

PRIDE OF LIONS



District 105A News DG Andrew Allen

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Brave Seniors Defy the Snow



On Friday 3rd February 2012 the booking officer PDG Lion Ken reported a full house with 800 guests and a waiting list of 60. Lion Lesley and her team did all the shopping for the guests, volunteers and carers totalling over 1000 plus.

Heavy snow blanketed the District 105A in the evening on Saturday. Emails, calls and text messages started flowing from midnight enquiring if the celebrations were to go on. Lion Parveen advised that the event will go ahead as all should be fine by 2pm when the weather forecast was for milder weather.

Salt was spread at 8am clearing the paths. Lion Alf with Alfvan and Lion Alastair in his shorts with the help of Lion Mukesh unloaded the van. All decorations were put up under the watchful eye of Lion Veena Sharma and the tables were set. Thanks to Lions Asad and Manish, the volunteers enjoyed biriyani and pizza before the second shift started in the afternoon. The party commenced at 2pm sharp thanks to MC Lion Peter Codrai. Lions Meena and Alastair ensured all the zones were ready to serve. The Reception Committee led by Lion Jane Codrai with the assistance of the Leos was ready to direct the guests to their tables and it appears Lion Peter Gent's letter of instructions was adhered to. Lion Amar was ready with raffle tickets with Lion Dilip Shah parting with our money to pay artists and decorators.

We waited in anticipation to serve. Our guests did arrive although not in the numbers we had anticipated. The rest of the afternoon was enjoyable and the comments below say it all:

From a SCC Committee member:

"A special thank you to you for guiding us all. Once again just proud to be a Lion today. Great team work everyone!"

From a Lion President:

"Congratulations Lion Parveen and the committee on a great display of music and entertainment making the SCC Party so successful. It was great to see the warm welcome. Come rain, shine, or snow, you showed that Lions, Leos and friends work tirelessly to help those less fortunate than us and look after them in true Lionistic fashion."

From a Past District Governor:

"Congratulations to SSC Committee for another excellent event. It is unfortunate that the snow prevented many people from attending. However, for those who did attend, it was an enjoyable afternoon. The entertainment hit a high mark and they should be used again in 2013. The decorations, table set up and food were well done."

From the DG Lion Andrew:

"In spite of the weather, the new-fangled sound system, and the old problem with the alarm system, those that were able to get to the Byron Hall in Harrow had a good time, all due to your diligence and expertise. Thank you for what you have all collectively done for the 12th SCC."

The men should try the food prep area it just shows how hard the ladies work! I had my hand 'smacked' three times just trying to test the produce before our guests arrived!"

We look forward to serving our senior citizen guests for the 13th occasion next year. Our thanks to all the clubs, sponsors, especially Lions Clubs of Edgware and Kingsbury who contributed substantially towards the food. Thanks also to individual Lions for their generosity, the many helpers and of course the hard working SCC Committee.

PDG Lion Parveen Verma

NOTICE BOARD

I am sorry to report that due to poor response, the District Golf day on 2nd March 2012 has been cancelled. I have rescheduled the golf day for 1st June 2012 at Stanmore Golf Club – details soon. **Lion Ramesh Parmar**

Lions Club of Enfield Gala Evening on 21st April 2012. Contact **Lion Ramnik Mehta**.

Lions Club of Mill Hill Gala on 21st April 2012. Contact **Lion Sanjay Shah** for details.

Please sponsor me - I am running the London Marathon to raise money for British Heart Foundation. **Lion Jodi Zanchi** President, New Century Lions London Phoenix.

*The
trouble
with work
is... it's so
daily!!*

LCI Purpose:
*To be the global
leader in
community and
humanitarian
service.*



Lion Jeanette Walks Everywhere!

In 2009 Jeanette walked from Sandy, Bedfordshire to Winchester Cathedral to raise money for The Alzheimer's Society. In 2010 Jeanette was the instigator behind Biggleswade Sandy's Hadrian's Wall walk for the Multiple Sclerosis Therapy Centre in Bedford.



In May 2011 Jeanette did the St Cuthbert's Way Walk from Melrose to Lindisfarne raising funds for the Nordoff Robbins – Music Therapy Centre. In October 2011 Jeanette joined 22 other like minded people (aged 18 to 72) on a flight to Casablanca, Morocco for a 6 day trek over 100km of varied and undulating terrain across the Sahara Desert. This latest walk raised over £2,600 in aid of the St. John's Hospice, Moggerhanger, Bedford.

Interesting Facts

- The daily temperature ranged from 40°C and 5°C
- The walkers had to drink 5 litres (a sip every 10 minutes) of water each day to avoid dehydration
- The walk was well organised with a need to walk for 7 hours a day
- Sand did get everywhere, when it got in your boots, you needed to stop and empty it out. Blister Clinics were held 3 times a day
- It was essential to cover up against the sun. Failure to follow advice about sipping water regularly, inappropriate clothing and dehydration resulted in several casualties needing to be evacuated from where they fell to the overnight camp site.
- Only 7 of the 23 walkers completed the full distance, Jeanette was one of them.

Lion Steve Foot

International President's visit to MD105

As you are already aware the International President will be visiting MD105 March 11th to 14th. One of President Tam's objective for the year is to meet as many Club Presidents as possible.

On Monday 12th March he will be visiting The National Memorial Arboretum from 15.00 to 16.00 to view the Lions Shelter and plant a tree. All Lions are welcome to come along to join in with this visit

The President will then go to Kegworth where 'A President meets the Presidents' evening is being organised at Yew Tree Hotel and Conference Centre, Packington Hill, Kegworth, DE74 2DF. The event begins with a buffet served from 18.00 and the International President will speak and participate in a Q&A session from 19.00 to 20.30

In order to book for the event contact Brigitte/Becky at MDHQ 0121 441 4544 or mdhq@lions.org.uk

District Environment Project & Queen's Diamond Jubilee

We are requesting all the Lions of District 105A to join together to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee by sponsoring the planting of an acre+ new woodland within the heart of our District, at Heartwood Forest, Sandridge, Hertfordshire.

We require £10,000 to cover the planting of 700-1000 trees, their maintenance and installing of a commemorative Lions plaque. The cost per tree is roughly £10. We are requesting contributions of £100+ per club and need your urgent support to complete this special project. Please contact me for any help or info: victory801@hotmail.com

Lion Vijay Arora

London Westminster: Alive and Kicking

The Lions of London Westminster have been working diligently to help families and children *in need*, the homeless and terminally ill children. December 2011 was a particular busy time for club members. We conducted our annual food collection at Sainsbury's Pimlico. Over 1,500 non-perishable food items were donated by customers and assembled into 85 food parcels for needy families. Toys were collected, with generous donations from staff at The Natural History Museum, for distribution at Santa's grotto at the annual St Vincent's Family Project Christmas party for 100 disadvantaged children. Club members assisted Open Door Meals by serving a traditional turkey dinner with all of the trimmings to 150 homeless persons at St Saviours Hall, Pimlico just before Christmas. They were treated with Christmas crackers, gifts and entertainment. Seeing gloom on their faces transform into pleasure was a Lion's "magic moment".

As an on-going project, hats, scarves, sleeping bags and food were distributed to homeless persons on the Strand during the cold weather. We also donated a digital camcorder and tripod to the Haven House Hospice for terminally ill children. Now they will be able to make a video diary for their family and friends.

Our signature project, Message in a Bottle, will be re-launched in the spring with the Lord Mayor of Westminster. The club was been reinvigorated by five new young professional members, one who is now President. More young prospective members are in the pipeline. We are alive and kicking!

PDG Lion Elliot Shubert



Golf to Help the Needy

The Mill Hill and Chipping Barnet Golf Committee made up of 4 hard-working Lions, namely Lions Sanjay Shah, Manish Chotai, Dilip Shah and Parveen Verma (Chairman) were approached by their Clubs to raise funds for Woodlands School in Edgware. They located the picturesque venue of Luton Hoo for the Golf Challenge. The Committee left no stone unturned to find sponsors and players in these hard times of austerity.

On a cold but bright Friday in May 2011, nearly 100 golfers, both male and female Lions and guests were present to enjoy a lovely day of golf, followed by an evening meal and trophies for the winners.

Thanks to our sponsors and players we answered the call to service and raised funds for the disabled children the School. Over the last 5 years the Annual Golf Challenge has raised over £30,000 with immense publicity for deserving causes.

Lions Clubs of Mill Hill & Chipping Barnet



Zone C Swimming Gala

Beaming faces and unfettered enthusiasm filled Hanworth Air Park on Sunday, 12 January, as 63 swimmers with disabilities swam their way to medals.

The 20th Swimming Gala organised by Lions from Zone C drew contestants of all ages, from around London. Swimmers from Brentford and Chiswick's Hogarth Gateway, Ilford's Barking Beavers, the Dolphins from Wandsworth, New Malden's Spartans and the Turtles from Pinner took part. Ages from 74 year old Anne Rourke to 8 year old Nicholas Cicovacki swam the full length of the pool.

Competition secretary Lion Alf Sanders has been at the helm since the gala was conceived. "It's wonderful to see old and young swimmers, some with severe disabilities, taking part, each proud of their sense of achievement", said Sanders.

Zone Chairman Naresh Gupta presented the special award in memory of PDG Lion John Smith to The Turtles Swimming Club. Naresh commented: "To each and everyone taking part this was their Olympics and Lions were honoured to be there.

DG Andrew Allen and VDG John Savell were on hand to help with the award ceremony. DG Andrew said: "I am humbled by the effort and commitment shown and the will to win," adding "we as Lions feel we are winners because those taking part are all winners".

The Mayors of Hounslow, Cllr. Amritpal Singh Mann and of Spelthorne, Cllr. Sam Budd, handed out medals to all the swimmers.

Lion Naresh Gupta



Raising Funds at the Pantomime

The Lions of Eaton Bray & Edlesborough were given a fantastic opportunity to get involved with the local community recently by running the panto bar for three nights at the village pantomime with all profits being donated to Lions causes and charities. We simply couldn't say no to an offer like that!

We served around 400 people over the three nights and had a fantastic opportunity to talk to local people about Lions and the work that we do. Importantly for this new club, there was a significant amount of interest from potential members which is a key need of this new club. It was rewarding to know that our monthly articles in the village magazine are being read as people had questions raised. We believe we have raised in excess of £500 from the three nights after expenses.

We must, however, say a huge 'thank you' to fellow Lions from other clubs who came along to help us. We simply couldn't have managed without the assistance of Lions Geoff Lambert, Harry Lote, Dave Upson, Chris Bryant, Mrs Chris Bryant, PDG Lion Martin Morgan and Lion Ivor from Luton who all supported us on various nights.

Lion Rachel, President

New Lions Club

I am pleased to inform you of a new addition in our Lions family. Formation of **London White City Lions Club** on 29th February 2012

Lion Kumar Acharya

From the Editor

Convention time is here and an opportunity to meet Lions from other Zones and Clubs. There will be many Lions who are deservedly recognised for the special efforts they have put in living up to our Lions motto. Congratulations to all of them.

Best wishes to the 3 candidates standing for the VDG positions. They will set the tone for our District in the years to come.

I am sure all 105A Lions will join in wishing DG Andrew a very successful and enjoyable Convention.

Lion Shirish Sheth



DG Andrew's Anecdote



What an exciting New Year, there is still so much to be done... but first the Convention. The amount of work to be done by the Zone D team (*Ealing, Greenford Willow Tree, Hayes & Harlington, Acton, Sudbury and Southall*) under the stewardship of Lion Veni Vaghela is tremendous. Then the programme and the input from IT, Lion Chris Bryant and the SAA Lion Peter Codrai will add up to a superb day for the Lions of 105A.

The Senior Citizen Celebration on 5th February had all the makings of yet another sell out but 'white stuff and ice' put paid, understandably, to the attendance of many of our guests. Those that were able to make the day had an excellent day being royally entertained. Our thanks go to PDG Parveen and the SCC Team.

International President Tam, wanted pledges to plant a million trees during his year. So far we've exceeded that target by 6 million and there is still four months left to plant. The original million equates to 1,300 per District... we're at roughly double that figure and there is still more planting to be completed.

Sadly, I've had notification that two Clubs, Walthamstow and Redbridge will close their doors at the end of June basically due to an aging membership. The Clubs will close but some members are to join the Barking and Fairlop Clubs. The closures have been 'on the cards' but the formal notices were still a shock to the system. Both these Clubs were invited to a special day when along with some other Clubs, in similar positions, are invited to try and pinpoint the way forward to retention, our biggest problem, and the recruitment of new members.

I went to a presentation, on the joint venture with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation who have particularly targeted Lions Clubs International to push forward the vaccination of all

children against Measles, a particularly nasty and contagious disease. Our LCIF Officer PDG Lion Rati Shah will be sending more details a week after Convention pointing out that the largest increase is in Western Europe.

On lighter points, the Golders Green Lionesses did a splendid job in organising the Lioness Conference last weekend at the Holiday Inn in Elstree, where I was treated very well. They even succeeded in getting me dancing and my fingers are still aching after being 'attacked' by some sticks being wielded by a certain Lioness Ramila of the Golders Green Lioness Club!! A thought struck me that some of the Indian dancing has its roots going back many thousands of years and could have been influenced Ballet and our Folk Dancing, because of the grace with which the dances were conducted.

The Berkhamsted Club sponsored Kate Saunders in the Peace Poster, where her entry was easily the most outstanding entry in the District Competition. It went on to sweep the MD entries and was finally placed in the top 24 out of 350,000 entries worldwide... have a look at the presentation in the Foyer at Convention. A big thanks to DO Himanshu Bavaria for his outstanding work over the past years on this project.

We continue to win more MD awards. Our Young Ambassador Fiona Montgomery, a 15 year old, sponsored by the Letchworth & Baldock Club who won the 'Shipshape Award', a trophy that I do not know much about. Our DO Rachel Arnold (*Eaton Bray & Edlesborough Club*) and DO for Young Ambassador, will be explaining very soon. Keep well and warm

Andrew

No one is listening until you make a mistake



Dancing at the Senior Citizens Celebration

My Diary – March 2012

Thu 3 District 105A Convention Wembley
Fri 2 District 105A Convention Wembley
Sat 3 District 105A Convention Wembley
Sun 4 District 105A Convention Wembley
Wed 7 OV Aylesbury WEB/DB
Sat 10 CA Feltham & Hamm
Mon 12 OV Stevenage CM
Tue 13 UN Day in Parliament
Wed 14 OV Seven Kings
Sat 17 CA Bedford
Tue 20 OV Bletchley
Wed 21 OV Fulham
Sat 24 CA Southall
Sun 25 CA Hitchin
Mon 26 OV Harrow & Pinner
Tue 27 OV Bedford
Wed 28 OV Dunstable
 OV = Official Visit