although this recycling programme is on hold at the moment, it will restart as soon as possible. As your Sight Officer I have been investigating how many Clubs actually participate in this programme, and where they collect old specs from. I very much hope that by sharing this valuable information we can encourage even more Clubs to join in.

**Lions and Sight Savers** - Since 1970s Lions and SightSavers have worked together. Lions Sight Savers is a registered charity that in the past year has donated more than £100,000 to SightSavers' work in India and Africa (adult sight-restoring cataract surgery). A huge 'thank you' comes to all the Lions Clubs across the UK from Sightsavers for their incredible support.

All these Lions Programs as well as the Clubs and individual Lions who support them are wonderful examples of the ongoing efforts to meet the challenge issued almost 95 years ago. How will you and your Club support the challenge?

*Lion Sue Taylor*

**MD105 Vision Officer - [susantaylor158@btinternet.com](mailto:susantaylor158@btinternet.com)**



# OLD MONARCH

*The Editor has the last word...*

"No one would have believed that, in the last years of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, human affairs were being watched from the timeless worlds of space." These words introduce Jeff Wayne's "War of the Worlds". In a hundred years' time, or even a decade hence, will a latter-day Jeff Wayne write: "No one would have believed that in the second decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century human affairs worldwide were being controlled by something that started its life in a bat." It doesn't have quite the same ring to it but even the Martians, the villains of H.G. Wells' masterpiece that Jeff Wayne put to music, didn't achieve what Covid-19 has done worldwide so far.

However, as is evident from the previous pages, even Covid-19 meets its match in the indomitable spirit of the Lions of District 105SC and our new DG, Lion Steve, has set out very clearly how he sees this year will progress. The 105SC Sentinel will seek to play its part, so keep the articles coming in about your Club's activities and by all means write Letters to the Editor - he will never censor your thoughts unless your writings play fast and loose with the English language!

So Happy New Lions Year and keep safe and well.

*Lion Peter Tabb*



**Lions  
tail...**



Please send all articles and pictures for publication in the

**DISTRICT 105SC SENTINEL**

to the Editor, Lion Peter Tabb, email : [news@lions105sc.org.uk](mailto:news@lions105sc.org.uk) and/or [peteretabb@gmail.com](mailto:peteretabb@gmail.com)  
ideally at least a week before the end of the month