



Lions Club International  
District 105A  
Newsletter Editor  
Maria Azcona

THE TEAM THAT  
TURNS DREAMS  
INTO REALITY

# Pride of Lions

FEBRUARY 2004

ISSUE 8

## DG Does Panto

by Doreen Carr

It was a dark and cold night, yet there was noise all around and nobody really noticed the cold. Children with sticky faces were excited, but so much laughter... Where were we? It was the Robert Clack Leos Pantomime Trip for disadvantaged children.

Having purchased the tickets, organised bags of sweets, crisps and drinks, furry tiaras, wands, optic light sprays and 45 guests between the ages of 5 and 10, whom could they get to help? None other than District Governor Elliot, Leo Chairman George, Zone B Chairperson Margaret, Lion President Jean, and members of Redbridge, the sponsoring Lions Club, seemed game for a laugh.

Sure enough, the assembled party of 45 excited young guests and their 21 Lion/Leo carers spent a magical evening with *Aladdin* and "Widow Twankey" at the Kenneth More Theatre in Ilford. A laser light show had the audience spell bound and the community singing really exhausted the vocal chords! It was amazing, the amount of thought and planning the Leos team had put into the event: everything from fundraising, providing identity bracelets to avoid lost children and matching the guests with the 14 Leos and 7 Lion carers. Many of the young children were on their first trip to a theatre and most were in need of welcome respite from a variety of difficult home conditions.

*Footnote: It was my first Panto despite having lived in England for 10 years. I was very impressed with the stage setting, costumes, songs, acting and punning jokes (worst pun: Sleazy Jet). The kids loved it and no doubt, it brought them some joy and helped them to forget their difficult home situation. I am proud of the Leos and Redbridge Lions, and I am glad I was invited along to be a minder for Jonathon and Christopher. I must admit with hundreds of children screaming and booing the "evil man" (egged on by the cast), I suffered from a temporary loss of hearing.*

## Stop Press—Future Leaders Emerge

Emerging Lions Leadership Institute scheduled for 15-19 April 2004 in Copenhagen, Denmark. **The deadline for application to be received is 18 February 2004.**

### Qualifications:

1. Must be in good standing member for less than 8 yrs.
2. Not have served as Club President.
3. Willing to commit to a 5-day programme (Institute training).
4. Must pay own travel costs.
5. Only one Lion from each District will be accepted, (More than one if there is space available).
6. Letter of nomination is required.
7. Application forms available from the DG by Email request. Please contact DG before 15th February with applicants.

## Laughs, Interesting People, Friendships Rekindled and New Ones Started - Make Plans to Attend the District Convention 2004

The 39<sup>th</sup> annual District 105A Convention will be held on 6 March 2004 in central London. The Day Convention will be held at the Conference Centre, Assembly Hall, Church House, Dean's Yard, Westminster, London SW1P 3NZ (Tel. 020 7390 1590; Fax 020 7390 1591). Entrance on Great Smith Street. The evening social will begin at 7.00 PM with a reception, followed by a Gala Banquet and Ball on the first floor, Banquet Hall, Tower Thistle Hotel, St. Catherine's Way, London E1W 1LD (Tel. 0870 333 9106; Fax 020 7488 1667). Dress is formal.

Please send your completed booking form, with cheque to Doreen Carr. **The last date to book is 23 February 2004.**

This is **YOUR** Convention and an opportunity for you to express your opinions and to vote for the candidate(s) for VDG and DG-Elect. Elliot and Eileen look forward to greeting Lions and their spouses/partners to the Convention, representing every Lions Club in 105A.

## Haggis Makes Annual Appearance

**St Albans Lions Club brought you Willies Wok Night, which can only be surpassed by one other event: Burns Night.**

The members, friends, loved ones got together last week to celebrate the great poet's life—his loves and passions and one other vital ingredient: The Haggis. Hunted down on the heather strewn valley by the side of the great loch, this delicacy was lovingly prepared by a much passionate chef himself, (ed-not through personal experience you understand), over at the Aldwickbury Golf Club in Harpenden.

The piper piped The Haggis in, and skidoos were at the ready, together with (sensible) measures of the amber stuff to toast it. Mr Burns' ode was delivered with pride and passion (there's that word again), and as we tucked into the fine delicacy, each one "blessed", so as to speak by chieftains at each table, one could well imagine these little creatures in their natural habitat, and boy—did they taste nice!

The night, being still young, and after many more (sensible) measures of the Islay wee drams, continued with a much hilarious "Ode to Women", spoken, yes you've guessed it, with passion, by Lion Alan Ross himself, who, I am sure, upon wearing his kilt, is transformed into a poet, not far removed from Burns. So with a full belly and with quite a few "Och eis", the evening was concluded with much dancing. Not the disco however, but a full Scottish Highland band with a caller to point us "soft South-emers" in the right direction when doing a Highland Fling.

Everyone who attended enjoyed this event so much, that no doubt it's another one to be repeated next year.

So, the Haggis can reproduce in it's serene surroundings for another year in peace, until it is hunted down in memory of Robbie Burns: poet, lover, more of a lover and, oh yes, a *passionate* man!

## Welcome to a New Arrival Our Newest and Youngest Lions Club

**The Charter Dinner of London Phoenix New Century Lions Club was no normal event by any means. It was fun, loose and loud, (the music that is!)**

We would all like to welcome this new and innovative Club and its' 24 charter members, which is the 89<sup>th</sup> Club in District 105A. The official charter was on the 17<sup>th</sup> of January held in Watford. All of the New Century members (10 females & 14 males) are below 35 years-old (many are former Leos). They bring to the District new ideas, new expertise and new traditions.

Charter President, Chris Willson, gave an inspiring speech, even though he dropped his notecards and they were out of order for while, although with true grit and determination, he quickly regained his composure and gave a brilliant speech. Over 100 Lions and guests attended and their long-time Lion friends, PID Phil Nathan and Jacqui were there to support them. The tireless work done by Guiding Lions, Andrew and Louvain Allen is paying off dividends and they and everyone who had a hand in helping with this new club should feel very proud. Prouder still should be the members themselves, for they are leading the way!

### Roary Roars for 2004!

It's a first for the District and a first all round. A totally unique and limited edition calendar of our mate Roary and his family, featuring Roarette and all the relatives. This calendar, available through your Club, Zone Chair or myself, Maria, at [pro@lions105a.org](mailto:pro@lions105a.org), is only £5 with all proceeds going to the Mental Health Foundation. Done in colour with incredible detail by our non Lion Doodler, Jacqui Walsh, it will make you smile every time you look at it, as well as give you room to write in all your important dates, with some already helpfully put in. So popular is Roary, that Jacqui has kindly agreed to put all the original prints up for a silent auction at the Convention, framed and all, with a bid starting at £40 each. Bids in to myself please asap. There are still 11 months left to enjoy.

NB: Roary is copyrighted and permission is needed to reproduce or copy

### Stop Press: All Golfers Take Note!

**The annual Ram Jaggi Trophy Golf competition will take place on 19th March 2004 at the West Herts Golf Club, Watford. Please contact Peter Gent, Golf Competition Officer as soon as possible. Places are limited and numbers need to be secured NOW!**

### Santa and Happy Helpers Put in Overtime Sheet to Payroll

**Thank you to all those who supplied Pride of Lions with the number of hours dedicated to the Christmas Collections, of which there were many!**

Here is a typical one from **High Wycombe Lions Club**, which is multiplied and reflected by Clubs all over our District:

Total money raised = £7,262

Man/woman hours = 409 on collections

10 on maintenance

28.5 counting/banking by treasurer

Parcels distributed = 340 x £10/15

Man/woman hours = 120 hours

House holds visited = 3,500 (estimated)

Helped by 7 other local charities. They received donations of £1,250.

28 active members, 6 partners and 4 prospective members. What an example to us all!

## Call to Arms for Future District 105a Cabinet Officers 2004/2005 By VDG Max Mongia

I take this opportunity to invite Lion members of District 105A to serve on the District Cabinet for the year 2004/2005.

In addition to the positions for Zone Chairpersons we would be seeking the appointment of Officers for Specialist Services, Administrative, Communication, Membership and Membership Services, Services in the Community and Youth Teams.

All active members are eligible to apply, whilst knowledge and experience of the position would be an advantage, previous Cabinet experience is not essential. Lions will be expected to devote time and commitment with dedication. Join the A-team to support our clubs and membership and achieve our objectives to serve those less fortunate than ourselves. Personal and Professional satisfaction guaranteed!

All current District Officers who wish to serve are also requested to re-apply.

Please send your notes to the undersigned giving details of Lionistic experience, reply preferably by email ASAP but not later than 25<sup>th</sup> February 2004. If you have any question, please do not hesitate to contact me.

S.K. (Max) Mongia, District 105a VDG  
32 Bedford Road, Moor Park  
Northwood, Middlesex HA6 2AZ  
Tel. 01923 823 732  
Mobile. 07768 461 723  
E-mail [mongia@strongfield.com](mailto:mongia@strongfield.com)

### Here Comes the Train (and About Half A Million Potential Members)!

**As some of you may already know Lion Dipak Shah has worked tirelessly to organise a collections again at many train stations on March 26<sup>th</sup> 2004. This is an excellent opportunity to raise money for Lions' sight programmes, to create an awareness for Lions to broaden our public image, and to improve our membership recruitment.**

The majority of the stations have been booked, (see list below), but we still have a few more we are waiting on.

Each Club can have, not just members, but family and friends helping out, as long as they are over 18, (and we all know people who want to help, but my not have the time to join your Club).

On the collection day, 50% of the money the Club will keep and the other 50% will go to the District.

As this goes to press, the list of Stations are:

1. Bedford, Luton, St Albans, Radlett, Luton Airport Parkway (all thanks to Thames Link)
2. Bletchley, Berkhamsted, Hemel Hempstead, Leighton Buzzard, Kings Langley, Tring, and Watford Junction (all thanks to Silverlink)
3. Banbury, Bicester, Aylesbury, High Wycombe, and London Marylebone (all thanks to Chiltern Rail)
4. Oxford, Reading?, Hayes & Harlington, Southall, and Ealing Broadway (all thanks to Thames trains)
5. Euston, Kings Cross, Paddington, Liverpool St, Charing Cross, Victoria, London Bridge, Cannon St and Waterloo.



Lions Club International  
District 105A  
District Governor  
Dr Elliot Shubert

REALISING  
THE DREAM

# DG'S NEWSLETTER

## Forward onto February DG's & District Diary Dates

- 2 February: Zone D meeting OV
- 3 February: Stevenage OV
- 4 February: Beaconsfield OV
- 5 February: Berkhamsted OV
- 7 February: Tring Charter OV
- 8 February: Senior Citizens' Party OV  
Zone C Swimming Gala OV
- 9 February: Hertford OV
- 10 February: London Westminster OV
- 11 February: London Golders Green OV
- 14 February: Valentine's Day
- 15 February: District Musical Interpretation  
Competition OV (cancelled)
- 18 February: Royston OV
- 19 February: Zone B meeting OV
- 21 February: Membership meeting, MDHQ  
London Seven Kings Charter OV
- 22 February: District Quiz Final Blakemore Thistle  
MK Membership promotion
- 23 February: Stevenage Corey's Mill OV
- 24 February: Sudbury OV
- 27 February: Leighton Buzzard Charter OV
- 28-29 February: MD Young Ambassador Award Final

## Marching Ahead for March DG's & District Diary Dates

- 1 March: Newport, Pagnell & Olney OV
- 2 March: Carterton OV
- 5 March: Pre-convention Dinner, Tower Thistle Hotel
- 6 March: 39th annual District Convention, central London
- 7 March: Bletchley MK Swimathon OV;  
Education & Culture Showcase, Harrow OV
- 8 March: Letchworth & Baldock OV
- 9 March: London Hornsey OV
- 10 March: Stanmore OV
- 12 March: Bedford Harpur Charter OV
- 13 March: Mill Hill Charter OV
- 14 March: Zone E Swimathon OV; Hounslow Charter OV
- 16 March: London Golders Green Lioness OV
- 19 March: District Spring Golf Tournament
- 20 March: District 111NB Convention, Bremen, Germany
- 23 March: Lions' UN Day at Houses of Parliament OV
- 26 March: Collection at Stations
- 27 March: Southall Charter OV

## Young Ambassador of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Award Winner

**Congratulations to James Juggapah, only 17 years old, an "A" level student at Beal High School, who is the winner of the 2003-2004 Young Ambassador of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century District 105A winner.**

James was sponsored by London Seven Kings Lions Club. Judging took place on Sunday, 11 January 2004 at the Quality Hotel, Hatfield. Doreen Carr, District Young Ambassadors & Young Leaders in Service Officer, organised and presided over the event, which was well attended by Lions members, family members and friends. Six candidates and Lions Clubs sponsors took part in the competition (Mark Adhen, Uxbridge & Hillingdon; Clair Ames, Enfield; Suzanne Brown, Redbridge; James Juggapah, London Seven Kings; Chris Miller, Harpenden; and Rakee Shah, London Finchley). This year, each candidate was required to give a three minute oral presentation to all those attending. This was followed by 20 minute interviews of each candidate by a panel of three judges. In addition, the judges evaluated a portfolio that each candidate had submitted describing their community service record. All six candidates were excellent and of high standard. It was a challenge for the judges to narrow the field and to determine a winner. I believe our District has a very strong candidate for the Multiple District to be held in Dudley from 27-29 February 2004 and we are with a tremendous chance of winning!

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to the judges, Nick Munns, MA, Head Teacher, Primary School, Nicholas Smith, Bank Manager, and Amanda Medher, Commissioner for Guides. They were very diligent in their evaluation of the candidates. I also would like to thank Doreen Carr for running a very smooth event. She did a brilliant job organising the event, which was professional and enjoyable.

### District 105A Educational and Cultural Showcase *Membership Development through Education & Culture*

Lions Members and the Public are Invited  
Sunday, 7 March, 2004 at Harrow High School, Gayton Rd,  
Harrow, Middx HA1 2JG, 6:30—9:30 PM  
Admission: £10; Children under 12: £5  
Song-Dance-Drama-Storytelling-Music-History-  
Creative Art-Youth Talent-Food & Drinks

### *In Memorium*

It is with much regret that the DG has learned of the passing to higher service of...

- 15-09-03 Kanti Lal (London Golders Green)
- 13-11-03 John Moss (Carterton)
- 30-10-03 Bhupat Chotai (Edgware)
- 21-01-04 Jim Brown (Carterton)

*I know they will be sadly missed and I extend my deepest sympathy to their families and friends.*

### Zone K is ahead in it's field!

Zone K Chairperson, Penny Tregillus, would like to inform you that Zone K has a new website. This is a *first* for our District and other Zones might consider following suit. Check it out at [www.zonek.org](http://www.zonek.org).

Perhaps this is the way to move your Zone forward and let people know the fantastic work that we are all achieving!

## Megabucks for LCIF

**As we are all aware, the year 2004 is the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of our founder, Melvin Jones.**

It seemed fitting and proper to recognise the inspiration of a great humanitarian and the achievements of LCIF with a **LCIF Gala Night**, which was the *first ever-held* in District 105A and MD105. DG Dr Elliot Shubert and Kishore Pattni, District LCIF Officer jointly developed a plan to give a focus to LCIF giving among the clubs and individual Lions. District 105A has benefited from several LCIF grants in the past five years and in the true spirit of Lionism that "it is better to give than to receive", the aim was to increase our LCIF giving from previous years. Planning began in October and the announcement was launched in November of 2003. Kishore contacted Clubs by letter, Email, telephone and club visits requesting donations for Melvin Jones Fellowships, progressive Melvin Jones Fellowships, and designated and undesignated donations to LCIF. DG Elliot promoted the LCIF Gala Night on his official club visits.

The idea was hatched that the MJFs would be recognised together on a special evening. The date of Friday, 16 January 2004 was chosen, since it was near Melvin Jones' birthday (13<sup>th</sup> January). The Renaissance Hotel near Heathrow was chosen as the venue. Part of DG Elliot's theme for the year is diversity, which is represented by a rainbow on his banner (Lions constitute a "rainbow coalition" of different nationalities, occupations and both genders). DG Elliot asked Vijay Arora, District Cultural and Community Affairs Officer, to find different cultural groups to perform on the evening to celebrate our internationalism and diversity.

Admittedly, clubs were slow to respond and Kishore put a great deal of effort into contacting clubs for pledges to LCIF. In the background, there was detailed planning for the evening, that is, inviting honoured guests, planning the menu, and working out the details for the evening's programme. International Director Howard Lee and his wife, Claire; Council Chairman Philip Goodier and his wife, Jacqui; and PDG Stefan Ertraut and his wife, Margaret accepted our invitations. Bookings were slow to arrive and nails were being chewed, because we had to meet a minimum number set by the hotel.

Nevertheless, on the evening, it all came together fantastically. Over 220 Lions and non-Lions and their spouses and partners arrived for the evening festivities. The banquet room was decorated beautifully, there was live music and there was excitement in the air. The MCs for the evening were the

*dynamic duo* of SAA Luke Adams and Dr Roselle Antione, District Women's Development Officer. After preliminaries and before the main course was served, ID Howard gave an inspiring speech about LCIF and the important work it is doing for less fortunate people throughout the world. This was followed by an upbeat-illustrated and narrated Power-Point presentation on the achievements of LCIF developed by PCC Geoff Leeder. During the presentation, you could not hear a pin drop; afterwards the comments heard were "informative", "emotive" and "poignant".

It wasn't all about speeches and presentations, however, as during the main course, the audience was entertained by the infamous Chinese quartet from London Covent Garden Lions Club, a classical Indian dance by two young girls, a high energy Brazilian dance male and female duo, and a Bollywood style dance quartet of two females and two males (representing a charity from Kenya, *Action in Focus*). After coffee and dessert, CC Philip posed the following question: "How many organisations do you know, which can provide all its members with magnificent opportunities every day of their lives. True, these opportunities can sometimes be brilliantly disguised as impossible situations, but the opportunities are always there and it's up to each of us to pursue them". The toast was to Lions Clubs International and Melvin Jones. DG Elliot responded by stressing that the idea for the evening was inspired by the International President's theme of "innovation". He emphasised that "Tonight is about giving. Giving is Lionistic, because, as Lions, we prefer to give rather than to receive". The highlight of the evening was the presentation by Kishore Pattni and PDG Ram Jaggi of 32 Melvin Jones Fellowships and/or progressive Melvin Jones Fellowships, which was represented by 17 Lions Clubs. In addition, 13 other clubs donated to LCIF. PDG Parveen Verma asked all current MJFs to toast the new MJFs. After recognition and thanks by DG Elliot, the evening was concluded with a group photograph. **\$40,000** was raised for LCIF and the campaign will continue to the end of the Lionistic year.

**Everyone agreed that it was a very enjoyable social evening, an exciting and new Lions' event and that the pride of lions was raised to new heights with a significant level of giving to LCIF. One could not help but think that Melvin Jones, on the occasion of his 125<sup>th</sup> birthday, was looking down on us that evening in a very kindly way and smiling, because his words, "You don't get very far unless you start doing something for somebody else" had become truth and reality once again.**

### Welcome New Members and Thank you Sponsors!

| <u>New Member</u> | <u>Sponsor</u> | <u>Club</u>                  | <u>New Member</u> | <u>Sponsor</u> | <u>Club</u>           |
|-------------------|----------------|------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Angus McCormick   | A. Davies      | Amphill District             | Kamin Patel       | B. Desai       | S. Herts-Moor Park    |
| Penny Twigden     | Jill Chisholm  | Bedford                      | Shan Popat        | P. Dadlani     | S. Herts-Moor Park    |
| Julie Winter      | Richard Abbey  | Bletchley Milton Keynes      | Naresh Samani     | A. Mitha       | S. Herts-Moor Park    |
| Andres Winter     | Richard Abbey  | Bletchley Milton Keynes      | Natalie Morris    | Alastair Joel  | Staines & Ashford     |
| Abdul Anjanja     | G. Phull       | Chipping Barnet              | Luke Winter       | Alastair Joel  | Staines & Ashford     |
| Hasit Patel       | Ketan Patel    | Greenford Willow Tree        | Bill Gleif        | John Box       | Tring                 |
| Denise Bennett    | Doreen Carr    | Hammersmith & Shepherds Bush |                   |                |                       |
| Phillip Kezue     | Doreen Carr    | Hammersmith & Shepherds Bush |                   |                |                       |
| Michelle Kiernan  | Sylvia Kiernan | Hammersmith & Shepherds Bush |                   |                |                       |
| Clive Nolan       | Doreen Carr    | Hammersmith & Shepherds Bush |                   |                |                       |
| David Cowan       | R. Titmarsh    | Harpenden                    | Otuo Baah-Frimp   |                | Uxbridge & Hillingdon |
| Dhiren Arya       |                | London (Host)                | Rita Griffiths    |                | Uxbridge & Hillingdon |
| Shiraz Boghani    | A. Mitha       | S. Herts-Moor Park           |                   |                |                       |
| Mohamed Esmail    | A. Mitha       | S. Herts-Moor Park           |                   |                |                       |
| Vadan Ganatra     | A. Savjani     | S. Herts-Moor Park           |                   |                |                       |