



# Special Feature June 2024



# SENTINEL

## A Celebration of Awards at Ringwood & Fordingbridge 54<sup>th</sup> Charter Anniversary Dinner

**Ringwood & Fordingbridge Lions Club** was chartered in 1970 and celebrated their Anniversary at the St Leonards Hotel in Ringwood on Saturday 25 May 2024. The President of the Club, Lion Stephen Sherring, and District Governor-Elect Lion Sandra Manktelow presented the following awards that night to:-

### **A Melvin Jones Fellowship Humanitarian Services Award to New Forest For Ukraine CEO, John Allison**

John Allison although retired, has displayed great commitment, leadership, and compassion by driving forward and expanding the idea and inspiration of two people from Brockenhurst who, in March 2022 simply wanted to help the people in Ukraine who were suffering.

They created New Forest For Ukraine (NFFU) and collected and donated aid and delivering to those most in need in Ukraine.

They operated from a warehouse in Lymington. John was a volunteer at the time and stepped up in 2023 to take over running the operation to ensure their legacy continued. He has helped

to expand what they do and how they do it and orchestrated a regular articulated truck with pallets containing food, clothes, medical supplies, cooking utensils, portable gas cookers and generators to be dispatched every three weeks from Lymington to Ukraine and Poland for distribution. He has forged links with businesses, agencies and organisations nationally and internationally and devoted a great deal of his own time and energy to make sure NFFU is a success. Club President Lion Stephen Sherring said: *“John is an inspiration for what he has done at New Forest For Ukraine over the past 18 months and fully deserves to be a Melvin Jones Fellow”.*



## **A Melvin Jones Fellowship Humanitarian Services Award to Dorothy Tuke for continued longstanding service to Ringwood & Fordingbridge Lions Club**

Dot, as she is known by all her friends, was first associated with R & F Lions Club 30 years ago when her husband became a Club Member. Since then she has tirelessly helped the club with every foodbank collection, street collection, school presentation, car boot sale, bookstall, fete, stall, or indeed any other service activity of fundraising event organised by the Ringwood & Fordingbridge Lions Club over the last 30 years. Club President Lion Stephen Sherring said: *“This award is a long time overdue. Dot is amazing and is at the heart of everything we do. The Club simply couldn’t function without her”.*



## **A 50 Year Long Service Award to Lion Martin Riseam who received a certificate of appreciation, personally signed by HRH Sophie, Duchess of Edinburgh GCVO, who is the Patron of British Isles Lions Clubs.**



Lion Martin has devoted an amazing 50 years of service to Lions and his community and has spent most of this with Ringwood & Fordingbridge Lions Club where he remains a valued Club member, a Past President, former Community Services Chairman, Director and Trustee. Club President Lion Stephen Sherring says: *“Martin is such a positive character and influence within the Club. He is a genuinely warm and outgoing individual who has never let his disability prevent him from being fully involved in all of our activities”.*

## **A 35 year Award for Lion Geoff Kay**

Lion Geoff Kay has been a very active member and former Club President with both Wimborne & Ferndown and Ringwood & Fordingbridge Lions Clubs over the past 35 years.



## A 35 Year Long Service Award to Lion Brian Small

Lion Brian Small was a founding Member of the Lymington & Brockenhurst Lions Club and in recent years moved to Ringwood & Fordingbridge Lions Club where he remains an active Club member and former Club President.



## A Special President's Certificate of Appreciation for Yvette Bruwer



Yvette, while not a Club member yet, has fully supported the Club throughout all their activities in 2023 and 2024 and as such was singled out for a personal Certificate of Appreciation from the Club President, Lion Stephen Sherring.



**“Where there is a need,  
there is a Lion.”**