MD Lions and the sewing project

The Loomba Foundation, a global NGO accredited with the United Nations, has announced a partnership project with LCIF and Lions Clubs International British Isles and Ireland to provide dignified livelihoods to 2600 impoverished widows in and around India’s holy city of Vrindavan.

Under this project, the Foundation will provide a two-months certificate-based skills training in garment stitching to poor widows, and a foot-operated sewing machine on successful completion of this course. The Foundation’s Global Widows Report on the plight of widows, reveals that there are more than 259 million widows worldwide with over $84 million dependent children. India, at 46.5 million widows has the highest number globally.

In 2012, PDG Max Mongia, along with his co-Governors (2004-5) from the UK, saw the project in action and adopted it with the remit to provide the necessary extra support and exposure that was needed. He introduced the sewing machine project to the Loomba Foundation and over the last 6 years has nurtured the project in cooperation with the Lions Club New Delhi.

Following the introduction to MD105, the Clubs within the Multiple District launched a campaign and raised 25% of the funds with Foundation contributing a further 25% towards getting 2,600 sewing machines. The target was reached with the assistance of LCIF matching grant of 50% funded, with the support of PIP Barry Palmer, PIP Phil Nathan, PCC David Firth and PDG Max Mongia.

The project will initially start in Vrindavan for 650 widows and will cover three other areas each for 650 widows. The Loomba Foundation will work closely with the LCIF’s PP Lion Barry Palmer, who will periodically visit India to review the progress of the project.

District 105A Young Ambassador Award

It’s that time of the year to be searching for the Club’s candidate for District 105A Young Ambassador Award.

The scheme is open to young people between the ages of 15-19 who are actively involved in volunteering in your local community. Candidates can be found from schools, local newspapers, youth organisations and word of mouth. They progress through Club and District with the winner taking part in the MD Final in Dudley 2017. The ultimate MD winner will go forward to the European Final to be held at the Europa Forum.

All participants in the MD Final will win a bursary of £500. For the winner of the MD Final, the award consists of a further £1000 bursary, an invitation to MD Youth Centre and their progress into the European scheme. These bursaries are to be used to support the candidates’ projects or for training to develop the candidates potential to carry out their welfare work. They are not interned to be for the personal financial benefit of the candidates.

The District closing date is Friday 16th December with the District Final to be held in January 2017. All details including the Application form and the Club Officers booklet can be found on the Lions 105 MD website, or call me.

Lion Doreen Carr
District Young Ambassador Officer

Formation Meeting of New Club - Lions Club of Hatch End - Zone G - District 105A, Time is 7 for 7.30 PM Friday 7th October 2016. For details contact District Secretary, PDG Lion Ramesh Parmar.

Lions Day with the UN at the House of Parliament 14 March 2017. We get few tickets allocated to the District. If interested, please contact PDG Lion Surinder (Max) Mongia.

Any Lion wishing to represent District 105A at the Centenarch Remembrance Parade on the Sunday 13th of November, please contact DG Lion Brindar Singh Nandra by email: bsnan23@virginmedia.com
Another successful Golf Day

District Golf Day 2016

District Golf day on 9th September 2016 at Stanmore Golf Club was a huge success. There were 47 golfers, including eight lady golfers. The highest turnout we ever had for a District Golf day, was supported by many guests. Unfortunately Lion NC Patel – chairman of the golf competition was not feeling well and did not play.

The weather was perfect, warm and partly cloudy. The day started with a full English breakfast and Indian savouries were added by the compliments of the caterer.

PDG Lion Vijay and Daksha Patel came early to collect monies and distribute cards to the players. Lion Varinder Chott and Lion Karanjeet came and set up Lions banners – and they all helped at the half way house to distribute snacks to the players. There was also beer available.

Excitement happened on hole 6 when our guest player – Hema Dabasia – had hole in one!! This is a rare occurrence and she was presented with a bottle of champagne as a just reward!

After the game all had a relaxing and well deserved drink. And new guests arrived to join for carvery dinner which was enjoyed by all.

After dinner Lion NC Patel thanked all for supporting this wonderful event and invited DG Lion Brindar to say a few words! The prize giving was conducted by PDG Lion Ramesh Parmar. Overall Lions Winner was Lion Vinod Pankhania of LC of Edgware who was awarded with trophy and the name of LC of Edgware will be engraved on the Ram Jaggi cup as winners in 2016.

The team prize was won by Lion Vinod Pankhania and Lion Suresh Mehta (who was also the winner of the Lions runner up prize) of LC of Edgware and the Club’s name will be engraved on the Elliot Shubert cup for 2016.

Well-done and congratulations to Lions Club of Edgware for winning once again the Ram Jaggie and Elliot Shubert Cups! PDG Lion Ram expressed his thanks to all who supported the event.

There were also prizes for Guest winner and Guest runner up, two trophies for nearest to pin and two trophies for nearest to pin in 2. Additional prizes were sponsored by Lion Suresh Mehta and Lion Dr Raj.

Overall it was a fantastic day and thank you to all.

PDG Ramesh Parmar

Can you help a child to read?

At the last Cabinet meeting, I made a request to help School Aid Education material for Africa, especially in Malawi, to meet the diverse needs for children and young people in disadvantaged communities.

School Aid has books been supported by Lions Clubs and the Reading Action Programme to give reading materials to schools in Malawi, and support them learning to read. In summer last year, a container of books was shipped and delivered to Malawi, for 9 Primary and 6 Secondary schools with more than 12000 pupils.

Lions raise lot of finance for various projects, but in this particular project, we want to make sure that educational sources are provided – especially educational books, so that we can provide knowledge and develop child literacy.

I believe it is very important to give these children the wealth of knowledge. Our aim is to increase our reach and help the children and young people. This can only be achieved by Lions donating to the School Aid “The Books”, especially primary and secondary school educational books. These books will give the children and youth in remote areas, an opportunity to learn and gain knowledge by reading and training from the books. It can give them their full potential to enhance physical, social, emotional and intellectual development with the emphasis on literacy.

Lions, I humbly request if your Club can donate or if you have any educational Primary or Secondary Books unwanted in your home, please contact me by Email or telephone, and I will make sure that I personally will collect from you. Your support is needed and will be greatly appreciated.

PDG Lion Eric Amaria
Reading Action Programme

Winter Forum 2016

The Winter Forum is scheduled to be held on Sunday, 16 October, 2016 at the Holiday Inn Elstree, from 9 am. A full programme has been planned and organised, including What is leadership?, Effective Communication, Role Playing; Membership, Flexibility in Lionism, Mentoring, Speeches by Candidates for DG, 1VDG and 2VDG, Candidates for International Director and Group Discussion.

I am inviting all Lions who are interested in improving their leadership and communication skills to attend the Winter Forum and to submit your booking form NOW. The deadline is 10 October, but please do not wait until the deadline.

PDG Elliot Shubert
GLT Coordinator
Welcome new Lions
Lion Kamlesh Mehta LC of Edgware
Lion Dipesh Shah LC of Edgware

New members inducted at Edgware

LC of Wanstead and Woodford host Youth Exchange event
We organised a day out for the Overseas Youths on 27th July 2016, as part of the Youth Exchange programme.

It was a wonderful day out for these youngsters as they have not experienced a similar trip over the River Thames. A trip in the cable capsule and having a lunch at the O2 arena was well appreciated by all including Lions from Fairlop Club.

The following day a Farewell party was organised by the DO Lion Raza Ismail, attended by DG Lion Brinder and his wife together with other Lions from the District 105A. LC of Wanstead and Woodford was represented by Lion President Harbinder Manku, his wife Kamaljit and Club Treasurer Lion Satwinder.

Lion Harbinder commented that “this is a wonderful way of involving with the community and helping the youngsters.”

Mill Hill Lions walk for Mouth Cancer
Some of our members and their spouses every year take part in the 10km Walk for Mouth Cancer, held at Hyde Park, London. Funds are raised by getting sponsorships from friends and well wishers. The monies raised are donated to Mouth Cancer Foundation, a UK charity. Over the last few years LC of Mill Hill has donated almost £5,000 for this very worthy cause.

On 20 September, Mill Hill was present as per every year. Almost 500 people from all walks of life and professions took part this year. The 10km Walk takes under 4 hours, with stops for refreshment at half way mark. An enjoyable way to raise funds and advertising Lionism.

Please remember that November is designated as a Mouth Cancer help month.

From the Editor
There have been delays in publishing the monthly POL issues, due to circumstances beyond my control. I hope the situation will correct itself soon.

For the POL to reach Clubs for their first business meeting, I should post, at the latest, the POL issues by the 1st of each month. To enable me to achieve this deadline, I need to have ALL the material with me by 24th or 25th of each preceding month. That would give me just enough time to prepare, edit, design, typeset and print the issue. After that it has to be prepared for mailing to the 76 Clubs within 105A, and eventually carry the boxes to a Post Office, hoping I will find a parking space !

Despite repeating so many times the time scale needed, I struggle to keep to it, mainly because these dates are not adhered to. I also try to include all the articles that are sent to me. If I do not include any article it is because of lack of space, incomplete details or poor quality photos.

I will continue to do my best to serve the District with timely publication of the POL... So please send your articles and photos in good time.

Lion Shirish Sheth
Hello my family of Lions.

Now that the summer has come to an end, let me congratulate all the clubs who have worked hard planning outdoor events like fetes, fun days for families, picnics and charity walks. Time flies when you are enjoying yourselves. It is hard to believe that we are at the end of third month of this Lionistic year. I thank all those clubs I visited for their warm welcome and hospitality.

I attended LC of Berkhamstead’s Fete and LC of Feltham and Whittons Family Fun Day. They were both resounding successful events with few thousand people turning up at each event. A very enjoyable afternoon and the sun shone. GMT team made their presence felt by having an attractive stall displaying Lions leaflets and brochures and highlighted with banners and display boards. GMT team were actively promoting Lionism and I am glad to say that many names were collected of those who were inquisitive about Lionism. Thank you Lion Kadu and team for the great deal of effort you put in.

District Golf competition took place on the 9th September. It was the largest ever gathering of golfers. Great time was had by everyone. Competition was followed by dinner with about 90 diners. Then and trophies were awarded to worthy winners.

Our 2nd Cabinet meeting is with partners and takes place on the 9th October. An interesting day out is planned by Balbir. Partners will have an opportunity to visit RAF museum in Hendon.

It is very exciting for me to inform you that, a new centennial club, Lions Club of Hatch End, is being formed on the 7th October 2016. It is sponsored by Lions Club of Harrow and Pinner and will be in Zone G. Details of formation have been to all clubs.

Winter Forum is taking place on Sunday the 16th October. Details have already been sent to all the clubs. This Forum provides an excellent opportunity to further your knowledge about Lionism and enjoy fellowship with those attending. There will also be presentations from five speakers. Two of the speakers are standing for the position of International Director, with one prospective candidate for the position of 2nd VDG and the current 1st VDG and 2nd VDG. Elections will take place at our District Convention. It will be an interesting day packed with ideas. Please book immediately without further delay. Your participation is vital to the success of this and future Forums.

A circular was sent to all the clubs inviting Lion members to attend Remembrance Day Parade at the Cenotaph on the 13th November 2016. I am pleased to report that 15 Lions applied to attend. I would encourage all Lions to take advantage of such an opportunity, which is once in a lifetime experience.

The redistricting issue is still under discussion at the MD level. I thank all those Clubs who replied to the questionnaire on redistricting. On 18th September I attended a special meeting of Council of Governors in Solihull, to discuss further, after the results of the questionnaire, the issues relating to Redistricting. After deliberating for whole day, we are trying to reach a common consensus. Our next Council of Governors meeting is on 21st October, 2 weeks from now, where the Council hopes to finalise some form of proposal to be put forward to all clubs in MD for final consultation, before any resolution to redistrict is proposed at MD Convention in April 2017.

Only last week I received a record 237 Chevrons and 45 centennial service challenge patches from Lions Clubs International. I shall take great pride to personally distribute them and celebrate their achievements.

DG Lion Brindar

My Diary October 2016

4th Convention meeting
6th OV Enfield Lions Club
7th Formation of Hatch End LC
8th Charter Hemel Hempstead LC
9th Cabinet meeting 18th OV Zone G
10th OV Hitchin LC
11th OV Seven Kings LC
12th London Golders Green LC
13th OV Waltham Forest LC
14th Charter Carterton LC
15th Charter Bletchley Milton Keynes
16th Winter Forum

16th Southall LC Centennial Celebrations
18th Funeral Service Lion Jim Dixon
21-22nd Council of Governors Solihull
22nd LC Moorpark Charity Gala
25th OV Zone B
27th GMT meeting
28th DG Team Meeting

OV = Official visit

Who is your Health and Safety Officer?

The District Governor is charged, under both the Multiple District and District Health and Safety Policies and Arrangements, with the implementation of a Safety Management System, and monitor Health and Safety performance across the District.

This Safety Management System will depend heavily on Clubs appointing a Health and Safety Officer, assessing the hazards and risks associated with both their Club activities and at other events where the general public is invited to attend. It is imperative that Health and Safety becomes a standard item on the Club meeting agenda. It should also be noted that the appointment of a Club Safety Officer is a requirement of the Lions Insurance provisions.

In order to assist the DG in discharging these obligation, please forward the details to the District Secretary, in order that a register of compliance can be maintained. Kindest Regards.

Lion Brian Dickety
MD and District Health and Safety Officer

Reminder of appeal for DENTAID

I made a request for dental material that your clubs may be able to collect from your areas. We need to send it to the countries that can use the discarded equipment that our dentists discard whilst upgrading their own equipment.

So far, I have received no contribution from any club. Can you please make a renewed effort to try to collect any such items. We need a list by middle of November so that we can start the process of getting the clearances from the customs authorities of the receiving countries.

I appeal to your lionistic dedication to take up this challenge an deliver. Please respond to ksood@wpcpress.com

DG Brindar’s Bulletin

Lion Kamaljit S. Sood
Dentaid Officer

Publisher Lion Shirish Sheth
Design and Printed By Bounds Green Press bgpress@btinternet.com 020 3617 8802