



**WE SERVE - WE CARE**

LION Bill Ferguson of Blackburn Lions completed the gruelling Great Wall of China Walk and this is a report on my challenge. As you already know Lion Bill is raising as much money as possible for the North West Air Ambulance.

My journey started at Heathrow Airport meeting my fellow walkers (*pictured below*) and fund raisers. We arrived at Beijing after a 10 hour flight and after a night's rest an early start was made to travel to our lodge at Taipingzhai



where we started (Day 3) by climbing to the Great Wall.

Once on the wall the views were unbelievable with the wall disappearing into the mountains. It really was mouth

wide open time being amazed at the view each section brought.

The walk to Huangyaguan was short in comparison to what was in store for us but at least this allowed us to acclimatise to the conditions.

### DAY 4

AFTER a coach journey to Gubeikou section of the Great Wall, we started the accent in temperatures of 20-22 degrees C. The walk to the Wall was again steep and very different.

Not a tourist place as most of the wall was in need of repair. Certain parts I was balancing on narrow wall sections with steep drops at either side. We walked (and climbed) via 27 watch-towers to Jinshanling were a hot shower was most welcome in the next lodge.

### DAY 5

COACH transfer to Simatai, again a remote and non-tourist place. The countryside while arid was beautiful



observing the wall sat on a most spectacular mountain range in the Yan shan Mountains. I can vouch

# WALKING THE GREAT WALL

looking back, this was the highest and toughest part of the entire walk taking over nine hours to complete.

### DAY 6

THE walk at Mutinayu was not a long one but the climb was severe starting with the 1,000 steps (I counted 1,340) to the wall. After 2 hours we then had to tackle the Stairway to Heaven (another 870 steps). It was all worth it to see the views.

### DAY 7

AT BADALING Great Wall, this is where Lions International is now part of history. The People's Republic of China granted the group permission to build part of the wall that was being restored. I typed names of all Clubs in Districts 105 BN and 105 BS and rolled the parchment into a cigar tube and buried this into the new section of wall.



The final trek on the wall was at Juyongguan, this is the most popular tourist site and made up for the non-tourist sections of the wall with hundreds of sightseers enjoying a day out. The final moment when the group had completed the last steps off the wall was captured on camera and

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**DISTRICT GOVERNOR LION IAN CLARE  
A MEMBER OF FLEETWOOD and CLEVELEYS LIONS CLUB**

# ORDINARY PEOPLE - AMAZING THINGS



**WE SERVE**

# NEW HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

I BELIEVE that every so often it is sensible to "step outside the box" and take a fresh look at things from a different perspective, and I also believe that if it ain't broke, don't fix it!

The separate modules of the Health and Welfare portfolio all function quite adequately, I'm sure, year to year in their own individual ways, but with little *apparent* joint co-operation by the various Officers. Now that is something I *would* like to attempt to fix.

I feel sure that if we were to try to put together a major promotion in our District, linking together the virtues of Lions' tremendous experience regarding Speech and Hearing; MedicAlert; Diabetes Education; Eye Health; Physical and Learning Disabilities; Vulnerable Persons and Message-In-A-Bottle, then that potentially could have one heck of an impact.

Around our District, Lions have a multitude of contacts that they have amassed over the years on their own Club's patch locally with Doctors, Pharmacists, Nurses, etc, aside from their contacts in the Police, Fire and Ambulance Services. Add to that all your other contacts and we have a potential "goldmine" to whom we can promote our Health Specialities, and at the same time tell the Lions' story ("**Who are the Lions?**")

Incidentally, Eye Health has been adopted as a "signature project" by the Multiple District for this current year.

I shall be talking to my fellow Officers in these respective posts to see if we can, with the help and support of all the Clubs in BN, organise "**One hell of a Health SHOUT**" later in this Lionistic year.

Another area worthy of attention is Recycling and the Environment. I shall be speaking to Lion Stuart Gratrix shortly about an idea that I have for a possible joint-venture with a major company in this *field* (!)

Lastly for now, I'm sure that anyone who has ever been involved with the English Federation of Disability Sports (EFDS) or National Junior Disabled Athletics Games as we used to know them, previously held in Blackpool since the early 1990's, will agree with me that it is a most worthy and important event that really should be shouted about in the the District. Has anyone ever *not* felt humbled by the Competitors and not had a lump in their throat and a tear in their eye?

Over recent years the event has had the odd set-back, but I feel sure that Lions can, with a rethink, give a tremendous boost to the Sports. Those kids really deserve it! I'm already assembling a Sub-Committee to get moving on the planning for July 2012 – in Olympic year.

You can see that I will ensure that the Officers of the Health and Welfare Committees will be working together in 2011 – 2012 to further the public's awareness of Lions Clubs International. (*No lights hidden under bushels when Swervin is around!*)

The new team is:-

Almoner	Lion Sylvia Fosberry Kirkham and Fylde Rural
Diabetes Education	Lion Alan Hastry Oldham District
Environment / Recycling / Stamps	Lion Stuart Gratrix Fleetwood and Cleveleys
Lions Eye Health	Lion Norah Hawksworth Littleborough and District
Physical and Learning Disabilities	Lion Brian Whitelegg Rossendale
Speech / Hearing	Lion Alan Hastry Oldham District
Vulnerable Persons	Lion Bill Miller Penrith
MedicAlert	Lion Mervyn G Saunders Leigh
Message-In-A-Bottle	Lion Mervyn G Saunders Leigh

I will ensure that regular updates regarding all the above projects will be provided to Lion Alan Wilde for inclusion in the District Governor's Newsletter.

**Lion Mervyn G Saunders**  
Health and Welfare Chairman



## DON'T PANIC PEEL LIONS!!

PEEL Lions were the only Charity Stall at the War Weekend run by the East Lancashire Railway recently, with people dressed up in 1940s clothes of all descriptions.

The lone piper pictured escorted a mock wedding up to the Church with the brides party in a vintage vehicle.



LONE piper with Members of Peel Lions and their Charity Stall

## WALKING FOR THE NWAA



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everyone congratulated one another on finishing the challenge of the Great Wall of China.

Although at the start we were strangers we all finished friends. I flew the flag for Lions and who knows some of the group may be interested in becoming Lions as a result of this trip.

For those who are interested, the total distance walked was 78km and climbed varying heights ranging from 2,500ft to 3,600ft.

While the group had different stories as to why they wanted the challenge, all agreed NWAA was the main reason why they did it.

May I take this opportunity to thank the Lions for their backing and allowing me to experience something that will be in my memory banks for a long time. So far my trek has raised over £6,500 for the NWAA. Thanks to all who sponsored me.

I intend to put together a short presentation of my journey and will be willing to attend your Club Meeting if you wish to share my experience. Please contact Blackburn Lions to arrange dates.

**Lion Bill Ferguson**

Dear Members of the Lions family  
BY THE time you read this article, Ann and I shall be at the Lions Clubs International Convention in Seattle USA receiving our final training before I am inducted as your District Governor on Friday, July 8. Ann and I are looking forward to serving and working with all the Lions in the District during the year ahead and to share our experiences of Seattle.



At the District Convention in March and at the District Information Day in June, I outlined my thoughts for the year ahead. This coming year will I hope bring a lot of happiness to all Lions as we continue to **“Serve as one United Caring Team”** making a difference to those people who require our support.

On behalf of District 105 BN may I thank IPDG Lion David and Lion Lynne on the way in which they led the District during 2010 / 2011. I look forward to working with IPDG David in the year ahead. Both IPDG Lions David and PDG Harry involved me an awful lot during their year of being District Governor allowing me to meet with lots of Lions within the District.

### The Year Ahead

THIS year sees the birth of a new District team, with myself and supported by 1st Vice District Governor Lion Meg Philp and 2nd Vice District Governor Lion Liz Axten, working closely together. I promise that we shall **“Listen, Communicate, Lead and Care for all Lions and their Families in the District”**.

The District team will undertake Club Visits on behalf of Lions Clubs International and during August Clubs will be contacted by the three of us to arrange our Official Club Visits. I appreciate that some Clubs in the District may still appreciate a visit from the District Governor and I will do my utmost to ensure that this is achieved. I do

hope however that Clubs will support this new District's Team way of working, which is being adopted across the world of Lionism.

At the recent District Information Day I outlined your District Teams for the year. Yes, they are **your District Teams**, so please use them. The teams are part of the District which I want to be **“One United Happy Team of Lions who Serve and Care”** for those people who require assistance both locally and globally.

During the last two years I have attempted to listen to the Lions of District 105 BN and sincerely hope that this is reflected in my leadership style. Fellow Lions, you asked for changes to the District Cabinet allowing Lions the opportunity to develop themselves and take on another role, and this year I am pleased to inform District that with the exception of the principle officers, secretary, treasurer, sergeant at arms etc., all team leaders have been changed and most importantly each Zone will have a new Zone Chairman and I have decided after consultation to increase the Zones back to nine.

Details of the District Teams have been issued to each Club President following the District Information Day and of course will be shown in the 2011 / 2012 directory.

Fellow Lions, these are your teams so please use them and don't be afraid to ask them questions. The Lions who are Members of the Teams are like us all Club Lions, who have accepted an additional position to support the smooth running of the District.

### Club Charter and Social Invitations

ANN and myself shall be delighted to attend all Club Charters, which we are invited too,

during the year. May I request that Charter's and Club Social invites are sent to Ann, who will deal with them accordingly. So please let Ann have the dates of your Charter invites as soon as possible, and to be fair they will be accepted on a first come basis. Ann can be contacted on the following e-mail:

**ann.dobsonuk@blueyonder.co.uk**

District Convention, your Annual General Meeting will be held at the Lancaster House Hotel, Lancaster from the March 2 - 4, 2012. This will be a fun Convention with inspirational guest speakers building on the excellent Convention held at Kendal in March.

The Convention Committee together with Ann and myself look forward to welcoming all Lions to Convention.

Thank you all for being a Lion, enjoy being a Member of the largest voluntary Service Organisation in the world, and if ever in doubt about the future of our Organisation, look back to the day you joined and why you joined.

My theme for the year is **We Serve – We Care**, because I believe all Lions care about each other and people who require assistance.

This compliments our International President's Theme **“I Believe”**, in that if you don't believe how good it is to be a Lion, then how can you sell that message to others.

Thank you my Fellow Lions for giving Ann and Myself the opportunity to lead and serve you all. We shall to our best not to let any Lion down.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need any help and assistance. I promise to listen and to care about you all.

Enjoy your Lionism and have a wonderful, caring, serving year.

**District Governor Ian**

## DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S PARTNER'S APPEAL 2011 - 2012

THE Princess Royal Trust for Carers was created on the initiative of Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal in 1991. At that time people caring at home for Family Members or Friends with disabilities and chronic illnesses were scarcely recognised as requiring support.

At the heart of The Trust is a unique network of 144 independently-managed Carers' Centres including 89 Young Carers' Services and interactive websites which deliver around the clock support to approximately 25,000 young carers.

Young Carers are children (some as young as six, but all under 18) who provide care to another Family Member who has a physical illness or disability, mental ill health, sensory disability or has problematic use of drugs or alcohol and the level of care they provide would normally be undertaken by an adult, thus impacting on their childhood.

In the North-West there are almost 30 local Young Carer Centres delivering locally to carers in your area. The money raised goes to each and every one of these centres and the work done in these centres aligns with all the Lions ethics of Service, giving help and support to Communities, and supporting Youth Activities.

Assisting young people to not only deal with their day to day living but also take them away from it and give them access to activ-

ities that enhance their lives (or just make it bearable). The Centres offer youth club activities, organised trips out, residential breaks and most importantly advice and support both for the young carer and the family, helping them talk to school and helping them fund hobbies and interests.

The young people are also encouraged to get involved in the service offered, allowing them the opportunity to make decisions on how they are run.

These Centres are run by a mix of paid staff and volunteers and are dependant on fund raising to survive. The positive affects they have on the young people who use the services cannot be underestimated. The aim of these centres is to deliver family services in line with the whole family approach to ensure that all young carers have access to the face to face support that they need.

*Their ethos is:*

*Children and young people will be protected from inappropriate caring and have the support they need to learn, develop and thrive, to enjoy positive childhoods and to achieve against “every child matters” outcomes.*

*Together let's help them achieve that*

**District Governor's Partner Ann**

## IAN'S INCURSIONS

### JULY

- 4-7 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION  
SEATTLE  
24 DISTRICT HANDOVER, GARSTANG  
29-31 COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

### AUGUST

- 14 CABINET MEETING

### SEPTEMBER

- 4 WINDERMERE CA  
10 MARYPORT CA  
17 BOLTON CA  
18 YOUTH AWARENESS DAY  
HIGHER WALTON

## WHAT'S ON

*THIS is your space – tell us your Charter Date and any other Special Event taking place in you Club that you want to share with your Fellow Lions across the District and we will print it here*

### JULY

- 4-7 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION  
9-10 DSE GAMES, PRESTON  
10 CROSBY CARNIVAL  
24 DISTRICT HANDOVER, GARSTANG  
29-31 COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

### AUGUST

- 14 CABINET MEETING  
HIGHER WALTON

### SEPTEMBER

- 4 WINDERMERE Charter  
10 MARYPORT Charter  
17 BOLTON Charter

"LIONS Clubs International does not have a leadership problem – it has a problem with its leaders".

Having now caught your imagination I would ask that you dissect the sentiment expressed above and look a little further.

Leadership Development has been a keyword for generations of Lionistic advice and activities, for almost as long as I can remember being a Lion.

What does it mean?

How can it help me?

What is my part in this?

I want to see my Club and Lions in general grow and develop, but what can I do?

Who is going to be able to help?

These questions, and many more are about to be answered. Your District now has a team of Lions whose main aim is to identify tomorrow's leaders, to encourage and support them and to ensure that they gain the experience and skills necessary to lead our Organisation and take it forward.

We also have a commitment to today's Leaders, your Club Committee Chairman, your Club Officers, your Club Presidents, your Zone Chairman and other District Officers, in fact every single individual Lion who has taken, or is thinking of taking on an extra duty for the betterment of Lions within their Community and beyond.

We are here to help, to talk over concerns, to encourage and to open up opportunities for Leadership within Lions Clubs International, opportunities to serve your Community, serve your

## GLOBAL LEADERSHIP – an introduction

District and to serve at national and international level, all of which gives you experience and expertise to enhance your Lions work back where you started . . . in your own Community.

Your District 105 BN Global Leadership Team are:

- Andrew Clarkson – Radcliffe and Whitefield Lions Club  
Esther Clements – Whitehaven and District Lions Club  
Janet Clunie – Burnley Lions Club  
Mike Davis – Peel Lions Club  
Andy Irvine – Windermere Lions Club  
Mervyn Saunders – Leigh Lions Club

As you can see your District Team come from all parts of the District, from wide and varied backgrounds in Lions (including Leos and Lionesses) who look at issues from many diverse points of view, all of which will be contributing factors to their work throughout the coming years.

Your District Global Leadership Team are eager and ready to go and look forward to meeting you in the not too distant future.

**Lion Mike Davis**

**105 BN Global Leadership Team  
District Co-ordinator**

## NEW MEMBERS

LION PETER CAWTHORNE  
LION DAVID CORFIELD  
LION SYLVIA CORFIELD  
LION JAMES LANCASTER

ORMSKIRK LIONS CLUB  
ORMSKIRK LIONS CLUB  
ORMSKIRK LIONS CLUB  
BURY LIONS CLUB

Sponsor

LION DEREK MURPHY  
LION DEREK MURPHY  
LION DEREK MURPHY  
LION SCOTT RICHARDSON