DISTRICT 105D

TIMES

October 2014 Edition



Mike's Month

Hi everyone,

Well here we are, three months into the year, charter season just started and 50 per cent of my Club visits now completed. The good news as I start to write this on 25 September is that our membership stands at six more in the District since July – I,246 members; however, with 20 of the 62 Clubs still to report this month that could still change. As regards Leadership, nobody has yet contacted Brigid for 'training' sessions either at Region, Zone or Club level so she has to assume that everyone is happy and does not need any help or assistance in that department – if this is not the case then Brigid would welcome receiving enquiries about training requirements.

Work continues on resurrecting the Southampton Club and the first three members of the planned Four Marks Club Branch ▶

On other pages

Windsor Lions Swimarathon - 2
Lunch with the Meon Valley Lions - 3
Fleet Lions take to the water - 4
The Face of Convention 2015 .. 5
GMS Charter - 6
A Blackmore Vale saga - 7
Pride of the Road - 9
The Editor's last word and Lion's Tail - 10



And who are these rascals: See page 6



The International Association of Lions Clubs District 105D

Incorporating Lions Clubs International District 105D Charitable Trust Registered Number 1072984

District Governor 2014—2015 ♦ Lion Mike Hendy
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"Teamwork, Leadership and Compassion"



have been inducted. Other areas have also been identified for possible new Clubs. Anyone with more ideas should contact Lion Pauline McCreanor know so that we can instigate a feasibility study.

Planning for the 2015 Convention – our 50th Anniversary – is ongoing; the meeting of the committee of Saturday 27 September was to approve, among other things, the final design of the website and specifically the booking page so that by the end of September it should be live. I have heard from my Club visits there is a great deal of interest in the convention this year so, once the site is live, please, please, get your bookings in early. I am already working on the business sessions and my aim is still to have all the formal business completed in the morning with just workshops and a keynote speaker in the afternoon.

You will note that among the lists of events for the DG Team there are some Club events. I am encouraging the DG team, where possible or practical, to try to visit key events in Clubs to offer support and help where needed but also to be with those Lions members when they are on duty and encourage them in their efforts. As this kind of activity is non-expensed either by LCI or District, it cannot be mandated but if it is possible we will try to fit it in. For example, in this last week, following a business meeting in South Oxfordshire, I was able to visit Henley Lions Club Prostate Screening Event (the more I see of this I cannot believe why we as an MD are not taking this project on) and then on Saturday, on our way to GMS Charter, Brigid and I diverted via Bournemouth to visit the Health and Well Being event organised by Bournemouth Lions and a great experience it was too-so well done Bournemouth!

As you will see from my calendar, October is a busy month for us culminating with



The Windsor Lions is looking for even more teams to enter this year's swimarathon, **The Big Splash**, one of the Club's major fundraisers of the year, and being held on **Sunday 12 October** at Windsor Leisure Pool. Already more than 40 teams have entered but with a target of at least 60 teams, there is still plenty of time for local good causes to seize this fun opportunity to raise money for themselves.

Event organiser Lion Mike Sells enthuses: "I am thrilled by the response of local good causes so far but we have plenty of capacity for more teams. This really is a great opportunity for local organisations needing to raise funds to enter a team and reap 100 per cent of the sponsorship they attract. We have just held a brilliant Great Park horse ride—now we are aiming for a fantastic Big Splash!"

Over the years this popular event has raised almost £125,000 for local good causes. Schools, sports clubs, service organisations and hundreds of individuals have benefitted as a result of the swimarathon which offers a very simple and straightforward way to raise money. A team of up to eight swimmers swim in turn for 55 minutes and raise money from sponsorship. The Windsor Lions organise and staff the whole event so there is nothing else for the teams to do other than find the swimmers and sponsors.

Lion Mike continues: "We are appealing to local charities and other groups in the community needing to raise funds to enter one or more teams. It is not too late and taking part couldn't be simpler!"

Potential teams are invited to contact Lion Mike Sells on 0845 833 4749 or by e-mail: m.sells@indecsgroup.co.uk or see the website www.windsorlions.co.uk.

Council of Governors at the end of the months followed immediately by the Europa Forum during which the current Council of MD105 will be hosting the rest of Europe and other senior International Lions. One date to remember in October is Thursday 9 October – International World Sight Day. I do hope that as many Clubs as possible are undertaking an activity within their community to publicise Lions' involvement with sight-related illnesses.

Another keynote event in October is the District Service – to give it its full title "Annual Service of Thanksgiving and Rededication". The Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire will be in attendance and I and Lion Dave Ebsworth, along with the host club Alton, are working with the clergy and lay members of the Church to make it a memorable occasion for everyone. Although the event was advertised in the August mail-out, bookings are, as usual, slow to come in. This is very frustrating for the Host Club who have to get an idea of numbers as soon as possible for catering purposes and also for myself and Lion Dave who have to get the Order of Service printed. So please, get those completed forms along with the money to Alton Club as soon as possible. As you will have seen in the accompanying letter from Alton, the local Mayor, following civic protocol, has allowed regalia to be worn by visiting civic attendees from across the District so it will, I am sure, lend itself to a great civic procession if we have good numbers present.

Most of you who know Brigid and I, will be aware of our joint passion for Leadership Development with Lions. The good news is that Brigid and I have been invited by the District 124 (Romania) District Governor to attend their convention from 7 to 9 November and run a workshop. I have no idea what the subject matter is yet - nor have we any idea how many understand English but I am sure it will be a great learning experience for us both. Unfortunately I have had to delegate my Club visit to Lymington to First VDG Lion Alan so my apologies for that but there is only one flight a day from Luton to the city which is hosting the event and that goes early morning which necessitates an overnight Ψ



Meon Valley Lions Club recently hosted a highly successful Sunday lunchtime barbecue at Hill Place, Swanmore, with over 50 guests in attendance. The "Meet the Lions" event was organised by the Lions to say a big thank you to their regular supporters and also to engage and socialise with some of the individuals and charities they have supported during the last twelve months.

The Lions were blessed with fine weather and grateful for the attendance of Guest of Honour, the Right Worshipful Mayor of Winchester, Councillor Eileen Berry (pictured above with Club president Lion John Wooldridge) who kindly said a few words of support during the formal part of the proceedings.

Following a splendid lunch, Lion President John Wooldridge welcomed everyone and Lion Ian Adams explained how the Meon Valley Lions Club operates, its role as a volunteer organisation and also described the fundraising programmes it runs for the benefit of the Meon Valley communities

In the last year the Meon Valley Lions have spent over £17,000 on various initiatives covering health, well-being, poverty and youth programmes. In addition the club's minibus service has provided a regular weekly transport service to local clubs and organisations, covering over 5,000 miles in the process and completing over 1,200 passenger journeys.

Many people do not imagine that an area of relative wealth and affluence like the Meon Valley can have such cases of poverty, deprivation and hardship, but sadly it does. The challenge for the Lions is knowing exactly where the need occurs so that they can direct the appropriate resources. This event helped us to engage with the right local people to ensure we are working effectively.

The event also proved to be a useful recruitment exercise with two individuals expressing interest in becoming members.

near Luton airport on 5 November before we fly. The bad news is that so far Lions Club International has not made available, in English, the material for the Younger Lions Leadership workshops as yet. I had intended to redo it myself and should have done so before my Lions input got too hectic because now, because I have so little spare time, I do not have the time to do so. It is a great shame that the great steamship - SS LCI - is not able to evaluate good workshop material in a short space of time in order to make the content available for others in the world to use. I will be raising this issue with the International President when he attends the Europa Forum in October but do not hold out much hope for getting the material in my year of office so that's one of my stated objectives for the year not achieved.

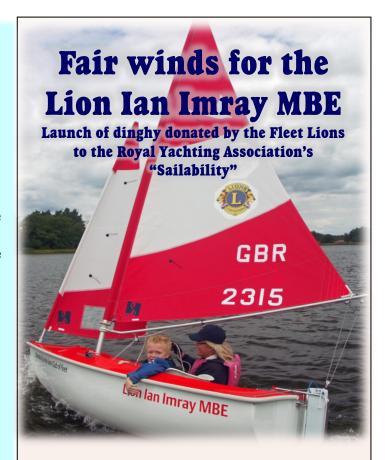
I shall be talking to Lions Tom Sayers and Richard High, our webmasters, before the end of this month to set me up a Q&A facility on the web to give me the direct opportunity to answer some of the questions that you may have about any aspect of Lions. It will be heralded with a 'fanfare of trumpets' so once it is set up please do use it and get that question off your ches

Finally, the other night at GMS Charter, I was kidnapped by a vicious and evil looking duo of Pirates from the Caribbean and held to ransom before being rescued by Lion President Helen; now, as the District Governor's annual expedition to Jersey and Guernsey approaches early next in October, I wonder what that wily 105 Times editor Lion Peter Tabb has in store for me!!

I hope to see as many of you as possible at the District Service; have a good month and keep on 'Asking One'.

I am delighted to welcome the following eight new members into Lions Clubs International in August and wish them a long and happy time as members. *Alton*: Lions Robert and Sonya Barber and Lion Valerie Peppiatt; *Hook and Odiham*: Lion Nancy Hembroke; *Trowbridge*: Lions Phil and Ceri Hamblin and Lion William Wyllie and *Yateley*: Lion Mary Moyle. However in the same perions we also 'lost' six Lions.

Mike & Brigid



Sailability's new sailing dinghy at Frensham Pond has been named in honour of a dear departed Fleet Lion, PDG Lion Ian Imray MBE.

Members of the Imray family, led by Ian's widow Joy, gathered at Frensham Pond, Surrey, to launch the new Hansa 303 which was bought with funds raised by Fleet Lions and will be used by disabled people of all ages who wish to sail.

Sailability's chairman Kate Richardson opened the ceremony and thanked Fleet Lions for their generous donation and went on to explain Sailability's aims. "Through the RYA's Sailability programme more than 40,000 young people and adults with disabilities are introduced to sailing every year and many go on to sail on a regular basis.," she said. "Sailing is one of the few activities in which able-bodied and disabled sailors can participate on equal terms."

Fleet's 2013-14 president Lion Julian Behmber was instrumental in bringing this project to fruition and joined this year's president Lion Paul Doughty in paying tribute to the late PDG Lion Ian. Lion Paul explained that PDG Ian ahand been a keen sailor in Zimbabwe where he, Joy and their family had lived until 2006.

Joy blessed the craft with a bottle of bubbly and it was launched to much applause, Joy was especially delighted that her seven year old great-grandson Evan was the first to sail the dinghy with Bridget, one of *Sailability's* instructors.

Lion Tom Sayers

Mike's Meanders for October 2014

Date Activity

I October Region 5 meeting
2 October Bracknell Lions Event

4 October Eastleigh 50th Charter Anniversary

6 October Christchurch Official Visit
9 October Ringwood Official Visit
11 October Weymouth & Portland Event

I I October Salisbury Charter Anniversary

12 October Bradford-on-Avon Charter Anniversary

13 October Jersey Official Visit14 October Guernsey Official Visit

16 October District Governor's Team Meeting

19 October Cabinet & District Service
23 October Burnham Club Event

25 October Woodley & Earley Charter Anniversary

28/29 October Council of Governors 20 Oct—2 Nov Europa Forum

Alan's ambies for October 2014

Date Activity

I October
 2 October
 8 October
 I October
 Swanwick Official Visit
 Basingstoke Official Visit
 Salisbury Charter Anniversary

12 October
 16 October
 Bradford-on-Avon Charter Anniversary
 District Governor's Team Meeting

19 October Cabinet & District Service
20 October Hook & Odiham Official Visit

25 October Hayling Island Charter Anniversary (Official Guest)

27 October Reading Official Visit

Taylor's treks for October 2014

Date Activity

2 October Bracknell Lions Event

3 October Gosport Event

4 October Eastleigh Charter Anniversary

8 October Hayling Island Event

I I October Salisbury Charter Anniversary

12 October Bradford-on-Avon Charter Anniversary

13 October14 OctoberFareham Official VisitRyde Official Visit

16 October District Governor's Team Meeting

18 October Boscombe Event

19 October20 OctoberCabinet & District ServiceHook & Odiham Official Visit

26 October Woolmer Forest Charter Anniversary
27—30 October Advanced Lions Leadership Institute



The Face of Convention



For those of you who do not know me, my name is **Richard High** and I am a member of Loddon Valley Lions. I have been tasked with being the face of Convention 2015, and will be putting together a couple of pieces about the 2015 Convention in Bournemouth over the next few months. The theme this time will be Golden Convention. Let's make it special!

Convention calling notices are currently in the public domain and some members will doubtless be asking why they should attend this event. Well, as well as being the AGM of the District, and as such a place/time to discuss important matters for consideration, it is an opportunity for the work of our District and Lions through the world to be celebrated.

The 2015 Convention team comprises: Graham Drayton (Convention Business Manager)

Linda Picton (Treasurer)

Dave Ebsworth (Sergeant at Arms)

Steve Spencer (Bookings)
Laura Roberts (Exhibition)
Peter Burnett (Entertainment)
Debbie Burnett (Entertainment)
Tom Sayers (Webmaster)
...and myself.

Please note that the closing date for proposals for resolutions/nominations/ invitations for consideration at Convention is 31 October - they need to be with Lion PCC John Goodchild by then.

The Convention team is working very hard (especially Drayton) to lay on an event that will inspire as well as inform the members who attend. Online booking for it will be available via the website (http://2015.lions105d.org.uk/) from the beginning of October. See the website for more information. Please do get in touch with us with any questions.

Best wishes and hope to see you all there.





The Gillingham, Mere and Shaftesbury Lions Club celebrated its 35th formation anniversary with its annual Charter Anniversary dinner/dance aboard the ss *Olive Bowl*. The evening began with a welcome to the honoured guests that would have befitted the launch of *Titanic* with full streamers and fanfare accompaniment to 'A Life on the Open Waves'.

GMS Lions Club President Lion Helen Littell welcomed a total of 109 people to a fun event including a top table of the 105D Lion District Governor - Lion Mike Hendy, the Mayors of Gillingham and Shaftesbury and the District Nurse Team Leader Diana Warner, along with their partners. Also present was a First Vice District Governor, a Second Vice District Governor, six past District Governors, two District Officers, a Zone Chairman, seven Lion Presidents, four Lion Vice Presidents, a Rotarian, as well as Lions and friends from 17 Lions Clubs - Andover, Bracknell, Bradford on Avon, Burnham, Blackmore Vale, Hart, Isle of Weight Cowes Branch Club, Isle of Weight Newport, Isle of Wight Sandown & Shanklin, Newbury, Salisbury, Trowbridge, Warminster, Westbury, Weymouth & Portland and Wimborne & Ferndown.

As always ss *Olive Bowl* delivered an excellent venue and meal, while the entertainment ranged from a brilliant saxophonist, novel and entertaining toasts and speeches, a raffle, a disco and a pair of pirates, also known as Lions Al Mckechnie and Jim Godden, who kidnapped and then ransomed the District Governor for Gold - clearly for charity.

The raffle raised £315 for the GMS Lions' charity account while a number of donations were made by GMS Lions on the night. These included: a £50 donation to the District Governor's wife's chosen charity - the Lions Clubs International Measles Initiative "One Shot, One Life"; a £10 table present pledge to the charity of choice of each top table guest; and a £275 donation to the GMS Lions' chosen youth organisation, the Gillingham and District Angling Association, which will be used to fund an equipment starter pack for new members.

History teaches us that men and nations behave wisely once they have exhausted all other alternatives.

Abba Eban (Speech 1970)



Blackmore Vale Lions do a mini DIY SOS

Lion George Wagland, a member of the Blackmore Vale Lions, has a son with Learning Difficulties who lives in a residential home in Chard in Somerset (Mawbry House). One of his son's passions is to play his drums and Cliff Richard music. Now the noise that this creates is not always appreciated by all the other residents.

The Management team at Mawbry House contacted George in the autumn of 2013 saying that a little problem was developing and would there be an issue if his drum kit was moved to an unused garage.

Fellow members of the Blackmore Vale Lions picked up on this and suggested that they/we may be able to help out in some way.

Three Lions went to visit Mawbry House to view what could be achieved and we came up with a plan to convert two thirds of this double garage into an entertainment area that could be used by all the residents. The Mawbry House team liked the idea and added the thought that they could also use a mini stage and a "bar" so that soft drinks could be served.

We thought that this would be a pretty straightforward 3 or 4 day project and drew up some plans on a bit of scrap paper and came up with a materials List. We were then told that the house belonged to a Housing Association and although they were in favour of the project they wanted proper plans drawn up by an architect so that they could submit them to their board for planning approval. We now realised that this project was something that needed planning and acceptance from a lot of people and processes.

Luckily George had a friend who was a retired architect and he drew up the appropriate plans (free of charge thankfully) and they were re-submitted to the owners.

In March this year some six months later we were told that the plans were accepted and we could start work.

We then started to cost up the work and thought that it might just cost a bit more than first thought so George started to contact local builders merchants to see if they could help. Not all were forthcoming but one company – the local Jewson branch in Chard and their manager Paul Hosken, turned out to be absolutely brilliant in that they supplied 75 per cent of our materials list free of charge. The only thing they said they could not manage was the major electrical items.

Now it so happens that one of the Blackmore Vale Lions (Jim Nesbitt) owns his own Electronics business and he came good with the electrical requirements.

By now we are in May and at the start of the holiday season so our team of Lions Ray Cable, Ian Simpson, Phil Bennett, Jim Nesbitt and George Wagland worked out that we could start work on the second week in July.

Contact was made with Paul from Jewsons and delivery of the materials was made early in the morning and we all started to unpack. At the end of a very hot day we had made good progress in that the studded partition wall had been assembled and 75% of the battening of the garage walls had taken place.

Continued on page 8



Continued from page 7

The following day was equally hot but we managed to complete the battening and made good progress on first electrics followed by fixing the plaster-board to the walls and ceiling. The next day saw us complete all the assembly work and we could then start plastering!!!!!

However before plastering all the electrics had to be completed. Now Jim is not only the electrics king he can also plaster which was a bit of a godsend as none of the rest of us had ever done anything like this before. As Jim also has his own business sometimes he has to sort of work on that to make a living so we decided to let everything settle down and we all had a week off.

The following week was even hotter and when Jim started to plaster the ceiling the plaster seemed to be drying almost as soon as it was put on. However eventually all the plastering was finished and we decided to give everything a few days to completely dry out.

The Lions team then put their painting gear on and started to emulsion and gloss. A couple of days to dry out and we are ready to lay the flooring. The Mawbry House management wanted a cushion floor lino finish and Stewart Cullingford of Cullingford Carpets in Wincanton gave us a very healthy discount on the chosen fabric but advised that the garage floor should be screed before putting the lino down. So Jewson to the rescue again and two days later two Cullingford carpet fitters (Rob and Jason) gave up their time after work to fit the lino and some salvaged carpet for the stage area. The "bar" was installed and the walls adorned with four large paintings done by Ray Cable and his friend Tony Wood and finally the project was complete ... accept Mawbry thought we should have a "Grand Opening".

On 12 September the Deputy Lord Mayor of Chard Garry Shortland and the Strategic Manager Learning Disabilities for Somerset County Council - Mr Steve Jones officially "opened the garage entertainment area" (well one of the residents actually cut the tape) and along with all the helpers and fellow Blackmore Vale Lions and staff around 50 people in all we all experience an excellent buffet laid on by the residents themselves.

To see the joy on the residents and staff faces on completeion was worth all the effort that was put in by the Lions. Finally a few thank you's are required here:

- Paul Hosken and Graham Franklin from Jewsons for their fantastic contribution of time and materials to the project and I can honestly say that
 without their help and support we would probably not have been able to attempt the project in the first place and who were always on hand for help
 and advice:
- To Stoneham the owners for allowing the project to take place;
- To architect Jim Milton who provided the plans free of charge:
- To Jim Nesbitt of Vale Electrics who provided all of the new electrical fixtures and fittings (and did a fantastic job of plastering the walls and ceiling on probably the hottest day of the year);
- To Stewart Cullingford of Cullingford Carpets who provided the flooring and his two fitters Rob and Jason who fitted the flooring and the carpet on the stage;
- To Andrew and Philippa Tarling of the Half Moon in Horsington who bought the table and chairs;
- To Ray Cable and Tony Wood for the fantastic pictures that adorn the walls;
- To Ray, Jim, Ian Simpson and Phil Bennett for their unpaid commitment to the project with a little help (some would say hindrance) from me but I think I played the Nick Knowles role quite well!!!.

And finally but by no means least -

• To the staff and residents (Nigel and David especially) of Mawbry House who kept us plied with drinks (non-alcoholic unfortunately) especially on the very hot days.

Bring on the next garage conversion project - Blackmore Vale Lions Inc are now in business!!!!!!!!



ions help Sherborne Charities

Lion David Rose from the Lion's Club of Gillingham, Mere and Shaftesbury along with his son Robert and GMS Lions Janet and Jim Godden made two significant donations this past month. The first was for £500 to **Zest Café**. Receiving the cheque Caz, a Zest café volunteer explained that the project is a local community resource centre run by its members in the heart of Sherborne. It provides supported employment, volunteer opportunities, informal training and social facilities. Zest Café was previously known as the Four Leaf Clover Club, and re-launched in 2010 as the Sher-

borne Centre for Wellbeing, incorporating the Four Leaf Clover Club and Zest Café and provides a service for people recovering from mental health problems, providing inclusive access for the community. Its ethos is to promote social, emotional and mental wellbeing for our local community. "Your donation is heart-felt and will help us continue

this great work," she said.

The second £500 donation was to the Sherborne and District Citizens Advice Bureau which is an independent service providing free, confidential and impartial advice to everybody regardless of race, gender, disability, sexuality, nationality, ethnicity, religion and belief. Our funding comes from a mixture of local authority funding and other sources which are listed on the bureau pages. We are here to help and advice on a full range of issues and problems and we are impartial, independent, confidential and free. Receiving the cheque, Advice Services Manager Diana Hensher and a member of the trustee board thanked GMS Lions saying, "We are extremely grateful, your donation will benefit many clients"





Lions are invited to join me in a series of motorbike events which are being organised between now and the end of next year.

On Saturday 15 November I am planning to ride from Portsmouth-Brighton in aid of Air Ambulance, a charity which recently helped to save the life of someone close. Portsmouth is my own Club and Brighton is our mother Club, so this is a natural start and finish point.

Tuesday 13 January is the birthday of the founder of Lions Clubs International Melvin Jones who, in 2015, would be 136! To celebrate what we have all achieved together as a result of this phenomenal man let as many as possible meet up at the Devil's Punchbowl near Hindhead on Sunday 11 January at 1.00 p.m

Saturday 23 May 2015 is the New Forest 'ride-out' from Southampton-Swanage. We will start off from Nursling and follow the A31 through the pristine New Forest National Park before heading onto Swanage and the Isle of Purbeck. I am proposing to hold this in aid of the RNLI.

While in Australia last year, I visited several Clubs who had successfully hosted car rallies and also looked at the possibility of motorbike ride-outs. These events were something which proved to be both a fundraising and social success for all Lions involved. An added bonus of classic car or motorcycle events is that they often have a very strong following which can help us to engage with sections of the community who may not be reached by some current Lions initiatives.

My main aim is to raise funds for worthwhile causes while also doing something I enjoy, and hopefully meeting other Lions at the same time. This is also a good showcase event however. Why not invite others along to show them what Lions can achieve together? It may encourage them to join your Club.

Another possibility is for a special interest Branch Club to be created if we can get sufficient interest from the public. Some other service organisations have motorcycle or Internet clubs, including Lions, that function very well.

I would like to invite anyone who is interested in assisting to plan or keen to participate in any of the above to contact me on prideoftheroad2014@gmail.com.

Jim McGregor

A plea from the Editor

As much as I am delighted to receive so many contributions, please keep them brief and to the point, otherwise they might be subject to ruthless editing!



TAIL TWISTER

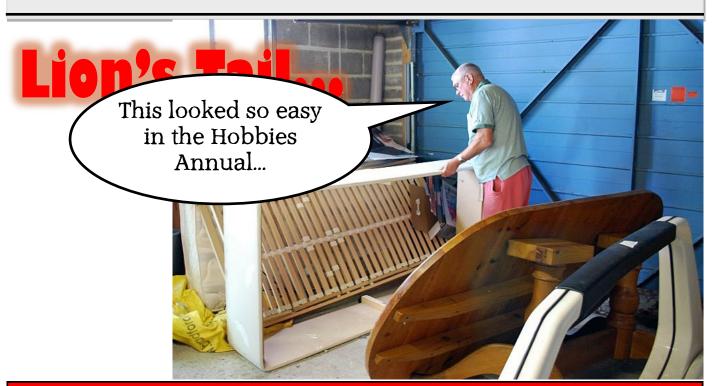
The Editor has the last word

Reading through the 105D Times it is evident that most Clubs in the District (and probably the Multiple District) have two significant objectives - to raise funds that they can use to benefit their communities but also to raise the profile of their Club and Lionism itself.

During September my wife and I visited Chicago to stay with a friend. Chicago is a magical city and is, of course, the home of Lions Clubs International. I didn't get the opportunity to visit Oakbrook but considering that it is the world centre of Lionism, I expected to see some evidence of that but not a logo was there to be seen, not even at O'Hare, the world's second busiest airport! What's more, at a dinner party hosted for us by our friend and with mostly local professionals among the invitees, none was actually really aware of Lions Clubs although one commented, "I think they had a convention here once but then a lot of people do."

Clearly we are not the only ones who should be concerned about raising our profile.

Lion Peter Tabb



Please send all articles and pictures for publication in the

DISTRICT 105D TIMES

to the Editor, Lion Peter Tabb, e-mail: news@lions105d.org.ukand/or pandttabb@localdial.com at least a week before the end of the month