# What good is Cabinet? What is it there for? Questions for the New Year. Turn to page 4

### **JANUARY 2018 EDITION**

### What a way to spend Christmas Day Read all about the DG's Yuletide activity on page 6



NEW YEAR!

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



District Governor 2017 - 2018 + Lion Peter Burnett

ions105d.org.uk ♦ www.lions105d.org.uk

"Putting Fun into Fundraising and giving Service with a Smile"

## Page Two - <mark>News</mark>

### **NEW YEARS RESOLUTIONS!**

A very Happy New Year to you all. I hope that you all had a very successful Christmas season collecting moneys and providing Christmas cheer for those less fortunate than ourselves.

Now is the beginning of a New Year and I would ask you to make **Helping the Environment** one of your Club's New Year resolutions. We need to do what we can to ensure that we can hand over a sustainable environment to our children and grandchildren. If we all do a little a great deal will be achieved!

In the latest edition of *LION* on page 30, Lion Pam Kyte points out the dangers of using balloons and balloon races to the environment. Pieces of balloon can cause great harm to animals and can also end up in the sea. Sir David Attenborough has highlighted the need to care for the oceans and ceasing to run balloon races could be one way of doing a little to improve the situation. Let us, as Lion Pam suggests, be the leaders in stopping this harmful practice!

I would ask you all, as Clubs and individuals, to recycle as much as possible, all items found in the home, such as plastics, paper and glass while continuing with the recycling of specs and hearing aids as Centennial projects. Also consider whether you can reuse some items rather than discarding them. Now we no longer get free plastic bags I am sure that most of us either reuse those we have or use a "proper" shopping bag and this is just one way we can save resources and also prevent plastics getting into the sea or into the countryside. Lastly, please think about reducing the need for using packaging especially plastics that cannot be recycled.

If we all do our bit we can make a difference and help keep our country and the world a better place to live.

Lion Judith Goodchild

105D Community Relations Portfolio Holder

### MD CONVENTION 2018 THE WESSEX WAY



The MD Convention 2018 website is now OPEN! Book early and get free entry into our prize draw. All you need to do is book online for either the Host Night or Banquet and Ball (both would be better!), and your name will automatically be entered in a draw for free accommodation for the weekend **at the Convention hotel**, two nights bed & breakfast for two.

Booking and payment must be by 31 January 2018. Members of the Host Committee, MD staff, guests, MD Officers required by MD to attend and District Governors/District Governors Elect are not eligible. Join us on the weekend of 4 to 6 May 2018 for a right royal occasion, with the usual Lions mix of work and fun.

Support this Convention in our District and let's show other Districts how it's done! Book online at: www.md105convention.uk

*Lion Steve Spencer* MD105 Convention 2018 Host Committee

# Peter's *New Year* Page

I write this sat at work at 9 a.m. on 27 December seemingly all alone as there are certainly no customers stupid enough to be out at this time. I cannot moan though as it is very unusual for those of us employed in retail to get four days off for Christmas.

Debbie and I hope that you have all had a wonderful Christmas and managed to spend time with your loved ones recharging your batteries.



Having watched many of the Clubs on Facebook I am simply amazed at the amount of work which some Clubs have done over the festive period. The sheer number of man-hours spent by some Clubs with their Christmas

period. The sheer number of man-hours spent by some Clubs with their Christma sleighs is completely mind boggling!

We visited Weymouth on Christmas Day morning to watch the swim across the harbour organised by Weymouth & Portland Lions Club. It was amazing to see the quayside absolutely packed by people watching the 483 hardy souls who took to the water. I was honoured to be asked to help the Mayor giving out the medals to some very cold people. Last year the event raised more than £20,000 for local charities and hopes to raise even more this year. It made a wonderful change to our Christmas morning. Well done Weymouth & Portland Club for giving up your time and having built up such a huge event over the years - even the Meridian TV cameras were there!

Unfortunately I have to report the closure of one Lions Club at the end of December. I would like to thank the members of Hythe & Waterside Lions for all their hard work over the years. I would also hope that some of the neighbouring Clubs will expand their areas into the Hythe area so that the public still have the benefit of Lions activities such as *Message in a Bottle*.

Looking forward into the New Year it is now only two and a half months until the District convention. I know that Dave Ebsworth and his team are working hard to make it a fun weekend. On Saturday we are going to try and introduce a more interesting agenda with more guest speakers as well as giving Clubs the opportunity to tell others about what works well for them. I know that Lion Dave Ebsworth still has a couple of slots available for this bit, so if your Club has a unique event please share it with others.

Finally Debbie & I wish all of you a very healthy and happy New Year and we look forward to seeing as many of you as we can during the second half of my District Governor year.



# A timely message

#### From First Vice District Governor Lion Ken Staniforth

#### Dear Fellow Lion,

I write with the permission of District Governor Lion Peter.

During the past six years I have been a Cabinet member in varied roles, including Zone Chairman (twice), Region Chairman, Club Development Officer, Second and First Vice District Governor. Each role brought its own set of unique challenges.

One of the main (and most enjoyable) tasks that I have undertaken while carrying out those roles has been visiting Clubs and meeting members. What a privilege that is.

I remember during one of my earliest visits (when I was a bit naïve, unknowledgeable and totally unprepared), I received the biggest roasting ever from a couple of 'unhappy' members. *What damn good is Cabinet? What is it there for? We don't need District...* I think you get the gist of it - talk about being a lamb to the slaughter!

It made me wonder. What if there were new or potential members attending that meeting? What would they be thinking after witnessing such a tirade? What would their view of District or Cabinet or, indeed, the whole organisation be? All without knowing, attending or being part of any Cabinet or District event/meeting. My conclusion? I would suggest pretty negative and misguided.

So I would like to take a little of your time to address these issues.

The District Cabinet of 105D is the **ADMINISTRATIVE** core of 58 Clubs, spread over a wide area including Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, the Channel Islands, Dorset, Hampshire, the Isle of Wight, Oxfordshire and Wiltshire. The members of the Cabinet are there to support **you** and **your** Club. Cabinet consists of **ordinary** people like you and me who **volunteer** their time and energy **over and above** their normal Club duties and expectations. Your **Zone Chairmen** are the most important members of the Cabinet, being the link to **you**, the **Club members**.

The number of times that I have heard comments such as *Cabinet is the same old faces* and numerous similar is sad. I have seen Cabinet members receive personal verbal abuse, seen them being picked on and bullied. What I haven't witnessed, sadly, are those same dissenters putting **themselves** forward to join Cabinet and **help administer** the District. **Your** District,.

The result is that nobody is putting themselves forward to fill vacancies and yet there are (I feel) several Lions out there who, with **encouragement** and **positivity** from their Clubs, would not only put themselves forward but would also be an absolute asset to YOUR District. I shouted once but then, with some encouragement, I **did** something about it as did **all my fellow Lions** who are Cabinet members.

In the next three years Lionism in the United Kingdom will be going through a lot of changes and challenges.

We, as Lions, have a duly through the affirmation we made at our induction:

Do you hereby accept membership in the ......
Lions Club, knowing that you are encouraged to participate in functions of the Club?
To the best of your ability will you abide by the Lions Code of Ethics, attend meetings whenever possible and contribute your share to the programmes of your Club, District and Lions Clubs International?

This includes encouraging and nurturing participation in holding positions at all levels which will ensure that **our** Clubs are sustainable in every way **to serve our communities** and **our** District Cabinet is sustainable to support Clubs and their member now, and more importantly, in the future.

Fellow Lions, your District Cabinet needs **your help**, **your drive**, **your knowledge**, **your ideas**, **your enthusiasm** and **your commitment** to see us through the coming years.

To grow, we need to change our ways. To survive, we need to change our ways. To be better, we need to change our ways. **You** know the members in your Club who would fit the bill. **You** may even be one of those Members that fits the bill. A full list of Cabinet member appointments will be sent out soon. At this stage, all **you** need to do is to register an interest.

Thank you, fellow Lions

Lion Ken Staniforth

1st Vice District Governor 2017-2018 District 105D Tel: 01980 761 959/07891 443 024 kenstaniforth@hotmail.com

# <u>Matters of Moment</u>

# DG Team Visits January 2018

#### DG Lion Peter

Date	Activity
I 3 Jan:	MD Convention meeting - Basingstoke
20 Jan:	District Convention meeting - Southsea
20 Jan:	Loddon Valley Charter Anniversary
23 Jan:	Blandford Official Visit
	Council of Governors - Solihull

#### **1 st VDG Lion Ken**

Date	Activity
4 Jan:	Hart Official Visit
5 - 7 Jan:	Birmingham
9 Jan:	IOW Sandown & Shanklin
	Official Visit
I 0 Jan:	DG Team Meeting
I 5 Jan:	Hook & Odiham Official Visit
l 7 Jan:	Salisbury & District Club
	meeting
22 Jan:	Portsmouth Official Visit
26-28 Jan:	Birmingham

#### **2nd VDG Lion Jarvis**

DateActivityI I Jan:Hayling Island Official Visit



With the new day comes new strength and new thoughts Eleanor Roosevelt

### Lions Clubs International FOUNDATION

#### Introduction:

I would like to thank all Clubs that have made donations to LCIF since my last newsletter. Only in the week before Christmas there is news of a tropical storm in the Philippines that has triggered mudslides and floods killing more than 200 people with many others reported missing. I feel certain that LCIF will be giving assistance here.

#### Disaster Grants:

Since my last Newsletter LCIF has awarded nine disaster grants totalling  $\pounds$ 71,250 for assistance in areas around the world effected by floods and earthquakes.

#### Melvin Jones Fellowships (MJFs)

I would remind you again that a very large number of Clubs have sufficient credits to be able to award one or more (in a number of cases many) Melvin Jones Fellowships. Please let me know if you wish to be made aware of your Club's credits. Even if these do not amount to US\$1,000, a Club can pay the difference between the credit and the required amount and still obtain the MJF.

#### Donations:

Approximately 20 Clubs in District 105D have made donations to LCIF this fiscal year. LCIF is our own charity and I hope I have given information over the last few years to show how and when it operates. Please consider making a donation – your Club can decided if it wishes its donation to be for 'area of greatest need', disaster, sight or youth. Funding directed to 'area of greatest need' provides LCIF with the ability to financially support any programme and allows the flexibility to supplement initiatives where additional funding is necessary or where the need is most urgent and to fund projects that meet diverse community needs beyond sight, disaster and youth, such as the measles programme, water wells and vocational training programmes for the disabled. Payments should be made via the District Treasurer in the usual way, specifying 'LCIF' and the area for which the donation is intended.

#### LCIF Club Coordinators:

Lions Clubs International Board has recently approved a policy change where, beginning 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018, a Club's Immediate Past President shall serve as the Club LCIF Coordinator. If that person is unable to accept the role, or there is already a Club LCIF Officer in place, it can be delegated to another club member. In the coming weeks, current Club Presidents and then Immediate Past Club Presidents will be notified of this policy change. I would remind LCIF Club Coordinators' that some very useful guidance is available on the following link: <u>http://www.lcif.org/EN/resources/coordinator-center/club-lcif.php</u>

#### Presentations on LCIF

As mentioned previously, part of my role is to provide presentations to de-mystify LCIF. These can be given to individual Clubs but preferably to Zone meetings. Please liaise with your Zone Chairman and request a presentation on LCIF.

#### Other LCIF matters

Please contact me if you have any questions relating to LCIF, MJFs, etc. Why not take a look at the LCIF website?

The link is http://www.lcif.org/EN/index.php.



PDG Lion Patrick Hamblin

District 105D LCIF Coordinator

# News from the Clubs

### ANOTHER RECORD BREAKER FOR WEYMOUTH & LIONS CHRISTMAS DAY HARBOUR SWIM



A record 483 swimmers braved the elements for this year's Weymouth Harbour swim net-ting more than £4,000 for the Weymouth & Portland Lions Club Charity Fund. Last year more than £20,000 was raised by the event for national and local charities and this year the Club is hoping to beat that. This year District Governor Lion Peter Burnett and his wife Debbie were on hand to witness proceedings and very kindly 'got stuck in' handing out medals to the swimmers (see the picture on the front page featuring the DG with Weymouth's Mayor Cllr Kevin Rookes and his wife Anne.. Please note that the Mayor is actually wearing his medal having just completed the swim!). There is always a wonderful atmosphere of fun and goodwill at this event with whole families swimming together raising funds for their favourite charity. A variety of costumes and fancy dress were on display in addition to the usual Santa outfits - tutus, penguins, puddings, elves and mankinis to name but a few. Hundreds of photographs have been posted to social media and the event was well covered by the local mainstream media with

posted to social media and the event was well covered by the local mainstream media with the BBC and ITV also posting pictures on their websites. The event also caught the attention of the national press.



The first swim in Weymouth Harbour took place in 1948 as a bet between a publican and a taxi driver and has taken place every year ever since. The Lions took over the swim in the early '70s and it has grown considerably since then. This year the organisation of the event was brought right up to date with the sale of tickets on line. Two days before the swim 360 had been sold which made the registration process on Christmas Day itself so much easier.



**District Governor Lion Peter** Burnett hands out medals to the swimmers, ably assisted by 'Snowman', Weymouth & Portland President Lion Roger Hogbin.



# **Lions' Race** Night in Ferndown



Wimborne and Ferndown Lions Club's latest fund raising event was a Race Night held at the Royal British Legion, Ferndown, last month. Some 50 or so eager punters enjoyed a noisy fun evening watching eight video races and either "buying a horse" or betting on the tote. Every race was also sponsored by local businesses or organisations and the Club would like to thank all the sponsors for their support.

The evening was beautifully managed and controlled by Lion Nigel Hodder from the Blandford Lions Club. The event could not have been run without him.

The evening resulted in a profit of £585 to go to Lions' charities.

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# More news from the <mark>Clubs</mark>

### Christmas Food Parcels from the Lions

The annual delivery of Christmas food parcels to local people has been made again by Wimborne and Ferndown Lions Club.

Club members fill bags with about 25 food items from bulk supplies purchased from Morrisons of Verwood. In a well established process, stacks comprising units of each food item are assembled on tables . Club members then circulate, filling the bags with one from each stack. The bags are then delivered to people who have been notified to the Lions by local Social Services, CABs and GPs, etc. We would like to thank the Verwood Hub for the use of their room for the parcels assembly. Many thanks also to the Mayor of Verwood, Cllr Lindsey Dedden, for supporting the event and getting stuck in with the parcel filling process.



Pictured are the Mayor with Lions Frank Fortey, Michael Zeck and Godwin Micallef.



In the spirit of their motto 'We Serve', the Blackmore Vale Lions have presented seven local Guide and Scout groups with cheques for  $\pounds 170$  each, a share of the moneys raised at the Lions' annual Golf Fun Day held at Folke Golf Club.

The companies represented were 1st Sherborne Guides, 3rd Sherborne Guides, Sturminster Scouts, Stalbridge Scouts, 2nd Templecombe Scouts, 2nd Templecombe Guides and 1st Sherborne Scouts. Each group gave a brief presentation on what they do and how they will spend the money.

President Lion George Wagland thanked the groups for attending and told them about the Lions youth programmes and how these opportunities are available in the area. He also thanked the groups who assist the Lions in their fundraising activities.

# Windsor Lions Den is a roaring success!

The Windsor Lions Club's new initiative, The Lions Den, has proved to be so successful that the Club intends it to be a regular event on its calendar.

Three local organisations were awarded the winning accolades and benefited from £6,000 worth of funding as a result. The *Lion's Den Challenge* aimed to create sustainable projects that would directly benefit the local community. Based on the popular TV series Dragons' Den, six youth and senior groups were invited to present their ideas to a panel of prominent local business people, headed by the Windsor president Lion Paul Maxwell.

The winning projects were the **Dedworth Medical Centre** 



whose project was to create a space/environment and support for a significant number of local groups to provide much needed services to the immediate communities (*pictured are Robbie Tomlinson and Dr Kirstin Ostle with Lion Mike Sells, Lions Den organiser*); **Electric Eels** whose project provides a competitive

swimming platform for children with Down's Syndrome to represent Great Britain and compete internationally (*pictured are Pauline Walker with Lion Mike Sells*); and **Champney Hall** looking to provide a hub of services to the local community through the addition of broadband and





internet infrastructure (pictured are Benta and Brian Hickley with Lion Mike Sells).

President Lion Paul Maxwell says: "We wish to thank all the 20+ teams who submitted great cases and although some did not meet the criteria of the Den, we hope to be able to support some of them

through the broader work of Lions.

"Our motto is 'We Serve' and that's exactly what we have been doing locally since the 1960s. Now we want to help our community to help itself by supporting local and sustainable projects. Our sincere congratulations to the three winning projects which I hope are the first of many we can help through Lions Den over the coming years."

# More news from the <mark>Club</mark>s

### HIGHLIGHT OF THE YEAR FOR WOOLMER FOREST LIONS

During 2017, the Woolmer Forest Lions raised almost £3,000 from their Easter Egg Appeal. This amazing amount involved 30 local businesses raffling giant Easter Eggs to support the Club and the SERV Wessex Blood Bikers. After the cost of the eggs was deducted, the whole amount remaining, £2,142.27, was handed over on Saturday 3 June to the SERV Wessex Blood Bikers at a presentation held at the Angel Hotel, Privett, Alton. The cheque (*pictured below by Tom Ferguson*) was presented by Club treasurer Lion Alistair Gallon to the 'Blood Bikers' Tim Bennett. They



used the donation to fund the purchase of milk boxes to deliver expressed milk for premature babies. Lion Alistair said that the Lions were delighted to help such a worthy cause since

the Blood Bikers help save lives 365 days a year. Alistair also paid tribute to all the outlets that took part in the raffle and to the general public for their outstanding generosity.

On Thursday 14 September Club members attended the presentation of the milk boxes to the Blood Bikers at Eastleigh, the event being captured for posterity by Denise Slotman who provided the photograph.



These events were truly the highlights of Woolmer Lions Club's year.



The Blood Bikers on parade at Chase Hospital, Bordon



### Notice anything unusual about Lion Barry?

Do you see anything unusual about one of Gillingham, Mere and Shaftesbury recent new members Lion Barry von Clemens?

Do you see that Lion Barry is proudly wearing his limited edition Centennial Lions pin but he is also wearing a Centennial Sponsor pin as he has already introduced another new member to GMS Lions Club! The Club is wondering how many other Lions can join Lion Barry in possessing both pins? (There's no prizes on offer for guessing - Ed.)





**Things do not happen. Things are made to happen.** John F. Kennedy



We can now confirm the guest speakers at the Convention as:



**MOLLY WATT** is living with a progressive condition called Usher Syndrome that means she has very limited vision and hearing. Come and hear Molly talk about the Molly Watt Trust and how '*My world might be tiny but my determination spans the world*'



**DR CHARLES FOX** will talk about his special interest in diabetes around education, communication and patient empowerment with particular emphasis on diabetes in young adults and older people.

Strokes We will also hear from AUSTIN WILLET, the new strategic business manager of this leading UK charity helping young stroke survivors. This is the DG's Partner's charity for the year. Visit https://2018.lions105d.org.uk/guests.html for more details.

- It's time to book! Please book early. To do so visit https://2018.lions105d.org.uk/index.html;
- Will you be a Day Visitor? You will still need to complete a booking form. See the Convention website for details;
- Share your ideas! You have the opportunity to 'take the stage' on Saturday afternoon and spread the word about a project or event that has worked well for your Club. Contact Lion Dave Ebsworth at david.ebsworth@lions105d.org.uk if you want a slot;
- Exhibition space is still available see https://2018.lions105d.org.uk/exhibition.html for details
- The Lord Mayor of Portsmouth Cllr Ken Ellcome will open the Convention and attend the Banquet & Ball;
- Parking at the Hotel is limited but there is a free public car park just 200 metres away and there will be a shuttle bus service at key times. More news anon.



On behalf of the 2018 Convention Committee





### The Editor has the last word

A happy New Year to one and all.

First Vice District Governor Lion Ken has kicked off 2018 in fine fashion in his inimitable style. In a way he poses much the same question as JFK when he suggested that Americans should ask not what their country could do for them, but what they could do for their country. Thus seek not to ask what your District does for you, but what you can do for your District.

Although each Club sets out to serve its own community (and on these pages we have some inspiring examples of how well we do that) we are still part of a worldwide organisation and that part of what we are is not going significantly to change. So if we can't beat 'em, we should join them and, as Lion Ken suggests, help us all to go forward.

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.uk and/or peteretabb@gmail.com at least a week before the end of the month