

105A News

Editor: Viresh Paul
District Governor: Ram Jaggi
Issue 8, February 2002

Limitations of size

Preparing this month's issue has certainly highlighted the challenge of making do with just two A4 pages every month.

This has arisen due to the need for giving coverage to the Vice District Governor candidates before the election on 2 March 2002.

Traditionally, the 105A News has always carried a potted biography or some comments from the candidates depending upon the format of the publication.

As the full biography is being published within the Convention papers there was no point in reprinting the same CV's given the space constraints. Instead, I personally felt that it would be useful to bring to you, our readers, the views of the candidates who are standing for election as VDG for 2002-03.

I therefore put a simple question to all three candidates and their responses are published in this issue.

These are submitted without endorsement or comments of any nature and are published just as submitted. The objective is simple: to provide an insight to the candidates' thoughts and to supplement information provided in the published CVs. I hope these will be accepted in that vein.

Also by way of explanation we carry a topical article explaining proposed changes to the guidelines to be followed by VDG candidates. As a result, there was not much room left for anything else. For that, I can only apologise.

- Editor

The Editor welcomes contributions from all Lions for the 105A News.

Write about your club's activities or projects and send photographs suitable for printing to:

Lion Viresh Paul
Editor, 105A NEWS
108a High Street
Wealdstone
Harrow, Middx HA3 7AH
E mail: vireshpaul@aol.com

TWINNING, EDUCATION AND WATERAID ARE PART OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

By Lion S.K (Max) Mongia, District International Relations Officer

TWINNING: As members of the International family of Lions we are well versed with the multiplicity of cultures and diversity of interest and circumstances of individuals around the world. We have an opportunity to share interpersonal relations and extend co-operation using Lions Twinning programme as a vehicle.

The International Club Twinning Program is a voluntary and mutual agreement between clubs from different countries. Lions and Leos can participate; however, twinning should occur between like clubs (ie. Lions with Lions, Leos with Leos). The purpose of twinning is to give clubs from various cultures an opportunity to learn about one another. Through correspondence, the twinning partners actively illustrate the First Object of Lionism, "To create and foster a spirit of understanding among the people of the world."

Like any other relationship, Twining programmes need to be monitored and maintained in order to benefit from the continuity of such an association. I understand from my visits that a number of our programmes may need to be revitalised. Historically clubs have entered into Twinning Programmes driven by individuals and /or at the back of some project. Twining should truly be a club activity with on going relationship. Lets call it a year of Twinning in our International Relations by forming new associations and revitalising the old ones.

In my recent visit to Portugal, to attend the International Senior Leadership Programme I had the privilege to meet up with forty-four leaders from seventeen countries. We already have offers from two ladies' Lions clubs in Poland and a further two Lions Clubs from Israel who wish to team up with Clubs in our District. There are of course many more opportunities from continental Europe. As your International Relations Officer, I will assist Clubs to choose a comparable partner to Twin with.

The club will not only enjoy the benefits of Twinning but will also receive recognition. When a club initiates and reports its first international club twinning, it is eligible for either a certificate or a club patch with chevron designating the fiscal year in which both clubs agree the twinning occurred.

Malawi Education: Did you know that £100 will secure the future for a young person? We are pleased to announce that the Council of Governors of MD 105 have reinstated the Malawi students sponsorship programme to be operated by Lions Clubs of Blantyre and Zomba. Mzuzu Lions Club shall also continue the programme with the support for their students.

Each of the three Lions Clubs operates the education scheme through independent Trust Funds. Our MD has established links that would ensure an efficient and regular reporting system.

Clubs donation of £100 per student are eagerly awaited in Malawi. For those students part way through their education we must not let them down.

WaterAid: Over the last five years Multiple District 105 donated over £250,000 to WaterAid Projects, the majority of this has been linked to the following country projects: Tanzania, Ghana and Malawi. The fact are:

- 1.4 billion people across the world lack access to safe Water
- 2.4 billion people lack access to adequate sanitation.
- The average distance that women in Africa and Asia walk to collect water is 6km.

As an organisation, Lions Club International usually accept the proposal from WaterAid as to where Lions funding would be most benefit. This year's project is in Malawi.

Club donations are requested for the WaterAid programme, and in due course application will be made for an LCIF International Assistance Grant to increase the fund available to WaterAid for their important work in Malawi.

Want To Know More About The Candidates For VDG?

By VDG Mike Baldwin

At the 2001 District Convention a resolution was passed which required DG Mike Hendy to appoint a sub-committee to consider and recommend changes to the current guidelines to be followed by candidates for the role of Vice District Governor. DG Mike invited me to chair the sub committee along with PDG Lion Parveen Verma, Lion Christine Wilkes and Lion Eric Holland.

This article is part of our commitment to keep you informed about what happened.

Briefly to remind you the resolution was proposed by Lion Eric Holland on behalf of Northwood Lions and was designed, among other things, to allow candidates to discuss openly their ideas for the District and thereby to give Members a clearer insight as to which candidate they wished to support.

In March 2001 a letter was sent to all Club Presidents asking if their club had any views they wished the sub-committee to consider. Whilst the response was not overwhelming, it was clear that those that did respond, either through their club or individually, wished to see any changes kept to a Regional or Zone level so as not to impact onto the service work at club level. In addition, a procedure that was fair and open to all Lions was important.

As a result of its deliberations, the Sub-Committee made several recommendations to cabinet in August. There were two main ones: Firstly that all Zone Chairmen should be advised that it is strongly recommended that they invite candidates to attend a meeting to discuss their candidacy. This invitation to be by a single Zone Chairman or two or more Zone Chairmen together. Any Zone Chairman or group of Zone Chairmen who decide to issue such an invitation must invite all candidates to the same meeting. However should one or more candidates decline to attend it shall not preclude any of the other candidates from attending. Cabinet accepted this recommendation.

The second main recommendation would necessitate a change to the District Bye-Laws and a resolution

THIS YEAR'S CANDIDATES

The candidates for 2002/03 VDG have been invited to a number of zone meetings where they have faced gruelling questioning from grass roots Lions. The Editor posed his own question to the three candidates. He asked them to write 100 words on "Why I believe (based upon my Lionistic experience) I am qualified to be the next VDG of District 105a." Here are their responses:

Lion Elliot Shubert, London (Host) Lions Club wrote: I am a committed Lion. I would like to use 20 years of Lionistic experience in a District leadership position. I have the time, energy, enthusiasm and vision to lead District 105A into an exciting and productive year. I would like to apply my leadership and interpersonal skills to foster better communication between Clubs and the District and to encourage effective teamwork. I would like to see a balance between the needs of Club community service projects and District humanitarian projects. Lastly, I would like to encourage "bottom up" initiatives to improve member retention and to attract new members.

Lion Kishore Pattni, London Golders Green wrote: Why? To allow me to fulfill a Vision I have embraced, since being a Leo. To understand and support those who find themselves victims of poverty and distress. I will endeavor to use skills and experience gleaned over 23 years in Lionism in building platforms to embrace our motto `We Serve`. I shall focus on issues of Lionism: Membership, Public Relations, Training Support and Members Welfare. I will solicit views from whatever source and incorporate them within my apprenticeship. My pledge to the District is my wholehearted Commitment, Dedication and Loyalty in representing the District and members to the highest level.

Lion Max Mongia, London-Finchley, wrote: I have served as Region Chairman and introduced the Affinity Card to the UK Lions, launched the District and MD Street Children Programme and served as Sight First and International Relations Officer. I hope to combine this widest possible experience in Lionism with my business experience of running International corporations to serve Lions of this District with humility, recognising that our members are our lifeblood and without them, there would be no Lions Clubs International. I shall use the knowledge gained at the recent International Lions Leadership Institute to build bridges between clubs, the District and our International Association.

was agreed at the October cabinet to be placed before convention in March.

In addition, consideration will be given to removing the restriction on candidates that their address at Winter Forum be limited to introducing themselves. These changes will be effective in the Lionistic year 2002/2003 although I am pleased to report that a number of Zone Chairmen will be arranging meetings in the current year.

Fellow Lions, this initiative was member lead and the sub-committee hope that they have listened to and met the needs of members. Once in operation it may be that refinements are needed and we will try to be sensitive to the need for such refinements. Finally we as a sub-committee, hope that that this article is helping to meet DG Ram Jaggi's objective of good communication.

Recycling Cards ... and Coins!

After the festivities, Redbridge Lions Club as part of their on going environmental awareness, decided to

recycle Christmas Cards in partnership with a local Primary school.

With a word from Lion Doreen in the playground and a reminder from the Headteacher the cards started to trickle, rush and flow in until there was a mighty mountain of cards in all shapes, colours and sizes. In fact over 39,000 of them filling twenty-three black sacks! The Club continue to look after two local mini recycling sites in the Borough that means money for the Charity account and P.R for the Lions.

Redbridge Lions are also collecting spectacles (almost seven thousand this Lionistic year), hearing aids, mobile phones for hospital equipment for the Third World, used ink jet and laser print cartridges which raise funds for Brighton Lions Children's Hospice and stamps for the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Not forgetting the foreign coins collected for our own Street Children appeal – all 28.3kilos of them that lowered the District Treasurer's car's suspension when he took charge of them after the last Cabinet meeting.



LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL, DISTRICT 105A
DISTRICT GOVERNOR: RAM JAGGI

DG'S NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 8: FEBRUARY 2002

Greetings fellow Lions, Lionesses and Leos

DISTRICT CONVENTION

We have just four weeks left for our 37th District Convention on 2nd March at the Sopwell House Hotel in St Albans. I look forward to seeing you there in good numbers to enjoy both friendship and fellowship.

We are honoured that our Immediate Past International President and Chairman of LCIF, Lion Dr Jean Behar will be our guest of honour who will address our convention. We are also delighted to have our Past International Director Lion Colin Vincent and his wife Val with us on this occasion.

We have re-negotiated hotel rates at £95 per room inclusive for this five star accommodation. Your hosts, Lions Club London-Finchley are working hard to ensure that you have wonderful time and a memorable weekend. Registration forms have been sent to clubs' secretaries but you are welcome to ask for more from Convention Chairman PCC Lion Viresh Paul or download from the district web site www.lions105a.org

PEACE POSTER

Redesigned kits for the 2002-03 Peace Poster Contest, "Dream of Peace," are now available from International Clubs Supplies until 1st October 2002. It is advised that clubs should start planning early when schools are not on holidays. For further details please contact District Officer Lion Erch Amaria.

CLUB TREASURERS

All the clubs' treasurers are requested to send their dues soon if they have not already done so. It is very important that all the dues reach on time to keep the club in good standing. Furthermore, some clubs have not sent their audited accounts for the last year. Please do not forget this obligation. All accounts must be cleared and submitted before the District Convention.

MEMBERSHIP

While not a number game, it is a matter of survival. Our Association is losing members and it is our duty to arrest this decline. I am glad that members in our

District are showing their concern. Please keep members happy and learn to retain them.

PROTOCOL CHANGE

Further to my December newsletter, The International Board of Directors have restored worldwide the immediate past council chairmen and past council chairman to the official order of precedence.

INTER CLUBS GOLF COMPETITION

As previously mentioned, this is the first year we will have the Inter-Clubs Golf Competition, which is to be held on 22nd March 2002 at West Herts Golf Club in Watford. The response so far has been very encouraging but we still need a few more teams. Why not join the competition and win the trophy for your club.

Please note that Quiz final is on 17th February at Thistle Hotel in Stevenage. For further details, contact District Competitions Officer Lion Peter Gent.

LIONS INTERNATIONAL TWINNING

International Director Lion Dr S R Amin of 411A has shown interest for twinning between the two Districts. This proposal has been accepted as the idea had already been presented by PDG Lion Parveen Verma but did not materialise due to time constraints. Twinning is a great way for Lions of one culture to get to know Lions from another culture with the goal of increasing friendship and understanding.

STREET CHILDREN

We continue to receive foreign coins from clubs in good quantity. The first lot is ready for conversion into English money. Please continue the efforts, as it is quite a worthy project requiring relatively little work.

TO SHARE WITH YOU

One of my fellow Governors has sent me this little gem which I have decided to share with you all.

We have all been to those meetings where someone wants "more than 100%" Well here's how you can achieve 103%. Here is little math that might prove helpful.

If A=1, B=2, C=3, D=4, E=5, F=6, G=7, H=8, I=9, J=10, K=11, L=12, M=13, N=14, O=15, P=16, Q=17, R=18, S=19, T=20, U=21, V=22, W=23, X=24, Y=25, Z=26, Then

HARD WORK= 8+1+18+4+23+15+18+11 = Only 98%

Similarly
KNOWLEDGE = 11+14+15+23+12+5+4+7+5 = Only 96%

But interestingly,
ATTITUDE = 1+20+20+9+20+21+4+5 = You achieve 100% in life

But even more important to note is
BULLSHIT = 2+21+12+12+19+8+9+20 = 103%

So now you know what all those high-priced consultancy, upper management, and motivational speakers really mean when they want to exceed 100%.

OBITUARY

In my last newsletter, I reported that PDG Harry Ashcroft was in Hospital after a fall. It is with regret that I record that unfortunately he did not recover and died in the early hours of 24 December 2001. The funeral took place on 7th January where the District was well represented to pay their last respects. There will be a Service of Celebration sometime in spring. Lion Harry was well respected in the community and was a pillar of strength for Lions. He was District Governor in 1979-80. Our District is poorer and we will all miss him.

Lion Eric Bright, a member of his Club and a close friend adds: "Harry joined Hemel Lions in June 1972, became President in 1975 and went on to serve and lead in every aspect of the Club. He became someone who members could turn to for help and guidance, his knowledge of Lionism was boundless and he was a great mediator and communicator. He travelled extensively, attending many Forums and Conventions and received many awards at all levels. Harry's enthusiastic dedication to Lions was equally matched in the leading roles that he played within the community for which in 1992 he was awarded the MBE."

It is also with the deepest regret that we record the deaths of

- Lion David Hanks of Staines & Ashford.
- Lion Richard Cooper of Letchworth in December.

I extend our heartfelt sympathy on behalf of everyone in District 105A to their families.

CONGRATULATIONS

I understand that Frank Edmonds, charter member of Northwood Lions Club and his wife, Norma, celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on 18 January.

They were married in 1942 at the Holy Trinity Church, Wealdstone, when Frank came home on leave whilst serving in the RAF. They both enjoy good health and lead very active and rewarding lives. Our good wishes to them both!

NEW MEMBERS

I extend a very warm welcome to the following new members in our family

Betty Sutton	Staines & Ashford
Susan Craig	Staines & Ashford
John Craig	Staines & Ashford
Carol Eveling	Stevenage
Ajay Shah	Hadley Wood
Navishad Chhatraliya	Hadley Wood
Sham Bratton	London Host
Frank Thaxton	London Host
Rajnikant Patel	London Host
Roselle Antoine	London Hornsey
Christopher Page	Bicester
Deenita Pattni	London Hampstead
Vibhuti Patel	London Hampstead
Spher Soliman	London Hamstead
Roger Blackburn	Thame & District
John Hart	Thame & District

DG'S DIARY

February 2002

03	Senior Citizen	Party
04	Southgate	O/V
05	Tring	O/V
06	Acton	O/V
07	Enfield	O/V
09	South Herts Moor Park	Charter Presentation
10	Zone C	Swimming Gala
11	Witney	O/V
12	Swiss Cottage	O/V
13	Seven Kings	O/V
14	Great Missenden	O/V
17	Quiz Final	
18	Covent Garden	O/V
19	London Newham	O/V
20	Finchley	O/V
23	Stanmore	C/A
24	Teddington	C/A
27	Ealing	O/V

March 2002

1-2 District Convention