



PRIDE of the NORTH

NEWSLETTER for 105N District

Tree-mendous service!



This very week, Lions from across the world have been having a particular focus on our **incredible environmental service**. Not to be left out, is our very own **District Governor John Sellers, Lion David & Lion Richard** (from Filey Lions) who have been taking part in a project in their community.

Whilst at **Filey Junior School**, our green-pawed Lions helped a small number of pupils **plant 130 small trees** which had recently been donated. Joining them was **mascot Roary** who, after having been to a school assembly, was keen to get in on the action. All he actually did was pose for a photo and made the young people giggle - **however, spreading joy is service in itself**. Ultimately, everyone had a great deal of fun, got quite muddy but - above anything else - **made a big, environmental impact!**

Issue 28 - April 2026

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Editor's Comments

Dear all,

I start with an **important announcement!** As you will see on the last page of this newsletter (and in the email it is attached to), **the deadline dates will be changing** from next month. Rather than the penultimate Sunday, all content will be **needed in for the Friday instead** (only 2 days earlier). This is to ensure that I have a **longer window to produce the newsletter** and to give my proofreaders enough time to read the draft and offer any tips. **I hope this small change will help with this important part of the process.**

Beyond that, this issue contains lots of **good tales from our Clubs and members.** From **Elmet to Darlington from Filey to Easingwold** - our service level remains high and inspiring (**pp.10-13**) I also would encourage anyone who can assist with the **establishment of the online Scotia Cyber Lions Club** (see p.8 for more details) to do so. It **would be amazing to see this group of Lions flourish** and, from my perspective, become an active contributor to the newsletter!

Luke Maunsell

District Newsletter Editor



media@keighleylions.uk

Competition Corner

Scores on the Door

Travelling Lion:

Thorne Rural - 25

Morley - 4



Don't forget that our District has some **great, creative competitions** which include: **The Photo Comp, The Peter Shaw Award, Rookie of the Year and the Best Web Page Award.** They are all fun and help build comradeship between us all. If you would like to get involved in any of them, **please contact Lion Roy Field** at: rjafield58@gmail.com.



District Governor's Message

Dear fellow Lions, Leos and Partners,

It has been an amazing month for me since the last edition of POTN with a number of **Club visits combined with Charter events**. I have met lots of Lions and am **truly inspired by the work** that we continue to do.

I thought I had heard every possible idea for fundraising, until I popped across to Driffield last Saturday to find the **Lions of North Wolds doing a 'live Marionettes' fundraiser** in the local outfitters window, supported by quite a crowd outside. **Lion President Paul was the star attraction** and even appeared on the **local BBC News channel the next morning**. Together with another group, **they raised between them £3000 for the local hospices**. I was **very happy to attend their Charter Dinner** on the same evening and hear all about it. It just goes to show that **there will always be new ideas, and new ways of raising funds**.



My **Club visits have been very encouraging** with lots of new members being recruited to **help us finish the year with a +1**. Sadly, one of our Clubs, **Holme Valley, will fall by the wayside this year** due to age and illness difficulties, and **I thank the members there for their many years of Service and dedication**. For those who may wish to carry on and transfer, Huddersfield are close by and would happily accept additional members. On the whole though, **membership numbers have kept up** and where Clubs have dropped members they are **recruiting to fill the gaps and still doing amazing work**.

MD Convention is coming up in a couple of weeks, where I hope to see some of you. This will be followed by **my final Cabinet meeting** where I am sure we will be hearing of the **plans for next year from DGE Lion Allan**.

Still in my diary are visits to **Keighley, Alnwick and Allendale Lions Clubs** as well as **Ryedale and Hornsea Charters**, and I look forward to those.

Keep up the good work fellow Lions, you are truly inspiring!

Lion John Sellers, MJF

District Governor



sellersatmallard@aol.com



1st Vice Governor's Message

Dear fellow Lions, Leos and partners,

I have continued my **training for the up and coming role of District 105N Governor**, meeting with **30 Japanese DGEs** along with our own from the UK and Europe. It gave us chance to discuss issues we have with Membership, our readiness to take up Office and have a general chat, we will meet them in person when we arrive in Hong Kong for the International Convention.

I have been **very encouraged to see the continued growth in Membership** so far this year, and **hope we can continue into 2026/2027**. I think the expectation of at least 1 new Club is very optimistic and questioned our International Convention guest both at ours and District 105CN's. To start a new Club with 20 members is a push, however

Branch Clubs can be formed with only 5 to get going, or **Specialist Clubs** may be a way forward to get to that '20' target. The formation of an **Internet Based Club in Scotland is to be supported and congratulated for 'Thinking outside the Box'**.



I was chatting to a **Lion member in My Zone 9 a few weeks ago, and I must thank him for his honesty**, he stated that he did not have much faith in my becoming District Governor, as in his words, I had "been a bad Zone Chair". **I thought about this briefly and had to admit he was right**. However, what he was not aware of was the fact that I had tried to resign but was asked to carry on and do what I could, as no one else would volunteer. The situation at the time was as follows, I was president of Keighley Lions, and Founder/Leader of our local Shed, which got us a good number of new Lion Members, however the problem was at the same time I was single handily looking after my wife who was diagnosed with FTD (Fronto-Temporal Dementia) which I was informed is the worst sort. **My eye was off the ball, and I realised just how much, when I did the Zone Chair Training later**. I could and should have done more. But now my wife has passed and I am in a better place mentally, **I do hope for a second chance to prove my worthiness as your District Governor**.

I will in the near future be **contacting all members who have agreed to form my Cabinet for 2026/2027**. Although, I am still a **few positions short such as a 4 Zone Chairs for (Zones 3,4,6 and 7), a 2nd VDG, Diabetes, Hunger Relief, Childhood Cancer and Youth Exchange Officer**. If you, or someone you think would fit the positions, then please get in touch. **It would be good to start a new Lionistic Year with a full Cabinet**.

DGE Lion Allan Clark, MJF

**1st Vice District Governor
2025/2026**



nalla105c@yahoo.co.uk



2nd Vice Governor's Message

Hi to you all, fellow Lions, Leos and Partners,

Time goes so quickly when you are a Lion, it seems as if I had just written last month's entry, and now here we are again.



Over the past month, I have been training on **Zoom and a Seminar preparing myself for the future** (hopefully).

I have also attended **Charter Nights at Easingwold, Went Valley, Thorne Rural** as well as **Pontefract and Castleford** which were all fantastic and excellent for meeting people.

I have also done some **Club visits and had interesting conversations**. I wish to arrange more Club visits to meet you all. Those **Clubs that would like me to attend please email or phone me**. I would like to meet you all and build on your ideas depending on my diary dates.

Until next month - signing off!

Mike Byrne, MJF

**2nd Vice District
Governor, 2025/2026**



thebyrnes2003@yahoo.co.uk



Membership News

Since the last newsletter, we have had **11 Lions** join our 105N pride. We wish our new joiners all the best in their future service.

Boroughbridge Lions

- Nigel Hare
- Gaynor Ross-Bryar
- Donna Simpson

Derwent Lions

- Philip Hocker

Filey Lions

- Julie Fletcher
- Kim Robson
- Jane Stubbs
- Paul Stubbs

Bramley & Wickersley Lions

- Sharon Young

Sunderland Lions

- Ethan Ellison

Bridlington Lions

- Mark Prescott

Consett Lions

- Juliette Richardson



Deepest thanks to **Lion Marilyn Bennett**, MLCY Co-ordinator and **Lion David Wilson**, District Almoner for contributing to this page. They can be reached on davidwilson51@hotmail.co.uk and lions.geomar@gmail.com.



Leadership Matters

New Dates, New Events - Are you ready to make a lasting impact in your Club and community? Don't miss these essential events designed to empower every Lion—whether you're a seasoned Lion or just starting your journey!

Sponsoring New Members – Nurturing a Lion for Life **Tuesday 28th April 2026, 7:30 PM (Online)**

Your role as a sponsor is the single biggest factor in new member retention and engagement. Join our interactive webinar, “Sponsor Success: Nurturing a Lion for Life,” and discover how to move beyond paperwork to master the art of mentorship that lasts. Via the training, we'll dive into the three critical phases of sponsorship: setting **clear expectations before membership**, navigating the **first 30 days of Club integration** and **ensuring long-term belonging** through the first 12 months. **You will also learn practical strategies** - like intentional introductions and effective ‘5-Minute Check-ins’ to build rapport, guarantee every new Lion feels welcome, and ensure every voice is valued. Let's work together to boost retention and help every new member become an engaged Lion for life!

Register here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/pboHuXpcQ0KATveuVXIF2Q>

Lions Portal Training **Thursday 30th April 2026, 7:30 PM (Online)**

Are You Portal Ready for the new Lions Year? Do you have unanswered questions about the Lion Portal? Would you like some help with reporting your Club service activities? Are your Club details up to date or do you need help in editing them? During the **portal training**, we will look at how to: update your membership records, report service, access the Learning Centre, update your Club Officer information, print membership cards, edit your Club details, pull off a summary of your members' awards and service achievements. You will also learn how to access many more resources and information including, marketing and PR and membership resources.

Register here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/z99nq624T2eba1WNSZxeng>

Lions New Member Orientation Webinar **Monday 25th May 2026, 7:30 PM (Online)**

New to Lions or want a refresher on what it means to be part of the **world's largest service organisation**? **Our Orientation Evening** is the perfect place to connect, learn, and be inspired. Discover the values, vision, and opportunities that make Lions Clubs International unique. Meet fellow members, ask questions, and find out how you can make the most of your Lion experience.

Register here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/9eI93cx4STKpM1HRHWLWgg>

Please email Lion Michelle on: Michelle.McArthur@jigsawatwork.com to request your application and/or if you would like a copy of the full list of development opportunities for 2025/2026.



Calendar Dates

Tickhill & District Lions

48th Charter Dinner

Saturday 9th May 2026, from 7.00pm
Wheatley Golf Club, Doncaster, DN2 5QB

Email Lion Rob:

R2day2@sky.com

Elmet Lions

Great Selby Bike Ride

Sunday 17th May 2026

Raise money for your own charity by riding
the 25 mile or the 45 mile route

Find out more:

<https://greatselbybikeride.lionsclub.co>

Hornsea District Lions

Charter Dinner

Friday 22nd May 2026, from 7pm
Hornsea Golf Club, Rolston Rd, HU18 1XG

Email Lion Linda:

homebird2.lj@gmail.com

Filey Lions

10k Beach Race

Sunday 14th June 2026

Find out more:

www.fileylionsclub.org

Doncaster Lions

Charter Dinner

Friday 3rd July 2026, 7pm for 7:30pm
The Earl Of Doncaster Hotel,
Bennethorpe, Doncaster, DN2 6AD

Find out more:

www.doncasterlions.co.uk

Filey Lions

Charity Golf Day

Friday 10th July 2026

Find out more:

www.fileylionsclub.org

Lions Fun & Sports Day

Saturday 8th August 2026, from 11am
Parklands Social Club, Wheatley Hall
Road, Doncaster, DN2 4LT

Filey Lions

Filey Ball Race

Wednesday 12th August 2026

Find out more:

www.fileylionsclub.org

Thorne Rural Lions

Charity Golf Day

Friday 18th September 2026
Town Moor Golf Club

Email Lion Miles:

keeileymiles.thornerural@gmail.com

Elmet Lions

PSA Testing

Thursday 24th September 2026

The Motorist, Sherburn in Elmet, LS25 6JE

**Have an upcoming event or
Charter Dinner?**

If you have a date for the next
issue, please email me on:
media@keighleylions.uk



Internet Lions Clubs

Dear all,

My wife and I relocated from South-East England to the Scottish Highlands about 16 years ago. As an active, long-serving Lion, I looked forward to transferring to a local Lions Club. It was here that I hit a major problem. **My nearest Lions Clubs were at least a 2-hour drive from my new home.** To attend a Club business meeting, fundraising event or social event, **I had to drive for at least four hours.**



Eventually, I transferred to a Lions Club located in North-East Scotland. As an incomer, I found there were very few Lions Clubs in Scotland, and membership was falling. **I wondered why this situation existed.**

Geographical parts of Scotland are remote and sparsely populated. I am aware that some Lions may relocate to Scotland and are lost to our great organisation because they were unable to transfer to a 'local' Lions Club. **I believe the concept of an Internet-based Club** will be a successful project in Scotland.

Aberdeen Lions Club is pleased to announce the formation of a Club Branch to be known as '**Scotia Cyber Lions Club.**' We are **seeking potential members and asking for the help** of our fellow Lions Clubs in District 105N in addition to attempting to attract new members into our organisation from geographical areas where Lions are not currently represented. **Potential members could include former Lions who have relocated or retired to Scotland and were unable to transfer to a new Lions Club** and have been lost to the organisation.

Aberdeen Lions Club is seeking assistance from Club Secretaries and Members to provide the former member contact details, obviously with their consent. **If you can assist, please do get in touch!**

Lion David Richards

Scotia Cyber Lions



davidrichardsremise@hotmail.com



Youth Update

They've arrived *and the Childsight project is GO! 105N received the new devices just before Easter. Most of these **11 Vision screening cameras** are now with their Host Clubs, and most Zones have both a camera and a trainer.

First out of the blocks, and congratulations, go to **Thirsk and Northallerton** Lions for arranging the **District's first school session on 27th April** – well done.

Next up is **Elmet Lion**, with two sessions **booked for 18th May** – pic shows **Lion Gill plotting with Lion Alison** from Elmet – it's great to have clubs working together on this programme.

Congratulations too to **Lion Mandy from Garforth and District** who 'persuaded' one of our huge national infrastructure agencies to **buy us a 12th camera**.

Many Clubs supported schools with a **giant Easter Egg to raffle** for school funds, the record so far is **£600+ raised in 1 school**, a novel way to encourage and engage schools with Lions causes

The Roar programme is the next target for those of you involved with schools. A **6 lesson STEM teaching plan** that costs the Club **£185 per school**, the registration deadline approaches in late May/June for a September start. This meets most of the Primary School **OFSTED targets** for Science Technology Engineering and Maths. **Find out more at:** www.lionsclubroar.org.uk and via your **District contact, Lion Belinda** belindabt6@gmail.com

Finally, we are still on the look out for those young people who are passionate about their communities and deserve recognition through our **Young Ambassador programme**.

Gillian Swan

IPDG (2024/2025) and Youth Officer



gmswanis@gmail.com



Tales from our Clubs

Knaresborough Lions



To start this month's story page, we have a double bill from Knaresborough Lions who have been **celebrating some local success** over the last month.

The first big win, came in the way of the **Harrogate and District Junior Chess Championship**, held in March, which has been sponsored by the Lions. One of the winners from this fantastic event was **Stanley Hitchins** of Aspin Park Academy in Knaresborough, who is shown in this photo with his father **Matt**, **Councillor Chris Aldred** who presented the prizes as well as event organiser **Mick Stokes** and Lion **Kevin Shaw** (a newer Lion who has been fundamental to the success of the sponsorship of the event).



Celebrating the **success of the Championship**, Lion Kevin commented: "It was uplifting to see so many **youngsters enjoying the game**, and **great fun** was had by all in a very sporting and competitive environment. At the prizegiving, **thanks were recorded to Knaresborough Lions** for our support."

The Club was also delighted to award a **Melvin Jones Fellowship to Martin Brock** for his **outstanding commitment to the organisation and the local community**. Martin is currently the **Club's Secretary** and since joining in March 2014 has been **President, Bed Race Chairman, and a District Officer**. Photoed (bottom), during the presentation, are **President George Simpson, Martin Brock, Bob Godsell and Pam Godsell** who are both current holders of Melvin Jones Fellowships.

Rothwell District Lions

Meanwhile, in Rothwell, additional **celebrations and awards** have also been presented to some **very worthy Lions and volunteers**.

At their recent Charter, attended by the District Governor, Melvyn Jones Awards were given to **Russ Leary**, a 27 year member and to **his wife Doreen**. Although not a member herself, **Doreen has given tremendous support** both to Russ and to the Club, carrying out many different roles. She has been a regular attender and volunteer at many of their events. Additionally, she has acted as the **Treasurer for the Club's popular Beer Festivals**.

Another husband and wife duo, who have been praised by the Club, are that of **Lions Derek and Janet Walker**. This dynamic team have just recently reached the **3 Year membership mark** and were given the new, associated certificates. The Club is looking forward to them going far beyond the 3 years!



Well done to all of these award receivers, your contributions to your Clubs, community and Lionism are very much appreciated!



Easingwold District Lions



One of the most wonderful parts of Lionism is when **our members spend some time together** and build **those strong relationships** which makes service so enjoyable. Strengthening their own personal links have been Lions from **Easingwold, Thirsk, Minster and friends of Lion President Ian Pybus** who were visiting from **Holland**.

As part of this Joint Social, the team went to **Holgate Mill in York** which included a very interesting **tour of the workings of the Windmill, a coffee nearby and a delicious fish & chips lunch** to top it all off!

The **windmill was built in 1770** and is still a working mill run by volunteers and stands in a residential area of York. The mill worked continuously between 1770 and 1933, when it stood empty and decaying until the **Preservation Society was formed in 2001**. For more information, **please do visit its website** at: www.holgatewindmill.org

Denby Dale District Lions

On their own, local visit have been some of the Lions in the Denby Dale District who had the privilege of visiting the **Forget Me Not Children's Hospice** in Huddersfield and were given a very informative tour of this amazing facility.

The work that they do for children with life-limiting conditions and bereaved families is truly awe-inspiring and is something that the **Denby Dale Lions are proud to continue to support**. During their visit, the Club was also delighted to be able to **present the Hospice with a cheque for £1,000** towards their ongoing costs. Like many Hospices, the Forget Me Not rely heavily on donations from the public as only around **20% of their funding comes from Government and the NHS** - a statistic that many find hard to believe. Pictured above (L-R) are **Club Secretary Neil, Debs Davies from the Hospice and Lions Club members Charles, Ben and David**.



Darlington and Dumfries Lions Donations



Two of our District 105N Clubs have been very generous, **backing their community through much needed funding**.

Darlington Lions, for example, have given a **life-saving £480 towards the cost of a defibrillator** for **The Old School Boxing Gym** in their town. Old School Boxing has 60 members aged from 9 to 45 who train there regularly and 15 members who compete. **Lion President Denis** was more than happy to present the cheque to Head Coach Mike and gym members.

Generosity has also been on full display in **Dumfries** as the Club has donated **£200 to breast cancer charity 'Make 2nds Count'**. This organisation provides a wide-range of services to those impacted by secondary (metastatic) breast cancer including to their families. Further to this the Club has teamed up with the **Community Payback Team** in Dumfries who provide support at the Club's annual Christmas Tree Sale and also supply wooden products such as bird feeders etc for sale at Club events. **A small donation of £50 was made to the Team for refreshments** etc. for their rest room.



Further donations have been provided by Filey Lions who have had a very busy month. To start with, the Lions were part of a local **Community Fun Day** where they worked with the **Literacy Trust Yorkshire** to gift **100s of books** to children and adults whilst running the 'Spin the Wheel' stall. **Lion President Julie** and **Lion David** also had the pleasure of surprising **The Filey Sea Cadets** with the **delivery of their new rowing boat**. Although the Lions did contribute to the cost of purchasing it, **full credit goes to the Officers and Cadets** from the unit who worked incredibly hard to raise the money to buy the boat.

The **Easter weekend** continued to be a busy time, with **3 Giant Easter egg raffles** and a busy 'Pick A Bag' stall at Filey Food Festival which sold out before 3pm. Then, the Lions supported **Churches Together** in Filey on Good Friday by donning their high viz jackets and accompanying them for their 'Walk of Witness'. They thank all their volunteers and backers for their support.



Additionally, Filey Lions hosted their **Community Grants Presentation evening** where **23 local organisations** were provided with funding. Filey Town Council also invited Lion President Julie to their grants presentation where they **presented her with a cheque towards the cost of the Community Bonfire**. This was greatly appreciated and they thank Filey Town Council for their continued support of this event. Finally, the **Lion Pride** expanded further with new members **Jane and Paul** as well as a fun, social night with **Penguin Racing at Filey Golf Club**.

Elmet Lions



Every Easter, Elmet Lions has bought a **giant 1kg Easter Eggs** from John Bull in Bridlington and asked pubs and clubs in the area to raffle them off. This year, **16 pubs and clubs plus 8 companies** took an egg and sold them to their visitors and customers. **Around £2000 has been raised** which will now be fed back into the community. As well as raising money for themselves, Elmet Lions **donated 14 of the Easter eggs** to local schools. The **total raised by the schools was in excess of £1500** which will help with school funds.

IPP Maggie has always been passionate about **blister packs** that our medicine comes in – as it is often thrown away even though that it can be split down and used to manufacture useful items like pallets. Working with local recycling company **MY Group**, the Club now **regularly delivers pallets full of blister packs** collected from ordinary household wheelie bins strategically placed outside **The Maltings Tea Rooms**. Elmet Lions have always paid for these pallets to be delivered, however a meeting with **Drax Power Station and their Community and Charity Committee** – and a formal application – means that Drax now pay the bill for 2 pallets from the MY Group over 12 months. **More blister packs are now on their way - free of charge for our Lions!**



Thorne Rural Lions

Members of the **Thorne Rural Lions Club** were looking for a meaningful new project. After seeing repeated reports of young people being stabbed in and around schools—and the tragic loss of life that followed—1 of their members proposed **providing bleed control kits** to local schools.

Each kit includes a tourniquet to reduce blood flow, gauze for major wounds, vented chest seals, trauma scissors for safely removing clothing, and clear instructions on how to use the equipment, among other essential items. At **£180 per kit**, including a secure storage cabinet, the cost felt like a small price to pay for this life saving equipment.

The **kits were created by a mother** who tragically lost her son following an attack during a night out. For every kit purchased, a donation is made to the **Daniel Baird Foundation**, the charity she established in his memory. So far, **10 such kits** have been purchased across schools and Colleges through the area in order to hopefully prevent any further loss of life. **Well done Thorne Rural - a brilliant project!**



Huddersfield Lions



Members of Huddersfield Lions Club were chatting a few months ago, when someone said, “have you seen that a group of ladies on the south coast, were **knitting ‘space blankets’ from crisp packets?**” This intrigued the Club and members asked for more details, which ended with the **Club saving crisp packets and having cleaned them, set about ‘knitting’ (Ironing) them together.**

One evening was put aside to see if this may be feasible as a project towards, **Environment, Homeless and maybe Ukraine.** Members gathered with irons and a stack of empty Crisp packets, and so began a **fun evening** putting these together.

After a successful first evening, **Huddersfield members, friends and neighbours** are now saving their **packets for the creation of space blankets. Great work!**

City of Durham Lions

70 people, including **Lions from Sunderland, Consett, Darlington and Teesdale** attended **Durham Lions Club’s Dinner** to say farewell to four retiring Lions.

Unfortunately, only 2 of the retiring Durham Lions were able to attend. The Club is not closing and plans are being put in place for a **relaunch later this year.**

Zone Chair Jackie Robson is pictured with Club President Peter Oakley.



Upcoming POTN Deadline

Thank you all for your contributions this month. The next deadline is the **22nd May 2026.** I look forward to seeing what your Clubs have been doing so email me on: media@keighleylions.uk

