

LIONS 105SW DISTRICT NEWSLETTER



Aim : HEART

Humour, Experience, Appreciate, Respect, Trust.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

No rest for the DG in Seaton this year.



By the time you read this we will be the New Year and I wish you all Happiness in 2020.

It feels strange writing this in December, before Christmas, but now we look forward to our Convention. You can still book with PDG Lion Graham Marshall, I hope that lots of the Lions of the South West will travel to Croyde Bay, after all it's your AGM; you cannot change anything if you are not there. MD Convention has moved to the Holiday Inn Birmingham for those Lions who did not know. The best way to travel is by rail as the hotel is two minutes' walk from New Street Station.

My Club visits for January 2020 are

6th January Yeovil

8th January Dorchester

14th January Bridport

20th January Weston-super-Mare

?28th January Frome (awaiting confirmation)

Council is the weekend of the 24th January 20.

Lions Club of Plymouth

Following a successful Golf Day organised by the Lions Club of Plymouth to raise funds for the forthcoming **Special Olympics Team Plymouth and District** to stage a Commemorative Event for the 400th anniversary year of the sailing of the Mayflower at the Plymouth Life Centre and other venues in April 2020, a cheque to the value of **£600.00** was presented by Lion President George Poad to Kirsty Bisgrove the South West Regional Manager of Allied Care Ltd who represents the Special Olympics Team Plymouth and District. (See Photo)



The Lions Club of Plymouth President George Poad accompanied by Privileged Lion Geoff Woodland had the pleasure of awarding a special 55-year service award to 95-year-old Privileged Lion Member Roger Carver for his unstinted service to the local community on behalf of Lions.

Roger is the last remaining Charter member of the club which was formed and chartered at the Continental Hotel on 16th January 1965, with nineteen members.

He has loyally served the club as an active member at majority of fund-raising activities and presentations for many years with his wife Lorna (now deceased), before becoming a privileged club member. Roger was voted in and served as President of the club for the year in the year 1969/70.

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Lion Ted Clarke was awarded his pin and chevron for completing 15 years' service. Whilst Ex Lion President Graham Hyde was awarded his Presidents Pin and chevron for carrying out his duties of President over the period 2018 / 2019.



The Lions Club of Plymouth support 'Read Easy' who are a registered charity (No. 11512880) and provide a completely free one-to-one reading service designed for adults. People can read at their own pace without pressure in a friendly flexible manner with the help of people who understand the situation. President Lion George Poad attended an Open Evening to learn more about Read Easy and was very impressed by the methods used. Volunteers who have an interest in helping are provided with initial training and then matched up with those who want to learn. The Coaches and their Readers use the Phonics-based books Turning Pages manuals, published by Shannon Trust, which are the main resource for the learning procedure. Read Easy is suitable for any adult wishing to learn to read or who struggles with their reading. Whatever their starting point, each person will be taken back to basics and progress at their pace and ability with NO Pressure!!

The programme for each person includes lots of reading books, especially written for adults, which can be read alongside the manuals.

The reading sessions take place at various venues that are chosen to suit both the learner and the coach, which are quite and discreet, without being overlooked, but there will always be other people around. The sessions usually last half an hour and take place twice a week. The important aim is that everyone can learn at their own pace without feeling rushed. Certificates are awarded to individuals to recognise progress.



Lion President George Poad with Sue a Trained Coach and Organiser from Read Easy, at the Centre in Devonport, Plymouth.

At the Lions Club of Plymouth business meeting held recently, presentations were made in connection with the Golf Competition run to raise funds for the Special Olympics Plymouth & District which was held at the Staddon Heights Golf Club in October.

Two other presentations were made to long serving club members for their dedicated service to Lions and the local community: -

The Presidents Shield was presented by Club President George Poad to the team captain Tom Whiteside, whose team won second place in the Golf Competition.



Following the above presentations, the meeting accepted the Community Services Committee, chaired by Lion Philip Greenwood, recommendations to make donations to the following local charities and good causes:

Children's Happy Hospital Fund £360.00 (50% of this of this will be donated by the Ladies of Lions)
Plymstock Forum £150.00
Plymouth Bereavement Counselling Service £250.00

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The Lions Club of St. Austell give Santa a ride

The Lions Club of St. Austell were thrilled to use their sleigh to take Father Christmas to Par Garden Centre, where he will delight children of all ages in his Christmas Grotto.



In picture, left to right: Lion Ray George, Lion Jim Jiwa, Elf, Santa, and Simon Malley, Integration Manager, Dave Champion, Duty Manager, both of Par Garden Centre.

Members of St Austell Lions Club planted trees and hedging plants at Tregrehan Jubilee Playing Field on behalf of Carlyon Parish Council. Councillor Alan Moore, Chairman of Carlyon Parish Council thanked the Lions and said that "this planting is one of a number of projects within the parish to enhance the environment and combat global warming."



In photo, left to right: Lion Barry Merrifield, Lion Ray George, Libby Moore, Lion James Mathers, Lion Alan Moore, Lion Martyn Robinson, Matthew Smith and Lion Gail Mathers

The Lions Club of St. Austell enrolled a new member, David Hooper. David is a solicitor who specialised in local government and was appointed Deputy Town Clerk of St. Austell With Fowey Borough Council in 1971. His later posts in a career spanning over 40 years included 10 years as Town Clerk and Chief Executive of Gosport Borough Council.

A keen sportsman he played cricket for St. Austell CC and football for Mevagissey.

David with his wife Joan, has 3 children and 5 grandchildren, and has come back to retire and live in St. Austell.



In photo, left to right: Sponsor Lion Geoff Oswald, Lions Club of St. Austell Vice President David Honey and Lion David Hooper.

Fellow member and Past District Governor, Robbie Bhonsle, was presented with an award acknowledging his contribution in recruiting new members into Lions Club International. The Membership Key Awards, as they are known, is a new programme which has been introduced this year and reflects the number of new members a Lion has sponsored.



In photo, left to right: St. Austell Lions Club Vice President David Honey and Past District Governor Robbie Bhonsle

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Weston-super-Mare Lions enrolled two new members, Kate Batch and Tracey Garrett



Pictured from left to right are John Hollland sponsor for Tracey Garrett, center, President and Kate Bach with sponsor Leslie Cumming. The Badging was quite a milestone event for the Weston club as Tracey and Kate were the first females to join the club in its 51 year history.

Tavistock Lions

Trees of Light

Tavistock Lions Trees of Light on the front of the Town Hall were switched on by Lion President Tony Welsh on Friday 29th November. This is the 21st year of the lights which to date have raised in excess of £110,000 for local charities by people sponsoring lights in celebration of a life or a special event. This year the money raised will be shared between The Primrose Foundation, The Chestnut Appeal and Derriford Children's Cancer Services. All of the associated costs are covered by Morris Bros (Tavistock) Ltd - one of the local undertakers to which the Club is deeply indebted as well as the South West Lakes Trust which donates the trees and Tavistock Town Council which erects and decorates them



The photo shows members of the Club with local clergy and members of Stannary Brass band

Lions at Work

Back in 2013, members of the Lions Club of Tavistock decorated one of the rooms at Kingdon House which has recently been renamed as the Print Works. The Lions must have impressed the trustees as they were recently asked to come back to decorate one of their meeting rooms now that the building had been refurbished and made watertight. Over a period of two days, cracks and holes were filled and rubbed down and woodwork and ceiling painted with materials sourced from local supplier Shields DIY. All that is required now to make the room ready for hiring out is a new carpet and this should be fitted in the near future. The trustees said that they were delighted with the finished result and thanked the Lions for all their hard work.



The photo shows from left to right: John Dawson, Eric Portman, Gail Keen, Martin Hall, Bill Mann, Paul Blowey who co-ordinated the project on behalf of the Club and Steve Grummitt

New Recycling Point

Tavistock Lions have had a used spectacles collecting point in the town's library for several years and an additional one has now been set up in Boots Opticians. Lion John Noblet, who co-ordinates the project on behalf of the Club, collects the spectacles from time to time which he then packs up and sends to the Lions Club in Chichester using Parcel Force which does not charge for the transport costs. John expressed the Club's thanks to the staff at Boots Opticians for agreeing to be a collecting point and he hopes that people will have a good look in cupboards and the backs of drawers for old spectacles that can benefit another person somewhere in the world who cannot afford them and which will dramatically improve their lives.

In the photo from left to right are: Chelsie Roberts - Practice Manager, Lion John Noblet and Sarah Coxon - Dispensing Optician.



Please give our thanks and credit to James Bird of the Tavistock Times Gazette for the photos of the trees and us at work.

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Exeter Lions Club - Newcourt Defibrillator

" Following a cardiac arrest at Digby and Sowton railway station, Exeter, a Newcourt resident sprang off the train to help resuscitate the man. He was shocked to find there was no defibrillator nearby, nor in neighbouring Newcourt. In a cardiac arrest, every minute counts, so being able to use a defibrillator can be the difference between life and death.

Following a number of fundraising events in the community, Newcourt Community Centre will shortly have open access to a defibrillator. Exeter Lions Club were delighted to donate £1000 towards the costs. Lion President Tina wishes this to be the first of many Defibrillators in the Exeter area to be supported by Exeter Lions Club. "

