



DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER

District 105D - www.lions105d.org.uk
January 2010 Lion Judith Goodchild



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The end of November saw the President's Reception but December was a quiet month as regards District events. My thoughts were that I would assist my club as one of Santa's Little Helpers. All started well but then came the

snow! Monday 21st December saw absolute chaos in the north east of the District with many roads gridlocked. I know that many Lions took many hours to reach home, having left work early in order to do so. The conditions meant that it was impossible for several Father Christmas sleighs to go out that night – My own plan was to go by bus to Odiham having called in at Basingstoke to do some last minute shopping. Luckily I did not set out as I would probably not have got there and certainly would not have got back home. The following days were very icy and on health and safety grounds some sleighs (including Hook and Odiham and Loddon Valley) did not venture out again in the evenings. Whilst this will have meant a drop in income it was the only sensible conclusion given the state of the minor roads and pavements.

Despite these setbacks I do hope that all clubs had a very successful Christmas season both for fund raising and for helping those in our community less fortunate than ourselves.

PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION

This was held on Sunday 29th November on a very wet day at The Walhampton Arms, Lymington. Nearly 80 people sat down to an excellent meal and seemed to enjoy the event despite being a little cramped. Many left the event having made friends with people they had not known before. As well as Presidents, the VDG's, the IPDG, the District Secretary and District Treasurer, and some Region and Zone Chairmen attended so that in total 40 clubs were represented. There was an opportunity for questions and answers as well as the chance to talk to each other. Thank you to everyone who made the journey on a very unpleasant day.

YOUTH EVENTS

Peace Poster Competition. Congratulations to Fleet for entering the first, second and third winners for the District section of the International competition.

Youth Symposium – 15th to 16th January 2010

The Youth Symposium will take place in conjunction with the 105D Young Ambassador final. Speakers will be: PCC Chris Iles – Chairman of the Shoebox Appeal for Belarus

Alan Chapman – District TACADE officer

Gabi Orezeanu – former Youth Exchange participant in MD105 and MD103 (France)

Please contact DO Richard High for more details. I hope to see many of you there.

CLUB VISITS

36 now completed so over 1/2 of the way through. I hope to complete all but 2 (there are not enough 2nd and 3rd Mondays!) by the time of Convention. This is very dependent on weather conditions during the winter months. Let's hope that we do not get too much more snow this winter.

Thank you for supporting John and The Cabinet Partners Raffle which is raising much needed funds for the Air Ambulances of our District.

CHARTER ANNIVERSARIES

I have now attended 12 Charters with many more to come before the end of June. All are very enjoyable and unique. Some of the recent ones that stand out: Ventnor on December 4th - a Scottish theme to honour the President Eddy Goodlet and the first time I have been "piped in" by a gentleman dressed in a kilt and playing bagpipes!

Jersey November 19th – Charter Member PDG Sydney Longson chose to celebrate his 80th birthday with his family at the club's 46th Charter night.



Wimborne and Ferndown November 7th – My sincere congratulations to Charter Member PDG Albert Whittle, who was presented with Life Membership on the occasion of the club's 40th Charter Anniversary.

105D Working Together to Serve our Communities

COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

At the October meeting the COG agreed that the MD should seek to build a new shelter at the National Arboretum. Please take time to read the article by our own Lion David Taylor in the December 2009/January 2010 edition of LION (pages 16-17) and discuss at your January meetings.

I have been asked to raise the subject of the sashes worn at the Cenotaph at the next COG later this month as mentioned on page 48 of LION. If you have any opinion on this matter please let me have your comments before 20th January.

REMEMBRANCE

Many Lions clubs lay wreaths in memory of those, in their communities, who have died for their country but few go as far as James Mayo of Blandford Lions who visited St Symphonium cemetery in Belgium to lay a wreath on the grave of Private J Parr, the first British soldier to be killed in the 1st World War.

Important Diary Dates 2009–2010:

15-16 Jan Youth Symposium and 105D Young Ambassador Award Finals, Bournemouth

19-21 Feb MD Young Ambassador Award Finals, Dudley

19-21 March District Convention, Wokefield Park

25 April Spektrek organised by Petersfield Lions

29 April – 2 May MD Convention & 60 Years of Lionism in the British Isles & Ireland Celebrations, Leeds

28 June-2 July International Convention, Sydney, Australia

Members passing to Higher Service I am sorry to report that Lions Les Ricketts (Poole) and Joe Hemming of Wimborne and Ferndown (and formerly of Maidenhead) have recently passed to higher service. May they rest in peace and be always in our thoughts.

DG Judith's Jolly Jaunts for January:

4	Henley on Thames CV	17	District Cabinet Meeting
5	Havant CV	18	Hook & Odiham CV
6	Fleet CV	21	Convention Meeting - Fleet
8	Eastleigh CV	22-24	COG Birmingham
11	Goring, Woodcote & District CV	25	Reading CV
12	Crofton CV	28	Newbury -CV
13	Basingstoke CV	30	Loddon Valley – CA
14	Westbury CV	31	PDG'S Lunch
15-16	Youth Symposium - Bournemouth		

Welcome to New Members I should like to extend a very warm welcome to the following members who have recently joined our District: Atul Patel (Alton), Jeanette Macey (Andover), Bozena Brophy (Bridport), Brian Hutchings (Dorchester), James Kent (Goring, Woodcote & District), Amanda Green (Goring, Woodcote & District), Howard Green (Goring, Woodcote & District) Nigel Tailyour (Henley on Thames), Katie Clark (Henley on Thames), Valerie Oakley (South Chilterns).

Membership

Despite excellent efforts by many clubs to recruit new members, our numbers are not increasing due to more people leaving Lions than joining. In November we gained 10 Lions but we lost 20! Some of these were from Totton and Eling which I am very sad to say has now ceased to be a club.

We cannot carry on sustaining such losses! Why do we lose Lions? Some move, some pass to Higher Service or decide that they are too old to carry on but too many leave because they are disillusioned with Lions or because they joined without sufficient knowledge of the organisation. We must ensure that ALL members are happy in our clubs and that new Lions are properly inducted. Lions with new ideas must be encouraged to try them even if they failed years ago. Times change and so must our ideas.

Let's make 2010 the year we turn around our losses and have a "real increase" in membership.

CONVENTION 2010

Have you booked yet? We have an exciting new venue and a great programme. Fleet Lions and myself are working hard to ensure it's the best Convention ever. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Wishing you all a Happy and Prosperous New Year
Yours in Lionism,

DG Judith and Lion John.



DG's garden under Christmas Snow



DG's Family Christmas

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