



By now you will know whether or not you were a winner in the Wokingham Lions' Grand Easter Egg Raffle drawn on Easter Sunday

105D Convention - what was it like for you?

Could you form a new Lions Club? Read page 9

# CONVENTION SPECIAL

APRIL 2018 EDITION



# 105D TIMES



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**

✉ [dg@lions105d.org.uk](mailto:dg@lions105d.org.uk) ♦ [www.lions105d.org.uk](http://www.lions105d.org.uk)



**“Putting Fun into Fundraising and giving Service with a Smile”**



## Community Relations News



**Plastic of all types is being thrown into rivers, seas and oceans as well as littering our hedges, fields and common land.**

**This plastic is ingested by birds and fish and also entangles animals, birds and sea creatures, often causing great suffering and slow death.**

**SOME PLASTICS TAKE YEARS TO BREAK DOWN COMPLETELY BUT MOST NEVER DO**

## WORLD EARTH DAY

is on

**SUNDAY 22 APRIL**

**So why not invite your Club Members, friends, local schools and even join other Clubs, for a COMMUNITY PLASTIC PICK**

**Let us know if you are leading the way on this event in your area and report it in the Monthly Activities Report as an Environmental Project**

DG(E) Lion Ken Staniforth and I would like to make World Earth Day a very special day for our District. We invite you to help clean up your own community. A couple of hours could make a whole difference to our environment. If all 58 clubs took part it would be a great PR exercise as well as a great service activity. If you cannot make that day then why not organise a pick in the week leading up to World Earth Day.

*Lion Judith Goodchild*

105D Community Relations Portfolio Holder and GST Co- Ordinator  
welfare@lions105d.org.uk or gst@lions105d.org.uk

## READING BETWEEN THE LIONS A Centennial Celebration

Reading Lions Club held an evening function on Thursday 1 March to celebrate 100 years of Lions Clubs International and 53 years of the Reading Club.

The event was held in the spectacular venue of the 14<sup>th</sup> floor of one of Reading's newest high rise office blocks, with views across the town and into the countryside beyond. The Club invited 30 guests, including the Deputy Mayor of Reading and Sir John Madejski, Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Berkshire, together with various business representatives and supporters.

A buffet was provided and there were brief presentations on Reading Lions Club and its activities and Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF).

Despite following a day of heavy snow and high winds those attending enjoyed a very good evening and our guests went home knowing more about the Club and its activities and the wider work of LCIF than when they arrived.



## Jersey Lions Swimarathon raises £127,500

**With 464 teams with almost 4,000 swimmers, the 2018 Jersey Lions Swimarathon, held on 14 to 18 March, raised £127,500, and still counting. Since its inception in 1972 the event has raised £3.5 million.**

# Peter's Page



## Wow, what a month March has been!

It started off with Dorset coming to a complete standstill because of the snow. When it took me over two hours to do the nine mile journey home from work in Southbourne to home in Ferndown on the first Thursday of the month, I took the very difficult decision to pull out from attending the Windsor Charter Anniversary on the following Saturday. My apologies go out to the Windsor Lions but I know you understood that it being more than 80 miles each way was just too far in the conditions.

Next came my 2.5 seconds of fame on South Today when the TV cameras were present at the AFC Bournemouth ground as I made a presentation of a South African Lions humanitarian award on behalf of the Merrivale Lions Club near Capetown to footballer Jermaine Defoe. The Sky Sports cameras were also there but I never managed to see myself on that. I was told that it was featured so we had a potential audience of one billion hearing about Lions! The award was given in recognition of Jemaine's amazing relationship with Bradley Lowery and his work increasing the awareness of children's cancer.

The absolute highlight of the month and probably the year was the fantastic District Convention in Southsea. It was an experience which I don't think I will ever forget and the lovely feedback which I have received since has made me feel very proud. I am not going to try and thank everybody individually now as I wouldn't want to miss anybody out. Nevertheless Debbie and I are so grateful to Lion Dave Ebsworth and his amazing team of organisers, to PID Lion Kenneth and PDG Lion Eva Persson from Sweden who were our international guests and, of course, to all of you who gave up either some or all of your weekend to attend and make it so successful. I have asked our editor Lion Peter Tabb to do a report on the Convention which appears elsewhere in the I05D Times.

Debbie has asked me to thank all the Clubs who donated towards the incredible £4,000 which we donated to Different Strokes at the Convention. As guest speaker Austin Willett informed us strokes can hit at any age and this organisation does amazing work helping younger sufferers. If your Club was motivated to give, please send donations to Lion Linda Picton as she will total up any further moneys received so that we can make a further

donation at the end of the Lions year. My daughter Bethany also asked me to thank all of you who ignored the advice on diabetes and bought some of her sweets to help her raise funds towards her trip to next year's World Scout Jamboree.

I hope you have all had a happy Easter and that any Easter Club events you organised were really successful.



*DG Lion Peter*

# Matters of Moment

## DG Team Visits

### April 2018

#### DG Lion Peter

Date	Activity
5 Apr:	Global Action Team meeting - MDHQ Birmingham
7 Apr:	Our son Paul's wedding
8 Apr:	Bournemouth Charter Anniversary
14 Apr:	Gosport Charter Anniversary
15 Apr:	Bridport Charter Anniversary
18 Apr:	MD Convention 2018 planning meeting - Basingstoke
20 Apr:	Havant Charter Anniversary
22 Apr:	Newbury Charter Anniversary
25 Apr:	District 105W Convention - Port Talbot
26 Apr:	MD Convention 2019 planning meeting
27 - 29 Apr:	District 133 Ireland Convention
30 Apr:	Final MD Convention 2018 planning meeting - Basingstoke

#### 1st VDG (DGE) Lion Ken

Date	Activity
4 Apr:	Meeting Z3H Chairman Lion Gordon in Portsmouth
7 Apr:	IOW Ryde Charter Anniversary
10 Apr:	Zone 4J Meeting with Zone 2D Chairman Lion Bryan
11 Apr:	IOW Sandown & Shanklin special meeting with First DGE Lion Jarvis
13 Apr:	Portsmouth Quiz Night and presentation
18 Apr:	Salisbury & District Club meeting
20 Apr:	Boynton possible Club formation meeting
22 Apr:	World Earth Day Event - Salisbury

## New Lions

In the March 2018 edition the IOW Newport Club was credited with two new Lions. In fact Lions



Ann Burrows and Maria Cook have joined IOW Cowes Club Branch and the 105D Times is advised that they have now been joined by Lion Sylvia Mould

## Lions Clubs International FOUNDATION

#### Introduction:

On behalf of LCIF I would again like to thank all Clubs that have made donations to LCIF since my last newsletter.

#### Disaster Grants:

I have not received information on the February grants as yet. I will include them in my next newsletter, if in fact any grants were made.

#### Melvin Jones Fellowships (MJFs):

This District has over US\$325,000 of credits for 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 email me 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. MJFs can be used to recognise local dignitaries and others outside of Lions and thereby promote Lions in their locality.

#### Donations:

I am repeating my previous comments that only 50% of Clubs in the District have donated to LCIF this fiscal year. If your Club has not made a donation to LCIF this fiscal year please discuss and remember LCIF is our charity. Your Club can decide 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 water wells and vocational training programmes for the disabled. The Measles Initiative is still continuing, with the aim to eliminate measles and rubella by 2020/2030.

Payments should be made via the District Treasurer in the usual way, specifying 'LCIF' and the area for which the donation is intended.

#### Personal donations to LCIF:

If any member wishes to make a personal donation to LCIF please have a private word with me regarding the process of making the donation under the 'Contributing Member' programme. These do not have to be large donations and £20.00 would be beneficial to LCIF.

#### Presentations on LCIF:

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.

#### Leo Service Grants:

If your Club has a Leo Club take a look at <http://www.lcif.org/EN/apply-for-a-grant/leo-grants.php> as grants are now available.

#### 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

# MD Convention Update

**This will be a truly memorable Convention, with something for everyone.**

## Fun, fun, fun

We are suggesting that each District gets together to agree dress based on a specific country or continent. Let's make it a contest as to the best dress – no prizes, just the honour of knowing in your own minds that yours is the best! As the opener for Friday night we have a local NHS choir, the Brighter Together Choir, who held their first public performance last November; following them will be the well-known Matt Black with his humour and unique style of playing. For the Banquet and Ball opener we have some Bollywood dancers, and then last year's wildly acclaimed DJ Scottie - who is travelling down from the North West to be with us again. And be prepared - there will probably also be some secret celebrities. Who could they be now that Ant is indisposed?

## The fun continues

For the partners we already have trips to see the Cathedral and the city of Winchester, and lots of suggestions about other venues for a day out. These could also be of interest for Lions in their free time or after Convention, no need to hurry home as it is a Bank Holiday. BUT – we are still working to improve on that, with hopefully another trip on offer which makes me wish I could go there instead... but back to business.

## Some light relief – the business

During the business session we're going back to basics and concentrating on service. Not only do we have the International President who will no doubt be inspirational as he is passionate about the service we can give as Lions. We also have speakers on the Lions core service pillars of diabetes, environment, hunger relief, paediatric cancer and vision, and that is just the morning. The afternoon will be devoted to the reports and return to the serious business of resolutions, after which we will have to having fun.

## And finally

Then on Sunday you can let yourselves go in welcoming your new DG and partner, in the usual restrained Lions manner – not.

Be sure to join us, book at: <https://www.md105convention.uk/booking>  
Bookings close on Friday 27 April.

Further details of the Convention are at: [www.md105convention.uk](http://www.md105convention.uk)



*Lion Steve Spencer*

MD 105 Convention 2018 Host Committee

# A Conventional Report

## Editor Lion Peter Tabb's view of the 2018 105D Convention

I'm a rarity in my Club because I actually enjoy District Conventions (and attend them) and I very much enjoyed this one. We were promised fun by Lion Dave Ebsworth and his team and that is what we got. Someone described the event as being 'laid back' and that was what we got too.

We sometimes tend to forget that the Convention is also our Annual General Meeting and consequently there is bound to be business to discuss, not least the election of our leaders for the next Lions' year. In DGE Lion Ken and 1st VDGE Lion Jarvis we have two dynamic characters who I am confident will lead us most capably into 105SC. I am looking forward to seeing who our 2nd VDGE will be. There were also the inevitable resolutions which, judging by the almost total lack of debate, were both uncontroversial and universally acceptable. Obviously each Club getting a refund of a fiver per member was not going to be voted down!

Our Young Ambassador, the very articulate Tanguy Billet-Masters at the tender age of just 16 years really wowed his audience as did the striking artwork prepared by the winner of the Peace Poster Competition Joseph Durwood. With such talents among today's young people, the future looks so much brighter.

If the business part of the Convention led to a long queue at the coffee machine, what followed more than made up for that.

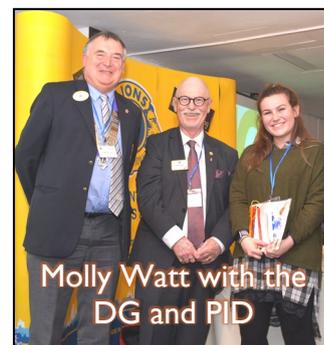
Dr Charles Fox from Diabetes UK both enthralled and disturbed with his description of the condition and how it might be coped with. Combatting diabetes is a Lions Clubs International commitment and Dr Fox conveyed just what an uphill struggle this is (where I come from, a community of circa 100,000 people, every day one more person is diagnosed as diabetic).

Past International Director Lion Kenneth Persson (who the previous evening had disguised himself as either Benny or Bjorn from Abba with his wife PDG Lion Eva a very convincing Agnetha) spoke engagingly and among other Lionistic themes managed to convince us that we appeared to have a lot more enjoyment being Lions than they do in Sweden.



This article is not intended to be a substitute for the formal Minutes, so I am not going to list the post-lunch events one by one or even in the right order but what I am going to do is single out Molly Watt as one of the most inspiring speakers I have ever heard at a Convention (voiced comparisons with Helen Keller were not inappropriate) and similarly our own Lion Mike Hendy (and Lion Brigid) of Bracknell Forest Club whose Gambia Project is so truly in keeping with our Lions' ethos. Austin Willet of Different Strokes (a charity that few of us, I suspect, had heard of before this Lions year) illustrated just how valuable our District's support of our DG's partner Lion Debbie's project will be.

Eight Clubs (including Bracknell Forest) gave interesting five minute presentations and at least one of them will be imitated by my own Club and anyone who knows me will know that that is praise indeed!



Molly Watt with the DG and PID



The Convention's organising team

Despite one or two adverse comments about the host night's entertainer Matt Black (I didn't hear them because I was too busy laughing at his very diverse talents), this was a very good Convention and my congratulations to the DG for presiding over it in such a laid back way and Lion Dave Ebsworth and his team for organising the event that allowed him to do that.

# News from the Clubs

## BASINGSTOKE LIONS STEP INTO THE SHADY WORLD OF THE 'WHODUNNIT'!



The Fundraising Committee was asking for new ideas – and they got one from our IPP Lion Ann Vicars. Lion Ann had had a previous involvement with her village's very successful 'amdram' group, The Oakley Pantomime Society. They agreed to write and produce a Murder Mystery ('Murder in the Main') for the Club, charging no fee and even providing prizes for the winners.

What Lion Ann didn't realise, however, was that she was to be written into the script as 'Hannah Priest' (see what they did there?), so had to face the challenge of hiding this from the Club for three months. Which she did so successfully, can we ever trust her again?

Come a snowy, snowy night there was some trepidation as none in the Club had experienced such a production and were unsure what it entailed. But a "Crime Writers" quiz got everyone off to a good start and when the main event kicked off all were up and running.

The plot unfolded as the peccadilloes of the characters were revealed – bribery, corruption, infidelity – all the little things that make life interesting! The big surprise for the Lions present was the sudden appearance of our IPP - who was duly 'topped' and by **TOPS!** But whodunnit? Each table had to decide who they most favoured as the murderer and why. We had to wait until the second act for the dénouement - the suspense was 'killing'!

It was a great evening's entertainment and spirits weren't even dampened by having to dig the cars out of the snow at the end of the evening.

And the best part?

Money raised **from** the local community **for** the local community – and in a way we'd never tried before!

Who says 'Crime doesn't pay'!

## Top Award for Husband and Wife Lions Club Team



Melvin Jones Fellowships were awarded to Past President Lion Mark Lockie and his wife Steve at the Weymouth & Portland Lions Club's 48th Charter Anniversary celebration at the Rembrandt Hotel in Weymouth. Mark has been a Lion for 40 years, firstly in Papua New Guinea, and then with the Weymouth Club. Both Lion Mark and his wife have been closely involved with the work of the Club in supporting those less fortunate than ourselves and organising Lions events, including the Christmas Day harbour swim and the annual beach motocross.

The awards were presented by DG Lion Peter Burnett who was congratulated on his elevation to Chairman of the Council of Governors for the British Isles and



awarded a special 'Top Cat' medal by Club President Lion Roger Hogbin.

*Pictured above are (l-r) Lion Roger Hogbin, Steve Lockie, Lion Mark Lockie and DG Lion Peter Burnett*

# More news from the Clubs



## A SPECIAL CHAIR FOR CALLUM

On National Downs Syndrome Day, Blackmore Vale Lions President, Lion George Wagland, together with Lions Verona Cooper, Richard Frost and Ian Simpson presented Callum, a local child with Downs Syndrome, and his family, with a specialist push-chair.

It was such a pleasure and humbling experience to give such a delightful child and family such a valuable gift.



The Blackmore Vale Lions really enjoy supporting these local causes and we wish Callum, his Mum Karen, and his family every success with their new pushchair.

Windsor Lions' fifth Funfest, the fun event for disabled children and their families, reached new heights on Sunday 25 March at Windsor Leisure Centre and was deemed by everyone who attended a great success!

More than 350 people attended the event representing a variety of charities including a number of special schools from all over London and the Home Counties.

Families and more than 200 children, the majority disabled, enjoyed a wonderful afternoon of spectacular recreational activities including Human Table Football, Bungee Jumping, an obstacle course and Bouncy Castles. A fun extra this year was children's entertainer Mr Tick Tock, who kept a large audience entranced with his music and dancing.

Windsor Lions President, Lion Paul Maxwell, commented: "What a great time we all had! From small beginnings, the Funfest has gained huge additional support with a large number of families attending from a wide area of the South East and all thoroughly enjoying themselves. The sheer delight on the faces of so many youngsters was a real picture. That's all our Club wanted - to deliver a great fun event for as many youngsters as possible and we did just that!"

*Pictured above (l - r) Lion Nigel Dellas-Conte, the Purchase family - Lion Diane, Lion Alaster, his wife Holly and youngsters Finn and Aiva*

## *In Memoriam*

It is with much sadness that the Lions Club of Trowbridge reports the passing to higher service of PDG Lion John Greenaway following a short illness. Glayne and his family were by his side. A Service of Thanksgiving for Lion John took place at St James Church, Trowbridge, on Thursday 29 March.

# Membership Matters



## ***Have we lost the ability to form new Clubs?***

*The answer to that question is **NO**; there is enough written information on the Multiple District and District websites, combined with the experience within the District and within your Clubs, to do the job. We must take a serious look at our future; we just seem to have overlooked the need for new Clubs.*

*It is well known that city and large town Clubs have not proved to be successful within 105D. Therefore we have to look at the outskirts and villages. Some of our very successful Clubs represent groups of villages, small towns and 'out of town'.*

The Global Membership Team is going to need your help as we have to increase the membership in our District by a minimum of ten per cent (approximately six new Clubs or the equivalent) over the next two years and continue to do so indefinitely to overcome our unavoidable losses. We have lost Clubs and, more importantly, members in strategic areas due to ageing, and members being tired of doing the same old thing. It is important that we form new Clubs with younger members (25/40+) to regenerate our District into the future.

Next year we will become District 105SC (South Central) and we need to start now with a new programme for membership with new Clubs. This will give our new District a head start to make sure that we will be the strongest District in the Multiple District.

This is where we need your help and that of your members; it can only be done with local people but with the help and support of the District. If your Club has more than 20 members then I suggest you think about starting a Club Branch with younger people. This can only be done locally as you know your area and, with the help of the District resources available, we can help you to form a Club with a minimum of 20 members or a Club Branch starting with as few as five members.

The advantage of this is more help for you to do more in your community and to have extra help with your larger events. Young people will bring new and more up-to-date ideas to benefit your Club and the community; they will also ensure the future continuity of your Club.

We need to try and re-form Clubs in towns and areas where we have lost them in recent years. Again, this can only be done by having local people in those areas who would be prepared to help find potential members. This cannot be done from afar.

If your Club wants to know more about setting up new Clubs, Branch Clubs and including membership or retention, please address your questions to the GMT via e-mail.

Thank you for taking the time to read this document and please give serious consideration to the benefit to your club and that of the future of Lionism.

*PDG Lion Alan Chapman*  
**District Membership Officer**



# TAIL TWISTER

*The Editor has the last word*

As you will read elsewhere in this edition this particular Lion enjoyed the 105D Convention and I am grateful to Lion Richard Keeley for the pictures published herein.

I am sure that I am not alone in believing that the event benefited significantly from the presence of PID Lion Kenneth Persson and his wife PDG Lion Eva who gave us an intriguing perspective of what life with the Lions is like in Sweden; obviously not so much fun as it is here. And although we are all now intent on gaining membership (and retaining what we've got) I couldn't agree that we should be aiming for a 50 per cent gender split. While I recognise just how vital it has been accepting women as Lions (rather than as the somewhat demeaning Lionesses) and how significantly poorer and smaller this organisation would be had we not done so, a target of 50 per cent female membership to me is unrealistic (however much it reflects society). In my view we should concentrate on attracting anyone into our Clubs who will benefit from being a Lion and benefit us by being so and if that doesn't add up to 50 per cent of each, then so be it.

*Lion Peter Tabb*

# Lions' Tail...



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](mailto:news@lions105d.org.uk) and/or [peteretabb@gmail.com](mailto:peteretabb@gmail.com)  
at least a week before the end of the month