



PRIDE OF LIONS

District 105A News

DG Martin Morgan



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Hitchin Lions Club Organ Appeal

On Saturday December 4th, Hitchin Lions Club held their annual Christmas Collection in Hitchin Market Place to raise funds to help pay for the local Meals on Wheels during the Christmas period. As in previous years their collection was supported by the Gavioli Organ which was loaned to the Lions by the Saunders Family. The Gavioli Organ, shown in the photograph, was built in Italy towards the end of the nineteenth century and is mounted on the back of a lorry which enables it to be easily transported. It regularly appears at country fairs, Christmas fairs, organ rallies and steam rallies throughout the country. The Christmas Collection, which for many in Hitchin signifies the start of Christmas, was generously supported by the public. Keith Hoskins, Hitchin Town Centre Manager, said "The Lions collection accompanied by the Gavioli Organ is part of Hitchin's Christmas, many people look forward to seeing and hearing the organ". President of Hitchin Lions Club, Lesley Davies, said "We are grateful to the public for their generosity. The money raised will support those in need over the Christmas period".

Lion David Kelsall



Dickens of a Christmas with the Newport Pagnell and Olney Lions Club



The town of Olney, North of Milton Keynes is probably better known as home of the original Pancake Race from which many thousands of similar events have spawned. Over the past few years, the Lions club has been helping another event 'The annual Town Calendar', namely Dickens of a Christmas.

In December, the entire town goes back in time with residents, market traders, retailers, charity stalls and local organisations dressing up in Victorian outfits to put on an event which now attracts over 10,000 people as they enjoy the experience of times past. With themed entertainment and free out of town Park and Ride facilities organised by the Lions club, visitors can enjoy a massive variety of themed attractions taking some of the trauma out of Christmas shopping.

The Lions club also organise 3 major Craft Fayres and a Birds of Prey Exhibition which this year, helped us raise over £5500 for our charity account and played host to BBC 3Counties Radio, Treasure Quest programme with one of the clues being 'guarded' by our Barn Owl.

Lion John Ferris

NOTICE BOARD

Senior Citizens Celebrations on Sunday
13 Feb 2011 Contact Lion Parveen Verma.

Wheel Power: please note that the date
has now been changed to 16 April 2011.

**Mill Hill and Chipping Barnet
Golf Challenge:**

The date for this annual charity event, at a
new venue, is 20th May 2011. More details in
March POL.

LCI Purpose:

*To take an active
interest in the civic,
cultural, social and
moral welfare of the
community.*



Lion Rati Shah honoured

Our Club has honoured Lion **Rati Shah** with an 'Achievement' plaque at our Business Meeting on 25th January 2011. He has done a tremendous amount of work in UK and internationally and this has been recognised by Lions. He has also been recognised by the Queen by awarding him the MBE. The photo shows Lion President V Sevak, PDG Rati Shah and our Club Charter President G P Desai.

Lions Club of Sudbury



Santa at Krishna school !!

Lion **Pami Sevak** of Sudbury Lions Club, dressed as *Santa* and surprised the children in the Reception classroom at the Krishna Avanti School, Edgware. The party was great and was enjoyed by all children but the highlight of the day was when children saw the *Santa* coming to their classroom – oh boy, the excitement on their little faces was just enough.



Giving disadvantaged children a good Christmas

Members from Lions Club of Bletchley, Milton Keynes worked hard to collect food for the Food Cupboard, which is run and sponsored by Anne Bagnall, St Mary's Church in Bletchley. They also wrapped several hundred Christmas presents for local disadvantaged children. The Lions, collecting outside the Tesco store, received 7 full trolleys of food together with cash donations from the very generous people visiting the store. Louvain Allen, leader of the Community Services at the club, was overwhelmed by the fantastic response from the public and wants to say a big thank you to everybody who has helped the Lions in their worthwhile work.

Some of the Christmas presents were purchased by the Lions and some donated by Dobbies Garden Centre. Chris Bryant, wife of current Lion President, provided the Lion Santa's Elves with home-baked mince pies and a never-ending tea service. *To give is a great privilege.*
Lion (Mrs) Solveig Stupples

Friendship Pins

Have you any Lions Friendship pins that you no longer require – or know someone with such pins they would like to donate?

If so, The British Isles and Ireland Pin Trading Club would like to hear from you. A table has been requested at the forthcoming District Convention and the club would welcome such pins to be handed in there.

The pins will be re-cycled by being sold for a token amount and all the proceeds given to the Babichi Orphanage Appeal (an MD105 project). If you are unable to attend the Convention, then please contact either Peter Claxton (peterclaxton1@hotmail.com) or Peter Carter (carter@waitrose.com).

From the Editor

The festive season is a distant memory and the New Year already feels like an old year. All the daily problems and difficulties of life are exacerbated by the incessant stories of job losses, hardships, cuts in services etc. Amidst all this, Lions carry on with their efforts to help the needy and raising funds. As mentioned in one of the articles in this issue '*To give is a great privilege*' and that is the true spirit of Lionism.

Lion Shirish Sheth

Welcome new members

Lions Club of London Belmont are pleased to welcome the following new members to Lions Family.

Lion Aisha Aslam
Lion Musleh Ahmed

Lion Saira Kasmani
Lion Dr. Shashi Sharma

District Youth Celebration

Third District Youth Celebration on 5th Dec at Allum Hall, Elstree was once again very successful with help and support from nearly 40 Lions clubs and generous sponsors. Our thanks go to all the Leo/Lions clubs for their contributions, sponsorships, donations and participation.

This year our theme was the Lion King, the hall and stage were decorated beautifully in keeping with this theme. At around 1pm the hall and the stage were set, all tables beautifully decorated and laid out with variety of food and drinks. A great party was prepared, ready for around 400 young people and their carers.

Slowly our guests started arriving. It was a beautiful sight to see so many happy faces all having a good time. There was lots of entertainment with the clowns amusing the children and DJ Nimesh Padania keeping them busy dancing to

music all afternoon long. We are very grateful to Nimesh for giving his time and talent for free for the last three years.

All the young people and their carers thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon and we have received many emails and letters of appreciation from parents, carers and Lion members. Deputy Mayor of Barnet Cllr Lisa Rutter, our DG Martin Morgan and Jill and members from many Lions/Leos attended the event.

Our thanks to all the Lions and Leos who were there to help set up and prepare the hall during the morning and clear up after the event. Thank you all for making it possible, together we touched many more lives through this event. We look forward to your support and participation again next year.

Lion Vijay Arora



District Environment Project 2010-11

This year we are continuing with District Environment Project in conjunction with Woodland Trust to plant and protect one more acre of living woodland with over 100 trees within our district. One oak tree alone can support over 1000 different wildlife species. We are requesting contributions of £50 per club towards the cost of this project. This will go a long way to plant at least one+ tree per club during 2010-11. Please send your donations to District Treasurer, cheques made payable to LCI DISTRICT 105A marked with 'Environment Project'.



Remember. Reduce. Reuse. Recycle. Reforest.

Lion Vijay Arora, Environment Officer



Did you know that 4,000 children die every day simply because they do not have safe water to drink or access to a toilet?

WaterAid is working to change this. Safe water, sanitation and hygiene projects have changed over 13 million peoples' lives. They have helped establish and train 66 water point committees in Malawi to ensure that water points could be maintained long term. In Nepal they are working to help the community install a gravity flow scheme to provide them with safe water on tap. Help is being given to people of the village build latrines and learn about hygiene to prevent the spread of diarrheal diseases.

Please take a few pounds from your charity account to join other Lions for this worthy cause. Send your donations to our District Treasurer marked for LCI 105A .

For further information contact Dist. Officer PDG **Ram Jaggi** MBE at ramjaggi@aol.com

Nominees for DG and VDG



Andrew Allen with his wife Louvain



John Savell with his wife Linda



DG Martin's Message



Working Together



Well Christmas is a distant memory the year is 2011 and the second half of my year gets underway with the same feeling of wanting to visit Lions to experience how they take on the role of being a Lion as I had in 2010, so no change there in the pace of life.

The first few days after the New Year were a little quiet as clubs got over the festivities and back to work but we have certainly got back to normal now with visits to clubs and a really enjoyable visit by Jill and myself to a meeting of Zone A. This was a great evening for which I thank ZC Cecilia and all the members who came to the meeting for the questions and debate we had and the superb meal we enjoyed afterwards. Another late night for us by the time we got home, but a lovely memory of he friendship of fellow Lions to keep.

We also attended the Leo pantomime of Sleeping Beauty at the Kenneth More theatre in Ilford with ZC Doreen Carr, PDG Ken and Lion Margaret Rouse and LP Paul Chakravarti along with a number of youngsters from a disadvantaged background. We were each allocated a number of the children to look after during the panto and were given some bags of sweets to give out. How so many sweets can disappear so quickly is a mystery I will never understand. On behalf of Ken and myself I want to know why all the other Lions in the group had real 'little darlings' to look after who sat in the seats without moving around and did exactly the

right things at the right times and then there were ours!! They were typical small boys and then some who kept Ken and myself constantly on the go and looking at each other thinking of all the questions we were going to ask Doreen afterwards about "why us?"

We wouldn't have missed it for the world, "Oh yes we would.....Oh no we wouldn't"

The last event we have attended so far this month was an awards ceremony with Jill's charity JDRF but I'll leave that for Jill to tell you all about in her report.

Next weekend we are in Birmingham with the other DG's and 1st VDG's for the first shared Council of Governors where they get a chance to see how the Council works and it allows them to catch up with the issues and discussions being made by Council before they take over as DG's later this year. Last year when we were the new

boys was a great weekend of hard work and good fun meeting each other and exchanging views and ideas, so I'm looking forward to the weekend.

On behalf of Jill and myself I would like to wish every Lion in 105A a very Happy New Year.

DG Martin Morgan



Congratulations

I'm delighted to announce that PDG **Rati Shah** has been awarded the MBE in the New Years honours list and I would like to pass on the congratulations of all the Lions of District 105A.

Jill's Charity – Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation

On Wednesday 19th January, Martin and I, along with Margaret and Ken Rouse, were invited to a JDRF Awards evening in London. This was to present certificates and thanks to those people who had supported them in the past year, either by volunteering help (as we had at the 'Walk to Cure Diabetes' last September in Regents Park) or donations from fundraising.

One man with diabetes had made a sponsored flight in a light aircraft around the USA, stopping in every State, while four Mums had dressed as 'Runaway Brides' and taken part in the 'Great River Race' on the Thames.

We enjoyed drinks and canapés during the evening and had the opportunity to talk with the other guests, some were diabetics themselves and others were parents of children with Type 1 diabetes.

Hannah was our compere for the evening and she will hopefully be coming to talk to District Convention in March. It was a most enjoyable event and also gave us an ideal opportunity to talk about 'Lions' too.

Thank you all for your continuing support.



Jill

My Diary

February 2011

- 3rd** Loudwater & Rickmansworth O/V
- 5th** Banbury Charter Celebration
- 6th** Zone C Swimming gala
- 7th** Newport Pagnell & Olney O/V
- 8th** Amersham & Chesham O/V
- 12th** Tring Charter Celebration
- 13th** Senior Citizen's Celebration
- 16th** Stoney Stratford O/V
- 19th** Ruislip Charter Celebration
- 25th** Leighton Buzzard 40th Charter Celebration
- 27th** MD Youth Awards