

Midland News



INC The District Governor's News Letter

District 105M The International Association of
Lions Clubs

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A Gift for Living



When new Lions join our Clubs it is so easy to assume that they will automatically and almost instantly understand all our terminology and everything that we do.

The "District Governor's Partners Project" can so easily fall into this category, so, "what is it?", "why is it done?"

It started many years ago before ladies became members in their own right, when Pearl Jobbins, wife of the then District Governor, Lion Mike Jobbins, felt that it would be good if the wives of Lions could have a project of their own to support. The result was an appeal on behalf of breast cancer research was launched.

This proved very successful and popular and so the pattern for the future was set.

Since ladies have become Lions the emphasis has changed slightly and it has now become a District Project nominated by the partner of District Governor and the District Governor themselves.

And so last year District Governor Mavis and I asked for your support for "A Lions Gift for Living". Details were circulated to all Clubs, requests for support were included in the District Governors Newsletters and a speaker was invited to District Forum.

The major fund raising event was The Searchers Concert held in Wolverhampton, and a big vote of thanks must go to Lion Maureen Kendall, her family and the committee for all their hard work in making it such a success, raising £5700.

DG s News Letter

The months of October and November have been very hectic.

My congratulations to Stuart Richmond for receiving the prestigious Melvin Jones Fellowship award from his club, Bilston and Willenhall at their charter on 29th September.

I thoroughly enjoyed the 30th charter anniversary of Marston Green and District Lions club on 13th October. It was full of fun and laughter.

On the same day I had attended the balloon race at Corby . They raised in excess of £800 for Campaign Sight First 11 appeal, and will be topping up to £1000.

My heartfelt thanks to the Club for such a great effort.

The Autumn Forum held on 21st October was a great success.

We had over 105 attendees. The four seminars, namely on Diabetes and other stress related illnesses with Yoga, How to obtain Grants, Incoming Officers, and hearing and speech aid were highly appreciated by the audience.

The afternoon talks on Campaign Sight First 11, coupled with talk on membership, 20K programme was well received. The highlight of the day was the speech by Lord Dholakia, who through his eloquent speech, anecdotes and compassion for charity work had the public spellbound. He is a patron of over 100 charities .

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A Gift for Living

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The remaining monies were donated by many Clubs in the District and for this IPDG Lion Mavis and I are eternally grateful.

What was the final outcome ? well as can be seen from the photograph, a cheque in the sum of £6,500 was presented to me at this years District Forum by IPDG Lion Mavis and has now been sent to Gift for Living.

On behalf of the children whose lives will be saved as a result of this gift can I say a huge THANK YOU from the bottom of our hearts.

This is an ongoing Lions project so I hope that you will continue to support it. If you need any further information then please do not hesitate to get in touch with me.

Once again THANK YOU !!!

Lion Mike Cooke

Past Council Chairman
Spouse of Immediate Past
District Governor Mavis Cooke.

The expression
"Life hangs on a
thread"
has quite a literal
meaning in the Bosnia
of today.

Lion Phil Nathen

Gift for Living
Committee Chairman

The DGs Photo Album



Dist Coordinator Lion Femi, DG Suresh, & Lion Bipin from Corby



PDG Wim receiving 25 year chevron from DG Suresh



Lion Josh presenting Joyce Mathews appreciation award



Corby Lions with Lion Josh , and Lion Femi at balloon race



Lion Alan Mathews receiving appreciation award from DG Suresh



Lion Stuart Richmond receiving the MJF from PDG Lion Jim Rowley

EUROPEAN SENIOR LIONS LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE 2007/2008

From the 13th to 17th of September 2007, 45 Lions from 15 European Countries gathered in a remote, quiet, exquisite and evergreen little town of Bussom, some 45-minute train journey from Amsterdam, for the LCI European Senior Lions Leadership Institute 2007. Most of us thought we will get to know Amsterdam and have some holidays but how wrong we were.

Six weeks before the Institute, we were sent volumes of study works and Pre-Institute assignments, and four weeks to Institute we received a Project Management Session Pre-assignment with list of members in our teams and communication instructions with team members; Case Study of a Community project with instructions for the selection by members of a Team Project for presentation at the Institute.

By 4.00pm on Thursday 13th on completion of registrations, we had the Opening Session with a get –to-know-yourself questionier. We were then given a welcome pack with our

division into Red and Blue groups representing our Group classrooms, and division into 4 Seminar study teams per group.

The first Seminar started at 5.00pm on “Change Leadership” and we were honoured with the surprise visit of the International President Mahendra Amarasuriya, who welcomed us and spoke to us about “The Wind of Change” required to move Lions forward by involving younger generation. Whilst admitting that change is not easy, he said, “if we continue as we have, unmindful of how the world has changed, we won’t be successful in adding members; but if we adjust and show flexibility, there will be more opportunities to recruit ‘new blood’; we don’t need to change who Lions are and what we do but we do need to change how we do things. This was the highlight of the opening ceremony.

For the remaining 4 days, breakfast was at 7.00am, sessions started at 8.00am prompt and with fifteen minutes Tea break before and after lunch of one

All about Lions, *Presentation Skills, *Sharing Best Practices, *Diversity, *Thinking Outside the Box, *Creativity, *Conflict Resolution, *Communication, *We Serve, *L.C.I.F., *Supporting Teams, *Mentoring, *Project Management, *Public Speaking Presentation.

Did I hear you say WHAO !!! Yes, we all went through each and all of above topics with lots of Course works and small Group seminars all in 4 days. For anyone under the illusion of having a holiday or getting to know Amsterdam, by the time we had dinner each night, we were ready for nothing else than a little fellowship, reviews and sleep. The programme finished with complete Individual Lion member evaluation, presentation of Certificates and Group photographs.

Forty one friendly Lions from all over Europe that included Finland, Portugal, Holland, Turkey, England, Estonia, Lithuania, Hungary, Bulgaria, Greece, France, Belgium, Germany and Italy were brought together under 4 great Lions Instructors, *PID Nesim Levi from Turkey, *PID Miklos Horvath from Hungary, *PCC Per Christensen from Denmark and *PDG Mike Hendy from England. We were all filled with admiration and gratitude for their excellent training skills and the relentless efforts and services of the Institute Coordinator LCI (Oakbrook Staff) Kathy Ryan.

The parting of Lions was very difficult because of the intimate friendship and fellowship that had developed over the 5 days. Correspondences and photographs postings followed immediately after arrival in their various Countries and lifetime friendship was consummated among most attendants. It was an unforgettable experience and invaluable education in Leadership for all who attended. I

strongly recommend Lions intending to play leadership roles in their Clubs, Zones, Regions and/or Districts to attend a Leadership Institute.

Compiled by
Lion Femi Onabolu (105M)





More DGs News



He was appointed Baron Dholakia of Waltham Brooks and introduced to House of Lords on 29th October 1997.

Lord Dholakia has won number of prominent awards including the Asian of the Year in November 2000. He was also awarded the Pravasi Bhartiya Samman Award by the Government of India in January 2003.

I presented to him a cheque of £500 on behalf of the district. He decided to pass it over to Foundation Of Goodness which is dealing with the Tsunami effected people of Seenigama in Sri Lanka . My personal thanks to all the speakers, and the officers who took part in the seminar to make it a success. Stuart Richmond, his wife Sue, Harry Fry with his wife Janet had worked very hard for

the event. I am indebted to them. There were around 26 clubs attending the Forum, and quite a few new members, and new faces were seen. A big thank you to all those who attended.

Sadly, there were several deaths in last few weeks. My sympathy to the widows and the families.

Northfield Lions are on the way to reinstatement with 10 to 12 new members expecting to be inducted shortly. Thanks to Barbara, Jackie, and all the clubs who assisted in the revival. Hall Green, and Balsall Common also had successful Drinks & Nibbles evening. Hopefully they too will be inducting new members.

Fellow Lions, to get 100 net members, we need to form new clubs, open branch clubs, and work together to make this district a strong district.

Let us bring fun and fellowship in our clubs, and attract more new members.

Harry Hunjan, Charanjit Hunjan, Josh Ramji, and I will be travelling to Sri Lanka to attend their ISAAME convention from 5th to 8th December. We will be away from 1st December to 13th December.



Baron Dholakia receiving cheque of £500 from DG Suresh



Lion Josh, DG Suresh, Ann, VDG Andy Pemberton at Autumn Forum



DG Suresh inducting new member Paul from Knowle & Dorrige



DG Suresh, Baron Dholakia with district officers



Sergeant-at-Arms Lion Harry Fry at Autumn Fo-



Lion President John Heard of Knowle & Dorrige receiving the DG's tie,



Special appreciation for Lion Simon Moss at Marston Green charter



Lions Hearing Trust display at Autumn Forum