



Ordinary People
Amazing Things

The International Association of Lions Clubs DISTRICT 105D - DECEMBER 2008



District Governor: Roger Huntley, South View, Grove Road, Ventnor, Isle of Wight PO38 1TP
Tel - 01983855546 Mob 07864 165537 E-Mail dg@lions105d.org.uk
Editor: Peter Garlick, 6 Uplands, Walditch, Bridport, Dorset DT6 4LE
Tel - 01308 424536 Mob 07979 803584 E-Mail pgarlick1@aol.com (OR) news@lions105d.org.uk
District Web Site www.lions105d.org.uk Multi District Web Site www.lions.org.uk



DG'S THOUGHTS

Well doesn't the time fly when you are having fun? ! It certainly is for Ann and I as we are having a lot of fun meeting you and the other club members as we make our official visits, and on Charter Anniversaries, there is so much good work being done for those in need, for which you should all be justly proud, However, you can relax, the Governor will make his last visit on 11th

December and resume in the New Year! After having a little Christmas family time and taking some time out to work on the convention planning.

Although I said relax, I am very well aware that a lot of you are far from doing that, as you get underway with the various Christmas activities. We wish you all well and good luck with what ever you are getting involved in, indications are that we will all have to work that little bit harder for less income with our fundraising during the present financial climate, Lion Ann and I went back to grass roots last week, doing our bit as Club Lions a four hour shift each day for three days for my own club of Newport, selling Christmas draw tickets in Morrisons, before slipping off to the mainland in the evenings with my DG's hat on doing club visits.

It is with great sadness that we learn of the passing to higher service of Lion Eddie Cook of Fareham Lions Club, Lion Eddie served for many years on the District Cabinet and as a Multiple District Officer as well as serving his local community with Havant Lions Club, a true gentleman, a lovely man who will be greatly missed by all, our thoughts are with his wife Pat and the family at this difficult time, may he rest in peace and be in our thoughts always.

Ann and I were delighted to see so many old and new friends at the Presidents & Partners Lunch last Sunday, at the Walhampton Arms, Lymington. Great Venue, Great Food and Great Company, thank you all so much for your support. We certainly enjoyed the afternoon and we are delighted with the positive feedback we have received. The idea of letting the club Presidents get their feet under the table and holding the event mid way through the year, certainly seems to have gone down well, I plan to ask all who attended to let us have their thoughts on the event and for the future, so that I can pass these on to VDG Lion Judith to help her plan the format for next year, we also passed on your comments and our grateful thanks to the management of the

Walhampton Arms for their part in making it a most enjoyable occasion.

Whilst on the mainland, we took the advantage to pop up to Salisbury during the evening and attend the Advent Service in the Cathedral, which was a beautiful way to begin the build up to Christmas.

If you know of a poorly sighted Lion who would like to have the talking Lion Magazine, the DG is in possession of the tapes for the last two issues, please let me have the contact details and I will send them on.

Club Secretaries/Presidents. I know that we seem to go on about Reports, but can I remind all Club Secretaries of the importance of ensuring that the December Membership reports are submitted well before the last day of the month, bearing in mind Christmas and New Year holidays, Oak Brook will base your club per capita International Dues for the six month period from 1st January 2009 upon this report, this will also reflect in your Multiple District Dues and District Dues, if you don't, please do not blame Oak Brook if your Treasurer gets upset because he/she receives the wrong billing in January, Presidents please ensure your club reporting is done on time.

Finally, Ann and I would like to wish you and your families a very Happy Christmas and a Healthy New Year. Thank you for all you do for this wonderful association called Lions Clubs International and thank you all for your support, with a special thank you from all of those people you have helped in whatever way to make their life more meaningful, you should be proud to be a Lion, well done.



Picture shows Lion President John Pearson of Wimborne & Ferndown with DG Roger and their Young Ambassador entrant Terri-Jo Kerrison.



DG Roger & Lion Ann

Swanage & Wareham Hockey Club Juniors

The Lions Club of Swanage recently showed their commitment to youth in the Purbecks by donating a total of £500 to the youth section of Swanage & Wareham Hockey Club. Jackie Barker, Secretary of the hockey club said "We are extremely grateful to The Lions for this very generous donation which will enable us to buy much needed equipment for the youngsters of this club: sticks, balls, training bibs and cones, not to mention very expensive but necessary protective clothing for the goalkeepers".

Ken Davey, President of The Lions commented "The Lions Club are proud to support the continued development of this club's youngsters and look forward to hearing great things about their progress in the future".



Photo Caption: Lions President, Ken Davey, presents a cheque for £500 to Jackie Barker, Secretary of Swanage & Wareham Hockey Club.

Lions Annual Conker Challenge



On Sunday 12th October the Lions Club of Goring, Woodcote & District held their annual charity Conker Challenge at Cross Lanes Fruit Farm during the Orchard Open Day this year. With the generosity of the many participants and parents who kindly made donations the Lions raised a total of £208, which is £60 more than the

amount raised at this event last year.

Finding conkers this year was difficult due to the disease affecting most of the horse chestnut trees in the area, but the Lions went out in force including Lion John Solman and his wife (on her birthday) and managed to collect 3 bucket falls! But she did have a good time!

The attached photograph shows 6 year old James Sarney, one of three winning children who recorded conkers with multiple scores. The other two winners were brothers 9 year old Matthew and 11 year old William Hudson. Each winner was rewarded with a small cuddly lion prize. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the day which was also blessed with good weather.

Lion President John Wilson-Brown.

Wateraid 'Ceilidh'



Several months ago I saw on the Wateraid website that Wateraid were asking people all over the country to hold a Ceilidh - on the same night - and at 10p.m. everyone would be dancing the same dance (Circassian Circle), to the same tune (Jamie Allen). This was a great idea with an unusual twist - so the Lions Club of Christchurch decided to join in and hold a Big Ceilidh on the given date - 18th October.

Waitrose plc very generously donated all the food for the Ploughman's Supper and Highland Spring (bottled water company) donated some water for the event - 400 bottles!

We devised a Quiz (and sold the Quiz sheets at £1 a time) all about water, with water-related prizes - a Water Filter Jug - a course of swimming lessons, etc. The huge "Lions Clubs International" banner was displayed in a very prominent position in the Hall - and so was a good backdrop for all the photographs!

Our Ceilidh appeared on the Big Ceilidh Website - along with the other 85 taking part all over the country. Wateraid plan to put photo's of all the various Ceilidhs on the website, too.

Our Club raised over £800 for Wateraid that evening, in total around £40,000 was raised for Wateraid overall and, at 10p.m. that evening, it was estimated that between 9,500 and 10,000 were dancing Circassian Circle (a circle dance which depicts unity and therefore showed the united efforts of all taking part to help Wateraid).

Because this was such an unusual event it attracted a lot of interest from local papers and magazines - so this meant that Lions Clubs had more chance of being noticed and so spread the word about some of the things we do.

As Public Relations Director for our Club I would urge you all to look out for any unusual events or 'happenings' in your area - don't miss any opportunity to bring your Club's activities - and Lions Clubs International - to the attention of the general public and the local Press!

Barbara Jeremiah



SAFE AND SOUND IN WHAT WE DO LIONS IN ACTION



Most of us work because we have to, in order to pay for a lifestyle that suits our personal and family needs. However, we are all Lions because we WANT TO BE and even though that may mean leaving the warmth of our homes in the winter, when it is dark, wet and cold, we still do it. Likewise we turn out in our thousands to run (well some of us do) attend fetes, summer and winter fairs, fireworks nights, sponsored events and a 101 other events. However, I suspect that there are many amongst us, when attending some events, have doubts over the safety of the event, and whether it is run as safely as it should or could be. Mostly we arrive without any instruction, possibly without guidance (because we run this event like this for 20 years!), sometimes without the correct equipment or safety clothing and muddle through, hoping and assuming that nothing will go wrong. Very fortunately, only rarely does something go seriously wrong – BUT would you know what to do if and when it does.

We as an association of Clubs need to change how we organise projects in order to survive. Clubs are already under pressure from Local and National Government bodies, for more and more information, plus we have a threat of litigation forever hanging over our heads. The requirements of our and other insurance companies will mean that our risk assessments and method statements will be under scrutiny. However, all risk assessments hinge on 'competent people' managing and running the events, and this is where we may NOT be able to prove our standards and our competence. Being able to prove that we took all reasonable steps to create a 'safe' event would be even more important if questions were being asked in a Court of Law or in a Coroners Court.

Having been a Lion for 30 years, I know that we have amongst our ranks, dedicated, intelligent and educated people, but they are not necessarily 'trained' for safety and that could at events with the public, prove to be a big weakness.

We now have an opportunity to change this situation, as recently 'Train2Gain' money has become available to enable us free of cost, to give as many of our members as want, proper safety training. This training will equip us to detail, manage and run our events in a manner which offers greater safety for ourselves and the public that attend our events. If some of you can do the training, which does not take more than a couple of days (weekend !), we would then not have to consider employing professional safety stewards at our events, which if legislation continues the way it has, may come to pass.

We would be trained to the same standards as professional stewards, but would have the added

advantage of caring about the event. We can then have amongst our membership, a build up of knowledge which no professional steward could possibly have.

District 105D have already started this process and have completed one pilot training programme, with a second now in hand for Lions. When these pilots are completed will give the attendees, of up to 15 Lions in each group an NVQ2 in Spectator Safety. We will be the first voluntary organisation in the Country to have members trained, but as we have seen with CRB checking, it is wiser to be ahead of the game.

The sessions have been stimulating, challenging and will greatly enhance the knowledge of those training. The training involved cover all aspects of stewarding a Lions event, including planning, briefing, communications, safety clothing and other personal equipment, making notes and documenting issues. It will then cover first aid, and contingency planning (then what if this happens !). Finally the course covers our legal situation covering health and safety and the responsibility of those working as volunteers at events (these may be friends) So once you have finished the formal training , you will feel empowered with a new knowledge, and our Lions, guests and the public will have greater protection. The final part of the qualification is that an assessor will come along to a number of events that are being held, so that your knowledge and skill can be seen in action.

The trainer is a Lion, from the Lions Club of Reading, and is well qualified to train to this NVQ2 standard, and a recognised expert in the subject, having spent many years with Thames Valley Police.

The training itself is free for most Lions, however there is a need to cover the cost of the accommodation used and refreshments. A charge for the course of some £20 will be made (not per day) to cover these expenses. This nominal amount should be covered by the members own clubs, so there should be no cost to individual members, only time, and that is what we are very good at giving.

If these pilots are a success, then the programme will run on as a District project and hopefully a Multiple District project. More information can be obtained from PDG Lion Mike Hendy , the MD Leadership Development Chairman PDG Lion Fred Massey 25th November 2008



A Message from Your Editor

Many thanks for the articles, sadly could not fit all in so have had to hold over a couple to the next issue.

The next issue will close on the 24th January 2009.

May I wish all our readers a very merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Lion Peter Garlick



The Multi District Sponsored Education Programme in Malawi

As a reminder, if your Club has been sponsoring students for the four-year education programme and has not sent the relevant amount for 2009, the money is now due and should be sent to our District Treasurer ASAP. If your Club wishes to sponsor a student the cost is £100 per student per year (January to December) for a four-year period. Thank you Clubs for supporting this project.

Lion George Jeremiah - International Relations.

e-mail: intrel@lions105d.org.uk

Lions UN Day in London 24th March 2009

The next Lions UN Day in London will be on Tuesday 24th March at the House of Commons at 2.00pm until approximately 4.00pm. This is two weeks later than usual to enable International President Al Brandel to attend. Tickets can be obtained from the MD International Relations (contact details on page 11 of MD directory) on a first come, first served basis. There is no charge for the tickets, but because of tight security at the Houses of Parliament admission is by ticket only. There will be an optional buffet lunch in the Terrace Pavillion of the House of Commons from 12.30 onwards. A letter with details of this and the other Lions UN days in the MD will be circulated to all Clubs in the MDHQ mailout.

Lion George Jeremiah

District International Relations & UN Officer



Lions Trough is 'Blooming' Great

It might have been useful in the olden days of horse drawn transport but it is a long time since the trough in West Bay has been used. Instead it had become an eyesore filled with stagnant water and rubbish.

The structure is made up of two separate parts, with the basin believed to be made of marble or granite, with an ornate stone top. Bridport Lions Club member Vicki Owers suggested to the club why not fill it with plants?

This trough has 'Listed Building' status but no one seemed to own or take responsibility for it.

Lion John Lay-Flurrie contacted Kate Bloomfield of Willow Nursery in Bridport who kindly supplied the materials and professionally planted the trough for us.

The public seems pleased with the transformation.

Lion Vicki Owers PRO

Free Festival of Dance



Royal Navy Petty Officer Paul Thomas Cox
Pic. left Sarah Markham

Saturday the 8th November saw the very first FREE Festival of Dance at the Bournemouth International Centre opened by the Mayor of Bournemouth Stephen Chappell and his charming wife. All funds raised by the Bournemouth Lions Club will go to the Mayor's chosen charities. It was a runaway success with youngsters stewarding from the Muscliffe Youth Centre with their Leader Jane. This exercise will go towards the youngsters' Duke of Edinburgh Award.



Lions Anita Byers, Shirley Tatchell and members of Muscliffe Youth Centre



Sarah Markham dancing the Cha Cha Cha

The dance floor was packed all day with everything from Jive, Waltz, Quick Step to Mojive and aerobics. All ages danced the day away including an extremely spritely 90 year old ex Royal Navy Petty Officer Paul Thomas Cox from the Wessex Dance Club who certainly held his own against the youngsters. Young people from Dance Groups all around the area delighted the audience with their talent. Everyone agreed it was a resounding success on which the Bournemouth Lions hope to build on in the future. **Photographers** were Lions Richard Wareham of Poole and Chris Micallef of Bournemouth.



Wimborne & Ferndown Lions help West Moors Middle School

Lion Don Crabtree heard that in West Moors Middle School the tables, chairs and bookshelves were all in poor condition; indeed

it was suggested that some might be unsafe. Don persuaded his Club that this was an urgent problem with a danger that normal fund raising would be too slow and pupils may have to be stopped from using the library. Lion's Club members were immediately sympathetic and they agreed a substantial donation to purchase new tables and chairs. Lion Don visited the school to formally present the cheque. Headteacher Simon Adorian showed him the new furniture complete with lots of happy pupils and a delighted librarian Mrs Gibbons. Lion John Wilson