



## INC The District Governor's News Letter

District 105M The International Association of  
Lions Clubs

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## FLOOD REPORT

In the month of July a large area in the Counties of Gloucestershire and Worcestershire were affected by serious flooding causing millions of pounds worth of damage to private, commercial, industrial and agricultural properties. The following report however deals only with properties affected in the confines of Region 4 105M.

The towns affected in the above mentioned Region were, Evesham (Worcestershire) Shipston on Stour ( Warwickshire ) Wellesbourne

(Warwickshire) and Worcester city, plus its surrounding areas.

Having observed the devastation caused by the floods I contacted District Governor Lion Suresh Gohil asking if application could be made to LCIF for flood relief money, this was carried out with immediate effect. In the interim monies from a district Trust fund were used and £2000 equal at that time to \$4000 was issued to the following Clubs,

Evesham Vale (Worcestershire), Stour Valley (Warwickshire), and Worcester.

The money each club was given was used in the following way:-

### Evesham Vale Lions Club:

The £2000 was used principally to provide £20 vouchers per affected property for free cleaning and household materials, available on application as a token to be used in an Evesham/Pershire Hardware shop, 75 tokens were produced 56 were given out 30 were actually used. The balance is being held by the club and will be issued when people waiting for their properties to be either rebuilt or redecorated are ready and able to use them; £500 pounds was given to our neighbouring club Wellesbourne Lions club as an emergency situation had arisen there.

### Stour Valley Lions Club:

The club identified and assisted a good number of victims from the floods in Shipston on Stour. The level of assistance varied according to need. The majority were covered by insurance and only needed interim assistance with clear up and removal of goods to get them over the initial period. Materials were purchased from B&Q ( Local do it yourself store ) to assist in this.

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## DG's News Letter

### *When I Asked God for Strength*

He Gave Me Difficult Situations to Face

### *When I Asked God for Brain & Brawn*

He Gave Me Puzzles in Life to Solve

### *When I Asked God for Happiness*

He Showed Me Some Unhappy People

### *When I Asked God for Wealth*

He Showed Me How to Work Hard

### *When I Asked God for Favours*

He Showed Me Opportunities to Work Hard

### *When I Asked God for Peace*

He Showed Me How to Help Others

### **God Gave Me Nothing I Wanted**

**He Gave Me Everything I Needed**

## MEALS ON WHEELS

Traditionally, Warwick Lions Club has paid for every meal on the last Warwick WRVS Meals on Wheels delivery before Christmas. This is a special Christmas meal, with turkey followed by Christmas pudding. For the last couple of years, the Lions have added a small iced Lions Christmas cake along with each meal. On Thursday the 20th December, therefore, regular driver Lion Charles King-Smith went with Lion Welfare Chairman David Wright to deliver Round 2.

They are pictured setting out from the Iris Lees Day Club in Chapel Street and at their first delivery, the Emscote Adult Education Centre in Nelson Lane.

Throughout the year on Tuesdays and Thursdays volunteers deliver Meals on Wheels and fresh drivers are always welcome. If you would like to help please contact Karen on 01926 491340.

The final event before Christmas for Warwick Lions is the jointly organised Carols at Warwick Castle on Saturday.



## Rowell Lions Club's Annual Christmas Party

150 invited guests attended the event and all were given a Christmas dinner.

Entertainment was provided by Rothwell Junior School Choir who sang carols and songs from the shows.

All of the guests were collected and returned to their homes, each receiving a present as they left.

A good time was had by all and we Rowell Lions look forward to continue organising the party for many years to come.

The Lord of The Manor, Mrs. Zandra Powell, supports the event. She attended and, as usual, helped out with the distribution of food and drink to our guests.

The Tea Party is run every year and is not a fund raising event, it is a charitable occasion designed to bring a joy to our local elderly and disabled.



# HANDSWORTH LIONS & SHREE MANDHATA SAMAJ

## CHARITY GARBA & DANDIA EVENING

With UPHAAR INTERNATIONAL GROUP  
(Top Musicians from India)  
In aid of Indian Eye Camp project

It was the evening of Saturday 27<sup>th</sup>. Oct a week after Navratri. Handsworth Lions Club, Birmingham, UK presented its latest offering "Sharad Purnima Starlights" in association with Shree Mandhata Samaj (Wolverhampton). This was an evening of entertainment and dance for a crowd over 300 people. Organised by club members Kanu Patel and Jitesh Samani, the proceeds of the evening were dedicated to supporting eye camp projects in India. Music was beautifully presented by famous Indian artistes Haridan Gadhvi and Uphaar International Group, and for the more relaxed audience members provisions of hot snacks and cold drinks by West Bromwich mandir.



According to Lion Suresh Patel (President), "At Handsworth Lions Club, we are a team of professional volunteers dedicated to the service of our community and third world countries." We asked Lion Kanu Patel how much effort goes into organising such an event? "We have been planning and organising this function for the last 8 months. Securing the venue and the musicians were the first steps" and from fellow organizer Lion Jitesh Samani "Sharad Purnima is a very competitive time. There are many other garba events taking place on the same date. We had to ensure we could differentiate ours from the rest and maximize publicity which we did so via facebook, email mailshots, land mailshots, distribution of flyers via sweet centres, local mandirs, radio announcements and an advertisement in Gujarat Samachar." So what was the differentiating factor? "Price is always the key and we wanted to provide top raffle prizes which winners would be proud to receive - our first prize a RADO watch,. Secondly musicians are they key. They must be able to maintain the crowds' appetite and Haridanbhai has an immense following locally and overseas".

Over the last 20 years, Handsworth Lions Club has been prominent in supporting needy causes both internationally and locally. They have supported the disabled, local schools projects and funded hospital equipment. Internationally, they have made contributions to the International Lions SightSavers II project which aims to support the eradication of curable eye diseases in the world. To-date 25 million patients have been cured, which is still the tip of the ice-berg. The club assisted the rebuilding projects during the India Earthquake disaster with a donation in excess of £30K. They have supported sister clubs with the rebuild of a village in Sri Lanka post the Tsunami disaster and schools in China and Punjab. Aid has been provided to the Pakistan earthquake disaster and Bangladesh flood appeal. For more information please email: [hlc@online-site.co.uk](mailto:hlc@online-site.co.uk).

### The DG On His Travels



Northampton China Town Charter



Lion President Kelvin Chung  
Receiving His Melvin Jones award  
from DG Suresh



DG Suresh & Lion President  
Sheila at Sutton Coldfield Charter

As dehumidifiers were in short supply two units were purchased which were put into immediate use and will be needed for some time to come. Three properties in particular were identified that were not insured and support was concentrated on them. In one case the situation was exacerbated by the vulnerability of the family, most of whom have learning disabilities. In this case new tiling was funded for their ground floor. Their existing carpet and floor boarding had to be removed and new ceramic tiling was advised as their property is particularly vulnerable to flooding from the river Stour .

The club also participated in collecting and the storing of furniture donated by the town's people for the flood victims. Clearance of damaged and discarded goods will remain a problem and as skip companies are working to capacity we are expecting further expenditure in this area. The question being, will more funding be available or do we call a halt to helping the flood victims in their time of need.

**Worcester Lions Club:**

On Monday 6 August an Investigation took place into the possibilities of distributing the funds provided to the Worcester Lions Club by District 105M . Given the restraints placed upon the funding, the timing of the arrival of the funds and the actual dates of the floods occurring, there was regrettably little scope for success. A considerable amount of time had elapsed wherein many Worcester residents had either set their own plans in motion, or were in the hands of loss adjusters and insurance companies and thereby unable to proceed further without their consent. Unfortunately the actual disbursement of the funds was not able to take place due to circumstances described above. Unless anything has come to light recently, it would appear that the funds should be returned whence they came with our grateful thanks and regrets that they could not, in this instance and given the restraints, be effectively used. The funds have now been duly returned to the district treasurer.

**Wellesbourne & District Lions Club:**

The club received £500 from Evesham Vale Lions Club as unused surplus funds. The club decided that whilst we were facing long term problems that they would purchase two " Life Lines " from Warwickshire Fire & Rescue Service which is something they had done for isolated and vulnerable people in previous years. However, funds had not been budgeted for this purpose so two additional lines were purchased for £376.

It was felt that another useful way of providing future protection was to purchase 200 "Message in a Bottle "containers, at a cost of £40. These will be distributed at the clubs Annual Autumn Concert, and will also be given to those houses with lone and elderly residents. As most residents who experienced flooding have yet to return to their homes the club expects to be involved with more requests for assistance.


All club members spent many hours of community service helping with the daunting task of clearing and cleaning the homes of vulnerable people, of items contaminated by toxic water and with thick layers of contaminated sludge, they were also able to help with offers of furniture to those whose homes were virtually uninhabitable. This period highlighted those residents whose contents were uninsured, although the buildings were covered by Housing Association insurance.

All the above reports were sent to me electronically on or around the time the floods were at their height

Yours in Lionism


Graham Taylor  
Region Chairman Region 4  
Flood co-ordinator

Thoughts from the DG



Anger is a condition in which the tongue works faster than the mind.

You can't change the past but you can ruin the present by worrying over the future.




If anyone speaks badly of you, live so that none will believe it.

Do what you can, for who you can with what you have, and where you are.


Wishing your day be filled with love and peace!

**Dear Lord,**  
So far today, am I doing all right.



I have not gossiped, lost my temper, been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish, or self-indulgent. I have not whined, complained, cursed, or eaten any chocolate. I have charged nothing on my credit card.

But I will be getting out of bed in a minute, and I think that I will really need your help then.



Laughter is God's sunshine.

Take time to laugh for it is the music of the soul.



God always gives His best to those who leave the choice with Him.

A hug is a great gift ... one size fits all. It can be given for any occasion and it's easy to exchange.