

# The International Association of Lions Clubs

## DISTRICT 105D - APRIL 2012



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*"Make your mark on the world"*



Hi  
Fellow  
Lions

Well March has come and gone, and what a month it has been. I attended the Hook and Odiham 25<sup>th</sup> Charter. Well done to them, let us hope they continue for another 25 years to reach their 50<sup>th</sup> birthday. We also had a joint Charter with New Milton and Lymington and Brockenhurst Clubs joining forces to hold one Charter event and celebrate their anniversaries together. I must say it seemed to work very well to me, with everyone enjoying them selves.

Ann and I, along with a few others from this district and similar from other districts, attended the U N Day at the Houses of Parliament. Where we met the MD winner of the Peace Poster Competition, Kate Saunders from District A. What a great example of our youth, she stood and gave a super speech after accepting her prize to the assembled group of Lions and dignitaries, who included our own International President Lion Dr Win Kun Tam, and our Patron the Duchess of Wessex, and many others. I must admit all the speakers this year were very good. Afterwards many of us had to dash off to get to the Chinese Banquet in London Chinatown, organised by the Lions Clubs of China town in IP Tams honour. It was quite something and very different, unfortunately for Ann and I it was running late and we had to leave as did many others before the puddings were served and the festivities finished. Because of catching trains etc. But like many events we have attended this year it is one we will not forget.

Also during this month we have managed to fit in 7 club visits and 4 Charters, and as always each one is different and enjoyable to do.

Of course the busiest long weekend of the year so far, and the highlight of the month and year was our own District Convention. This started on the Tuesday morning with the picking and packing party at the camp, followed on Thursday late afternoon when we met in person for the first time our International guests PID Lion Randy Heitmann and his wife Lion Kathy. As we spent time together over Dinner on Thursday night and drinks in an English Pub, I realised that I had met him in Seattle, as he was the person making sure IP Tam was always where he should be. Our personal time together continued into Friday morning with a very short tour of part of the Island and lunch in an old English pub, on the

back of the island. Over the whole weekend we found them to be a wonderful couple and great company.

### CONVENTION 2012

Then when we arrived at Norton Grange after lunch on Friday, it really was a wow factor. The convention team had done a great job of setting the theme of "Carry On", and I think the spirit of Carry On, did just that by carrying on all over the weekend until after lunch on the Sunday. I think the weather was on my side as well.



After the briefest of Cabinet meetings we all went outside to plant an Oak tree supplied by 1<sup>st</sup> VDG Roger, we all hope that from this small twig a mighty oak will grow to mark the presence of Lions in that place. How are you or your

Clubs doing with tree planting? I would like to know if and how many you have planted, so that I can report to Oakbrook on the figures. As I say the weather was great, the company excellent, the costumes brilliant, and the DG making lots of mistakes, made it a wonderful time for Ann and I, and also for all of you I hope as well.

I must say that sat up on that stage, with my crib sheets, running order and timetable, it is not easy. So many distractions and although you know what you are supposed to be doing and when, others do not always do what you think they are supposed to do, so you have to change a bit. But as I said it was supposed to be a Carry On weekend and so long as the business got done in a proper manner and people got to have their say if they wanted to, then it can not have been too bad.. Everyone got an extra 15 minutes for lunch and time in the sun. Then despite extra items at the last minute we only overran by 10 minutes in the afternoon. So I enjoyed it and it was over all too soon, I trust that all of you enjoyed it to, as apart from the formalities, it was meant to be a Fun and Fellowship weekend.

I also hope you liked Lions Randy and Kathy from Nebraska, I thought they were fun and as they say "the boy did good".

During the day we were able to make several presentations, not only of the competition prizes (of which I am sure the editor will include elsewhere in this issue), but of certificates and medals.

Mostly these were certificates of appreciation and most if not all were presented over the weekend. I do not feel I need to list them all here; they were given as a thank you for the help I received as DG and the help they have given to others as a way of saying thank you.



**With Fun and Fellowship**

Among them also were the Dentaid Certificates as a thank you to the clubs that took part in that project. There were some special awards, and more to come to some Lions who were not at the convention, they will get theirs later.

So we had 5 International Presidents Certificates of Appreciation, these are awarded by IP Tam based on citations received via me from you the Lions yourselves as are most of the awards. Of these 5, we were able to present 3 during the weekend, and the recipients were, ZC Lion Nick Mussert of New Milton, and P P Lions John and June Webb of Bridport.



Well done all of you. I also awarded some DG medals, to lions that came highly recommended by their peers. One is a Zone Chairman award, but the recipient was not at convention, so I will present it at a later date, the other was a Region Chairman award which I presented to RC Lion Alan Chapman, for all the work as seen by the members of his region for trying to increase membership. Well done Alan. I also had some DG appreciation awards to make unfortunately again two of the recipients were not at convention, so I hope to catch up with them later. But I was able to present one of these medals, which I awarded to my wife Lion Ann, yes surprisingly I do appreciate all she does for me, but also for what she has



had to put up with this past 3 years, as well as worrying about our two mums and keeping her job, I felt she truly deserved it. Thank you Ann for being there for me all the times I have needed you. There is a lot more to being a DG partner than many of you may realise.

During the year a DG is allowed to nominate some Lions for various I P awards. These are usually to people that you know are doing good things, or other Lions make you aware about. We write the citations for these awards and send them up via the PID to be considered by the IP. I was pleased that four of



those I recommended for awards were to receive them. As it happens one will not be awarded until later in the year. But PID Randy and PID Howard were able on behalf of IP Tam to award 3 of these during convention, and these were, briefly for outstanding services to Lionism and to the community showing leadership and assistance to Lions and others. So I P leadership medals were presented to Lion Linda Picton and to PDG Lion Godwin Micallef, well deserved and well done to both of you.



The third medal presented at this time was the I P appreciation medal for services to Lions, this was presented to Lion Peter Garlick for all the work he does at District and club level. A very big well done to you Peter. I feel that all these awards were well earned and deserved many thanks and well

done to all of you, I am proud to know you, be sure to wear them with pride whenever the occasion permits. As I have said there are a couple more to come I hope but we will have to wait and see.

By the way I hope you enjoyed the Canine Partners presentation and were able to meet the stars (*the dogs*) on their stall in the bar lounge. Please give generously to the Ann's fund so that we can make a substantial presentation to them at Handover.

During the theme night on Friday, for a bit of fun I asked for the name and the date of the first ever carry on film made and shown. But due to the dim light it was difficult to extract the correct info from my papers so I let it go as Carry on England because it sounded right and they did have the correct year for the real first film. But the actual correct answer, for those that like to know these things, should have been, "Carry on London", in 1937, starring Eric Barker, it was redone again in 2003, and again in 2009 as "Carry on Bananas", but the new versions have never been shown, also "Carry on Spaceman" was started in 1962 but never finished. But well done all the winners of what was just a bit of fun. I must say Ann and I were very impressed by the variety and splendour of the costumes, well done to all of you, it was a pity that some could not quite get the theme right, but so long as they enjoyed their evening that is all that matters

So by Sunday afternoon it seemed very quiet and still as Ann and I left Norton Grange, I think we were about the last to leave, and to recall what has been a really memorable occasion for Ann and I. We thank all the convention team for arranging it and all of you who attended for making it happen, because without you it would not take place.

May I take this opportunity to congratulate DG Elect Roger and his wife Christine, well done. Because for you it is all about to start, during the next three months it will seem like there is not enough time. But relax take it all as it comes and enjoy it, I know from my time in Seattle you will enjoy Busan and from then the time will fly by, and all too soon it will be David's turn. Well done also to David and to Mike for being elected, the work is just about to start for both of you, so good luck and enjoy.

Sadly on Monday we had to come down to earth so to speak as we attended the funeral of a dear friend. It was a sad day when we had to say goodbye to PID Lion Phillip Daubeney. I had known him a long time and he was a good friend and mentor to me over the years, and to others I know. He will be missed by us all. Ann and I send our condolences to Rita and all of Phillips family. Ann and I will miss him and his gentle nature and always welcome words of advice.





My visits and duties are beginning to ease off now, and the next big event is the MD Convention, please do come and support your DGE Lion Roger and Christine as they make their entrance walk to the stage to be introduced to convention. The theme for the MD convention is London 2012, Olympics. Our District ladies in their wisdom have decided that all those attending from our district will go with the theme of Equestrians at the Olympics, for more info on this contact Linda Picton, phone 01252 684261 or Thea and Lynden McIntyre, phone 01753 543903 as they have details of suitable costumes.

Most of April is as I say quiet with just 2 club visits, 5 Charters and a couple of District meetings, and the Melvin Jones Lunch. So I can see my club grabbing us to help with their fundraising.

I hope to see many of you in May at the MD convention, the District Training day, or the Paultons Park event, but for now keep Believing and Carry On.

**Membership** I would like to welcome to our district and to Lionism the following new members, as reported to Oakbrook by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012.

James Nesbitt of Blackmore Vale.

David Maidment of Dorchester.

Tracy Lee of Fareham.

Jan Coyle, and Doreen Watts of Hook & Odiham.

Susan Curtis, and Ramona Nock of Ventnor, IoW.

Dick Cowles of Meon Valley.

Roger Warson of Romsey.

Tina Ellen Beer and Julian Marshall of Salisbury.

Barry Christopher Duxbury and Neil James Godfrey of Wimborne & Ferndown.

I wish them all the best and hope that they have many happy years ahead serving with the family of Lions.

D G travels over the month of April-May are as follows:-

#### April 2012

Sunday	1 <sup>st</sup>	Newport Charter Lunch.
Monday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Portsmouth official club visit.
Sunday	15 <sup>th</sup>	Melvin Jones Lunch, Bournemouth.
Monday	16 <sup>th</sup>	Waterlooville official club visit.
Friday	20 <sup>th</sup>	Warminster Charter.
Saturday	21 <sup>st</sup>	Gosport Charter.
Monday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Long Rang Planning, Newbury.
Saturday	28 <sup>th</sup>	Ringwood Charter
Sunday	29 <sup>th</sup>	Bridport Charter Lunch.

#### May 2012

Wednesday	2 <sup>nd</sup> —7 <sup>th</sup>	M D Convention plus Council of Governors meeting
Thursday	10 <sup>th</sup>	Westbury Club visit.
Saturday	12 <sup>th</sup>	District Training Alton.
Saturday	12 <sup>th</sup>	Fareham 50 <sup>th</sup> Charter.
Sunday	13 <sup>th</sup>	Paultons Park.
Monday	14 <sup>th</sup>	Cosham club visit.
Saturday	19 <sup>th</sup>	Westbury Charter.
Sunday	20 <sup>th</sup>	Cabinet and Pre cabinet Meetings, Amesbury.
Monday	21 <sup>st</sup>	Possible St Edmunds Leo Club visit?
Sunday	27 <sup>th</sup>	Blackmore Vale Charter Lunch.

Looking forward to seeing you all on my visits,

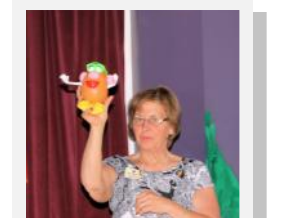
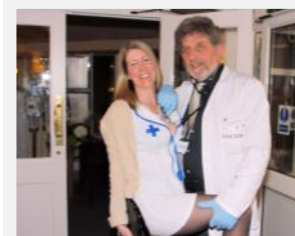
***DG Lion Ron and Ann***



#### **More Convention Pics etc.**

Just a few more pics and a few words from our latest Club Aldershot - "It was very nice to see and meet other clubs in the District and for the P.I.D. Randy Heitmann and his Wife to take the time to talk to us at

our first Convention, he also presented the three of us, as the newest Lions Members with a banner which he then personally signed and then gave us a badge pin from the International President Wing-Kun Tam. What a wonderful way to start our Lions Membership and to be part of the 105 District". The following Lions in the photo were L.P. Ian Hambleton, Lion Janet Jones & Lion Carol Cross from the newly formed Aldershot lions.



All photos now on 105D website, these are ready now to view at [www.lions105d.org.uk](http://www.lions105d.org.uk) click on about us, conventions and click on more against photo gallery. All photos have been reduced in size so they can be downloaded much quicker and will print up to A4 size. I have split photo section into 3 galleries :- Host, Business-Awards and Business - Rest

Editor/Photographer - Lion Peter Garlick.



**With Fun and Fellowship**



**Treometer  
Total 105D**

**315**

**International total to-date**

**8,216,257**

**Has your club planted trees ?**

If so can you please email me total planted as it would be nice to see how many planted in our district. Any clubs that have sent me details for newsletter are in the total so far. **Also have you put total on Monthly Activity Report as this is needed for updating the International Total.**



**Diamond Jubilee is recognised in trees thanks to the Bridport Lions**

In spite of the continuous rain and wind on the morning of March 4<sup>th</sup>, many willing volunteers turned out to transform a 1200 square

metre site at the top of Park Road into a wooded meadow for residents and wildlife alike.

Twenty five are now settling into our own "Jubilee Green" as it will be known and a plaque will be erected to mark the occasion of Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee 2012. The site will be managed by the Town Council and the Community Orchard group

The trees were funded by Bridport Lions Club, except for the oak which was grown from an acorn by a friend of Councillor Geoffrey Ackerman who can be seen with the Lions President Don Morley, Councillors Martin and Maggie Ray, Jill Lloyd Chair of the Bridport Community Orchard Group and Andy Jeffries who is their volunteer co-ordinator and committee member. The oak is part of a national initiative to plant 'Jubilee English Oaks' this year and the remaining tree species were chosen for their blossom, fruit, appearance and attractiveness to wildlife.

Thanks are also due to Councillor Gill Massey, Sheila, Tricia and David Hawkins, Nick Gray, Louis Finnis, Paul Arthur and representatives from The Allington Hill Billies, Transition Town Bridport, Dorset Wildlife Trust and local residents, two of whom now live in London but turned up for the planting!

**Lions Clubs of Swanwick & Southampton Solent Plant Jubilee Orchard**



2 Lions Clubs joined forces to create with the co-operation of Manor Farm Country Park a small apple orchard of historic species of fruit trees to mark the occasion of our

sovereign's Diamond Jubilee. On Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> of March at Manor Farm starting at 10:00am members of both clubs with the assistance of staff and volunteers from Manor Farm planted 17 trees.

Andrew Davies the Park Manager added: "We are very pleased to support this initiative led by the Lions. Keen to promote the cultivation of heritage varieties of fruit trees, we are looking forward to the trees flourishing and in the coming years producing a bountiful harvest of apples."



**Lions Club Of Salisbury Plant trees with local Primary and Pre-Schools.**

Thanks to a donation of 100 Norway Spruce saplings and 24 Oak saplings donated by Mark Hotson, Managing Director of A World of Furniture the club decided to involve local Primary and Pre-Schools in the planting.

There was a second objective to this, thanks to a further donation of £300 by Mark Lello of Parker-Bullen a local solicitors towards purchasing 10 Tacade Resource packs called Life Changes.



During January mass planting of the saplings took place across the area, with a second event taking place in the spring for those who have more of a need for smaller trees.

The second photo shows a presentation of a Tacade Resource book. To one of the

schools.

**Meon Valley Lions replace vandalised trees**



In support of our International project, the Lions Club of Meon Valley recently replaced two vandalised trees on the Recreation Ground at Swanmore in south Hampshire. Each year the Swanmore Parish Council kindly let us use the field for the Annual

Swanmore Carnival and Fete. The Fete is the club's biggest event of the year and a great community fund-raiser attracting over two-thousand local people, so we were really pleased to help out.



**Lions mark jubilee with trees**

3 Trees have been planted by Goring, Woodcote & District Lions Club in three local villages to mark the Queen's diamond jubilee.

Having consulted Parish councils the Lions have planted a whitebeam sorbus aria lutescen on the village green by St John's Church at Whitchurch Hill, on the Gardiner Recreation Ground in Goring, and on Woodcote village green by the war memorial.

Lion President Chris Bergmann said, "The Club believe this a good way to celebrate this diamond jubilee year and show our loyalty to the Queen. The trees will not only mark this joyous occasion but will also serve as a thanks to our families, friends, neighbours and everyone in the community who has supported us in helping other people in need.

These whitebeam trees were chosen in consultation with the local parish councils for their attractive white blossom in spring and red berries in autumn, that also represent the red and white colours of the St. George's flag. The trees are good for wildlife, suitable for planting in public areas, and also suited to the chalky soil of the Chilterns."



**With Fun and Fellowship**





## Lions Club of Crofton plant 120 Trees

Assisted by young pupils at Baycroft School we have now planted sixty saplings of Hazel, Holly, Mountain Ash and Silver Birch trees that will eventually form a colourful screen at the front of the Sensory Garden at the school. A second batch of sixty have also been planted at Seafeld Park which was originally a Naval Officer Training Establishment. Appropriately we were assisted by ten local members of the Sea Cadet Unit "T.S. Tormentor".



### ALTON RUNNERS REWARD ALTON LIONS

Lion President Peter Bacon receives a cheque from the Alton Runners, Men's Captain, Guy Henshaw, for £2000 recognising the effort the Lions Club of Alton contributes to the success of

the Alton 10 Road Race and the Downland Challenge 10K & 5K fun runs each year. This donation forms an important element of the funds that are used to support local charities and the community services, community projects and individual support provided each year by Alton Lions.

Every year Alton Lions, together with Alton Runners, organise the Alton 10, a ten-mile road race in May and, at the start of the cross-country season in October, and the Downland Challenge 10k & 5k races.

The Alton 10 is part of the Hampshire Road Race League competition and draws a large entry from all over the county as well as many other runners from the south of England and entries typically exceed 600 runners.

The Downland Challenge 10k cross-country race is combined with a 5k route for younger runners and local schools help promote it in order to encourage young people to keep fit and there is a cup for the school with the most successful entry.

Runners pay a fee to enter the races and after expenses have been deducted the surplus is donated to the Lions Club of Alton who provide the race administration, course supervisors and marshals for each race.



### A very special Hospital chair

The Royal Berkshire Hospital has been presented with a very special chair in memory of Ray Ballanger a former member of the local Lions Club.

This special electrically operated recliner chair costing £1,550 was given to the Emmer Green Ward at the RBH in Reading to help improve mobility of elderly patients as an aid to their recovery. Ray Ballanger died from pancreatitis aged 82 in December 2010 at the hospital.

The chair was funded jointly by the Lions Clubs of Pangbourne, Theale & District and Goring, Woodcote & District who each contributed £500, with the remainder having been donated at Ray's funeral.

Ray Ballanger, from Woodcote, joined the Lions in 1974

as a member of South Chiltern Lions Club which is now named Pangbourne, Theale & District. He transferred to the Goring, Woodcote & District Lions Club in 2005.

For many years Ray worked in Reading with the Prudential Assurance Company and was a former training officer at Reading Technical College. He was also co-editor of the Woodcote Magazine, the forerunner to the Woodcote Correspondent.

Attending the presentation with representatives of both Lions Clubs were his widow Mary and his son John. Mary said "He was a good husband and did many things to help others in need".

### HOOK AND ODIHAM CELEBRATE 25 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THEIR COMMUNITY



Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> March saw the 25<sup>th</sup> Charter Anniversary of Hook and Odiham Lions. 70 Lions from 11 other clubs joined the majority of the members of Hook and Odiham in an evening which was described by one visitor as "The venue was excellent, the food delicious and the

company on our Table was extremely enjoyable" Messages of congratulation had been received from PID Howard Lee and several PDG's and other clubs who were unable to attend. These will be included in a special book which all attendees were asked to sign and add messages if they so wished.

Sadly one of our remaining Charter Members Reg Bicknell was unable to be with us but we were delighted that our other Charter Member Peter Keep, who has not been in the best of health recently, was able to join us. It was good to have some of the members of Fleet who had helped to form the club back in 1987 and also some who had helped to revitalize the club back in 1997/8 and our President Lion Shirley was pleased to take wine with these groups.

DG Ron was our chief guest and we were also delighted to have both VDG's with us as well as our Region Chairman and nine Presidents. The Manager of the MIND Charity shop in Hook, Mrs. Jacqueline Cope was our President's personal guest.

After an excellent meal there were short speeches from Lion President Shirley, DG Ron, Lion Vice President Terry Cheesman and Mrs. Jacqueline Cope. Lion President Shirley presented a cheque for £250 to Lion Ann Twining for her Charity, Canine Partners. DG Ron and Lion President Shirley then cut the special cake which had been made by Lion Judith. Then it was over to Michael St Clair who had just about everyone up and dancing during the remainder of the evening. He took a welcome break whilst the special raffle was held. There were 25 prizes, all wrapped in silver by Lion Linda, and the table looked extremely attractive.

Lions Brenda and Judith had agreed to organize the event and despite a few headaches and worries along the way were delighted with the evening. Thank you to all who came along to make it such a memorable evening





## Many happy returns!

The history of Lions in the Meon Valley goes back almost forty years to 1973 when the club received its charter. For twenty of those years, the regular home for our

monthly meetings has been the Uplands Hotel, Droxford where Proprietor Brian Lay has kindly been our host at no cost to the club. Recently, we were able to show our gratitude with the presentation of a certificate of appreciation, plus a cheque for £300 to his favourite charity, Kidney Research UK.

This prompted Brian to unearth and dust down the original MVLC Charter certificate which had been in storage at the Uplands for all this time. To everyone's surprise we discovered that the Club received its charter on 24 January 1973 – a whole two months earlier than the March anniversary we had been celebrating mistakenly for the last few years! Next January will see a big 40 celebration!

In January Meon Valley Lions Club supported the Ford Sports and Social Sea Angling club at their annual fishing competition on Weston Shore, Southampton Water. In all we had 162 adult and nine junior participants, and 26 of the anglers caught 31 fish between them. John Brown was the outright winner landing a total catch of 3lbs 11ozs, with Zak Stokes winning the junior section with a 13ozs flounder. Overall the Fishing Festival raised £2,268 and with the Lions Raffle adding another £173, we totalled £2,441 for the day. This was the 38<sup>th</sup> fishing festival event and since the Lions have been involved, we have raised over £30,000 for Naomi House, the Winchester based hospice. Many thanks to all the fishermen who rose early from their beds to support us again this year.

*Photograph: Lions present a Certificate of Appreciation plus cheque to Brian Lay*

## Windsor Lions put on an Epic Performances



The Old Windsor memorial Hall saw the location for a party, and what a party it was! 104 Senior Citizens sat down to Sunday lunch accompanied by Wine. They had all been chauffeured to the location by

members of Windsor Lions, and given an aperitif on arrival. The hall was decorated in style befitting the Golden Jubilee Year of Her Majesty the Queen.

During the after noon there was musical entertainment by top professional musicians, and a talented young singer – Chloe, just signed by Sony Records. A fantastic patriotic interlude including a staged performance of "Brittania" and John Bull and his dog. Our guest of Honour was the Deputy Mayor of the RBWM Councillor Colin Rayner. There was a free raffle, and a gift bag for every one

attending the lunch. No one went away empty handed. By all the comments, as the guests made their way home – "it was the best party ever."

The co-ordinator of the whole event which started its planning stages in December 2011 – was a Past President of the Windsor Lions Club – Diane Purchase

## New Chiltern Way Kissing Gates



A total of three "Kissing Gates" funded by Goring, Woodcote & District Lions Club from their Charity Funds have replaced old and difficult to climb over stiles along the Chiltern Way in late March. All three gates, costing £ 633 in total, were installed following consultation with local landowners by a group of volunteer members of the Chiltern Society, Rights of Way Group.

Being both a member of the Chiltern Society and the Lions Club, Mr Martin Lisk said "These new kissing gates replace old styles making it easier for people walking with disabilities to enjoy this beautiful countryside. It is an example of a Lions Club project to improve the environment and being of help to people in our local community at the same time".

The three gates donated by Goring, Woodcote and District Lions Club, are positioned along a local section of the Chiltern Way between Rushmore Lane in Woodcote and Bottom Lane in Checkendon, near Dean Wood.

Shown in the attached photograph are from left to right , Lions member Martin Lisk, then Bob Parry, Charles Crawcour, Barry Cowlard, Tim Dowling & John Lynch who are all volunteer members of the South Chiltern Path Maintenance Volunteers, and Lions member Jon Solman. The volunteers operate under the auspices of the Chiltern Society and meet three mornings a month. Originally their main task was to clear overgrown public footpaths and bridleways, but recently a primary activity has been to replace stiles with gates (usually kissing gates) to make public paths more accessible to a broad range of users. This work is carried out in agreement with Oxfordshire County Council and the local landowners. One of the group (on this occasion Bob Parry) plans and directs the tasks for the day.

**A Message from Your Editor** - once again this issue is a bit late, as I wanted to get some convention pics in. On sending this by email I have put a direct link to photos so just double click it and it will bring up the galleries.

Next issue closes 23rd May.

Peter Garlick

