



Pride of LIONS



District 105A News

DG Meena Gupta

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50 years a Lion

On 18th February 2016, as Lion Partap Singh Ahdan arrived at Horizons for a Directors meeting, he was greeted with loud applause from around 100 well wishers. He was shocked and speechless and surprised to see District Officers, fellow Lions from various clubs and his family members (children, grand children, great grand children). Unknown to him, Ealing Lions Club had organised a surprise party, to celebrate Lion Partap's outstanding achievement of 50yrs with 100% unbroken attendance record along with his 93rd Birthday.

Lion Partap first joined Thika Lions club in Kenya in March 1966. In November 1975 he came to UK with a transfer to Southall Lions Club and then in October 1977 became a Charter member of Ealing Club. He is a life member of LCI and holder of the Progressive Melvin Jones Fellowship

Award. He has served on District Cabinet for six years and was Deputy District Governor (1984/85). He is holder of numerous certificates, medals, plaques and other awards given in appreciation of his services to Lionism.

Lion Ranjit Singh Mangat gave a Power Point presentation illustrating his Lionistic activities, achievements, and personal donations to numerous charities in the last 50yrs. Lion President Varinder Singh Chott then presented Lion Partap with a memento (clock) along with the special photograph album.

Lion Partap has kept a meticulous record of all his club meetings, conferences, Lionistic functions, awards etc. which he has attended. He is a true Lion at Heart and an inspiration to all of us.

Lion Pervinder Singh Panesar



Lion Partap with Ealing Lions

Moor Park Lions help the deafblind



Donation from Moor Park Lions

Lions Club of Moor Park hosted the DG on an official visit on 18 February. The visit was marked by a presentation of the largest amount to date this year being donated as a single payment of £50,000 to Sense International.

Sense International, was set up in 1994 to bring much-needed support and services to deafblind people in some of the poorest parts of the world. It gives children and adults the chance to break through the isolation of deaf blindness, and be as independent as possible. With support and education, deafblind people can communicate, go to school, take care of themselves and become valued members of their communities.

During the visit, the DG also presented 10 year Member Chevron to Lion Raj Saujani and Club Excellence Award to Lion President Raj Vohra. Well done guys, keep up the good work!

Spotting Lions



Spotted in South Africa by Lion Shirish Sheth on a remote beach!!

NOTICE BOARD

Welcome new Lions

LIONS CLUB of LONDON ACTON: Lion Mukund Singh Dhaliwal



LCI Ethics:

To Aid others by giving my sympathy to those in distress, my aid to the weak, and my substance to the needy.

Convention 2016 Issue

Senior Citizens' clear message – “We are delighted.”

Southall Lions Club has supported Southall Day Centre over many years. The Day Centre caters for the needs of the local community and mainly senior citizens. It provides a diverse range of services including advice and activities related to healthcare. Southall Lions Club had informed the Centre of the benefits of Message in a Bottle particularly for the elderly living alone. The manager, Santosh Kanwar, recognised that Message in a Bottle will be of great benefit to many people. She requested Southall Lions Club to supply a large quantity of the bottles.

LPT Bipin Suchak accompanied by Activities Chairman Lion Chirantan Shukla, presented boxes of bottles on 29th January 2016. The aim and benefits of Message in a Bottle were explained. The Centre was delighted to receive the bottles and Ms. Santosh commented that this small measure will relieve people of anxiety and worry and know that they will be well looked after in an emergency. She thanked Southall Lions Club.

Lion Chirantan Shukla



Southall Lions Message in a Bottle

Dive in with more PR

We want more PR is a call I have been hearing for the past 20 years if not more. That means that our members genuinely feel that there is not enough PR being done or, to put it another way, they are not getting enough publicity for their endeavours.

Up until now the main media for spreading publicity was newspapers, radio and television and we all know how difficult it is to get any good news into them. So what if can't get the newspapers, radio and TV to play ball?

Today we have all the new social media available to us. All we need to do is use it to show the world around us what fun we have helping others and how much it means to the people we provide aid to, get the average consumer of social media interested in our work and perhaps even ask if they can join us in our endeavours. That would certainly do the trick wouldn't it?

That would be the PR we all need and that PR is available to all of us. All we have to do is to dive in and do what other organisations, groups and businesses are doing and stop blaming others for there being not enough PR.

Promote the Lions brand on social media and as long as enough of us do it we will have a better awareness of our organisation and a far better chance of bringing in prospective members to our clubs, rather than just having news items or advertising in newspapers and on TV or radio which we could never afford.

PCC Lion Viresh Paul

Sudbury Lions...

DG Meena Gupta attended Lions Club Of Sudbury on the 16th of February held at Mumbai Gardens. VDG Lion Brindar and VDG Lion Ravina were also present.

In addition to hearing what exciting activities the club was planning, DG Meena used this opportunity to hand out a number of Chevrons to several Lions, acknowledging many years of service to Lionism.

It was really impressive to see two ladies at the helm of one of the largest clubs in the District, a club with 40 members doing so well. Both LP Pami and Lion Secretary Kiran are doing a splendid job and we hope to see them doing bigger and better things in Lions. Thanks to the entire club for doing so well.



...and Acton Lions honoured for service

DG Meena Gupta attended Lions Club of London Acton's Business Meeting on 17th February at Memories of India.

DG Meena handed out 8 Chevrons acknowledging years of service by several Lions and commented "It is truly wonderful how many of our Lions have served their community for several decades and are as enthusiastic today as they were when they first joined."

DG was pleased to see the family atmosphere in the club and thoroughly enjoyed their company.



From the Editor

The highlight of every Lionistic year is here again. Time to meet Lions from the whole District, and time also for recognising the Lions who have done exceptional service to Lionism. Also the time to elect the future leaders of our District.

I wish DG Meena and her team an excellent successful Convention.

Lion Shirish Sheth

Yet again time for senior citizens to party

Every year Lions Clubs from District 105a pull together and invite hundreds of senior citizens to enjoy an afternoon of fun.

This year was no different, the 16th Senior Citizen Celebration at the Harrow Leisure Centre, Middlesex, drew over 800 guests to enjoy an afternoon of fun, refreshments and dancing. More than 100 Lions together with Leos from Fairlop, Hendon, Kingsbury as well as two visiting Leos from Hong Kong helped set up the venue with tables, chairs, and colorful balloons ensuring that the ambience was just right.

Four tea and coffee stations were set up, manned by Lions from the District, each poised to serve senior guests with tea and coffee. Very welcome considering it was a very chilly afternoon.

A magician entertained each table with an assortment of magic tricks. Light refreshments were also provided. As the afternoon drew on meals were provided to each table, vegetarian and non-vegetarian. After that those who still had the energy were encouraged to take part in a session of Bollywood dancing.

It was indeed an afternoon to remember where everyone had fun – young and not so young. In fact many guests commented that this event is so wonderful it should be held every month!

The Chairman, Lion Parveen Verma, thanked all the Clubs in the District for their support and his super dream Committee for their hard work together with thanks to Lions, Leos and other volunteers for all their hard work to make the 16th Annual Senior Citizens Celebration a great success. Thank you all.

Lion Naresh Gupta

Is there anyone there?

It is disappointing that there has been so little response to the articles I wrote or to our Editor's request for more articles. In the absence of stories, the newsletter now has a lot of photographs to fill the available space, and except to those present, one photograph, especially of a social event, looks much like another and does little to convey the news aspect of the occasion.

The prospect of re-districting, with the great upheaval and turmoil which will ensue, shows us that something is amiss. Ostensibly this is because membership is falling but it could result in an unwieldy management structure which will require even greater management skills than we currently have or seem able to call on. It is a struggle to fill some cabinet posts; clubs are having to "recycle" Presidents and/or Secretaries because of a reluctance among club members to take on these roles and without new members the club loses its momentum. And as the momentum falls it becomes more difficult to find volunteers and equally importantly to encourage others to join. It is just as important to maintain existing clubs as it is to form new ones.

The club does not exist as a separate entity to which one can "attach" as needed; the club is the members and needs to be thought of in that way. Yes, we are all volunteers but there should not always be someone else to take on tasks. One of our main purposes, is to serve, either by direct personal service or by raising funds for wider benefit.

From time to time I hear complaints about something which is thought to be wrong: my response often is that you can do something about it; write to the Lion Magazine, 105A News, or the relevant District or MD Officer. If it is of wide significance then persuade your club to put forward a resolution to Convention, but there is a reluctance to take the advice, the feeling being that the District Cabinet or the Council of Governors should be taking action. They are not omniscient! They need help like all of us.

There is clearly much to be considered and as many views as possible would be helpful. But it seems that apathy abounds and we rely on being able to "muddle through".

Fellow Lions if you put your head in the sand there is only one orifice to speak out of and who wants to listen to that?

PDG John Hunt

Meet Your District Officers

Lion Parveen Verma

I am a Past District Governor, Charter Member of Chipping Barnet, Life Member of LCI, Honorary Member of Mill Hill and Sudbury Lions Club and Associate Member of London Host. I have been the District Secretary for many years. I am also the Legal Advisor for the District 105A.



As a District Secretary my duties include:

1. Liaise and work closely with the District Governor throughout the year including preparation of an Agenda for the quarterly Cabinet Meetings and Convention.
2. Communicate information and messages from the District Officers to the Clubs and Cabinet and vice versa.
3. Collate all the reports for a Cabinet meeting and ensure all the District Officers receive the same for discussion prior to the Cabinet meeting.
4. Communicate with Lions Clubs International and Multiple District and to act as liaison between District Governor and the Officers of the District.
5. Play a pivotal role to ensure smooth administration of the District.
6. Collate and produce the Convention Brochure containing the Agenda procedures and reports for the annual Convention.

The above is a very brief version of the work of a District Secretary who is frequently asked questions by Lions on all matters Lionistic.

PCC Viresh Paul

Viresh served as District Governor of District 105A in 1996/97. In the following year when Multiple District hosted the first and only International Convention, he was elected as the Chairman of the Council of Governors for British Isles and Ireland.



In the District Lion Viresh has served as District Treasurer. He has run many leadership training programmes including the one and only Lions Leadership Institute in District 105A. He was for many years the Editor of the 105A News, now called the Pride of Lions. He created and launched the first website for our District (as well as the first MD105 website as Council Chair) and introduced and produced the first Powerpoint presentation for use at a District Convention in his year. This year he is the District PR and Marketing officer as well as the Tax Advisor to the Multiple District.

Lion Viresh is a Chartered Accountant by profession and has run his accountancy practice for over 30 years. Married to Meera, a pharmacist, they have three sons – a dentist, an economist with the Bank of England and a junior doctor – and one grandson. He is a member of the Lions Club of London-Finchley.



DG Meena's Message



My Dearest Family of Lions

I am writing my newsletter post our Annual Senior Citizens Celebrations, held on the 28th February. An absolutely wonderful event and one guest summed it by saying, "you should have something like this every month". Phew what a thought!

My sincere thanks to the Committee Chairman PDG Parveen Verma, his organizing committee, Leos of our District, partners, volunteers and most of all the support of the Clubs in our District. A Very Big Thanks to all for making this day so special for our Senior Citizens.



A packed house!

Naresh and I welcome you to our 51st Annual District 105A Convention. I sincerely hope you will enjoy our AGM. We have a very packed Agenda and please make sure you do not miss anything. The Afternoon Session is packed with interesting presentations about Charitable Incorporated Organisations and Redistricting of our Multiple District, our International Guests will highlight selflessness service and the centenary in 2017.

Each and every member of the Convention committee has worked conscientiously, putting in many extra hours and with the help of dedicated volunteers, given their undying commitment. Do give us your feedback on the flipchart placed in the foyer before you leave.

In February Naresh and I made official visits to Lions Clubs of Thames, Milton Keynes Central, Amersham & Chesham, Sudbury, Acton and Moor Park. All these clubs are doing well with each having its own strength. Thanks to all for your friendship and hospitality.

Naresh and I attended District 105C Convention in Leeds. It was a great experience and learnt how conventions are held elsewhere. We met many Lions and enjoyed northern hospitality.



Lion members having fun

From 105C Convention we went straight to Mumbai Gardens where the District Quiz Competition was held. It was a full house with most Zones participating. Well done to DO Dinesh and his fellow Lions from Kingsbury Club for doing an excellent job. Congratulations to Lions Club of Harpenden with Lions Club of Winslow achieving a very close second!

Lions Club of Ruislip celebrated its 40th Charter Anniversary on the 20th of February. The evening was most enjoyable and we congratulate the Club for its services with Lions. LP Lynne was most gracious and we surely have a Leader in her!

Our Young Ambassador Evie Foster represented 105A at MD Finals. She was one of the top four candidates and we welcome Evie to our Convention today. Thanks to DO Lion Doreen for doing a wonderful job in guiding Evie this far and we wish her well in her future endeavours.

Convention hopefully will provide to all, plenty of food for thought, both Lionistically and as humans. We are not alone in this universe. Naresh and I feel that a certain balance and harmony is vital for all life forces to live positively on mother earth. We as Lions should encourage harmony and dignity both amongst us humans as well as all other life forms we share this precious life with. Can you imagine this huge planet only populated with us humans only!!! Please support Compassion in World Farming.

Those attending Multiple District Convention please remember to send in your delegate forms by this weekend.

Good luck to all those doing Marie Curie Collections on the 12th of March. I shall be there with Zone A Clubs.

Wish you very good and happy Convention and shall update you with more matter next time. Have a great month.

DG Meena



An evening of excellent song and dance

My Diary March 2016

- 2nd March - Lions Club of Wembley Brent - OV
- 3rd March - Convention Rehearsal
- 4-6th March - District 105A Convention
- 7th March - Lions Club of St. Albans - OV
- 8th March - Lions Club Of Kenton - BM
- 9th March - Barking Lions Club - OV
- 11th March - Osterley - BM
- 14th March - London China Town - OV
- 15th March - UN Day
- 16th March - Lions Club of Northwood - OV
- 17th March - DG Team Meeting
- 19th March - Lions Club of Harpenden - Charter
- 20th March - Lions Club of Hitchin - Charter Lunch
- 28th March - Zone B Easter Egg Race
- 31st March - GMT Meeting
- OV = Official visit