



Ordinary People
Amazing Things

The International Association of Lions Clubs

DISTRICT 105D - FEBRUARY 2009



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DG'S THOUGHTS

Greetings from DG Roger and Lion Ann, hoping that all of those who were unfortunate to get the rather nasty winter virus bug are now over it, or well on the way to recovery.

Well we are now into the second half of our year and rapidly heading towards our District Convention 20th – 22nd March, if you are still thinking about it and have

not yet sent your booking form in, can I urge you to do this as soon as possible, and if you are only attending for the business session and require lunch you will also need to complete and send a booking form in, tickets will be issued for all meals and social functions and these will be strictly monitored, no ticket, no meal or entry to the function and regrettably this will also include breakfast, as in the past, many day visitors have wandered into the dining room and had breakfast for which the District has had to pick up the bill.

Multiple District Youth Football Competition



**Wokingham
Reeves Rangers**

**Wimborne
Merley & Allendale**

We were fortunate to have more than one team entered from our District this year and it was great to be able to attend the District Youth Football final on Saturday 17th January hosted by Wimborne and Ferndown, the first attempt on 4th January having to be called off at the last minute, due to a frozen pitch, it was an excellent match between the teams sponsored by Wimborne and Ferndown Lions Club and Wokingham Lions Club, ending in a 2-0 victory for Wokingham, who now go through to the next round against a team from the Midlands,

The team spirit and the general atmosphere was outstanding as was the pitch and the weather, with both of the team coaches, the referee and his assistants all commenting on the excellent organization and facilities, the ladies of Wimborne & Ferndown did us proud, providing a most enjoyable spread of food and

refreshments to round off the event.

Well done and thank you Wimborne & Ferndown, with a very special thank you to District Officer Lion Don Crabtree for a really superb District 105D Youth Football final.

Young Ambassador of the 21st Century Award.



The District final took place at the Hinton Firs Hotel, Bournemouth 9th-10th January a great weekend and six wonderful young people, all of whom will be winners in their own right, who would envy the judges task to have to select just one candidate to go through to the Multiple District

competition, the judges selection and also the choice of the other five candidates was for Emma Johnson, supported by the Lions Club of Jersey, Emma will now go through to the Multiple District competition to be held at Dudley, West Midlands on the weekend of 20th – 22nd February. Go for it Emma!

Several new initiatives came out of the Youth Workshop presented by DO Lion Ann Twining and the Youth Team on the Saturday morning, RC Lion Yorky Tuke provided the entertainment on Friday evening following an excellent dinner and each candidate was introduced by their supporting Lions Club following which they were given the opportunity to address the assembly.

Once again a very special thank you to DO Lion Don Crabtree for pulling together a most memorable weekend.

Welcome to the Following Lions who have recently joined the family of Lions.

Lion William Wyatt (Salisbury), Lion Jean Cowper-Ibbotson (Wokingham), Lion Tony Jennings (Hayling), Lion Lek Rogers (Boscombe Bournemouth), Lion Martin Rogers (Boscombe Bournemouth), Lion Bob Freemantle (Coves), Lion Amanda Goodenhough (Blandford Forum), Lion Robert Leon Prevost (Loddon Valley) and Lion Dai Davies (Transfer from Dursley District 105W to (Petersfield)

Departures to Higher Service.

Sadly the following dedicated Lions have passed to higher service since the January newsletter was released.

Lion Alan Roy Fleetwood (Christchurch Lions Club)
Lion Alan Langley (Blandford Forum Lions Club)

Can I ask that all clubs ensure that they inform the District Almoner PDG Lion Ernie Howard email: almoner@lions105d.org.uk when any member passes to higher service, Lion Ernie is responsible for informing the District, updating the District Book of Remembrance and arranging the list for the Remembrance Ceremony at the District Convention, we would not like to leave anybody off.

PU101 Lions Club Officer Reporting Form

The Deadline for Club Secretaries to submit the PU101 this year, will be Monday 20th April 2009. Please ensure that you have your club election of officers before this date, details of the procedure for submitting the data this year will be circulated shortly by MDHQ. Who will also issue the forms.

DC Roger & Ann

CROFTON LIONS CHRISTMAS LIST (WITH A TWIST!)



Lions Clubs are well known at Christmas time touring the streets with their "Santa Sleigh" or collecting outside supermarkets but Crofton Lions Club added some interesting "extras" during the recent festive season!

Lion President Lisa Pitt explained that she wanted the Club to create a "Christmas Gift List". But this was a list with a twist! Instead of a letter listing things they would like Santa to bring them, each member was requested to select a Good Cause they would like to help.

Crofton Lions Charity Account would then allocate £100.00 to each of the selected good causes. The project was approved and, as a result, Crofton Lions were able to give support to Christmas Day Dinners for the lonely in Crofton Parish, Macmillan Cancer Support Group, Fareport Talking News for the Blind, Five young people with severe learning difficulties, Help for Heroes, KIDS, A talented young sportswoman who had won sports scholarships but needed help with equipment, The RSPCA Stubbington Ark, Friends of Baycroft School, Seahawks (A Support Group for Children with Diabetes), Elizabeth Foundation for Deaf Children, The Gurkha Welfare Trust, and the Stubbington Girl Guides.

Another innovative scheme was to set up an eMail address for 'Father Christmas' or 'Santa Claus. Any child who wrote to him via CroftonSanta@aol.com received a letter personalised for that individual child and post-marked from the North Pole. Because of the good relationship Crofton Lions have with the Big Man more than 30 children were able to receive these very special letters.

Crofton Lions also did the traditional collections and, thanks to the generosity of the people of Stubbington and Hill Head, collected £1230.00 for charity. Vice President Harry Hayman said "I'm absolutely delighted with the result of the collection and with the effect that Santa and our Sleigh had when we visited special events like the City of London Lord Mayors Show, the Carol service at Crofton Hammond Infants and the Care Management Group Party for adults with learning difficulty" **Lion Reg Norton**

CLUBS OFFERED HELP IN LOCAL PUBLICITY WITH A CORPORATE IMAGE

Many Lions Clubs have often complained that they are expected to promote locally, but little support came from the top. Moreover, our national image is often considered to be too low profile for the size of our organisation.

In the past, criticism of the lack of support may have had some foundation; but Clubs – and indeed Zones, Regions and Districts – have not helped by diluting our image through the use of a wide variety of designs, logos, templates and colour schemes that have not given Lions a uniform, corporate image throughout the country.

Our international headquarters at Oakbrook have stepped in to reinforce which logos, and precisely which colours, must be used in all future letters, leaflets, posters, banners and websites. They are all available to be downloaded from the LCI website under Club Resources.

So what of our own headquarters in Birmingham? Under the guidance of the Marketing and PR committee, our HQ staffs have produced a range of new tri-fold leaflets, posters, roller-banners and pop-up backdrops which will be provided FREE to each District, once approved by the Council of Governors.

And there's more! To encourage the 950+ clubs in our Multiple District to embrace this corporate image, orders will be accepted from anyone wishing to purchase any of the promotional material at our bulk purchase rates, individually branded with Club names, 0845 numbers, websites or email addresses.

And, yes, there's more! Any Club holding an event will be able to send the details to MDHQ for them to produce corporate posters with YOUR details on them.

You still want more? OK, how about MDHQ giving all Clubs at least 3 months reminder of forthcoming national initiatives, with promotional material and details of previously successful ideas. Starting with this year's Lions Club Awareness week (3-11 October) - and specifically Lions World Sight Day on Thursday 8th October. How about a Guinness Book of Records attempt at the largest blindfolded walk with as many Clubs as possible right across the country leading their local dignitaries across their respective towns & villages at the same time?

"Enough, enough!!" OK, just for now, - but the future will see MDHQ offering a range of corporate style items tailored to YOUR Club (or District/Region/Zone) such as letterheads, invitations and thank-you cards. Oh, did I mention this year's Christmas Cards?

Meanwhile, the webmaster has been at work and the freshly branded MD105 website has been attracting daily enquiries, mainly about membership and Message in the Bottle. Again, it is hoped each layer of Lions membership, right down to Club level will adopt the same layout and imagery so that it is very clear to each and every visitor that we are Local Clubs made up of local people but backed by an International Organisation.

Rebranding? Not really; rather a serious attempt to focus on our existing logos and achieve the nationwide identity an organization as large as ours deserves. It's impossible to achieve a design or image that everyone will like, but I bet someone at Coca-Cola didn't like the shape of the bottle either!

25th Annual 10K Run



The 25th Annual 10k Run organised by Goring, Woodcote & District Lions Club on Sunday 11th January was won by Marcus Maxwell of the RAF Athletics Association for the second successive year. His finish time at 35:26:12 being 21:08 seconds slower than last year no doubt due in part to the icy conditions under foot despite extensive gritting carried out at many points along the route in advance by the Lions.

Henley MP Mr John Howell was the official starter of the run and he presented medals, the Winners Cup and Trophies at the finish. Much an appreciation for putting on this event is due to more than 50 volunteers from the local community including Goring 41 Club, Pangbourne Rotary, Goring Primary School PTA and Goring Heath Scouts & Guides amongst many others



A total of 539 entries were registered before the event but only 428 finished the run. Sadly the organisers had to turn down over 100 applicants on the day as the maximum allowed field was 500 for insurance and safety reasons. The has since Club decided that the next Lions 10k Charity Road Run will be held on Sunday 10th January 2010. It is also intend to increase the field to a maximum of 600 runners with no late entrants being allowed on the day and a cut-off date for pre-registering of 3rd January 2010.

Over 1,000 cups of hot beverages were dispensed by the tea bar in the Village Hall which raised £ 80.62 for the Greenfingers Charity. The Lions estimate that over £ 3,000 will be donated from the profits of the run to Macmillan Cancer Care thanks to advanced commercial sponsorship **Lion John Solman**

A search to promote

The MD Marketing Team is proposing to create a promotional DVD of general Lions activities within the British Isles and Ireland. This could include a Club Fund Raising Event, some Welfare activity or suitable high profile Lions occasion. Much of the existing material is biased towards the States, other Countries or about a particular thread of Lions initiatives.

If your Club has any modern material, would you please advise the District webmaster in the first instance with some indication of the material content and the format, ie. DVD, tape, video clip or perhaps You-Tube upload.

Lion Chris Stevens it@lions105d.org.uk

Weymouth & Portland Lions Put on their 30th Annual Show



In December 2008 the Weymouth & Portland Lions Club held its annual

Christmas variety Show at the Pavilion Theatre Weymouth. This was the thirtieth show which started out as a Carol Concert held in a local garage show room. After a few years it moved to the ballroom at the theatre and then in 1986 it moved onto the stage in the theatre where it has been held ever since.



This year the acts included singers, dancers, magician, a rock group (including mainly elderly rockers), a Brass band and a spoof Pantomime of Cinderella put on by the Lions themselves. Every year the club has to turn away acts who want to perform in the show. The show is

compered by two of the clubs Lions who still cannot believe they have been doing the job for eleven years. The aim of the show is to give the audience a good time and this we seem to do by the reports we get from those who attend. Of course it could be they are easily pleased or just nod off.

The show is free to senior citizens in the borough and we always invite our friends from Bridport and Sherborne Lions Clubs to bring senior citizens from their areas. We always manage to completely fill the Pavilion Theatre which holds about 1000. Donations this year amounted to £600.

This may have been the last show we will be putting on as the whole area upon which the theatre stands is up for re-development, but watch this space.

Spoof Cinderella



Once again a spectacular show and I know that comments we heard from the audience thoroughly enjoyed themselves especially Cinderella - **EDITOR**



Santa Meets the Kids in Hook & Odiham!

Dozens of children at Holt Park Estate, in Hook, came out in force when Santa visited them during the evening

of December 8th bringing him their Lions colouring competition entries and letting him know exactly what they hoped he would bring them for Christmas. Santa was in fine form as he handed out lollies and promised to do his best with presents before bidding them all farewell with a cheery **Ho Ho Ho!**

'Pride of St. Edmund's' Leo's Update



On Wednesday 17th December 4 Lions Club members joined 22 of St. Edmund's pupils for an induction ceremony where Lion John Apps badged up 4 new members, making the total membership 26.



Lion Gyneth Davis from Cosham Lions Club awarded gifts to 7 members who attended every single meeting of the term.

Special Wheelchair for Harrison



Linwood School which caters for children with multiple and profound disabilities were extremely pleased to receive a £1,000 donation from Bournemouth Lions Club. These



wheelchairs are specially tailored to accommodate the different height, weight and size of children as they grow.

At the same time, amid much excitement, Lion Jim presented prizes and Certificates to the children who had entered the Lions Clubs International Peace Poster Competition with their mega artwork.

Lion Chris Micallef

Lions £10,000 Presentation

In July, Wimborne & Ferndown Lions Club organised the Ashley Heath Country Fayre incorporating a Horse and Dog Show at Three Legged Cross. The one day event was advertised to raise funds for two well known charities, both of which are close to many peoples' hearts.

They were the Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance and the Julia's House Hospice for Children. No surprise then that the fayre was very well supported both by local trade sponsors and by the public. In total, the magnificent sum of £10,000 was raised for these two good causes and so a formal presentation was made.



Representatives of both attended the recent Lions 39th Charter Anniversary Dinner at Canford Magna Golf Club where they were each presented with £5,000 by John Pearson, President of the Lions Club who first paid tribute to the many people and organisations

that had helped Lions stage the event but especially to Anne Heyes for the Horse Show and Tara Harris for the Dog Show. Speaking on behalf of the Air Ambulance Tracy Bartram reminded Lions of some of the unintended happenings at the July Show, mostly caused by sudden gusts of wind. She praised the Club for all the hard work at the Show and thanked them for wonderful donation, comments that were echoed by Mike Bartlett for Julia's House.

Lion John Wilson

'Maison Des Landes' - Holiday Hotel for Disabled People and Their Families



Situated on the picturesque north west corner of the island of Jersey, Maison des Landes is a holiday hotel catering specifically for disabled guests and their families. Sponsored by The Lions Club of Jersey, the hotel has recently celebrated 40 years of welcoming

guests.

Last year a major development programme included the provision of three new twin bedrooms, all of which can cater for the more severely disabled, as well as new kitchen facilities and other improvements. This winter, public areas and other bedrooms are being totally refurbished prior to re-opening in April 2009.

All hotel accommodation is en-suite with many rooms having ceiling track hoists, each ground floor bedroom having its own wheel-in /walk-in shower and toilet. First floor rooms are reached by a flight of stairs, which also has a Stannah stairlift.

The tariff includes free transport to and from guests' arrival point in Jersey and excursions out every day to all parts of the island in our specially adapted minibuses.

The hotel's website www.maisondeslandes.co.uk contains a host of information, but should you wish to contact the hotel directly, please do not hesitate to telephone Steve (Manager) or Peter (Assistant Manager) **01534 481683** or email maisonlandes@localdial.com.