



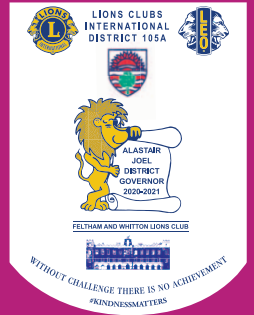
PRIDE OF LIONS

DG Alastair Joel

Issue 2 • August 2020 – District 105A News

More Covid-19 Experiences

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Harrow and Pinner Lions – Serving the Community

The Corona pandemic is hurting lots of local people in many different ways – just because we as Lions are social distancing doesn't stop us from caring. We wanted to be part of the "Help Harrow" project and applied for a share of £100,000 in grants from the LCIF to help us do that.

Harrow and Pinner Lions were successful in gaining a grant of £1,000 from LCI Foundation. We are delighted to say that the grant was utilised to support Harrow Community Transport with the work they are carrying out in delivering food parcels to the most vulnerable people in Harrow. Along with the council, local businesses and other members of the voluntary sector, Harrow Community Transport has helped to ensure that the most at risk people in Harrow have received the food parcels they need in this time of crisis. The "Feeding Harrow" operation to date includes delivery of over 9,000 food deliveries, 52 tons of bulk food delivery to the hubs making up the parcels and more than 495 hours of service.



Gerry Devine, Chair of Trustees Harrow Community Transport said "Recent events have moved us even closer to serving those in need in the community in ways we would not have dreamed of only a couple of months ago. It is heartening to know that we have such great support from the Harrow and Pinner Lions in recognition of this. The donation came at a critical time when our cash flow had almost dried up and we were seriously contemplating having to use our very small reserve fund to survive.

The £1000 grant from the Lions LCI fund and the continuing support from Harrow and Pinner Lions has enabled Harrow Community Transport to continue its work for the most vulnerable in Harrow in this time of crisis."

Lion Lesley Spence

..... NOTICE BOARD

Lions passed to Higher Service

Lion John Frost LC of Watford

Lion Joginder Kaur Gill LC of Watford

May they Rest in Peace



Kindness and Diversity

LCI Purposes:

To Coordinate the activities and standardize the administration of Lions clubs.

Bletchley Lions Offer Mobility

Lion Alf Saunders has problems with his knees and hips, so walking is a painful problem for him. He is now registered disabled, so he welcomed the offer of a up cycled mobility scooter to help him getting about. The scooter is road legal and has a range of 34 miles and speed of 12 mph.

The **Lions Club of Bletchley** donated a mobility scooter to Lion Alf and one also to a local resident, Mr Peter Coleman. Both scooters, less than a year old, were donated by Lion Malcom Alberry.



Lion Alf Sanders helping



Photo shows Mr Coleman, with Lion Michael (left) and Lion Chris(right)

Collection Bins for Used Spectacles

A member of our **London Central Host Lions Club**, Lion Yesim Dilek, has made Collection Bins for used spectacles available to be placed at strategic places, especially at Opticians and Pharmacies.

Collection of used spectacles and sending them for recycling and distribution to needy people is a service without the need to spend money.

To encourage this service among our Multiple District, our club will sell these bins to Clubs in our District 105A, at a price of £5 each, with label, on which you can place your club's name.

If you want to buy these bins please contact me.

Lion Vijay Jain, Secretary

Mobile: 07887 710141 Email: vijay@i-g-c.co.uk



Talk about stress!!!

LP Shanthi accompanied by her husband Lion Joe, both from **Lions Club of Belmont** went to Sri Lanka to see her elderly parents. Her father was poorly and was not expected to live long. Having stayed in Sri Lanka for more than 4 months and making arrangement for her elderly mum to be looked after, they returned to London in March.

The say bad things comes in threes.

They received the first bad news. Lion Shanty mum's carer had gone blind in one eye. The poor women could not pay for a cataract operation and was extremely distressed. Without hesitation, our motto was put into practice; "Where there is a need there is a Lion", or in this case 2 Lions. They personally paid for the carer to have an operation.

More bad news was that LP Shanthi's mum had a fall in



the hospital. The couple felt helpless as they could not travel because of Covid-19. They kept in constant touch with the hospital. As part of their appreciation for the dedication of the staff at Base Hospital Manthikai, Sri Lanka they decided to do a sponsored walk. The Baby Unit received £1,500 from Joe and Shanthi who walked 150km to raise funds.

If all this was not enough, further stress happened as they were in the process of purchasing their new home whilst having moved to an Air bnb property. The sale nearly

did not take place given the poor relationship of the divorced couple. But as true Lions, this did not stop them from attending Lion meetings and fund-raising events. They moved from Lichfield to Harrow.

Lion Rita Tanda

A Touching Story

An African mother in Mombasa (Kenya) had no money to buy any food for her children. She decided to pretend that she was cooking dinner for them, when in reality she was only stirring a few stones in a pot. She hoped her children would tire of waiting for dinner to be ready and eventually fall asleep.

In response to this heart breaking BBC Newsflash, **Lions Club of Chipping Barnet** donated monies to help support families in a similar situation. These photos depict that not only were families provided with essential groceries, but that volunteers also made freshly, cooked food for the impoverished children.

Lion Amrik Phull



Lion Max receives the International President's

Lion Max was awarded the International President's Award by IP Jung-Yul Choi in June this year, for his dedicated service to the Global Action Team.



PIP Kajit 'KJ' Habanananda has reappointed Lion Max to the 2020-21 Global Action Team (GAT), serving as GAT Area Leader for Constitutional Area 4.

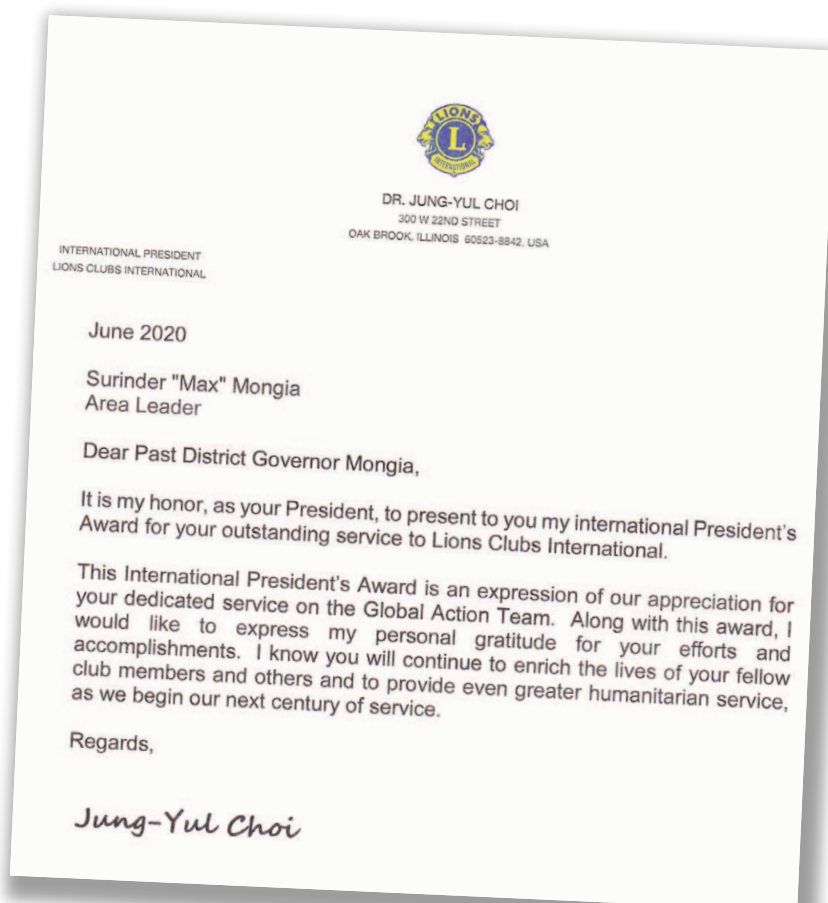
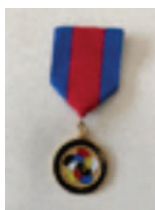
These areas include MD105 (British Isles), MD110 (Netherlands), MD118 (Turkey), Districts 128 (Israel), 133 (Ireland), Undistricted Andorra and Gibraltar, comprising of 22 Districts and 30, 338 members.



PDG Zeynap Kocasinan from Turkey has also been appointed as the GAT Area Leader taking over from PCC Joost Pajmans of Holland.

GAT will encourage **ACTION** to move the gears of service to support our global goal of serving 200 million people each year.

PDG Surinder (Max) Mongia
CA4 D GAT Area Leader 2020-21



Help for Home Schooling

Stony Stratford (Milton Keynes), Lions Club were delighted to be awarded a £1,000 MD 105 Emergency Grant to help support the families during the Covid pandemic in our local Women's Refuge with home schooling. We have been involved with the Refuge over several years helping with food, toys, and books.

The immediate need was to purchase Tablets to enable the families who did not have access to such technical equipment keep up with their education. It was decided to use any balance of the grant to purchase educational and craft supplies to be distributed among all.

Whilst sourcing the tablets and



Some of the Amazon Fire Tablets and cases.

school essentials it became apparent that Workbooks for English, Maths, Science and reading books for all Primary school ages were also needed. Having purchased the Workbooks, we approached a local Charity for a donation - The Ihezic Foundation who

organise shipments of educational books to Sub Sahara Africa. The very generous Ihezic Trustees and their MD Michael Bloedorn gave us a selection of 210 fiction reading books for all Primary school ages. The value of this donation was more than £1000. The books and educational workbooks were presented on 30th April. The Tablets and educational supplies were given to the Duty Manager, who is the Senior Children & Young Peoples Support Officer on 5th May. We are awaiting delivery of three more Tablets.

All the above will help the children who have been affected by domestic violence to continue with their education on a par with their school peers.

Lion Andrew Allen



A selection of books, school essentials and workbooks and equipment.



Message in a Bottle – District 105A

What is it? It is a simple idea designed to encourage people to keep their basic personal and medical details on a standard form and in a common location – the Fridge.

What does it do? It saves the Emergency Services valuable time in helping user & identifying if user has special medication or allergies. It is not only a potential lifesaver, but also it provides peace of mind to user, friends and family by knowing that prompt medical treatment is provided and that the next of kin and emergency contacts are notified.

Who is it for? Anyone. Whilst it is focused on the more vulnerable people it can be used by anyone taking regular medication no matter their age. This scheme can benefit anyone.

What does it cost the user? Nothing, it is FREE. All costs are paid for by the sponsoring Lions Club. Your club can buy a pack of 100 MiAB at the cost of £35 + £10 postage .

Who knows about it? All Emergency Services are aware of the Message in A Bottle scheme, and will locate the bottle and pass it on to a doctor or hospital personnel.

What is in the bottle? A form user fills in with their name, medications, allergies & relatives contact details and two stickers.

What does user have to do? Fill in the form; put it back in the bottle. Put the bottle in their fridge (the only place the Emergency Services will look) Put one green sticker on their fridge door and the other green sticker on the INSIDE of their house door. If you would like any further information please contact:



Lion Manji Kara
MiAB/MiAW/MedicAlert Officer. Email: miaaw@lions105a.org



DG Alastair's Adventures



The ink has barely had a chance to dry from my last article and here we are again at the end of my second month in office. Two weeks ago we were enjoying the heatwave, or just looking for somewhere to keep cool!

Gemma and I joined Osterley Lions for a picnic and walk in Osterley Park. For many it was the first time they had met up and for some the first time they had been out since lockdown. It was a very relaxed and sociable afternoon, despite the heat, we did find some shade under the large trees. This proved a popular Sunday for meeting up, as Mill Hill and Acton also chose the same day for their club's get together.

The first cabinet meeting of the year was held on the 16th August. Although online, some 50 members joined in. It was a productive meeting, involving lots of discussions. One of the main points was the dispersal of the charitable monies held in our District accounts. There is an opportunity for clubs to apply for some of these funds. It is for a grant of up to £200 to help hunger related projects within your areas; many of you will be involved with or are supporting these already. This will enable you to continue that support. Applications should be made through the Hunger Officer Ashwin Vora: hunger@lions105a.org.uk.

The cabinet also approved a new project called Supershoes. This is a fantastic project about giving a unique pair of shoes to young people suffering with or recovering from cancer. Each pair of shoes is uniquely decorated to the style and design of the young person and costs £70. If clubs can support this project, please send your donations to the District Treasurer Kunal. Diabetes, Hunger and Childhood cancer are three of our five pillars of service and I urge you to take up this opportunity to serve your local communities.

I have been set a challenge by one of my Fellow Governors. Some of you may have seen the Message in a Bottle video produced by District CW earlier this year. Not wanting to be left out, I would like the Lions of the 'A' team to help in producing a video *"I'm proud to be a Lion"*. We have designed a poster which can be printed off, with the idea that you, or some of your members or the entire club have your photo taken with the poster by the side of a town sign indicating your Club name. We will then add all the pictures into a short video and post online. I hope all Clubs will take part in this little bit of fun, and help produce a PR tool too – and please don't forget to smile!

Our recent training session on Social Media was a great success; over fifty members joined in to listen to Melissa Murphy, the social Media officer from District CW. Some of you will recognise Melissa as the daughter of Lesley Spence. My thanks go to Melissa for an informative and useful session – the follow on from this is the increased amount of

likes and traffic on our District Facebook page.

Our next training session is on the 6th September and will be on 'Chairing meetings'. Thank you to the fifty plus of you who have already registered. There is still plenty of time and space to register – we have a maximum of one hundred attendees. Let's see if we can reach that figure.

Our Membership Team continue to work hard in supporting clubs; they are also looking at the possibility of a virtual club – watch this space! One of my other goals for membership is to make contact with house builders to see if we can put Lions information in the new house owner's packs. There are many new housing projects throughout our District, some with many hundreds of homes. This gives us an opportunity to increase membership in existing clubs or form new clubs, which is the only way we can secure the future of our District. If there are housing developments near you, can I please ask that you contact Mick Claxton informing him of the location and the housebuilder company – he will do the rest, unless of course you work for or have a contact with one of these companies. In that case do let us know at membershipwest@lions105a.co.uk

It is good to hear many clubs have prospective members wanting to join, I look forward to seeing the numbers increase and would be very happy to induct these members, even by Zoom. All you need to do is ask!

I welcome all of the new members to our association and to the 'A' team, District 105A; I hope you will enjoy being a member and to making a difference in your communities. I highlight an important sentence in the induction ceremony 'You will make friends that will last a life time'. Having been a member for 18 years I still believe this is so true and very important.

Many of you will have been saddened by the huge explosion in Beirut, leaving many thousands of people injured or homeless. LCIF launched an appeal to help those people, with our own MD foundation donating £10,000. I know for many clubs you will not have had the chance to raise funds over the recent months. If however, you have some money in your account, please consider donating to this appeal – I thank you in anticipation for your support.

As Lions you continue to serve your local communities. I enjoy following many clubs on Facebook or WhatsApp, seeing what you are getting up to. Thank you to those of you who send me your club newsletters or simply e-mail me letting me know what you are doing.

You have risen to the challenge of service and you are certainly achieving – I thank you all for everything you do to make the world a better place.

'Till next time.....Stay safe and well'.

DG Alastair

MY DIARY August 2020

Isolating at home, communicating with Lions by digital means and phone calls.