



Lion Sandra Manktelow



Nominated for position of 2nd Vice District Governor by Petersfield Lions and seconded by Fleet Lions

I joined Petersfield Lions Club in December 1993 and, three years later, was proud to be the first female President in the Club's 25th anniversary year. Since then I have been president twice more, in 1996 and 2018, and am currently the club's Vice President.

In 2019 I was asked to take on the role of Zone Chair and am now coming to the end of my 3-year term of office. Although reticent at first I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the other clubs, instigating discussion around different aspects of Lionism and helping guide them when they have a dilemma. This role has shown me the importance of being a voice for the clubs. I am also one of the six trained Lions in the District who are Mental Health First Aiders and am also a Guiding Lion.

It was whilst serving on Cabinet in my role of Zone Chair that there was a request for someone to take on the role of Lions Brain Tumour Research Appeal Officer. Having been at United Nations Day when this partnership was agreed I put myself forward for the role and it has been a joy to engage with clubs across the district, albeit by zoom, answer their questions and to ask them to support the appeal. I am proud of our District in that so many clubs have risen to this Multiple District Challenge. This year I joined the Global Service Team and will become GST Chair in the next Lionistic year.

My career in teaching started in 1979 and reached a pinnacle when I became the Deputy Headteacher of a large primary school. I remained in this position for nine years but found it consumed too much of my life so gradually stepped back down the ladder, dropping to a four-day week as mentor to student teachers. I semi-retired in 2016 after 23 years in my last school – teaching children of children I had taught previously! After four years of supply teaching, I gave up completely during the start of the pandemic as I needed to keep safe for my elderly parents. Whilst teaching I also trained in holistic treatments, including Indian Head Massage, Laughter Yoga, Story Massage and Sound Therapy and have a small business treating clients and giving talks to groups about the power of relaxation.

My partner, Clive, is a fellow Petersfield Lion and, in our spare time, we like to go for walks and belong to our local u3a and Ramblers Association. We have enjoyed long distance travel in the past where life has been a great adventure. I never thought in my fifties I would be climbing pyramids, walking along rope bridges in the jungle, abseiling into sink holes and snorkeling in underground rivers - but that is what I was inspired to do in Mexico. Today we like exploring this country in our ageing camper van.

I like to think that I am hard working, well organised and a good listener and am always ready to learn new things and increase my knowledge. I would relish rising to the challenge of taking on the position of 2nd Vice District Governor and engaging with clubs across the District.



My mantra is: "If I don't know the answer, then I will find someone who does", but above all I believe in having fun, enjoying myself and occasionally stepping out of my comfort zone!