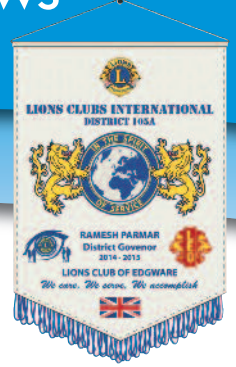




PRIDE OF LIONS

District 105A News
DG Ramesh Parmar



Issue 8 • February 2015

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4 Legs and a Tale

Hello Lions... my name is Ozzy and I am a 2 year old Golden Labrador. I met my partner Tony, through Canine Partners, a registered charity started in 1990. The charity's aim is to train dogs like me to help injured servicemen and women, veterans and civilians. Did you know that in our country over 1.2 million people use a wheelchair and a significant number of them would benefit from a canine partner? Currently there is an ever increasing demand. At any one time there are 120 puppies in training and Canine Partners has placed 70 dogs so far in 2014.

We dogs are carefully assessed to make sure we are suitable for our work and that we match the needs of our partner and lifestyle whatever they may be. We give more independence and greater confidence to our partner. Before we arrive on the case many disabled people are reluctant to go out on their own.

Not only are we carefully checked, but so are our prospective human partners. The recipient visit Canine Partners for the day. As well as chatting about why they need a dog, a dog is brought out to see how they react to each other and some basic tasks such as feeding and grooming are gone through. Then comes a 2 week residential course, which is where I met Tony. This covers lots of different tasks we do together, including, for example, negotiating doors, wheelchair positions, picking up dropped items, feeding me and me getting my bowl from a stand. Also Tony got to choose a task for me to learn, which was taking off his shoes which I learnt very quickly. I got my bronze certificate but it doesn't stop there. I'm now working towards my silver award by learning new things – I'm now training to give Tony his phone and bring him his shoes. Our trainer now comes once a month, but if there is a problem



will come more often, so we have that back-up and support. Tony and I are best friends – I listen and watch him and follow wherever he goes.

To fully train a dog and its partner costs £20,000, but Canine Partners receives no government funding and relies solely on public donations and gifts in wills. For more information visit www.caninepartners.org.uk or call 0845 580 480.

P.S. Tony is a much valued member of Biggleswade Sandy Lions Club.

Lion Steve Foott, on behalf of Ozzy

NOTICE BOARD

District 105 A Convention 6 – 8 March 2015. Have you booked your place at the Convention? Contact PDG Lion Ken Rouse for details.

Senior Citizens Celebrations at Harrow Leisure Centre on **22 Feb 2015**. Time is running short. Book your tables NOW. Contact PDG Lion Parveen Verma for more information.

Street Children Day: 12 April 2015. To mark this day, please raise awareness by organising fund raising activities. Contact Lion Joginder Gill for further help and information.



LCI Ethic:

To Coordinate the activities and standardize the administration of Lions clubs.

Lions distribute Sleeping Bags to the homeless at Christmas

In my 2nd year as the District Officer for Street children, my primary mission was to get involved in a 'hands-on' activity, to purchase and supply sleeping bags to the homeless. I wanted to complete this activity before the cold weather sets in and ahead of the Christmas.

The primary hurdle was to raise the funds ensure effective use of these funds. I secured the approval of the Cabinet to raise the funds. Through my visits to other clubs, I created a lot of awareness. Money started coming in from various clubs and my anticipated target of £1000 was reached quickly. This amount was then promised to be matched by the MD Treasurer, Tom Berry.

We started to source the providers of sleeping bags for the best price and delivery. At the Zone E meeting my request for an offer of help was answered by ZC Lion Ashwin Vora who very kindly offered to purchase, store and distribute the sleeping bags.

An order was placed for 150 sleeping bags. These sleeping bags were given to various organisations such as care homes, night shelters, drop-in centres, community centres, hostels, churches and other charities involved with the homeless crisis over Christmas. Many Lions were involved and bags were collected, delivered, and distributed by each club that had contributed. Most of the participating clubs had contacts with homelessness charities in Central London.

We also managed to acquire, through our PDG Lion Surjit Bhalla approximately 200 rejected cabin crew blankets from British Airways. He very kindly also helped



Stanborough Church In Watford before the soup run to Holborn



Distribution of blankets and bags in Central London with Dist Governor Lion Ramesh Parmar

to transport and arranged storage. Due to the popular demand of these blankets, I managed to secure a further 1500 blankets which were kindly stored by PDG Max Mongia in his warehouse. My special thanks go to Lion Max for appointing one of his staff members to handle the enquiries and despatch the blankets.

On the cold evening of Thursday December 11th 2014, DG Lion Ramesh, accompanied us to Holborn with a number of other Lions from Hendon, Kenton and Osterley to assist in distributing the blankets. They were very well received by the needy. It will be a sight and night which will stay for a long time in the minds of those who participated.

I take this opportunity to convey on behalf of those who benefited, their gratitude and deep appreciation, to all the Clubs and individuals in District 105A who have so generously donated to this project. To all I say a very big *Thank You!*

As a new comer to this great project, I must confess I have learnt a few precious lessons myself. In order to achieve success in any project, one needs to have the help and participation of other fellow Lions from other Clubs. It is most encouraging for me to note the personal interest shown by our DG Lion Ramesh. The old saying is true: "Many hands make light work!" It is good to be able to do some small jobs that have such a huge impact on those who are less fortunate than ourselves!

Lion Joginder Gill
District Officer Street Children

Young Ambassador of 21st Century

On Sunday 11th January 2015, the District Young Ambassador of the 21st Century competition was held at the Kenton Masonic Centre.

There were 3 candidates, Evie, sponsored by Lions Club of Milton Keynes Stony Stratford, Tia, sponsored by Lions Club of Barking and James sponsored by Lions Club of Wanstead and Woodford.

There were approximately 37 attendees, including parents, friends, supporters, our DG Ramesh and other Lions. After the 3 minute presentation

and individual interviews by 3 judges, James Lingfield was victorious as the



105A Young Ambassador of the 21st Century. He gets £500 for his project and now goes to MD finals in Dudley on 22nd February 2015. James, Tia and Evie also get £100 from our District for their projects.

I wish to thank all the candidates, who were all excellent, their parents, the 3 judges from the fields of Education, Health and Commerce and everyone who attended to support this programme.

Lion Minesh Mehta
District Young Ambassador Officer

Peace Poster Winner

The winners of Lions Clubs International District 105a Peace Poster Contest, held on Monday 17th November 2014 are:

- 1st Place** **Lions Club of Hemel Hempstead**
Jessica Rizova Age 12 – Astley School
Winner will now advance to Multi District
Judging in Birmingham
- 2nd Place** **Lions Club of Harrow and Pinner**
Chahat Halai Age 11 – Northwood Collodge
- 3rd Place** **Lions Club of Fairlop**
Katherine Samways Age 13 – Brampton
Academy

Our sincere thanks to all the club and children who took part in the LCI Peace Poster Contest. Congratulations to all the winners and the sponsoring clubs. Thank you to Northwood College for sponsoring the event. Photos will be available on District web site in due course.

Lion Pravin Nathwani
District Peace Poster Officer



Sponsored Walk in Aid of LCIF

We are organising this Walk on Sunday 26th April to coincide with **World Immunization week (24-30 April)**. The walk will be at Rickmansworth Aquadrome.

Measles still kills over 400 people each day. Measles is also a major cause of preventable blindness, particularly amongst children. This disease is easily preventable through a vaccination costing just 50 pence. Your Donation to ONE SHOT ONE LIFE Lions Measles Initiative is matched Pound for Pound!

Lions Clubs will raise US\$30 million by 2017, when we will be celebrating our 100th anniversary. The funds raised by the Lions will be matched by the UK's Dept for International Development and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, bringing the total to US\$60 million.

We are looking forward to your participation in this Sponsored Walk. Your Club's are all eligible for (Melvin Jones Fellowship). Please contact me (victory801@hotmail.com) for any further information.

Lion Vijay Arora, LCIF Officer

OBITUARY

Lion Erach Daruwalla of Lions Club of Hounslow passed away to Higher Service on Thursday 15th January 2015. He leaves behind his beloved wife Lion Katy and 2 sons, Lion Bomi and Lion Farokh Daruwalla.

From the Editor

In the cold and wintry first weeks of 2015, the stories about Ozzy and the distribution of Sleeping Bags are so heart warming. I am sure other Lions Clubs have similar tales to tell, so send them in. It is these service activities that make us proud to be Lions.

Lion Shirish Sheth

Dinner in honour of IPL Joe Preston

Council Chairman Lion Michael Phillips, DG Lion Ramesh Parmar and the members of the District 105A, are delighted to invite all Lions of Multiple District 105, to attend a very special welcome dinner in honour of our International President Lion Joe Preston on the occasion of his official visit to MD105.

This banquet is on Tuesday 10th March 2015, 8.00pm, and will follow the MD105 UN Day celebration at the Palace of Westminster, between 4p.m. and 6p.m. on the same day. Venue for the dinner is The Rembrandt Hotel, 11 Thurloe Place, London SW7 2RS. Cost £40 per person inclusive of soft drinks/wines at Reception and Dinner.

Spaces are limited, so please book early to avoid disappointment. If you have any queries or require any further information, please kindly contact:

PID Howard Lee

lionhowardlee@sky.com

PDG Max Mongia

smongia@strongfieldtech.com

Lion Max Mongia

LONDON HOST LIONS CLUB 65th Charter Anniversary Celebrations

Sunday 22nd March 2015

Special guest

**Past International President
Prof. Dr Pino Grimaldi**

at Holiday Inn, London Regent's Park

For further details contact:

Lion Girdhar Sodha

07950 324320 or ggsodha@gmail.com



DG Ramesh's Report



My fellow Lions.

At the last cabinet meeting on 11th January 2015 many of the PDG and partners attended and I thank Arnawaz for hosting the morning session for the partners. I was proud to present the Certified Guiding Lions certificates to, Lions Andrew Allen, Eric Amaria, Mukesh Palan, and Edwin Liu. Lion Karanjeet Assen will be presented next time.



Young ambassador's competition was held in the afternoon by Lion Minesh and I am pleased that James Lingley, sponsored by LC of Wanstead and Woodford was the winner. We will invite him to speak at the Convention.

The Convention is not long to go. Please, my fellow Lions, if you have not booked please do so ASAP. I will be very pleased to see you all at the Convention. The organising committee is working very hard to make it a successful event.

I also wish the committee organising the Senior Citizen Party a very successful event.

January has been a busy month and I have travelled twice to Birmingham – once to attend the CAC meeting and the second Council Governors meeting not to mention numerous club visits and social events .

My visits



LC of Belmont social 17 Dec



LC Greenford Willow Trees Business Meeting 6 Jan



LC of Northwood Business Meeting 7 Jan



LC Letchworth Garden City & Baldock business meeting 12 Jan



LC of Bedford Business meeting 13 Jan



LC of London Golders Green Business meeting 14 Jan



LC of Moor Park Business meeting 15 Jan

DG Ramesh

My Diary – February 2015

Mon 2 SOUTHGATE LIONS CLUB (OV)
Tue 3 CARTERTON LIONS CLUB (OV)
Thur 5 3RD ZONE E MEETING (OV)
Fri 6 UXBRIDGE CHARTER (OV)
Sat 7 WANSTEAD & WOODFORD MEHFIL
Sun 8 SWIMMING GALA ZONE C (OV)
Tue 10 HIGH WEYCOMBE LIONS CLUB (OV)

Wed 11 CHIPPING BARNET LIONS CLUB (OV)
Thur 12 CONVENTION MEETING
Sat 14 EDGWARE LIONS CLUB VALENTINE EVENING (OV)
Sun 15 DISTRICT QUIZ FINAL
Thur 19 ZONE M MEETING
Sun 22 SENIOR CITIZEN CELEBRATION
Tue 24 EDGWARE LIONS CLUB BOARD MEETING
Sat 28 RUISLIP LIONS CLUB CHARTER (C)
OV = Official visit