



DECEMBER 2015 EDITION

105D LIONS INTERNATIONAL TIMES

Reading Lions Diana's Supremes!



Alan's Month

Yet another month has gone by leaving me only seven months to achieve my goal of getting 105D back to being in regular status and not in transition. We are constantly adding members but we are also losing members at an equivalent rate. So far this year we have inducted 53 new Lions but we have lost 41, most of which have resigned in good standing for a variety of reasons, usually work related.

Most of this month has been taken up with the



*With best wishes
for Christmas and
the New Year
from the
105D Times*

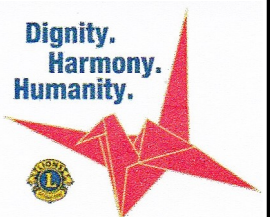


The International Association of Lions Clubs
District 105D

Incorporating Lions Clubs International District 105D Charitable Trust
Registered Number 1072984

District Governor 2015—2016 · Lion Alan Chapman

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“Teamwork with Friendship and Fellowship”

Multiple District restructuring programme where all members were sent copies of the redistricting and governance documents from the Council Chairman Lion Simon Moss. He has asked for individual members to give their thoughts and opinions to what is called the Preferred Option which splits I05D three ways, creating two new districts to cover the whole of the south of England to be known as DE and DW. This creates a situation whereby members would be travelling greater distances across their designated district for Cabinet meetings and Conventions. DE will stretch from Salisbury to Margate and will include the Channel Islands who apparently will be better served from the east of the country and not the west where they reside geographically below Dorset and west of Normandy. The Isle of Wight which is further east will apparently be best served by the new district DW. Geography is not my strongest subject, but I fail to see the logic behind these planned changes to the position of our treasured Islands.

There has not been many opinions from Clubs or members regarding the proposed changes, but those that I have received have been mixed, but I have to say the general feeling is the expectation of reduced dues and the need for a vast shake up of the Multiple District seems to be the way members are thinking. The MD does support the Clubs with affordable Insurance, a vast knowledge of Lionistic matters and the opportunity for District Governor, District Officer and Club member training. One of the most contentious thoughts is regarding our MDHQ building in Birmingham, the question being asked is "do we need it?"!

On a more personal note, I have visited six Clubs of varying sizes and most of them are preparing for their Christmas activities with their floats and static collections. If you can recall, I did mention the need to get your Music licences in order before you start, I mention this again because one club was asked by the host of one of their collecting venues to see their licence and they were not aware that the licences were needed. You have to apply for the Performing Rights Society licence and I am reliably informed that the Phonographic Performance Licence is available from MDHQ which gives block cover to all Clubs.

Since the last bulletin Anne and I were invited to the Loddon Valley, Guernsey, Windsor and Christchurch Charters. Christchurch was particularly important as it was their 50th and they had a wonderful event with around 60 people attending. Anne has received bouquets of lovely flowers to cheer up our lives and enhance our lounge.

Celebrating 50 years' Fundraising

On Friday 20 November the Lions Club of Reading and the Reading Group for Cancer Research UK, both founded in 1965, jointly celebrated 50 years of fundraising at an event held at the Grosvenor Casino Reading South. The two organisations worked in collaboration to host a fantastic evening's entertainment. More than a hundred guests enjoyed singing from Michael Bubl  and Diana Ross tribute acts as well as a champagne reception, four course dinner, raffle and an auction. Twenty-six local businesses were kind enough to donate some amazing prizes. The event was a huge success and great fun with many guests already suggesting that it is held again next year at the same welcoming venue.

Together more than  4,100 was raised for the two charities and will be shared equally between both groups. The Lions Club of Reading will use their share of the money for local community projects and some will help fund the Lions Club of Reading 2016 prostate cancer awareness and PSA test event being held on 10 March 2016.

Organiser of the event, Reading Lion Sarah Kidd-May commented: "As a member of both charities, organising a joint celebration and fundraising event was a wonderful opportunity for both local organisations to work together. The evening not only successfully raised money for both charities but enabled members from each group to meet and have fun."

Linda Pearce, chairman of the Reading Group for Cancer Research UK said, "It was an honour to work with the Reading Lions on a joint celebration to mark our respective 50 years of local fundraising. The atmosphere at the Casino's show bar was amazing and everyone enjoyed the entertainment."

Two members from Reading Lions Club were co-opted onto the stage as 'Diana's Supremes' – as evidenced by the front page picture. Who said that Lions don't have fun!

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I think that is enough for now as I have to get back to the Restructuring and Governance paperwork ready for the major meeting to discuss outcomes on 28 November in Birmingham. I will update you all in the next issue of the I05D Times.

Finally we wish you a very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year. We will not be sending cards this year, but will be making a donation to Anne's Partner Charity, **Brain Tumour Research**.

DG Alan



DG Team Ramblings

December 2015

DG Lion Alan

There are no visits planned in December due to Club commitments

1 VDG Lion David

There are no visits planned in December due to Club commitments

2 VDG Lion Peter

Date **Activity**

2 Dec. Swanwick Official Visit

3 Dec. Hart Official Visit

Welcome new Lions!

I am delighted to welcome the following new members who joined in November into Lions Clubs International and wish them a long and happy time as Lions.

DG Lion Alan

Blackmore Vale - Lions Gavin Cooper & Veronica Cooper

Crofton - Lion Vivian Pugh

Jersey - Lion Damian Warman

Reading - Lion Mahud Husein

Westbury - Lions Nigel Ricketts & Craig Strout

Woolmer Forest - Lion Chris Robin

Letter to the Editor

Sir...

I feel so strongly about your comments regarding public awareness to say that I disagree with you regarding the image of the Lions and public awareness. It is not a choice of brand awareness or service. The success and future of the Lions will be about locking into modern media communications - use of Facebook, Twitter and effective websites as well as doing all the good things that we have done in the past. Currently most Lions Clubs have an age profile that is not conducive to attracting younger people, many of whom will not be aware we exist, yet alone what we do. We have to improve our image - call it brand as we are not selling our organisation to the wider community - falling member numbers are proof of this. We at Petersfield are addressing this by setting up a working group that will be planning for the future in order to ensure that we still have a vibrant and successful club in three years' time.

Lion Trevor Copping

Secretary - Petersfield Lions Club



District 105D 51st Convention

18-20 March 2016

Holiday Inn, Winchester

Motoring into Winchester

Convention programme includes

Workshops with practical day-to-day content accompanied by exhibitions and Lions' displays

Friday evening

Host Night Dinner & Cabaret - theme: Motoring

Dress code: optional - theme or smart casual

Saturday evening

District Governor's Banquet & Ball with entertainment

Dress code: Black Tie

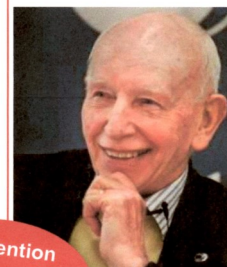
Sunday morning

Open forum, competition presentations and Q&A with International Guest

Special Guest Speaker

John Surtees, OBE

John Surtees, OBE, will speak on Saturday on behalf of the Henry Surtees Foundation.



Convention booking opens 1st November

www.lions105d.org.uk



Keeping the Yellow Fellow in the Air

The Blackmore Vale Lions presented a cheque for £1,000 to the Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance at Henstridge Airfield on Wednesday 4 November and in the photo a pride of Lions are seen presenting the cheque to Critical Care Paramedic Claire Baker.

The Blackmore Vale Lions wish the Air Ambulance crew and their team of helpers every success in their quest to maintain this vital emergency service link across their area.



Windsor Lions 54th Birthday

The Lions Club of Windsor, the leading community service organisation serving Windsor and district, celebrated its 54th birthday with a Charter Anniversary lunch at the Macdonald Berystede Hotel. Special guests were District Governor Lion Alan Chapman and his wife Anne and the Mayor Cllr Dee Quick accompanied by the Revd John Quick.

During the Anniversary lunch the District Governor presented long service awards to Lion Harry Purchase (40 years) and Lion Mike Sells (20 years). Mention was also made of Lion John Peters, Windsor Lions' only Charter Member who, with his 54 years of service, is probably the longest serving Lion in the south of England.

Windsor is a very successful Club combining the arts of having fun while doing a great deal of good locally with fundraising activities such as the annual Windsor Great Park Horseride and the Swimathon,

Pictured above are (l-r) Lion Mike Sells, DG Lion Alan Chapman and Lion Harry Purchase

The Big Apple for Katie

Katie Bryant is just 15 years old and suffers from Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Notwithstanding she has been involved in raising funds for the Piam Brown unit of Southampton Hospital, which is an oncology and haematology centre caring for children from birth to 16 years.

Several thousand pounds were raised at an event in Tongham and at Santander Bank in Alton. As well as the Piam Brown ward, the CLIC Sargent cancer charity for children and young people also benefited. One of the objectives of the fund-raising was to raise enough money to pay for Katie to visit New York and this will happen in January.

To help her enjoy her trip Alton Lions have given her \$100 spending money, presented by Alton Lions' president Lion Peter Bacon.



Pictured above Katie Bryant with her Mum and Dad, Helen and Paul, being presented with a fistful of dollars by Alton president Lion Peter Bacon.

Footstomping Oktoberfest raises £900 and a few glasses too!



Fleet's Sirius Lions hosted a **Sirius'ly Good** evening of Bavarian culture at their annual *Oktoberfest* on Saturday 17 October and held in the Crondall Village Hall, Farnham. *Oktoberfest* is organised by the Sirius Lions, a group of people in their 20s and 30s from the local area who raise fund, support projects in the community and have a **Sirius'ly good time!**

Daring local people got out their *lederhosen* and moustaches as part of the third annual *Oktoberfest* fundraising event. The proceeds from this year's event will be donated to the Hampshire & Surrey Borders Group Riding for the Disabled Association, who provide therapeutic riding for disabled children.

To meet the demand, the party was held at a new, larger location and featured an authentic 'oompah' band, the Bettesteiner Footstompers, German *bratwurst* sausages, games and, most importantly, lots of German *bier*.

Event organiser Lion Louise Hellem said: "This is the third year Sirius Lions have held the *Oktoberfest*. It's been a roaring success, with games galore and a fantastic atmosphere. We are also delighted to have raised £900 for riding for disabled children."

CONVENTION UPDATE

Fellow Lions...

The highlight of the Lions year in our District is our Convention. Numbers for 2016 will be more restricted than in 2015, so make sure you book early to avoid disappointment. Book via the District website: <http://www.lions105d.org.uk/about/convention.html>, which has a link to the Convention website and also on-line booking.

Please note that you will need to book the hotel separately and also Clubs will need to register delegates and alternates with the District Secretary since booking for the Convention will not automatically do this. Club secretaries and others can book for those without internet access.

To book accommodation, call the hotel on 01962 670700 and quote the reference Lions Convention 2016.

Motor down to Winchester and join us for fun and fellowship.

Lion Steve Spencer, 2016 Convention Communications



Woolmer Forest Lions took a leaf out of Alan Titchmarsh's book and did their own version of ITV's hit television show 'Love Your Garden' to transform the lives of a local family.

The local family in question are three year old Maddie who lives with her sister Harriet who is six and their parents Leigh and Lianne Thayre who live in the village of Headley Down. Maddie suffers from the rare genetic condition commonly known as Cri du Chat syndrome, which affects one in 50,000 births; this condition causes delay in both physical and mental development, such as restricted movement and Maddie can only pull herself along.

The family soon became aware that their garden was unfit and dangerous for the girls to play in since earthen banks were prone to collapsing and the patio slabs were cracked and uneven. The plight of the family came to the attention of Woolmer Forest Lions in the winter of 2014 and what was locally to be christened 'Maddie's Project' was launched.

A local builder met with the parents and suggested ways to build a garden, safe for the two girls to play in. To raise funds for this project the Lions took delivery of 30 large chocolate Easter eggs, for local pubs and coffee shops to raffle, with all proceeds going to the 'Maddie's Project.' An amazing £2,400 was raised and a local landscape gardener also offered to help.

Work on the garden began in mid-August 2015, the earthen banks were made secure with new sleepers and topped off with bark-chippings. Half the patio was dug up and replaced with top-quality Astro-Turf, by a local specialist. The cost was met in full by a kind donation from the Three Parishes Fund.

In no time at all, after a great deal of hard graft the garden had been transformed. The local landscape gardener and the men from 'Mow n' Blow' offered their services free and local builder Paul Withey donated £1,000 to cover the cost of materials. The Lions purchased some suitable outdoor special needs toys, supplied a table with two benches, and President Lion Tony Vaus kindly donated a B-B-Q to round things off nicely.

The 'official' opening of Maddie's garden took place on Sunday 18 October 2015, and the family were thrilled and speechless and very grateful for what had been achieved.

A laptop from Blandford Lions

On Thursday 19 November Acting Deputy President Lion Tony Burt and Welfare Representative Lion Mary Mortimer, of Blandford Lions, met at the Blandford Computer Shop to present a laptop to Di Webster from North Dorset Family Support Services who received it on behalf of a Blandford child who suffers with learning difficulties.

Blandford Lions had been contacted by the child's parent asking for financial help in providing a laptop to help with school work. David Bousfield and his son Josh of the Computer Shop, Salisbury Street, Blandford, where the Lions purchased the laptop, kindly donated accessories and offered free tutorials to the family. Blandford Lions would like to thank the public for their generous support which enables them to provide such essential donations.

Sailability gets some 'cartability' from the Lions



Weymouth & Portland Lions, as part of their mission to help and care for those less fortunate than themselves, have presented Chesil Sailability with two special trolleys for transporting all their special equipment down to the sailing pontoons.

Chesil Sailability, set up following the Paralympic sailing events in 2012, provides opportunities for people with disabilities to go sailing, be it for fun, to learn to sail or even to compete.

"When we are running sailing sessions, we have a lot of equipment to take down to the pontoon at the start of a session and then we have to bring it all back," says a Chesil Sailability volunteer. "The two Lions trolleys makes this much easier and a better and safer experience for the volunteers. We are very thankful to the Lions for their support and for providing the two trolleys."



TAIL TWISTER

The Editor has the last word

Hopefully Lions will have now had the opportunity to study the documentation produced by the Council of Governors on the restructuring of our Multiple District. I do not envy the authors of the documents their task and I imagine that the proposals therein required much thought and consideration. As a member of an 'off-shore' Club with a membership in excess of 40 and growing, it is easy to consider that once we belong to that part of 105D that becomes 105DE will have little impact on how we, a Channel Islands Club, carry on and carry out being Lions.

Reading through the documentation I was surprised that there were so many Clubs with fewer than ten members and while I do not doubt the dedication of their members, I wonder how, with the best will in the world, they can achieve the results in community service that we see so often illustrated in these pages.

Many Clubs in the District will be embarking, for them, on one of the busiest times of the year and the *105D Times* wishes all of them and every Lion in the District, the best of luck, compliments of the season and best wishes for the coming year.

Lion Peter Tabb

Lion's Winter's Tail...



I never realised that the Lions' initiation ceremony was so lively...

Please send all articles and pictures for publication in the

DISTRICT 105D TIMES

to the Editor, Lion Peter Tabb, e-mail : news@lions105d.org.uk and/or pandttabb@localdial.com
at least a week before the end of the month