

Past District Governor Lion David Taylor

Curriculum Vitae

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I have been a Lions Club member for 26 years, joining when I lived in Preston. Born in Devon and raised in London, my main career led me around the globe in the RAF, retiring after 25 years as a Wing Commander with logistics, IT and PR experience. During my career I had responsibility for large staffing levels and the associated budgets along with an enormous amount of committee work.

After moving from Lancashire I worked for Wiltshire Police as a media officer working with local and national journalists. Then, fourteen years ago, I was asked to set up and manage the voluntary-staffed Tourist Information Centre in Shaftesbury until March 2022.

Meanwhile, in Lions, I had served as Club Treasurer and President before being invited to join the District Cabinet as PRO - a post I held for five years. During this time I also served on the Lord Mayor's Show Committee, planning each year's entry and coordinating our District's participation.

I was also asked to serve on the Multiple District PR Committee, originally for three years but then asked to stay on for a further fourth year which included the planning for the visit by our International Board to Edinburgh.

I have also attended our District, Multiple District and International Conventions - listening to Lawrie McMenemy led me to be a volunteer gamesmaker at the GB Special Olympics in Bath and Sheffield and, in 2015, my son did the same at the World Games in Los Angeles.

Away from Lions my community work continued: chairman of the local Cancer Research Committee; director of the local community partnership; director of the community swimming pool and giving my time to referee football for the English Schools FA and local community leagues. I am also on the committee of Shaftesbury Royal British Legion.

In recognition of this community work I was very proud to be selected as a Torchbearer for the 2012 Olympics and took great delight in being told the strapline of "Lions Clubs International" came up on the live broadcast as I ran through Hamworthy.

After serving my third term of office as President of GMS Lions, (I am currently President for the fourth time) I was invited to be a Region Chairman and I thoroughly enjoyed visiting our Clubs, seeing how different we all are while sharing the same values.

I have also attended the Advance Lions Leadership Institute and was one of 20 people around Europe selected to attend the Lions Faculty Development Institute in Germany. Both occasions enabled me to mix with Lions from so many different countries, comparing our differences but, more importantly, the things we have in common.

Elected as District Governor for 105D in 2016, I continued to serve my own Club and our District Cabinet as Sergeant-in-Arms and CNRO. However, with no candidate willing to stand for 105SC, I was asked to serve again. It was not a position I sought, but one I was honoured to accept and now seek your approval to continue as District Governor in 2023.

Having served for over thirty years in a uniformed environment, I know the value of planning and organisation. However, working in the voluntary sector has confirmed my belief that the pyramid of organisation starts with the individual Lion at the very top, supported (not controlled) by each level underneath them – Lions Club members helping each other, Zone Clubs helping each other with Region/District there to offer further advice and support when needed.

But most of all we should be having fun serving our community!

