



LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL, DISTRICT 105A  
DISTRICT GOVERNOR: RAM JAGGI

# DG'S NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 2: AUGUST 2001

## ***Greetings fellow Lions***

I have no words to describe the enjoyment and fellowship we had at the International Convention in Indianapolis, as well as the warmth we felt amongst the family of Lions. The total trip of just over two weeks was a truly memorable one.

In every convention the highlights of the programme are the International Parade and the 186 Nations flag ceremony.

Shashi and I had been preparing for the parade three months prior to our Indy trip and were immensely looking forward to this moment. Finally, the big day arrived. The weather was forecast to be sunny with afternoon showers. We reached the assembly point along with other members of MD 105 and were excitedly awaiting our turn to start. As we commenced our greatly anticipated march, the first drops of rain landed upon our heads and shoulders. Suddenly the heavens burst open and what had started as a fine drizzle resulted in a storm of thunderous proportions. Not to be outdone by the pelting rain, wind and clapping thunder, we continued marching in high spirits and with a fresh enthusiasm ... through the ankle deep puddles of rainwater. We were determined to go forward and eventually made it to the end. That's when we heard the announcement that the rest of the parade was suspended due to "bad weather". However, the rain had failed to dampen our spirits and we all had great fun.

The flag ceremony was a unique and an eye-catching experience. In the convention centre, a huge dome which seats up to 63,000 people, brightly coloured flags from almost all the countries of the world, were presented.

The emotional speech of our International President, Frank Moore, was extremely well received. His theme is Light the Path. It lights the path to progress and accomplishment. Lions have always sought to Light the Path to hope, health and happiness for millions of people living in darkness and despair. His four pathways, the objectives, are Light the Path for Youth, Light the Path to Membership, Light the Path to Public Awareness and Light the Path for New Leaders.

We can illuminate some of the paths but you and your club can *make a difference* by lighting the path where you want to see the light.

## **DISTRICT HANDOVER**

Immediate Past Governor Lion Mike handed over the responsibilities to me in a very superb and professional way once both of us returned home from the International Convention. In the past year he has had a profound impact on the activities and direction of the District for which we owe him a deep gratitude. I am sure his support and guidance will always be with us. Our Sergeant at Arms PDG John Smith who has put in a lot of effort and hard work with the assistance of his good lady Jennie and our current sergeant PDG Vannali organized the evening superbly. My thanks and gratitude to them for the work well done.

## **WELCOME MEMBERS OF DENHAM**

I welcome the formation of the new Lions Club of Denham in our wings with good and enthusiastic twenty members. My congratulation to the President Lion Karl Wells. On behalf of the District, I wish him and his club a good future. Also, my thanks to the sponsoring club, Lions Club of Northwood, for the extension and their excellent efforts in boosting our membership.

## **GO FOR YEAR ROUND GROWTH!**

Membership growth in a club should be a year round activity and we need more members to serve our community for which we are committed. New members will bring us fresh ideas and energy.

The Year Round Growth programme encourages all Lions to participate in the programme, both as individual and together as the club. When you sponsor a new member, your association will recognize you with a beautiful Bronze Certificate. When you sponsor a second new member you will earn a Silver Certificate and a third new member will bring you President's Membership Excellence Certificate and President's Membership Excellence Lapel Pin. The awards will be of very distinctive design. *Let me see how you take up this challenge.*

## **FORM A NEW CENTURY CLUB**

We should all think of forming a New Century Lions Club. This dynamic new programme was designed to help our association recruit younger community-minded adults up to age 35 by giving them a Lions

Club to fit in with their lifestyle. As a member of a New Century Lions Clubs, members can socialize and serve with men and women of the same age group.

## **INVITE A SPEAKER TO YOUR MEETINGS**

All clubs should invite different speakers to their meetings. An experienced Lion, or District officer may be contacted to speak to the members in the business meeting and any professional of a different field (depending on the interest of the members) can be invited at social meetings. At this kind of social meetings, you should consider inviting friends, partners and prospective members. This will give the club members the chance to meet prospective new members and create interest and motivation among the existing members.

## **HAS YOUR CLUB SENT IT'S MONTHLY REPORT?**

The monthly report from your club is the only way District Officers and I can know of your club's progress and enable us to analyse our future programme. All club Secretaries must post the report to our Administration Officer Lion Keith Tooley in time. Any late report will bring the club minus points and will go against clubs 100% status. The same rules will apply if your District and International dues do not reach the District Treasurer on time.

## **FAMILY FUN DAY**

A reminder that this takes place on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2001 at Berkhamstead Cricket Club

I sincerely hope that you are all ready for the great day to meet all the Lions of the District and their family in wonderful, natural and scenic surroundings.

The Fun Day Committee is working hard to offer you the best day out with your family and friends.

It will be good picnic atmosphere with a choice of hot and cold food, drinks, music, games, competitions and much more. Also, a sponsored walk has been organized where 50% of the money raised will go back to the clubs for their charities and the remaining money will go the District Charity for a Senior Citizen party and the day out for disadvantaged children to Thorpe Park. Please support the event as you have done in the past, as this is the only opportunity where Lions can meet each other with their family in informal surroundings.

## **500 VISIT CIRCUS... THANKS TO LIONS!**

Our year had a good start when Region 2 organised and hosted a trip for over 500 children from special schools to Zippos Circus where they were given snacks, soft drinks and ice cream. The event attracted

the local Mayor and our own Vice District Governor Lion Mike. It has brought us good publicity in the local Newspaper. My sincere thanks to Region 2 Chairman Lion Rana Dhawan for his efforts in organizing this event and wish him good luck for the future events.

## **WORLD SIGHT DAY**

Please note that World Sight Day is on 11<sup>th</sup> October. Clubs are advised to promote this event as a club activity to highlight the work we do for the Blind. For details, please contact Lion Colin Davis our Sight Conservation Officer.

## **SHASHI'S APPEAL**

My wife Shashi has decided to make Breast Cancer as her charity and focus the fund raising on the Mount Vernon Centre for Cancer Treatment. The funds raised will be used to purchase equipment to develop treatment techniques for Breast Cancer.

## **CONDOLENCES**

It is with sadness that I have to report the death of Past President of Harrow And Pinner, Lion Joan Williams on 15<sup>th</sup> July after an illness. She will be sadly missed by all of us. We extend our deepest sympathy to her family. The funeral was on 20<sup>th</sup> July where the District was represented by District Welfare Officer (R4,5,6,7) Lion Eric Bright, Region 4 Chairman Lion Louvain Allen and myself.

## **HELPING THE CHILDREN IN SARAJEVO**

I have received a request from a Mrs Rachel McDonald for help towards her trip to Sarajevo where she will be working voluntarily for six months from September to help and teach orphaned and abandoned children. The total expense is £2,500 and she would be happy for any contribution towards this cause. Please send your cheques to our District Treasurer.

## **DG'S DIARY**

- 1 Aug – Hosting Youth Exchange visitors
- 2 Aug – Youth Exchange Concert
- 5 Aug – Cabinet Meeting
- 12 Aug – Family Fun Day
- 13 Aug – Hertford (OV)
- 15 Aug – Thame & District (OV)
- 19 Aug – London Chinatown handover
- 20 Aug – Oxford Isis (OV)
- 28 Aug – Wallingford & District (OV)
- 29 Aug – Winslow (OV)
- 30 Aug – South Herts - Moor Park (formation)