

Dear Family of Lions

My Month in short

November was a very busy month. I visited 25 Clubs, attended 8 Charters, 2 Sight First II breakfast meetings, new members were inducted, and the Dagenham Leos Club was formed.

Leos are Taking the Lead

The Leo Club of Sudbury will be formed early December, and the Leos of Golders Green will be inducting 13 new members! It is fantastic to have so many young people joining our family. We should listen to them and their ideas. With the Leos of Golders Green inducting 13 new members, we have to ask them: how did they do it? They have innovative ideas for fund raising, service activities and a love of what they do.

Lets Interact!

I sincerely hope that there will be more interaction between the Lions and the Leos. To help in this I will also be issuing an invitation to the Leos of this District to come to the District Convention - and by the way Leos, you can also give the Editor of Pride of Lions a call or email with articles you know!

Convention News

Talking of Convention it will soon be time for me to start planning the format for the Saturday and Sunday. I know it isn't until March, but once Christmas and the New Year celebrations are over it is then only 8 weeks away! The Convention committee with the guidance of PDG Lion Alan Kings have promised a weekend to remember, with an informal dinner on the Friday, the Banquet and Ball on the Saturday, with a guest speaker, Should I tell you who it is or shall it remain a mystery.....???

Have your Say...

I am planning an open Forum within Convention, so if you have any questions come along. However, I just ask one thing, please send your questions to me ahead of time. Don't worry - they won't be censored, but there would be nothing worse than asking a question, the answer being "I'm sorry I can't answer that as my papers are at home". The Convention is our AGM and YOUR input is needed.

We all Have a Choice - So Use it

There are resolutions that need to be listened to and voted on, remember if you don't vote you can't complain if you don't like the result. There are the three candidates for Vice District Governor and one for District Governor: come and hear them speak, place your Clubs vote.

Ask the BIG Questions

The International Guest is PIP Lion Bill Briggs, he attended our Convention in 2004. He has a down to earth, no nonsense approach to Lionism. There will be a session on Sunday morning when he will be available to answer questions or just to get to know him.

A Need to Recharge Batteries

I have enjoyed every single minute of the first six months as District Governor. But now I need a holiday. I am leaving for the sunshine of Tenerife on the 8th December returning all brown and beautiful. (Well I'm not sure about the beautiful we'll just leave it at brown) on the 15th.

To you all,
Andrew and I
wish a very Merry Christmas Holiday
and a Happy New Year!

Have a great month
Louvain

PS: There will NOT be a January issue of the Pride of Lions

The Lions Clubs of Oxfordshire are proud to be hosting the 2007 District 105A Convention 2nd, 3rd & 4th March 2007 Oxford Belfry Hotel Nr Thame

The Host committee along with the District convention Officer has worked tirelessly in conjunction with the hotel to make sure that this Convention is one to remember.

Friday Night

Buffet and get together with live entertainment by Kenn Fitt, where you can take a trip down memory lane, illustrating "History of Popular Music Throughout the 20th Century"

Saturday

Proceedings opened on Saturday by the Lord Lieutenant of Oxford, Hugo Brunner and a live silver band to greet delegates and the flag bearers, who will play all the relevant national anthems. Jaguar Cars will have a display also, in keeping with the Inspector Morse theme of the Convention. Registration, then a prompt start at 9.30am. Our lucky partners get to be taken on a guided tour by the Duke of Marlborough in Blenheim Palace! The relax from 5pm and get ready to be wined and dined, with guest after dinner speaker Colin Dexter, inventor of Inspector Morse!!! Then everyone can dance to a live band.

Sunday

Relax, have a nice breakfast and come to the Q&A session with PIP Lion Bill Biggs.

For more information of how to be part of the fabulous weekend, visit the District website or contact Lion Marline Kings or call the Host Committee Chairman Lion Anthony Church.

Issue 6, December 2006

DG Lion Louvain Allen

WHAT'S IN YOUR DIARY?

Sunday 3rd December 2006
LEO CLUB OF SUDBURY
Formation Charter
Mehfil Restaurant, 2 Park Road,
West Hendon, London NW4 3QB
Cost: £10.00 (Lunch) Contact:
Lion President Saurabh Patel

13th January 2007
LCIF Gala Night

3rd February 2007
London Phoenix
New Century Lions Club
3rd Charter
At the Ramada Jarvis Hotel
Hatfield

4th February 2007
District Senior Citizens Party
District 105A

23rd February 2007
Leighton Buzzard Charter

HELPFUL HINTS

New & Improved Roary The Results!

Here at POL, we try and update you on how the "Helpful Hints" ideas are going. The new Roary the Lion outfit purchased by members of Hemel Hempstead Club can report that the new "addition", (pictured below) is a "Roaring Success"! He has appeared twice in one month in the local paper, the Hemel Gazette, firstly when he was bought from local business Backstage and then when he was a "star attraction", (his own words) in the Hemel Victoria Evening. If you want your Club to get noticed at local events, then talk to the Hemel Club to find out where Roary came from, and perhaps you can try him out... (if he is not already booked up that is).



HAVE YOUR SAY!

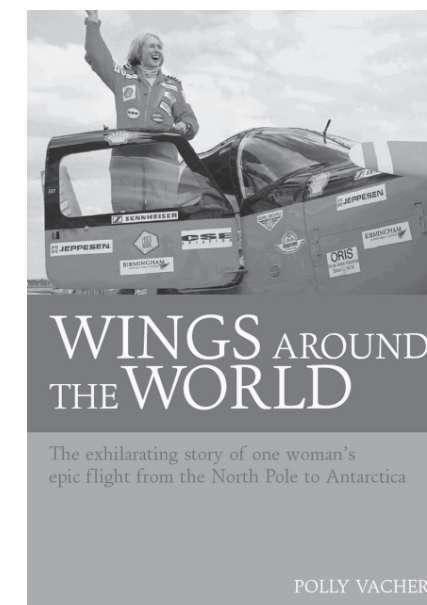
The District would like to say a hearty Welcome! to all those new members who have joined our happy Family of Lions...

Patrick Hall - Bedford, Raminik Pattni - Hemel Hempstead, Yasmin Kristensen - London Westminster, Chilumba Ngosa - Redbridge, Lord Franklin - Watford, Barbara Daniels - Watford, John Einstead - Aylesbury, Teresa Scott - Carterton, David Brierley - Harpenden, Shashikant Dave - London Kingsbury, Frank Davies - Hammersmith & Shepherds Bush, Lesley Spence - Harrow & Pinner, Doreen Edwards - Harrow & Pinner, Alan Kerry and June Kerry - Hertford, Marilyn Englefield - High Wycombe, Ashwani Chauhan - London Acton, Pravin Mistry - London Swiss Cottage, Mohamed Dean - London Swiss Cottage, Ragesh Dewani, Manu Joshi - London Swiss Cottage, Hitesh Karia - London Swiss Cottage, Kalwant Verdi - London Swiss Cottage, Harish Kanbi.

May your time with Lions Clubs District 105A be joyous, full of excitement and may you go away after meeting your fellow Lions with a song in your heart, a and a strong will to do what is right.

That Magnificent Lady in her Flying Machine

Polly Vacher is a most remarkable aviator who I had the pleasure to have met at an air show recently, writes John "PRO for my Sins" Hicks. Being the bold Lion that I am, I told her what we did as Lions. To my delight, she was kind enough to donate a flight in her personal aircraft that she flew round the world as a prize for the 2007 Witney carnival! Polly is promoting her book Wings Around the World from which all author royalties and some publisher profits go to Flying Scholarships for the Disabled. Witney Lions felt that this was a most worthy cause to be involved with and we could help by spreading the Lion word.



So Witney Lions would like to encourage you to forward the information to friends and colleagues in other organisations and if possible internationally. With Christmas coming it would make a nice present for you so put it on your wish list.

A quote from Polly's email cites a young wing walker from the Utterly Butterly team who had a riding accident, which damaged her spinal cord irreparably. After her completion of the training and scholarship she said it was the most fun, scary and rewarding and completely inspiring experience she could have wished for....

.... Just look on her website www.worldwings.org for more information or just call us at Witney Lions Club, details in the Directory (p26).

My Diary

- 2nd Dec Enfield CA
 - 3rd Dec Sudbury Leo Formation
 - 4th Dec Mill Hill OV
 - 5th Dec Luton OV
 - 6th Dec Beaconsfield OV
 - 7th Dec Milton Keynes Central
 - 8th-15th Dec Much needed rest
 - 16th Dec London Phoenix OV
 - 17th-3rd Jan Free time
- preparation for:
Cabinet Meeting
Council of Governors
District Convention
MD Convention



Merry Christmas

Nominees for Vice District Governor 2007 - 2008
(Alphabetical Order)

Lion Vijay Arora

I gained invaluable experience and knowledge of Lionism at Club and District level. I wish to serve firstly as Vice District Governor by fully supporting and learning from our District Governor and then as your DG to share and implement many ideas and visions acquired through my experience.

I believe the success of our District depends on all the members working together in harmony as a team, fully motivated and inspired to achieve our agreed goals. My objective would be to build and improve on the achievements of our District by utilising our members' resources in the most efficient and effective way.

As you will all agree Members are our greatest asset. In order to retain and recruit new Lions we need to promote ourselves. I will give my support to each and every Club to reach their full potential and at the same time encourage formation of new Clubs.

I sincerely believe that we will develop new and innovative ways of promoting all our Lionistic activities and programs. In order to succeed and to carry out our projects, we need to increase public awareness of our accomplishments and goals.

I offer my experience, enthusiasm, loyalty and wholehearted commitment to serve as your VDG and through good planning, quality training, better communications, excellent PR and right approach together we will make our Great District even Greater.

I seek your endorsement to work together with the sole purpose of serving our motto "WE SERVE".

Lions Club of Stanmore

Each Candidate has been asked to submit as short article which have been edited for this Newsletter.

For their full CVs, please refer to the District website. They will also appear in the Convention Brochure.

Good luck to all the Candidates!

"The Little Christmas Elves of Pride of Lions, who work so hard to bring this exciting Newsletter to you every month wish you all a harmonious, stress free Christmas, and may 2007 bring you all the happiness you desire"

Pride of Lions

Ta da!!!

Lion Anthony (Tony) Church

I became a Lion as a Charter Member of the Oxford Isis Lions Club in 1996.

I served as secretary and President during my time at Oxford Isis; and transferred to Wallingford & Didcot Lions Club earlier this year.

I have served the District as :Zone Chairman, looking after three Zones, Lion Tamer, Young Ambassador & Youth Award Officer, Zone Co-Ordinator Campaign Sight First II and

Host Committee Chairman for the t 105A Convention 2007.

I am 54 years old, married to Susan and have one son, Carl, who both fully back me. I work for her Majesty's Prison Service as part of the Offender Management team.

I am the Official Town Crier to various Town Councils, currently ranked 4th in Great Britain, and 9th in the World. Susan has been a childminder for 9 years and having previously worked in children's nurseries and retail.

My career has taught me patience, tact, diplomacy, how to diffuse difficult situations, to be visionary, to realise that things cannot be achieved by one person alone, but there needs to be a strong team to create further success. I will give my full backing to the District Governor 2007-2008.

My objectives: to look at ways of bringing the District together making sure that every Club understands the need to pull together to achieve goals set out by Lions International and District 105A.

To carry out a skills analysis of the grass root Lions and unlock the potential we have and encourage members to use those skills to develop the District. To work towards making the District self sufficient so that we can achieve our goals without relying on Sponsors.

My motto will be "TO UNLOCK THE POTENTIAL, INCREASE THE SUCCESS"

Lions Club of Wallingford & Didcot

Wesley De Mendonca

I joined the Club, which is sponsoring me, in 1987 and held the offices of Secretary, Treasurer, President and Membership Chairman . My specialist interests are Membership Growth, Youth Activities, and Women in Lionism. I joined the District 105A Cabinet as Region Youth Officer in 1992 and held the Youth Out-reach, Peace Poster Officer and Youth Opportunities Officers' posts. I have acted as Zone and Region Chairman. I qualified as a Certified Guiding Lion at the Bournemouth Europa Forum. I am currently promoting Tacade Life Skills in Secondary Schools of London Boroughs

Over the years I have attended three International Conventions. At the Brussels Forum I received the International Leadership Certificate after completion of the LCI Senior Leadership Course. I hold several District Governors' awards and the International President's award in Youth Outreach and the Melvin Jones Fellowship Award.

I worked in Local Government and retired in 1992 as the Head of Brent Youth and Community Service. Community work is my profession.

My objectives if appointed to the VDG post are :- To provide support to Lion Ken as his deputy. The First International Vice-President Mahendra AMARASURIYA has stated at Bournemouth that the theme for his year as President will be Challenge to Change with a focus on the recruitment of under 40's, and the development of a four year membership development strategy on Youth. To promote a Youth & Cultural Activities Fund under control of the Cabinet. To promote a bi-annual Youth Centre for youths sponsored by District 105 Lions Clubs within the British Isles as a complement to the current International Youth Exchange provision. To promote the Travelling Lion programme.

Lions Club of Hornsey

Display Goes With a Whizz & Bang!

We couldn't have asked for a better night than Sunday 5th November for hosting the Letchworth GC & Baldock Annual Fireworks Extravaganza, writes **Lion Rachel Addy**. Letchworth Lions have been hosting this annual event for several years and this year, we had decided to split our donation between two local charities: **The Letchworth Alzheimer's Association and the Gravely Riding School for Disabled Children.**

We have been most fortunate this year with some very generous sponsorship, which meant that the event was practically paid for before a single ticket was sold so taking pressure off!

Even though the crowds were slow in coming at first, by 6.15pm we were wishing the arrivals would slow down just a little so that we could at least catch our breath!

For the first time this year, we had decided to add a free raffle for all children. The holder of the winning ticket would be able to press a button and start off the whole display at the end of the notorious countdown. ... Everyone wanted to win!

Whilst vantage points were secured, we were entertained by our colleagues from Lister Radio. Part of this included a live interview with a member of Starlight – the children's charity we supported during the summer this year. A formal presentation took place and everyone had the opportunity to hear what our money had helped provided for terminally ill children.

A young lady, Laura was the lucky firework starter and it certainly went with a BANG. For 30 minutes the skies over Letchworth were awash with the most beautiful array of colours – all synchronised against some stirring music. The evening can be described as no other than an amazing success. Around 2,500 people attended and over £5,000 was raised – our best result to date. The biggest success of all is that not only will our nominated charities receive more than we could ever have hoped to give, but as all of the public left the grounds after the show, there was one resounding comment – 'this show gets better every year – we will definitely see you next November' and who can ask for more than that ???



**Hearing Dogs
The Difference they Make**

Hearing Dogs for Deaf People were delighted to be invited to speak to Lions at the recent Winter Forum. Ruth Dunkin, Regional Fundraiser was accompanied by local recipient Wendy Pegge with hearing dog Beetle – who was certainly on his best behaviour! As one of the preferred projects for District 105A, this was a fantastic opportunity to help raise awareness of the work of this unique charity, particularly



relevant as Hearing Dogs celebrates its' 25th Anniversary in 2007.

With the head office based in Saunderton, near High Wycombe, Hearing Dogs for Deaf People selects and trains dogs to alert their severely or profoundly deaf owners to sounds that most of us are fortunate to be able to take for granted including the alarm clock, cooker timer, telephone, doorbell and most importantly danger sounds such as the smoke alarm. To date over 1,260 dogs have been placed across the UK, and a further 150 dogs are currently being trained each year.

The practical value is obvious, but the therapeutic value should not be underestimated. Among reported benefits, many recipients find their

increased confidence and independence encourages them to go out and participate in activities that they previously avoided.

Hearing dogs come in all shapes, sizes and breeds. With 75% of the dogs used coming from rescue centres giving unwanted dogs useful and happy lives to the benefit of deaf people.

Every Thursday the Centre welcomes visitors who get the opportunity to see a demonstration, hear more about the charity and to meet some of the very special dogs in training.

For more information on how your club could get involved, to book onto the Thursday Tour or to arrange a speaker please contact Ruth Dunkin on 018443 48100 or at ruth.dunkin@hearingdogs.org.uk

Gala Night is Looming

Once again we are celebrating the birthday of our founder Melvin Jones and achievements of LCIF. I am seeking support from all of the Clubs in District 105A for LCIF Gala Night to be held on Saturday, 13th January 2007 at the London Heathrow Marriott Hotel, Bath Road, Hayes, Middlesex UB3 5AN.

I would also like to inform you that CSF II Chairperson, PIP Dr Tae-Sup Lee has accepted our invitation to attend LCIF Gala Night.

The event has been planned as an enjoyable evening with excellent food and drink, live music and entertainment, and minimum speeches. The committee has been working hard and need your support. There are several ways that your club can help to make the evening a great success:

Come along on the evening - just complete the booking form

Recognise a member of your Club as a Melvin Jones Fellow

Consider a designated or undesignated donation to LCIF.

Your generous support and commitment is crucial as donations from Lions provide the majority of LCIF's revenue. Through LCIF, Lions ease pain and suffering and bring healing and hope to people worldwide. LCIF is truly Lions helping Lions serve World Community and Your Community.



Vijay Arora
LCIF Officer

Pride of Lions

From the Editor

Communication: what a wonderful tool we have! Speech, telephone, fax, email, snail mail (writing the old fashioned way and actually posting something with a stamp), newspapers, magazines and the list goes on. However, do we use these mediums effectively? Do we use them responsibly? I have just received a call from a stair lift company saying I entered a competition, and I had won... Now, I know that I never entered said competition; apart from the fact that I am not yet in the market for a stair lift, I am really careful who gets my personal details. Did this company use their

communication skills effectively? No. It was an unsolicited and unwelcomed call and all it did was cheese me off and make me a bit uneasy. We must, my fellow Lions, remember at all times that although our communication skills are vast and possibly well intended, that personal details MUST remain within the remit they are given. So next time you may be inclined to forward someone's email, telephone number or address please remember to ask the original sender first.

Maria

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