

The International Association of Lions Clubs

DISTRICT 105D - JUNE 2012



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"Make your mark on the world"



Hi Fellow Lions

Time seems to have flown by since March 2009 when you elected me as your 2nd VDG, which was at that time a brand new post and the start of a new era in the idea of having a DG team.

I must thank you all for having the faith to elect me as your DG. I hope I have

not let you down. The past 3 years have gone by so fast; in fact it seems like only yesterday, when I was being sworn in at the International Convention in Seattle.

I hope that I have brought service and servility to my year, with my old school motto of Service before Self and as always in Lions to do this with Fun and Fellowship. To do this by moulding the formal times with some informality to make our Lionism enjoyable.

I did introduce some changes in the District, mostly in the way we reported and ran the cabinet meetings and I feel sure that they were successful.

During the year Ann and I have done so much it would take pages to tell you about all of it. But I hope we have represented you and the District well, wherever we have been and whatever we have been doing.

I know that Ann and I have enjoyed it all. Every one of you have made us feel so welcome during Club visits, and if we have joined in on any of your functions you have always seemed so pleased to have us with you. Attending all the Charters has been such a pleasure, that we are beginning to miss them already.

Although you did not take on the International President Tams idea of planting trees as enthusiastically as some of the other Districts you did exceed the amount I pledged on your behalf in Seattle. So I thank you all for that, and there is still just a bit of time still left to plant some more.

Membership at the start of June is still growing, albeit slowly, I hope that at the close of the month it will still be a positive figure. Remember membership is the key if Lions are to survive for the future, so when we get new members we should mentor and encourage them in order to retain them, helping them to become good Lions and not lose them. Remember International President Tam's theme of I Believe, because if we believe we can do it then we can, I hope you all enjoyed getting my Bumble Bee awards to help us all remember that nothing is impossible if you believe.

What have we been doing during the last month? Well whilst we were at the Cabinet meeting our partners were enjoying a tour of historical Amesbury, only just getting

back in time to hear our guest speaker and the close of my last cabinet meeting. During cabinet I presented Lion John Drago with a DG appreciation medal for his work on Paultons Park.

I had hoped to participate all day in Paultons Park this year, as I had never been before. But it was not to be; unfortunately just after I got to the park and was helping to greet people as they arrived I was taken ill, so never got to go inside. This was the only function to date that I agreed to attend and failed to do so properly, still never mind perhaps I will make it next year.



DG Ron presented with water wings for getting across !!!!!

It was good to attend Fareham's 50th Charter which was the second one this year, and to present

them with their certificate from her Highness the Duchess of Wessex.



We also managed to make the 6th Birthday party of the St Edmunds Leo Club, what a great little club they are, long may they continue.

We followed this up by visiting the Oakland's school along with PDG



Pat Nixon to present them with 45,000 buttons. This also gave us a chance to meet the teacher and the girls involved with the project, which is to build a monument made with

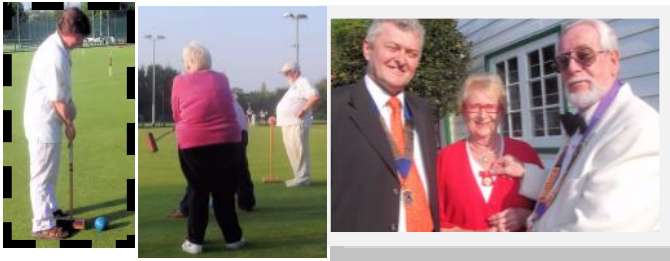
the buttons in the school grounds to represent and commemorate all the people over the years that have died in the holocausts and ethnic cleansing. They also showed us a model of the monument and the location where it will be built. The team are half way towards the million buttons required; perhaps we can continue to help them reach their target.

At various Charters I have been to this month I have had the pleasure of presenting 30 year service chevrons, such as at Westbury, as well as inducting new members as I did at Blackmore Vale Charter. It was also good to present my Banners and Pins to a PDG and a club Vice President from Germany at Christchurch Lions Clubs 25th Anniversary of their twinning with the German Club.



With Fun and Fellowship

I even managed to give them and some of the teenage children they had brought with them my Bumble bees.



Also during my own clubs social evening playing Croquet, on a lovely summers evening, (*very genteel*) I was asked to re present Lion Helen Spencer with her International Presidents Medal, for her work in Mombassa in front of the members.

Lion Ann thanks you all for supporting her charity Canine Partners; it is hoped when all the donations are in to present a representative of the charity with a cheque at the District Handover during the evening.

Again I must stress what a fantastic year it has been and what a great group of Lions you all are in this District. I have been proud to have been your District Governor, and to serve you, I hope I will be able to continue serving you in some way or other for the foreseeable future. I still have one or two small things left to do before I hand over to Lion Roger.

It just remains for me to wish DG elect Lion Roger and Lion Christine, all the very best for their year ahead, we hope that they have as much fun and enjoy the year as we have done.

We are proud to continue being **Loving Individuals Offering Needed Service** in all our communities.

I wish all the best, to all the Lions and partners in District D, and to a successful future, from you're soon to be PDG Lion Ron and his spouse Lion Ann

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

Ray Hall, Blackmore Vale. Trevor Harris, Bournemouth. Alan Ronald Davies, Bridport. Christine Asquith, & John Lovell, Fareham. Jonathan Charles David Hellem, & Louise Anne Hellem, Sirius Branch. Keith Bridle & Paul Morris, Hook & Odiham. Jane Jelpke, Lymington & Brockenhurst, Elaine Billington & John Billington Petersfield. Derek Wisker, Swanage. Andrew Abbott, Wareham, Philip Harris, Jarvis MacDonald, & John Powell, Westbury. Judy Hill, Windsor. Suby Snellen, Wokingham, Paul Norman, Woodley & Earley.



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

Westbury badging of 3 New Members

Obituary - It is with great sadness we have to say farewell to a Lion who has passed to higher service. Don Chadwick of Christchurch Lions Club. I ask his friends and family to accept my condolences and my apologies for not being able to attend his funeral.

D G travels over the month of June are as follows.

June 2012.

- Wednesday 13th Cowes club visit
- Saturday 16th Reading Charter night.
- Tuesday 19th Aldershot club visit.
- Friday 22nd Boscombe Charter Night.
- Sunday 24th Funfest - Fleet
- Saturday 30th Goring & Woodcote Charter Night.

July 2012.

- Sunday 1st Blandford, Charter/Handover Lunch
 - Saturday 14th District Handover Day.
- Looking forward to seeing you all on my visits,

DG Lion Ron and Ann



Award for a modest Lion

Woodley and Earley Lion Colin Gibson, received the Woodley Citizen award in April for his devoted work over more than 3 decades with the club.

This special award is for his contribution in helping others who are less fortunate within the local community; Colin accepted the award with gratitude and much pride.

Colin is a founder member of the Woodley and Earley Lions and is a very active member taking on all aspects of the clubs activities including currently being treasurer.

His contribution to the Lions over the past 32 years have been astounding, nothing has phased him, from standing in the cold and wet collecting for our Christmas hampers to organizing the Charter nights.

Without all this dedication and hard work the club would not be were it is today, a thriving and respected charity within the community, raising much needed funds through its many events.

We are very proud that he has been recognised for these achievements.



A Trike for Thomas

12 year old Thomas Giddins was born with a severe form of epilepsy and has spent much of his childhood in hospital. Although unable to use his left arm and with a very weak left leg, he has longed to go for bike rides with his parents and two

sisters. Now, thanks to a gift of £590 from Wimborne and Ferndown Lions Club, he can. He now has a specially adapted tricycle with controls all on the right which has been supplied via Cycleperience of Christchurch.

Picture shows Thomas flanked by Lions members Derick Smith(president) and Neil Godfrey.



ALTON LIONS EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA BRINGS NEW EQUIPMENT & TOYS FOR BUSHY LEAZE

This year's Alton Lions Easter 'Eggstravaganza' has resulted in a £1250 donation to Bushy Leaze Early Years



Centre that will be used to buy digital cameras, remote controlled toys and building equipment to be used to help develop hand-eye coordination in the children. Pictured are Alton Lions President



Peter Bacon with Lion Janis Chandler, Teacher Wendy Taylor and Bushy Leaze children and President Peter receiving tips on cake making from Bushy Leaze children.

The Centre provides a nursery with 60 children, with fifty per cent of the places designated to children with learning difficulties and disabilities. Bushy Leaze also supports some 500 other children from the local area and operates a baby clinic. Wendy expressed her thanks to the Lions for organising the project and said it was very encouraging to know that there was so much goodwill in the local community for Bush Leaze. President Peter also thanked the local businesses in the area.



Social Media Course

Region 5, PR & Marketing Officer, Lion Richard Winrow recently produced and presented a workshop for the benefit of a group of 20 Lions, from a total of 10 Clubs, including 2 clubs from Region 4.

The aim of the morning course, held in Windsor, was to identify how the use of Social Media utilising well know sites could have significant benefits to your Lions Club, without being a technical exercise.

This took place with attendees paying a nominal £5 each, enabling this day to self-finance costs. Those present gave an evaluation that the training will really help their club develop its social media plans.

An insight to Social Media to promote Lionism in your area, might just boost supporters, promote activities, gain new Members and provide a quicker more cost effective way of communication.

A well-attended event, with interaction of all present, highlighting that this was a worthwhile way to spend a wet spring morning.

Regional 5 Chair John Shephard



PETERSFIELD CLUB AND 'SIGHT'

Congratulations are due to Petersfield Club on two accounts both connected to sight issues.

The 30th year of Spectrek was again very successful, thanks to it being organised by Petersfield Club. Some 116,000 pairs of spectacles, plus hearing aids and mobile phones, were collected. The total collected over the 30 years is about 2,440,000 pairs – an amazing figure! A big thank you to all the Clubs that collected specs throughout the year as well!

Petersfield Club was given an amount of £1,000 by Midhurst Club (Midhurst Club work with Chichester Club on the next stage of the spectacle collections and the money was raised from salvaged precious metal frames). Petersfield Club has donated £500 to the Portsmouth Talking Newspaper which, in spite of its name, covers a large area in the south of the District, and £500 to Blind Veterans (UK) (formerly St Dunstan's).

Patrick Hamblin, District 105D Sight Preservation, Awareness and Action Officer.



Round the Isles for Rheumatoid Martin Lee makes landfall at Weymouth Beach

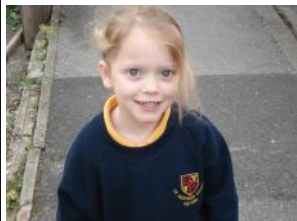


Completing the 12th leg of his 100 marathon challenge. The Mayor of Weymouth & Portland was on hand to welcome Martin along with members of Weymouth & Portland Lions Club. £100

cheques were presented by the Mayor, from his Christmas Fund, and from the Lions Club. The challenge is to raise £100,000 for the National Rheumatoid Arthritis Society (NRAS). Martin Lee is a 32 year old Consultant Rheumatologist at the Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases in Bath. To achieve this he aims to complete a 2,600 mile clockwise solo circumnavigation of the UK mainland. He has broken this down into 100 marathons to be completed in 100 days of paddling which started on 1st April 2012 from The Ahoy Centre in Greenwich. If you would like to make a donation please go to uk.virginmoneygiving.com/martinkayaking. Lion Norman Apps



News Update—Medic Alert



Olivia is 5, and suffers from severe allergies to peanuts & tomatoes. She has been a MedicAlert member since she was 18 months old. Her mother, Sofia, tells us about how they manage her allergies and create a safe environment

for Olivia to enjoy her childhood.

'Olivia reacted to half a peanut after previously consuming peanut butter with no issues. Getting a diagnosis was difficult and could only be established by a (very scary) food challenge in the hospital.'

However this was not Olivia's first reaction to a food. At the age of 9 months, from a single pip landing on her cheek, Olivia had a severe allergic reaction to tomatoes. This allergy causes extensive issues for the family as tomatoes are not usually listed as an allergen on food packaging. The family now have to avoid any pre-packed food completely so they know exactly what is in every meal.

When Olivia started day nursery Sofia decided to get her a MedicAlert bracelet as a visual reference, highlighting her allergies to the staff. Sofia also chose MedicAlert for the continued membership and 24/7 emergency line available.

'The fact that her notes can be updated as her conditions change is important. If anyone needed to find out about her conditions, and she was unable to communicate for herself, I am confident the professional looking after her would have access to the correct up to date information they require by calling the emergency number on her emblem'

Allowing Olivia to live a more independent life is very important to Sofia, *'It gives me the confidence to allow her to have a normal childhood. She goes to friends houses for tea or birthday parties and I know there is a virtual safety net'*.

Olivia is happy to wear the MedicAlert emblem and tells people *'It's my special bracelet in case I'm poorly'*. Sofia thinks this is partly down to Olivia being able to make the choice of which bracelet she wanted. *'Don't choose it for your child, let them pick their own, then they will wear it'* explains Sofia.

Sofia concluded *'At the moment Olivia doesn't carry her own EpiPens. The responsibility to manage her allergies isn't hers, as her parents it's ours, and we introduce her gradually to managing it. We tell her everyone's special and we're all different but she might need some extra special looking after sometimes'*.

NEW PRODUCTS



Universal Charm £50 This solid silver emblem is designed to compliment your existing charm bracelet and is compatible with most large fashion jewellery brand charm bracelets.

Classic Bracelet with T-Bar Clasp £19.95



In response to our recent new member's survey, we have introduced a new clasp style into the Classic Stainless Steel bracelet range. All priced at £19.95 they are stylish, affordable and easy to fasten!

Are you struggling to find younger members for your Lions Club?

Fleet Lions average age is 66 which includes 4 new members under 45 years of age. Sadly Fleet Lions, like many other clubs in the UK don't have a queue of prospective members from the public wanting to join us. Lions need new blood, fresh ideas but we wonder why we can't attract younger members, especially in the 20+ age group.

Having discussed Community service projects with young people, surprisingly there was a definite interest. Once we mentioned how the club works and the interest fell off. Why? Research shows that a high proportion of the UK can be categorised in to age bands, dependent on the period they were born, such as Generation Y (born 1980~2000) who definitely think in different ways than the majority of Lions members classified as Baby Boomers (1940~1960) and of course the X Generation (1960~1980)

So how do we make Lions membership appeal to the X & Y Generations? Firstly we have to understand what makes them tick. Research shows the Y Generation or "Net Generation" is probably the most diverse of Generations to date. They are civic minded but have trust in the establishment. They learn via social media and the "net" rather than reading newspapers. They don't have that much free money as they are carrying high costs of education and accommodation costs. They feed on excitement, they know they have options, they like flexibility and they need positive mentoring. Baby boomers differ in many of these aspects and with a higher proportion of Golden Boomers (those that have taken early retirement) that do not enjoy Computers and social media but like formality, we do differ. Do you use a landline most of the time or a mobile phone? Net Gen's would ask why do you use a landline? **Do you go to a club meeting with a Diary or a Smart Phone?** Have a look around at your next club meeting!

Is your club ready for the Net Generation?

On January 4th Fleet Lions established a new Branch club for younger members, the Branch, called Sirius with 7 founding members to start and around 10 more imminent. There has been interest from ex Rotoractors as Rotary do not accommodate such a community services club for young people. One of the members is the first recipient of the Gold Young Leaders in Service award.

The Sirius set up is entirely different from the main club offering flexible meetings and using social media to communicate (Facebook, web diaries etc) . Initially they will support the parent club with their main projects, such as the annual Fireworks Fiesta, HYPE Discos and Christmas Float.. Already the Sirius Branch members have found and implemented new projects where the existing Fleet members had not considered. Fleet Lions have made available a significant fund to start these projects

Administration costs need to be kept to a bare minimum and also make the meetings fun.

It will not be easy for Baby Boomers to accept the X & Y Generations needs but for Lions clubs to continue they will need to be patient and adapt! If we don't try new approaches we are certainly planning for failure!

If you would like to know more please contact Fleet Lions membership team for more information
membership@fleetlions.org.uk Mob 07503 178143





Well didn't we do well!!

42 Clubs, 2813 tickets sold, lots of children and visitors in wheelchairs who came in under the bar – very close to 3000!!

A tremendous achievement by all clubs to raise this amount of money to send all these guests on a great day out.

A big thank you to Romsey Lions for their help on the day.

The sun shone all day and we were joined by some visitors from another galaxy who were very popular with all the guests at the Park and have also finally tamed John Drago.

Tree Planting Update.

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It did take place with an invisible tree but our friends from the future took us 150 years ahead and the photo above was taken to show what it would look like!

A visible tree will be planted at a later date. (Promise!)



A Message from your Editor

Many thanks for your articles and great pictures, please keep them coming.

If any club has planted any more trees please let me know.

Next issue closes 23rd July. Lion Peter Garlick



**Treometer
Total 105D**

480

