

Clubs promote World Sight Day

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November 2016 Edition

105D

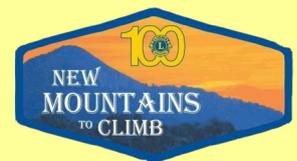


TIMES



The International Association of Lions Clubs
District 105D

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



District Governor 2016 - 2017 · Lion David Taylor
Tel: 07720 443319 dg@lions105d.org.uk

“Celebrating a Centenary of Service”



SAVE OUR WORLD

We hear much in the media about the problems facing the world with regard to the environment and since October 1972 Lions have been encouraged to do what they can to protect and improve the environment. Stuart Gratix (Environmental Officer for 105BN) has come up with a list of simple ideas which every Lion can adopt and advise members of the public to do the same. They may sound obvious but if we all adopt them then we can make a difference!

Save Our World (SOW) Sow and You will Reap the Benefits The following ideas will help

- Only put enough water in the kettle that you need;*
- Don't leave the tap running when cleaning your teeth;*
- Don't spend excessive time in the shower;*
- Only put the washer on when you have a full load;*
- Don't use the spin dryer or tumble dryer when you can hang your washing out;*
- Turn the microwave off when not in use. The clock uses more electricity than it uses when cooking;*
- Don't leave electric items on standby;*
- Don't leave mobiles on charge when fully charged;*
- Don't leave PCs on charge when fully charged;*
- Don't throw edible food away;*
- Don't leave unwanted lights on;*
- Don't leave windows and doors open when the heating is on;*
- Don't leave the engine running when loading or unloading the car;*
- Only flush the toilet on small flush when possible; and*
- Remember to recycle all you can, e.g. batteries, spectacles, hearing aids, etc.*

Adopting these simple ideas will save you money and help the environment

Have you any more useful tips?
If so please share them with me at
judith.goodchild@lions105d.or.uk or
environment@lionsclubs.co

Lions Clubs International FOUNDATION

Introduction

I wrote my last Newsletter on 20 September and made reference to 'the work of LCIF goes on, with natural disasters occurring in different parts of the world with regularity..'. How true this was, with Hurricane Matthew occurring at the end of September into early October with winds up to 145 mph and torrential rain. This hurricane affected the entire Caribbean area, particularly the western edge, and in the USA North Carolina, Florida and Georgia were hit. Hurricane Matthew's path also impacted Newfoundland and Labrador in Canada. To date LCIF has awarded eight emergency grants of £7,500.

In Haiti the Lions were able to immediately respond and Lions and Leos packed and helped distribute 1,500 disaster kits to hurricane victims in more remote regions where help would likely be delayed. The Lions have been in regular communication with LCIF sending updates. The local Lions did report that the homes built following the 2010 earthquake in Blanchard, Cite Soleil were not impacted by the storm. The Lions of Haiti are consulting with local relief agencies (i.e. Red Cross and UNICEF) to identify more strategic approaches for their on-going relief efforts. It is expected that additional requests from other Districts for emergency grants will be received in the coming days.

There are always long-term requirements such as rebuilding and the like. I am certain that LCIF will be helping in Haiti, and also Italy, with not only the immediate aid but also the funding of rebuilding of a particular project or projects in conjunction with the local Lions Clubs.

Thank you on behalf of LCIF to all those Clubs that have donated to the special appeals for Italy and Haiti. If any further Clubs wish to donate, these should be sent to the District Treasurer marked 'LCIF Disaster Fund'. These donations will count towards credits for future Melvin Jones Fellowships.

LCIF Website

I am often being told the LCIF website does not reflect what is done by way of pictorial or other information following both special appeals and other grants. I am discussing this issue with LCIF through the Multiple District LCIF Coordinator.

LCIF video

Notwithstanding my comments above, LCIF has issued a really good video and I urge you to click on the following link to see it. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pw_BWvRgJMdg

LCIF Disaster and Community Recovery Grants

In September LCIF awarded 22 grants totalling £157,500 for Clubs to provide assistance in areas following floods, earthquakes, typhoons and hurricanes.

Melvin Jones Fellowships

Please contact me if your Club wishes to know its credits towards Melvin Jones Fellowships (MJFs) or if help is needed in making an application for a MJF.

Presentations on LCIF

I would be pleased to give presentations to any Club or Zone on LCIF to assist members' understanding its amazing record of funding for disasters, sight, youth and humanitarian needs since 1968.

Lion Patrick Hamblin District 105D LCIF Coordinator

(patrick.hamblin@btinternet.com)



Spot the District Governor!

Well, we're four months into our Centennial year, so let's take time to take stock!

It has been a very enjoyable and interesting period for the District Governor Team. We've visited the vast majority of our Clubs and have been very impressed wherever we have been and would like to thank you all for your hospitality and hard work.

Those of you at Convention may remember that I said that I would like to focus on four things:

- ◆ Membership recruitment and retention through satisfaction;
- ◆ Centennial, especially reporting the activities we already undertake;
- ◆ Our continued support of Special Olympics for those with learning difficulties; and
- ◆ Our global achievements within LCIF.

Membership: We have a net increase of 22 members so far. I believe the session we provided on recruitment and retention was well received by those present. Although some of the ideas may have been heard before, the question to be asked should be "If it worked for another Club, what did they do different from us?" – not "We've tried that before and it didn't work".

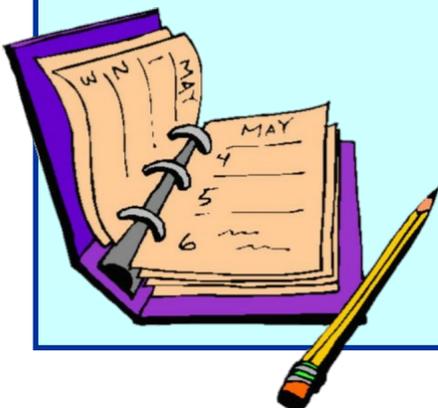
Centennial: I was delighted to receive patches for 40 of our Clubs to acknowledge their contribution to our targets in 2015-16. It should be more but some Clubs are simply not completing their Monthly Activity Reports to show the work they are doing; it's not a check on Clubs, it's a way of building up a larger picture of our efforts to use in future PR releases.

Special Olympics: I am grateful to those Clubs who have contributed to my appeal so far. It was also good to see the local Special Olympics group at the Bournemouth Healthy Living event. We really do need to support this venture – especially as Lions are providing the Families Programme at the national games in Sheffield, the cost of which could be around £25,000. I would be immensely grateful if more Clubs were to donate towards this appeal as soon as possible as we need to finance aspects of this programme in advance.

LCIF: A big 'thank you' to our Clubs who have contributed to LCIF since July; I was proud to see that our District is the largest contributor, donating 20 per cent of the moneys received from this country so far. This is OUR international charity and deserves all the support we can give it.

The subject of redistricting continues to be discussed in the background and all Clubs will have received an indication of the proposed resolution agreed by Council for discussion at the MD Convention. Significantly, the proposal leaves our District largely intact; however, it will depend upon sufficient votes being recorded in Blackpool in March.

Finally, and I make no apology for ending on a sad note, I have attended the funerals of three Lions in recent weeks. The years of dedicated service they have given our District and Lions Clubs International as a whole were humbling and, in acknowledging their contributions, I can only hope to live up to the shining examples they left behind.



DG Lion *David*

District News

DG Team Visits November 2016

DG Lion David

Date	Activity
3 Nov:	IoW Newport Official Visit
5 Nov:	Guernsey Charter Anniversary
9 Nov:	IoW Cowes Official Visit
10 Nov:	IoW Ventnor Branch Official Visit
13 Nov:	Remembrance Day Parade, Cenotaph
14 Nov:	Portsmouth Official Visit
18 Nov:	GMS Fashion Show
20 Nov:	Peace Poster Judging and MD Council Online Meeting
23 Nov:	GMS Club Meeting
24 Nov:	Slough Official Visit
26 Nov:	Jersey Charter Anniversary

1 VDG Lion Peter

Date	Activity
7 Nov:	Southbourne and Boscombe Official Visit
8 Nov:	Crofton Official Visit
9 Nov:	Wokingham Official Visit
10 Nov:	Alton Official Visit
12 Nov:	Southbourne and Boscombe Murder Mystery
14 Nov:	Bracknell Official Visit
22 Nov:	IoW Ryde Official Visit

2 VDG Lion Ken

Date	Activity
15 Nov:	Weymouth & Portland Official Visit

Welcome New Lions!

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

DG Lion *David*

Bracknell - Lions Robert Fulton and Aaron Latimer
Guernsey - Lion Michael Bloy
Havant - Lion Glenn Bramble-Stewart
Hayling Island - Lion Derek Gillard
Maidenhead - Lion Brian Tolkien
Poole - Lion Julie Mills
Romsey - Lion Jane Wilson-Brown
Swanwick - Lions Matthew Frost and Rebecca Frost
Westbury - Lion Maggie Butler
Weymouth & Portland - Lion Bob Underwood
Windsor - Lions Nick Jones, Teresa Jones, Philip Sergeant and Ted Shepherd

HAITI HEARTBREAK

The Lions International Funding has been busy once again following the damage caused by Hurricane Matthew, Lions organisations in Haiti and adjoining islands together with the mainland areas of the United States have been given financial support to assist with emergency needs with the promise of further help once their full need have been investigated and costed.

The situation in Haiti is further complicated by the lack of clean water which has led to an unwelcome epidemic of cholera. The Lions Clubs of the UK have agreed to fund and supply portable purification units to help control the disease. Reading Club has agreed to donate £500 which will cover the cost of two units. If as is expected this will be repeated across the country it is hoped that the epidemic can be contained and conquered very soon

Further information on all the Clubs' activities may be obtained by logging on to www.readinglions.org.uk

Leadership Institutes

I have details of two Leadership Institutes which will take place in early 2017.

There will be a Regional Lions Leadership Institute (RLLI) in Birmingham from Friday to Sunday 24 to 26 February 2017 in Birmingham (closing date for receipt of applications is Friday 2 December 2016) and an Advanced Lions Leadership Institute (ALLI) from Saturday to Monday 4 to 6 March 2017 in Malaga, Spain (closing date for receipt of applications is Monday 19 December 2016).

I have details of both Institutes along with the necessary application forms.

If any Lion is interested then please contact me, even if all you want at this stage is a chat and to seek further details of the involvement required.

Lion David Merchant – GLT District Coordinator david_merchant@btinternet.com or 01635 46495

News from the Clubs

Lions' View of Fleet honours the Centennial



Now here's a legacy and a half for our community. Fleet Lions gave their local nature conservation group, Fleet Pond Society, a grant of £12,000 (their biggest ever by far) to build a major new viewpoint to overlook Hampshire's biggest freshwater lake, Fleet Pond. The Lions grant paid for the bits and the Pond Society and chums screwed it all together! And what a great pleasure it was for the Lions to hear that the Pond Society had decided the new platform would be named Lions' View. To top it off the Pond Society have installed a plaque to commemorate the Lions centennial. The public are using the viewpoint frequently which is fully accessible to prams, wheelchairs and mobility scooters. And they are very excited and appreciative of the new views it has opened up. It is a fitting tribute to the Lions International centenary.

Fleet Lions had been involved with the nature reserve for years after Lion Linda Picton from Hart Lions had introduced us and our former Leo Club to their conservation tasks (slash and burn generally!). We saw all the amazing things that were going on to help restore the Pond in the last few years and as a major voluntary group in the local community we felt we needed to do our bit too. We asked what was on the Pond Society's wish list that they didn't have funding for. A new viewpoint was the reply. The cost was expected to be around £12,000 just for the materials. Our members were keen to help provide this major improvement for people's enjoyment at the Pond which is one of our biggest local amenities. But there were no viewpoints to enjoy the scenery and wildlife from the side of the lake where in the past Geoffrey de Havilland had tested his floatplanes.

So we agreed to fund the cost of construction materials. The Society's volunteers cleared the area (we did a bit too!) before constructing this major piece of engineering.

Fleet Pond was dug out as a medieval fishery to supply the Bishop of Winchester and was designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest to protect its wildlife, one of the first in the United Kingdom. Unfortunately that didn't stop the Ministry of Defence allowing silt to wash down from their nearby land into it after they chopped the tops of a few local hills as part of the privatisation of their airport at Farnborough. The situation became so bad that it was possible to walk across the lake without the water going above your knees. The water was permanently murky and hardly anything could live in it.



The Pond Society had been lobbying for many years to rectify the situation and a new piece of legislation, the Water Framework Directive required that it was sorted out. Major funds were made available by the Environment Agency and Natural England to allow the Pond to be partially dredged and the Pond's owners, the local (Hart) council, also made funds available. The MoD also got stuck in with new measures to stop further silt ingress into the lake. So far over £1m has been spent dredging and creating new islands for water birds with the silt and the project has won a sustainability award from the Institution of Civil Engineers.

Pictured left: Charter member Lion Graham Cooper and 'pondie' Mandy Saxby

In Memoriam

The 105D Times records with sadness the passing to higher service of P.D.G Lion Albert Whittle M.J.F. Wimborne & Ferndown Lions Club are sad to report the passing of Lion Albert their last surviving Charter Member respected by all.

During his 47 years' service he held many offices including District Governor in 1977/78 and was proud to be a Melvin Jones Fellow. Although in his 89th year he was active in all Club activities until his illness. Albert was a Lion and Club member through and through and his knowledge, guidance and advice will be sorely missed.

Clubs publicise World Sight Day

World Sight Day in Basingstoke

Once again the good people of Basingstoke, along with opticians Boots, Leighton's, Specs Warehouse and Vision Express, heeded the call from the Basingstoke Lions Club and produced a healthy number of redundant spectacles for recycling and distribution to those countries where they will be most needed. Other organisations who contributed included Open Sight, Helping Hands for the Blind, the Macular Disease Society, the Council's Sensory Team, the Housebound Library and Festival Place and the Malls who hosted the event.

The Lion (pictured below), as ever, proved to be a popular collector of specs and received many an 'aaah' and an 'ooh' from various donors (not just the children!), allowing himself

to be peered at and metaphorically 'measured' as part of free competition to guess his height.

The winner will receive two tickets to a Lions musical event of his or her choice.

Our sincere thanks go to everyone for making our World Sight Day a success.



“ A very spooky experience for a very worthy cause...” Councillor Jackie Stayt, Mayor of Blandford, as Amanda Cordery of the Dorset Blind Association guided her around the streets.

Blandford & District Lions supported World Sight Day and arranged for a member of Dorset Blind Association (fundraiser Amanda Cordrey) to accompany the blind-folded Mayor of Blandford, Jackie Stayt, around the streets of the town on a busy market day. The fact it was a busy day made the walk far more demanding with many obstacles (both human and otherwise) dotted all over the Market Square.

Our picture shows Amanda explaining to Jackie how the blind use crossings when there is no sound signal by placing her hand under the box to feel the wheel that turns.

The day was a financial success, also, with over £110 being collected by Blandford Lions in an hour and a half – this will be donated to the Dorset Blind Association.



Hayling Island Lions walk the streets for World Sight Day

To mark World Sight Day on Thursday 13 October Hayling Lions took to the streets. They set up an information stand and invited members of the public, and three very brave volunteers from Hayling College, to wear eye masks and use a white stick in order to experience some of the difficulties involved in going shopping when you have a sight impairment. The Mayor of Havant and a Hampshire County Councillor also took part. Shoppers passing by were interested in the event and although some were reluctant to have a go themselves, many donated their loose change and £61.27 was raised.

The photograph shows Hayling President Lion Cathy Shoebridge guiding a pupil from Hayling College.



More news from the Clubs



Weymouth and Portland Lions and Purbeck Motocross celebrated their 34th Annual Beach Motocross on Weymouth sands in front of an estimated 20,000 spectators. More than 300 riders from all over the south of England took part on this thrilling and spectacular event which raised more than £2,500 for the Club's charity fund. The event, first held in 1982, was probably the most successful the Club has ever staged. The weather was perfect and the unexpected warm autumn sunshine meant that everyone could enjoy their day out.



Lions join with the Mayor in raising the flag on United Nations Day

President Lion Mark Lockie joined the Mayor and Councillors of Weymouth and Portland to mark United Nations Day by raising the UN flag at the Council offices. Lion Mark said: "In 2017 Lions Clubs International will be 100 years old and the United Nations was formed 71 years ago in 1945. The ideal of an international organisation is exemplified by our enduring relationship with the United Nations. Lions were one of the first non-governmental organisations invited to assist in the drafting of the UN Charter and we have supported the UN ever since. Lions Clubs International extends its mission of service every day in local communities in all corners of the globe. The needs are great and our services are in constant demand. We in Weymouth are proud to celebrate the anniversary of the founding of the UN and are pleased to pledge our continuing support."



Cheers to a great charity fundraiser!

The Wickham Charity Beer Festival now regularly attracts more than five hundred real ale aficionados to the events each April and October. The October beer festival was the seventeenth and Meon Valley Lions Club has supported 15 of those events.

Locals Dave, Mike, Ashley and team have organised the Festival during all that time and as well as being a great community event, it has raised a heap of cash for charity. After this latest festival they announced that they have raised over £110,000 for various charities over the 17-year period. We checked our records and we have raised a further £11,500 through our BBQ activities during that time. That's a lot of help for those in need in this part of Hampshire, so well done to everyone involved.

In a typical year we reckon we serve around half a tonne of sausages and burgers via our BBQ service. Our local suppliers and sponsors at Westland's Farm Shop, McCarthy's Superstall and Tesco's Fareham provide quality ingredients at heavily discounted rates, which allows us to turn more of the sales into income for our charity account.

Here's to the April festival!

Photograph: Lion Pete Meadows – Super chef!



TAIL TWISTER

The Editor has the last word

Every month my Club's Constitution and Membership chairman produces an age profile of our members. Not surprisingly we are all getting older but while that is merely nature taking its course, what is slightly worrying is that our average age (of 45 members) is 61. We have but one Lion under the age of 40 but 19 aged 60 and more. Why are we not attracting younger members?

Thus I was impressed by the findings of the Recruitment and Retention Evening held early in October and it is only their length that has prevented me reprinting the notes from the meeting in this edition of the 105D Times. However they can be found on www.lions105d.org.uk/recruitment. Some good ideas there and I commend them to any Club looking to strengthen its membership.

At a recent function for Jersey's retiring Lt Governor (the Queen's representative), he said he believed there was probably no-one in the Island who, in his five year term, had not been touched by the Lions' philanthropy. Isn't that the sort of service organisation that anyone of good intent would want to join?

Lion Peter Tabb

Lions' Tail...

STOP PRESS

Congratulations to the Lions Clubs of Bournemouth, Bridport, Hythe & Waterside, Romsey and Westbury on being granted Club Excellence awards by LCI for 2015-2016, including membership growth and LCIF contributions.

Well done and thank you!

DG Lion *David*

www.lions105d.org.uk/awards



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 peteretabb@gmail.com
at least a week before the end of the month