

The International Association of Lions Clubs

DISTRICT 105D - AUGUST 2010



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"Make your mark on the world"



Well, it's all been happening since I wrote my last newsletter and the days have been just flying by. I sent my 1st newsletter to Godwin from International Convention in Sydney (see article later on in this newsletter about mine and Mike's experiences) and now I am one month into being your District Governor for the year.

After leaving Sydney we had a short two day period of R&R in Singapore and then it was back to the paid and unpaid job. There was Cabinet and District Handover to prepare for and, whilst numbers attending handover were down from last year, I do hope everyone who attended the event enjoyed the ambience and the hospitality and efficiency of the hotel and the planning and preparation of members of Hayling Island Lions Club. It was great for Mike and I to have had so many of our family with us for the weekend to share this very special event.

And then last Thursday Mike and I attended the Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace for the second time in three years. The first time Mike was nominated by the Lord Lieutenant of Berkshire to represent voluntary organisations in the county; this time was extremely special for me as I was nominated by my employers in the NHS to represent the Health Service – a great honour indeed. From Buckingham Palace we drove straight to Birmingham for the Council of Governors Meeting and for Mike to deliver, as MD Leadership Chairman, the 2nd VDGs training day. This weekend we will be back to Birmingham to attend the Gala Dinner for the MD Youth Camp

And now some good news for the future. Although work started in IPDG Judith's year, some of the clubs in Region 2 have indicated that there is an extremely probable likelihood that we shall be seeing a new young person's Lions club in that area in the next few months. Hopefully this will be the first in the district for this year with the possibility of others to follow. The other piece of news involves the use of technology where I will have taken part in ZC Colin Rickman's first audio conference with clubs in his zone. These clubs include Jersey and Guernsey and it is a great method of being able to communicate with both those clubs to make them feel involved in the District. If there is enough demand then I may set up monthly calls open to all members to have a chat with me on the telephone – our Communications Chairman tells me it is possible so I am quite happy to go along with it and give it a try if there is enough demand.

August has been designated by our International President as a month for Youth. Why not consider submitting a team for the District and MD Youth Football competition? Please see article in the newsletter. You will need to contact me urgently if you wish to take part, as the deadline for registering a team is end of August. I set you a challenge, as I have not allocated an appointment of an officer for football, due to the very low numbers of teams being involved. Now is your opportunity to enter more teams so that the programme warrants a football officer in its own right.

New members in June 2010

I am delighted to mention the following new members into our organisation who joined in the last month of IPDG Judith's year. They are: Bridport – Carol Broad; Blandford – Samantha Andrews; Farnborough – Pamela Lazenby; Portsmouth – Patricia Partridge; Reading – Kula Mack; Warminster – Sandra Major.

A warm welcome to you all

Members passing to Higher Service

I am also sad to report the passing to higher service of: Lion Gwynneth Davies-Gale of Cosham, Lion Geoff Beck of Windsor, Lion David Jordan of Bradford on Avon, Lion Harold Musker of Christchurch Lions Club on July 4th, Lion Mandie Wingfield of Portsmouth Lions Club on July 15th.

May their bodies rest from their service and their souls rest in peace

Stop Press Lion Hugh Phillips of Newbury Lions Club, a Lions of over 40 years service as he had been a Lion before joining Newbury, passed away 29th July. Funeral arrangements will be posted on Web Site when known.

Hendy's Haunts

I am currently finalising the schedule of club and zone visits with VDGs Ron and Roger and we will be contacting Club Presidents over the next few weeks with some proposed dates starting September however I am using this lull in activity to attend some of the Cabinet committee meetings and some clubs social events in the meantime – during August we will be going to:

- August 14th – Fleet Beerfest (an onerous task that one)
- August 17th – District Extension Team Meeting
- August 22nd – Zone F Picnic
- August 31st – Region M combined Meeting.

Remember, at the end of the day, it is not what I learned but what I taught, not what I got but what I gave, not what I did but what I helped another achieve that will make the difference in someone's life and mine.

Lions Brigid and Mike



Yes we can!

Lions Clubs International 5 Nations Youth Football Competition HELP !!
A message from our MD Youth Football Competition Committee Chair – Lion Paul Withers

This competition is a Lions Opportunity for Youth project. Last season we held the Final of our competition at the home of Rushden & Diamonds FC

Did you know that District 105I always have over 30 teams that enter the Irish competition?
If every mainland District had as many, - just think of the National PR we could achieve.

Did you know that on the mainland we gave over 1,100 young boys the opportunity to play football in a town or village they had never been to before?

Did you know that last year our competition told well over 2,000 people all about Lions?

& that's just the immediate parents of the competitors, not counting the possible 1,100 young future Lions, the boys themselves, nor counting all the Football Clubs' management & supporters too.

The MD Football Committee pays for & distributes 25 Lions PR leaflets to every Lions Club that supports a team in this competition.

PLEASE GET IN TOUCH WITH YOUR LOCAL YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB NOW

Tell them that their next under 14s boys' team will have the opportunity to play in a National prestigious competition with the semi finals & the final being played at professional stadiums. Even if they do not get all the way through to the final stages they will still have the chance to play against teams from further a field than their regular league fixtures permit. We have already booked stadiums for next season. The semi-finals will be played on Sunday 8th May with the Final on 22nd May 2011.

The MD Youth Trust Fund will reimburse one third of the cost of coach hire for early rounds, or any other form of transport, for away matches, & will pay one half of the costs to get to a semi-final or final venue. Many football clubs are only too pleased to put some of their own money towards travel costs & hospitality at home matches so it will not cost an individual Lions Club too much from your own hard earned Charity account. You will have the opportunity to talk to like-minded people at the Football Club who are already doing their bit for the community while their boys are playing – who knows when their boys finish & they need a new interest, they can become potential new Lions.

Full details of this competition can be found on the MD Web Site <http://www.lionsmd105.org/youthfootball>

We would like Registration details in to MDHQ by the end of August, but please do not wait until the last minute. If anybody cannot access the details on the web site just give me a ring & I can post them.

IF YOU REALLY CANNOT ENTER A FOOTBALL TEAM PLEASE SEND A DONATION TO OUR CHARITIES TREASURER, LION JOHN BUSH

PDG Lion Paul Withers, MD Youth Football Competition Committee Chairman Tel:01483 548349, 07766525044

FOR DISTRICT 105D, IF YOU WANT TO ENTER A TEAM, THEN PLEASE CONTACT DG BRIGID WHO WILL ASSIST YOU WITH ANY QUERIES AND ENSURE THAT YOU GET REGISTERED ON TIME –

dg@lions105d.org.uk or 01344 484725

Around the world (or so it seemed) in 18 days

It's no use going all the way to Australia if we are not going to see somewhere else instead – which is what DG Brigid and I agreed when she was formally elected as 1st VDG in 2009. We therefore agreed with our travel agent that we would stop for a couple of days in Hong Kong on the way and for a couple of days in Singapore on the way back. Thus Friday 18th June saw us leaving Heathrow just after midday on a Qantas flight to Hong Kong. We arrived in Hong Kong about 07.30 next morning where, after going round and round the airport for nearly 45 minutes we finally found the meeting point where our rep was to take us to the transport we had booked to get to the hotel. Having checked into the hotel and had breakfast we made our way towards the harbour armed with a street map. We were especially curious of the activity going on in the park seventeen floors below where our room was situated with people erecting tents and stages.

We always find the easiest way to get to see a city is to go on a bus tour and this we duly did noting points that we might wish to re-visit as we went round. We ended up in a shopping centre (surprise, surprise) near the harbour where my legs and stomach told me it was time to have something to eat and drink. Here I made my first currency miscalculation of the trip and ended up enjoying (!!) a £40 bottle of wine.

We were woken the following morning by loudspeakers issuing forth from the park below us where a mass pro-democracy demonstration was taking place with 70,000 attendees of whom 40,000 split off to march through the city. This naturally made it very difficult to get anywhere out of the hotel that day. On the way to the airport that evening our taxi driver was stopped and arrested at a random roadblock for non payment of fines leaving us without transport as the police said that getting us to the airport was not their problem – thanks to another taxi driver we did make it on time – just as they had had to hold check-in over the allotted time. And so on to Sydney where we arrived next morning in the middle of what seemed to be the airport's morning rush hour. Any of you who have seen the TV programme 'Nothing to Declare' about customs and immigration in Australia will know what I mean when I say that the arrivals hall was just a seething mass of humanity with queues snaking everywhere for immigration, customs and the infamous quarantine but eventually we got through and out into the transport. Once we got settled in then every minute of the 13 days we were in Sydney was full of activity from meeting Brigid's nephew and some others of her friends that she had last met when doing her nurse training in Glasgow many years ago to the highlights of the International Convention itself including:



The newly installed DG Brigid with PID Philip

including:

- DGE Seminar banquet at the Sydney Olympics Dome – the first time the white jacket is worn
- International Parade which got slated by the television commentators and newspapers because the police had closed two of the busiest parallel streets in

Sydney to allow the parade to take place

- The opening ceremony of the Convention and the



Yes we can!

parade of the flags of all the nations

- The MD105 reception where MD105 played host to the world and most of the International 'family'.

- On the last day the swearing in of 750 new DGs and the ceremonial ripping off of the 'Elect' ribbons on the name badges.



And now the work really starts – just after the swearing in

And then it was all over and time to start packing and head to pastures new on the way home. Let me just say though that the Aussies did absolutely marvellously in the organisation of the convention, there were

hundreds of volunteer helpers and a fleet of 180 coaches transporting people between hotels and the locations of the various events.

Out to Sydney Airport the following day on our way to Singapore and my long awaited trip in an Airbus 380 – the double decker – and our first brush with authority – a formidable lady on the check in desk who informed me that one bag we had was above the limit for a single bag (34 kgs at weigh-in) and that our other bag was also over the 23kg limit so we couldn't transfer anything into that. She also suggested our hand baggage might take some of the surplus until they weighed in also over the limit. And so it was a quick dash to a conveniently located nearby luggage shop for a hold all and the paying of approximately £220 in excess baggage charges!! The boss blamed all the paperwork she had been given at the school but I have a sneaky suspicion that some new clothing and shoes may also have contributed.

The A380 is a marvellous plane and so spacious and quiet – a real pleasure to travel in. And so into Singapore where we arrived late evening and at the hotel enjoyed our first 'Singapore Sling'. The first full day there was a late breakfast and then ventured out armed with a map of the transport services into various areas of the city which all (surprise, surprise) had large shopping malls in them. The following day we met up with one of the fellow MD105 Governors and his wife who had made bookings for us on a tour which took in some of the museums in the city, a river cruise and finally high tea at Raffles Hotel which is a must. A throwback from the colonial days but a marvellous spread and something we can say 'we have done'

That night another overnight flight back to Heathrow but not before I had to part with another £30 as BA had introduced a new charge on heavy bags and we had one at 30 kgs. At 04.45 in the morning we sped through an empty immigration hall and saw our suitcases already waiting for us on the carousel. By 06.00 we were home indoors and sorting out the luggage. Foolishly I went back to work the following day and regretted it as although my body may have been at work my mind certainly was not – I think it took me about three days to feel acclimatised again.

However it was the trip of a lifetime and I would love to go back to Australia as the people are so friendly but, do you know, it is more expensive to buy Australian wine out there even in their liquor stores than it is to buy the same wine here so figure that one out!

Poole honours its Community Champions

At a ceremony in the Mayor's Parlour recently, the Mayor of Poole, Councillor Chris Bulteel, presented Community Champion Awards to two members of the Lions Club of Poole. The Mayor explained that the award, established in 2004 by Poole Council, is a way of recognising the unsung heroes who make such a contribution to our community. Of the three awards presented, two went to Lions Harold Brown and Tony Reeves, recognising their combined Lions service of over 60 years.



Lion Harold Brown, presented with a Gold Award, has just started his fifth year as President of the Club, and has organised the club's very successful Swimathon for the last 17 years.

Lion Tony Reeves, presented with a Silver Award, has held many officer positions in the Club, and continues as Secretary. Amongst many other things, he has organised the Club's Spring Fayre for the last decade.

The Mayor was very interested to hear from Lions Harold and Tony about the programme for the coming year, and promised to give the Club his full support throughout his year of office. They even managed to extract a promise from him and the Mayoress to swim in the 33rd Annual Swimathon next February.

Lion Robert Maguire

40 Years on and Charter Re-Presented by PCC Ken Riley



The Lions Club of Ringwood and Fordingbridge welcomed their guests as they held their 40th Charter anniversary on Saturday 24 April 2010 at the Moorhill House Hotel in Burley. Eighty one revelers enjoyed a meal befitting the occasion at this beautiful traditional hotel set in the New Forest. Invited guests included the Mayor of Ringwood Councillor Christine Ford, the Mayor of Fordingbridge Councillor Malcolm Connolly and

the District Governor of 105D Lion Judith Goodchild. Also present was Past Council Chairman Ken Riley who originally presented the club with its Charter as District Governor in 1970. Lion President Yorky Tuke said "We were very pleased to welcome Ken who, during the evening, responded to the Toast our Partners and Guests and then re-presented the Charter to commemorate 40 years of service to our community".

Presentations were made to the respective Mayors' chosen charities and the Air Ambulances appeal. After the meal and formalities were completed we danced into the night with Auld Lang Syne being sung at midnight.



Yes we can!

MELVIN JONES AWARD LION KEN LEE



Lion Kenneth Lee was presented with the Melvyn Jones Fellowship Award by Councillor Beryl Baxter, Worshipful Mayor of Bournemouth, at the 39th Anniversary Charter Luncheon of the Lions Club of

Boscombe (Bournemouth).

Apart from his outstanding work as the club's Welfare Officer, Lion Ken has single-handedly collected well over 200,000 pairs of spectacles for Spektrek.

Lion Ken has been President and Secretary several times and has done most posts in the club including Zone Chairman.

Lion President Ann Vine.

Well done Ken I can remember when I was Sight Officer seeing you turn up in your Merc and amazed at how many boxes were in your car! Editor



ZONE 1B PROJECT FUN-DAY

On 19th June the 7 Lions Clubs of Zone 1B congregated at Redcliffe Farm near Wareham thanks to the kind permission of Lion Nigel Barnes and his wife Jean where a Fun Activities afternoon was held to entertain over 120 Physically and Mentally Disadvantage children and young adults. Participants were taken out in canoes (two were lashed side by side to provide extra stability), there were also trips in mini "tank landing craft", which could accommodate up to two wheel chairs and the Dolphin Trust who have a boat specially adapted for wheelchair passengers also provided trips up to Wareham Bridge and back . Plenty of activities, a BBQ and Disco in the Barn which helped to burn off their endless energy!



The Carers were able to participate and enjoy themselves as much as their people they were looking after, all in all, a good time was had by all.

Lion ZC Mike Bartlett

Thanks DG Judith for extra info and Lion Chris Micallef for great pics - Editor

Chernobyl Children's Fun Day



A group of ten youngsters from Chernobyl were treated to a fantastic day of fun by the Lions of Ringwood and Fordingbridge. On Saturday 3rd July 2010 they arrived at Millstream Model Racing in Ringwood. This is an indoor model car racing track eight lanes wide and the fun is fast and furious. Once the youngsters get hold of the controls there is just one speed.....flat out!!!! So the Lions positioned themselves around the track at every bend ready to put cars back on the track. They were kept very busy for the 90 minutes that we had booked for racing.

From the racing cars they all transferred to the garden of Lion Bill Andrews for a barbeque. While the racing was going on other Lions were preparing the food, 96 sausages, 96 burgers (5 left over), a giant tin of beans and a huge pot of onions all disappeared in a very short space of time. Then it was a free for all in the garden. Trampoline, tree house, rope swing, footballs and frisbees were all well used. We finished off with a few (dis)organised races. Three legged race, piggy back race and a water relay race. These races proved that the ingenuity of trying to gain an advantage over the opposition knows no international boundaries. (It could have been looked on as cheating, but not today, it was good honest fun).

The afternoon wound up to a chorus of thank you's but the laughter and the smiling faces were all the thanks we wanted.

We all look forward to a new bunch of kids coming to see us next year.

Our thanks go to Lion Bill and his wife Sara along with their son Mark and his wife Debbie for allowing us the run of their garden.

Lions women make history again



Having made history last June by electing a first lady president in their 40 year existence, Wimborne and Ferndown Lions Club did it again when the first woman to woman handover of office took

place recently.

Picture shows new president Anne Lippitt (left) with her predecessor Debbie Burnett. **Lion Ron Neave**

A Message from your Editor - Thanks for your articles please keep them coming my next issue (October) closes for input on September 24th.

Lion Peter Garlick



Yes we can!

Farewell from your DG for 2009-10

I am now officially your Immediate Past District Governor but would just like to update you on my June activities. I made my last official club visit to Andover during the month. And I also revisited Henley on Thames to present an International Presidents Certificate of Appreciation to Lion Ian Tritton. I thank you all for the hospitality and friendship you have extended to me and to John during the year and wish you all every success in the future. I do hope that in the future, it will be possible to meet up again with the many friends I have made during my year as governor. Thankyou all for giving me such a wonderful year.



Blandford and District Lions Club organised their first Model Railway exhibition on 27th June. There were several layouts on display, some were models of actual railway sites, such as Exeter Central Railway Station, others were recreations of how sites may have looked in the past and the scales varied from N Gauge up to O Gauge. Even the

Fat Controller was there, supervising Thomas, James, Annie and Clarabel and others. It was good to see a club try a new venture and I hope that it can grow in size and success in future years.

Following my visit to the Zone 1B Fun Day (see separate article), I joined Poole Lions and visitors from a number of other Lions Clubs for a cruise around the islands of Poole Harbour. Fortunately by this time, the wind had died down and the clouds cleared away to provide a beautiful evening. Following a Fish and Chip Supper on board, the boat ventured briefly out through Poole Entrance, before returning to take up station just off a barge anchored off the quay, which provided a magnificent firework display to round off a busy but very enjoyable day.

Charter Anniversaries:



Surprise for Wokingham President During my response to the Toast "Lions Clubs International" at Wokingham's Charter on 18th June, Lion President Sue Balchin started to look a little puzzled. The realisation slowly dawned that I was talking about her and that her club had secretly plotted for her to be presented with a Melvin Jones

Fellowship. I was delighted to make this presentation in recognition of the tremendous way in which Sue has supported her club over the years and also, her dedicated work for a number of other charitable organisations.



I was also privileged to have been asked to present long service chevrons to Lion David Hitchins, the club's only remaining Charter Member, for 45 years of service to Lionism. As well as a distinguished lionistic career with Reading Lions, David

also served his District in a number of capacities, notably

as Governor in 1974-75 and the Multiple District as Chairman of the Council of Governors in the following year. I was also pleased to present chevrons for 10 years of service to Lionism to Lions Ken Chudy, Graham Dore and Clive Doyle.



I was very pleased to have been able to attend two 40th Charter Anniversaries, the Lions Club of Slough on 6 June and the Lions Club of Newbury on 11 June. I congratulated both clubs on achieving such significant milestones in their history and also for the contributions they had

made to their local communities during that time. Cakes had been baked to celebrate both occasions, the Newbury cake having been baked by Lion President Judith Colby. Charter Member Lion Alan Brown helped Lion President Judith to cut the Newbury cake in the presence of the Mayor of Newbury and myself.

THANK YOU'S Thank you to all of you who attended the District Handover in Southampton. Thank you to last years Cabinet for the beautiful Isle of Wight glass paperweight, which PDG Roger and Ann chose for me, and also the cheque. I'm not quite sure what I will spend the cheque on but it may just be a needlework kit and something for the garden! Thank you to the members of my own club Hook and Odiham for their support and understanding during the year.

Finally one last thank you to all Lions within District 105D for all their hard work during 2009-10. Without you the District would not be what it is. Whilst we may have lost members during the year, I know that membership campaigns started in my year will come to fruition during this one, and that we will grow and continue to help those less fortunate than ourselves. You will continue to "Work together to Serve our Communities" **IPDG Judith**



Partners Charity 2009-10

As you will know, the Partners Charity for 2009-10 was the four Air Ambulances of 105D. Thanks to the generosity of clubs and individual Lions, a total of £5,061.08 was donated during the Lionistic year. However, various clubs also held events through which a magnificent

total of £16,550 was raised and donated direct to the Air Ambulance serving their local community. Also, through the raffles for my friend Roary and his cub Leo that I held when accompanying the Governor on her visits to clubs, an additional £1,249 was raised, making a grand total from all sources during the year of £22,860.08. I should like to express my sincere thanks to all the clubs and individuals, who made donations or participated in the raffles and I know these thanks will be echoed by the beneficiaries when they receive the proceeds. For the record, the eventual winner of Roary and Leo was Nick Halford of the Wokingham Lions Club.

Thank you and well done 105D from PCC John Goodchild,



Yes we can!