



Issue 8
February 2013

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PRIDE OF LIONS

District 105A News | DG John Savell



Our Seniors deserve to party

On Sunday, 3rd February 2013 around 700 senior citizens took up a Lions Clubs District 105A invitation to party at the Harrow Leisure Centre. Lions Clubs from around the District including Edgware, Harrow & Pinner, Acton, Chipping Barnet, Mill Hill, Hadley Wood, Osterley, Bletchley, Belmont, Luton, and many other Lions clubs sponsored tables of 10 senior citizens.

Doors to the 13th Senior Citizens Celebrations organised by District 105A opened at 2pm and all revelers had three hours of uninterrupted fun, dancing, singing and partaking in games.

Preparations for the event had begun many weeks before with a team headed by Lion Parveen Verma organizing, veg. and non veg. snacks, tea, coffee, soft drinks, entertainment, and a chance to sing and dance. Work to prepare the hall ready for the revelers began early on the day with a large team of committed volunteers comprising Lions and their partners. Balloons, streamers, party poppers, raffle prizes and table decorations gave the hall an ambience which only Lions can provide with great love, care and attention.

The music to bring back moments of great nostalgia took our senior citizens down the memory lane. A live band played. The theme this year was the 60s and 70s, capped off by a stint of Bollywood dancing and song favourites by Jay Kumar and his Bollywood dancers. The afternoon was rounded off with a lively disco catering for all tastes.

Lion Brian Dickety who attended the celebrations for the first time enjoyed the afternoon so much that he is already looking forward to being there at next year's celebrations. His wife, Mavis said on the way home, "it was just like the Lions used to be, with everyone working together to provide



the outcome for the party guests."

District Governor John Savell congratulated Lion Parveen and his committee on another very successful Senior Citizens Celebrations commenting "You and your team should be proud of your success with this event. Each year everyone goes away happy and content. Your team works hard to make it a success and you can see it on the day with the fellowship and fun that they have as well as the guests".

DG John enthused that the event epitomized what Lionism is all about, the hands on community service providing support for those unable to help themselves. Once again, well done to everyone".

SCC Committee

... NOTICE BOARD ...

Competitions Awarded at the Convention 2012/13

Entries to the following competitions must be in by the specified dates:

- Club website competition 15th Feb
- Travelling Lion 28th Feb.
- Diabetes Awareness 28th Feb
- Environment Award 20th Feb

Contact Lion Derek Beazley

105A Convention 8-10 March 2013 at Kassam Stadium

Don't forget to book your place

LCI Purpose:

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



Christmas Cheers at Ealing Hospital

On Christmas day 2012 Ealing Lions went to the Ealing Hospital loaded with thirty presents for children who were in the Hospital.

There were children ranging from three days to ten years old. Most of the children were pleasantly surprised and overjoyed at receiving their presents from Santa Claus. It was pleasing and rewarding for the Lions to see children smiling in spite of their illness. This gesture by Ealing Lions was much appreciated by the Hospital authorities and the parents of the children.

The photograph shows some members of Ealing Lions Club, in company with the Santa Claus, taking Christmas presents into the children's ward.

Lion Pervinder Singh Panesar



Witney Music Festival

The Lions Club of Witney organised a 'Beacon Bonanza' with music on The Leys in Witney last year. This first musical entertainment to be held on The Leys proved very popular with over 2,000 people attending.

After the event there were suggestions for an annual music festival to be held. The music had been organised by Derek West, and he has now agreed to organise a Music Festival on The Leys on Saturday 27th April 2013.

The music festival organisers have called on the experience of Witney Lions Club in organising events such as the Beacon Bonanza and Witney Carnival, and have asked the Club to be the official partnering charity for the event.

The festival will include a wide variety of genres and performers and will create an environment for good community relationships, and showcase local talent to Witney residents.

Witney Lions have helped in all areas of the local community for over forty years, and are looking forward to working with the music festival organisers. Funds raised at the event will enable the Club to continue with its support to young and old alike, local clubs and the needy in the Witney area.

For further information visit: www.witneylions.org.uk



Lions Ride High

The Lions Club of Bletchley has paid for Ride High to have new riding helmets. Ride High is a charity based in Great Brickhill, that provides horse riding experience for disadvantaged children between the ages of 11 and 18.

There are about 60 children from a variety of difficult backgrounds, and they come each week in small groups. Many of the children have been subject to abuse and lack basic social skills. The aim is to help the children to develop social skills, be able to work together to speak to people, and to do the things we take for granted. Riding is only a small part of our activities. For every hour the children spend riding and looking after the horses they spend a further one and a half hours in the classroom on social activities. The children go on outings as well. Recently a group went to a race meeting at New Market, backed some winners and met one of the jockeys - Andrea Atzeni.

As in other sporting activities the correct equipment is essential and proper helmets are crucial safety items. Prior to the Lions contribution, Ride High had to borrow the helmets, some old and showing signs of wear and tear. The new helmets now belong to the charity and the children are responsible for looking after them.

The changes in the children, after only a couple of months is remarkable. Three have gone on to Equine Studies, one to the School of Racing and another is starting training to become a vet. Although the charity is heavily reliant on public donations the



children do undertake fundraising events of their own. They recently held a car cleaning activity. The children are very conscious of the support given by the Lions.

The youth policy of the Lions Club of Bletchley is to provide support to organisations like Ride High and the club is proud to be able to do so. Bletchley Club raise their funds through activities like presenting the Rock Chorus at Stantonbury Campus theatre, manning stalls at Bletchley, Stony Stratford and Fenny Stratford fairs, and the wishing wells at local garden centres.

Lion Brian Phillips

Peace Poster Winners



1st prize

Anastasia Pecko age 11 from Globus Youth Club,
sponsored by the Lions Club of Fairlop



2nd prize

Caitlin Chapman age 12 from Greneway Middle Art Club
sponsored by the Lions Club of Royston



3rd prize

Bonsi Mehta age 12 from Northwood College
Sponsored by the Lions club of Moor Park

Help Moray 'Regain' his Independence

At the January Cabinet meeting, a short presentation was made by Eaton Bray & Edlesborough Lions about one of their members, Moray.

Moray was involved in a devastating accident 12 years ago. It left him completely paralysed. A relatively small national charity, called 'Regain', began helping Moray to rebuild his life and 'regain' as much independence as possible. Regain specialises in offering specific support for British men and women who have become tetraplegic after a sporting injury.

Moray has indeed become a very independent person and is going from strength to strength. He is understandably keen to find some way of showing his gratitude to the charity that made such a difference to his life. So, in November 2013, Moray will embark on a 400km cycle ride across South Africa for able and disabled riders.

Moray has been a Lion for 18 months and is a hugely valued member of our club with excellent participation in all of our activities despite his obvious challenges. He is a great ambassador for our organisation and truly worth of our support.

Cabinet officers were so touched by this story that they voted to make this a 'District' project. Moray will be attending District Convention to deliver a speech on the subject.

Moray is required to raise a minimum of £3,500 but we are aiming for £10,000 as a dream target. EBE Lions are busy organising fund raising events to get the wheels in motion (pardon the pun) and are holding their first event on Saturday 16th March. This will be an evening of live music with dancing. For more information on this event, please email president@ebelions.org.uk

Formation of New Clubs:

LIONS CLUB OF PARK ROYAL
LEO CLUB OF MILTON KEYNES CENTRAL

Lions Club Hadleywood are pleased to announce that they have received an eClub Banner Patch from International in recognition of the club website.

We are also selling eBook Recipe Book in aid of Cancer Research, and invite all readers to visit our website for details. Ebook will be on sale from 4th February, to coincide with World Cancer Day. www.eclubhouse.org/sites/hadleywood/page-7.php

Jenna El Taher

From the Editor

Every month when I go through the articles sent to me for inclusion in the POL, it surprises me how and what Lions do to help the less fortunate, lonely and vulnerable people in the society. Sometimes it is just the appreciation of and caring for our senior citizens, and sometimes it is sheer grit and determination as exemplified by the article on Moray. Some ideas are novel and imaginative, like the Fish n Chip babies, or the Ride High project. All paths lead to helping and serving the community around us. The hours of selfless service is the spirit of Lionism.

Lion Shirish Sheth



DG John's Journal



I hope everyone kept warm and safe during the recent cold snap. Now we only have to worry about flooding and rain, followed by more rain. Please remember your neighbours who may not be able to cope, whether it is snow, ice or flooding. Many will need our help. We are relatively lucky in 105A but some areas have suffered horrendous floods and the Lions from District 105BS and the Multiple District have been able to make funds available to help those in places like St Asaphs.

The District Convention is only 5 weeks to go. This is your Convention, the opportunity for you have a say in the running of the District, meet with

Lions from other parts of this diverse and unique District. The Host committee have worked hard to put on a Convention to make me proud, an excellent location with good facilities. There are presentations and a range of information stalls. The International Guest is PID Guðrún Björt Yngvadóttir, well known to many Lions in the District and I am delighted that she could find time to visit

us. The host night will be fun and music provided by both a local raconteur and a brilliant violinist. At the Saturday night Banquet and Ball the entertainment is provided by the Oxfordshire Youth Band helping to show the Lions commitment to Youth. Book your places now.... I want everyone to enjoy the Convention and feel that they have benefited from the Convention weekend.

Following on from the District Convention is the MD Convention in Torquay and again I would encourage everyone who is able to attend to do so. Bookings can be done on line through the MD website.

I have been continuing with club visits, attending Stanmore, Seven Kings, Fairlop, and Staines which were good fun and this is one of the enjoyable parts of the job. I was privileged to attend a Pantomime organised by the Dagenham Leos in Ilford for disadvantaged children. It was a great evening, the children were a delight, and IPDG Andrew and I were allocated 3 children each to chaperone. I had to dig deep to remember my parenting skills since it is 20 - 30 years since they last came into play. As always in the background working her magic was Lion Doreen Carr helping the Alpha Leos to take on this task. Well done to everyone.

The end of January sees one of the last Council of Governor meetings of the year, the final one is at Torquay. The VDG Sarbjit Assi was present during this Council as an opportunity to understand how it all works.

Prior to Council we had the District Cabinet meeting where many aspects of running the District were dealt with, while having fun. It is so important that we enjoy Lionism; it is that

enjoyment which will attract new members, as well as foster a community spirit. I have said it before and will continue to make the point that it is the hands on service we give to others which built this organisation and it is a back to basics approach which helps build the clubs in this District and elsewhere.

Many of you will know that the new LCI reporting system "myLCI" went live the week beginning 21st January. The reports certainly give a lot of worthwhile information, some of it staggering. The number of hours that everyone spends on Lions' activities is tremendous. As marketing and publicity tool the data

is of a great use for the MD PRO Team. I hope that many club secretaries completed the survey that the MD PRO team sent out. This need will diminish as *myLCI* takes hold, since the data will be available, provided secretaries submit the activity reports.

By the time you receive this newsletter a letter will have been sent from IPDG Andrew regarding the Special Olympics seeking volunteers for the games later this year. I am sure Andrew would be delighted to see as many as possible from 105A. Remember this is hands on community service.

I make no apologies for mentioning it again, but don't forget the District Convention in Oxford 8th - 10th March where you will receive a warm welcome from the Oxfordshire Clubs and have a great time. See you there.

DG John Savell



My Diary February 2013

- 3rd Senior Citizens Party
- 4th Parish Council
- 5th OV Lions Club of Edgware
- 6th OV Lions Club of Wembley
- 7th GMT/GLT meeting
- 10th Zone C Swimming Gala
- 11th OV Lions Club of Witney
- 12th OV Lions Club of Hemel Hempstead
- 13th OV Lions Club of Chipping Barnet
- 14th OV Lions Club of Belmont
- 15th Lions Magazine Management Meeting MDHQ
- 15th Formation Evening Lions Club of Park Royal
- 16th Charter Evening Lions Club of Ruislip
- 19th Visit Lions Club of Bletchley
- 20th Convention Meeting Kassam Stadium
- 21st Zone E Meeting
- 22nd Charter evening Lions Club of Leighton Buzzard
- 23rd Charter Evening Lions Club of Bedford
- 25th Convention Dress rehearsal Soulbury
- 27th OV Lions Club of Hayes
- 28th Family Event

OV = Official Visit