

Midland News



INC The District Governors News Letter

District 105M The International Association of
Lions Clubs

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District Governors News Letter

It only seems five minutes since I was sitting here writing my March Newsletter and here I am writing the April edition.

Not only that, but it will be the first edition of the combined District Governors Newsletter and the Midland News.

Our District Convention has been and gone. After the long build up, it seems to go so quickly. I must thank the whole Convention team under Chairman Lion Eric Hughes and District Events Officer Lion Stuart Richmond for a job truly well done.

The business was serious but interspersed with plenty of fun, particularly from my own Shirley Lions Club and from Past District Governor David Seagar in charge of the Powerpoint graphics.

Most seriously, we made two important decisions; firstly, electing Lion Suresh Gohil as District Governor Elect and secondly Lion Andy Pemberton as Vice District Governor Elect.

We wish them both, and their partners every success for the future.

We must remember however, that there are still three months of this Lions year left, so let us go forward from Convention with our batteries charged and continue with that which we do best; helping those in need locally, nationally and internationally.

I have mentioned in previous Newsletters, the Lions Clubs International website and I would like to bring to your attention the third edition of the MERL Newsletter which is well worth reading for membership issues, so why not have a look, you never know it may help.

Can I conclude by wishing Lion Brian Branch every success with the new combined newsletter.

If you have an apple and I have an apple and we exchange apples, then you and I will still each have one apple.

But if you have an idea and I have an idea and we exchange these ideas, then each of us will have two ideas.



Coventry Leofric Lions Walkathon Cheque Presentation

Pictured on the right is Tracy James. This young lady won £1000 when her number was drawn from the 2006 Walkathon.

Tracy chose the British Heart Foundation to receive the much needed donation.

"I am delighted to have won £1000 from Coventry Leofric Walkathon to give to the Heart Foundation" she said.

Tracy explained that her father Garath James, died from a heart attack and so she has first hand experience of a family loss through heart disease.

The 2006 walkathon raised £15656.54



Donna Stokes for the British Heart Foundation receives a cheque from Lion President Paul Turner with Tracy James.

Your team could be the proud winner of this silver trophy on June 2007 at Birstall Golf Club, Leicester. For booking form email sonnyhanspal@hotmail.com



If you have not booked yet your team or as an individual in our popular Golf Tournament of 8th June 2007, please contact Lion Sonny or me for a booking form now.

Regards

*Ajeet Gill
Bushby Lions Club*

WATER IS LIFE – WITHOUT IT THERE IS NO LIFE!



Over one billion people worldwide have to live without access to clean water or sanitation. They have to walk miles every day to collect contaminated water from dried up river beds or muddy streams. The water contains harmful bacteria and parasites, which cause dysentery, river blindness, liver disease and many other serious illnesses.

WaterAid and Lions have been working together in partnership for many years, to provide fresh water, sanitation and hygiene education in some of the world's poorest

countries. Currently we are undergoing a five year project in Malawi but, without the help of Lions, the work cannot continue.

When your Club is deciding where to spend its hard-earned money this year, please make sure that WaterAid is on your list:

£15 is enough to give one person a lasting supply of safe water, sanitation and hygiene education.

£50 is enough for two days of hygiene education training.

£100 could pay a mason to build a

hand-dug well.

£200 could buy a locally built rope pump.

I have been to Africa and seen the difference that a village well makes to a community. Believe me, this will be one of the best donations you ever make. If you would like more information, please contact me:

Pauline Hoogerwerf
District Officer for WaterAid



A warm welcome to the following new Lions from all the "old" Lions of 105M

Malvern Hills Allen Bartlett	Solihull John Colcombe	Walsall Ann Hartland
Malvern Hills Heather Jeavons	Solihull Clive Jones	Walsall Reg Loake
Malvern Hills Nick Saunders	Solihull Keith Yeomans	Walsall Sylvia Loake

It's great to have you on board and we hope you enjoy your time in Lionism



NIGER CEREAL BANK APPEAL



Very many thanks to all those Clubs who have donated to my ongoing appeal to purchase sacks of grain to supplement cereal banks in the famine-struck country of Niger. I appreciate your continuing support for this worthwhile cause and would urge those Clubs who have not contributed to consider doing so. One bag of grain costs only £35 and will feed a family of up to eight people for approximately two months.

Each cereal bank is run by a village committee and the villagers have their

own accounts. When the harvest has been good and grain is plentiful, they will deposit bags of grain in their accounts. When the harvest is not so good, due to lack of rain or destruction of crops by insects, they can borrow from their account, paying it back again with interest when they can.

In the current period of famine, people have been borrowing more than they can pay back, so the money we collect is being used to supplement the cereal banks, so that nobody is turned away hungry. Last year the money you

raised built a brand new cereal bank in one of the hardest hit areas of Niger.

This is a sustainable project and I would like to thank you again for your help in making a difference to the lives of people who are much less fortunate than we are. If you would like any further details, do not hesitate to contact me:

Pauline Hoogerwerf

Marston Green & District Lions Club
Tel: 024 7636 3362

For those of you who weren't at Convention, shame on you, because you missed a great time. Anyway, I thought you might appreciate this bit of non-sense performed at Convention by Shirley Lions Club members

Now Mr & Mrs Ramsbottom thought Lions were a nasty bunch
Well they would when you stop to consider, one had eaten young Albert for lunch

So as they walked down the High Street and came across a Lions' stall,
To his wife's look of shocked consternation, he said "we're giving them bugger all"

Our Albert were ate by a Lion, and its you lot that must take the blame
"Don't be daft, we are two legged Lions, so you see we're just not the same"

"Yes we're are after yer money, be it euros, pounds, dollars or groats,
we even take stuff that's for folding, by that we mean crisp new bank notes".

Well this were a true revelation, cuz Ramsbottom was slightly dim,
The thought of a Lion after money, well that were a new one on 'im.

And if I'm daft enough to give it, what will you do wi me cash?
You'll spend it on booze and loose wimmen and then you'll go out on the lash!

Now the Lion he were quite offended, to think that someone would say,
He would use cash he had collected, in such a despicable way.

Mike Cooke, a Lion of distinction, with collection can clutched in is hand
Sidled on up to Ramsbottom, puffed out is chest and looked grand.

He said "let me explain summat to ya, you think that we'd tek yer cash,
And that we'd waste it on wimmen and booze, and then we'd mek a big splash.

"You've got us all wrong let me tell ya, the money we're after today
is for water wells, eye camps and such like, so bugger off out of me way!"

Ramsbottom felt quite offended, bugger off out o yer way!
I'll give yer bugger off he cried, then it turned into an affray.

Ramsbottom lashed out at Michael, but Mike he could duck, he could weave
And Mavis joined in wi er 'andbag, Mrs Ramsbottom grabbed olt of er sleeve.

A policeman then rounded the corner, he met with a startling sight,
Mike Cooke was stood in the middle with Ramsbottom having a fight.

Mavis was swinging er 'andbag, it gave Ma Ramsbottom a smack,
An uppercut then from the 'andbag, left the poor woman flat on er back.

At the risk from the low flying 'andbag, the Constable joined in the fight.
He promptly arrested our Mavis, "I'm locking you up for the night"

With Ramsbottom held in a headlock, Mike Cooke was winning his fight
"Hands off our DG young copper" he cried. That gave the young policeman a fright.

"Now come along Sir, please unhand him, tis a misunderstanding you see,
If I'd known this was DG Lion Mavis, I'd have let you good people go free"

The handcuffs were taken off Mavis, the Ramsbottoms sent on their way,
He dropped 50p into Mikes can, then the policeman wished the Lions GOOD DAY