



Pride of Lions

JULY 2003

Meet the Dream Team (Well, some of them...)

ISSUE 1



District Governor Dr Elliot Shubert (London Westminster) *"We are judged not on what we start, but what we finish. So let's realise the dream and work together as a Team"*



Vice DG Max Mongia (London Kensington & Chelsea) *"Members recruit members"*



District Treasurer Dilip Shah (Chipping Barnet) *"Money makes Lionism go round—where do I get off?"*



District Secretary Parveen Verma (Chipping Barnet) *"Flexibility and innovation, by forever moving towards New Horizons with vigour, is the key to keeping Lionism interesting and fun"*

A Roaring Welcome to Hammersmith & Shepherds Bush

Another bright light loomed for our District as the 87th Club was formed on 5th June.

This was due to the hard work and determination of Redbridge Lions Club. Lions Sylvia Kiernan and Annette Charles, with the mentoring of Lion Doreen Carr had slowly built up the core of the new club, with the emphasis very much on orientation.

Having spent much of my year telling people about Britain's best kept secret, namely Bletchley Park, I was delighted to learn of Britain's other best kept secret, Kent House, where a wonderful evening was had by all. Congratulations to President Sylvia and her team for 2003-2004. Thank you to all the Lions and Clubs represented on the night.

Mike Baldwin—Bletchley

Ed's Notes

So, here it finally is: the very first issue in your hands. What do YOU think? I have listened to comments, hopefully taking on board what you have said and acted upon it. Remember, this is YOUR newsletter. What goes into it is entirely up to you! Email me at pro@lions105a.org or telephone me on 01727 752919.

Lions are Back-In' Fashion

2 different clubs, 2 venues, 2 dates, equals **ONE WINNING FORMULA!!** Picture this: two of the hottest nights of the year, Lions Clubs of Ampthill District and Hadley Wood strutting their stuff on the cat walk, raising in excess of £11,000 between them; Ampthill for the MacMillan Primrose Appeal, (for the Cancer Unit at Bedford Hospital) and Hadley Wood for Great Ormond Street Hospital.

They attracted nearly 850 people at the two venues, offering, not just stylish clothes at silly prices, but it gave everyone a chance to be pampered by the experts, offering feet and hand massages, skin consultations and many other extras. Lions themselves could not be dissuaded from walking in the lime-light amongst cheers and whistles from the crowds as they strutted their stuff on the catwalk. Cindy Crawford eat your heart out.....

The Lions Cat Walk —Ecclde by Jacqui



Got a Problem Realising the Dream? Then Share Your Problem.....

"Dear Fellow Lions, Can anyone help?"

The average age of our Lions club is slowly creeping up every year. How can we attract newer, younger members without alienating existing ones or discouraging the young from joining? Hope you can help. Signed Lion "Average Age", District 105A"

Send your answers to pro@lions105a.org and the best ones will be published in the next issue.

Who Really Is Elliot Shubert?

How many of you can say you personally know your District Governor? No?

Here in the newsroom, (well, I can't keep calling it the corner of my bedroom where Pride of Lions is written!), we are trying to put this concept right.

Over the last few months, I have had the pleasure of getting to know Elliot Shubert – more importantly, what makes him tick, what he holds dear and why he opted for this most difficult roll.....

Elliot Shubert, married to Dr Eileen Cox, (a new member of London Westminster Club in her own right), is generally a happy chappy. After trailing him over the last few months and convincing him that I was not a stalker, I caught up with him one morning in my garden, and as we sat sipping our OJs and eating our samies, here is the conversation as it kind of developed:

M: Elliot, here you are, just about to start your year. Are you not just a little apprehensive about what awaits you?

E: Heck, no. I am really excited! We have a fantastic district. I am rather self-motivated and will do all I can to inspire the Lions of 105A.

M: How do you hope to achieve this?

E: I believe in working together using teamwork. By using teambuilding concepts we promote harmony. I like to use the “bottoms up” approach.

M: Mmmm. Sounds interesting. What does that mean?

E: “Bottoms Up” is working from the bottom upwards: including every single member in decision making.

M: So, just explain how you are going to do this.

E: OK, to begin with, I believe in 100% transparency and accountability on all levels. This helps everyone to understand and participate.

M: So, you think you will inspire this in us all?

E: Yes, by being innovative and flexible, listening to people and letting them decide.

But it works both ways—they have to listen to me too! I try and act and speak professionally at all times.

M: Is there any specific message you would like to get across?

E: Yes. Let's all go out there, put District 105A firmly on the map! Above everything however, listen to others, lets learn from each other and work as a Team. Let's have lots and lots of FUN! Positive thinking, motivation, humour and fun have got to be key factors in this.

Muriel, the Unsung Heroine

By Peter Lovell—Witney

It is often said that “like attracts like.” Does that mean, therefore, that if we have a “Lions Heart”, then so must our nearest and dearest?

Our loved ones who support us, are the unsung heroines/heroes and backbone of our organisation.

Witney Lions Club have one such heroine. Having just received his 25-Year Service Award, Lion David Alexander has always been supported by his wife of nearly 40 years, Muriel.

“I never wanted to be a Lion” Muriel once told me, yet she has done more for the club than many Lions.

Her Lionistic style CV should be recognized and to be honest, is somewhat humbling. She has been there, helping at the Carnival, driving the elderly on trips, doing pig roasts, and organizing horse race nights. She is an integral part of the Club, organizing the social calendar of barn dances, club weekends away, Charter Nights, skittles nights and such.

We all know the saying “behind every man, there is an even greater woman”. This is certainly true of David and Muriel. As David has been PRO many times over the years, it's been Muriel who has tirelessly canvassed the press to get articles published. They are just plain good at what they do.

In short, whenever there is Lions work to do, Muriel Alexander is there, supporting David and Witney Lions.

There are thousands of Muriel's out there. Let us not forget these unsung heroes and heroines and give them the recognition they deserve.

In Oscar style fashion, (minus the tears) I would like to thank the following without whom this publication would not have been possible.....My Editorial team: Tony de Maillet, Mike Moon, Nikki Harding and Bipin Dattani. A heartfelt thanks to Rhati Shah for providing the postage and getting this out. Undying gratitude and thanks also to all of you who submitted articles, gave ideas and generally kept me going into the wee hours—you know who you are. All articles, ideas and moans to pro@lions105a.org or Telephone Maria on 01727 752919.

Round, Round, Get a Round In Disability + Mobility= FREEDOM

Join Chipping Norton Lions Club for their 6th annual golf Day in aid of, you've guessed it, mobility for the disabled.

WHEN: 5th September 2003

WHERE: Brailes Golf Club

(Nr Shipston on Stour)

TEAMS: of 4 (Stableford)

COST: £45 each (£180 per team)

TEE OFF: From 2pm

Dinner, raffle, prize giving after the event

Info from President Tony de Maillet, Brock Cottage, Winderton Road, Lower Brailes, Banbury, Oxon. Tel: 01608 685478, email tony@bmdmdevelopment.co.uk

Ach Ei The Noo!!

Hoots Mon Yer Big Jessie!

I don't know about you, but I'm off to the the Annual Harpenden Lions Club Highland Gathering on Sunday 13th July. Tossing the caber, bagpipes, haggis, (a drop of the old malts?) and of course, men in kilts. What a great family day out for only £5 at the door, or just £3 in advance, children under 16 FREE!

Remember, kilts are most definitely optional. For more information telephone Charles Pocock 01582 621303, email charles.pocock@ntlworld.com.

A Tabler, a Rotarian and a Lion are summoned to the house of a wealthy aristocrat who is close to meeting His Maker. He gives them each an envelope with £50,000 cash in and tells them that they can use it for whatever charitable causes they want whilst he is still alive, but that at his funeral, they must return said envelope with the money inside. The sad day arrives and they each throw in the aristocrat coffin an envelope with said money inside. On the way home, the Rotarian says, “I feel really guilty. I took out £10,000 for the local hospital and only gave him back £40,000 cash”. The Tabler pipes up and says, “Well, I took out £20,000 and gave it to the orphanage, so only gave him back £30,000 cash”. They both look at the Lion who says, “Shame on you both! I gave him a personal signed cheque for the full £50,000!” **Think about it.....**



Lions Club International
District 105A
District Governor
Dr Elliot Shubert

REALISING
THE DREAM

DG'S NEWSLETTER

STOP THE PRESSES!!

Announcing an MD Leadership
Institute for Emerging Lions,
2-5th October, Walsall, West Midlands.

Criteria

Firstly, this is open to members who have been a Lion for less than 5 years and have not served as President (unless the club was formed within the past two years). Please note, Lions who have attended a previous Lions Leadership Institute are ineligible.

Application

The application form is available on the MD website (www.lions.org.uk) or from Lion Peter Crane (01637 876 059). The deadline for receipt of applications is 1st September 2003 and should be sent to Peter Crane. Geoff Leeder, Leadership Development Officer and myself, will vet the applications and rank the top 5, plus alternates.

Objective

The objective of this course will be to strengthen the participants core skills in various areas like: action planning, leadership appreciation, leadership styles, leading and managing Service and Fundraising activities, managing conflict, managing meetings, motivation, personal effectiveness, presentation skills, public speaking, team building and vision development.

Notes

The Institute is supported by MD105 and LCI and is inclusive of accommodation, food and beverages. However, each successful applicant will be required to make an individual contribution of £80 towards the cost of the Institute. Successful applicants will be responsible for their own travel arrangements and the cost of travel.

I encourage any new Lion member to apply and I hope there will be good representation from different clubs in 105A.

Clubs may choose to sponsor a Lion who is successful applicant. Don't delay, apply today!

What's Cookin' Now?

DG & District Diary Dates for July

- 24 June - 8 July: DG School and International Convention, Denver, Colorado USA
- 10 July: District Convention 2004 meeting, London
- 18-19 July: Attend District 108 1a/1 Convention, Turin, Italy
- 20 July: District Handover, Oxford Belfry
- 22 July: Deadline for Cabinet Reports to District Secretary
- 25-27 July: Council of Governor's meeting, Birmingham
- 31 July: Meet the Youth Exchange group and tour of London Museums (assisted by members of Lions Club of London Westminster)

What's Simmering?

DG & District Diary Dates for August

- 10 August: Cabinet meeting, Oxford Belfry
- 18 August: Attend Redbridge Lions Club and induct new members
- 23 August: Bedford Lions Club

Welcome to the 21st Century!

The District will go electronic in a big way this year.

All Clubs are expected to have an Email address contact to receive global alerts from the District Secretary. Also, Secretaries are expected to use the LCI website to submit the monthly Membership Report.

The IT Committee and the Leadership Development Officer, Geoff Leeder, will be conducting training sessions to assist Lions with Email and Internet skills. Remember, every Public Library is connected to the internet and often the first half hour is free. Free Email addresses can be obtained at www.hotmail.com or www.yahoo.com. The District Webmaster, Tony de Maillet, will be incorporating new forms of communication, including a message board, monthly webchats with District Officers amongst others, an ideas and skill bank (resource), and maybe a webcam.

Club Recognition for Excellence

Please be aware that there is a Club Efficiency Award for timely submission of reports, etc. A Club's progress and performance will be monitored with the receipt of the Membership reports, Activities reports, Zone Chair reports, payments to the District Treasurer, etc. Criteria for the Award will be sent to all Club Secretaries. A new Club Award has been approved by the Cabinet, Club of the Year Award for Service in the Community. A Club's progress and performance will be monitored with the receipt of the Activities reports, Zone Chair reports and payments to the District Treasurer. Criteria for the Award will be sent to all Club Secretaries. These awards are presented every year at the District Handover.

DG's Goals and Objectives for 2003-2004

- Show support for Clubs and their activities
- Promote harmony and unity within Club, Zones and District
- Achieve a net increase in membership and add new clubs
- Strengthen weak clubs (e.g. organisational problems, less than 10 members, lack of leadership, personality conflicts, etc.)
- Improved communication between Clubs and District with an effective and exciting newsletter, improved website, webchat, message board, ideas and skills bank, conference calls, face-to-face meetings, etc.
- Increase in LCIF giving
- Introduce new activities and projects (e.g. Christmas party for disabled children)
- Preside over a motivating, inspiring and exciting District Convention on 6 March 2004

Treasurers Seminar

Dilip Shah, District Treasurer conducted the Treasurer's training for 12 Lions. In order to make your jobs rewarding and less painful, he urges all Club Treasurers to take note of the following points:

- All payments to Lions Clubs International must be settled in Sterling through Dilip. You must send your cheques, made payable to Lions Clubs International, on the basis of the statement you receive every month from Oak Brook. These payments should reach Dilip by the 20th of the month for the credit to be recorded in your following month's statement.
- All Multiple District Appeals should be channelled through the District Treasurer unless the Appeal states otherwise.
- Each club will be invoiced for MD dues, District dues, Youth Fund, and per club insurance cover in the beginning of July and January. Dilip requests that all clubs settle their invoices at the earliest date to facilitate the administrative cost involved in running the District. All cheques to the District must be made payable to **Lions Clubs International District 105A**.
- Please keep Dilip informed of monies raised by the club on charity account (Activities Report) so that Dilip can incorporate these sums in his Quarterly Donations Report to MD.
- Dilip requests all clubs to submit their year end club accounts in good time preferably before 31st December 2003
- **Lastly, Dilip congratulates all Club Treasurers for accepting the position as custodian of the Club's finances and he will be happy to help all club treasurers when there are problems on financial related matters arising through your role as Club Treasurer.**
- Those Treasurers who could not attend will find the presentation on the District Website.

Time to be PC

Recently, the International Board approved the gender friendly usage of terms, that is, his/her, he/she, Chair/Chairperson. I will adopt this style with immediate effect.

LCI Peace Poster Contest Theme: "Create a Brighter Tomorrow"

Any child aged 11 to 13 is eligible to enter this great competition.

30 poster kits have so far been bought by clubs in 105A. The deadline for purchasing a kit is 1st October 2003 (cost only £8.50 each). The kit can be obtained from Peace Poster Officer, Erach Amaria (peace@lions105a.org or M 078 0390 1001). Each Club is allowed to send only one winning poster to the DG by 15th November 2003. This year a special reception will be held on 20th November for Presidents of Clubs taking part, their winning entrant and their family. The District winner will be announced on the evening. I hope clubs will take the challenge and participate in this International competition.

Secretaries Seminar

Incoming Secretaries attended a half day seminar on 15 June at the Ramada Hotel, (The Comet), Hatfield.

PCC Geoff Leeder, Leadership Development Officer and PDG Parveen Verma, District Secretary conducted the Secretaries training for 24 Lions. The following points were stressed:

- The Membership Report should be submitted electronically to LCI immediately after the second meeting. If you do not know how to do it, please contact Geoff or Parveen ASAP. A copy should be sent to Ivor Poole, District Administrator (admin@lions105a.org).
- The monthly Activities Report should be submitted by the end of the month directly to Ivor. Activities report forms can be downloaded from the District website (www.lions105a.org) or obtained from Ivor. You will be expected to complete the Club Officers' Reporting Form (PU101) to LCI and MD105 HQ by 31st of May. The PU101 form is available for download from www.lionsclubs.org and the MD105 form is available for download from www.lions.org.uk
- The annual Activities form (A1) should be submitted to LCI by 15th of July.

For those who did not attend, you missed an excellent training session, which would have made your life easier as a Secretary. Those Secretaries who could not attend will find the presentation on the District website.

DG's Communication

I will be sending a letter to every Club President and Secretary, after I return from Denver, with information about planned Club visits, Charter nights, signature projects, etc.

Please use the "chain of command" to ensure efficient and clear communication, that is, use your Zone Chair as the link to communicate with District Officers or the DG. Zone Chairs are members of the DG's Advisory Committee and I value the work they are doing with the clubs.