

DISTRICT 105D



August 2014 Edition

TIMES

In good
company...



DG Lion Mike and PDG Lion Brigid with International President
Lion Joe Preston and his wife Lion Joni at the 2014
International Convention in Toronto

DG Mike Hendy reports on a busy month

Well, the International Convention in Toronto is now receding into the past, my first Cabinet Meeting and District Handover has just taken place and I am now preparing for the first Council of Governors in Solihull.

Toronto is a lovely city but is now very expensive compared to previous visits I have made. It was also hot which was fine but very humid which was not – at least two shirts a day for me!

We arrived three days before the DGE school started and did the usual sightseeing things including watching ↓

The monthly District Newsletter offers the opportunity for every Club in 105D to have its say - tell the other Clubs in the District of its triumphs and possibly even its disasters - to bind the Lions of 105D closer and to allow us all to share in the experience and exhilaration of being a Lion.

As you will see from this edition there are a number of 'good news' stories from Clubs in the District and I would welcome more. Even if the idea of writing a report for publication is a bit off-putting, let me have a few notes and I'll write it and pictures are always welcome too.

Letters to the Editor about any topic, even what you think about the 'new-look' 105D Times, will be published (and only edited to delete any expletives!).

Best wishes for a good August.

Lion Peter Tabb

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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
Tel: 0845 833 8618



"Teamwork, Leadership and Compassion"

World Cup football in an Irish Bar on the waterfront, a trip to Niagara, a boat trip to the Falls and just resting up.

Once school started it was a relentless schedule from 8.00 am to 5.00 pm for three days finishing with the DGE Banquet on the Friday night – the first time the white jackets went on! The following day was the International Parade which got good coverage on the TV News and several clips on YouTube.

Then into the three days of the Convention proper culminating for the first time in a contested election for 2nd Vice President which caused the outgoing and incoming International Presidents to fill in time by dancing on the stage while PID Phil Nathan had to count the votes in another building and then bring the results in a police car to the main Air Canada Centre where the plenary sessions were held.



All dressed up with somewhere to go

And then it was all over, a day and a half to go around 'in civvies' and visit crowded bars to watch Brazil and Germany lock horns and then back to the airport for the flight home. Everything stopped in the terminal for the penalty shoot-out between Holland and Argentina – no announcements, nothing – everyone was glued to the TV screens in the concourse all tuned to the match.

Once elected in March, with IPDG Lion David's permission, I set up two working parties; the first led by PCC Lion John Goodchild along with IPDG Lion David and District Secretary Lion Godwin to look at the District Constitution IN ITS ENTIRETY to see whether it was 'fit' for 2014 and beyond, as I have been conscious for a while that we keep nibbling at the edges and drip feeding in an amendment or two at each convention. The second working party was led by PDG Lion Judith Goodchild assisted PDG Lion Fred Massey and IPDG Lion David and set up to look at our District Competitions and Awards to again assess their fitness for 2014 and beyond and make recommendations. Both groups compiled their reports ready for the July Cabinet meeting and both have done so for which I am very grateful. ↓

Chips without chips!



On 26 July the 2nd Templecombe Scout Group was presented with 48 sets of cutlery and dinner services by the Blackmore Vale Lions Club. One comment from a young member of the Scout Group was 'We'll no longer have to eat our chips off chipped plates!'.

This is great for everyone as both clubs serve the community on a regular basis. The Scout Group was very grateful for the donation as now everything in their kitchen matches! Furthermore the donation has come at a good time as later this month the 2nd Templecombe Scout Group will be hosing Scouts from Canada and Australia. They are very pleased that the donation will assist with this international event.

The Blackmore Lions are very grateful for the help that the Scouts have given with collecting boxes when the Lions' Salta Sleigh came to Templecombe in December and also help with marshalling during the Lions' Half Marathon in February.

Before the photo session by Lion Ian Simpson, Scout Leader Geoff Crabb asked Blackmore Vale president Lion Colin MacLeod to present young Scouts with achievement badges.

Lion Richard Frost

Welfare Chairman—Blackmore Vale Lions Club

The Constitution Report was approved by Cabinet and will now go forward as a resolution to the 2015 Convention in Bournemouth; the Competitions and Awards report was also approved by Cabinet and PDG Lion Judith, as District officer, will now make the changes to any rules as required and publicise a summary on the website. Talking of websites there will be a new look soon when I sit down with Lions Tom and Richard. Information on the 2015 Convention in Bournemouth will also be appearing soon so that bookings can be made.



DG Mike and PDG Brigid with daughters Lion Sam and ex-Lion Nikki at the Handover

Bracknell Forest Lions Club hosted a very successful District Handover at The Grange Hotel, Bracknell, on Saturday 19 July. The service and meal were superb and from

what I have heard a good evening was had by all. The next District event now is the Presidents' Lunch on Sunday 7 September at Alton followed by the District Service also at Alton on Sunday 19 October at 3.00 pm.

And so to the priorities for the next 11 months which all revolve around membership – surprise, surprise. As I predicted we ended last year 'in transition' with only 1,240 members and that is ten below the minimum requirement. Ten of the thirteen districts in this Multiple District are now 'in transition' – only 105A, 105I and 105SE are now above 1,250 members. We must recognise that as in other districts, District 105D is a district of diversity in terms of geography and make-up including four islands. The make-up of no two Clubs is the same because of this diversity so while a new Club may not be suitable for some areas, it may well be the answer in others. Equally important is the retention of existing members. If your Club has very little turnover then you are fortunate; if you are a club that is having difficulty retaining existing members then the next paragraph may give you some ideas.

Two new initiatives were launched by the new International President – 'Ask One' and 'Blueprint for a stronger Club'. ↓

New Course
New Jumps
New Date

CROSS COUNTRY HORSERIDE

A unique opportunity to ride
in the beautiful surroundings of
THE WINDSOR GREAT PARK
by kind permission of the Crown Estate Commissioners

**Saturday 13th and
Sunday 14th September 2014**

Every penny raised and donated supports
Riding for the Disabled Association and
other worthwhile causes

50 years of the Lions Club of Windsor

Please visit www.windsorlions.co.uk
email horse@windsorlions.co.uk or call 0118 903 4076

The Lions Club of Windsor would like to thank our generous patron **The Shanly Foundation** for their continued support.

SHANLY
FOUNDATION

Charity No: 283758

WINDSOR Lions' biggest fundraiser of the Club's year, the Horseride in the Great Park, has got off to a great start. The marketing campaign for this ever-popular event, this year on Saturday and Sunday, 13 and 14 September, has yet to get into full swing but entries are already fast approaching the 200 mark.

Event organiser Lion Mark Fraser enthuses: "We are delighted with the early interest in our Horseride. It certainly has a 'new look' this year – a new date since this is the first time we have held it in September and we have introduced new jumps and added extra ones into the nine mile course. Riders have entered from all over the South and East of England which is fantastic and we are very hopeful that plenty more will yet do so. Our target is 600 riders."

The Horseride is in its 39th year and has raised more than £2 million for local good causes as well as giving the thousands of riders the amazing opportunity of riding in the glorious surroundings of Windsor Great Park. The nine mile course through lovely parkland consists of three courses running side by side – Advanced, Novice and Non-Jumping – something for every rider. The jumpers can face up to 30 fences of varying heights but may opt to avoid some if they wish. It is not a race so riders can take as much time as they like. The all-important funds are raised through entry fees and sponsorship which is not obligatory but highly encouraged with various trophies presented after the event to those who have done really well.

Lion Mark concludes: "We are hoping we can raise a great deal of money this year for local charities and other good causes – that's what the event is all about. We are very grateful to The Shanly Foundation for sponsoring the event which helps us enormously. Sophie Christiansen, triple equestrian gold medallist in the London 2012 Paralympics, is a great supporter and I am sure would join me in encouraging all riders in the area to join us in September. The Horseride is a wonderful event, something all riders have to do at least once in their riding life."

Entries should be made via the Windsor Lions' website www.windsorlions.co.uk. For more information, contact the Entries Secretary, Lion John Jenkins, on horse@windsorlions.co.uk or call 0118 903 4076.

Both are very simple in their concept. For the first – Ask One – if only 25 per cent of the current members of this District asked one new person to become a Lion and the person joined that would equate to 310 new members – even ten per cent would be 124 members **so I am setting you the challenge now.**

The second initiative is designed to help those clubs who need to re-focus the club, re-focus the members and hopefully build on what they have and make the club more attractive to (a) attract new members and (b) retain existing members who may be getting fed up with the way the club is running. The Club Development team and the DG Team have all got copies of the paperwork downloaded from the LCI website under 'Blueprint for a stronger club' and I will order some from LCI to make available to clubs who require them.

I have a few visits listed for August and intend to just get on with them – all the DG Team are intending to visit all the listed clubs by Christmas.

DG Wife's Charity

PDG Brigid's charity this year will be "One Shot, One Life", our own LCIF Appeal for measles eradication; more details next month about how to send donations, etc.

Hendy's Travels for August 2014

Date	Activity
5 August	Happy Birthday Mike!
6 August	Dorchester & District Official Visit
11 August	Blackmore Vale Official Visit
20 August	Bradford on Avon Official Visit
23 August	Lions Day at Goodwood
24 August	Aldershot Lions Wheelchair race
26 August	Blandford & District Official Visit
2 September	Warminster Official Visit

Alan's Ambles for August 2014

Date	Activity
5 August	Havant Official Visit
7 August	Newport and Cowes Branch Official Visit
13 August	Yateley Official Visit (TBC)
28 August	Slough Official Visit

Taylor's Treks for August 2014

Date	Activity
14 August	Alton Official Visit

Have a good August. To those going away, stay safe and have a wonderful time; to those staying at home, just recharge the batteries with some R & R to work on service and membership for the next year.

Mike and Brigid

Cash 'n' curry



The Portsmouth-based SAH Foundation recently raised £588 towards its work within Bangladesh, including projects such as tube wells and a student scholarship, as a result of a curry night at the Gandhi, Kingston Road, Portsmouth. This long-standing partnership, with the organisational support of the City of Portsmouth Lions Club, has already had an impact within the designated target area.

Local resident Syed Haque was born in Habaganj, Bangladesh, but calls Portsmouth his true home having lived here and raised a family for over 50 years.

"I have fond memories of my home country and of the community spirit everyone had. Although I no longer live in Bangladesh, I have many familial connections there and a part of the country which always lives in my heart."

SAH is currently planning a series of events, such as the recent curry night, which are aimed at raising funds for Bangladeshi projects.

For any additional information about the charity or our projects, please call Syed on 02392668260, or syedaminulhaque@hotmail.co.uk.



*That action is best, which procures the greatest happiness
for the greatest numbers.*

Francis Hutcheson (1694–1746)

What it's like the first time...



The Sergeant-at-Arms tells it like it was

This year was my first time at an International Convention and to start with I found it very hard to find out many of the dos and don'ts. I first looked at the dress code back in March and after talking with some senior Lions, I bought a few items and I was there, or so I thought. I made contact with travel agent Kumar who took on board my requirements and provided a package that suited me, which included a trip to Niagara Falls. I had realised by this stage the trip wasn't going to be cheap! Then I found out by chance that the parade uniform had been changed and now I needed to buy more clothes. It sounds easy to buy a polo shirt and ordinary shirt and all in just over three weeks but when I contacted the printer he told me it would be tight (*Printers are like that, Ed.*).

All the website could tell me was about the shirts, nothing else, so after a few more e-mails and phone calls once again I was organised. Information out there for first timers is limited and as I didn't go to Manchester I was in the dark.

The first of July came and the trip over to Toronto went really smoothly and on arrival at Toronto Airport the people were so friendly and even the Immigration officer knew about the Lions Convention. However what was missing were Lions meeting and greeting. I took the coach to the hotel where the staff were very helpful. I registered on Thursday morning which went very smoothly. On the Friday I went to Niagara Falls. For anyone visiting Toronto this is a must and the word awesome doesn't really describe it.

The Briefing was helpful but could have been put across better in places. I was lucky being with the International organising committee and, helping out, I learnt from them.

The Parade on the Saturday was well organised except for

one thing - despite how hot it was there was a lack of water and there was very little shade at the start and en route but the Parade flowed and for me carrying the Union Jack was a honour in itself. Neil Sedaka provided the entertainment that evening and was excellent.

The three business sessions were interesting and informative and the exhibition area again had what people wanted. I attended the German and the B & I receptions and met interesting people. A common complaint was that the Convention was spread out too much, especially for anyone unable to walk far but the buses ran a good service. Toronto and what I saw of Canada was very clean and tidy and easy to get around once you had your bearings.

To sum up I feel that all first timers should be given a buddy from their own District so they have a very good idea of what is coming and what to expect and what clothes to take and a 'what you are likely to need' list would be a helpful guide. I believe I was more fortunate than others as I hold a Cabinet post; I'm outgoing and not frightened to ask and have information close by where some do not and won't ask.

It was an experience I wouldn't have missed and I'm glad I've done it.

Lion Dave Ebsworth

*Experience is a good teacher, but she
sends in terrific bills...*

Minna Antrim (1861 - 1950)

Mid June saw Farnborough Lions Club take off for one of their busiest weekends on record



Firstly they celebrated their 36th Charter Anniversary in flying fashion at the Farnborough Air Sciences Trust (FAST) Museum. They dined at the home of British aviation alongside the life sized replica of 'Cody's Flyer' the first ever powered aircraft to fly in Britain in 1908.

Farnborough Lions have been working in the heart of the community since 1978 and it was especially appropriate to celebrate their anniversary in such an iconic setting alongside this unique replica of British aviation history. The evening was especially interesting as the museum was also open for the Lions and their guests to tour prior to the Charter dinner.

Altogether 40 Lions and guests enjoyed this unique and interesting setting which must go down as one of the most unusual Charter settings in recent years. Another slice of Farnborough history was recorded as they posed in front of the 'Cody Flyer' for a picture.

Two days later Farnborough Lions turned from history to the future when they ran their inaugural School Choir Competition.

Five Schools from Farnborough and Aldershot comprising of 130 children entertained an audience of over 200 at the Samuel Cody Specialist Sports College during the first of what will become an annual choir competition between Junior Schools in the area. Choirs from St Bernadette's Junior School, The Grange Community Junior School, The Manor Junior School, Talavera Junior School and St Peter's Junior School sung a wide range of traditional, contemporary and uplifting songs during their 15 minute performance slots.

The Lions organised this competition as a way of bringing schools together in Farnborough and they were delighted with the way the schools came on board. This event also gave the ideal opportunity of bringing the work of Lions to the attention of what is possibly the next generation of Lions and their parents.

Head Judge Katherine Coombs added "It was a lovely afternoon and fabulous to see so many children truly enjoying singing. The standard was excellent and there had obviously been a lot of hard work done by the choirs and their conductors. Music can be underrepresented in Junior schools so it was amazing to see so many children taking part in the competition".



At the end of the competition all the choirs combined on stage to sing an excerpt from 'Les Miserables' specially arranged for the massed choir and conducted by the Head Judge to make an exciting and fitting finale.

Mayor of Rushmoor Councillor Diane Bedford presented the prizes to the winners Grange Junior School, Runners up St Peters and Third to St Bernadette's.

Lion Richard Keeley

Farnborough Lions Club



Jersey Lions distribute proceeds of 2014 Swimarathon

Twenty-five Jersey children and young people's charities have shared in the proceeds of the 2014 Swimarathon, each receiving a cheque for £1,000.

The presentations, held on Monday 9 June, were made by then District Governor Lion David Merchant and his wife Lion Diana who had travelled to Jersey specially for the occasion. The Club had earlier presented a cheque for £25,000 towards the refurbishment of the government-run Oakwell children's respite centre and have already committed more than £50,000 from the Swimarathon receipts towards other local community service projects.

The Lions Swimarathon is Jersey's longest running charity fundraiser and since the first event in 1972 has raised more than £3million.

Lion Peter Tabb

ZONE 4K FUNFEST

For more than 25 years the Clubs from Zone 4K have collaborated to stage the Lions Funfest for disabled people on the last Sunday in June.

For the majority of that time the event has been run in a school in Fleet but for the second year running now the eight Lions Clubs from the north-east area of Hampshire hosted a very special day out for more than 550 disabled people and their families at Yateley.

The Lions Clubs joining forces in this annual festival of fun activities for people of all ages and abilities were Aldershot, Farnborough, Fleet, Hart, Hook & Odiham, Loddon Valley, Sirius and Yateley & District with help from Hendon Lions Club who now run their own Funfest based on the Zone 4K event.

Included in day-long activities were model train rides, donkey rides, roundabouts, bungee bouncing, face painting, inflatable slides, skittles games and a coconut shy together with displays by the First Cinqport Corps of Drums, a group of belly dancers and an Elvis tribute act. At the end of each display the Funfest participants were able to join the band and take part in the dancing and singing displays.

The Funfest has become well known throughout the south of England over the last quarter of a century. A typical example is one family from South Oxfordshire who make a special point of attending each year as this event has evolved to enable disabled people of all ages and abilities with their families to take an active part.

Lion Richard Keeley

Farnborough Lions Club



TAIL TWISTER

The Editor has the last word

Any reader familiar with *The Jersey Lion* will recognise much of the style of that monthly magazine in the *105D Times*.

A regular feature of that publication is what is often referred to by its readers as 'the Editor's rant' and I have no doubt that there will be occasions when, in the forthcoming months, I shall not be able to resist the temptation to give readers the benefit of my views on matters of the moment and this column will be a regular feature.

However, any views I express will always be exclusively my own thoughts and will be designed to stimulate response and discussion to which these pages will always be open.

In the meantime please keep the press releases coming...

Lion Peter Tabb

Windsor Lions prostate cancer initiative shows huge benefits

'Likely to have saved lives'

The results of the Windsor Lions Prostate Cancer Screening initiative have positively demonstrated that about ten men were detected to have early stages of prostate cancer and as a result of the diagnosis are likely to be cured. Lives could thus be saved as a result.

These were the findings of the analysis by consultant urological surgeon David Baxter-Smith. Of the 243 men who were tested, 232 were categorised as being 'normal' with 11 as 'amber' (further investigation needed and four as 'red' (urgent medical attention needed). Event organiser Lion Diane Purchase commented: "These results clearly show that all the effort and cost of staging this event was so worthwhile. It is likely our endeavours have saved lives, at least given some a much better chance of successfully combating prostate cancer."

Many of these tested came from as far afield as Coventry and Farnborough although most were local.

"Our thanks are due to all those who made the event possible - Mr Baxter-Smith, Wexham Park Hospital, our many phlebotomists and, of course, our sponsors The Shanley Foundation and RBWM and its 'Greenredeem' initiative which us £1,000 towards the project's costs. We thank them all."

Lion John Jenkins

Lions Tail...

Brigid, are you sure we have to assemble at the purple flag and the parade is today?



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