



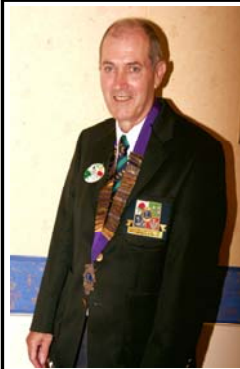
# DISTRICT GOVERNOR NEWSLETTER - 105D MAY 2007



Ordinary People  
Amazing Things

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**Serving all our Communities**



## Membership

At the end of March, we had 1,402 members, which is minus 18 since 1<sup>st</sup> July.

However, we have inducted 20 new members into the new Tadley New Century Lions Club, which have yet to be added to our statistics. This would make us **PLUS 2** since the beginning of the year

New Century Lions Clubs, new Clubs or new Branch Clubs are certainly the way forward. They provide the ability to offer 'local' Service to areas, within our Communities, that we do not currently support.

It also provides the opportunity to have a different type of Club, meeting at a time of day that would suit some members and the opportunity for a different mix of membership. This could include younger members, Family members who may need to arrange 'baby sitting' in order to attend meetings, female members and so on.

However, this does not mean that just we ignore existing Clubs who may need assistance in order to continue.

Bracknell Forest is an example where many attempts have been tried, over the years, to recruit new/younger members, without much success. The Club consisted mainly of elderly members who felt that they could no longer continue. As a result, half of the members left (retired) during December.

I asked PDG Mike Hendy to see what assistance we could offer and we asked the Club to be flexible on a number of items, including a change to the meeting night. I congratulate the current members, who were so positive and flexible in accepting all the suggestions. Further, they agreed to continue to carry on and support new members, for as long as they were able to do so.

At the April Meeting, the Club inducted two new, younger members, who immediately took on certain Club responsibilities. They have two other potential members in the pipeline plus a possible transfer of a Lion, who has just moved to the

area, from South Africa. This is a great example of a Club being flexible, and open to suggestions, regarding attracting new members.

Lion President Steve Pope, Bracknell Forest, inducting Lions Sam Evans and Helen Heaffey.

If your Club would like guidance or assistance on Membership, please contact the MERL team



**New Members:** I would like to give a warm welcome to the following Lions who joined Clubs in our District in **March 2007**.

Alton	Graham Dix
Bournemouth	Cherry Caunter
Bridport	Brian Howe
Cosham	April Davey
Cosham	Rose-Marie Davey
Portsmouth	Keith Eastwell
Portsmouth	Sally Barker
Sandown & Shanklin	Christopher McDonald
Sandown & Shanklin	Sue Hill
Sherborne	Richard Gordon
Yateley	Glenn Christina

## CONVENTION PHOTO CD'S

**All CD's** ordered at convention have been sent with this newsletter. I have not charged anything for copying so raising a total of £185 to Campaign Sightfirst 11. **Lion Peter Garlick**.

## Celebrating Ninety years of Lions

This year, we celebrate 90 Years of Lions Clubs International.

Warminster Lions decided to celebrate this occasion by honouring one of their members, who had just had his 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

At Warminster's Charter, I had the pleasure of presenting a Melvin Jones Fellowship to Lion Marcus Folker, who joined Warminster in 1970. Marcus has held a number of Club Offices including, in the latter years, running the Clubs Charity Book store.



Well done Marcus.

## Silver Anniversary of SpecTrek.

Congratulations to Petersfield Lions who completed their 25<sup>th</sup> Annual SpecTrek on 22<sup>nd</sup> April.

They collected 98,112 pairs of spectacles this year, bringing the total, over the 25 years, to a staggering 1.85 million pairs collected within our District.

The spectacles are stored by Midhurst Lions, who interact with Chichester Lions, to ensure that spectacles can be re-cycled. E.g. no scratches on the lenses plus the arm and nose supports must be in good working order.

Eventually, the good pairs are sent to MEDICO France for cleaning, grading and final selection. They are then sent all over the World including countries such as Nepal, Ghana and Papua New Guinea.

Congratulations also go to all the Clubs, probably individual members, who tirelessly collect spectacles throughout the year. Imagine how many

lives have been enhanced, with the gift of sight, through your efforts.

Keep up the good work and let's get our total collected up to 2 million, as soon as possible.

Pictured below, are some of the Petersfield Chain Gang unloading boxes of spectacles into their store.



## Obituary

It is with great sadness and regret that I have to inform you of the loss of Lion President Mike Lillington, Dorchester Lions Club.

## DG's Diary

May	
03 to 6	CoG and MD Convention - Torquay
09	Wokingham CV
12	Yateley Charter
19	Fareham Charter
20	Cabinet Meeting
20	Pre Meeting of District Cabinet 2007-2008
26	Basingstoke Charter
31	Slough CV
June	
02	Southampton Solent Charter
03	Blackmore Vale Charter Lunch
06	Winchester Branch CV
09	Reading Charter
16	Goring & Woodcote Charter
23	Newbury Charter
24	New Forest Charter Lunch
30	Totton & Eling Charter

Regards

DG Godwin