



Ordinary People  
Amazing Things

# The International Association of Lions Clubs

## DISTRICT 105D - OCTOBER 2008



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### DG'S THOUGHTS

It was really great to see so many at the District Service, full report and pictures in the next Newsletter

We were both delighted and honoured to be invited to attend the Sight Savers reception in Windsor last week. It was a lovely occasion and certainly graced by the

visit of our patron HRH Countess of Wessex, it was indeed also a great personal honour for me to be introduced and asked to escort Her Royal Highness to introduce the Lions and guests in our assembled group.

We are now well into the official club visits and are enjoying meeting members and listening to what is happening in our great District. We cover such a variety of areas and our clubs certainly reflect that. We wish those of you planning an activity for Lions Awareness Week or just having a membership drive, all the very best. If we can be of help in anyway, please do let us know.

Our first charter this year was at Swanwick where a good time was had by all. Thank you to the members and guests for making us feel so at home. The diary is now filling up fast and again we look forward to meeting members, partners and friends of the clubs whose charters we are attending. After the charter at Swanwick we travelled to Tadley to support the re-arranged Treacle Fair. At least the rain held off and both Ann and I enjoyed going round the stalls and talking to people. Ann thinks I will probably ban her from book stalls before the year is out!

On Sunday September 14<sup>th</sup> DG Roger and Lion Ann travelled up to Virginia Water to support DG Vijay Arora and District 105A with the sponsored walk for LCIF. DG Roger had previously granted permission for this as Virginia Water is in fact just inside our District boundary and what a wonderful facility for such an occasion, we intended to go part of the way round, but enjoyed the surroundings and the weather so much, that we did the whole circuit, DG Vijay thought we had got lost!

It was again another opportunity to meet fellow Lions and their families from another area and to find out a little of what they are up to, again we were given a very warm Lions welcome and made many new friends.



Picture: left to right, Lion Ann Huntley, DG Roger Huntley 105D, DG Vijay Arora 105A, Chrisan Arora

District Almoner, Can I again request that we inform the District Almoner as soon as possible of any bereavements, sickness etc., among our members becomes known to us, it is the District Almoners job to record any such happening and ensure that all that need to know are duly informed without delay and also explore if we can offer any assistance.

All too often we let our emotions overtake us and send out emails often forgetting those who may wish to be informed for one reason or another, so do please put the District Almoner in your email address book.



DG Roger & Ann

"For nearly thirty years Wareham Lions Club have



hosted an annual zone project on behalf of Zone B for people with disabilities.

This year over 250 attended a day of fun comprising trips on a riverboat, canoeing, hayrides on a trailer towed by a 4x4, a disco and a hamburger/hot dog stall, all being free to our

guests.

To hold such an event requires a good venue and Zone B has been fortunate in that Lion Nigel Barnes, a charter member of the Wareham Club, has allowed the use of his riverside farm.

Zone B clubs decided to recognise Nigel's generosity over the years by making a collection for a charity of Nigel's choice which he decided would be one researching prostate cancer.

The photo shows Region 1 Chairman Derick Smith making a presentation to Nigel at a Wareham Club meeting".

### YOUTH CAMP VISITORS TRIP TO LONDON

It was with a little trepidation that Reading Lions



Club agreed to organise a day's visit to London for 40 young persons who were attending the Youth Centre at Avon Tyrrell. However, after a good deal of planning and liaison over such matters as health & safety, August 7<sup>th</sup> arrived and six members of Reading Club set off to London. Fortunately it was one of the drier days of August and we met our visitors, and also a number of helpers who had travelled up on the coach, at Westminster. Our first visit was to the Houses of Parliament, or more correctly known as the Palace of Westminster, where an excellent conducted tour had been arranged. Both the House of Lords and House of Commons were visited and for a short while we could all imagine being politicians (if we wanted to!).



Originally lunch was to be in a park, but with the weather so poor in July an arrangement was made with the Methodist Central Hall, where we had a private area. We then walked to the London Eye, where a 'flight' was taken. This gave superb views over London, particularly when we reached the top at 135 metres.



This was followed by a coach ride around many interesting areas of Central London, including a drive across Tower Bridge. The final destination was Harrods. Here there was a problem, despite already having notified them of our attendance and agreeing to enter in very small groups. Because all the attendees had on identical Youth Centre shirts, we were prohibited from going into the shop. It was not possible, nor worth the time, to ascertain why. Harrods loss was certainly other shops in the area gain.

We returned all the young people and the helpers to their coach at the end of the afternoon. We know the young people enjoyed the visit. Certainly those from Reading Club also had a good time and ended up in a Chinese restaurant to celebrate the fact we had not lost anyone all day!

Patrick Hamblin Reading Lions Club.





Ventnor Lions decided to enter a float in the towns carnival for the first time and won first prize! Club President

Chris Cooper explained that with many Lions helping with marshalling it was necessary to think of an innovative theme involving just one or two members. We came up with "The Lion, the witch and the wardrobe". We already had a large model Lion which was quickly spruced up, we found an old wardrobe and our Lion Val Lockwood made an excellent witch!!



The first photo shows Lion Val Lockwood as the witch with her cat Lion Marian Dawes and young apprentices with the Lion in the background. The second shows Lion President Chris Cooper with the winners cup and float builder Lion Peter Noble.



The Moors Valley Country Park is a lovely facility including walks round the lake and through the woods, walks to be enjoyed by people of all ages, but the natural environment is difficult for those with

disabilities. For this reason some 6 years ago the Wimborne & Ferndown Lions Club decided that something needed to be done so they bought a rough terrain scooter and donated to the Country Park. Over the years many disabled people enjoyed using it free of charge to see so much more of the Park so Lions were not surprised when they heard that it was nearly worn out. Clearly, a new one was needed. Lion Ken Taylor researched the market and concluded that the best buy was a "TGA Breeze 4". At a little over £4,000 it was not cheap but Lions were confident that it would prove to be sturdy and reliable enough for the expected heavy workload. Lion Godwin Micallef, President of the Lions Club, presented the scooter to Cllr Ray Dudman, the Chairman of East Dorset District Council. In accepting it on behalf of Moors Valley, Cllr Dudman said that he was delighted that the Lion's generosity would enable even more disabled people to see the best of this beautiful park. Like the previous scooter, this one will be available free of charge and will be kept in the cycle hire shed where Steve Turnbull, Cycle Hire Manager, will arrange it's hire. Both he and Claire Gronow, the Countryside Manager, attended the presentation together with Lion Ken Taylor and other members of the Lions Club.

The photo shows Lion President Godwin Micallef field trialing the scooter watched by Chairman Cllr Ray Dudman, his Escort Sheila Dudman, Lions and Moors Valley staff



### What a roaring success

Fleet Lions' second beer festival on 16 August was. We had nearly five hundred people at

the two sessions and sold everything we could get out the barrels! We hope to exceed the £2000 we raised for charities last year, a substantial sum of which will go to Leukaemia Care. The local newspaper group ran some great free adverts and stories for us. B and T Brewery from Bedford (but the boss lives near Fleet) sponsored the event. One large brewery gave us three free barrels rather than have the agro of invoicing us. We and our helpers had a great time too and we all are looking forward to next year's event on 15 August. Maybe a few more Lions might like to join us for a pint."





" The Lions Club of Solent Southampton endured an overcast day for their 19th Annual Grand Duck Race this last August Bank Holiday. Although the weather was dry it was typical Bank holiday darkness. A total of 2500 plastic duck were released to race down the River Itchen from Mansbridge to Woodmill, and a spectacular sight it was for all those who attended. as you can see the Club had help from all ages and a great day was had by all. Club President would like to thank all those who helped on the day" Laurence Hardy

### 5 stars for Ryde Lions Club

After a spot inspection at Ryde Regatta, by the local council Health and Safety Officer, Ryde Lions Club were awarded the top accolade of a five star rating, for their Barbeque operation.

Fund Raising Chairman, Barrie Jehan praised the hard work put in by Health and Safety Officer Alan Lucas, for compiling the Health and Risk Assessment File.

Barrie said that the B.B.Q was hard work, but very rewarding, both financially and socially.



The Lions Club of Reading have donated leisure jackets to Downs Swimming Association who will be representing Great Britain at the Downs Swimming World Championships in Portugal in November this year.

The 32 strong team to go Portugal needed the leisure jackets and t-shirts to compete at the Games.

The Lions Club were pleased to donate the 32 jackets, fully embroidered with Lions and Downs

Swimming logos and the competitors names. The 32 t-shirts silk screened with Downs logo and competitions names were very generously donated by Rocco Zottarelli of Top Cut the hairdressers of Buckland Road, Whitley and Eric Warner of Warnercomm of Oxford Road, Reading, the Lions Club and the Downs Syndrome Swimming Association would like to express their sincere thanks for the generous sponsorship.

The Lions Club attended the last training session, before they depart for Portugal, which was held at the Central Pool in Reading, to officially present the jackets and t-shirts to the team.

Pictured with the team and coaches are Lions Graham Dore, Suzanne Dore, David Hitchins and David Ebsworth at the handover presentation.

Lion Tony Mundell

**Sorry Tony for the muddle up of pictures in the August issue - Editor**



Ventnor Lions Club recently hosted a party of children from Belarus at Blackgang Chine - a local theme park. The children, all suffering serious medical conditions as a legacy of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster in 1986, were visiting the Island for a month supported by the Chernobyl Children Lifeline registered charity. Lion President Chris Cooper and Lions Lifeline co-ordinator Lion Mike Patch reported that the children and their interpreter enjoyed a brilliant day out on the many rides and attractions as did the Ventnor Lions. The photo shows the children at the end of their day with Lions Peter and Theresa Noble and Lion President Chris Cooper at the back

### A message from your Editor

Many thanks for your articles please keep them coming as it makes my life easier on type-setting if there's enough issue to fill the newsletter.

The next issue hopefully will close on the 24th November if sufficient articles.

Lion Peter Garlick - Editor