



Ordinary People
Amazing Things

The International Association of Lions Clubs DISTRICT 105D - OCTOBER 2009



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Europa Forum

I recently attended the Europa Forum Meetings in Tampere, Finland. I am pleased to say that this was well supported by Lions from 105D and we had the largest contingent (11 Lions) from MD105. The

Forum was well organised and the social events went well. The theme was "Connecting Generations" and to illustrate this a LEO and a Lion shared the narration of both the opening and closing ceremonies. My main reason for attending was to support our Young Ambassador Candidate (Hannah Johnson) from Jersey. Hannah was a "True Ambassador" for youth (and for 105D and the Multiple District) and came a very



credible second in the competition. It was very rewarding to see Hannah receive her prize from our International President Eberhard Wirfs at the closing ceremony (Picture, courtesy of Lion Editor, Margaret Kimberley). My thanks go to the Lions Club of Jersey for finding such a wonderful

candidate and to their President Lion Eric Bertrand and Lion Peter Mourant for bringing her to Tampere. It was really good to know that the contestants bonded so well and were so supportive of each other. My thanks also go to PDG Barrie Richardson for organising a sight seeing tour of Tampere, followed by an excellent dinner, on the Sunday afternoon. Most of the MD 105 delegation had to wait until 11:00pm for their flight home to Stansted and this was certainly a splendid way to pass the time.

Membership - Move to Grow especially to grow membership is our International President's theme this year as stated in the recent LION magazine. We really do need to look at ways of gaining new members as our current membership grows older. We do need to look at where our clubs will be in five years time. Will we be able to carry out our current Fund Raising and Community Activities if we do not recruit younger members? As IPIP Al Brandel says "an extra Lion means an extra two hands" to help us in our service. Early in September VDG1 Brigid held a MERL Workshop for the MERL team and the Zone Chairmen which I attended. This was extremely interesting and well received. Plans are underway to try to really tackle the problems of gaining new, younger members, and even

more importantly, retaining them. We have also recently heard that clubs are trying very hard to start two new clubs. Membership is slowly increasing and I believe we will make progress this year and I thank everyone who is working so hard to achieve this.

However, a member is not recognised as such until they have been recorded as members on the LCI WMMR website. Membership reporting has not been good this year to date so please try to ensure that your club is not one of the guilty ones. We do need to know who our new members are so that we can ensure that they are properly welcomed and that training is provided for them. We need the activity reports so that we can hear of all the excellent service that is carried out in this District. The International Activity report also needs to be completed. This needs to be done monthly, annually or at whatever interval is best for the individual club.

Presidents Excellence Awards - Lion Secretaries, did your President have a good year last year? Do they qualify for the Club President's Excellence Award. The details can be found on the LCI website. Completed forms should be sent to IPDG Roger Huntley ASAP.

District Events - I look forward to meeting many of you at The District Service on 11th October in Christchurch Priory.

I will be writing to Club Presidents in the next week to confirm arrangements for the President's Reception to be held on Sunday 29th November at The Walhampton Arms near Lymington.

Don't forget to book early for District Convention! This is at Wokefield Park, near Reading from 19th to 21st March next year. Fleet Lions are working very hard to ensure this is a first class event and I have taken note of the comments made by you to them and will be acting on many of them. Our International guest will be Dr Patti Hill from Ontario, Canada who I am sure will be inspirational. Further details are available on the Convention website – www.diamondconvention.org.uk. I look forward to seeing you there.

Good Ideas - As I travel around the clubs I do hear of great ideas which are often quite simple but very effective. I propose to highlight some each month, with the club's permission of course, so that other clubs may take up the idea. Further details can be obtained from the clubs concerned.

Eastleigh – Award for Bravery- Eastleigh Lions supply Southampton General Hospital with certificates for children who have had operations. The certificates state that the award is sponsored by the Lions Club of Eastleigh so good PR as well as a way of bringing comfort to children at a difficult time for them.

Windsor – Welcome packs for Guests – Windsor Lions give their prospective members, at their first visit, a pack containing details of the club and their activities and information on the History of Lions. How often do we “turn off “ prospective members by our jargon when they visit our meetings.

Windsor – IPP John Jenkins has just published the first edition of “Windsor Lions Roar”. This is to be published quarterly and is designed to be sent to their supporters club, handout at events, press, etc. A great way of keeping supporters in touch with the club’s activities and an excellent PR tool.



Partners’ Charity - At the September Cabinet Meeting, John was presented with a (cuddly toy) Lion and Cub (seen right, in the jungle of our garden!), to use for raising money for the Partners’ Charity, The Air Ambulances of 105D. He has decided that, subject to the permission of each Lion President, he will hold a raffle at each club meeting visited and that the winner’s name will be entered into a draw for the Lion and Cub, to be held at District Handover in July 2010. In this way, John hopes to raise an additional £1,000 for the Partners’ Charity. To date, £770 has been raised for this Charity and John wishes to thank those clubs who have donated, for their generosity towards this very worthy cause. Additionally. It is known that some clubs have made substantial individual donations to their local Air Ambulance, which is also greatly appreciated.

Members passing to Higher Service - I am sorry to report that I have recently heard that Lion Bryan Taylor (Wareham) and Lion Martin Pickard (South Chilterns) have recently passed to higher service. May they rest in peace and be always in our thoughts.

Welcome to New Members - It gives me great pleasure to welcome the following who have recently become Lions: Donald Morley (Bridport), Ryan Gordon (Sherborne), Margaret Lane (Hart), Paul Armstrong (Guernsey) and David Freare (Goring, Woodcote and District). I also welcome back Lions John Davis (Wareham) and Graham Papierows (Reading) who have rejoined Lions. I am sure your clubs will make you very welcome and soon get you involved in their activities

DG Judith’s Jolly Jaunts in October

The pace is really stepping up now!

- 1 October Newport OV
- 3 October Eastleigh 45th CA
- 4 October Maidenhead 36th CA
- 5 October Boscombe Bournemouth OV
- 7 October Lymington OV
- 8 October Alton OV
- 9-10 October 2003-4 DG Reunion Birmingham
- 11 October District Service Christchurch Priory
- 12 October Swanage OV
- 13 October Bridport OV
- 14 October GMS OV
- 15 October Poole OV
- 17 October City of Portsmouth 53rd CA
- 19 October Wincanton OV
- 20 October Weymouth & Portland OV
- 21 October Salisbury OV

- 22 October Burnham OV
- 23 October Bradford on Avon 39th CA
- 24 October New Milton 39th CA
- 25 October South Chilterns 37th CA
- 26 October Southampton Solent CA
- 28 October Wokingham OV revised date
- 30-31 October COG Birmingham

We would like to be invited to other events, including fund raising events, where we would be happy to help as well as supporting the event by being there.

DG Judith and Lion John

Poole Lions Struck Dumb By Local Rotary Group

Immediate Past President of the Lions Club of Poole, Lion Harold Brown, was lost for words when he was asked to step forward at the 25th Charter Anniversary Dinner of the Rotary Club of Poole Bay and was awarded a Paul Harris Fellowship. Like Lions, Rotary uses the name of its founder, Paul Harris, to express recognition of outstanding service. Most awards are made to Rotarians. However, the Rotary Club of Poole Bay took the opportunity on their 25th birthday to make their first ever award to a non-Rotarian.



The Award was presented to Lion Harold by the National Rotary President, Ian Thomson, the principal speaker at the dinner.

Here’s Lion Harold, standing next to Rotary President David Way, wearing the Paul Harris medal and holding the microphone but, for the first time in his life, lost for words! The citation for the

award explained that over the last few years the Rotary Club has been helping the Poole Lions with their annual Swimarathon. Through this involvement, members of the Club came to appreciate the work and commitment of Lion Harold. Harold has been in Lions for over 25 years and Club President no less than three times! His work was recognised within Lions some time ago, when he was awarded a Melvin Jones Fellowship.

Rotary has also now recognised the voluntary and fundraising work that Harold has done, especially in relation to his 18 year commitment to running the Poole Lions Swimarathon. This event, which has been going for 31 years, has raised over £650,000 for local charities - probably equivalent to one million pounds at today’s values. Not only has Harold given his time over the last 18 years to lead this club project, taking on much of the behind-the-scenes preparatory work, but he has also involved his wife Diana, daughter Louise, and grandchildren Hanna and Sam, making this a real family as well as a Poole Lions Club project.

Other non Rotarians who have received an award of a Paul Harris Fellowship include Terry Waite, who was made a Fellow in 2008.



Menagerie Beer Festival

"Fleet Lions gave their a community a taste of things to come at their beer festival when they joined the town’s carnival procession. They donned animal masks because all the beers will be named

after animals - it’s a Menagerie Beer Festival. Their float ‘a Lion bar’ (as the theme was food) won a well-deserved 2nd place." Lion Jim



Lions Funfest 2009 draws more people than ever

Over 600 people attended the 2009 Lions Funfest held at Calthorpe Park School and the adjacent Leisure Centre in

Fleet. This annual event is free of charge and specifically for disabled people of all ages with their families and carers. It is organized and run by the Lions Clubs of Zone K with help from the Lions of Loddon Valley, formerly within the zone. It is now in its 18th year. This year more than 90 Lions gave up their Sunday to volunteer for what is undoubtedly one of the most satisfying (and exhausting) days in the year.



There were almost 30 different activities including a climbing wall, inflatable slide, bouncy castle, face painting and a craft table. There were also many different stalls providing fun and games for all ages. Other popular attractions were the Cuddle-Me-Do farm and attendance by the Hampshire fire brigade with their fire engine. There was a working model traction engine which gave rides around the fair and a vintage fire engine which fascinated all the young boys (and a lot of the girls). Music was provided alternately by Elvis (Dave Hurrell) and an Indian drummer band, Mistry Music, both of whom had the crowd up and dancing.

When it started Funfest was a much smaller with only 150 – 200 people from the immediate vicinity. Now people come from as far away as Andover and Pinner.

Many of the families attending say that it is one of the best days they have every year, a fact that is borne out by the queues waiting for the event to start. Glenda Duffy whose son Christopher is severely autistic says that each year she sees him progress to activities he hasn't conquered before. This year it was the climbing wall. As she said "with an autistic child you don't know if they are going to take to something or not, and you can spend a lot of time and money trying things that they will not take to. Here we can try everything free and then we know what he may like to try the rest of the year"

As usual the organizers have received many e-mails and letters thanking them for a wonderful day.

Lion Rita Daubeney Hart Lions PRO & Photographer



Lions at Large in Broadlands

The Lions club of Romsey had the opportunity, once again, of assisting the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra at their recent Broadlands concert on 14th-15th August. Not only did we

assist in marshalling, but the club operated a tea and coffee tent for the concert goers. As in the past, our member were lucky enough to collect money for charity in the concert interval and the collection on Friday's performance was for "Jenna's Appeal" sponsored by Wave 105 radio station 'cash for kids' to provide a music facility at

Southampton General Hospital for teenagers. The amount raised together with the proceeds from the tea and coffee tent that night amounted to a sum in excess of £2000 and the appropriate donation to "Jenna's Appeal" will be made shortly.

A similar collection was made during the concert held on Saturday. The beneficiary from this performance was for the charity Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance. The amount raised was in excess of £2800, and again, the necessary donation will shortly take place.

The president of the Lions Club of Romsey, Lilian Brimelow, said that this year's event, combined with the good weather, had provided the best result for some time. Lilian hoped the club will be as fortunate with next years' concert by the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and wished to extend the club's gratitude to not only the people of Romsey attending the concert but also the many visitors, some of whom had travelled a considerable distance to attend the Broadlands event, for their continued generosity.



COWES & Newport Lions joined forces to attend Wolverton Manor Garden Show over weekend of 5/6 September. Items had been collected by both clubs and were taking up room in the store, time for a clearout! Like a lot of clubs Newport has over a period of time collected quite a

number of items that seem to come round again and again. The Help the Aged event run at Wolverton was a good opportunity to see if they could finally be sold. The most popular items still remain books, which managed to go quite well.

We also decided to do 'Guess the number of Jelly Beans in the jar'. The photo shows that even our District Lion seems to like jelly beans, which may explain why 'Rory' was able to give some of the children present dancing lessons! Lion Ann Huntley

As I am sure all Lions are aware, Past International Director Phil Nathan, who is well known in the District, having been the International Guest and a visitor to Convention, is the Multiple District's Endorsed Candidate for the office of International 2nd Vice President. To aid in promoting Lion Phil in his worldwide campaign, a number of items are being produced for sale.

These include a 'tie', a ladies purse hanger and a scarf. The tie and scarf are very high quality silk, the purse hanger is beautifully designed and engineered in chrome. The tie & scarf contain the legend 'Proud to Serve' and include Phil's personal logo 'Great Heart for Service', the purse hanger also 'carries' the logo. The tie is available now, at a price of £16.75, this includes a miniature 'Lions' pin to be worn with the tie; the purse hanger is also available now, at a price of £5. (Postage and packaging will be extra!)

David Firth has a stock of these items and orders should be placed through him at

davidfirth@westburylions.freeseve.co.uk,

please include your Club name and home address.

Very kind regards David

**MAISON DES LANDES HOTEL, JERSEY
a personal perspective**

This is a 27 bed hotel sponsored by the Lions Club of Jersey situated a few miles outside St Helier at St Ouen Bay. The holiday was a unique experience for me and I was able to see first hand what this very special project was all about for the Lions motto "We serve" In action. It is especially for people with disabilities and families but also caters for ordinary folks as well.

Mini buses picked guests up at the airport, it was raining but we all enjoyed the lovely countryside and sea views. At the hotel Steve the manager was there to greet us with a nice "Cuppa and sandwiches" Steve has disabilities, uses a walker and has a real insight into special needs. The rooms were spacious with walk-in showers and emergency pull cords everywhere. I had a door out to the patio which was great. There is plenty of cupboard space, tastefully furnished with TV with all the channels available. There were ceiling tracks with pulleys for those with severe mobility problems. If anyone requires help the district nurse will arrange to call.

If you are on diet then forget it. The wonderful French Chef makes mouth watering meals and oh, those french pastries especially the vanilla slices with Jersey cream!!! Fresh fruit, cereals and cooked English breakfast which Steve encourages you to have as the outings go for the day. A lovely packed lunch with sandwiches. Fruit and treats are given out at 10.30am before the day out begins at 11am. Four mini buses are used each day, equipped for scooters and wheel chairs as well as ordinary seats. Each had a caring cheerful driver, who took us to all the lovely places and down to the beach. There are so many wonderful places to visit. Evenings were fun with Quiz nights, Bingo, Country and Western, fancy dress, even ten pin bowling which was hilarious. On the Thursday evening members of the Jersey Lions club came to dinner and chatted to us all. Trips into St Hillier were a must; the whole town was getting ready for the "Battle of the Flowers" this coming week and everywhere was a blaze of colour - what wonderful displays.

I have nothing but praise for the Lions Club of Jersey for this caring project; we were all given every assistance. Every mobility aid was available and we were treated with kindness and dignity.

One family of eight came, mother only 52yrs, unable to speak or move from neck down, Husband, Gran and Granddad and Sister plus three children. They came over in the ferry from Weymouth. The drivers rigged up one of the mini buses to take the flat wheelchair and the whole family went out each day. To see the delight on their faces after the sight-seeing trips and the chat of the teenage children was something to remember.

The daily cost of this holiday includes all the trips out and entertainment. The only extra charge would be for the trip to France which we were unable to do because of heavy holiday bookings. The drivers took us back for our flights home and it was like saying goodbye to dear friends.

Food for thought Wouldn't it be nice if we got together with other clubs in our zone and district and sponsor a disabled person to go on holiday on a project provided by one of our own District's clubs? Put your thinking caps on all you Lions out there!!!!

Lion Iris Gough Secretary, Lions Club of Bracknell Forest

Poetry for the Young - a Competition

Details were sent out in the September District Mailing and following an enquiry these few words may encourage you to take part :- If you do not think you have enough time to get replies to the Poetry competition remember this is a trial run

and, as I said in the covering letter, even if each club has only one reply in the next 2 months that is 70 from all the clubs!

Also sorry that I did not make it clear in the covering letter the entries you receive will be varied in their style and content - they well may range from a 5 line limerick to 40 lines covering a page. Giving them a title of 'The Lions Roar' will mean different things to those who close their eyes and imagine Your pleasurable job is to choose the best when it is read to you - just close your eyes and imagine That's poetry

Hope you can get at least one entry - It only takes a few minutes - try it yourself....

**There was an old Lion from Alton
Who roared down the road to Chalton
He fell off his bike with
The Ice on the Road
Coz the council didn't put Salt On**

Lion John Apps

The death of the village Fete is very much exaggerated

The Meon Valley Lions Club has organised the Swanmore village Carnival and Fete for the last few years. This year, despite the foul weather, they attracted not only hundreds of local residents but also the attentions of the Daily Mail newspaper. Robert Hardman, columnist with the Daily Mail chose to run a story on Hampshire's village fetes in a feature article during the days leading up to the fete. He visited us on the Wednesday before the fete and asked our opinion. To make a story, The Mail wanted to paint a picture of red tape and bureaucracy strangling this great English village tradition and although it's true to say that Health & Safety and public liability insurance are now everyday facts of life, his article really missed the point. Where there's a will there's a way, and thanks to great support and commonsense approach from the Parish Council plus the support of dozens of willing volunteers, the Meon Valley Lions are able to maintain the Swanmore Village carnival and fete as a wonderful British Institution – the way it is meant to be.

Happy birthday Harry! At the Meon Valley Lions annual change-over meeting, we chose to celebrate the birthday of one our stalwart members, Harry Greenslade who turned 80 on the 23rd July. Harry, who lives in Shirrell

Heath, has been a staunch supporter and active member of the Meon Valley Lions for over 30 years and may often be seen scooting around the area in his original, beloved red Mini. He was a Royal Navy man for many years before retiring to Shirrell Heath

and was delighted to receive the present of a framed photograph of his old ship HMS Cambrian from all the club members to celebrate the event. Incoming President Ed Barringer made the presentation before inviting Harry to cut a specially baked birthday cake to honour the occasion.

A Message from your Editor - Once again thank you for the great articles but sadly could not manage to use all of them. I recently have had requests to send the newsletter by email only, and not send printed version. If there any other Clubs that would prefer this method please send me an email.

DO Lion Peter Garlick