



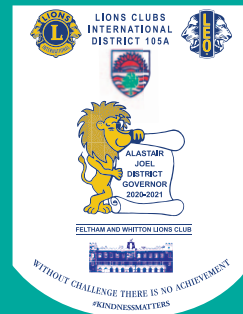
# PRIDE OF LIONS

DG Alastair Joel

Issue 3 • September 2020 – District 105A News

*More Covid-19 Experiences*

[www.lions105a.org.uk](http://www.lions105a.org.uk) • [info@lions105a.org.uk](mailto:info@lions105a.org.uk)



## Gradually coming out of Covid-19

Like all Lions clubs, **Ruislip Lions** are struggling in the new normal which has put a stop to many of our future planned events. Nevertheless, refusing to have our spirits dampened, one of our members Lion Julie worked hard with Waitrose to gain sponsorship for the club from their Green Tokens community project awards. Waitrose offer this sponsorship on a regular basis to local groups and clubs who work to support the local community in their endeavours.

One of the major thrusts of Lions International is the problem of global hunger – a tragic situation we see unfolding in many countries. Ruislip Lions have taken up the challenge of supporting Hillingdon's Food bank.

Since the pandemic struck we have known of some families unable to put food on the table. Ruislip Lions have been working with Hillingdon Food Bank for 5 years visiting 3 supermarkets and 2 churches on a weekly basis collecting generous donations from the public which go to a central area to be allocated to families in need.

**Lion Lynne Kaufmann**



The picture shows some of the Lions and volunteers who support the manager of the Food Bank, Pastor Vine Daniels.



Photograph (taken by Lion David) shows Lion Julie receiving the sponsorship cheque from Eileen, Waitrose community manager in Ruislip.

## ..... NOTICE BOARD .....

Due to the Council Chairman vacating his position, it has been decided that the post will be performed in rotation by 3 District Governors until the end of this Lionistic Year. The first DG is our own DG Alastair Joel who will be the Council Chairman till 31 December.

Lions of District 105A send DG Alastair all their best wishes for success.

Congratulations and Good Luck.



*Kindness and Diversity*

**LCI Purposes:**

*To Create and foster a spirit of understanding among the peoples of the world.*



## A Lions' clean up

**Lions of London Central Host** performed environmental service in KEEP BRITAIN TIDY month of September.

It was a fine sunny day on Saturday 26 September. Lions Afzal, Bindu, Girdhar, Manji and Savitri went litter picking in Yeading Brook Open Space, North Harrow. We had to observe social guidelines of groups no bigger than six. Not only did we pick litter but we also collected some fly tipped items. We also cleaned the stream of blockage and litter.

We were thanked for our service by the Chair of Friends of Yeading Walk who had accompanied us. We thank Harrow Council for providing all the PPE and equipment.

Thanks to Lion Girdhar who provided much needed refreshments after hard work. Our Lions cannot just wait for the next litter pick which is provisionally planned for late October!

**Lion Manji Kara**



*Litter Pick at North Harrow*

## No litter left

**LC of Belmont** members and other Lions helped to collect litter from the Belmont Nature Trail. An arduous task but enjoyed by all. The volunteers were 1 VDG Lion Karanjeet, PDG Lion Ramesh, DT Lion Tania, Prospective member Rakesh, Lion Manji Kara and Lion Nilesh of **LC of London Central Host** as well as some local residents.



## Shoes and LCI Global cause – childhood cancer

**Lions Club of Stony Stratford** had little funds but wanted to support a Childhood Cancer project. Club Secretary PDG Lion Andrew Allen searched for inspiration. He came across Supershoes, based in Wolverton, Bucks. The charity provides shoes for incredibly brave individuals in the UK, between the age of 6 months to early 20s who are receiving treatment or palliative care for Cancer.

Each pair of shoes is customised for the child or young person and hand-painted by a volunteer Super Artist to capture their favourite things: games; sports team; music; animals; colours or tv programmes. The end product is a pair of shoes that are as exceptional as the unique person who wears them.

These shoes encourage mobility – because who would not want to get up and show off their mini-masterpieces? They promote mental wellbeing as they remind the child of who they are and the personal things that they love and are important to them.

What can you do? £70 for a pair of shoes is a small amount to raise for a young person who is fighting their tough battle with cancer.

How will we benefit? Bringing a smile and making the individual feel special is priceless! As a Partner organisation the District will have its own page on their website which will show all shoes donated by our Clubs. And, you can put a hyperlink on your Club's web pages.

What are you waiting for? Have a look at Supershoes and support:

Website: [www.supershoes.org.uk](http://www.supershoes.org.uk)

Facebook: [Supershoes@supershoesUK](https://www.facebook.com/supershoesUK)

**Lion Rita Tanda**



## From the Editor

So many Clubs have been doing service activities over the past 6 months. Clubs have been doing amazing efforts to help where needed, stories that we as Lions should be proud of. Yet, very few Clubs make the effort of sending in their articles to be published in Pride of Lions. Why is that? POL is our District's publication, to inform and inspire each other. Now more than ever, in this pandemic era, and no face to face Club meetings, we need to communicate with each other.

Please make the effort to send me news about your Club, your new members and also, sadly if any Lion has passed to Higher Service.

We are a Family of Lions....Let's talk to each other and share our news.

**Lion Shirish Sheth**

## Sad... but inevitable!

The last few months have been very challenging and there is still no end in sight to this pandemic. We are all hoping and praying for things to return to normal as soon as possible.

We were really hoping that by now things would have improved for us to hold our annual party for disabled and disadvantaged children on 22nd November. We hoped to hold this event even on a smaller scale but sadly under the circumstances it's not possible.

So finally, we have decided formally to CANCEL this event this November. We have also notified all our entertainers, sponsors and regular participants. We know that all the

children, carers look forward to attending this event and they are really disappointed. We will miss not seeing them this year and just hope that they are all keeping well and safe.

We are still thinking that if things change early next year we will hold the event in the spring and then also our regular event on 21st Nov 2021.

Thank you very much for your support towards DYC and we look forward to welcoming you all next year!

With very best wishes

**Lion Vijay Arora**

## Peace Poster Competition

I hope that Lions Clubs are working hard to liaise with their local schools to sign up pupils for this amazing project. We all know that due to the recent pandemic things are harder and more challenging. However, the spirit of our teams is strong and endless to make a difference and to make a mark through these beautiful art works. There is a message behind every artwork and we should share this message across all. **'Journey of Peace.'**

The deadline for submission is **15th November 2020**. The Peace Poster entries must be sent to me in the tube preferably

by recorded delivery and they must reach me by 21st November 2020. We are inviting independent Art experienced persons to judge to contest.

The District Final will be held on Wednesday 25th November at The 182 Club Bar & Restaurant, Wembley, HA9 8PA from 6.30 to 8.00pm.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me by email: [mzgouralis@outlook.com](mailto:mzgouralis@outlook.com)

**Lion Maria Sgouralis**  
**District Peace Poster Officer**

## Why not become a Model Club?

LCIF is (our International Foundation) launched Campaign 100 to raise US\$300 million by 2021 to serve 200+ million people a year by increasing service impact, Fighting diabetes and expanding global causes.

Campaign 100 has been extended by one additional year, through June 2022 due to the global pandemic. We are encouraging some clubs to take on the challenge of becoming Model Clubs by pledging to donate a minimum per-member average of US\$ 500 by June 30, 2022. Currently in District 105, Campaign 100 Model Clubs are Lions Clubs of: London Acton, Chipping Barnet, Hemel Hempstead, Watford, Luton and Stanmore!



Any donations towards LCIF from July 2017 to June 2022 count towards this Model Club status. Model clubs will have an extra year till June 2023 to fulfil their pledge. 100% of your donations directly support LCIF Global causes and are eligible for future MJF and Campaign 100.



**Lions Clubs International**  
**FOUNDATION**

Please consider making a donation to make service possible in each of our service areas. Just a **Donation of £80 towards LCIF** can help accomplish such projects:

- **Vision:** your £80 can fund 2 cataract surgeries.
- **Disaster Relief:** provide relief for 4 victims of natural disaster.
- **Hunger:** a gift of £80 can provide 14 people with access to regular food.
- **Diabetes:** your donation of £80 can fund 18 diabetes screenings.
- **Childhood Cancer:** £80 can help buy equipment to diagnose/treat 8 kids with cancer.
- **Humanitarian Efforts:** can provide measles/rubella vaccinations for 100 children.
- **Environment:** £80 donation to LCIF can provide access to clean water for 14 people.

October is Vision Awareness month (World Sight Day 8th Oct). Our SightFirst program launched in 1990 has played a key role in reducing global blindness. LCIF and Lions have prevented serious vision loss for over 30 million people. It costs just £5 to help restore a person's vision or prevent blindness. 75% of all blindness is avoidable.

Please send any donations payable to LCI District 105A to our District Treasurer or simply pay online and also notify me if possible. I am happy to attend any club/zone meetings held via Zoom during the current Covid crisis.

Please contact me for any help or info related to LCIF.

**Lion Vijay Arora**



# DG Alastair's Adventures



**A**nother month passes by and now autumn is knocking on our doors, with some of us already having to use the heating!

Despite the difficulties we are all facing with the Covid-19 pandemic, it is pleasing to hear of the activities clubs are undertaking in their communities, and even more pleasing is the fact that 49% of clubs are reporting these activities on My LCI. This equates to a massive 32,036 people served. I congratulate clubs on this achievement and the club secretaries or administrators for reporting this. Whilst I accept that some clubs are unable to serve at this time, what an achievement! If every club reported, how large that figure could be. That would be something to shout about and celebrate! Can I also remind clubs to report on their membership too? It is important that this is recorded monthly even if there is no change.

I thank those clubs, who have applied to the District for the £200 Hunger grant. I am sure these have been put to good use. Please remember to report and publicise how the money is being used and the impact on your communities. The Service team plan to produce a report on how the funds have been used across the district.

September is Childhood Cancer month. Many clubs have supported the Super Shoes appeal mentioned last month. Thank you to those clubs for your generosity. I would like to mention Wanstead and Woodford Lions Clubs who prior to Lockdown ran tea parties for the siblings of those families who were affected by Cancer; this has built great relations within their communities and spread the word of Lions.

I am sad to report that our Vision officer Komal Bhagat has stepped down from her cabinet position, due to personal circumstances. I would like to thank Komal for her work as an officer and for the experience she brought to the role and in particular for the work in relation to the Spot camera.

Our next training topic is CIO and all you need to know on this matter. The session is being held on the 4th October and run by the MD officer Paula Mellows. I hope clubs will

book to attend. If your club has an income of over £5,000 it is a legal obligation to register as a CIO.

I would like to recognise our two District CIO mentors John Savell and Harvinder Virdee, who continue to work hard in registering clubs with CIO and support clubs already registered.

Covid has caused us all to change or cancel our plans. This has been the case with many Lions events including the Europa Forum planned for Thessaloniki, and this has now been rescheduled for 2021.

3rd October will see a first for Lions in Europe, a virtual Symposium. A chance for the Lions of Europe to unite in service, to connect, learn and serve. Registration is free and can be done by visiting the website [www.lions-europe-symposium.eu](http://www.lions-europe-symposium.eu). Our very own International Director Geoff Leeder has been heavily involved in the organising this. Well done Geoff for your hard work and commitment.

I'm sure many of us would like to see the back of 2020; it's been memorable for all the wrong reasons! Newport Pagnell & Olney Lions Club is looking forward to 2021 and has launched their town calendar (now available to order – so I'm told) despite the difficulties, businesses in the town have supported this project. I congratulate NPO Lions for this great idea and for overcoming the challenges in achieving this project.

I welcome all our new members this month to their clubs, to District 105A and Lions Clubs International. I hope you enjoy your time as a Lion. Thank you for joining the world's largest service organisation. There is always an opportunity for membership, even in these difficult times, despite the rule of six, which we should follow. It only requires five people to form a club branch!

Finally, to every single member of District 105A – the A team... thank you for all that you have done and for everything you will do. This makes a difference to someone and together we will make this world a better place.

'Till next time stay safe, warm and well...'

**DG Alastair**

## MY DIARY September 2020

Communicating with Lions by digital means and phone calls.

## Do you know ?

**W**e can still recycle spectacles – **Chichester Lions Club** have resumed their collection of used spectacles. Chichester Lions expertly sort them before they are shipped to Medico France in Le Havre where they are graded and refurbished before distribution to eye camps in Africa, India, and Eastern Europe.

Many Clubs have local partnerships with Specsavers and other opticians. Whilst we no longer have the ability to send

them free of charge via Parcel Force there are various couriers that can be used for a small payment. For example, HERMES will collect a box weighing up to 15kg from a private address for £9.92. Between 5-10kg it is approx. £6.99.

Chichester Lions will be happy to receive donated hearing aids in the same parcel too. But please contact Chichester Lions in advance: Tel: 0344 963 2443 or email [sight@chilions.org.uk](mailto:sight@chilions.org.uk)