



**Weymouth & Portland Waders make a splash!**



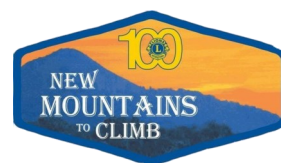
**Petersfield's Mayor accepts Lions' challenge - see page 6**

**105D LIONS INTERNATIONAL TIMES**  
MAY 2017 EDITION



**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”***





## Community Relations News

Have you ever been in hospital and needed any medical essentials out of normal working hours? If so SERVE WESSEX or SERVE OBN will have come to your rescue. SERVE WESSEX (covering Hampshire, Dorset and Wiltshire) had a stand at our last Convention but SERVE OBN (covering Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire) has a similar function.

Not only do their volunteers transport blood but they also deliver urgently needed platelets, samples, documents, donated human milk and other medical essentials that a hospital may require. They operate within their areas but if necessary will go further afield. All this takes place between 19:00 and 8:00 365 days a year and there is a 24 hour service at weekends and Bank Holidays. This is a vital service and saves the NHS a great deal of money. They are always looking for bike riders and financial help. If you would like to find out more go to [www.servwessex.org.uk](http://www.servwessex.org.uk) or [www.serv.org.uk](http://www.serv.org.uk). This is not a District Charity so any donations should be made directly to the organisations.

Hearing Dogs for the Deaf featured at both our own and the MD Conventions. Here in 105D we have raised £10,000 and 'bought' our dog but we are now trying to raise enough for another one so please support this worthy cause. There is often a wait of several years before a hard of hearing person can be provided with a dog. The dogs become faithful companions giving their owners security and a new life.

*Lion Judith Goodchild*

105D Community Relations Portfolio Holder

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## SUCCESS ONCE AGAIN AT THE CIRCLE

The Circle Hospital again hosted the Reading Lions Club's fifth P.S.A. test day event on Saturday 11 March 2017 following the record braking attendance last year.

The event was extended to a full day to offset the slow through-put of the high numbers attending the event of last year. It was planned to open the doors at 9.30 am but with the high build-up of early attendees the doors were opened at 8.30 am to ease the pressure. Once the initial crowd had been processed a steady stream of men were able to be tested without any long delay and by the end of the day a new record of 1,500 men had given blood samples including some well-known local residents such as the Mayor of Reading, Councillor Mohammed Ayub and Sir John Madejski.

The blood samples once processed will be examined and assessed by consultant urologist Baxter-Smith and the results sent to each individual only in order to preserve privacy.

He indicates the results of each test via a traffic light type system. Red is very serious and a recommendation given to seek urgent medical attention for further investigation and action. Yellow is a warning that attention maybe required in the future and that medical attention be conducted at regular intervals. Green is the welcome all clear good news with a recommendation that another test sample be given in 12 months' time.

The good news is that in our past four years of running this test scheme more than 3,000 men have had this painless and symple test with at least 70 being advised to seek urgent medical attention thus, we hope, saving lives and future sadness.

The Club would like to record thanks to the Circle Hospital the staff and the volunteer team of nurses and the local media for advertising the event. All the volunteers who helped Club members to make the event as stress-free as possible and finally to thank all those who held events and made donations in various ways. This is a great to help reduce the expenditure of the event upon the Club funds and permit it to continue to be delivered to the population free of charge.

# Page Three David's Diary



## How to make a silk purse out of a sow's ear



I was not alone in thinking the Multiple District Convention in Blackpool would be a nightmare. Reviews about the hotel and the Convention Hall did not bode well. Moreover, the standard of behaviour during the debate at last year's Convention, and some of the ill-informed messages posted on Facebook this year, meant this year was anticipated with trepidation.

However, while the accommodation lived down to expectations for many people, the Convention was well organized with passionate, but polite, debate and followed by a banquet and ball that had everyone singing and dancing to a brilliant DJ (those who went to Manchester may remember him). Thank you, Blackpool! And thank you to the MD Conventions team and host committee.

In passing, having given my page over last month to the Editor for his excellent review of our own highly successful convention, I would like now to praise the efforts of our District committee supported by Bournemouth Lions host club. A great weekend from start to finish, THANK YOU all.

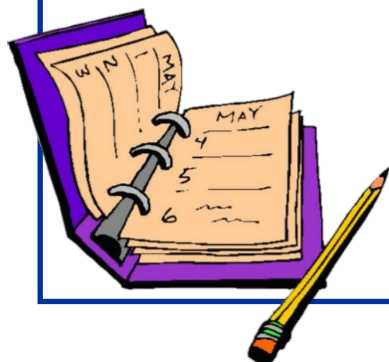
Returning to the MD Convention, we now know who our next International Director will be; congratulations to Lion Geoff Leeder on his election and best wishes for 2018-2020.

With regard to reducing the subsidy for partners' travel to International Conventions, 60% of the delegates agreed with the resolution from Alton and Meon Valley, however the resolution failed to be voted in because such a change requires a two-thirds majority.

Finally, redistricting. After the passionate debate previously mentioned, the vote was clearly in favour – 245 votes for and 158 against. The decision has yet to be ratified by the International Board in October, after which DG-Elect Lion Peter Burnett and his team will be able to set to work welcoming some and saying farewell to others.

The plan is to have eight Districts, all above the 1,250 minimum figure. However, despite recruiting 73 new members since July, we have lost 86 (9 to higher service). We have to look at our retention as much as our recruiting – every President was provided with material in July, especially regarding 'Our Club, Our Way' and we have held a well-attended recruitment and retention seminar. Families the world over experience new blood and loss, we are no different, but while you cannot choose your relatives, you can choose your friends – and we need to keep that friendship alive in good and bad times.

I am proud of this District, proud of our achievements and proud of the work undertaken by all of our members – in Clubs large and small. A very sincere, "Thank You" for all your efforts and hard work, however now let's do our best to stick together, look forward, continue to recruit... and maybe even invite some of those who have left to rejoin us!?



DG Lion *David*

# Matters of Moment

## **DG Team Visits**

### **May 2017**

#### **DG Lion David**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>
5 May:	GMS Quiz Night
7 May:	Paulton's Park
8 May:	Finance meeting, Conference Call
10 May:	GMS Lions Club meeting
12 May:	Trowbridge Charter Anniversary Dinner
14 May:	Hart Charter Anniversary Lunch
15 May:	Windsor Club Meeting
20 May:	Yateley Charter Anniversary Dinner
21 May:	District Cabinet Meeting
24 May:	GMS Club Meeting

#### **DG-elect Lion Peter**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>
2 May:	Wimborne & Ferndown Club Meeting
4 May:	Poole Club Meeting
5 May:	Southbourne & Boscombe Quiz
6 May:	Westbury Charter Anniversary
7 May:	Paulton's Park
8 May:	Finance meeting, Conference Call
9 May:	MD Convention 2016 Organising Committee meeting
11 May:	Trowbridge Official Visit
20 May:	Wimborne & Ferndown Obstacle Fun Run & Fareham Charter Anniversary
21 May:	District Cabinet Meeting & Incoming Officers' Training
22 May:	Incoming Officers' Training
25 May:	A much needed holiday to Cyprus!

## **LIONS WISDOM**

The most read publication in the United Kingdom is the *Tesco* magazine.

## **Lions Clubs International FOUNDATION**

#### **Introduction**

As always, thank you to those Clubs that have donated recently to LCIF. Our own charity's mission is 'to support the efforts of Lions Clubs and partners in serving communities locally and globally, giving hope and impacting lives through humanitarian projects and grants' and I continue to believe this has been demonstrated very well over the last 49 years.

#### **Disaster grants**

Natural disasters continue to cause major problems around the world. 15 disaster grants were awarded in March to Lions Clubs in various parts of the world to assist with disaster relief to assist following tornados, earthquakes, wildfires, flood, windstorm, mudslide and a cyclone.

#### **Haiti update**

Many of you will remember the project in Haiti to construct a building housing vocational training classrooms at the Montfort School for the Deaf, Port-au-Prince, Haiti, following the earthquake in 2010. This was a joint MD105 and LCIF project. I am pleased to report that the building was completed in March this year. The project was not without difficulties in this very poor country, hence the delay. There have of course been further earthquakes in Haiti since the devastating one in 2010.

#### **LCIF East Africa Appeal**

LCIF has now issued an appeal for funds to support the Kenyan Lions and Lions from any other African country who are assisting with the longer term needs of refugees from the drought and war-torn parts of East Africa. Donations will be eligible for MJF credit. Please make any donation in the usual way via the District Treasurer and marked 'LCIF East Africa appeal'

#### **LCIF Measles and Rubella Initiative**

Please do not forget the LCIF Measles and Rubella initiative to avoid 400 children dying unnecessarily every day. I do hope your Club can make a donation, or further donation, to the LCIF Measles and Rubella Initiative. Any donations should be made via the District Treasurer, with payments to 'LCI 105D Measles'.

#### **Melvin Jones Fellowships (MJFs)**

Don't forget that your Club is likely to have a credit towards Melvin Jones Fellowships. Please contact me to ascertain your Club's credit.

#### **Other LCIF matters**

Please contact me if you have any questions relating to LCIF, MJFs, etc. Why not take a look at the LCIF website. The link is <http://www.lcif.org/EN/index.php>.

*PDG Lion Patrick Hamblin*  **ONE SHOT ONE LIFE**  
District 105D LCIF Coordinator)

patrick.hamblin@lions105d.org.uk



# News from the Clubs



## Weymouth Wade makes a big splash!

Weymouth beach was buzzing on Easter Sunday when the Weymouth & Portland Lions Club's new event, the 'Weymouth Wade', was launched. Demon the Sea Witch from *Pirates of the Caribbean* and Roger the Lion helped former Carnival Queen Gina Hartley kick things off with a rousing warm-up session. More than 50 waders then took to the sea and splashed their way from the Pavilion and then splashed their way back along the sands to the finish. Waders included Mayoress Caroline Churchill and Carnival Queen Claudia Webb, as well as two former Carnival Queens, Lucy Compton and Gina Hartley.

One of the organisers, Lion Bob Underwood said, "This is a brand new event for the Club and we didn't know whether or not it would work so we were a little apprehensive. We've been busy planning for several months and we were delighted when the sun came out and stayed out and more than 50 people joined in for the first Weymouth Wade. So a big thank you to them all for making the event a great success. Financially we probably broke even but we believe that several hundred pounds was raised by Waders through their own sponsorship which makes it all worthwhile."

The event had good media coverage on TV, radio and the local and national press.

## Teams wanted to make another really BIG splash!! *The 21st Windsor Lions Annual Swimathon is up and running to help local good causes to raise funds*

The Windsor Lions are looking for even more teams to enter this year's swimathon, **The Big Splash!**, one of the Club's major fundraisers of the year, to be held on Sunday 15 October at Windsor Leisure Pool. Already 21 teams have entered but with a target of at least 60 teams, there is still plenty of time for local good causes to seize this fun opportunity to raise funds for themselves.

Event organiser Lion Mike Sells, enthuses: "I am thrilled by the response so far of local good causes but we have plenty of capacity for more teams. This really is a great opportunity for local organisations which need to raise funds to enter a swimming team and reap 100 per cent of the sponsorship money they attract. We are aiming for a best ever Big Splash! this year - so organisations out there in need of funds, here is the opportunity."

Over the years this popular event has raised almost £175,000 for local good causes. Schools, sports clubs, service organisations and hundreds of individuals have benefitted as a direct result of this event which offer a very simple and straightforward way of raising funds. Teams of eight swimmers swim in turn for 55 minutes and raise funds through their sponsorship. The Windsor Lions organise and staff the event so all the teams have to do is find the swimmers and attract sponsors.

Lion Mike concludes: "We are appealing to local charities and other groups who need funding to enter one or more teams. Entries will be treated on a 'first come, first served' basis."

Lion Mike Sells can be contacted on mobile 0845 833 4749 or by email [mikepsells@gmail.com](mailto:mikepsells@gmail.com) or see [www.windsorlions.co.uk](http://www.windsorlions.co.uk).



# More news from the Clubs



## Petersfield's Blind Walk

**Petersfield Town Mayor James Deane joined Petersfield Lions Club at 2.00 pm on Saturday 1 April to take part in their "Blind Walk" along Petersfield High Street.**

The Mayor donned a blindfold and with the aid of a white stick and guided by Petersfield president Lion Mike Piatek proceeded along the High Street. The event was organised to highlight the problems visually impaired people encounter and to promote the Lions' "SpekTrek spectacles recycling programme."

After the event Town Mayor James Deane commented: "I thought this would be quite easy but despite all the safety precautions being taken and depending largely on my guide Lion Mike Piatek, I actually found the experience quite unnerving. Even though I had known Petersfield since 1952 and was blindfolded for a relatively short time, it is incredible how quickly I became disorientated, relying on other senses such as sound and smell to judge where I was - smells such as the Burger Stand and noises such as the chiming of St Peter's Church clock. Kerbs are also very difficult even when warned of them. It was certainly a very different experience for me. The Petersfield Lions, as ever, do a brilliant job with this kind of initiative and I wish the project well. It is certainly more than well worth doing."

The ten white canes used on the 'Blind Walk' have been donated to 'Open Sight'.

SpekTrek is a venture the Petersfield Lions Club have pursued since 1982, collecting more than 100,000 used spectacles each year from Lions Clubs in the south of England and the Channel Islands, for transportation to Chichester from where they are ultimately sent on to Third World countries.

## Poppy Seeds in Newbury

The Lions Club of Newbury has been working closely with Newbury Town Council and its plans to commemorate World War I. In addition to other events, including a vigil at the Town's War Memorial in honour of the fallen at the Somme which also involved some of the Lions, the Town Council proposed sowing poppy seeds at various locations within its boundaries. The Lions purchased the seeds, along with sand to assist with the sowing, and offered to be involved with the sowing as well. The locations included primary schools and areas representing the Town's history during major conflicts. When visiting the schools, Lions explained the significance of the poppy and the process involved to ensure succession planting takes place and provide an even greater show of remembrance. Not only has this worthwhile experience added to the Club's involvement with the Heritage element of the Centennial Celebrations it has cemented our links with local Schools and the Town Council.



*Youngsters sowing poppy seeds at the Falkland Memorial*

## Long service awards for Blandford Lions

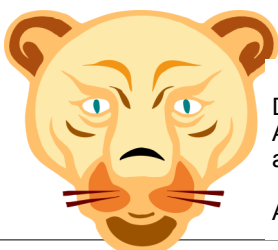
At their April Club meeting Blandford and District Lions Club awarded Long Service Medallions to two of members, President Lion Ian Corben and Lion Ron Selby. The awards, pictured below, were made by DG-Elect Lion Peter Burnett.



*DG-Elect Peter and Lion Ian*



*DG-Elect Peter and Lion Ron*



## Basingstoke's Lenny's name in lights!

Flushed with pride at being awarded The Leo Plumley Award for Community Service at the 105D District Convention a week earlier, the Basingstoke Lions sent Lenny to tread the boards on Saturday 1 April in the entertaining variety show organised by the Basingstoke Breast Cancer Self-Help Group, held at Queen Mary's College Hall, Basingstoke.

Lenny and Lions' Friend Rob Lenoir displayed their 'acting talents' (?) portraying 'The Lion and Albert' from the poem by Scottish poet Marriott Edgar and made famous by Stanley Holloway in 1930.

# Even more News

## Ferrying the specs

Hovertravel have helped the IOW Lions Clubs by carrying the annual collection of spectacles to the mainland free of charge for the fifth year running. This year a record number of specs - 7,564 pairs collected from opticians, supermarkets and shops on the Island, went to Portsmouth where they were picked up by Portsmouth Lions. This year the specs were carried by *Solent Flyer*, a brand new super quiet hovercraft. Pictured above Lions, suitably spectacted, load the vessel.



## 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*

**Fleet** - Lion John Porter

**Poole** - Lion William Lane

**Sandown & Shanklin** - Lions Debbie Styles and Paul Young

**Westbury** - Lions Sue Brown, Anthony Moxey and Jaki Stephen

**Wokingham** - Lion John Allen

## SpekTrek Spectacular!



**Wimborne and Ferndown Lions**, along with other Lions Clubs, have been collecting unwanted pairs of spectacles which are then refurbished, cleaned and graded and prepared for sending to countries where eye care is often unavailable and lens making facilities non-existent. Over the years Lions in the UK Southern Region have collected nearly three million pairs.

This year Wimborne and Ferndown Lions themselves have collected 5,900 pairs and the total assembled from the area was 22,482 pairs. Bournemouth, Southbourne and Boscombe, Christchurch, Lymington and Brockenhurst, Poole and Ringwood & Fordingbridge Lions Clubs all contributed. The Club would like to thank the local opticians and doctors' surgeries who have contributed to the collecting process.

Pictured are some Lions members with some of the collection boxes assembled outside Ferndown Upper School

***\*It has been calculated that the cost of the scheme (paid by the Lions) is around 5p per pair.***



## Funding St Margaret's Hospice

Blackmore Vale President Lion Ian Simson, with Lions George Wagland and Colin Madeod, present a cheque for £2,500 to Victoria Poole, Community Fundraiser for St Margaret's Hospice, at the Hospice's Yeovil facility on Thursday 30 March 2017.

St Margaret's Hospice was the chosen charity to benefit from this year's annual Blackmore Vale Lions Half Marathon.

The Blackmore Vale Lions are pleased to present this cheque to this very worthwhile charity as this type of beneficial aid fits exactly into the type of service to the local community that Lions Clubs around the world take great pleasure in supporting.

The Club wishes St Margaret's Hospice and their team every success in their quest to maintain this vital service to the community.

## In Memoriam

The Lions Club of Cosham reports with great sadness the passing to Higher Service of Lion Allison Turner M.J.F. (73). Lion Allison became a Lion in 2008 (joining husband John, a Lion since the 1990s), serving both as Club President and Treasurer.

A committed and busy Lion, Lion Allison was also president and treasurer of the local Conservative Club, treasurer on her church council and volunteered at a local infants' school and the City Museum.

Although not at all well she knew her husband was to be presented with a Melvin Jones Fellowship at the Club's recent 50<sup>th</sup> Charter Anniversary and she was determined to be there. What she did not know was that she too would be awarded the same honour at that same event

That is the picture of her that Cosham Lions will long hold dear.





# TAIL TWISTER

*The Editor has the last word*

It would seem that, despite the foreboding, the MD Convention was significantly better than anticipated. The DG's comment about the venue echoed my own experience of an MD Convention in the late 1990s where that same venue was so awful that we were being refunded our accommodation costs in full as the hotel's front door fell into the car park, fortunately without injuring anybody.

It seems that the thorny subject of redistricting may now be settled (subject, of course to HQ USA's approval) and that 105D is likely to have survived almost intact.

However, even if the spectre of 'transition' is lifted, we still need to recruit new Lions and endeavour to keep the ones we have to enable us to live up to our founder's expectations. We can only serve provided there is enough of us to do so. How much good we are able to do is manifest in these pages.

*Lion Peter Tabb*

## Lion's Tail...



As part of their youth programme, Meon Valley Lions were pleased to support the 1<sup>st</sup> Swanmore Scouts in funding the purchase of three new tents, which they desperately needed – a hike tent, a pop-up tent and a general-purpose tent for summer camps.



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](mailto:news@lions105d.org.uk) and/or [peteretabb@gmail.com](mailto:peteretabb@gmail.com)  
at least a week before the end of the month