



# DISTRICT GOVERNOR NEWSLETTER - 105D SEPTEMBER 2007



Ordinary People  
Amazing Things

District Governor: Pat Nixon, 14 Chaucer Close, Fareham Hants PO16 7PD  
Tel 01329-284594 Mob 07875-574318 E-Mail dg@lions105d.org.uk

## A DAY ON THE ISLAND



Which island? The Isle of Wight on August 7<sup>th</sup>. Eric and I were invited by The Lions Club of Ventnor to join them for a day at Blackgang Chine. This is a day when they entertain Children from Chernobyl and the families that they are staying with on the Island. This very special occasion has been happening for many years.

As a Club, Ventnor have supported this project not just once a year but as a club project throughout the year. Children from Chernobyl also visit at Christmas. These children have no experience of Father Christmas. Ventnor Club also sponsor 3 families living in Chernobyl.

It was a very early start for us having had our instructions to be in Ryde by 9am.



Grace ( of Hand-over fame ) was allowed to go with us as a special treat. We were met by President Chris at Ryde and enjoyed a scenic ride across the Island to Blackgang.

Fifteen children & their host families where gathering in the car park, all bubbling with excitement.

After not too a long a wait off they went to enjoy a day of rollercoasters, watersplash, haunted house ,dinosaurs and the maze.

Again following instructions we met up in the car park to 'give out the bags' Myself and the local MP were given this task. Every child visitor was presented with a red & white sports bag that was filled

( in some cases overflowing ) with not only basic necessities (soap, toothpaste, vitamins.....the list goes on ) but toys & fun things. Each bag was special to a child and named .....age related and girlie stuff for the girls and the boys receiving more macho items. Their expressions were first of bewilderment and then of astonishment at their gifts.

And then to our astonishment the coordinator of the childrens' visit to the Isle of Wight produced a gift for all of us of traditional Russian craft. 'not only to say thank you but to help us remember the day' ....as if we would forget!



Occasions like this don't just happen ! This now annual event for Ventnor Lions certainly involves much organization. The cynics amongst us might say 'all that for just 15 children' Personally to see the smile on one face would make all the efforts worthwhile.

Thank you to everyone in Ventnor Lions for the invitation to join you. Certainly a great start to my year.

## STUBBINGTON FAYRE and DONKEY DERBY



Over the past eight years I have been involved in one way or another with this event.

Many, many years ago a group of local Stubbington business men got together with Fareham Lions Club to organize this event on August Bank Holiday Monday. Over the years the composition of the committee and what happens on the day has seen changes. But some things stay the same.

We always seem to be favoured with the weather. After the disastrous summer I don't know how we managed to have such perfect weather. Eric looks like a red Indian!

The day starts VERY early with ex Lion Clive Nixon ( no relation) pacing out the ground for the arenas and pitches for over 100 stalls and attractions that will start arriving at about 8am. By 7am other Fareham Lions have joined him. This year Eric and I were there at 7.30. By about 9.30 most of the stall holders had arrived found their pre-allotted sites and have started setting up. I then 'put on my other hat' as a member of Cosham Lions and go and set up a bottle stall, Eric joining Fareham Lions to help with the Parade from the village ( not so big this year but including the residents of a Senior Citizens home on their mobility scooters and wheelchairs all dressed as clowns ). The Mayor of Fareham leads the Parade in a vintage car. After the official opening , Eric helped on the tote for the Donkey Derby.



The field is now filling up with something like 5,000 people! Some bring picnics & sit at the edge of the arena to watch the Donkey Races but most mill around the stalls. Over the past three years there has been a fun

Dog Show. This is really popular. The day ends with the Raffle. Then its clear-up time ! Where is Eric? Collecting rubbish ! We finally arrive home just short of twelve hours since we left, wondering whether we had eaten during the day and why are we aching! Over the years much has been tried, changes have been made according to necessity and/or popularity ....but essentially so that the visitors can't say ' it's always the same' The Stubbington Fayre Committee meet throughout the year The Chairman being the President of Fareham Lions Club( who although his Lionic term of office ends in late June carries on his position as the Fayre Chair until after the event )....each member of the TEAM fulfilling their role to make each August Bank Holiday Monday a success. The Organisation makes some profit but the real beneficiaries of the event are the majority of the stall holders who come from about 60 different Charity organizations. For some it is their only fund raising activity. The Committee ask these groups to say their amounts raised ...Last year about £25,000 was raised by these stalls. Well done to Fareham Lions ( and the ex Lions & wives ) & The Stubbington Fayre Committee.

### NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to Roumane Peertum ( Southampton) Elizabeth Brown & Richard Salter ( Eastleigh ) Lynda Freeman ( Hook & Odiham) Val Kelly ( Windsor ) New to our District are Dr Maurice Mendoza & James Martin ( Bournemouth ) Barbara Vines ( Trowbridge ) and Andrew Brown ( Meon Valley )

### DG's DIARY

- September**
- 1 Swanwick CA
  - 4 Portsmouth CV
  - 8 GMS CA
  - 9 PDG Godwins thank you to his Cabinet
  - 10 Blackmore Vale CV
  - 11 Bridport CV
  - 16 Presidents Reception
  - 17 Windsor CV
  - 22 Rainbow Centre Play Area & garden opening
  - 29 Hayling Island CA
  - 30 South Chilterns CA
- October**
- 3 Warminster CV
  - 6 Fleet Charter CA
  - 7 Maidenhead CA
  - 9 Ryde CV
  - 14 District Service
  - 19 Bradford on Avon CA
  - 22 Reading CV
  - 25 BurnhamCV
  - 26-29 Council of Governors

There may be some omissions to this list ...Would Presidents who have still not confirmed that the date originally given (& in some cases adjusted at their request) is acceptable please do so ASAP

Would all clubs PLEASE remember to inform the District Secretary of changes to their meeting days ...the times & if one of the days given is a Dinner/ social meeting

**HAVE YOU** ...Booked for The District Service on the 14<sup>th</sup> October at the Falklands Chapel in Pangbourne Please contact PDG Patrick Hamblin

### DG's PARTNERS PROJECTS.

Eric has sent an e.mail to all Clubs giving details of his projects, 'The Rainbow Centre' 'The Elizabeth Foundation' & '20-20 Vision' ( TACADE ). These are all projects for children who have some form of disability. For more information contact Eric.

### FLOOD UPDATE

To date the District Treasurer has not received any requests for money for emergency aid. The 30 days is almost there ....please get your receipts to District Treasurer Linda ASAP

**Please** Remember to send me press cuttings for a District book. I had a wonderful folder from Woodley & Earley.

**One final word....KEEP SMILING ...remember a smile creates a smile and is the same the whole world over !**