

Apple 2016 Edition

# Alan's Month

2016 Convention was an event that I had looked forward to since taking office in July 2015. It was so well organised by the Convention committee that that my part of the event was very small in comparison.

I<sup>st</sup> VDGElect Lion Peter Burnett who chaired the committee did so in his own inimitable way by keeping all of the balls in the air and the end result was a smoothly operated event which I think everyone enjoyed. The evening entertainment on Friday was probably the only hiccup. The entertainer was late and when phoned he was still at home in Bracknell! He thought that he was booked for Saturday evening and not Friday but he was able to get to Winchester in time to present a very enjoyable evening.



The International Association of Lions Clubs District 105D Incorporating Lions Clubs International District 105D Charitable Trust Registered Number 1072984 Dignity. Harmony. Humanity.

District Governor 2015—2016 · Lion Alan Chapman Tel: 0845 833 9847 dg@lions105d.org.uk

"Teamwork with Friendship and Fellowship"



Past International Director Howard Lee & District Governor Alan Chapman at the 105D Convention

I wish to publicly thank our Sergeant at Arms Lion Dave Ebsworth for the exemplary work he did over the weekend with his negotiation skills between the guests and the hotel and the smooth running of the event on the day. "What would I do without you, Dave"?

I have to admit that there were a couple of errors on my part but all in all I felt that it was a very successful Convention.

The highlight of Saturday was the presentation by John Surtees CBE where he gave a potted history of his life as a racing driver on both two and four wheels, being the only man to win the World Championship in both events. He then went on to promote the Henry Surtees Foundation which he set up after the death of his son, who was killed by a detached wheel from another car on the track. The Foundation is there to help head trauma victims where they provide vital equipment for air ambulances and support of the transportation of blood with fast motorcycle couriers and much more within the medical profession.

The Redistricting presentation was the most controversial item on the agenda as there were mixed views as to the need and the process in which it is being administered.

The need is to strengthen the Multiple District by taking the entire new Districts out of Transition; by doing this it will mean that some of the existing Districts will be absorbed to strengthen the new ones. The main argument is that the first option for the south of the UK was to have just two districts East and West with the demarcation line being the M3/A34 Southampton to Oxford and beyond. The problem with this plan is the travelling involved for District Officers who will think twice before committing their time to the District.

The second option will give us three Districts across the south but there will be some compromises to accommodate this. The central District would be known as Sub District 105 SC

# My Personal Prostate Experience

Following my presentation at the District Convention, this article is intended to reach a much wider audience and so raise even more awareness of this form of cancer.

This is my personal experience aimed at persuading Zones or Clubs to do their utmost to arrange Prostate Screening Sessions and men to attend such screenings on a regular basis.

Statistically one in eight men will suffer from prostate cancer at some point in their life.

In March 2014 I was District Governor and in addition to the usual Official Visits and Charter Anniversaries, I, along with Lion Diana, attended many functions and events organised by Clubs around the District. One such event was a Prostate Screening Session arranged by the Lions Club of Reading – an event I attended on my own! I decided to have the PSA blood test, for being fit and healthy, what did I have to lose?

After the event I was one of five per cent of the men tested who received a "red letter". I had a high PSA reading of 9+ (the accepted max is around 6) and was urged to see my GP.

Following another PSA blood test – again 9+ - an internal examination and the NHS questionnaire (which I passed with flying colours suggesting I was in the clear), I was referred to the Royal Berkshire Hospital in Reading for more tests and a biopsy.

The outcome was that I did have prostate cancer. A devastating blow as I had no idea and had none of the 'classic symptoms': no problems passing urine, no blood in my urine and no pain or discomfort.

We agreed with the consultant I would undergo brachytherapy where, under a general anaesthetic, radioactive seeds were implanted in my prostate to kill off the cancerous cells.

Since then – December 2014 – I have had regular consultations and PSA blood tests of which none have been above 2 and I am a healthy individual doing all those things I love to do.

Not only are we immensely grateful to Reading Lions for organising these screenings and so prolonging my life expectancy, I now speak to groups about my very personal experiences and pass on these messages to everyone reading this article:

Zones and Clubs should seriously consider arranging such sessions – they work and are successful.

Gentlemen – have a regular PSA blood test as you have no idea what may be lurking inside you.

Ladies – make sure your man has regular PSA blood tests.

I am willing to visit Clubs or Zones to present my message in person. I would also welcome the opportunity to visit other organisations/Clubs to which Lions may belong in order to widen the audience receiving this message. Please contact me via <u>david-merchant@btinternet.com</u> if you are interested in arranging a visit.

PDG Lion David Merchant

(South Central) which will include the Channel Islands and will take some Zones from Districts SE, A, and W to increase our numbers, the compromise will be to lose Zones IA and 2D which would go to District SW.

If we do nothing and vote at the MD Convention to that effect, we will be delaying the inevitable and possibly having to be redistricted by LCI where we would not have the choices which are available to us now. In the interim period dues would possibly rise.

On a much happier note we have increased our membership to 109 new members to date which is an achievement and most clubs are finding them where they have been elusive in the past, well done to all those involved.

We are still dropping members but this is being counteracted by the intake of new ones and we have to keep them busy and encourage their enthusiasm.

The time is upon us where we are starting to put our summer events in the diary and raising the funds to support our communities, and looking at the larger picture and supporting Humanity throughout the world with Dignity and Harmony.

## DG Lion Alan

### Welcome new Lions!

I am delighted to welcome the following new members into Lions Clubs International and wish them a long and happy time as Lions.

### DG Lion Alan

Aldershot (Fleet) - Lion Pen A. Wilson Alton - Lion Judith Windross Bournemouth - Lion Lorna Waller New Milton - Lions Peter Bousfield and Stephen Merrifield Reading - Lion John Samuel Romsey - Lions Andrew and Sandra Trowbridge Salisbury & District - Lions Felix and Heather Rooney and Dolly Wood Sandown & Shanklin - Lion Michelle Grimes Southbourne & Boscombe - Lions Felicity Arenas-Millan and Michael Percey Trowbridge - Lions Andrew Brennan and Catherine Love Wimborne & Ferndown - Lion Lesley Boyd



Meon Valley Lions Club president Lion Roger Morfill recently attended Bishop's Waltham Gateway Club to learn more about a very special group that meets on the first and third Monday of each month.

The Gateway Club is a social club for people over 16 with learning disabilities and does a super job providing a full programme of fun activities for its members, including discos, games, group outings and Christmas dinners.

The Lions were delighted to help with one of these events, by funding a pantomime trip for some 46 club members to see Dick Whittington at Ferneham Hall in Fareham. Roger was delighted to present a cheque for £610, covering the cost of the tickets, to Jan Chamberlain and Brian Loveday, who do a great job running this club on a totally voluntary basis.

It was also a pleasure to scrub down and roll out the Lions' barbeque equipment for its first outing this season and provide the hot food in support of the Mayor of Winchester's charity race night at Wickham Community Centre. The Lions BBQ and the Bowman's Bar both enjoyed excellent trade and punters soon lost their inhibitions, opened their wallets and got down to losing some serious money in a good cause! The race night is just one of a number of events promoted by the Right Worshipful the Mayor of Winchester, Councillor Angela Clear, and the event is expected to have raised around £3,000 for the Mayor's nominated charities, which are the Countess Mountbatten Hospice, Rowans Hospice and Naomi House and Jacksplace. Photograph: Brian Loveday, Chairman, Bishops Waltham Gateway Club, (left) receives the cheque for £610 from Lion President Roger

# DG Team Ramblings April 2016

### <u> DG Lion Alan</u>

Date	Activity
3 April:	Henley-on-Thames Charter
	Anniversary
6 April:	Convention 'wash-up' meeting
10 April:	<b>Bournemouth Charter Anniversary</b>
I7 April:	Bridport Charter Anniversary
22 April:	Trowbridge Charter Anniversary
23 April:	Havant Charter Anniversary
24 April:	Paultons Park
<u>1 VDG Lion David</u>	
I0 April:	Ryde Charter Anniversary
I2 April:	Talk to Trefoil Guild about Lions
I7 April:	Incoming Officers' Training Day
22 April:	Gosport Charter Anniversary
24 April:	Paultons Park
25 April:	GMT/GLT Meeting
2 VDG L	ion Peter
6 April:	Convention 'wash-up' meeting
	Incoming Offocers' Training Day
	Paultons Park
25 April:	GMT/GLT Meeting



Alton Lions took part in the 'Clean for the Queen' by picking up litter around the King's Pond in Alton. The picture shows Lions Mike Baker, Janet Gwynne (right) and supporter Sue Smith with Lion Paul Taroni in the Lion suit.

# Lion Ken to take a leap of faith



Soon Second District Governor-elect Lion Ken Staniforth will be jumping out of an aircraft, strapped to a Red Devil.

Lion Ken is hoping that Lions Clubs across the world will sponsor him with donations (of at least £100) that they will then donate to good causes of their own choosing in their own area. He hopes to set a world record for the number of Lions Clubs sponsoring a single fundraising event.

If your Club would like to take part and you would like more details, you can contact Lion Ken on kenstaniforth@hotmail.com

# **Lions Spring Quiz 2016**

Wimborne and Ferndown Lions Club are again running the Spring Quiz at the Allendale Centre, Wimborne, on Saturday 30 April at 7.30 pm. Entries are invited for teams of up to six players. Search *wimborneand ferndownlions* or contact Lion Ron Neave on 01202 873551

# Jersey Lions Swimarathon raises £138,130.00

The Lions Club of Jersey's Swimarathon, the 45th annual event, has raised £138,130 after five days of swimming by 480 teams and almost 4,000 swimmers at the Island's main public swimming pool. The event was sponsored by RBC Wealth Management who as well as funding all the event's publicity also sponsored every one of the 28,447 laps swum. Half of what was raised will be divided between ten local charities, each concerned with mental health issues. The remainder will be devoted to maintain ongoing Jersey Lions' initiatives in the local community. Since the first event in 1972 the Swimarathon has raised £3.5 million.



Ten lucky winners who participated in the February half- term Wokingham Lions Teddy Bear Hunt came to the Town Hall on 10 March to collect their delightful teddy bears.

"The event proved to be very popular and the Town Council looks forward to helping with the event again," said Lions Sue Jackson, fund raising chairman, Wokingham Lions Club. "We were very pleased to meet the ten children who won the teddy bears. When I called the parents to let them know that their child had won, they were so excited that you would have thought they had won themselves. Their enthusiasm for their children winning was wonderful, and made it all worthwhile. All funds raised will go to local charities."

The Wokingham Lions Club organised the Teddy Bear Hunt in cooperation with a dozen shops around the town centre.

Children aged 3 to 10 were eligible to participate. All bears had name tags and were sitting in shop windows waiting to be found. Once found, participants listed the name of each

shop on forms which were returned to the Town Hall with a £1 entrance fee. The first 10 correct entries drawn from all the correct answers won the teddies.



# Lions and the Great Daffodil Appeal

Since 2013 Lions Clubs throughout the UK have teamed up with the Marie Curie Great Daffodil Appeal to raise funds to support people with terminal illness, and their families.



Members of Wimborne and Ferndown Lions Club have again recently helped in the fund raising, contributing £308 to the appeal. The picture shows Lions Godwin Micallef and Barry Duxbury showing that fund raising can indeed make you smile.

In Memoriam

The 105D Times records with sadness the passing to higher service of Lion Robert (Bob) S. Ashenden of the Sandown & Shanklin Lions Club

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Lion Veronica Jenkins of the Blandford & District Lions Club has recently had her head shaved in aid of the Blandfordbased charity 'Teddy Twenty'. The charity raises money in aid of children with cancer in Dorset and Lion Veronica's hair being shaved raised £1,200!



From early feedback being received, the Windsor Lions' prostate cancer screening initiative when free testing will be available during an evening session at Combermere Barracks in Windsor on Tuesday 12 April is already proving hugely popular.

Event organiser Lion Diane Purchase explains: "We are about to enter the final run-up to the event when the majority of our market awareness drive is underway. A 2.500 leaflet drop is being made by Club members and media briefings will increase. We are hoping for an attendance of at least 500 'at risk' males - this is very possible since the recent similar Reading Lions event attracted 1,000, so we know an event like this works."

The Windsor Lions are encouraging men of 40 years and above to have the free PSA blood test.



In the March edition of the 105D Times, we read the heartrending story of how an ingrowing toe nail led Hannah Moore to face the prospect of losing a leg and the help she had received from the Blackmore Vale Lions Club who paid for her special sports wheelchair.

Thanks to the Club's support, Hannah, an accomplished athlete, is now set to compete on three wheels.

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### A simple blood test could save your life.

The Lions Club of Windsor invite all males (aged 45 and over) to come for a **FREE** Prostate Cancer Check: a **simple blood test**.

Combermere Barracks, Windsor on Tuesday 12th April 2016 4.30pm to 8.30pm. No need to book an appointment. Please see or download a leaflet for more information, or call 07973 884648.

www.windsorlions.co.uk



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Any reader expecting this edition to be full of pictures of the recent 105D Convention will already be disappointed. In my view Conventions tend to be more about words than pictures. I enjoyed listening to John Surtees and was impressed by his drive and enthusiasm for his Henry Surtees Foundation at an age when most of us I suspect would want to be putting our feet up. Other than the double world champion, 're-districting' tended to dominate the proceedings with there being apparently little idea of whether the other Districts will favour the 'eight' option (which Convention did) or the 'seven' option, our concern being that everyone else at the MD Convention will opt for that one. Sadly the District's 'off-shore' Islands will not be attending (that week in May is the most important of the year being the anniversary of the Islands' liberation from enemy occupation in 1945) but our thoughts, and hopes, will be with you.

Lion Peter Tabb



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Please send all articles and pictures for publication in the DISTRICT 105D TIMES

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