

## **CONSTITUTION, NOMINATIONS & RESOLUTIONS - PCC Lion John Goodchild**

Following last year's Convention, I advised our Association's International Office of the names of the successful candidates in the ballots for District Governor, First and Second Vice District Governors 2013-2014. The International Office was also advised of the substance and results of the voting on the Resolutions considered by the Delegates at Convention. The District Constitution was revised in line with the decisions taken at Convention and the revised version was (and continues to be) published on the District Website.

Following revision of the District Constitution, it came to light that there was one 'knock on' matter which had not been dealt with. Accordingly, Cabinet will be proposing a Resolution at this year's Convention to resolve the matter. From my point of view, there are no other matters arising from Convention 2013.

The Convention 2014 Call was issued by the District Governor in August 2013, together with a call for nominations to the posts of District Governor, First and Second Vice District Governors 2014-2015, any Resolutions to be considered at Convention 2014 and Invitations to host Convention 2016. The District Cabinet have accepted a proposal to host Convention 2015. This will be presented to Convention 2014 for approval.

By the closing date for receipt of nominations, resolutions and invitations:

- One nomination had been received for the post of District Governor 2014-2015
- One nomination had been received for the post of First Vice District Governor 2014-2015
- Two nominations had been received for the post of Second Vice District Governor 2014-2015. This will require an election by secret ballot at Convention.
- Five Resolutions had been received for debate at Convention 2014, all being from the District Cabinet.
- No invitation was received to host Convention 2016.

Details of the above Nominations and Resolutions were circulated to clubs by the due date and are to be found elsewhere in the Convention Brochure. I can confirm that all candidates are fully qualified (as defined by the Constitution and By-Laws of our International Association) to stand for the posts to which they have been nominated.

At the time of writing (Early January 2014) no amendments have been received to the above mentioned Resolutions, however the closing date for receipt of these by me is Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2014 so it is possible that the situation may change. Should this be the case, Clubs will be advised accordingly, well in advance of Convention.

## **IMMEDIATE PAST DISTRICT GOVERNOR – IPDG Lion Roger Munday**

My roller coaster ride to becoming and being District Governor started in Torquay at the Multiple District Convention in 2006, during my year as President of Fleet Lions, when I heard Fred Massey talking to Christine on our way back from the Convention centre. Later, I received encouragement from my dear Christine, Roger Huntley, Pat Nixon and Brigid Hendy to name a few.

I became the second Lion to be 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Governor after Ron Twining at the Isle of Wight Convention after having served as Zone Chairman and then Region Chairman twice. I had been a Lion for six years. However, I had been a Rotarian for 18 years before that, 17 of those years were served in South Africa where Community Service really was foremost in the minds Service Club members.

We underwent training for each year, including DG School at international Convention in Busan, South Korea, and started building bonds with my fellow Vice Governors. We and our wives, husband (in one instance) and partners became a cohesive unit and that continues into our "past-it" years. A real blessing and that is what has lead to lasting friendships and a real party holiday in Hamburg.

Having served on Cabinet for seven consecutive years I am wondering what I should do now? Like all Governors, a lot of time has been spent by fellow Lions training me. Lions Administration money as well as Christine's and my savings has been spent on me and I owe Lions a return on that investment, not to hang on to office, but to share the benefits of that investment for Lions and the organisation.

As Second Vice Governor I visited a third of our clubs, quite a few Zone meetings and Charter Anniversaries and travelled the district meeting lions and sharing their experiences. As First Vice Governor I was asked to concentrate on Zone meetings and was guest at more Charter Anniversaries and apart from the GMT and training it was a quieter year. Christine and I went "overseas" to Guernsey for their Charter and we entertained to a really good Youth band. On the next day President Brian took us to the Island's Remembrance Day ceremony which was truly amazing with four Chelsea pensioners in attendance. During both of those years training continued and experience was gained.

Then Busan! I had worked in Seoul for a while when I was Club President, Christine had come for a visit in the middle of that assignment and we had loved the life in the city. Busan was much the same, being the second city; we found good and low cost places to eat, avoided the more than \$20 each for hotel breakfast at the supermarket chain I had found while in Seoul had been bought out by Tesco! We all graduated from DG School.

This adventure over we returned to the real world of being the leaders of our District and the Council of Governor's combining that leadership into the Governing body of the Multiple District. This was a most challenging and enjoyable experience and the bonds created over the two previous years helped us to work in a cohesive manner as a team.

In the district I visited the balance of the clubs, supported some of the time by a driver from Fleet Lions and almost all the time by Christine. During my year as Governor I was working full time and had to use all my leave for Lions purposes. In addition to the Club visits Christine and I attended 45 Charter Anniversaries. The most we did in one weekend was three Charters with several at two a weekend.

I had some of my own ideas, as all Governors do, and met some resistance in the District. I was honoured to be able to meet all the Lions I could during the Year. My Club could not have been more supportive, although a lot of the members thought I was crazy to undertake such a role while still working but the thinking behind having a Governor team with two Vice Governors makes the working Governor a reality. In practice it is extremely hard work and leaves one worn out at the end of the year. If I hear the term "Cabinet is too big" again my only retort will be try being Governor without the support of a great team.

I made a lot of friends and I promoted Community Service as a way to show the public what we do as an organisation thereby being the best membership tool we have. I promote the then International President's programs such as:

- Reading Action Program
- Club Excellence Awards

I received an award of an Acrylic open Book on behalf of the Clubs who partook in the Reading Action Scheme. Well done to those clubs. The only thing I had to complain about the award was the invoice I received for £17 for Customs duty for the import of the award from the USA!

I am pleased to report that 11 of our clubs achieved Club Excellence Awards. The criteria are to achieve positive membership growth and community service projects undertaken. Well done to those clubs and I am sure there are more in the District that would have qualified.

I also promoted Young Leaders in Service awards both as an encouragement and acknowledgement of service to our young people and as a membership tool by involving parents and youth leaders in our activities. In my view this supports the search for Young Ambassadors.

In conclusion I have to say that yes it was a roller coast ride of successes and failures but it was a most invigorating experience meeting all the people on route. Would I do it again....NO... but I do not have any regrets about undertaking the role.

I hope you do not regret having me as you District Governor and I hope I can encourage others to follow me, What an experience. Go for it!

Thank you all.

Roger Munday

#### **District Secretary Report – PDG Lion Godwin Micallef**

As usual, my role this year has been similar to prior years which include minute taking at various District meetings and supporting the Clubs with District mailings and assistance, when requested.

Last year, I mentioned that I will be placing the monthly mailings on the District web site rather than sending numerous, and sometimes large, attachments via email. The other objectives was to provide a one year History of mailings, which would save Secretaries having to store this information on their PC's, and also to make it available to other Lions, as well as the Public. This process is now in operation and the mailings can be accessed at

<http://www.lions105d.org.uk/index/secretary.html>

The other suggestions were to minimise costs of printing and postage by having other information on the web site.  
E.g.

1. The District Directory is now an online version only, which saves time and costs in having it printed and delivered to Clubs. More importantly, it is regularly updated, as and when I am notified of changes, therefore it will always show the current Club Officers, meeting locations etc.

Some of these have already changed throughout the year, and the Directory reflects this.

**This Directory information is restricted, and is only accessible by authorised Club and District Officers.**

Please note that the LCI website should be kept up to date, with any changes to member's details and/or meeting places/dates etc. Unfortunately, there is no mechanism to provide me with such changes, therefore please make me aware of any changes relating to the Club President, Secretary, Treasurer or to meeting dates/locations.

The other important factor is that MDHQ now also uses the LCI database, to create the MD Directory. Therefore, it is important that all the information is accurate.

2. Convention Books are a summary of our year, in preparation for our Annual General Meeting/Convention. A lot of information will have already been provided to Clubs, by the Convention date. Again, to save the time, effort and cost of printing and delivering such 'repetitive' information, this is now on our District website for all Lions, and the Public, to see. <http://www.lions105d.org.uk/about/convention.html>

As ever, I am here to help you, therefore please feel free to contact me if you need any assistance.

#### **District Treasurer Report – Lion Linda Picton**

Thank you to all club treasurers for ensuring that payments continue to be made on time. Your cooperation is much appreciated. Many clubs now benefit from the efficiencies provided by on-line banking. This can be configured to offer the usual safeguards and may even result in financial and time savings. Please let me know if your club would like any assistance with this.

Financial information page on District 105D website is regularly updated with information and aims to provide answers to those frequently asked questions. Please let me know of any other items that could be of interest.

End of Year final accounts for both the Administration and Charitable Trust 2012-2013 have been confirmed by our independent examiner. My thanks go to Messrs Gilroy and Brookes, Accountants, for efficiently inspecting our accounts and making our reporting deadlines achievable.

Documents can be viewed on District 105D website financial information page and the link has been circulated to all clubs. I am pleased to report that the worst-case scenario expenditure was not realised and reserve funds remain at an acceptable level. This is due in the main to careful decisions by District Officers, many of whom did not fully claim items of expenditure allowable under the current guidelines. These final accounts as recommended by the Finance Committee and endorsed by Cabinet are to be taken to Convention for ratification. Please can I encourage club members to read the annual report and accounts? If there are any areas that are felt to need further explanation, it would be appreciated if these could be flagged with me in advance of Convention. This will allow me to be in a position to make informed and concise answers to any queries that may arise on the day.

District 105D Administration Account Expenditure YTD (December 2013) appears to be on target at this mid-point in the year. Details can be found in the relevant column on the Proposed BUDGET PLAN 2014-2015. This plan was prepared with the benefit of historical spending patterns, and an insight into the future structure of the committees and Cabinet. This was reviewed by the Finance Committee and endorsed by Cabinet in October 2013 and is recommended to Convention. I am sure you will be relieved that no immediate increase in dues is planned. However current trends indicate the actual membership figures may fall short of those used for budgetary purposes resulting in an income gap. All clubs are encouraged to review their income and expenditure plans for the year and to ensure that dues are set to adequately cover annual membership fees and other administrative costs associated with the club.

Once again, clubs have made an amazing response to the appeals circulated following the recent typhoon in The Philippines and the displaced children in Syria. Thank you for continuing to support specific appeals and our Lions projects so generously.

Details of charity donations YTD are updated at the end of each calendar month, and can be viewed on the 105D website. Keep it simple - for all payments – cheques to District Treasurer payee 'LCI District 105D' please.

It has been my pleasure to once again, serve as District Treasurer and my thanks go to the District Governor for this opportunity and the Finance Committee for time and support given during the year.

#### **District Almoner Report – Lion Eric Nixon**

The District Book of Remembrance is the permanent way in which the District can remember those Lions that have passed to higher service, I thank all the team of backup Lions who ensure that all elements of Remembrance are actioned and recognised at the appropriate time.

As stated in my letter to all District Clubs it is essential that I am kept informed of Deaths, Anniversaries, Illness etc in order that I can take the appropriate actions, as requested by the District Governor. This, I think, should also cover ex Lions who, over many years, have given loyal support to our organisation. At least then they could be recognised at District Cabinet meetings. I personally have attended at the funerals of local Lions and ex Lions and am always amazed at the attendance of the many ex Lions. Perhaps, as I have said before, in our hearts we will always be "Lions" and wish to remember those with whom we have "Served".

Thank you District Governor David for the opportunity you have given me to be your District Almoner.

#### **District GMT Coordinator – Lion Pauline McCreanor**

The GMT team continue to meet and have conference calls at regular intervals to discuss where we can help and assist with all aspects of Membership within the District.

As well as gaining new members Retention is of paramount importance as we seem to have an inability to keep our existing members, hopefully, to assist us with this problem we have been selected to be a pilot District for the New Club Development Partnership.

The team are continuing to promote My Ideal Club the Signature projects and the District Membership Roadshows.

#### **District Membership Extension Officer - 1st VDG Mike Hendy**

Since 1<sup>st</sup> July 2013 I have made 15 club visits as part of the visit schedule of the DG team and will have completed my share of the visits by Convention. In addition I have attended GMT and GLT meetings at both District and MD level alongside District meetings of the Finance Committee. Members of the DG team have kept in regular touch with face to face review meetings with the DG and 2nd VDG prior to each Cabinet meeting. At the time of compiling this report, we continue to lose members from our clubs in this district. As of today (9<sup>th</sup> December 2013) from WMMR reports submitted to LCI we have added 44 members but lost 59 members – a mixture of long serving members and relatively newer members. I am aware also from my own knowledge and that of other members of the DG Team that there are clubs in the District who already are questioning their ability to continue in their present format beyond this current year as they cannot identify club officers for 2014/2015. In the second six months of this Lions year 2013/2014, the DG Team and GMT/GLT have agreed to ask the Region Chairs, with the assistance of their Zone Chairs, to revisit the District Extension Plan and start work identifying areas for growth. This, plus the ability to retain existing members, is now vital for this District to retain its 'independence' and not slip into transitional district status as so many others District are doing or have done. I personally do not mind losing clubs – if we have to merge clubs to retain members then so be it, what I do not want to see is areas of our District where we can no longer support those who need our help just as last year. I continue to be disappointed by those few clubs who do not report monthly membership figures to LCI for whatever reason. The process is simple and can be done in a few minutes so why do some clubs have to be continually reminded to do so? Make it a habit to complete the report after the final meeting of each month and you know then it has been done. So simple yet seemingly so difficult.

#### **District Membership Retention Officers – 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG Alan Chapman**

When planning my visits I decided to obtain last year's visit dates to enable me to carry out mine at around 12 months from the previous visit. So far I have visited 8 of the 14 clubs allocated, there were 16 but 2 are no longer active being Southampton and Waterlooville. Most of the 6 outstanding clubs will have been visited before convention. I feel that all clubs visited are active within their community but are struggling with new membership to replace losses through natural causes and resignations for undisclosed reasons.

I feel that our losses in some cases are self inflicted as we have in recent years pinned badges on new members for the sake of numbers rather than quality, this only creates a false picture and demoralises those dedicated Lions who hold the clubs together. I feel that clubs have to change our approach by making our meetings more suitable for the

younger members whom we are trying to attract. More social events without too much cost involved might be the answer.

At the time of writing this report there are a two clubs who are in need of GMT support as they are unable to encourage any of their members to hold office. Hopefully the DG team and the GMT will be able to support them and prevent further losses to what is still one of the strongest Districts.

#### **From GLT Co-ordinator Lion Brigid Hendy**

- I attended the GLT multiple District meeting in September. It was well attended; a very good active forum for the sharing of ideas and new initiatives throughout the Multiple District.
- I am aware of at least two members from 105D who applied for the Advanced Lions Institute in Budapest, I have not heard yet if they have been successful in their application
- Along with GMT lead Pauline and 1<sup>st</sup> VDG Mike I will attending the MD membership/Leadership summit in Birmingham on the weekend of 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> February 2014
- Dates are now set for the Lions workshops this year. Because of the late MD Convention and other District events the workshops will be earlier. The workshop for Club Officers will be held on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April at The George, Amesbury starting at 10.00 through to 16.00 and that for the new District Officers will be Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April at the Alton House Hotel at the same times. Please pass this information on to your 2014/2015 potential club officers so that they can get it in their diaries
- And now for an exciting new initiative to start planning in 2014.

#### **Young Lions Leadership Seminar” (YLLS).**

Developed in Turkey, and having been alerted to the initiative by Linda Picton we both decided with the support of DG David, that as a District we would apply to be a pilot for this development. I am very pleased to say that District 105D has been accepted as a pilot.

#### **Rationale**

Nearly 45% of new members leave during the first four years. This data indicates that an action focused solely on new members is needed, hence, the “Young Lions Leadership Seminar” (YLLS).

#### **Purpose**

The ultimate purpose is to “give something special and valued” to the new Lions and consequently to increase their commitment of being a Lion, their sense of belonging. At the same time they develop their personal and leadership skills and will reinforce the argument that we so often use: Lions is a “**Leadership School**”. Participants will be better prepared for future offices, in their clubs, districts as well as in their business and family life.

**The purpose of YLLS Project is to train up new Lions by contributing to their personal development and add value to their Lions competence.**

**So watch this space!**

#### **Region 1 Chairman – Lion Peter Burnett**

Since the last convention we have unfortunately lost one club from Zone A. The members of Sherborne Lions club decided to fold the club with effect from 31<sup>st</sup> May 2013. This was presented to cabinet as an irrevocable decision and all the members were lost with the exception of Four who transferred to Gillingham Mere & Shaftesbury. We must learn from this and clubs must be encouraged to ask the district for help and guidance before it becomes too late.

Another club in our region – Blandford in Zone B have asked for help and the District has assisted with funding towards two meet the Lions evenings. They have held one of these and despite having three attendees it did not result in any increase in membership, we are hopeful that the second one will have more positive results as the club has worked really hard on these evenings.

Bridport have also held a membership drive and have badged up one very young member (18 yrs old) and have another 17 year old waiting for her 18<sup>th</sup> birthday so that she can join. Congratulations to Peter Garlick on successfully reducing the average age of his club considerably.

Boscombe club are also a worry, they are an ageing club with single figure membership and no members are willing to continue in office after this year. Zone Chairman Michael and I are going to attend their next few meetings and hope to encourage them to hold a membership drive. Should this fail the majority of their members are considering transferring to Bournemouth.

The other clubs in the Region are in reasonable health and all the clubs remain active and serve their communities.

### **Zone 1A Chairman – Lion Dave Woolford**

The zone clubs had a busy Christmas period which they have now gotten over. All are entering the New Year with, I'm sure, renewed enthusiasm for helping those less fortunate than ourselves.

One item recently raised was helping other clubs when in need and to enjoy fellowship within the zone. In a few weeks we are holding a zone Sunday lunch which in the past has always been a pleasant time together. We are also looking to interact more. Our skittles match is always well attended and competitive and we are looking at other activities where the zone clubs can meet and enjoy each other's company.

### **Zone 1B Chairman – Lion Michael Zeck**

Membership 207 (Nov 13) –10 year to date

Part of the reason for the losses in Wimborne & Ferndown is that after considering their membership they noticed that some members were inactive and only made numbers up what caused the problem to get a quorum at meetings occasionally. Now membership is realistic and business is running smoothly.

All Clubs are very active and continue to work hard to serve their communities with welfare activities and in organizing regular fund raising events.

All clubs agreed to consider to organize Prostate Cancer Awareness and Free PSA Testing events in their areas in cooperation with PCaSO (Prostate Cancer Support Organisation) as our zone project.. This idea was brought to the clubs at the last zone meeting by the Lions Club of Bournemouth who already very successfully organized such event.

As a second zone project/zone social event all clubs are planning to support a fun day in summer once again at Redcliff Farm in Wareham (Thanks to Lion Nigel Barnes of Wareham!)

The Future:

We have 2 more zone meetings planned in this lionistic year and all clubs are keen to communicate with each other and exchange their ideas and experiences.

All clubs are aware of the importance to get new members and are trying to increase membership. Some clubs are struggling with membership and have been offered help, but so far they prefer to go it alone without district help.

### **Region 2 Chairman – Lion David Taylor**

At the outset of the 2013/14 year we had the sad closure of our Southampton Club; since then I aimed to visit all the other 15 Clubs in the Region, a task I completed by early November.

I found this to be very uplifting. Every Club is unique in the manner business meetings are conducted, but every Club shares the same values. I also attended Zone meetings and witnessed the same diversity, yet the same comradeship. This camaraderie is never more evident than Charter functions and, to date, I have been fortunate to attend 8 of our Region Charters and a couple elsewhere.

The fun and enjoyment that comes from these events spills over when Clubs come together to achieve a greater objective. Our membership recruitment session in Zone 2D and the combined efforts of our Clubs in raising funds for the Philippines and Syria are proof of what we can achieve together.

In July our membership was 331, which had fallen to 313 by the end of December, a drop of 18 (of which 9 were in Southampton). In common with most other voluntary organisations, membership remains one of our major concerns. Some Clubs may have a long-term problem as they age, unless younger members can be attracted to join. Another problem we face is the comment that some members leave because "It's not fun any more...."

In both cases the camaraderie I have witnessed around the Region should be capable of being harnessed to retain and enhance our membership?

### **Zone 2C Chairman - Lion Andy Thompson**

We still plan to hold 5 Zone meetings, each hosted by a different Club and I plan to have visited each Club during the year. There are issues with membership numbers in the last quarter. Three Clubs are currently holding numbers, however two others have lost a member each; one of which is predicting two to three more losses over the next twelve months and is struggling to attract new members.

### **Zone 2D Chairman- Lion Ken Staniforth**

The closure of Southampton Club was disappointing; however we have already set in motion the actions required to reopen the Club with the help of the other Clubs in the Zone. Two recruitment events were planned, one of which (in Salisbury) might enable the opening of a Branch Club in Amesbury. Full attendance at our Zone meetings is never feasible, given the inclusion of the Channel Islands; however, we have tried to use Skype to enable them to participate. Finally, I was pleased to see a successful twinning between Salisbury and Xanten Lions in Germany.

### **Zone 2E Chairman - Lion Geoff Kay**

The year generally has been quite successful with membership overall being maintained; that has included some movement between two clubs in this Zone. This does include new members and we hope to strengthen this even more. There are strains where members are trying to provide the same 'service activities' with limited 'able people power', we trust that inter-club involvement will get us over this. As Zone Chair one is trying to retain interest and commitment to being a Lion in this New Year of 2014.

### **Region 3 Chairman - Lion Derek Knight**

The Status Quo has been maintained in the region during the year with some minor changes which have not impacted significantly upon the prime problem of the region as originally stated. It is my opinion that in order to recreate a growing and vibrant association, radical changes and simplification must take place within the District policy.

### **Zone 3F Chairman - Lion Francis Bond**

Within my Zone, I have visited 3 clubs and held two Zone meetings. Some of the clubs are having difficulties. I have left the Solent club to their guiding Lion and kept in touch and updated the Region chair. All clubs have been keeping busy over the festive period and are looking forward to a good new year.

### **Zone 3G Chairman - Lion Ron Twining**

By the time this report goes to Convention I will have held 4 out of 5 Zone meetings all with speakers. Each Zone meeting is held by a different club so ensuring all clubs are involved I have rotated the days of the meetings to different days of the week to encourage ordinary Lions who said they were busy on the normal meeting nights to attend, it is early days yet to see if it is working. I also will have I hope have done all my club visits by the end of March.

A membership road show was held in October in Newport town square. Although the weather was very bad in the morning we had a good turn out of Lions representing all the clubs. Those attending the afternoon shift had better weather and more public to talk to. Unfortunately I have not heard if any of those we spoke to have actually attended a club meeting yet. A date has now been fixed for a second "Road Show" in Newport which is the 5<sup>th</sup> April 2014. A request to have the stand in St James Square in the centre of Newport on that date has been applied for and we are waiting for permission to be granted. Unfortunately "Island Roads" who grant this are slow to respond. Again it is hoped that this will be manned by members of all the "Island Clubs" with better weather and more success.

I have received several requests for information about Lions and Membership via various web sights, including LCI. Too early to know if any of these have been converted into new members yet. Zone membership is fairly stable, as some clubs gain others lose, but we are all hoping for a rise by the end of June.

### **Zone 3H Chairman - Lion James McGregor**

I have been aiding clubs to identify areas where they can boost membership. This is a big concern for this Zone, as for the District in general

I was asked to examine the feasibility of starting a club in Farlington. We have had several enquiries as a result I have contacted business organisations in the geographical area to identify further potential Lions.

I hope to organise an event with other District officers for emerging leaders.

### **Region 4 Chairman – Lion Geoff Foan**

The first half of the Lionistic year has passed very quickly but I am happy to report that all clubs in the Region appear to be active and working hard both for deserving causes in their local areas and in giving support to International disasters.

Membership figures show a small decrease since the end of the year, but the majority of clubs in the Region are strong with good levels of membership. The clubs that have lower membership levels are all aware of the need to look to recruit new members, and some clubs now have membership drives in place. It is pleasing to note that the Clubs in

Zone 4I are working to determine the possibility of establishing a new club in the Four Marks area, and have worked within the area to raise the profile of Lions locally.

Zone meetings within the Region are generally well attended, although it was disappointing that the November meeting in Zone J was postponed due to poor attendance, partly due to a number of clubs having fund raising events near to the meeting date.

In the second half of the year I intend to continue working with clubs and the Zone chairs to support the activities of the Region's clubs, and to try to meet membership targets for the year.

#### **Zone 4I Chairman – Lion Mike Baker**

Zone meetings (new style) have now been established as real information sharing and discussion meetings rather than a top down communication exercise. The agendas cover key aspects such as Membership, Fund Raising, Welfare/Donations, Service Activities, National and International Projects & Communications. Discussions have become relaxed, healthy and informative with an improving willingness to exchange ideas.

Membership has been at the forefront of minds and whilst numbers are not the only issue the Zone is holding its own with new members, potential members and the prospect of a Branch club in Four Marks a village that is developing from a village into a small town.

In addition the Zone has bought into a common project, 'Trees for Communities – but in Africa not Hampshire!'

This stems from Woolmer Forest Lions' (WFL) response to President Wing-Kun Tam to plant a million trees, to come up with a tree idea that would significantly benefit a community in real need. Not an amenity gesture, not a celebratory token in already significantly 'treed' Hampshire. WFL turned to the International Tree Foundation (ITF) for advise and support.

The idea of a partnership between ITF, Lions and a community that needs trees to survive - was born. WFL have enthused other clubs in the zone to join in with the effort both financially and physically in terms of raising awareness to a wider field including other Lions clubs in the district.

#### **Zone 4J Chairman– Lion Judith Colby**

Two zone meetings were scheduled for the first half of the year. The first was successfully held, but the second meeting, scheduled for November was postponed due to clashes with other events. A full programme of club visits has been started and will continue in the second half of the year.

Currently all Zone clubs have been active both in fund raising and in support to the both local and international causes.

Although there has been a small net loss in membership numbers, clubs are continuing to recruit. Some losses and gains are due to transfers between clubs, which shows that Lions are still willing to serve the local community when they move to a new area.

It would appear that problems with accessing MyLCI by one club now appear to have been resolved, and this will hopefully allow reporting to get back on track.

#### **Zone 4K Chairman - Lion Christine Munday**

The Zone Dinner held in September was well attended and very lively. We had visitors from Emerald Lions Club in Australia. This very nice husband and wife enlightened us on life in Lions down under especially the logistics of zone meetings and club visits when the clubs are from 65-125 km apart. We are very lucky here when most of my clubs are 'just around the corner'. Following the meeting with the Australian Lions we are hoping to get some twinning with club and its zone in the very near future.

I was very disappointed to hear about the resignation of Sirius Club President. She did consult the membership officer from Fleet Lions (the sponsoring club) and after being offered various options she still decided to go. At the Presidents meeting another member of Sirius joined us so I hope they will continue to grow. The other clubs are doing well with minute fluctuations in membership. The other club branch will also be visited very soon to encourage all members to be strong participants in developing the club and its activities and not just leave it to the three very strong people who head up the club.



We had another very good Zone Dinner in late November with a speaker from Starburst a local Theatre group who raise money for children with learning and physical disabilities. They encourage all young people to partake in stage work as well as asking for help from anyone who can work in all aspects of a theatre group. They are all volunteers.

All clubs have been busy with their Christmas activities, and I know that the Lions Community Store was pleased with all the parcels delivered to them for the needy. Plenty of parcels were also delivered by the clubs to the needy both old and young.

Zone dinners are planned for next year with some good speakers lined up. I am looking forward to club visits early next year and I am sure they will reflect the stability and excellent work done in this zone.

#### **Region 5 Chairman – Lion Dave Ebsworth**

At the time of writing this report I have held one joint Zone meeting which was fairly well attended where we discussed numerous ways of the clubs working together, one to arrange a region project which is to be discussed at our next joint Zone meeting on 08/01/13. All the clubs within the Region are working extremely hard on local projects and actives to raise funds and at the same time working on international matters. On reviewing the ways of fund raising within the Region there all types of varied ranges of ways Clubs are working from the Windsor horse ride which is a large event to clubs having Race Nights. I am pleased to say raising much needed funds to support those in need and projects the clubs decide to support.

All clubs within the Region are supporting International activities through LCIF, to include the Measles project.

Their hard working during December with the lead up to Christmas was very pleasing and seeing how they have helped others to put a smile on faces and enjoy the festive time.

Reading and Woodley & Earley are holding a Prostate Awareness day on 11<sup>th</sup> February and Windsor are also going to hold one in the near future..

Membership is a problem with this Region with Slough and Goring & Woodcote who numbers are down to 12 this is due to lions leaving and moving to higher service. Both Clubs are planning a membership drive and will be supported by the region. On a much brighter note Bracknell have now moved to 13 members a fantastic increase, partly by the hard work of the club and partly by using a method used by Reading and the efforts of the clubs within the region leaflet dropping. This also showed how all the clubs worked well together as one. I am informed that at least four of the other clubs have prospective new members in the wings. There has also been held a PR course which was well attended by the clubs.

I would like to thank my Zone Chairs, Secretary and Club Presidents for their work and the work they will to continue to do in this Lionistic year and for the support from all within the District team. My hope for the rest of this year is growth within each club and to continue in good working relationship we are building together.

#### **Zone 5L Chairman – Lion Sajad Naiz**

During the 1<sup>st</sup> half of this year, Zone L and Zone M have had one joint meeting as a region on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2013 with further joint meetings scheduled for 8<sup>th</sup> January 2014, a dinner meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2014 and the last one on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2014. Each club is represented at these meetings.

Membership of the Zone currently stands at 125 members including a net gain of one new member comprising:

- Burnham 16
- Henley 25
- Maidenhead 40 with 3 prospective
- Slough 13 with 1 prospective
- Windsor 31

All clubs continue to be active in serving their communities; Woodley & Earley Lions are organising a Lions Clubs Golf Day for 25th April as a region 5 social fellowship event.

The clubs are also looking at the possibility of adopting 'Berkshire Women's Aid' as a region 5 project this year.

In the New Year, it is envisaged that as follow up to the recent PR workshop organised by Windsor Lions, targeted PR training will be taken up by most club officers in the zone as per District Marketing PR Coordinator Lion Richard Keeley's proposals.

### **Zone 5M Chairman – Lion Eric Warner**

During the 1<sup>st</sup> half of this Lionistic year, Zone L and Zone M have had 1 joint meeting as a Region on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2013. The `good news` highlight was Bracknell Forest's successful membership drive.

3 more meetings are scheduled.

Each Club is represented at these meetings and membership in Zone 5M stands at 108 with several new members in addition in the pipeline.

All Clubs continue to be active in serving their communities.

The prostate awareness event held by Reading Lions last year was such a success that another is being organised in collaboration with Woodley and Earley Lions on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2014. Several other Clubs in the region are interested in running theirs.

Also Clubs in the two Zones will be considering how to support the Mobile Chemotherapy Unit Appeal once we have had the presentation.

### **Communications Team – (Chairman) Lion Tom Sayers**

The Communications Committee continues to run smoothly thanks to the commitment of the District Officers:

Insurance Adviser and Health & Safety Officer – Jo Hamblin

Lion Magazine and Newsletter Editor – Peter Garlick

Marketing & PR Co-ordinator – Richard Keeley

Deputy Webmaster – Richard High

IT Officer & Webmaster – Tom Sayers

On the 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2013, Richard Keeley took over the PR role from James McGregor.  
My thanks to James for his past service.

We also lost our Competitions Officer – PDG Judith Goodchild, who moved to another committee.  
My thanks to Judith for her past service on this committee.

**Tom Sayers – [commchair@lions105d.org.uk](mailto:commchair@lions105d.org.uk)**

### **IT Officer & Webmaster – Lion Tom Sayers**

The District website [www.lions105d.org.uk](http://www.lions105d.org.uk) continues to grow as more and more District Officers embrace the medium for communicating with all Lions in the District and beyond as well as the general public. Some excellent examples are on the Projects pages - [www.lions105d.org.uk/projects](http://www.lions105d.org.uk/projects) maintained by the relevant District Officer.

1stVice DG Mike created a questionnaire, which gave all members of our District an opportunity to comment on various aspects of Lions. You may view the results on [www.lions105d.org.uk/questionnaire](http://www.lions105d.org.uk/questionnaire) page.

The Website Competition results are displayed on a chart on [www.lions105d.org.uk/webcompetition](http://www.lions105d.org.uk/webcompetition) page.

District Treasurer Linda maintains financial information on [www.lions105d.org.uk/financial](http://www.lions105d.org.uk/financial) page.

District Secretary Godwin maintains monthly mailings on [www.lions105d.org.uk/secretary](http://www.lions105d.org.uk/secretary) and Cabinet Reports are available once logged-in. Convention documents, including this one, are available on [www.lions105d.org.uk/convention](http://www.lions105d.org.uk/convention) page.

There are many more valuable contributions so I urge you to visit the website frequently.

There are more innovations on the way and both **Deputy Webmaster Richard High – [depit@lions105d.org.uk](mailto:depit@lions105d.org.uk)** and I look forward to working with DG David and incoming DG Mike to bring more useful information and tools to help and support clubs and members in doing what Lions do best — caring for the community.

Tom Sayers – [it@lions105d.org.uk](mailto:it@lions105d.org.uk)

### **District Insurance Adviser – Lion Jo Hamblin**

I have issued a number of District Mailings to Clubs throughout the year on insurance matters and uploaded these mailings onto the District website [www.lions105d.org.uk/insurance](http://www.lions105d.org.uk/insurance). I have maintained links on the insurance webpage to the Multiple District website together with that of our Insurance Brokers, Miles Smith. This provides ease of access to the evidence of insurance certificate, claims forms and other insurance documentation.

I have regularly answered calls and emails from Clubs relating to insurance queries and continue to be available to provide assistance to Clubs and Members as required.

**Jo Hamblin – [insurance@lions105d.org.uk](mailto:insurance@lions105d.org.uk)**

### **District Health & Safety Officer – Lion Jo Hamblin**

I am now required to issue periodic reports to the District Governor on the progress on the implementation of the District Safety Management System. I produced a simple implementation plan that has been shared with the District Governor and I am using this to plot my progress throughout the year. I continue to update Clubs on Health & Safety matters using the District Mailing and the District website pages. [www.lions105d.org.uk/haso](http://www.lions105d.org.uk/haso)  
I am also building an e-library of example risk assessments and when I receive queries relating to insurance for events I take the opportunity to remind Clubs of the importance of considering the health and safety issues.

I will also consider use of the District Newsletter and/or District blog/Facebook to get the messages out to clubs.

**Jo Hamblin – [haso@lions105d.org.uk](mailto:haso@lions105d.org.uk)**

### **Lion Magazine and Newsletter Advisor – Lion Peter Garlick**

I have now been on Cabinet for over 20 years, 17 years publishing your district newsletter and have decided to step down from Cabinet at the end of June.

Over the past year I have had some great articles and photos so please keep them coming; this is your newsletter and it is an important tool for sharing, especially new ideas. Just a reminder on photos please ensure all photos are sent as JPEG and reports in Word, also with new cameras and phones can I please suggest you downsize the quality of images as it takes a while to download them. So if you could alter image size in your camera to 2 or 3Mpx (this will be OK for quality A4 printing) you only need larger sizes if you are printing on photo paper A3 or higher. This will also speed up camera shots and give more room on camera cards and speed up emailing.

All newsletters are automatically put on the District website [www.lions105d.org.uk/newsletters](http://www.lions105d.org.uk/newsletters) and each issue I produce is automatically emailed to all Club Secretaries in PDF format. This I believe has worked extremely well, as I have had some nice comments.

All articles received are automatically passed on to the Lion magazine for possible insertion.

Can I remind all clubs that Obituaries should be emailed now to [inmemoriam@lions105d.org.uk](mailto:inmemoriam@lions105d.org.uk)?

Thank you all for your inputs and indeed friendship over the years.

**Peter Garlick – [news@lions105d.org.uk](mailto:news@lions105d.org.uk)**

### **Marketing & PR Co-ordinator – Lion Richard Keeley**

At the time of writing in early January good progress can be reported on the new PR Training initiative being trialled this year. Clubs have been asked to provide contact details of all officers handling PR output from their clubs. So far half the clubs in 105D have responded. An online PR Training assessment questionnaire has been created to request details of what training needs are wanted within clubs. This questionnaire is being sent to all club PRO's, Webmasters and Social Media Co-ordinators in January with the object of delivering focussed training by Region during the spring/early summer of 2014.

The District PR equipment is still being used extensively in Clubs events throughout 105D. However, the efficient transfer between clubs is being hampered by clubs passing on the Banners, Lions Suits and Roadshow Equipment without booking it through [pro@lions105d.org.uk](mailto:pro@lions105d.org.uk). This results in valuable equipment being effectively 'lost' until it can be tracked down. An appeal to all Clubs - please ensure all PR Equipment bookings are made through [pro@lions105d.org.uk](mailto:pro@lions105d.org.uk)

Participation in The Lord Mayors Show 2013 in conjunction with Districts 105 A, EA and SE was cancelled due to the lack of commercial sponsorship to cover the entry costs. The LMS Committee has been invited to make entry for the 2014 event on 8th November. The committee met in January to plan the Lions float and arrange sponsorship.

**Richard Keeley – [pro@lions105d.org.uk](mailto:pro@lions105d.org.uk)**

### **Community Services Committee - Chairman Lion Marilyn Skennerton**

#### **Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS formerly CRB) Report to Convention – Lion Marilyn Skennerton**

If members do not follow the policy found in the MD Handbook they could well find themselves uninsured.

It is a criminal offence for a Lion member not holding a DBS to take part in a regulated activity. Ignorance on the part of the Club Board of Directors is no excuse.

Registration is free and the On Line Update Service means you only have to register once rather than every 3 years if you only have a paper certificate.

After much altering and changing of wording etc the new DBS is now fully functional. District 105D probably has the lowest uptake of clubs registering to this service and I am not sure what else I can do to spread the word further. Details have been sent in the District Mailing on a few occasions.

I have spoken to Presidents and Secretaries but the general consensus is that their clubs do not take part in a Regulated Activity therefore there is no need to register. This is only partly true and I do not intend to write pages and pages about Regulated and Non Regulated Activities in this report. Suffice to say it is better to be registered and safe than not to bother and have problems.

The forms being sent out are the same as the old forms. The difference is what happens after the forms have been submitted. In the past the MD were responsible for disclosures now it is the club's responsibility which is why EVERY club needs to appoint a DBS Officer.

To date in our District only 5 clubs have appointed an Officer. This service is here to stay. Laws will get tighter in light of what has happened over the past few years and it is imperative that we are seen to be supporting the new regulations. Perhaps ALL new members could be automatically registered when they join a club.

### **Competitions and Environment Officer - PDG Lion Judith Goodchild**

#### **Competitions**

The Visiting Lion competition ends at the end of December and has had several clubs entering. The competition has been quite close this year with the winning club changing from time to time. This costs the District nothing to run as all report cards are sent to MDHQ electronically. I do urge other clubs to enter this competition.

Of the remaining competitions some will both have been announced and reported on elsewhere, e.g. Peace Poster and Young Ambassador, but the remaining winners will be announced at Convention.

I have kept the website updated. The "front page" has summaries of all competitions and further details are given on separate pages. Links are in place where there is an individual officer responsible for the competition.

At the request of Cabinet, I have written twice to clubs regarding their interest in the District competitions and asking whether they wish to enter, as latterly the numbers of clubs entering has been very poor. Very few clubs have had the courtesy to respond. The conclusion must be, that competitions, in the main, are no longer important to clubs. Hence, the list of winners is likely to be smaller at Convention.  
Convention Report

The website has much more information and is regularly updated. It can be viewed at  
[http://www.lions105d.org.uk/clubs/district competitions/html](http://www.lions105d.org.uk/clubs/district%20competitions/html)

#### **Environmental Projects**

There are now only three Environmental Competitions. Cabinet agreed in June that the 3Rs competition should be ended as it had never been contested since its conception. To date I have some entries for the Environmental Photo Competition and the winner of The Peter Allen Award will be announced at Convention.

I have not received any entries for The Helen Deakin "Make the World a Better Place" competition but there is time for entries to come forward before the announcement of the winner at Convention.

Lastly, The Environmental Poster Competition has been re- launched and I have some entries. I will be reviewing it again and launching next year's competition after this Convention. Trophies have been donated by PDG's and their wives. The winners will be announced at Convention.

Woolmer Forest Lions Club is continuing with their campaign Trees for Communities and it is hoped that members will make a presentation at the January Cabinet meeting. The Zone Chairman is fully behind this and will refer to it in his report. I would urge all clubs to consider supporting this project.

The website has much more information and is regularly updated. It can be viewed at  
<http://www.lions105d.org.uk/projects/environment/html>

### **District Sight Preservation, Awareness and Action Officer – Lion Ian Puttock**

Once again, Spectrek 2013 was very successful with a large number of spectacles collected. Thanks to both Petersfield Club who organised the day and to all Clubs that collect spectacles for re-use. Specktrek 2014 is on Sunday 13 April.

The Lions Sight Savers Trust that provides funds to "Sightsavers" to enable sight restoration, assistance to individuals whose sight cannot be restored and sight education has continued to be supported by Clubs in the District. In 2012, Sightsavers and their partners examined over 13 million people. By the end of 2013, they had examined over 14 million, and with our help, they will have provided glasses for over 300,000 individuals, and performed over 200,000 sight-saving cataract surgeries. None of this work would be possible without the continuing support of Lions.

Sight savers are making real progress towards consigning river blindness to the past. By the end of 2013 they had provided treatment to over 33 million people, protecting sight and saving lives. With our help they plan on eliminating the infection and transmission of river blindness in all Sightsavers-supported projects by 2021, with the majority reaching this status by 2016.

Since July 2013 Clubs in our District have donated £850 (end of November 2013 figures) to Lions Sightsavers. It would be great to see this figure significantly increase by the end of the Lionistic year.

A number of Clubs took part in "World Sight Day" in October which some used to give sighted people (with the aid of blindfolds) a little understanding of what it is like to be unable to see. Others promoted the Lions Eye Health Programme.

The Lions Eye Health Programme, part of the "Signature Project" programme is a very important public awareness opportunity, reminding people to have their eyes tested to combat glaucoma and diabetic retinopathy. This is achieved by distribution of literature and poster displays. Thank you to all the Clubs within our District continue to promote the programme.

I would remind Members that whilst Campaign Sightfirst II is over, it is very encouraging to see what continues to be done with the funds raised. There are regular reports of grants on the Lions Clubs International website.

I would welcome the opportunity to visit Clubs or Zones to make sight related presentations.

Please remember the challenge that Helen Keller gave to all Lions in 1925 which is still relevant today – "I call on you to be knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness".

#### Disabilities, Speech and Hearing – Lion John Drago

Paultons Park was a huge success last year with over 3000 tickets sold and 42 clubs taking part, some for the first time. This means that Lions Clubs in the District raised over £30,000 to send underprivileged, disabled and those with learning disabilities on a really great day out. We had a lot of positive feedback and the new site at the entrance was a huge improvement. It was lovely to see so many happy faces and we hope to continue to increase the numbers each year. A tree was planted and gives a long term reminder of the wonderful days out Lions have arranged there.

Deaf Awareness training sessions can be arranged if Clubs are interested. The door hangers and "I see what you're saying" badges are proving popular with those who suffer with hearing loss and are available from MDHQ.

The highlight of the last year was the time spent at the Special Olympics in Bath during August 2013. The Lions who volunteered helped out in various areas but the majority from our District helped with the Families Hub where we served over 3000 cups of tea and coffee to families, coaches and athletes from all over the UK. Families had travelled from as far as the north of Scotland and all our visitors were keen to tell us how their athletes were getting on and the athletes themselves were very quick to come and show us their medals. The whole experience was quite hard work, long days but extremely uplifting. Lions also organised a Families evening with a hog roast and live music which was enjoyed by the families despite a bit of rain! Despite some initial organisational difficulties with SOGB and having to think on our feet, the teams worked very hard to make sure we never ran out of hot drinks or biscuits. It was also a great chance to get to know Lions from other Districts and to literally share the Lions motto "We Serve"!

#### Diabetes – Lion Anita Drago

Many Lions Clubs have organised events to raise funds and/or awareness of Diabetes which is still on the increase in the UK. It is an important message which spans all age groups from children to the elderly. Many people develop diabetes as children and this can make life difficult and limiting for them. We can try to avoid diabetes by controlling our diet and following a healthy lifestyle but there are still other factors which can lead to the start of diabetes. As well as raising awareness there are support groups which can help both sufferers and families.

The events organised with Tesco and Diabetes UK had some mixed results with some successful collections but other clubs had issues with the organisation of collections and the stores involved.

I will be meeting the Community Fundraiser from the Diabetes research and Wellness Foundation to see how they can support our diabetes education across Lions as a whole, and hopefully offer a package of support for our members.

#### **MedicAlert Officer - Lion Iain Pudney**

MedicAlert have had to increase their Annual Fee to £30.00 per member and have had to discontinue the Life Membership for any New Members. All existing Life Members have been contacted to ask them to move to an Annual Renewal. This is because there is no incentive for people to ensure that their Medical and Personal information being held is as up to date as possible. Failure to make contact with MedicAlert will mean that they will have to remove the information being held as it is no longer valid within the current Health and Safety requirements.

As part of this requirement, it is the Individual who has to update their details and not a third party, so that any Lions Club which has been funding someone's Membership will no longer be able to provide updated information on their behalf. This can be updated by the individual themselves, or a Medical Professional treating the person, or someone who has a Legal Power of Attorney. It is immaterial who pays the Annual Fee, it is the updating of their information which is critical.

The leaflet now incorporates an application form to encourage people to apply without having to make an additional contact with either MedicAlert or any other organisation. The cost of Membership is £30 per annum, reduced to £27.50 if paying by Direct Debit, to cover the cost of maintaining the secure database, plus the cost of the bracelet or pendant. The cheapest is a Stainless Steel bracelet or pendant at £19.95 plus £2.50 p&p, giving a total lowest initial cost of £49.95.

We are being encouraged to increase the number of Members recruited through Lions. MedicAlert have a supply of leaflets and Posters which can be handed out to Pharmacies and Surgeries to promote the scheme.

The current initiative is the Early Start Programme, where for a contribution of £275 to MedicAlert they will provide FREE membership for a Child between the ages of 0 – 10. Please support this initiative and make sure that Lions are clearly identified by making your contribution through the District Treasurer. If you wish to propose a Child to participate in this scheme, again make sure that Lions are mentioned in any correspondence with MedicAlert so that we can get the recognition we deserve.

They have also acknowledged that they can, and do, work in conjunction with Lions Message in a Bottle and they have put MedicAlert Leaflets in a batch of bottles as part of a limited promotion to see how effective it will be. This is so encouraging and we should do all we can to promote the use of Message in a Bottle within the home and MedicAlert outside the home.

The main benefits of MedicAlert are: -

- 1) 24/7 cover for 365 days a year regardless of where you are in the world
- 2) The only information carried around is the bracelet or pendant with a phone number and minimal information on main medical conditions
- 3) There is a membership number giving a unique identification to each Member
- 4) The relevant personal data is held on a secure database at the London Ambulance Service
- 5) There is a medical professional on the end of the phone line whenever it is called
- 6) Training is available for medical professionals
- 7) On the front of the bracelet or pendant is a universally recognised medical symbol

If you wish to have a presentation for your Members we have powerpoint presentations, posters and leaflets. I am also available at any time to come and give a talk to any group in your area, just contact me.

Remember, we can support people who need a MedicAlert bracelet by contributing to the initial cost. There is no requirement to continue supporting them on an annual basis unless the Club as a whole agree to do so, but please remember that the Individual has to update their information at least once a year to maintain their records within the current Health and Safety guidelines.

Finally, when distributing leaflets to the Public, please ensure that the Club name at least is on the leaflet wither in the form of a sticker or stamp. That way Lions will get the recognition we deserve both at MedicAlert and with the Public at large.

### **MIAB Officer - Lion Ann Twining**

To the best of my knowledge virtually every Club in the District supports MIAB and is actively involved.

This has been really useful when dealing with the many enquiries that I receive from hospitals, medical centres, pharmacies and private individuals from within the District. I am receiving on average about 30 plus enquiries a month. I have found all clubs happy to deal with requests that I forward to them. Want to know more about MIAB or how you or your Club can help, then either speak to me during Convention weekend or leave a note on the MIAB stand.

Due to discussions taking place as to how MIAB and Medic Alert can compliment each other, Ian Pudney the Medic Alert Officer and I have put an article on the District Web site, stating that the two items do compliment each other in some cases.

I was unable to attend the autumn MD meeting and there is due to be another one in the spring which I hope to be able to attend. Plans by the Portsmouth and Gosport area MIAB joint committee are to do a relaunch of the MIAB scheme, in the spring. I hope to notify all clubs with more details of this nearer the time.

So MIAB continues to grow and more people and organisations become aware of the scheme. I know that all the emergency services are very impressed by the scheme and are on board with it. As are most hospitals and social health and care services, please continue to buy and dispense the bottles, and promote the scheme whenever you can.

Finally I would like to thank Lion Ron, for all his support with MIAB, by dealing with the phone calls, whilst I am at work. Also for helping with the emails.

### **International Relations Committee – Chairman PDG Lion Barrie Richardson.**

#### **Dentaid Liaison Committee Chairman – PDG Lion Roger Huntley**

Committee: Lions Ian Simpson, Richard Frost, Tricia Snook.

Three Liaison Committee meetings are held through the year at Dentaid offices, the year to date is now progressing satisfactorily following various changes to the operation of Dentaid.

Since the last report to convention and due mainly to the present economic downturn, the trustees decided that it was necessary to make various changes to the staffing levels and operation of the Dentaid charity, various posts including that of the Chief Executive, the full time Engineer, Assistant Engineer and an Administrator were declared redundant in order to reduce the overheads of the operation, with the day to day running being assumed by an Office Manager with one other administrator being responsible for promotion and fundraising under the direct supervision of the Board of Trustees, with a team of volunteers taking care of the workshop in the short term, the measures put in place reduced the outlay of the charity by £75,000.00 per annum.

In addition to the support of the Lions and other charitable sources, a considerable amount of financial support comes from within the Dental profession itself, this has now recovered somewhat to the extent that it has been possible to recruit a part time engineer for the workshop, his initial primary task being to continue with the manufacture of the portable dental chairs, a portable dental surgery in a box (Dentaid Box) can be supplied for £1500 plus shipping.

If any Lions Club would like to sponsor a Dentaid Box with the Lions Logo on to a specific country or location of their choice, perhaps in conjunction with a Lions Club in that country, please contact the Dentaid Committee Chairman, PDG Lion Roger Huntley.

As in previous years it is hoped once again to be able to take a Dentaid promotion stand to District Conventions at 105A 105D 105SW and the MD Convention.

The project to supply and install a fully operational Dental surgery in Rwanda as reported at the last District Convention was completed and shipped successfully, although in the end this had to be sent by deep sea freight due to the high increase in the costs of air freight, it is hoped feedback on this project will be available shortly.

Finally, I express grateful thanks to the members for the enthusiasm shown towards Dentaid particularly with financial donations and the collection of recycled equipment, which is efficiently administered by Lion Richard Frost of Blackmore Vale Lions Club, much of which is perfectly serviceable and useable but simply does not meet with current EU/UK requirements, thanks also to the staff at Dentaid, together we hope to improve dental care and education, particularly in areas of the world where it would otherwise be unavailable.

### **District Europa Forum & Music Competition Officer – PDG Lion Barrie Richardson**

What is Europa Forum? Quite simply it is the Annual General Meeting of all the Multiple Districts in Europe, our Constitutional Area, very much as our District Convention is the Annual General Meeting of all Clubs within our District. Business takes place over three days with added social events. Voting on any Resolutions proposed is on the basis of one vote for each Multiple District present.

My job as I see it, is to encourage participation by members of our District, disseminate information as it is received, encourage Clubs, Zones and Regions to prepare and submit reports of successful activities which could be considered for inclusion in future Forums and to investigate Group travel facilities for members attending where this is practicable.

The **59<sup>th</sup> Europa Forum** was held in **Istanbul, Turkey** on **31<sup>st</sup> October to 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2013** attended by six Lions and Partners from our District. In all 4 Clubs in our District were represented.

Detailed papers in support of the published programme and accepted proposals for the consideration of the European Council were all made available by the due dates as the Rules of Procedure howbeit that detailed papers in respect of some of the accepted proposals were not made available until we arrived.

The Forum and all but two of the Social events were held at the Istanbul Convention and Exhibition Centre a purpose built conference and cultural centre with excellent facilities for all parts of the programme.

The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (Years of Lionism in Turkey) & Gala Dinner was held in the Suado Club Restaurant situated on an Island in the Bosphorous with the dividing line between Asia and Europe running through its centre. We were bussed from the convention centre to the ferry, which although a relatively short distance, took one and a half hours due to the volume of traffic!

The farewell dinner was in the form of a Turkish Night at the Kervansary Club within walking distance of the Convention Centre, where we enjoyed the best in Turkish belly dancing.

The organisation was generally good, but some aspects of the programming with important meetings running simultaneously left a little to be desired especially as there was little programmed for the final day. This apart, our Turkish Hosts are to be congratulated on a well run and enjoyable Forum.

Presentations and voting at the plenary sessions of the European Council were as follows:

1. The Minutes of Europa Forum 2012, Brussels that were widely circulated within a few weeks of the conclusion of the meeting, were adopted.
2. The report of the EF Accountant incorporating the Accounts of the Europa Forum 2012, Brussels was adopted.
3. A proposal from MD108 Italy to establish an International Committee on Rare Diseases was rejected.
4. A proposal by MD108 Italy to amend the Rules of Procedure on establishing working groups in other official languages was withdrawn by the proposer with the consent of the Forum President.
5. A proposal by MD111 Germany to amend the Rules of Procedure by revising the Definition of the Forum President in the Glossary of Definition was adopted.
6. A proposal by MD111 Germany to amend the Rules of Procedure to allow workshops and seminars to be primarily held in English with translations where required being carried out by volunteers without any cost to the Host Committee was adopted.
7. A proposal by MD111 Germany to amend the Rules of Procedure to allow future Forum to be held on Fridays through Sundays subsequently amended to allow this as an option was adopted.
8. A joint proposal by MD103 France and MD111 Germany to adopt the new Rules of Procedure for the Lions European Musical Competition (as far as I can judge the only difference is the name change to Thomas Kuti previously agreed) was adopted.
9. A proposal by MD111 Germany to host the Europa Forum 2015 in Augsburg was adopted.
10. A proposal by D130 Bulgaria to host the Europa Forum 2016 in Sofia was adopted.
11. A proposal by MD102 Switzerland to host the Europa Forum 2017 in Montreux was adopted.
12. An application from the Undistricted Area of the Republic of Georgia for membership of Europa Forum was approved.
13. Presentation of the theme "Service from the Heart" for the Europa Forum 2014, Birmingham.
14. There were various recommendations made by workshops and seminars held during the Europa Forum but as these were not provided in written form it was difficult to follow or recall. Any recommendations of significance were referred for the consideration of Europa Forum 2014.

During the closing ceremony the two Second Vice International President candidates 2014 and the European International Director candidates 2014-2016 were all presented.



Our entry in the European Musical Competition, Dominic Degavino winner of our MD competition from District 105E whilst gaining entry to the last six, was eventually unplaced. He proved to be an excellent ambassador for MD105.

Our entry in the European Young Ambassador Competition, Adam Harris winner of our MD competition from District 105I was placed third out of six candidates entered. Again he proved to be an excellent ambassador for MD105.

We enjoyed fun, fellowship and warm (and sometimes sunny) weather. But the traffic congestion was at times unbelievable!

Virtually all of the reports of the proceedings have now been published and are available to view/download at [www.europaforum2013.org](http://www.europaforum2013.org)

The **60<sup>th</sup> Europa Forum** will be in **Birmingham** on **30<sup>th</sup> October to 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2013**. The official Forum website at [www.europaforum2014.org](http://www.europaforum2014.org) is up and running but with very little information at the date of preparing this report.

The **District 105D Musical Competition** is progressive with the winner going on to represent the District in the Multiple District Competition. In turn a candidate is selected to represent the Multiple District in the Competition held at the venue of the Lions Europa Forum. Prizes are awarded at District, Multiple District, and Europa Forum stages. It is important that prospective Candidates are made aware of the progressive nature of the competition and can commit to attending the subsequent competitions should they be successful.

Last years competition featured the piano but no entries were received with the result that the District Competition was abandoned and we were unable to field a candidate in the MD Competition that took place on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2013 at the Birmingham Conservatoire.

This year's competition features the French horn and full details were issued to Clubs and Cabinet Officers in the July District Mailing and posted on the District Website at [www.lions105d.org.uk](http://www.lions105d.org.uk) with a closing date for entries of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2013. At the date of writing this report no entries have been received.

#### **District International Relations & UN Officer - Lion Lynden McIntyre**

International Relations covers many Project areas – There is a new leaflet obtainable at the IR stand. Project updates highlighted below.

**Wateraid** - A Charity dedicated to providing water wells, safe water, sanitation and hygiene education in many underdeveloped countries. 1.1 billion people worldwide are without safe water and 2.6 billion without adequate sanitation. Recent advertising on TV for the Wateraid funding Appeal. Lions Appeal/donations from December will be for the "Big Pipe Project" in Ethiopia. £120 can provide fresh water taps and pumps. £280 can help provide 100m of pipe to bring water down to a Reservoir. Donations to the Big Pipe Project have been agreed to be doubled up to a £400,000 limit. Regular updates appear in the Lions Magazine.

**Street Children** - Millions of children around the world live and sleep on the streets. Lions are working with the Consortium to give education and life skills to vulnerable children. 5 MD nominated Street Children Organisations are not all being supported. Plan UK and International Child Care trust are being removed from the list. The three that remain for donations are:-

**Centrepont** - This is UK based primarily in London but also works in several other major UK cities, and concentrates on street children generally in the age range 9-16, runaways, homeless, and provides shelter, food, clothing, and endeavours to give them/get them into a decent environment and education.

**Railway Children** - UK based, operates in the UK but now also operating internationally with similar named operations in India and Africa – specialises in looking after runaway or abandoned street children living around the major railway stations/yards and trying to get them security, shelter, food, clothing, education and a future.

**The Jubilee Trust Campaign** - UK based international organisation, working mainly at the "dirtier" end of the spectrum on sex slavery, child sacrifice and the like, mainly in joint ventures with local organisations, and having originally been founded in the Houses of Parliament by concerned politicians. It operates mainly in Africa and India.

**Malawi Scholarship** Scheme - £110 per student per year for 4 years sponsors able but poor youngsters throughout their Secondary Education in Malawi. Only 2 areas in Malawi are being supported – Blantyre and Zomba as no contact from Mzuzu. Therefore only 20 students being funded. 7 student Reports only received. There is a proposal for this scheme to end and are looking at adopting an alternative such as the Help2Read which fits in with the LCI Reading action programme, a speaker from which will be at the UN Day in London.

**Unicef Edukits** - These are "Schools in A Box" and provide education sets via Unicef to disaster areas and third world countries. The kits now include wind-up radios as well as standard items such as pencils, blackboards and exercise books. One Edukit costs £170 and covers 40 children. An appeal went out for donations for these to be sent to Syria in which the UK Government pledged to double any Lions donations until 31<sup>st</sup> January. An article appeared in the Oct/Nov Lion Magazine with a picture of the Edukit and list of contents is available on Unicef website [www.Unicef.org.uk/Lions](http://www.Unicef.org.uk/Lions).

**Korle Bu** Ghana, – (Moorfields) Eye Hospital – project completion delayed until March 2014.

**Gift for Living** in Bosnia (MOET campaign -Management of Obstetric Emergencies and Trauma) benefiting sick babies through the provision of resources and training of Doctors. Regular updates of these projects appear in the Lion Magazine.

**Twinning/International Friendship** - I am aware that Clubs in our District are twinned with Clubs other Countries and still continue to make contact with members of their Twin Clubs and where possible make exchange visits. Please inform me of clubs that you are twinned with (either in UK or abroad) as database Register is being updated for MD info.

**United Nations** - the UN Day at the House of Commons London together with the MD Peace Poster Presentation will be on Tuesday 11th March 2014 4pm. Tickets will be allocated upon application. There will also be days held in Cardiff (Wales) /Edinburgh (Scotland) and Wexford (Ireland).

**Euro/Asia** – I attended the Europa Forum in Turkey and several projects were presented to the Euro/Asia committee including Lions to have a stand at World Expo 2015 Italy / Museum of Stradivarius Violin, Cremona / Dynamo Streetchildren Project / 1<sup>st</sup> World Song Festival for the Blind, Poland / India – Leaders Academy / Blind School in Bhutan / Young Musician Concert in Russia / SMILE – Social Media in Lions Europe.

**District LCIF & Disaster Coordinator Officer - PDG Lion Patrick Hamblin**

Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) is our own international charity. The work of LCIF can be found on its website – [www.lcif.org](http://www.lcif.org). To ensure that all funds are used wisely they are managed with local Lions Clubs' involvement. In 2012 – 2013 year 489 grants totalling approximately £25 million were awarded for a range of needs in the areas of disaster relief, sight, youth and humanitarian needs.

As I write this report, funds are still being donated to LCIF for the Disaster Fund specifically for the Philippines, where Super Typhoon Haiyan caused total devastation in parts of the Philippines.

The worldwide fundraising campaign for measles elimination is continuing. This is an LCIF involvement with the GAVI Alliance, a public-private partnership whose mission is to save children's lives and protect people's health by increasing access to immunisation in the world's poorest countries. The funds raised by Lions will be matched by the UK Government Department for International Development and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

At District level the contributions this Lionistic year to LCIF are very much improved from last year. As at 18th December 2013 £25,117 has been donated to the LCIF Disaster Fund, £2,860 to the LCIF General Fund and £800 to the Measles Initiative. If Lions wish to contribute personally to LCIF I hold a stock of Contributing Member's Pins, where for £15.00 members receive a pin and can feel they have supported LCIF personally.

Melvin Jones Fellowships continue to be awarded by Clubs and many Clubs in the District have donated adequate funds to LCIF to be able to award this recognition without additional donations.

My offer to speak on LCIF has been taken up by three Clubs and one Zone. Many members are unaware just how major our own charity is in the world rankings of charities. I would remind members that all funds donated to LCIF are used for grants. Administration charges are funded from interest on investments. Investments are needed because it is never known when the next disaster will occur or the next need for a grant will arise.

To date, there have not been any 'disasters' in the District where my involvement has been required this Lionistic year.

**Youth Committee Chairman - Lion Yorky Tuke**

The Youth Committee have been active in promoting all aspects of our youth programme. We have regularly been attending Zone Meetings around the district to encourage clubs to become more aware of the opportunities that we can offer the young people in our communities. In most cases the benefits are reciprocated when we involve young people, as they talk about their connections with a Lions Club so they spread the name of Lions around. Parents may become involved with the club and be a source of new members. We must all invest our time in young people and encourage them in every way that we can, and never forget that THEY are OUR future.

### **Leo Clubs - Lion John Apps**

Alpha Clubs:- Portsmouth (Pride of St Edmunds) and Blandford School – both school based, 13 – 16 year olds

The Omega Club:- is Guernsey, 18 – 28 year olds. Supported by the parent Lions Club.

Since last Convention there has been a fall off in attendance at Blandford with only 3/4 attending regularly. Portsmouth has closed with the withdrawal of support by the school. Guernsey Leos are steady and with support by their Lions club are doing well with Fund Raising events and welfare activities. There is no growth within the district, over the last 7 years various clubs have made overtures to me without any subsequent progress to forming a club. If any club would like more information please look on line at the international site or contact me for a chat.

### **Youth Camp & Youth Exchange - Lion John Apps**

The 2013 Youth Camp at Osmington Bay was attended by 39 youngsters from 26 countries and 6 Lions from our district, all of whom had attended the 2008 Youth Camp at Avon Tyrrell. A full report has been previously presented to cabinet and the December edition of 'LION' also has a full report. I do not therefore intend to repeat a full description here except to re-iterate that I, and my team, found it extremely hard work due to our ages and the physical demands. This activity needs to be carried out by younger people who can relate to 20 year olds and keep up with them! If this District is to volunteer to host a YEX Camp again this should be borne in mind.

Youth Exchange Outward is progressing well with 8 applications from 3 clubs to date.

Inward. There are difficulties every year with finding accommodation for our guests from abroad. Please consider whether you are able to look after 1 or 2 young people for between 4 to 9 days at the end of July before they go to Camp. This year's Camp is at Guildford and it is being run by District 105SE, please contact me for more information.

### **Liaison with Youth Clubs.**

Although the DG decided that a Youth Clubs Officer was not required, I was asked by the 105SE District officer to answer a query from the Hants and IoW Youth Clubs Association CEO. The CEO had heard from the Sussex CEO of a Lions initiative and therefore I went to her office and explained our role in society and specifically our youth Programmes. Of particular interest to her were our Young Ambassador programme and the initiative 'Lions Den' based on the TV Dragons Den with young people and their projects. She felt this was an area where our 2 organisations could work together and fitted in with her vision for a 'New look' youth club program. Her organisation is now '4 youth' (see <http://4youth.org.uk/>) and offers training so she was also interested in our publications. It is really up to clubs to follow up on youth activities in their area to capitalise on this and help wherever we can. Any ideas? Contact the youth Chairman for more info.

### **Peace Poster, Poetry and Essay Competitions - Lion Frances Bond**

I would like to start by thanking the judges:

**Lion Di Merchant**

**Lion Christine Munday**

**Lion Marilyn Skennerton**

**Lion Pat Nixon**

I would also like to thank **Lion John Apps**, **Eric Nixon** and **DG David Merchant** for being there and helping.

Sadly the numbers of entries were down on last year; however those that we did have were of good quality.

Three of the entries were sadly disqualified due to not meeting the minimum required size. This is something that we continue to publicize to all clubs, that rules should be read and understood before passing on to the schools and youth clubs etc. The sizes are published in the Peace Poster kit and on the 105D website.

The winner of this year's **MD/International Peace Poster for our District** competition is from:

**Charlotte Robinson-Green** aged 11 sponsored by **New Milton Lions Club**.

For the **Junior** competitions the winners are: **Lilly Messenger** aged 8 and **Lily Marshall** aged 9 both from Blackmore Vale Lions club

**Poetry** will have been judged on the 20<sup>th</sup> January 2014, entries are just coming in as I write this report

There were no entries this year for the **Essay** or the **Computer Aided design** competitions so please look at 105D website and have a go for 2014

The overall winner from MD105 came from 105SE, all this information is on the International website

### **Young Ambassador of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century - Lion Yorky Tuke**

At the time of writing this Convention Report I have had notification of five candidates for this year's district competition. There will be an update to the Cabinet after the District Final on the weekend of 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> January 2014.

Update to Report.

After the District Finals our Young Ambassador representing 105D will be Jenny Russ supported by the Lions Club of Jersey.

### **Young Leaders in Service - Lion Andrew Robinson**

The Young Leaders in Service project is making steady progress in District 105D. I have been in contact with clubs in every region this year and almost every zone. Awareness of this project within the district has increased and this is demonstrated by the increase in enquiries I have had. Looking more broadly at the project across MD105, further progress is taking place. A YLIS website is being created that will be designed in a user-friendly way for young people. Facebook and Twitter are also being utilised much more. A number of changes have been and are being made to the administration of this project. These changes are designed to streamline the admin work of clubs and district officers. A number of clubs have experienced administrative problems due to these changes, however I am confident that the systems in place will work successfully in the next twelve month period.

### **LifeSkills - Lion Denise Stenner**

At the 2013 Convention Mandy Broadbent Communications Manager gave an excellent presentation on the current position of the new Company, Lions MD105 Lifeskills Ltd.

In July 2013 Lion Alan Chapman who had held the position of District Lifeskills Officer for 13 successful years, stood down and handed over to myself Lion Denise Stenner.

After little more than a year the new company, operating in profit, has updated 9 resources. In November 2013 the new anti smoking resource for secondary schools, called 'Up in Smoke' was launched, and work continued to develop 'Life Changes' (on loss, change and bereavement) for 11 – 16 years old.

A new resource for Primary Schools on Health and Wellbeing was launched in conjunction with the Healthy Schools Programme London, if successful, it is likely that it will be extended to other major cities.

All information on current resources is available as a brochure to download from the Lions Lifeskills website [www.lionslifeskills.co.uk](http://www.lionslifeskills.co.uk). A DVD giving samples of all the resources is also available.

Lions Clubs are encouraged to appoint a Club Lifeskills Officer, and to promote the resources to schools and youth organisations.

I have written to Zone Chairmen outlining this progress and offered my support to Clubs or to attend zone meetings.