

Midland News



INC The District Governor's News Letter

District 105M The International Association of
Lions Clubs

Issue 66 September 2007



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The Princess Royal Opens The New Reynolds Cross Playground



On September 10th Princess Anne opened the new Reynolds Cross playground.

This was the culmination of a Zone C project put forward by Lions Tony Downs and Andy Lockett.

Reynolds Cross Special School originally approached the Lions for £13,000 for 2 items for the playground.

The Clubs in the Zone agreed to provide £800 each and Lion Andy Lockett took the project to "The Wooden Spoon" to finance the balance.

The funding was agreed but the project seemed to stall until the appointment of a new headmistress.

The project was resurrected but grew to a complete playground facility with a cost of £40,000.

Undaunted, Lion Andy again spoke to "Wooden Spoon" and the Zone.

An application was also made to District and £750 was allocated by them.

With funds now in place, Lion Andy became project manager and

he approached English Landscapes who agreed to undertake the work.

With his usual charm, Lion Andy convinced them it was a good idea to do the work at cost.

Incredibly the work was completed within 3 weeks, just in time for the children's return to school.

Meanwhile, "Wooden Spoon" approached The Princess Royal and asked her to perform the opening ceremony.

She said she would be happy to do so.

On September 10th, she spent an hour at the School with the children before performing the grand opening.

The playground is dedicated to the memory of James Radburn, a teenager who lived for sport and unfortunately died whilst playing rugby.

It's to his memory that "The Wooden Spoon" became involved.

They are a sport based charity who help selective good causes.

DG s News Letter

Being a District Governor is great fun. However, with every fun comes responsibility. The honeymoon period being over, September saw the beginning of a busy year ahead.

My apologies to Evesham Vale Lions Club for not being able to attend their Charter on 1st September 2007 as I had by mistake booked it for the 2nd September.

I visited Rugby Rokeby Lions Club on 6th September and will be attending 1st Cabinet meeting on 9th September. Thereafter, will be joining Coventry Godiva for their annual Mela. This promises to be an exciting afternoon providing it does not rain.

The Campaign Sightfirst II is gaining momentum. The latest figures received from LCIF Oak Brook, shows our District has now collected up to £42,000. I would like to personally thank all the Clubs and individual donors for the excellent effort ensuring as a District that all the hard work by yourself and the Committee. I am positive, we will be able to surpass our target of £100 000 by the end of the lionistic year.

A grand Charity Gala Ball is going to be organised on 7th June 2008. All proceeds will go towards Campaign Sightfirst II. Full details to follow in due course.

I am sure that all of you are browsing through the District website where Lion Simon has worked very hard to make it user friendly. There is a lot of information available on International and District activities. The details of Autumn Forum have been sent to all the Clubs with forms and again they are repeated on the website. Please remember this is **your** Forum. We have set up an excellent range of seminars to choose from.

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CHRISTMAS IS COMING
HAVE YOU OR YOUR CLUB MEMBERS BEEN CHECKED THROUGH C.R.B ?

Christmas is fast approaching, a time when traditionally many Lions Activities involve members working with children and vulnerable people. Many organisations who call on the help of Lions to assist in their Christmas activities, such as Wyvale Garden Centres, Tesco's etc, insist in their helpers being checked with the CRB (Criminal Records Bureau).

If any Clubs require their members to go through such checks, please contact me as soon as possible and I will arrange to come along to a club meeting where applications can be completed. All that is required is a black inked pen, knowledge of your national insurance number, means of identity (Driving Licence, Passport, birth Certificate, utility bill etc.) **All Lions CRB checks are FREE. It costs you and your Club nothing.**

Please don't leave it to the last minute. It takes 3 – 4 weeks for the return of the certificate. December for me is also a busy month with my own club Christmas activities.

REMEMBER:- IF YOUR ACTIVITY MEANS THAT YOU HAVE ANY SOLE UNSUPERVISED CONTACT WITH A CHILD OR VULNERABLE ADULT, YOU REQUIRE TO BE CRB CHECKED.

Make sure that you adhere to the codes of practice contained in the Vulnerable Persons Policy (On Lions web) and you and your club will be indemnified under Lions Insurance.

If you wilfully act outside the terms of the policy, you may not be so indemnified either as an individual Lion or as a Club.

I am still trying to collate a list of Club Vulnerable Persons Liaison Officers for **ALL CLUBS.** Once completed, it is hoped that this officer will be able to assist in the completion of application forms, together with the checking and recording of identity documents. It is anticipated that the post would be held for a minimum of three years.

PLEASE LET ME HAVE DETAILS OF YOUR LIAISON OFFICER ONCE APPOINTED.

This will help me to help you.

Lion Eric Hughes
District Vulnerable Person Officer

News From Corby Lions Club

As part of the Lions Eye Health Programme, Corby and District Lions Club have been actively supporting the used spectacles collection appeal since the year 2000.

Members devote their time and energy to collecting, sorting, packing and despatching the spectacles to the collection point in Chichester.

Last month we despatched 4260 spectacles, bringing our total to date in excess of 50,000.

We are thankful to opticians in Corby, Kettering and Market Harborough for their continued support.

Corby And District Lions Club are pleased to welcome three new members to the Lions fraternity.

The are Bob Shepherd, John Masters & Alan Smith

They were inducted in July and August.

Our new Lions are taking a keen interest in various Club activities, giving freely of their time, labours and means.

Membership Chairman Lion Chris Lane is working hard to recruit more new members and is confident that his efforts will be fruitful very shortly.



From left to right
Lion President Mahesh Karsandas ,Lion Bob Shepherd, Lion John Masters, Lion Alan Smith
Zone J Chairman Lion Richard Wilson

Campaign Sight First II

On Saturday 13th October Corby & District Lions Club are organising a balloon race as part of Lions World Sight Day.

The funds are being raised especially for Campaign Sight First II.

The event is kindly sponsored by Specsavers in Corby to whom we extend our grateful thanks.

CALLED TO HIGHER SERVICE

Former Wellsbourne Lion Graham King sadly passed away 23rd August at the age of 86.

Though he had been suffering with leukaemia for the last 10 years he still remained active, positive and cheerfull.

Graham left Lions several years ago when he moved to Norwich to live but still carried on good work in his community and for his local methodist church at Heathersett.

I had known Graham and his family for 48 years, he introduced me and my wife to Lions when we attended a Wellsbourne Charter Dinner 1992/93 when Roger Hancock was DG

Graham joined Wellsbourne Lions when he retired as Director of Edingburgh housing dept. and moved to warwick. He took part in all the Club activities dressing up as Santa Claus, running stalls at fetes, decoration peoples houses etc.

He was secretary of the Raft Race for 4 years which raised thousands of pounds and was involved in the Warwickshire youth camp.

He was one of life's real gentleman and sadly missed by his wife Kathleen, daughter Manesty, sons Gary and Ashley.

Lion Mike Andrews

Stour Valley Lions present Ynysowen Male Choir at St Edmunds Church, Shipston-on-Stour on Saturday November 17th at 7pm. Admission ten pounds. Tickets from Ernie Smith tel. 01608 663281 or email xxs17@tiscali.co.uk

Lions Music Competition

I am able give the date for the 105M final.

Date: Sunday, November 25th 2007-09-07

Venue; Warwick University Arts Centre, Central Campus, Gibbet Hill Road CV4

Time; 14-00

Rehearsal rooms available from 13-30

Elizabeth Jones



More DGs News



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I would also request Clubs to put stalls exhibiting their work carried out. In this way the District can share the success and new members can get an opportunity to witness the work done by Lions. Please provide your details to Event Officer: Lion Stuart Richmond: Mobile: 07973-963-069: E m a i l : s t u a r t b i l s t o n - w i l l e n h a l l l i o n s @ f s m a i l . n e t .

I am also planning to Twin as a District with other Districts namely: Turkey, Kenya, State of Chennai, Sri Lanka and Gujrat in India. I believe that through twinning with Districts, we can develop fellowship, work jointly on International projects, exchange and participate in Youth Programmes and visit each other as Lions. Please feel free to comment or make any suggestions to me on the Twinning.

I would also like to share the recent correspondence received from LCIF. The District has made payment up to £44 000. I would like to take this opportunity to name MJF's appointed in our District.

WELCOME TO THESE NEW LIONS

<u>Club:</u>	<u>Name:</u>
1. Southam & District	Dave Brough
2. Castle Bromwich	Joyce Okanta
3. Castle Bromwich	Kwasi Okanta
4. Bromsgrove	Robert Dutton
5. Knowle & Dorridge	Bob Thurtle
6. Nuneaton	Pat Davies
7. Coventry Godiva	Ravi Kathuria
8. Barwell & Earl Shilton	Lisa Brotherhood
9. Birmingham Northfield	Linda Daley
10. Shakespeare	Desmond Lawton
11. Shakespeare	David Sladden
12. Wellesbourne & District	Peter Coles
13. Wellesbourne & District	Robin Hammond
14. Market Harborough	Liz Thake
15. Towcester	Geoffrey East
16. Towcester	James Rudd
17. Wellesbourne & District	Ros Grant

DGs Club Visits

9 th September 2007	Cabinet Meeting
10 th September 2007	Wellesbourne & District
13 th September 2007	Northampton Chinatown
18 th September 2007	Worcester
19 th September 2007	Southam & District
20 th September 2007	Aldridge & District
22 nd September 2007	Birmingham Handsworth Indian Night
27 th September 2007	Codsall
29 th September 2007	Bilston & Willenhall
1 st October 2007	Hinckley & Burbage
2 nd October 2007	Birmingham Rep Theatre
3 rd October 2007	Nuneaton
4 th October 2007	Northampton Eighty
6 th October 2007	Castle Bromwich
8 th October 2007	Evesham Vale
9 th October 2007	Birmingham Acocks Green
10 th October 2007	Birmingham Moseley
11 th October 2007	Kidderminster & District
13 th October 2007	Marston Green tCharter Night
15 th October 2007	Knowle & Dorridge
16 th October 2007	Birmingham Exhibition
17 th October 2007	Shirley
21 st October 2007	Autumn Forum
22 nd October 2007	Birmingham Chinatown
24 th October 2007	Master Green
26 th to 28 th October 2007	Council Meeting, B'ham
26 th October 2007	Northampton Eighty Charter

The other **Charter/ Cabinet/ Social booking** for the year are:-

3 rd November 2007	Bushby Charity Diwali Night
13 th November 2007	Barwell & Earl Shilton
24 th November 2007	Social Event organised for the Cabinet and Past District
19 th January 2008	Charity Campaign Sightfirst II -Dinner/Dance by Bushby, Coventry Godiva, Birmingham Handsworth and Corby

25th to 27th January 2008

Council Meeting

Dear Lions, you will see that the diary is already becoming full and we are only in the month of September. Those Clubs wishing me to attend their Charter should contact me as soon as possible. I apologise to those Clubs whose Charters I have not been able to attend as they clash with other Clubs.

DG Suresh Gohil-BSc.ACIL.MCMI