

The International Association of Lions Clubs DISTRICT 105D - FEBRUARY 2011



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“Make your mark on the world”



Yes it's February which means another month gone and another month nearer to the high point of any Governor's year – the annual convention. The Host Committee led by Steve Spencer is working very hard to ensure that everything is just so for you to enjoy the social events and business sessions and for you to have to opportunity to meet old friends again and make

new ones. All the speakers are now in place and the programme is finalised and gone to print – by now you should have received your Convention booklet either from your Zone Chairman or by post. By the closing date for the competition for a free weekend we had 115 people booked for Convention and the competition was won by PDG John and Julia Sims from Exeter Lions Club in District 105SW – a district which supports us at Convention year on year. Currently I plan to visit the business session of District 105A convention to be held at the MK Dons new stadium at Milton Keynes and I am currently considering attending all or part of 105SW's convention at Torquay. Unfortunately this year we have 4 conventions on the same weekend as ours which rather restricts the ones you can visit.

January has been a relatively quiet month with club visits mixed with meetings of various District and Zone Committees. I did get home to Ireland to see my family for a couple of days at the beginning of the month before joining Mike at the VDG Training weekend in Solihull. By the time you read this newsletter I will also have attended, with 1st VDG Ron, the third Council of Governors Meeting in Solihull. For me I think the highlight of the month was attending a very informal but very productive half day brainstorming session held one Saturday morning in the home of 2nd VDG Roger and wife Christine. The group was primarily the members of the District Long Range Planning Committee augmented by others with special skills or knowledge in certain topics. We split into three groups and looked at:

- Lions Identity and projects
- Managing the district
- Extended use of IT

Smaller groups have now been established to take these matters forward in more detail and will form part of a three year plan supported by the DG Team to make changes in the way that the District is run and also importantly save money in the cost of District Administration.

My heartfelt thanks to Roger and Christine for their hospitality and for feeding us and also for coming up with this innovative but fun filled way of looking at the future of the District.

The other highlight of the month was the Young Ambassador Competition in Bournemouth so ably managed by Lion Richard High. The District winner who will go forward to the MD final at the end of February in Dudley is Camilla Potter sponsored by the Lion Club of Wokingham. If you have not been to this District weekend before, make sure you book for next year's.

Membership After all the fine work on membership in November when we actually gained more members than we lost, the position reversed in December – one of the traditional clear out months. We gained 6 new members (plus 2 reinstatements) but lost 18 – some of them I recognise as being long standing members of this Association. These were the categories filled in on the membership report for the drops:

Resigned in good standing–9, Moved–2, Deceased 2
Non attendance–2, Non payment of dues–1
Transferred–1, Other – 1.

Exactly 50% of the drops were the ubiquitous “Resigned in Good Standing” which hides a multitude of sins. Have we looked at the real reasons why we lost those members? Did we do anything to stop them? At Convention you will see a presentation on the “Ideal Club” which will be our principal tool as we move forward to try to arrest the decline before the people finally resign by which time it is too late. Whilst I did submit ambitious targets for membership growth at the start of the year, I will be more than happy if at the end of my year I have zero growth or maybe plus 1 or 2 rather than a minus figure. This will mean that I will hand over to the 1st VDG with no overall loss of members for the year. Half way through, we are minus five members from where we started on July 1st when I took over from IPDG Judith – lets all work together to redress that balance by June 30th.



Yes we can!

New members – November and December 2010

We welcome those new members who joined the Association in these months;

In November: Francesca Bethell (Blandford Forum), David Malkin (Wareham), Nick Best, Kateryna Bletso, Lenny Davies, Jean Lucas (Westbury), Christopher Sanders (Newport), Margaret Willoughby (Alton), Nigel Quelch (Loddon Valley), James Powell (Fleet), Margaret Daly (Henley) and Richard Munday (Woodley & Earley)

In December: Diane Lawrence, Karen Rees (Bridport), Brian Wilde (Warminster), Clifford Paffett (Eastleigh), Erica Webb (Swanwick), Guy Chapman (Fleet)

Sad News I am sad to announce the death of Lion Brian Green of Alton Lions who was a member of 30 years standing and had done so much for his community, his club and the District. My thoughts are with all those who knew him and worked with him and who mourn his passing. May he rest in peace.

Hendy's haunts for February

Date	Where	Why (O/V = Official Visit C/A = Charter Anniversary)
Feb 2nd	Fleet	O/V
Feb 3rd	Convention Committee Meeting, Windsor	Planning
Feb 6th	Burnham	C/A
Feb 7th	Meon Valley	O/V
Feb 8th	Sandown and Shanklin	O/V
Feb 9th	Cowes Branch	O/V
Feb 10th	Ventnor	O/V
Feb 12th	Regional Development Committee Meeting	Eastleigh
Feb 12th	Wareham	C/A
Feb 13th	Leadership Institute follow up	Southampton
Feb 14th	Fareham	O/V
Feb 16th	Loddon Valley	O/V
Feb 17th	Christchurch	O/V
Feb 18th	Bracknell Race Night	O/V
Feb 19th	Weymouth	C/A
Feb 21st	Waterlooville	O/V
Feb 26th	Sandown and Shanklin	C/A
Feb 27th	MD Young Ambassador Final	Dudley

See you in March at Convention
Regards **DG Brigid and Mike**



Blandford Lions Club donated £573 to Hanford school riding for the disabled group towards the cost of a new pony (Theo) seen pictured in photograph, with lion President

Henry Cuff presenting cheque to Mrs Stella Hayward of the group. I am also in the picture as welfare officer. Blackmore Vale Lions also made a donation.

Mayoress Becomes a Lion



Margaret Willoughby wife of Alton Town Mayor David has become a Lion, joining the Lions Club of Alton. Welcomed by Lion President Graham Dix, Margaret responded that she had been

looking for a new challenge and had become an admirer of all the different fund raising activities and local good works in which Alton Lions were involved.

Christchurch Lions Donate a Defibrillator

On the 8th Dec., the Mayor of Christchurch, Cllr. Nick Geary, presented a Defibrillator to The Regent Centre in Christchurch High Street on behalf of The Lions Club of Christchurch.



The Defibrillator was purchased by the Lions Club with money that had been raised at their local event - the Annual Duck Race, which takes place along the Millstream, in the town, on August Bank

Holiday every year. The Regent Centre sees over 100,000 people pass through the doors every year, attending films, shows and other events, so Christchurch Lions decided it was the obvious place to have the life-saving device as it is also in the centre of the town.

The photograph shows the Mayor, with Lion President Elisabeth Poole, presenting the Defibrillator to Eliot Walker, Manager of The Regent Centre

CHRISTMAS CHEER.



The Lions Club of Reading partnered with the local WRVS, who supply 'meals on wheels' for the Local Authority, to enable 120 small Christmas cakes to be distributed to 'meals on wheels' recipients on Christmas Day. After

discussions with WRVS representatives it was learned that the majority of recipients who receive meals every day do not have any family near and for many it would be the only Christmas present they receive. Wrapping the cakes was great fun and it was good to hear how well received they were on Christmas morning. Lion Patrick Hamblib



Sun helps Lions Run



The 26th Annual 10k Charity Road Run organised by Goring, Woodcote & District Lions Club was officially started in Woodcote by Sir John Robert Madejski OBE DL and

successfully completed in brilliant sunshine on Sunday morning 9th January 2011. Although the Lions had been out early to spread salt and grit on many parts of the route which were shaded, the overnight frost had still left some icy patches. Despite there being no wind the course was slow and so the record finish time of 30:31 still stands.



First over the finish line was Chris Green from Reading timed at 35:13.61 followed by Charlie Pearson from London, who was second over the line and timed at 35:26.86. The first female was 9th over the line, Samantha Amend from Marlow, timed at 38:36.48. When Samantha won the 2009 Ladies Trophy in this run she was 18th over the line with a finish time of 41:06.83

The UK Athletic Association provided a team of referees who helped assure the Lions of their continued good organisation, preparation and administration of this annual event.

All finishers received a medal. The winners Cups and Trophies were presented by Sir John Madejski as shown in the attached table of results and photographs.

Volunteers from a number of several other local clubs and organisations helped the Lions maintain the enjoyment, safety and efficacy of this annual event. They include Scouts & Guides, Rotary and 41 Clubs, and all are much appreciated. A team from St John Ambulance provided first aid cover, but thankfully no injuries were reported.

Ten local businesses made generous contributions. Warmingham – Estate Agents were the major sponsor, others include The Henley Standard, Halarose Ltd – Woodcote, JRS Services – Woodcote, Woodborough House Dental Practice – Pangbourne, Caversham Heath Golf Club, Bouchier Fencing Co - Woodcote, Sol-Tec Ltd – Reading, Johnson Matthey - Sonning Common and the Boathouse Dental Surgery – Goring.

The proceeds and sponsorship monies from this event

are still being received, but are estimated to exceed £3,000 and will be split between the local area Macmillan Cancer Support and the Air Ambulance (Berks/Oxon/Bucks).

To get copies of any photographs taken of individual runners around the course on the day please tel: 07778 666 840 or view www.simonslaterphotography.com



The Ringwood and Fordingbridge Lions Club were out in force in Ringwood on Saturday. A Virtual Cycle ride had been arranged pedalling an exercise bike from Ringwood to Winchester, taking in Brockenhurst, Lyndhurst and Romsey, a

distance of almost 50 miles. The public of Ringwood rose to the meet the challenge, covering the distance in a shade less than four hours. Many of them paying a pound to cycle for one minute and many more paying money to cheer them on. The money raised is to be donated to the Salisbury District Hospital "Caring 4 Kids Appeal" – making life better for local children in hospital. President of the Lions Club, Geoff Kay said "It really is heart warming the way the people of Ringwood have reacted. Just over £220 was raised and I'm sure it will be appreciated by the families of the youngsters".

Pictured are Lion President Geoff Kay and Lion Christine Rutherford.



100 Christmas Food Parcels

The annual delivery of food parcels has been made again by Wimborne and Ferndown Lions club. In a process somewhat resembling musical

chairs, club members fill bags with 30 food items from bulk supplies purchased from Morrisons of Verwood. The bags are then delivered to people who have been notified to the Lions from local Social Services, CABs and GPs etc.

Picture shows some of the club members in "filling" action.

A message from your Editor

Well done Clubs 13 excellent articles in this issue, please keep them coming.

The next issue closes 24th March 2011.

Lion DO Peter Garlick.



Yes we can!



Weymouth Christmas Day Annual Swim

Weymouth Harbour saw another fantastic community effort on Christmas morning at the Lions annual Christmas Day swim.

Picture Courtesy of Dorset Echo

153 brave souls took the plunge raising over £10,300 for a variety of charities and good causes. Most popular beneficiaries were Weldmar, Medical and Cancer charities, Military and other local charities.

Medals were presented by the Mayor, Councillor Paul Kimber, to the winners of the competitive races as follows



Junior Boys - Hugh Ireland Junior Girls - Rebecca Man



Ladies - Katrina Baker Mens - Niall Laming
All winners pics by D Apps

Katrina Baker travelled all the way from Wincanton and raised £550 for Breast Cancer Relief.

As ever the event proved to be the ideal fun packed way to pass the time between opening your presents and sitting down to Christmas Lunch. Great fun and one those events that makes Weymouth such a good place to live. Lastly, we would like to thank the swimmers and the public at large for supporting the event so well.
Norman Apps



Santa Dash 2010 Windsor Lions' finest turned out in force on a cold and frosty morning in November to raise money for the wonderful cause that is Thames Hospice Care.

Both this cause and event are close to the hearts of every Windsor Lion. Our much respected colleague, Geoff Beck, who sadly died in June after a short stay in

the hospice, had taken part in the inaugural event last November at the grand age of 83, proudly showing off his new knees and even more proudly collecting the accolade of highest sponsored entrant.

This inspired 12 members of the club – plus one or two faithful wives and children - to sign up to the event and raise a total of almost £2000!

It was a magical scene: pristine woodland in Swinley Forest, the air thick with the vapour from several hundred middle age Santas gasping their way round the 5K course, many wishing they had put in just a bit of training – or at least refrained from that last pint the night before!

But the team all completed the course safe and sound – the fastest in 36 minutes (well done Christian!) and some considerably slower – but still with a sense of satisfaction at a job completed and a great cause well served. Everyone agreed that it was a fantastic event and next year we hope to have an even bigger team, to all run much faster and raise even more money! **Diane Purchase**

Defibrillator for British Red Cross



Hugh Phillips had been a Lion for approaching 50 years including nearly 40 years as a member of the Lions Club of Newbury.

His widow, Mary, and family generously decided

that monies collected at Hugh's funeral service would be donated to the Lions Club of Newbury. The service at the West Berkshire Crematorium was a packed one and those attending were indeed very generous. After discussions between Mary and members of the Lions Club it was agreed to use the bulk of the money to purchase a defibrillator and to present it to the Newbury Branch of the British Red Cross.

The Newbury branch was in need of a defibrillator and the Lions Club of Newbury is aware of the tremendous work carried out by the Red Cross locally in supporting events in the Newbury area. In particular they always support the Lions Annual Firework Display at Newbury Racecourse, although the paths of the two organisations cross at many events in and around the town.

The Lions Club of Newbury is most grateful to the Phillips family for their kindness in donating the monies collected at Hugh's funeral and it is most appropriate that the money has been used to purchase an invaluable piece of life saving equipment which will help those most in need – the very basis upon which Lions Clubs operate.

For further information please go to:-

www.newburylions.org.uk



POINTS FOR VISITS?

When you read your Lion Magazine do you ever look at the Visiting Lion competition league table? It is on page 48 of the December/January edition. Do you ever wonder why no clubs from 105D appear in this?

Quite simply very few clubs in 105D ever enter either the MD or the District competition and as the new 105D Competitions Officer, (taking office from January 2011), I would like to see this changed. It was not always the case and a few years ago Maidenhead won, not only the 105D competition, but the MD Competition as well!

The rules for the MD Competition differ slightly from our own competition and can be found on the MD105 Website under members, competitions and finally Travelling Lion. The rules for our own competition have been circulated along with a letter and forms in the January District Mailing. These are also on the District web site. I would urge you all to look at the rules and see if your club can enter. You will see that if you enter the 105D competition you will automatically be entered into the MD competition as I will forward all forms to MDHQ provided they are received in time.

Why bother to enter? The words engraved on the 105D shield are to "unite the Clubs in the bonds of friendship, good fellowship and mutual understanding". The 105D competition was introduced by PDG Barrie Richardson and the shield is presented annually at District Convention. Inter-club visits (both social and business meetings) are to be encouraged together with attendance at officially organised District, Region and Zone Meetings, socials, fund raising, Forums and training sessions. This year my club has made several visits to other clubs and have found that they have learned an awful lot about what other clubs do. Whilst all clubs have the same Purposes and Ethics they all operate differently and good ideas can be picked up by making such visits.

It is also good for all Lions to attend Zone Meetings and District events and the point system is waited to encourage this. A lot of hard work goes into arranging all kinds of District events and so much can be learned from attending our Convention, the Young Ambassador Weekend, Incoming Officers Training days and other occasions.

It can be even more interesting to attend MD events especially MD Convention and even International Convention. Just meeting Lions from other clubs both locally and from further a field can be fulfilling and life time friendships can be started at such forums.

So when you make your visits take a Visiting Lion form with you, get it signed and enter our Competition. The more clubs that enter the better as it is good to have competition amongst the clubs.

Please contact me for any advice or help and **PLEASE** start participating I will be reporting progress on the web and in the District Newsletter. Wouldn't it be

great to see your Club's name there?

There are several other competitions operating within the District and a leaflet giving details of these has been sent out in the January District Mailing and are also on the website.. Lion Judith

Lion Judith Goodchild ipdg@lions105d.org.uk



LIONS CLUB OF READING 'HEROES' DINNER'

After almost a year of planning, the Lions Club of Reading, with help from a number of friends and agreement

from Windsor Club, recently held a very special gala dinner to support 'Help for Heroes', the Household Cavalry Operational Casualties Fund and 'Combat Stress'. This was held in the splendid venue of the Warrant Officers' and NCOs' Mess at Combermere Barracks in Windsor, the home of the Household Cavalry Regiment. On arrival at the



venue, we were greeted with two mounted soldiers in full ceremonial uniform, one from the Blues and Royals and the second from the Life Guards. The evening commenced with a champagne

reception and this was followed by a five course dinner, cooked by serving army chefs. All the chefs and serving staff gave their time for free to support the evening and both the food and wine was sponsored by supporters. The evening's speakers were General Sir Reddy Watt KCB, KCVO, CBE (President of Combat Stress) and Brigadier Chris Parker CBE, who was until recently the Commandant of the Royal Centre for Defence Medicine.

The speeches were followed by superb music by the band of the Blues and Royals.



After the formal part of the evening there was an auction of numerous outstanding prizes, some of which would be impossible to buy. The majority of prizes were donated, including the excellent tombola prizes. This was run in a novel way by purchasing a teddy bear with a number around its neck rather than a traditional raffle ticket.

The evening was a sell out, with 150 persons attending, and raised £27,000. This will be divided

between the three charities. Lion Patrick Hamblin.



Yes we can!

Young Ambassador Finals



The 14th/15th January saw the 2011 finals of the 105D Young Ambassador competition, with four candidates representing clubs from across the District.

The candidates were as follows:

- Stephen Pearce – Petersfield Lions Club
- Camilla Potter – Wokingham Lions Club (the eventual winner)
- Kieran May – Woolmer Forest Lions Club
- Charlotte Wellman – Jersey Lions Club



The weekend also featured guest speakers, including representatives from Hampshire Council, to talk about a nationwide music project called Rock Challenge (more information can be found at www.rockchallenge.co.uk), last years 105D Young Ambassador winner Becky Bellworthy speaking about the voluntary work she has been involved with

since last years competition, and D/Os John Apps and Pat Nixon. John spoke about competitions, including a new one for partially sighted people, and Pat about her work with a drugs and alcohol initiative.

I would personally like to extend my thanks to all who were involved in making the weekend successful. DG Brigid did a great job of keeping proceedings moving, and Richard Wareham took some excellent pictures. The judges, who are not Lions members, and give their time freely, took their roles very seriously and were most keen to bring out the best of those involved. To them, I personally am extremely grateful.

I have provisionally booked the Hinton Firs Hotel, Bournemouth for next years event, for the 13th-14th January 2012. I would encourage all clubs to begin the process of looking for a candidate now, and please feel free to contact me with any queries.

D/O Richard High
youngambassador@lions105d.org.uk

Woodley Wanderers Lions



The Woodley and Earley Lions are proud in supporting the younger generation by supplying the football kit of the Woodley Wanderers Lions, who are part of the Woodley Wanderers Youth Football Club.

The Football Club was established in 1971 and will be celebrating their 40th Anniversary this year. They currently run 15 teams from under 7's through to under 18's and are very proud of their multi skills which runs for 4-6year olds. They are also currently involved in a new programme promoting Girls football in Woodley working with the 3 other Woodley Clubs. Woodley Wanderers is a Charter Standard Club with all its Coaches at least Level 1 qualified and CRB checked.

Woodley Wanderers Lions have been playing together since they were Under 7's, the first time they were sponsored by the Woodley Lions hence their name.

This is the first year they have played 11 a-side football in the East Berks League and they are doing very well and enjoying the challenge of bigger, faster football.

Spokes person for the youth team, Claire Richards:

"The Lions have been a great support to the team and we have had some fun supporting them with a couple of very successful Race nights and the boys are very proud to wear the logo of such a worthy organisation."

The Team are currently looking for a Goal Keeper and if anyone is interested then please contact Matt Richards on 07748 653168.

