



The International Association of Lions Clubs DISTRICT 105D - JUNE 2008



Ordinary People
Amazing Things

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Here I go for the last time

It is surprising how the months have come & gone ...everyone said that the time would fly & it sure has. As I write this I still have 10 more visits to make and 7 more Charters....the last one the day before I officially finish on June 30th. So far we have travelled about 15,000 miles this year. It is my intention to produce some statistics after we have reached the end.

I would like to congratulate you all for all your good works, your enthusiasm & your innovative ideas. You all follow our motto 'WE SERVE ' All playing a part to make 105D the best District in this Multiple District.

But mostly I would like to thank you all for having faith in me to take this role....it hasn't always been easy but it certainly is the experience of a lifetime and I know that there are many of you out there who would do a great job.

I'd like to thank you all for your friendship over the past months. Eric & I have always had such a warm welcome wherever we have been. I do hope that friendship will continue as we meet again at charters/conventions etc. But you will have to forgive us if we have forgotten which club you are from!!

MELVIN JONES FELLOWSHIPS

On my travels it has been my pleasure to present many Melvin Jones Fellowships. There have been seven in May. Four in Christchurch, one in Fareham & two at Westbury. Congratulations to all the recipients. A wonderful accolade presented by your fellow members, all well deserved for all the work that has unselfishly been given.

The recipients are :-



George Jeremiah,
Stan Morris,
David Palmer,&
Maurice Whiting from
Christchurch (a total
of 90 years service !)



Andy Salter from Fareham



Clive Watts
and
Peter Baker
from Westbury

SPEKTREK.....Well done again to all the collectors but a special thanks to Petersfield Lions for organising the Collection throughout the District...I believe the figure was about 105,000 pairs

PAULTONS PARK



.....A resounding success 1800 persons went through the gate on that day using Lions Tickets I love watching the arrival of all the coaches, feeling the excitement , enjoying meeting up with friends and the family picnic on the green. We were blessed by the weather. Thank you again to DO John Ormiston and his team from Meon Valley & Romsey Lions

THE BIG BANNEReach District has been given an enormous Lions Banner...I would hate it to get lost in some garageThe intention is to set up a calendar for use at events ...one club taking the responsibility of passing it on to the next who has booked it. Some events are already in the diary. At the moment it is with me. As you can see we used it at Paultons Park. We will need it for the Youth Camp August 1-11th

CLUB VISITS...The beauty of the visits are that all clubs are different. We have sat in awe of all your events. Recently as we were staying overnight we were able to visit two projects ...**The Community Store at Fleet & 'Stepping Stones' supported by Hart Lions.** The organisation at The Community Store is unbelievable. How Beverley (sorry didn't get her surname) sorts out all the requests & deliveries must be a logistical nightmare. Congratulations to all involved. Stepping Stones is a support group for parents of children who have Downs Syndrome. We visited a session which not only included mums & dads but also grandparents. We all know how good it is to talk when we have concerns. This group has filled a big gap in the system. The real stars of the morning were of course the children. (Eric got covered in chocolate!!)

Congratulations to Emma (Lion Marilyn Robson's daughter).It was wonderful to see the group at Paultons Park. I have donated tailtwister fines from Cabinet & Convention to this group

Partners Projects....Thank you for your generosity in supporting Eric's projects The Rainbow Centre,The Elizabeth Foundation & Tacade. To date each of those projects will receive in the region of £600.

AUSTRALIA HERE WE COME!.....Eric & I have been selected by a district in Australia to visit them in November. We will be there for a month, being hosted by 5 or 6 families. We are to attend their Convention and I have to give a 15 minute presentation...I'm not yet sure which of my suggestions they have chosen. The district is around Melbourne but I haven't had time to read up on the area yet.

NEW MEMBERS.... A warm welcome to you all:-
(March) Burnham - Helen Saunders, Dorchester - Charles and Ann Goold, South Chilterns...John Gibson, Welcome back to Dimitri Elkosipent Archos - Bournemouth)
(April) Bournemouth - David Shaw, Guernsey, Jan Cumberland & Tammy Norris, Ryde - Adrian Ould, Salisbury - Margaret Richie, Wareham - Bob Morris Wokingham - Paul Halford

DG's final diary

JUNE

- 1st Blackmore Vale CA
- 2nd Woolmer Forest CV
- 3rd Petersfield CV
- 5th Poole CV
- 7th Goring & Woodcote CA
- 8th Boscombe CA
- 9th Sherbourne CV
- 10th Sandown & Shanklin CV
- 12th Trowbridge CV
- 14th Blackmore Vale Caravan Rally
- 15th Slough CA
- 18th Bradford on Avon CV
- 19th Wincanton CV
- 21st Reading & Wokingham CA
- 28th Newbury CA
- 29th New Forest CA

JULY13th HANDOVER LUNCH SOUTHAMPTON AUGUST 1-11th YOUTH CAMP (GALA DINNER 9th)

REMINDERS

- Try to support the Youth Camp in some way ...speak to Youth Chair John Apps
 - Secretaries make sure that your final reports for the year reach REPORTS OFFICER Ron Twinning BEFORE JUNE 30th You will not be able to claim refunds for dropped members after this date. If your secretary is going or is on holiday please let me or Ron know
- Secretaries again now is the time to send to ME applications for the Presidents Excellence Awards. Any problems contact me ASAP

*Finally best wishes to DGE Roger & Ann.
I hope that you have a fantastic year
Again thank you all You are certainly not
'ORDINARY PEOPLE' BUT you are doing
'AMAZING THINGS'..DG Pat & Eric*

LIONS SIGHTSAVERS

During the Lionistic year 2006 – 2007 a number of Clubs gave donations to the above. Unfortunately, due to the accounting problems you are already aware of no record was kept as to which Clubs gave donations, although the funds were transferred to Sightsavers International.

So that we can acknowledge the donations and keep a record for the banner patch awards, it would be appreciated if Clubs that gave donations could email me with the name of their Club and the amount of the donation.

Patrick Hamblin Trustee, Lions Sightsavers.



Whilst visiting Hart & Fleet clubs recently District Governor Pat and Lion Eric took the opportunity to call in and meet the children and mums at Stepping Stones. DG Pat has supported Stepping

Stones since hearing founder member Emma Hall speak at Hart Charter last year.

Stepping Stones is a support group for the families of children with Down syndrome and is based in Hartley Wintney near Fleet in the North East of Hampshire.

The group which started with 2 mums and 2 children has grown to 20 member families in just over a year.

The area lacked any support network for these families so the group now provides a meeting once a month, outings for the families, educational workshops, speech therapy, and the knowledge that there is someone at the end of the phone who understands.

Emma Hall has recently compiled a booklet which will be handed out by maternity units when a baby is diagnosed with Down syndrome. This booklet is called 'Our Stories' and tells the story of each of the children who attend the group. It is a positive look at the future and is certainly inspiring. Lion Marilyn Robson

Burnham Lions' Young Ambassador to Serve Cambodia and Ghana.



In 2006/2007 the Lions Club of Burnham choose Emily Shaw as a Young Ambassador for her various voluntary work with young people and was delighted when she went on to become the district winner of a substantial monetary prize which she donated to local youth causes.

Members were therefore pleased when Emily recently attended a Lions Club meeting to update them on her progress and of her exciting plans to serve others in the immediate future.

Not for her the life of a teenager lying in bed ordering in pizza. Instead, she has been working at a local school as a Learning Assistant caring for a little girl with aspergers. She is also a volunteer at the Learning Lab, a home work club for young people and their parents.

Whilst busily volunteering she has also been working in the evenings to earn money to self fund her gap year when she wishes to put her considerable experience of helping young people to good use.

Emily is now about to leave for Cambodia, where for two weeks she will be teaching English in a school of two hundred students, set up by monks for street children. There are class sizes of 12-40 and the pupils' age range is from 5-20.

Later this summer Emily will be spending two months in Ghana. She will be working in an orphanage and living with a local family. There are between 20 and 30 children in the orphanage who have lost their families either through death, abuse or abandonment. The orphanages are basic, with children having to sleep on bare concrete floor and often food is scarce and very few toys. Emily's role will be to plan and provide activities for the children. These may be sport or musical related. She will also be involved in the general care of the children.

Emily wants to be able to take with her really practical gifts for the children to try and enhance their lives such as exercise books, pencils, basic picture books and puzzles for the children. Such items can have an incredible impact upon disadvantaged communities.

The Lions Club of Burnham will help fulfil Emily's wish list and has the advantage of the knowledge and experience of Kebba Cham a mature student from the Gambia, who is being supported by the club in his studies at university furthering his skills in caring for the both blind and deaf. He attends most club meetings and was able to give advice on what is really needed.

Emily has proved a very worthy Ambassador and we wish her well.

Christchurch Lions Help Local Children



Christchurch Lion President Liz Poole handed over a cheque for £1000 to Jae Harris who runs Christchurch Activities for Young People. The money will enable needy youngsters to join in a range of holiday activities run by Jae during the school breaks.

Reminders from the District Treasurer:

(a) Please could I remind you that all cheques sent to the District Treasurer - both Charity and Administration Accounts - should be made payable to '**LCI District 105D**' and endorsed with the particular payment details or project on the reverse. Our bankers are unable to process cheques with any other payee details.

(b) Currently, due to incomplete records, it is not possible to allocate all of the charitable donations received during 2006/2007 to individual clubs. This also means that individual clubs will not receive thank you certificates in respect of donations made to Sightsavers, Student Education, Wateraid, etc. As mentioned at District Convention, to date the response to IPDG Godwin's request for clubs to let me have details of donations relating to the last financial year has been disappointing.

Please, if you have not responded, can I ask you to take a few minutes and to let me have a list for your club at the earliest opportunity. This can be by telephone, e-mail or snail mail, but it is most important that this information is received. I really would like to be able to finalise 2006/2007 entirely, file away and concentrate on 2007/2008.

Thank you.

Linda Picton
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Pool e Lions Celebrate 30 years of Swimarathon



Poole Lions Club held their 30th annual Swimarathon at the Dolphin Swimming Pool on the weekend of 2nd/3rd February 2008 which raised £25,000 for local

good causes and with a further £5,000 of pledges and charity matched funds to come in, the organisers, Poole Lions Club, were in a grateful mood.

Lion President Harold Brown, who has been Swimarathon Chairman since 1995 and involved in all but three of the annual events, said: "It went really well and this year and we hope to meet our Target of £30,000. We had tremendous assistance from Poole Soroptimists and the Rotary Club of Poole Bay, who helped on the organising committee and manning the pool."

The main recipients were **Julia's House, Portfield School, Medaille Trust, Poole Young Carers (Barnardo's), Chestnut Nursery and Poole Parcels Fund.**

There were youngsters, adults and "We even had a Springer Spaniel called Gemma who raised over £550 by swimming in a dog pool." said Harold Brown. Altogether we had 133 teams and over 800 swimmers from as young as five and as mature as 75. The oldest team boasted a total age of 450 for the six swimmers



To date the Swimarathon has raised over £615,000



A Swimarathon awards ceremony was held on Monday 17th March 08, at Barclays House Lecture Theatre, where competitors and sponsors alike received Cups and charity cheques for their efforts. These were presented by the Mayor of Poole Councillor Jeff Allen.

MJV awarded to Lion Bryan Hailstone at their 21st Birthday Party



Hook and Odiham Lions Club had their 21st birthday party on Saturday 5th April. A splendid formal affair at the Wellington Arms Hotel, with a three course dinner, dancing to live music provided by 'Horizon' and of course those awards and speeches. I guess it's the speeches we all like best. Yes, nothing funnier than an ill at ease speaker, telling a badly timed joke that we already heard, and then looking so pleased because we are all falling about laughing.

Bryan Hailstone wasn't laughing, in fact he was rather taken aback when he realised he was to receive the Melvin Jones Fellowship Award. Only the second Fellowship Award to be presented to a Hook and Odiham club member in 21 years!

It was Bryan's enthusiasm and hard work as a Guiding Lion, 9 years ago that prevented this club from folding when membership dropped to just 5. A vigorous recruitment drive saw membership rise to 9 and by the time Bryan himself transferred his membership from Lodden Valley a year later membership had risen to 12. Since then, Bryan's experience has proven invaluable as the club has slowly and once again established itself as an important support group for its community.

Bryan's particular passion has seen him extremely active in fund raising and he shortly starts his second term as Club President. An award well earned by an excellent and dedicated Lion!

Solent Lions Fancy Dress Horse Race Night



On the night we raised approximately £290 through the sale of tickets and also through the very busy tote betting. Of this we made a donation of £100 to the Netley Abbey British Legion with the rest of the income going towards our charity fund. A very good night was had by all those who attended and we hope to repeat our success with the next race Night to be held later in the year."

A Message from your Editor -

Many thanks for your articles please keep them coming. Next issue will close on the 23rd July.

Lion Peter Garlick