

Midland News



INC The District Governor's News Letter

District 105M The International Association of
Lions Clubs

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SHIRLEY LIONS CLUB Raise £6500 For Campaign SF11



When Campaign Sighfirst II was being talked about one of the key objectives for all Clubs was to provide new money for this worthy cause which would not impact on the Clubs normal activities and charitable donations.

As a club, we always wanted to contribute and because it was a two year project, it provided us with a reasonable timeframe to get the message out and find other sources to contribute to this major fundraising activity.

The magnitude of this project was realised early on and within the first three months of the campaign we had raised £300 from running a stall at a local fete and from donations made by two of the club members. These were not large donations but helped make a positive start to our fund raising efforts.

During the early months of the Campaign we managed to identify a small number of Companies willing to contribute £500 during each year of the Campaign. The use of the Campaign Sightfirst II brochure helped explain the aims

and objectives and the company donations helped raise a total of £3500 over the length of the Campaign.

Our overall target was not set until mid 2007 when we set about raising a total of £6500

The next contribution to CSFII came from the District Sports Quiz, following DG Suresh's request to raise money for the Campaign in lieu of a DG Partner's project. The event raised a further £600 for the Campaign.

Three Club members also made personal donations of over \$1000 in order to meet the criteria for a Melvin Jones Fellowship award. Other Club members also chipped in with personal donations which helped take us past our target of £6500

To close out our activities a Race night was added to our charitable events with all sponsorship and "donations" raised going towards the Campaign. With all races, horses and jockeys sold the Race

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DG s News Letter

The Lionistic year is nearly coming to an end. I wish to congratulate all the members in our District for working so hard to increase the membership. I was perusing the membership figures in last few Lionistic years, and quote the figures produced by our district registrar, Mike Jobbins.

2003/2004 Net loss 91

2004/2005 Net loss 21

2006/2007 Net loss 52

2007/2008 Till end of April
NET GAIN 45

This is an excellent achievement by our members and the MERL team. There is a very strong possibility of setting up 3 new clubs next Lionistic year. Fellow Lions, keep up the good work, and let us together take our district out of the transition stage, by increasing the net Membership to the magical figure of 1250

Across the globe we have net growth of over 17000, with the greatest growth in India and Srilanka .

We are very close to our goal of £100000 in respect of the Campaign Sight first 11. So far we have collected around £73000. Please support the district Gala banquet and ball on June 7th

It is being held at the Clarendon Suites, Stirling Road, off Hagley Road, Edgbaston , Birmingham.

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SHIRLEY LIONS

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Night raised a further £1334 taking out efforts to over £8000

Throughout the Campaign our members, partners, friends and business partners have been very aware that the small sum of £3.00 can save a person's eyesight and transform their quality of life. In this regard we have provided 2670 people with an opportunity to see again – a wonderful thought and hopefully money well spent in this marathon Campaign led by our great organisation.



Lion President Martin and The Mayor of Solihull



Punters at the race night



Lion Roger receives his Melvin Jones



Even the Mayor was gambling (he lost)

For all the world's children
Health, Education, Equality, Protection

unicef 
The UK Committee for UNICEF

EDUKITS

This year Lions Clubs across the Multiple District have already raised over £23,000 for Edukits and I would like your Club to add to this impressive figure, by making a donation via the Assistant District Treasurer, made out to Lions Clubs International District 105 M and marked on the back "Edukit".

Edukits are a vital resource during times of emergency and natural disaster, as they are a way of enabling children to continue their education.

Each Edukit costs £110 and contains enough teaching and learning materials for 80 children and their teacher.

Please consider this vital project when distributing your charity funds this year.

Pauline Hoogerwerf
Officer for Street Children

Southam & District Lions Club Visit to Hook Norton Brewery

We were so impressed with the last edition having hit the front page, that we thought you all deserved to hear about the Brewery visit.

I've used the words carefully this time to ensure that our members' secrets are kept confidential since we wouldn't want it known to all and sundry that we are a group of old and drunken Lions. Far from it since we have 2 members who are not old.

On a wet and miserable evening in late April, the minibus sat in Wood Street car park with its engine running just in case the darn thing wouldn't start again. One by one the Pride of Southam Lions appeared out of the gloom and alighted onto the bus – that is all but one!

Yes! Peter Jackson our Chairman of Activities – let me spell this out – ACTIVITIES – did not appear and as the clock ticked ominously towards the appointed time of departure there was a pressing need to call him on the mobile. The conversation went a bit like this:

“Hello – is your Dad there?” (it was picked up by Peter's daughter)

“Yes! I will get him for you”

LONG WAIT

“Hello who is this?”

“Southam Lions here”

“Well!”

“Any idea what day this is?”

“Wednesday? Isn't it?”

“Yes it is and we are sitting here in Wood Street car park waiting for you”

“Are you? Why?”

“Cos we are all going to the Brewery for the 'boy's night out'”

VERY VERY LONG SILENCE

“Hello! Peter are you still there?”

“Yes”

“Well are you coming then?”

“No! Carole's in the shower and I have been told to get tea ready”

“Oh dear – do you want to come?”

“Yes! But I forgot to mention it.....”

“Shall we come round and pick you up then?”

“OK then” his voice getting quieter and quieter “ see you outside my house then – how long will you be?”

“About 5 minutes”

“Holy s- - t!!!”

We duly picked him up and set off for Hook Norton. ‘Anyone know how to switch the lights on?’ No-one did so we had to make an unscheduled stop to sort that out and that was when Peter made a run for it! Not so much a run really he got up and then sat down again!

Visiting a brewery is very much like visiting a brewery really and the oft mentioned fable of ‘couldn't organise a piss-up in a Brewery!’ couldn't be said about this trip since everything went like clockwork apart from finding the blasted place. We still managed to arrive on time and were taken round in two groups. It meant of course that the first group got back before the others and were able to get stuck into the ‘tasting’. Needless to say the ones with ‘drink problems’ were in the first group.

When we had tried all ‘47’ varieties (not really that many but it seemed like it at the time) we boarded the bus to The Sun Public House where a great English dinner of ‘Cow Pie and Tatties’ plus mixed veg awaited us. Now there were originally 14 in the group but 1 couldn't make it so there was an extra large portion of Cow Pie. Well! Poor old Tony who it seemed hadn't eaten for a week went back for seconds and then thirds! We had to explain to the landlord that Tony wasn't entirely sure whether he liked it or not – hence the need to keep on trying it!

A definitely fine time was enjoyed by all.



STREET CHILDREN
Millions of children worldwide live, work and sleep on the streets.

Through the Consortium for Street Children, Lions Clubs support organisations that give education and life skills opportunities to these vulnerable children. You can find out more by visiting the website: <http://www.streetchildren.org.uk/>

All Lions Clubs have been sent the Street Children Project leaflet by the MD Officer, Brindar Singh, in which six particular projects are outlined. You are invited to support any of these by making a donation, via the Assistant District Treasurer, made out to Lions Clubs International District 105 M and marked on the back “Street Children”. Once again this year, any undesignated donations will be sent to the Railway Children Project, whose

aim is to make contact with a child when he or she first arrives on the streets, before a potential abuser does. For further information about Railway Children, you can visit their website: www.railwaychildren.org.uk

Pauline Hoogerwerf
Officer for Street Children



April in Kettering

Marston Green and District Lions Club would like to say a big “thank you” to Kettering Lions Club for once again laying on a fantastic day out at Wicksteed Park on 26th April. This year we sent two groups to the event: Solihull Young Carers and the Groovy Grans and Gramps from Chelmsley Wood. They were accompanied by Lions Frank Godden, David Jackson and Heather Lee and all said what a wonderful time they had. One of the Young Carers was quoted as saying “A great day out. I loved it. 10/10”. It is also rumoured that the accompanying Lions had to be dragged back on the bus kicking and screaming at the end of the day, because they hadn't had so much fun for years!

What surprised us was the very small number of Lions Clubs that had taken up this wonderful offer. We will certainly be looking forward to next year's event and hope it will continue for many more years. Well done Kettering!



More DGs News



The cost for the lions is only £25 per person, to include drinks at reception with canapés, and a five course meal., live steel band, and DJ Darren from Moseley lions will also play music,with entertainment by lion Don Mclean.The PID from USA, Jay patel is attending to grace the occasion.There are currently 40 seats available. So please make this evening a success by participating and enjoying the fun and fellowship. There are fabulous prizes nearly worth £5000 to be won. We are producing the gala souvenir booklet. Remember, this is the first gala of its kind in our district, and its up to you my family of lions, to make it a success. I request the district officers to set an example by sending their application forms to Maureen Kendall or Femi Onabolu.

The information on the china earthquake . The instructions are being placed on the website. Any club wishing to donate should follow the instructions given on the webpage.

My personal congratulations to the new members:

- Chinn Bhagrath-Warwick
- John Mathews-Corby
- Mavis Gould-Towcester
- Anne Carter-Shirley
- Ronald Bateman-Birmingham Acocks Green
- John Coyle-Birmingham Acocks Green
- Patricia Coyle-Birmingham Acocks Geen
- Stanley Newton Balsall Common
- Thomas Smith-Shirley
- John Vennel-Shirley
- John Gray-Kettering

All of you are welcome into the family of lions and wish you a very happy future. Don't forget to book your places at the GALA!

To end I will say_ To have an effective team, create a climate where everybody can feel at ease expressing their opinions.

Suresh Gohil-Dg

You must not lose faith in Humanity.
Humanity is an ocean;
if a few drops of the ocean are dirty;
The ocean does not become dirty.



The Formation of Thumby Club



President Richard Chaterway accepting cheque from DG Suresh



Roger Pye from Towcester receiving the MJF from DG Suresh



Bushby Lions presenting the message in bottles at Gandhi House



Lion John Giddings receiving the MJF from DG Suresh at Towcester charter



DG Suresh, partner Josh with International President Mahendra Amarasuria at MD Convention, Aberdeen