

## Dear Family of Lions

Cast your minds to the future if you are reading this at Convention... Be carried away and pretend that it is Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> March 2007. If you have only just managed to get your copy of Pride of Lions and the Convention is over, then read on.

## Now That Convention is Over

Our District 105A Convention is over for another year and if you attended, I hope you enjoyed the day. I have had many highs during the year and I am sure I will have many more before the end of June. However our Convention has to be the pinnacle of the year! PIP Lion Bill Biggs and his wife PDG Lion Dana were great fun. PIP Bill gave a great presentation and on the Sunday morning made many friends at the question and answer session.

Andrew and I took PIP Bill and Dana to the Lake District, as he was the International guest for Tom Tyson the BN District Governor. Ever busy, from there he went down to EA to attend DG Brian Stanbridge's Convention, and then home for a well earned rest.

Lion Ken Rouse became District Governor Elect and is now busy preparing his Cabinet and getting his case packed ready for the trip to International Convention in Chicago. My congratulations also go to the new Vice District Governor Elect.

## Oh Yes She Did!

In January I was asked if I would like to go to the Pantomime, (oh, yes I was!). The invitation came from the Dagenham Leos and Andrew and I jumped at this fantastic opportunity. This group of Leos, the youngest in the district aged between 11 and 14, had raised enough money to take disadvantaged children to the pantomime. Included in this, they also had enough money for each child to be given *two* bags of goodies: each containing sweets and a drink, for the first and the second half.

**WELL DONE**

Both the children and us adults were given strict instructions about this making sure we played by the rules.

I would like to tell you how very proud I was of these young people. They had come up with the ideas, raised the money, bought the sweets, obtained some help from Lions, but basically done it all themselves. Some of the disadvantaged children were not that much younger than themselves. This shows how well the school based Leo Clubs can work. Do you have a secondary school near you? Community Service is part of the school curriculum. What is it we do?

Please think about it. Do you have a Lion in your Club who would take on this task? Is there a teacher who you could interest in starting our children on the path of Community Service through a Leo Club in their own school for 11 to 14 year olds? If you need further information speak to me. I can then point you in the direction of a real expert.

## Yellow Jersey Ready

In the last issue of Pride of Lions I gave advance notice of the request for Marshalls for the Tour De France, which is starting in London. This was also sent out with the February mail out to all clubs with further details and also information how to register to help either on the prologue day (8<sup>th</sup> July) or the actual start of the race on the 9<sup>th</sup>. Can I ask those clubs with Leo's to please pass this information onto them as I am sure some of the older ones would love to help.

## Yes, I am only Human

I also have to make two apologies this month. To my shame I gave Brian Tagg the wrong surname I called him Tapp. No excuses - I just can't read my own writing. My apologies Brian.

And an even worse crime when I gave my thanks to the 105A Lions who are members of the Lord Mayors Show Committee I forgot a member from my own Club, Lion Eric Holland. I'm sorry Eric I will pay the fine at the next meeting

Have a great month!

Louvain



**That's me at the Senior Citizens Celebrations, happy to see the good work that Lions of District 105A do to bring joy to so many elderly people in our communities.**

## My Diary

1 <sup>st</sup> -4 <sup>th</sup> Mar	105A Convention Belfry Hotel	18 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Swimming Gala Copthall for Region 3
7 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Northwood OV	20 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Bletchley OV
8 <sup>th</sup> Mar	TO 105 BN Pre Convention in Windermere	21 <sup>st</sup> Mar	Lunch with London Host OV & Thame OV
9 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Return from Windermere	24 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Southall CA
10 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Harpندن CA	25 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Hitchin CA
12 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Chinatown OV	26 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Harrow & Pinner OV
13 <sup>th</sup> Mar	UN Day followed by Hornsey OV	27 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Ruislip OV
14 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Chipping Barnet OV	28 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Walthamstow OV
15 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Berkhamsted OV	31 <sup>st</sup> Mar	Swimming Gala Zone I
17 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Mill Hill CA		

## District 105A News

Issue 9, March 2007

DG Lion Louvain Allen

## WHAT'S IN YOUR DIARY?

### 2nd March

105A Convention Golf Competition at Waterstock, Oxford  
Contact Lion Peter Gent

### 2nd - 4th March

105A District Convention

### 10th March

Harpندن Lions Club  
Charter Dinner

### 13th March

United Nations Day  
at Houses of Parliament

### 23rd & 24th March

Wimslow Annual Beer Festival  
For more details contact Club

### 1st April

CSFII Walk for the World  
OSTERLEY PARK  
JERSEY ROAD  
OSTERLEY  
11AM START

### 21st April

Bowls & Quiz Night in aid of  
Wheelpower  
(British Wheelchair Sports)  
at Stoke Mandeville Stadium  
Tickets £10 includes buffet  
available from Steve Foott

## HELPFUL HINTS

### Couple of Words on Diabetes: It Kills!

Lions care about people and their community and will therefore be concerned at the growth of the disease diabetes and how it will seriously affect a diabetic sufferer's well being, if not detected early and treated.

Did you know that diabetes is now the third biggest killer disease? In excess of 50% of diabetes sufferers are unaware of their condition. It is the biggest single cause of blindness throughout the world and can be responsible for heart and kidney damage, gangrene and premature death.

We the Lions can make a real difference to those who are unaware that they have Diabetes, by an early warning test that encourages potential sufferers to take expert medical advice. This can be achieved by Lions Diabetes Screening Events.

To those clubs who are not actively offering Screening Events, please consider carrying out such an event. The rewards are immense. Correspondence of how best to do this, has been sent to all Clubs, with a helpful list of all you need to do and have.

**Lion Ron Wilkes**  
District Diabetes Officer

## Congratulations Osterley Lions Club!

We would like to say well done and hearty congratulations for Lions Club of Osterley which is run superbly by Charter Lion President Nimmi Suri, who together with her club has worked tirelessly towards raising funds and awareness for the CSFII project. They have been presented with the Top Club Award Banner patch 2005-2006 for the District from PIP Dr Tae Lee who is the chairman for the project. Well done all members of Osterley.



## HAVE YOUR SAY!

This month part of the Have Your Say section is on the inside cover. Lion Mike Baldwin and the Honorary Committee need your views on the age-old topic of **Re-Zoning**. All the reasons and explanations are there for all Lions, Lionesses and Leos to read. (Leos are included as the voice of tomorrow). It is not very often that as Lions we can make a difference to something that seems to be written in stone.

So please, this is such an important decision and lets just say that 1,890 pairs of eyes are better than one!

## Senior Citizens Party Your Views Please!

The Annual Senior Citizens Party Committee would like to thank all Lions and Leo volunteers and the Clubs who participated for yet another most successful event. The Committee regrets that some Clubs could not participate and others could not increase their number of guests, as there was a full house by the beginning of January. The Committee will be meeting shortly and would like to hear from Clubs with any constructive ideas to improve the event. Read how it went in the following pages.

## Enfield Lions Are Keeping a Keen Eye on Kenya

A new wing (\$800,000) was added to the existing Campaign Sight First II Lions' Eye Hospital, which was dedicated by PIP Dr Ashok Mehta on the 4<sup>th</sup> of February 2007 at Loresho, Nairobi, Kenya. The Lions Club of Enfield and club members, PDG Rati Shah, A C Patel and Ramnik Mehta, gave financial assistance to the project. The new wing is a state-of-the art facility that treats patients requiring eye surgery - free of charge. PIP Ashok Mehta publicly acknowledged the dedicated Lionistic work and financial support from District 105A.

Senior Citizens Party On!

Way back in the Millenium year of 2000, the District decided to host an event, namely the much loved and looked forward to Senior Citizens Party, where the Lions clubs of District 105A would celebrate with the older people in our Community, giving them a chance to dance, enjoy each others company, and generally have a good time. For the Lions and Lionesses it was a way to say thank you and to give something back to a older, wiser generation in our District..



Hence this party, held in the Harrow Leisure Centre, which was such a huge success, that it is now repeated every February on a Sunday afternoon.

So, for the 7<sup>th</sup> year, 800 guests at this years' mega party were treated to a marvelous spectacle as they entered the Leisure Centre. There were balloons and streamers and the 80 tables, each taking 10 guests, were tastefully decorated.

The afternoon started with a wide variety of well known jazz numbers played with such style by the Luton Youth Jazz Band. This was followed by a nostalgia disco playing music familiar to all from the last 50 or 60 years. A male magician on a bicycle, dressed as a fairy, who has certainly done the party circuit, entertained throughout the afternoon. For many, the high point was the bingo session



As the afternoon progressed, there were plates and plates of sandwiches, crisps, chocolates, cakes which paraded out of the kitchen, as well as tea being available for all. This year for the first time the stalwart organizing committee did the catering for the non vegetarian food. There was also vegetarian food provided, so everybody was happy.

Parveen Verma of the organising committee said, “The demand for places this year was amazing. We sold out by the beginning of January and regrettably had to turn down some Clubs. Over half of the clubs in the



District participated. Guests and volunteers together totalled an amazing 1,000 filling the Leisure Centre and creating a great atmosphere.”

There was no commercial sponsorship so we relied on goodwill from many sources. Some Clubs donated £100, our District Governor donated £200 and there were individual donations of £100 each from Lion Dhiren Badiani of Moor Park, Lion Mark Hathwani

President of Loudwater, Lion President of Hayes and Harlington and the District Secretary generously donated £1,000.

There were also other smaller donors, who together made up the shortfall, and without whom this would not have been possible. All the guests said they had a super and marvellous time and were very impressed by the event.

An event such as this would not happen without the help of many people. An event of this magnitude means that the organising committee have been planning during the preceding year. Nearer the event the army of Lions and other helpers were assembled. Clubs selected the fortunate guests that they would bring along. On the day itself countless Lions helped to get the guests to Harrow and then waited at table.

Plans for February 2008 are already in hand and we would like to make it the best yet!

Lion Steve Gledhill

Lions Club of Mill Hill to give away a brand new Toyota

Would you like to have the chance to win a brand new Toyota Aygo or would you like to go to Dubai? Well here is your chance.

Mill Hill Lions have organised a raffle to raise funds for Breast Cancer, Bone Marrow Cancer and other related charities. The first prize is the car, and second prize is the trip to Dubai.

The draw will be at their Gala Evening on 17<sup>th</sup> March 07, in presence of our DG Louvain Allen.

Raffle ticket price is £1.

The odds are much better than the Lottery and the net funds will go to very worthwhile causes. Well....what are you waiting for ? Contact any of the Mill Hill Lions or the President Lion Ashwin Sodha, who will be delighted with your support.

From the Editor

In the car, 8am, school run. 11year old son Joe said to me, “Have you heard mum, Harry’s going to Iraq”. Harry who? I don’t know anyone called Harry... Oh, Prince Harry! This bold and matter of fact statement started me thinking? Why are titles so important? Some of my fellow Lions I refer to as “Lion so and so”, others I always refer to by their first names. Am I being disrespectful if I don’t use their titles? The answer to me is really simple. There are times and places. For example: in a Club meeting there will be times when I use the title Lion, but because I see my Club as a group of friends, I don’t always. I helpout at my son’s

Maria

school. What do the children call me? Maria. Firstly I am a Miss, which does not compute with many, as the pupils know me as James’s mother, so they were calling me “Mrs”, which I am not. Then there was the problem that my surname, coinciding with Spanish ways, is not that of my sons. That’s why I asked them to call me Maria. I am the only parent helper known by her first name. This apparently has had two outcomes: the children can really talk to me and I am now one of the coolest and most respected mums in the school.

Club Re-Zoning Have Your Say

To change or not to change?  
That is the question.  
What is the answer?  
Are our clubs in the right zones?  
How do we accommodate new clubs in the future?  
How do we deal with a zone if club numbers fall below the prescribed level?

During the October cabinet meeting, it was reported that, following the closure of one of the clubs in the District, a zone was left with only three clubs. This contravenes District 105A Constitution and By Laws which state amongst other things, that “the District shall be divided into Regions of no more than 16 clubs and no fewer than 10 clubs, and each Region into Zones of no more than 8 clubs and no fewer than 4 clubs”.

DG Louvain asked the Honorary Committee to consider the position of this zone and to make recommendations. The Honorary Committee met last November. During the meeting the Honorary Committee also discussed the current situation within the District wherein a number of zones currently have 8 and 7 clubs. We were concerned that as new clubs are formed, difficulties will occur in keeping to our constitution. It was also felt that it may be time to consider if clubs are currently best placed giving regard to their geographical location.

These concerns were reported to DG Louvain with a recommendation that she instigates a full review of the current Region/Zone make-up. The recommendation was agreed by her and cabinet in January 2007. Then DG Louvain held a meeting of Zone/Region Chairmen along with the chairman of the MERCLPR committee to put them in the picture. At that meeting Louvain asked me, as the current chairman of the Honorary Committee, to chair an ad hoc committee, to conduct a root and branch review of the current zones within the district.

Since then a committee has been formed consisting of Lions Geoff Leeder, Marline

Kings, Luke Adams, Rana Dhawan, Niten Shah, Ken Rouse and myself.

It is intended to produce our recommendations in time for the Lionistic year 2008/2009. As a committee we believe very much in consulting and informing members at each step and this article is therefore part of that process. We intend to start with a blank page but it may it is not necessary to make radical changes. There could be changes, which should they fall outside the parameters mentioned above, will need approval at convention in 2008. At this stage it is not possible to speculate. If any member has an idea to put to the committee please do so by emailing me lionmikebaldwin@btinternet.com. For example one suggestion arising from the January meeting was to look at post codes. Ideas may also come from Zone meetings and Zone chairmen are asked to pass comments to the committee.

We are currently at the start of the process and the committee will work diligently and prudently on behalf of the District.

Lion Mike Baldwin

London Hampstead raise funds to complete Primary School

Over the last 2 years the London Hampstead Lions have raised enough money to complete their project to rebuild the Anada Marga Primary school in Maynaguri a rural town in North Bengal. There are 50 children which attend but there was only one classroom. The children come from very poor backgrounds and not all are able to pay the school fees. The one classroom was very small and half the children studied on an open veranda with no proper blackboard etc. There was a small hostel room where around 10 children stay, the tin roof leaked and there were no grills on the windows. More children would like to go to the school but are unable to.

We have now completed the rebuilding of this classroom, built two more rooms and also a simple bamboo kitchen where food for the hostel children will be cooked. It was being cooked on a moveable stove in the classroom after school – not ideal. The veranda has now been covered and has had security grills fitted and this is currently being used by the children as a sheltered seating area for eating their morning snack. It can later also be used as a classroom when the number of students increase. A concrete path has also



been built alongside the veranda from the gate to the building to keep the mud from the garden out of the school building during the rainy season. We have also repaired the school van which brings the children to school. An outside toilet with septic tank has been built and a base round the well has been cemented and a cover and hand pump added to make the well water accessible to the children. Various painting has been done. Blackboards and scholastic utensils have been provided.



Last of all we have built a decent inside bathroom and toilet so that the outside toilet can be used by the school children who until now have been using a corner of the garden with some raised stones and no water.

The crowning glory is the large Lions Club board erected when work started. We may be a small club but however small it is still



possible to do great things to help those less fortunate than ourselves.

Lion Adrian Grocott

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