

Midland News



INC The District Governor's News Letter

District 105M The International Association of
Lions Clubs

Issue 67 October 2007



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WOLVERHAMPTON DOES IT FOR WATERAID!



At the end of September I was invited to an event at the National Motorcycle Museum to mark the close relationship between WaterAid and Severn Trent and to recognise community achievement in the Severn Trent area. Presentations were made to community organisations and individuals who had contributed significantly to WaterAid's valuable work in recent years.

Each of the eight separate categories had several nominations and I am delighted to say that, out of six nominees in the Lions Clubs category, Wolverhampton Lions Club was the winner. President Trevor Jones received a beautiful cut glass trophy on behalf of his Club and was congratulated on their total donations of £3,000 to WaterAid's work in Malawi. This was the first time such an occasion had been held and it was uplifting to see one of our own District 105M Clubs recognised in this way.

WaterAid has enjoyed a long relationship with Lions.

I hope that Clubs in this District will continue to support their work by making a donation, via the Assistant District Treasurer, clearly marked for WaterAid. Believe me, your donation will make a huge difference to people who are presently struggling to live from day to day.

Dates for your diary:

World Toilet Day 29th November 2007 – raise money for sanitation projects. There are currently 2.6 billion people without adequate sanitation.

World Water Day 22nd March 2008 – convert buckets of pennies into buckets of water. There are over one billion people without access to clean water.

For fun ideas on how to raise money for the above projects, and to obtain a fund-raising pack, please contact WaterAid direct: 020 7793 4500 or see their website: www.wateraid.org for further information.

Pauline Hoogerwerf
Tel: 024 7636 3362

DG s News Letter

I had a very interesting month. I had pleasure in attending the Coventry Godiva Gala Mela on 9th September 2007 after the Cabinet meeting. The atmosphere was warm, friendly and it was wonderful to see so many people enjoying themselves at the Gala Mela. The music was interesting but the food prepared by the Coventry Godiva Lions was mouth watering!

The meeting due with Codsall Lions Club on 27th September 2007 had to be postponed. The Birmingham Handsworth Indian Night was well attended with plenty of fun and fellowship. The evening was to raise funds for Eye Camps. It was also a day when India beat Australia in a thrilling finish!

Besides the normal Club visits as mentioned in my previous newsletter, I found my visit to Birmingham Repertory Theatre on 2nd October 2007 very enjoyable. I must congratulate Lion President David Cox of Birmingham Chinatown for arranging such an excellent evening. "Brief Encounter" was well received by the audience.

I also had the pleasure in attending the Swimming Gala for the Disabled organised by Hinckley & Burbage on 6th October 2007. The highlight of the afternoon was to experience the joy when they received their trophies. I extend my congratulations to the Club for all the hard work they did. I have further agreed to sponsor the trophies each year, as I was advised that the event is non-profit event and the Club relies entirely on sponsorships.

Fellow Lions keep up the excellent work of helping the community. I am also due to attend Corby Fete on 13th October 2007. The Membership Team has been working very hard and following the drink & nibbles evening, there was an excellent turnout at Balsall Common, Hall Green and Northfield. 4 out of 6 people attended at Coventry Lions meeting.

They Came from Katmandu

At the last business meeting of Bedworth Lions Club we were pleased to receive Lions from our twin club in Katmandu.

Lion Ram Bhandari Chhetri
Ambassador of Goodwill
Sector Coordinator
Charter President of Katmandu Universal
and Lion Hum Bahadur Rana.

During the day both were shown the sights & had some good old Bed'uth hospitality.

At the evening meeting, there were exchanges of ideas & cultural differences also an exchange of gifts.

Our visiting Lions leaving before the end to catch a train for their onward journey.

Lion President Brian



Hinckley Swimming Gala for the Disabled

During the autumn of 1980, Hinckley Lions Club (as it was then) organised the Games for the Disabled. The occasion was intended to be a one off event to mark "The Year of the Disabled". However, the weekend proved to be very popular, at the time there were very few events for disabled athletes or appreciation of their problems and the games continued every year and became "The Midlands Open Sports Championships for the Disabled".

Known as the "Friendly Games", they earned the Club an International Presidents Award and a "Top Ten Service Award" presented to only 10 out of 48,000 Clubs world-wide. The first to be awarded to a British Isles Club.

Hinckley & Burbage Lions Club (as it is now known) announced that the games would not take place this year due to dwindling numbers from both clubs and individuals.

The Club views the end of the games as a success for the original concept of "The Year of the Disabled". There are now many similar events, Special Olympics etc and competitors do not have to travel so far, and many have integrated into able-bodied clubs

However, this year 2007, there was an increase in the number of enquiries for the swimming events so, "The Midlands Open Sports Championships for the Disabled" was replaced with the "Hinckley Swimming Gala for the Disabled"

The Gala, an all day event, was held at Hinckley Leisure Centre on Saturday 6th October. Events ranged over all standard recognised forms of swimming and several non standard totally

unrecognised forms, which added to the fun and excitement.

The inflatable raft race was very popular, there were no wrecks and all stayed inflated to the end of the event.

Many of the competing clubs such as Shepshed Dolphins, Leicester Saffron, Coventry Enterprise etc are regular attendees having been to the original games.

Hinckley & Burbage Lions Club is deeply indebted to Hinckley Swimming Club for arranging the events and superb refereeing.

DG Suresh Gohil and his wife Josna, who shared the presentation of the medals to the winners, attended the Gala.

DG Lion Suresh enjoyed the event to such an extent that he has



Club Treasurer Lion Mike Bishop, DG Lion Suresh Gohil, Club President Lion David Naylor and Josna Gohil

PEACE POSTER COMPETITION

Please can Clubs ensure that their Peace Poster Entries are with Maxine (Competitions/Peace Poster Officer) in time by the postmark deadline of 15 November 2007.

Many thanks

Maxine Malina

ENVIRONMENTAL PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

Are there any great environmental photographers in your club? This years Environmental Photo Competition Theme is 'Our Changing Environment'.

There are 5 photo categories:

- a.. Animal Life
- b.. Landscape (Urban or natural)
- c.. Plant Life
- d.. Weather Phenomenon
- e.. Our Changing Environment (the 2007-08 special theme)

Photographs (8" x 10") to be with Maxine (Competitions Officer) by 15 January 2008.

Details of Rules can be found on the District Website (<http://www.lions105m.org.uk/PhotoCompetitionRules2007-8.pdf>).

The winning District Entry will save an acre (in their name) through the World Land Trust 'Regua Project', Brazil.

Regards

Home Needed

Here at Midland News we have identified an area we feel can be helped by publicity in our news sheet.

We aim to put Lions Clubs in touch with each other and find a home for specialist equipment for the disabled that has become available and is in need of a new home.

To start with we have been offered an "ELAP" swivel seat for the passenger side of a Peugeot 206, 3 door car.

The seat is specific to this particular model and is as new.

If you or your Club can find a use for this seat please email Midland News.

Now lets hear from you!!

If you or your Club have an item or items to pass on, let us know and we will endeavour to include you in the next issue of the News.

Lions Music Competition District 105M Final Sunday 25th November

The date is fast approaching and I need to know how many Clubs have managed to find a candidate.

As a matter of urgency, can I have information even if you haven't yet obtained all the paperwork. I am happy to receive that later if necessary.

Thank you,
Elizabeth Jones



More DGs News



A WARM WELCOME TO THESE NEW LIONS

*See that any time you
feel pained or defeated,
it is only because you
insist on clinging to
what doesn't work.
Dare to let go and you
won't lose a thing except
for a punishing idea.*

Club:

1. Worcester
2. Birmingham Edgbaston
3. Market Harborough
4. Market Harborough
5. Acocks Green

Name:

- Susan Cox
Anwar Berki
Martin Hill
Sarah Hill
Monica

I request all the Clubs to let me have new members name and their address in order that I can personally send them a letter of congratulations. I am very grateful to the Clubs and Membership Team for the excellent work they are doing in increasing the membership in the District.

Finally, the Campaign Sightfirst II has received around £52 000 from our District so far. Again, my thanks to all the Clubs and Officers who are working towards the Campaign.

Clubs have requested that I should publish the DG's shopping list:

	<u>Name:</u>	<u>Suggested Amount:</u>
1.	NSL	£150
2.	Music Competition	£ 25
3.	TACADE	£100
4.	Edukits	£138
5.	LCIF	£100
6.	Gift for Living	£100
7.	Sight Services	£250
8.	Special Olympics	£25
9.	Street Children	£25
10.	Malawi Schools	£50
11.	Disable Games	£25
12.	Water Aid	£100
13.	Campaign Sightfirst II	£500

I am aware that many of the Clubs have already given the funds for some of the above projects.

DGs Club Visits

District Governor Visits:

October 2007

The visit to Nuneaton on 3rd October 2007 had to be rescheduled to 21st November 2007. The visit to Shirley Lions Club on 16th October 2007 has been rescheduled to 16th January 2008 and the visit to Marston Green on 24th October 2007 will have to be rescheduled for future date

The extra Charter Nights are scheduled as follows and the rest of my dates are in my previous newsletter: -

- | | |
|--|-----------------------|
| • 3 rd November 2007 | Moseley Lions Club |
| • 17 th November 2007-10-13 | Sutton Coldfield |
| • 24 th November 2007 | Worcester Lions Club |
| • 5 th April 2008 | Towcester Lions Club |
| • 16 th May 2008 | Aldridge & District |
| • 31 st May 2008 | Birmingham Handsworth |

DG Suresh Gohil-BSc.ACII.MCMI