

Midland News



INC The District Governor's News Letter

District 105M The International Association of
Lions Clubs

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AMALA UPDATE



I have been given permission by District Governor Suresh to make a one off appeal towards fitting out the Computer Room at St Helens School. First some background.

I first visited Amala in October 2005 when I heard that they needed to build two new schools in order to retain their recognition within the Indian education system. This project seemed ideal for an LCIF Grant. Appeals were made within the District and, together with non Lions supporters over £25000 was raised. Eventually an LCIF grant of \$50,000 (£25000) was approved, a further £25000 was given by the Amala Trust, a UK charity providing day by day support to the Children's Home and schools and these funds completed the project.

I visited again in October 2006 and again in January 2008. By this time the High School was built and the Primary School well on the way to completion. By the time you read this it will have been completed. The High School has been

inspected and passed the Indian education authority approval system. The Primary School was the subject of the LCIF Grant application and I have virtually completed the final report subject only to some loose ends to be completed in the next few weeks.

The Amala Trust supports virtually all of the costs of running the home and schools but inevitably capital spending is a large drain on their resources. They have seen the classrooms fitted out for use in the High School and will do so in the Primary School. They do not have the funds to fit out the Computer Room or the Science Laboratory. It seemed to me to be an ideal opportunity for Lions again to prove their willingness to support such worthwhile projects.

The cost of 10 computers and all associated equipment is about £10,000.

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DG s News Letter

Greetings to all the Fellow Lions

Visiting Clubs is a memorable experience, giving insight into the ways meetings are conducted and in the way members relate to each other. There is no doubt that great fun and fellowship exists in the meetings and I specially liked the Tail Twister. Majority of Clubs have raised admin funds by fines imposed through the Tail Twister. The comments made by the Tail Twister are in good faith and humorous. Keep up the good work of maintaining fun and fellowship in business/charter meetings.

The MD Council meeting took place on 25th to 27th January 2008 and the VDGs were also invited to attend the meeting. The PR and Marketing team is working hard to bring a new image to Lionism. Leaflets have been produced on "Ordinary People Amazing Things". The leaflets are available from MD 105 HQ for £3.50 per 100 if collected or £5.50 if posted. The leaflets provides information on Youth, Community, CSF II, International Aid and is a very useful tool to hand over to public and prospective members. There is also space at the back for each Club to put their details.

In my previous newsletter, I have mentioned about Bert Mason Award as a special tribute to Past International President Bert Mason. The Clubs are encouraged to nominate members for Bert Mason Trophy. The cost of Award will be £320 including postage and packing £70 will be used for administration and £250 used for humanitarian work, shared equally between the Multiple District and LCIF. An application form can be obtained from the website. I also have a supply, if needed.

In addition to this Award, there is also another new Bert Mason Memorial Trophy being awarded to those Lions who have provided service to the Youth.

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AMALA UPDATE

Continued from page one.

If a substantial part of this could be raised in the District I believe that an application for a small LCIF Grant to fund the balance may be possible.

This, and the e-mail received by some of you, is the only appeal that will be made, there will be no follow up. I hope that enough of you will find it possible to send funds to enable, perhaps with a Grant, this project to be completed. Anything would be appreciated.

I have video and stills available and will willingly attend any Club or Zone to give further background on the Children's Home and Schools.

Please send funds to PDG Lion John Bush, The Crest, East Farndon, Market Harborough. LE16 9SJ payable to Market Harborough Lions Club Charity Trust Account.

lionjbush@aol.com



Young Ambassador of the 21st Century

Worcester Lions Club hosted the Multiple District 105M Final of the Young Ambassador of the 21st Century Competition.

The competition was held at the Whitehouse Hotel, Worcester on Sunday 27th January where 7 young contestants presented details of work they had done in their local community.

The Young Ambassador heat was won by Nigel Taylor aged 17, who is a volunteer with St Johns Ambulance he now goes forward to represent this District at the National Finals to be held 15th - 17th February at the Village Hotel, Dudley.

Nigel was congratulated by Mayor of Worcester, Councillor Stephen Inman and District Governor Lion Suresh Gohil



Your District Needs You

The District Governor we elect in March has to form a Cabinet for 2008/2009 by the end of March. If you are interested in a particular position on Cabinet or have specialist skills/knowledge you would like to put to use on behalf of the District then please contact Lion Phil White.

0121 785 0392 evenings and weekends or email: philpwhite@talktalk.net

Phil is the District Leadership Development Officer and has a position description for each of the Cabinet Offices listed in the MD Directory.

Listed is a brief outline of the general responsibilities for Zone Chairmen and Cabinet officers

Zone Chairman Responsibilities

1. Study Position description
2. Attend Incoming Zone Chairman seminar April 13th
3. Arrange meeting with incoming

- Presidents, May/June
4. Attend Changeover early July, hear new International President's message
 5. Visit all clubs before September Cabinet meeting and submit reports to DG
 6. Visit all clubs again before March Convention and submit reports to DG
 7. Attend 4 Cabinet meetings September/November/February/May
 8. Organise at least 4 Zone meetings to report back from Cabinet
 9. Attend Autumn Forum in October
 10. Attend District Convention in March
 11. Attend two review meetings for Zone Chairmen (Forum and January)
 12. Submit electronic reports to Cabinet and Convention on time
 13. Liaise with Region Chairman to appraise of activities and issues
 14. Attend Club Charter nights and other events where possible

Cabinet Officer Responsibilities

1. Study Position description
2. Research your subject
3. Attend Incoming Officers seminar May 18th
4. Attend Changeover early July, hear the International President's message
5. Attend 4 Cabinet meetings September/November/February/May
6. Attend Autumn Forum in October
7. Attend District Convention in March
8. Attend committee meetings before Cabinet meetings
9. Attend Club and Zone meetings as required
10. Promote your subject throughout the district
11. Liaise with MD officer and attend MD meetings as required
12. Submit electronic reports to Cabinet and Convention on time

COMPETITIONS

Travelling Lion as at Beginning January
Bushby
Shirley

Castle Bromwich
There are only 105.5 points between first and second place. Travelling Lion starts again from 1 March 2008.

Peace Posters

There will be a number of Peace Poster packs available through the District again this year. Please contact the Competitions Officer for your pack. The theme for 2008-9 is 'Peace Begins With Me'.

Competition Rules

These can be found on the District website.

*There is always time to love- time to stop and listen,
time to pray for someone, time to lend a helping hand.
It's these little things that make's life worth living*

AWI ZONE, AMHARA REGION, ETHIOPIA

Today a group led by Lions Clubs International Foundation Chairperson Jimmy Ross witnessed a historic moment in trachoma control when the 10 millionth dose of azithromycin (Zithromax®) was dispensed to a person in Awi Zone. The antibiotic, donated by Pfizer Inc, is a main strategy in the fight against the blinding disease in poor, rural areas. Representatives from The Carter Center, Lions clubs of Ethiopia, Pfizer, the national trachoma program, government of Ethiopia, and other partner organisations joined the celebration.



More DGs News



The application form is to be submitted with Citations (together with, if possible, a photograph) and sent to me before 15th March 2008 in order that I can forward them to MD Headquarters. The winner will be chosen by a panel of Past International Directors and will be announced at the Convention in Aberdeen. The Suggested Qualities are:-

- Has shown enthusiasm for youth projects within their Club and/or District
- Has shown commitment to youth projects within their Club and/or District
- Has introduced new youth projects to their Club and/or District
- Has enthused others to join in with youth projects
- Through youth projects, has spread awareness of Lionism in their Community and/or District
- At all times, has shown an affinity with & respect for young people.

I am also trying to promote the benefits of Yoga and meditation to control diabetes and other stress related illnesses in MD. The MD hosted a very successful emerging Institute Seminar in January 2008. There was a record attendance of 35 and was very much appreciated by those attended.

I was also fortunate to attend on 27th January 2008 the District Finals for the Young Ambassador of the 21st Century Awards. The finalists were:
 Samuel Downs sponsored by Shirley
 Judy Roberts sponsored by Evesham LC
 Nigel Taylor sponsored by Solihull LC
 Thomas Martin sponsored by Droitwich LC

Richard Costello sponsored Sutton Coldfield LC
 Jasmine Scott sponsored by Marston Green LC
 James Mallin sponsored by Castle Bromwich LC

The winner was Nigel Taylor sponsored by Solihull LC and who will receive a bursary of £500. I felt that the standard of competition between the Youth was very high. The judges found it very difficult to choose the winner. To encourage each of the 6 runner ups, I decided to send a cheque of £100 to each of the Clubs with a request to consider providing the bal-

The Clubs and Charter visits scheduled are:-

March 2008

1 st March – Barwell & Earl Shilton-Charter	4 th March- Rushden & District
5 th March- Northampton	7th to 9th March- DISTRICT CONVENTION
10 th March- Balsall Common	20 th March- Rowell
27 th March- Codsall	29 th March- Rowell –Charter Ball

April 2008

1 st April- Market Harborough	2 nd April –Southam & District
3 rd April- Towcester & District	5 th April- Towcester & District-Charter
9 th April- Birmingham Sheldon	14 th April- Malvern Hills
19 th April- Hinckley & Burbage-Charter	20 th April- Market Harborough-Charter

23rd to 27th April- MD DISTRICT CONVENTION IN ABERDEEN

The CSF II momentum has increased with participation from many Clubs. Our target is £100000. I am pleased to advise that we have collected nearly £68000 including pledges. Over 75% of the Clubs have participated and am very grateful to each and every club for their kind donations.

The District Convention is very close. Please support the District event by attending as many events as possible:-

Friday 7th March 2008-

Lunchtime: NSL lunch
 Afternoon: District Officers meeting with Past International President Dr Ashok Mehta
 Evening: Host Night- 7.00 pm to 7.30 pm start- Medieval Theme: £15 per person

Saturday 8th March 2008-

Time: 9 am to 4 pm- Convention
 Evening: Banquet Ball: £22 per person.

Sunday 9th March 2008-

Time: 10.30 am to 12 O'clock- An open discussion with PIP Dr A Mehta

During my Club visits, I have had some members who are disillusioned with the way Lions International are operated through Oak Brook. You may have an opportunity to express your views directly to Dr A Mehta who I assure you will be able to answer all your enquiries satisfactorily.

I wish to congratulate the following new members who joined:-

<u>Club:</u>	<u>Name:</u>
1. Kingswinford & Stourbridge	Jane Cope
2. Walsall	Gary Porter
3. Walsall	Stella Porter