



PRIDE OF LIONS



District 105A News
DG Wesley de Mendonca

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Message in a Bottle gets backing from Fire Service and Police



Hounslow Fire Service parked their gleaming red fire engine in support of the launch of Osterley Lion's Club Message in a Bottle (MIAB) initiative at the Holiday Inn, Brentford Lock, on 15th May 2010.

MIAB is an 'incredibly' simple idea with life saving consequences. The scheme was officially launched by special guest, former Lord Mayor of Hounslow, Cllr Andrew Morgan Watts. Hounslow Fire Services Station Manager Barry Marsh, gave his commitment to back MIAB.

The scheme has also been endorsed by the Chiswick Police Station who are already

running a similar scheme in close cooperation with our Club. Both Detective Ben Clark and Lion President Joginder Gill, confirmed joint cooperation. Also giving their support was Sergeant Graham Dixon from Brentford Police Station.

Hounslow Council's Health Coordinator and consultant Nurse Mark Sheen spoke about how he saw MIAB being of 'great' value in helping vulnerable and disabled patients living alone at home.

Representing the Ambulance Service, Damien Marchese, said he was familiar with the scheme and confirmed the

benefits it would offer. He said "It's just the kind of information you need when you reach an ill patient at home. The green MIAB stickers instantly tell us where to look and the patient's life saving details."

Lions Club of Osterley also donated £1000 to Dr Cox from St Mary's Hospital, London, to help her team researching into allergies. She said that the money would be extremely useful in furthering our understanding of different types of allergies affecting young and old.

Lions Club of Osterley

NOTICE BOARD

Lions Club of Sudbury Charter Night
on Friday 9th July 2010.
Celebrating their TENTH ANNIVERSARY.
Please contact Lion Venilal Vaghela.

District Handover:
Sunday 18th July 2010, Alexandra Palace.
Please contact SAA Lion Peter Codrai.

Lions Club of Walthamstow
43rd Charter Anniversary on 4th September 2010. Please contact PDG Lion Ken Rouse for details.

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



Food for the Homeless

Homelessness is an isolating and destructive experience, apparent throughout the country but very prevalent in London.

Homeless people are some of the most vulnerable and socially excluded members of our society. Unless you have experienced real hunger, you cannot appreciate what homeless people struggle with every day. They never know when or how they will get their next meal. Hunger affects their ability to function, making it more difficult for them to find ways to help themselves.

To help fill part of this vacuum **Lions Club of Fairlop** decided to initiate a programme of feeding the hungry and homeless with regular balanced meals. Every 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month the club provides an average of 100 meals, consisting of rice, lentils and a sweet dish to these needy people. The meals are distributed in Charing Cross. The club has partnered with the Singh Sabha Gurdwara in Seven Kings Ilford who is generously providing what is freshly prepared on their premises. The packing and distribution of the food is undertaken by Lions of our club together with their families and volunteers.

The programme has been running since 17th January 2010 and has been an uplifting experience for everyone involved. People of all ages have given their time to this project and the club would like to thank all of them and the volunteers at the Sikh Gurdwara who prepare the food.

The club hope to expand its activities in this area and if anyone would like more information or would like to help, please call Lion Amarjit on 07831 502621.

Lion Amarjit Soora
Lions Club of Fairlop



Pictured are Lions Amarjit Soora; Bhupinder Panesar; Deepak Vijn; Sukhwinder Panesar; Gurmokh Sanger with family and friends at the Charing Cross distribution point.



Lions Club of Hadley Wood raises £5000 for Albino Charity

The Lions Club of Hadley Wood held a very successful Charity mehfil in aid of Persons With Albinism in Tanzania at the Cavendish Banqueting Suite on the 10th of April raising £5000 in support of Under The Same Sun, a Canadian charity organisation that is very active in the field.

Albinism is a condition whereby the body lacks pigmentation, this creates problems with eyesight and skin cancer.

Lions Club of Hadley Wood's intention of choosing and supporting this charity was two-fold, one was to raise funds and the other was to create awareness of the plight of Albinos in Tanzania where they are being murdered and their body parts sold off to Witchdoctors to create 'magic potions' with the false promises that these potions help one get rich. There has been an outcry in the international press against this barbaric practice and the Tanzanian Government has started to arrest the perpetrators. Lions Club of Hadley Wood intend to involve Lions International to take up the mantle in defence of these innocent victims, Lion Amit Ruparell will be co-ordinating on that front, and Lion President Ali Musani is organising a campaign on Facebook and Twitter.

We all need to spread the awareness of this problem wherever and whenever we can, as not many people are aware that this problem persists, so that we can educate people who believe in these outdated beliefs that it is wrong and mindless to kill innocent people.

More information can be viewed at www.underthesamesun.com and anyone who wishes to pledge any more donations or requires any more information are welcome to contact Lion Ali at ali@dewood.co.uk.

Lion Ali Musani

Twinning

The twinning ceremony of London Westminster with the Siauliai Women Lions Club of Lithuania, took place on 8 May 2010 at the Lions District 131 Convention in Kaunas, Lithuania. Photo shows PDG Elliot Shubert, President of London Westminster and Ausra, President, Siauliai Women exchanging twinning documents.



From the Editor

Another Lionistic year is drawing to a close and it is time to reflect upon the successes and failures(?) of the year gone by. New teams are getting ready to take over the running of the District as well as Clubs with new ideas and hopes. However, for Lions the unchanging theme is to help the needy. This is particularly important as the country faces difficult times ahead.

The articles in this issue point to the wonderful work being done by Lions of 105A. It truly lives up to our motto of "We Serve".

My thanks to DG Lion Wesley for his support throughout the year in the publication of the Newsletter.

Lion Shirish Sheth

Sight First

The London Hampstead Lions Club has been blessed with a new member, Lion Pilar Duran, a member of the San Francisco Club in Copiapo, Chile. Lion Pilar will be with us for about a year while she is in London learning English.

Lion Pilar recently returned to Chile for a short stay during which time she lost her baggage on the flight over, followed the earthquake which flattened her parents' home. There was joy when she became a young grandmother.

We have been working with her Chilean Club to help the blind. It has been greatly difficult. After two attempts to transfer the funds, and nearly losing the money in transit, then tracing the funds in Chile and eventually credited to the Club account.

White canes for the blind and yellow canes for the partially sighted were eventually purchased and the presentation ceremony began. The photographs show Lion Pilar in the white and grey checked top, holding a London Hampstead banner.

Our Club is very small but we can still equal the efforts of larger clubs in helping those less fortunate than ourselves.

Lion Adrian Grocott

London Hampstead Lions Club



Charity walk

Lions Club of Sudbury raised over £10,000 to help build a Classroom at Krishna Avanti School in Harrow. Over 400 people participated in the Charity Walk in the Fryent Country Park in Brent. The 10 kilometre Walk proved a very popular as it gave awesome views of Wembley Stadium from Barn Hill as well as the thick growth of 'jungle' in the midst of urban city.

It was a huge team effort from ALL LIONS and LEOS and not forgetting the Lions partners and Leo friends as well as many other supporters helping out on the day.

Thank you all.

Lion Venilal Vaghela



Annual Charity Golf Challenge by Lions of Chipping Barnet and Mill Hill

70 golfers attended the 4th Annual Charity Golf Challenge at Finchley Golf Club and altogether around 100 people attended the dinner presentation. There were some 17 teams of 4 people who took part including 5 ladies. The golfers enjoyed the breakfast/lunch and half way house snacks apart from taking away goody bags provided by Noah's Ark containing the finest Scotch whisky golf goblets and a classy cap with of course a Lion chocolate bar. The men's winner was Ketan Karia and the ladies winner, shown in the photo was Lionette Ranjena Verma.

There were many challenges with superb prizes including a Mercedes car for 'Hole in One', luxurious holidays and a set of top brand golf clubs. There were some 15 winners but all of them donated their winnings for the worthy cause of Noah's Ark Hospice.

Children are God's gift and it is our duty as human beings to bring joy in their lives especially if the life is curtailed. As Lions we truly live up to our motto 'We Serve' by providing a little contribution for the Noah's Ark Hospice which looks after children and families who need assistance. We are hoping to raise £5,000 and awareness of this worthwhile cause.

Chipping Barnet and Mill Hill Lions Club



OBITUARIES

Bedford Lions Club members regret to advise of the deaths of: Past President Lion Alan Macpherson (78). He had been a member of Bedford Lions Club for over 39 years. His lively contribution to our business meetings will be sorely missed. His death is particularly poignant as it occurred only 15 days after the death of his wife. Our heartfelt sympathy goes to his children and grandchildren.

Lion Christopher (Chris) Burton (67) after a long illness. Chris was a member of Bedford Lions Club for 32 years and was a Past President (1994/95). Until the last few years he had always been an enthusiastic fund-raiser for the Club. He will be sorely missed by his family and colleagues.

Lion Mike Lock
Secretary, Bedford Lions Club



DG Wesley's Words

Conservation through cooperation and service



This is my last report for DG News and it signals the end of a very exciting year of office. I have found that Lions Club members have worked hard and given much of their time to running projects for the benefit of their local communities

At the beginning of the year, I set myself a Membership goal for the District which started with promoting the "MOVE to GROW" theme of the International President Eberhard Wirfs Ginkgo membership growth challenges. As we end the year we are still striving to meet our District goal.

My own theme has been "Conservation through Cooperation and Service." The promotion of this message has resulted in a fuller awareness of climate change and global warming. There has been a useful debate within the District 105A followed by a commitment to take action to reduce the amount of CO2 gases into the atmosphere.

The proposal to twin District 105A with District 60A in the Caribbean has finally been approved for registration at LCI in Oak Brook and DG Glen Noter of 60A has sent his congratulations to all our members.

At the last Cabinet Meeting the officers of the newly elected District Leo Council were introduced by the Leo Advisor Lion Minesh Mehta. The Cabinet agreed that the President

of the Leo Council should be invited to join the District Cabinet 2010/11.

This year the demands on LCIF for grants towards national disasters and world crisis peaked with the Haiti earthquake. Lions Clubs in MD 105 and particularly in District 105A have responded by donating a total of \$603,377 to this worthy cause.

Qualifying Lions are reminded of the Senior Leadership Institute for Europe to be held in Bologna, Italy on October 31 to November 3rd 2010. Lions International will pay for meals and lodging and appropriate hotel reservations for each participant will be made on twin-share basis. Participants are responsible for all travel expenses to and from the venue in Bologna. Application forms are available from the LCI website. Completed forms, which must be signed by the District Governor, are to be returned by 17th August, to Institute and Seminars Dept. Lions Clubs International, Oak Brook, USA. Email institutes@lionsclubs.org

Our best wishes to DGE Martin and Jill for a very informative DGE School and enjoyable International Convention in Sydney. We look forward to welcoming them at the Handover in July.

I would like to thank all the Lions Clubs for their support and friendship extended to Brenda and myself over the year.

My Diary June 2010

- 2nd London Kingsbury Lions Club O/V
- 3rd London Central Lions Club Lunch at Pepper Pot Assoc.
- 3rd Enfield Lions Club O/V
- 4th Witney Lions Club Charter O/V
- 5th DG Martin Garden Party
- 8th London Hornsey Lions Club
- 13th District Officers Workshop
- 18th Fulham Lions Club Handover
- 19th Chipping Barnet Lions Club Charter
- 20th London Golders Green Handover
- 22nd London Swiss Cottage Lions Club O/V .
- 24th Pyramid Health And Social Care Assoc. AGM
- 25th London Finchley Charter
- 26th London Hong Kong Dragon Boat Festival

'Club of the Year' Award for 2009-2010 nominations

The deadline is approaching for submitting your club's self nomination for Club of the Year - Service in the Community Award. **The deadline is 15 July 2010.** The Rules and Instructions for submitting your nomination can be accessed on the 105A website at: www.lions105a.org > top tabs > Members Area > Competitions > Club of the Year Competition. The Rules have been devised to reward points for a variety of community service activities. The Rules provide a level the playing field between smaller vs larger clubs and inner London vs outer London clubs. The winning club will be presented with an attractive travelling shield trophy and an individual trophy at the District 105A Convention in 2011.

Congratulations to the Lions Club of Mill Hill for winning Club of the Year for 2008-2009.

For more information, please contact PDG Elliot Shubert, e.shubert@sky.com. Remember: the only chance your club has to receive the Club of the Year Award is by self-nomination.

PDG Elliot Shubert

'Unsung Hero' Lion Steve nominated

An 'inspirational' charity volunteer who has taken in his stride what life has thrown at him is the latest to be nominated in this month's search for an unsung hero.

Over the 18 months Lion Steve Gledhill has overcome prostate cancer, a life changing car crash and a heart attack, but has still managed keep his spirits up. Fellow Harpenden Lion Bengie Walden feels Steve, 58, deserves to win a Community Gold Award for his stoic attitude and determination. Nominating Steve in the scheme, which is run by the Review in conjunction with solicitors Debenhams Ottaway, Lion Bengie said: "Steve is an inspirational member of Harpenden Lions Club. This year he has wrestled with prostate cancer, involving several invasive and unpleasant operations, a serious car crash, and a heart-attack while he was in hospital having the other problems sorted out. He is ably supported by his wife Kate and their son and two daughters. He has continued to act as Harpenden Lions' public relations officer. Steve's continued positive approach to his challenges has inspired the club and his many friends."

The Highland Gathering, which takes place this year on Sunday, July 11, at Rothamsted Park in Harpenden is one of the biggest events in the calendar for the Harpenden Lions. With Steve's sheer bravery and courage, he has managed to continue promoting the annual gathering despite being house-bound after having his leg operation.

Commenting on his nomination, Lion Steve said: "I am very humbled and pleased. I've tried to get on with things and I've done it for the community and for the other members of the Lions club. I'm really overwhelmed that I've been nominated for the award."

Four members of the Harpenden Lions Club have been inspired by Steve to climb Mount Snowdon to raise money for The Prostate Cancer Research Centre. To support them visit www.justgiving.co.uk/HarpendenLions254.