



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



Ordinary People
Amazing Things

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CONVENTION SPECIAL



Was it really only two weeks ago that I was struggling to get everything finished, packed & into the carIt seems like a lifetime ago.

The following I hope will help with the memories for those of you who were there and for those of you who weren't help paint a picture



FRIDAY HOST NIGHT
Theme School Days
Cosham Lions were responsible of this part of the weekend.

Well done to everyone who showed Lakeside that we meant it when we said that it would be a great nightthe outfits where spectacularHarry Potter & Co, teachers,



SATURDAY BUSINESS SESSION

I had asked all the Zone Chairs to put together displays about their ZoneIt meant that there were lots more displays around the room ...They all looked great.

I found this bit the most nerve racking part of the weekendIt was a very tight schedule. I was taken very much by surprise by the choir of very small children who were singing the piece of music I chose last year for MD Convention in Torquay My next surprise was the inclusion of one of my grandsons(Christopher) in the flag party. I

thought ' my goodness that looks like Christopher' looked away went on singing the anthems looked again & only realized it was him when he winked at me!!

We had some wonderful presentations ..Helen from the Rainbow Centre, Mandy from TACADE, Raymond from Seahawks ..a Diabetes support group for youngsters, Leo President Tim from the Pride of St Edmunds &



dinner ladies, caretakers ,lolly pop ladies,St Trinian girls ,grubby school boys. We had a special guest ...Ann Robinson (alias Yorky Tuke) ran our version of the Weakest LinkCC Jeff was the first to get a dunce's cap. DJ Steve Kingsley phoned me on the following Monday congratulating us all on making it a night to rememberin all his 20 plus years he had never experienced anything quite like it with over 200 people all joining in the fun.

PS . Travis won the River Dance!!



DO Ian on CSF2. All were particularly chosen to show how our hard earned money has been used.



Lions were recognized for their contribution to the District ...DT Linda Picton & Dist Sec Judith were awarded the District Governors Medal of Appreciation for all the help given to myself & to the District. Convention

Chairman Marilyn Skennerton was also awarded this medal for all her work in putting the Convention together



International Presidents Certificates of Appreciation were awarded to PDG Arthur Paulton for his help with the accounts and DO Don Crabtree for all his work with Youth Activities.



A Bert Mason Humanitarian Award presented by the District, was given to Gwynneth Davies Gale (Cosham). Again presented by the District was a Melvin Jones Fellowship to DO Reg Norton (Crofton).

The Ladies of Hart led by Lion Marilyn Robson extracted lots of fines causing many denials but raising funds for 'Stepping Stones' a support group for parents of children with Downs Syndrome

At one point we were running over half an hour behind time ...However as we finished singing Auld Langs Syne I asked everyone to turn and look at the clockit was bang on 5 o'clock.

Saturday Night **GALA DINNER** was in the hands of PDG President of Havant Lions....A wonderful 5 course meal followed by Lakeside entertainment including a cabareta comedian who kept us laughing for 45 minutes. Then back to the music

SUNDAY MORNING FORUMDistrict PR Documents have now all been given to your Zone Chairmen for

distribution /MDO Brigid Hendy updated us as to proposed on changes in government legislation/ then PID Terry Graham answered questions. Entertainment again followed by lunch and then as the bad weather set in (yes they really were hailstones) we all started to make our way home.

Our International Guest Terry Graham & his wife Lion Jean certainly seemed to enjoy his stay with us.

Please remember that you can buy a disc with all the photos taken by Peter Garlick and Richard Wareham for £5cheques to Peter Garlick ASAP with proceeds going to Eric's chosen Partner Charities.

I would like to thank everyone for making it a very special weekend for me. Every club in Zone H played a part in the organization. Convention Chair Marilyn ,Convention , Business Manager Barry , The Convention Committee , DO Peter Garlick , Richard Wareham & last but definitely not least SAA Travis. My grateful thanks to you all.

United Nations Day in the House of Commons.

For the first time this event was over subscribed. We had a good contingent from 105D ...some who had not been before. It is always on the second Tuesday in March so mark a place in your diary and remember to ask for tickets before Christmas!

NEW MEMBERS.... Welcome to all of you

GUERNSEY...Jenny Stallard and Mark Colver
READING.....Brian Treadwell
ROMSEY.....Pauline Cooke
SOUTH CHILTERNs....Phyllis Evans
SWANWICK.....Grace Turner
WIMBORNE & FERNDOWN..Ronald Neave

And welcome back to Julia Burns of **Hayling Island**

DISTRICT GOVERNORS DIARY

APRIL

2nd Fleet CV
 3rd Hart CV
 5th Hook & Odiham CA
 7th Henley CV
 8th New Milton CV
 9th Yately CV
 10th Westbury CV
 11th Crofton CA
 12th Havant CA
 14th Blandford Forum CV
 15th Weymouth & Portland CV
 16th Finance Meeting
 17th Wincanton CV
 19th Warminster CA
 20th Hart Charter Lunch CA
 21st South Chilterns CV
 23-25th Council of Governors

MAY

1st Christchurch CV
 6th Havant CV
 7th Dorchester CV
 8th Ventnor CV
 10th **Incoming Officer Trng.**
 10th Fareham CA
 11th **PAULTONS PARK**
 12th Goring Woodcote CV
 13th Maidenhead CV
 14th Basingstoke CV
 15th Bracknell CV
 17th Andover CA
 18th **DISTRICT CABINET**
 19th Hook & Odiham CV
 20th Woodley & Earley CV
 21st Salisbury CV
 22nd Slough CV
 24th Westbury CA
 28th Cowes CV
 30th Waterlooville CV

25th-27th **Multiple District Convention ABERDEEN**

As you can see April & May are VERY busy months for me...This was not intentional. My original dates were evenly spread based on the information given in our hand book. There were many errorsPlease be careful when you fill in your details of meeting dates and please state if a business meeting or otherwise and if there are changes please tell the District Secretary.

Now for some gentle reminders...

- Reporting Dates change. All Reports must be in by the last day of the month.If still paper copies they must be with Reports Officer by 20th of the month that you are reporting (any info between that date and the end of the month goes into the following month reporting.
- Secretaries please make sure that your forms re new officers etc are sent on time otherwise your club details will not be printed
- Paultons Park BOOK NOW with DO John Ormiston
- ECO bags Send your pledges to DO Reg Norton ASAP ...we won't order unless we have enough pledges.
- Orientation sessions & Incoming Officer Training Please make every effort to attend ...believe me there is ALWAYS something new we can learn.

*You are all amazing people doing such wonderful things !
Please carry on the good work !!*



Environmental Photo Contest For The General Public!

This years "Lions Environmental Photo Contest" is over and the winner has been announced. Now lets recreate that contest but this time as a means of raising awareness in your town of your Lions Club and our involvement in environmental matters going back over 35 years!

The rules and subject areas of the competition will be the same as for the Lions, that is Photographs to be 10" x 8" portraying either Animal Life, Landscape, Plant Life, Weather Phenomenon & the special theme "Our Changing Environment" with a Title and caption explaining how the subject of the photo could be preserved, protected or improved.

EEmail environ@lions105d.org.uk for a draft poster to distribute in your locality.

You should then arrange judging of photos focussing on originality, artistic merit, and portrayal of the environmental theme, and then send a winner from each category to me by 15th June 2008.

A District Panel with the support of the Environment Agency will select the winning photograph, and that winner will be announced at the District Changeover.

Lion Reg Norton, District Environment & Community Affairs Officer.

LYMINGTON PRESENTS!

On the evening 2nd December Lymington Lions Club took over the "New Hall" at the Lymington Community centre to make donations the communities of Lymington and Brockenhurst totalling just under £5000.This money represented funds generated from the Lymington and Pennington Carnivals which took place during the summer of 2007. The Town Mayor of Lymington and Pennington Mrs Pauline Elsworth together with the Club President Peter Steeples made the donations



President Peter with the Town Mayor and the Carnival Queen, Prince and Princess

Some twenty four local organisations benefited many representing youth groups within the community.

This year the Lymington carnival exceeded all or expectations", said Lion President Peter. This was due to the formation of a sub committee made up of non Lion members from within the community who supported Lion Club members Ian and Lynn in organising and building up the procession with more floats.



Yet again Lion Ted Wilton who has a long association with both, The Lymington and New Forest Clubs, took on much of the pre-organisation for the

Brockenhurst carnival and Fun Day and our grateful thanks to him for another very successful event. Grateful thanks also to Zone Chairman Derek Smith who loaned us a display stand for the night.

LIONS 'GREEN BAG'

In Environmental Activities little things do mean a lot because, by working together, we can have a positive effect on our environment and communities. One small action that will create a big impact is to join with others in phasing out the use of Plastic Bags and replacing them with a more environmentally friendly alternative! We now have that opportunity.

To date I've had 24 responses, if you are not one of those please let me know urgently whether or not your club feels able to support this project. This project has three prongs: Helping the Environment, Publicity for Lions, and Fund Raising for other good causes!

Lion Reg Norton, Environment & Community Affairs Officer, District 105D

A Message from your Editor—Hope you enjoy this Convention Special. **For those of you that have ordered CD's they have been posted with this issue to your Secretary.**

Please PR Officers lets have your articles.

Lion Peter Garlick

Another magnificent result for the Jersey Lions' Swimathon



With around £113,500 pledged at the end of swimming at the end of the five day event, the 2008 Swimathon organised by the Lions Club of Jersey at the Island's Les Quennevais Pool is likely to raise in excess of £122,500.

"We are overwhelmed by the moneys raised this year," says organising chairman Lion Chris Clarke. "Once again, the Swimathon received an enormous boost with the £22,000 raised by His Excellency the Lt Governor who swam with the Government House team, the Royal Seals, plus the generous sponsorship of more than £8,000 received from our principal sponsor RBC as a result of the 23,730 laps swum since the Swimathon started and for which RBC has pledged 35p per lap." RBC itself fielded eight teams of swimmers.

Principal beneficiary of this year's Swimathon will be Maison des Landes Hotel for the Disabled which will receive a major contribution towards building and refurbishment costs of £500,000. The hotel has been a project of the Lions Club of Jersey since 1964 and is managed by trustees drawn from the members of the Jersey Club. It is a purpose-built hotel catering for disabled persons and their carers. Most hotel guests come from the United Kingdom but each year the Jersey Club organises and pays for several weeks of free holidays at the hotel for local people who might otherwise never have any sort of holiday at all. "We are able to do this thanks to the funds raised by the Swimathon," says Lion Ken Syvret MBE, chairman of the Maison des Landes trustees.

To date successive Swimathons have raised around £2.4 million since the first event in 1972 of which most has been spent in Jersey although many overseas projects have also benefited. A special guest at this year's event was former Lion John Abraham who had chaired the fund-raising committee who devised the sponsored 'swim' in 1972 and which, for many years, held the world record for raising money from sponsored swimming.

This year 398 teams took part with swimmers ranging from toddlers to pensioners.

"As ever we are thrilled with the support we have received from so many schools, businesses, organisations, families and individuals and, of course, the generosity of all their sponsors," says Jersey Lions Club president Geof Dingle. "The Swimathon has once again proved its popularity and we are extremely grateful to everyone who participated, in particular our major sponsors RBC, who have played a key role with us during the months of pre-planning and whose generosity and support have done so much to maintain the continued success of the Swimathon and our final result."

Although already £122,500 has been raised – and mostly already paid in to the Lions Club of Jersey – previous experience indicates that the final result could well be higher. "Several organisations have already doubled the moneys raised by their staff," says Lion Chris Clarke, "And by the time we stopped counting in June, a smaller sum than we had raised by the end of the Swimathon had grown to £130,000, so we live in hopes of eventually matching last year's figure."



The event was opened by the Lt Governor of Jersey, Lt Gen. Andrew Ridgway. He talks to the Disabled in Pools Swimmers before they take the plunge.



Former Lion John Abraham (left) the man who invented the Swimathon with Lion Chris Clarke who chaired the committee that organised the 2008 event

Easter 2008 – EggEptionally Good!

For quite a few years now, the Lions of Wimborne & Ferndown have taken on the task of organising charity draws for 60 or 70 or even 80 giant chocolate Easter Eggs, always in aid of an exceptionally worthwhile local cause. This year it was decided that there should be two local causes; the Julia's House Children's Hospice and the Somerset & Dorset Air Ambulance and to reflect the popularity of these charities the number of eggs was increased to 100. Once again, the Lions were given great support by many public houses, golf courses and golf driving ranges, Age Concern Day Centres, shops, large employers and garden centres including special facilities to sell at Haskins in the weekends up to Easter. The result? All 100 eggs have gone and, although the receipts are still to be counted, it seems likely that the effort will net something like £4000 to be divided between the two charities. Lion President Godwin Micallef said, "This great result owes much of its success to the many businesses that have taken on the eggs and Lions are very grateful to them. However, it could not happen without the generosity of the people of East Dorset who always come up trumps in support a good cause and they have earned our thanks once again!" **Lion John Wilson**



Mrs Paula King, Co-ordinator of the Ferndown Heatherlands Age Concern Day Centre, wins her Centre's egg and is presented with it by Lion John Wilson



(L-R) Lions Frank Fortey, Ricky Paddock and Robin Hotchkiss with eggs at Haskins