

The International Association of Lions Clubs DISTRICT 105D - FEBRUARY 2012



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"Make your mark on the world"



**Young Ambassador winner
Laura Pellegrini.**

Hi Fellow Lions.

First I must apologise for this February newsletter being so late. Normally I like to have my part of it with Peter by the end of the month. But the end of January was a particularly busy time, with the Council of Governors meeting and the February visits starting almost straight away. The time just flew

by, anyway enough of the excuses, let us see what has been happening to Ann and I since the start of 2012.

As I say time is just flying by and it does not seem that just a month ago we were all busy with our Christmas projects.

Since the start of January we have visited 10 clubs, plus 4 more at the start of February. I must say that visiting clubs is very exciting and always different, as you never know what to expect. We are always made to feel so welcome and meeting with and listening to all the members dealing with the things that motivate them to being Lions. It never ceases to amaze us just how much our clubs and members do for their communities.

During the month we flew to Jersey and spent some time in St Helier, and were made very welcome at the Jersey Club meeting. I was also able to meet Jersey's candidate for the Young Ambassador competition. The next day it was a short flight to Guernsey, and another very warm welcome. As we had a spare day on the Wednesday we spent it sightseeing around this small and beautiful island. Thursday saw us back on the little Blue Island plane flying to Southampton, and on to visit Hayling Island and badging up new members. This meant we had covered 5 islands in 5 days. (Think about it)



The next day it was off to Bournemouth and the District Young Ambassador finals another brilliant and great 2 days. These young people are so great; it always amazes me

where they find the time and energy to do all they do. Well done to all of them and to the organisers of the weekend and the District Youth Team. It is a pity that just one youth can win to go to the MD finals as they were all

so good, but as I said to them they are all winners really because of the work they do in the community. I hope to be in Dudley on the day of the MD final to support our District candidate.

After the Y A Finals it was on to the January Cabinet meeting (one of the coldest for quite a while, which has prompted a move for the one in May). By their own decision the cabinet members undertook to do a specially adapted version of the My Ideal Club, exercise, the outcome of which makes interesting reading and may give some pointers to VDGs Roger and David to tackle during their years in office.



We have managed just 3 Charters since the beginning of January, and Burnham on the 5 February in the snow. At Loddon Valley Lions charter I helped present two Melvin Jones Awards to Lion President Barrie Germain and Lion Geoff Foan.

The Council of Governors meeting at the end of January was extra busy and long, with many hard decisions to take. We were joined in Council on this weekend by the 1st VDGs, but despite the long hours and hard decisions it was a good weekend of fellowship between the DGs and VDGs.

Being a DG is not all easy going, we were calling into Newbury on the Thursday en route to the Cog. When on leaving home to catch the ferry my car burst a waterhose. So a quick dash to home and change cars, drop mine into the garage, then rush to the ferry which we just made. But worse was yet to come. We found Ann's car heater was not working as well as it should. So on our return and collecting my car we booked Ann's in to be repaired, just a day they said. So returning from work on Friday morning she dropped it at the garage. Then on arriving home she found that a neighbour had driven up the road and smashed into my car which was parked outside the front of the house. So suddenly no car!

Due to go to Eastleigh on the Saturday to be at the launch of the Signature Project by the GM Team, and then on Sunday to Burnham Club Charter, it was Lions to the rescue. Lions Pauline and PDG Mike took us across to the Launch with them and then on Sunday PDG Lion Roger came to the rescue and was good enough to take us to the Burnham Charter, despite the snow. Thank you to both of them, even Lion Helen from my own club has said if I need it and it is available we can always borrow her car, truly Lions at their best when a need arises. Currently I have a loan car from the insurers until I get the cheque for mine (they want to write it off) after that it is up to me. Fortunately Ann's car



With Fun and Fellowship

is fixed and we should have her car at least until I get mine sorted. So January and the start of February has been very busy and hectic.

During the past months Fleet Lions have badged up and launched their Sirius Branch Club, well done Fleet. I also had the honour when I visited Fleet club on the 1st



February to Badge up the members of the new Aldershot Branch Club, this club has been brought together with the combined efforts of the Zone, PDG Fred Massey and others,

along with help from Farnham Lions in SE. currently to get them going they are to be a branch of Fleet, but it is hoped that within a short time they will become a fully fledged club in their own right. Very well done all those in the Zone who have brought this club to life. Let us keep the membership growing and get the district back into positive figures by the spring.

Have you booked in for our District Convention yet? The day is approaching fast, do not be left out, book in now for a really fun filled "Carry On" weekend, it really is "The Real Deal" at just £165 per person all in for the weekend, and with just £40 for the car and up to 6 people for the weekend, so a good deal if you can car share. Ann and I along with our International guest PID Lion Randy Heitman and his wife Lion Kathy from Nebraska in the USA, are looking forward to meeting you all here on the Island over the weekend of 23rd to 25th March 2012. Please do come it is your convention and we need you all there to make it a fun weekend.



By the way, how is the Tree Planting going? I hear that Ireland have done over 1500 so far, and two of the other districts are well on the way to 1000. So how are "D" doing, if you have planted some trees please put them on the Oakbrook Activity pages for

you club as this will be picked up by HQ. Also if you can tell me of any you have planted or are going to plant I can start a tree meter, to see how we are doing.

As I said earlier on we launched the new MD "Signature Projects" during the month, and gave all the Region and Zone Chairmen the packs and information to give to the clubs. It really is exciting, something that can promote Lions in the UK, by linking together 2 of the best projects we are known for. These are the Lions Eye Health Programme (LEHP) and Young Leaders in Service. The whole MD will be pushing this with the same format across the whole UK from now on. It really is a good move to sell Lions and what we do. So look out for more details and give it all you can.

Please do not forget Lion Ann's Charity, Canine Partners, a little from all of you could make a big difference for some people who will get doggy helpers.

Well enough from me, got to get back to travelling around to meet you all.

In Memoriam I am sorry we have to say farewell to the following Lion who has passed to higher service, I am sure we all have his family in our thoughts.

Lion Michael A Rumfitt of Jersey Lions Club.

I do try my best to get to the funerals but if I am unable to, then I try to get a District Officer to represent myself and the District.

Membership I would like to welcome to our district and to Lionism the following new members, as reported to Oakbrook by 31st January 2012.

Martin Charles Ashton, Simon Collen, Dons Cooper, Annie Dashwood, Emma L Donovan, James Forsyth, Rossanna Muggeridge, and Caroline Louise Skey, all of the Sirius Branch of Fleet.

Joyce Boyle and Jane Regan of Hayling Island. Richard Thomas Weaver of Wareham.

Gareth Hopkins and Karen Hopkins of Westbury.

I wish them all the best and hope that they have many happy years ahead serving with the family of Lions.

DG's Travels

February 2012

Wednesday 1st Fleet, official club visit,
 Saturday 4th Launch Signature Projects.
 Sunday 5th Burnham Charter Lunch,
 Monday 6th Boscombe official club visit,
 Wednesday 8th Yateley, official club visit,
 Thursday 9th Alton, official club visit,
 Sunday 12th attend my Grandsons Christening in Northampton,
 Monday 13th Bracknell, official club visit,
 Tuesday 14th Ryde, official club visit,
 Wednesday 15th Bradford on Avon, official club visit,
 Saturday 18th Weymouth Charter Night,
 Sunday 19th Attend MD Young Ambassador Finals Birmingham,
 Monday 20th Pangbourne & Theale, official club visit,
 Thursday 23rd Burnham, official club visit,
 Saturday 25th Sandown & Shanklin Charter Night,
 Monday 27th Andover, official club visit.

March 2012

Thursday 1st Christchurch official club visit.
 Saturday 3rd Hook & Odiham 25th Charter night.
 Monday 5th Meon Valley Club visit.
 Tuesday 6th Wimborne & Ferndown club visit.
 Thursday 8th Trowbridge club visit.
 Saturday 10th Poole Lions Charter Lunch.
 Saturday 10th Joint Charter Dinner New Milton/Lymington.
 Monday 12th Swanage club visit.
 Tuesday 13th Lions UN day Westminster & London China Town.
 Wednesday 14th G M S club visit.
 Monday 19th Windsor club visit.
 Friday/Sunday 23rd /25th District Convention.
 Saturday 31st Sandown & Shanklin Swimathon.

Looking forward to seeing you all on my visits,

DG Lion Ron and Ann



Lions Club of Bridport 'Green' Sleigh!



This Christmas the club raised just over £2,000 in 7 days with a static display outside our local Morrisons store. This is not the whole story, however, because some 4 years ago one of our members, Lion Malcolm, redesigned a new sleigh to accommodate solar lights and music running from a battery. Alas the solars did not work so 2 years ago we purchased 20 metres of 24volt LED lights from www.lights4fun.co.uk. We now use just one heavy duty 24 volt battery, which is loaned to us free of charge, and an inverter supplied from one of our members. This powers all music and flashing lights for our 6 hour stints each day and the battery is re-charged overnight. Not only is the music much clearer but also much healthier as a generator is no longer required. If you would like more information please contact the editor.



Alton Lions commits to Brian's well in Africa

Lion Brian Green who joined Alton Lions in 1983 and served as Club Treasurer and President, and as District Treasurer suddenly passed away

in 2011. Rather than sending flowers in his memory Lions, friends and colleagues made donations that totaled a magnificent £1381.

In his early career Brian worked in Africa and developed understanding of the problems that face local communities, in particular the supply of clean water and through Lions made contributions to specific projects. Brian and Alton Lions have a long-standing relationship with 'Centre Gideon' in Koutiala in Mali, which is one of the world's poorest countries in West Africa.

Brian supported Japhet and Alison Diarra in developing an adult skills learning centre (Fig1) in Centre Gideon (Fig 2). (Alison was raised in Alton and went on to become a lawyer in an international legal firm before taking up missionary work in Mali.) The Centre is in desperate need

of clean water and has been trying to raise funds to complete a well project (Figs 3&4).

Alton Lions, decided to make up the donated £1381 to £2000 to pay for half of the £4000 cost to finish the well



and have committed to it's completion. Alton Lions would welcome your efforts to raise funds or make donations to the project and guarantees that every penny will go to completing the well.

If you would like more information or to help or make a donation please contact Alton Lions; alton@105d.org.uk, 0845 833 2701 or write to Alton Lions c/o 13 Market Square Alton GU34 1HD

Father Christmas came early to The Children of Langside School Parkstone



Father Christmas arrived on the afternoon of Friday 16th of December, to be greeted by a hall full of children. He handed out gifts to them and made

merry together with the school minstrels. Just as he waved goodbye in came a group of Dorset Lions with good tidings and a gift of £1400 towards some technical equipment in aid of the school.

The children in the picture are ones chosen by the Deputy Head, Mr. Paul Humphreys as cleared to publish. The Charity is Diverse Abilities Plus headed up by Mr. Mark Powell (mob:07889 169502) The Lion members in the picture come from the clubs of Blandford, Boscombe, Poole, and Wareham. Lion Ernie Keene



Blandford Lions contribute to Queen's Diamond Jubilee...and help to plant a few trees

Blandford & District Lions have recently donated £100 in support of creation of the Milton Abbas Diamond Jubilee Orchard.

Use has been made of unused land within the village held by the Parish Council. The orchard was prepared and planted by Matchpatch, an organisation that manages community garden plots in the village, as a lasting memorial to the Queen's Diamond Jubilee this year.

Denis Lynch, Chair of Matchpatch, commented "we are very grateful to Blandford Lions for their support. Our community orchard is mixed fruit, with 23 fruit trees planted to date including Old Dorset varieties, Bryanston Gage, West Country Cider apples and pears."

Picture shows Lion Nigel Hodder presenting a cheque to Denis Lynch with Councillor Anita Rich and villager Trevor Payne looking on. The newly planted fruit trees are in the background.



“Weymouth & Portland Lions Christmas Show”



Picture above shows Lion President Trevor Stratton and Kay on stage with the Mayor, Mayoress and dancers from Pzazz

This year's annual Christmas Show for the over 60's at the Pavilion Theatre was one of the best ever seen with virtually every one of the 1000 seat taken.

Compered by our very own Lions Dave Woolford, Norman Stagles and Russ Woolley. The headline act for



the show was Lion Norman Stagles' band 'Replay', who entertained the audience to rapturous applause, supported by a host of local talent. The feed-back from the public has been very good telling us how much they enjoyed the evening. Weymouth & Portland Lions were delighted

that the Lions Clubs of Bridport, Sherborne, and Gillingham Mere and Shaftesbury organised coaches to take their senior citizens to see this very popular show”

Thanks Norman on behalf of Bridport congratulations to



you all for and excellent show again and I know all our guests again thoroughly enjoyed themselves especially the shopping comedy! And of course your band! **Editor**

COMPETITIONS—Just a quick reminder that Convention is fast approaching. Have you remembered to nominate your club or zone for one of the District awards? Nomination forms and information were sent out in the November District Mailing and in a special mailing in December.

Please remember that there are competitions for the best Club Scrapbook and Club Magazine. I know many clubs produce magazines or bulletins as well as keeping scrapbooks. Why not bring them along to Convention and enter them in the competitions? More details from me if needed.

The Visiting Lion Competition for 2011 has now ended but why not enter the new competition which runs from January to December. Last year we doubled the number of clubs entering. Can we do so again this year? Remember I am happy to receive scanned images so you do not even have to buy a stamp to enter!

Lion Judith Goodchild - 105D Competitions Officer

Alton Tea Party



Alton Lions welcomed nearly a hundred senior citizen guests to the annual tea party in the Alton Maltings and especially those who came from local residential homes. To make the day a special occasion the room in the Maltings had been decorated with balloons and in the centre of each table was a beautiful arrangement of fresh flowers.

The very talented entertainer, Christine, immediately made the guests feel at home and fully involved with songs, amusing poems and delightful stories.

Afterwards everyone settled down for an excellent tea with scones, cream and cakes, lots of friendly chat and a raffle. Everyone had a memorable time and left looking forward to the next time they could all get together.

Alton Lions would like to thank Robin Coulson and all the helpers from the Maltings who helped to make the afternoon a great success.

Blandford & District Lions Club and Alpha Leos



The Blandford & District Lions Club With The Blandford School Alpha Leos Club Raised £250 For 'Children In Need'. Lions Christine and Tony Burt challenged the leos to a 50 minute sponsored rowing challenge at the blandford leisure

centre. Much fun and laughter was had by the participants and supporters who gave encouragement.

The photograph shows leo paige smith rowing, encouraged by leo zoe lillington, lion tony burt and immediate past president henry cuff.

Blandford & District Lions start Xmas alongside the Alpha Leos giving out free sweets to 100 children at the town Mayors xmas tree Lighting reception.

The photograph shows father xmas lion henry cuff assisted by alpha leos zoe lillington & paige smith.



Message From Your Editor

Sorry for the delay in this issue.

Many thanks for all your articles, please keep them coming especially any tree planting ones.

Next issue will close on 26th March.

Editor

