

8. REPORTS OF HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

NAME: Martin Wright
OFFICE: Health & Environment Committee Chairman
DATE: Feb 2010

DECISIONS REQUIRED:

None

ACTIONS SINCE LAST REPORT:

Following a successful request for funding (submitted in the name of Shirley Lions) a portable hearing induction loop has now been purchased to replace the one which had been borrowed from my disability charity, Enable-Solihull. The system is identical so that it will be possible to combine them if required at a large event to make it accessible to more people with a hearing impairment.

The Hear This and the Health Committee Newsletters are continuing and the next Health Committee News will be circulated shortly. Whilst I could easily write the articles myself (it is my job) I prefer to ask the committee members to write the articles but to give assistance if required.

The next Health committee Newsletter will be circulated shortly. After this has been circulated, I will be asking for feedback from clubs to see if these articles are read and are beneficial, need amending or are ignored. It is important for the committee to be aware of this as these newsletters are available to the general public via the District website.

A meeting had been scheduled for January but with the poor weather and the long distances covered by some members of the committee this was cancelled. An alternative date is to be rearranged.

I gave a presentation at Autumn Forum about applying for grants and some clubs that have also noticed the grants email alerts are asking for support in this area. Unfortunately whilst I may have the knowledge, helping individual clubs can be a very time consuming business and unfortunately I do not have the time or capacity to help these clubs. In addition I would not want to raise the expectation that information about applying for grants is part of this committee's work (as expressed by one club) as it would be unfair on a future chairman. It is therefore for this reason that these email alerts have stopped.

OBJECTIVES:

To raise awareness of health and environment projects with clubs and to support committee members in their activities.

NAME: Lion Ron Cross
OFFICE: Environmental Officer
DATE: February 2010

DECISIONS REQUIRED:

None

ACTIONS SINCE LAST REPORT:

Last year the Environment Photo Competition was handled by the Competitions Officer. There were multiple entries from seven Lions. This year I attempted to increase the

awareness of the competition. I received multiple entries from only three Lions. Perhaps I should give it back to Competitions.

DG Femi judged the competition without knowing the identity of the photographers. He took his time, analysed each picture and finally deemed the winner to be Cof C Lion Andy Pemberton with his picture of a glacier 13, 000 miles from his home. This presents Andy with a problem as he is supposed to judge the MD round. The photos were excellent. Please can we have a few more next year?

I am still in touch with Bishops Wood Environment Centre, near Kidderminster. By Convention I will have details of other such centres in the District, to distribute.

On behalf of some clubs, I made enquiries at several supermarkets as to whether they would be recycling Christmas Cards. Only one was positively committed at the time. The remainder were of the attitude "they had done so last year so they would probably do it again this year" After the event I observed that all of them had done so.

OBJECTIVES:

I am still searching for a definitive project that Lions can put their name to, initially in 105M and if successful, in MD 105. In the mean time, Can I suggest that we support recycling, tree planting, energy saving etc. Whether global warming is due to CO₂ emissions, windy cows, figments of science research or just cyclic changes in our weather patterns, oil will run out eventually. So please be frugal, re-use what you can and prevent waste and loss of energy. PS. Dare I mention the District Compost heap?

NAME: Ian Haffner
OFFICE: Sight Conservation & LEHP Officer
DATE: 29th January 2010

DECISIONS REQUIRED: None

ACTIONS SINCE LAST REPORT:

A mini survey to establish the number of clubs in District 105M that organised a World Sight Day event and that are collecting spectacles for recycling. Replies are still coming in, so far 20 clubs have replied.

A Sight Newsletter has been sent out to all clubs with early notice of 2010 World Sight Day – it's the 14th October 2010. A date for your diaries please!.

6 Clubs took part in the 2009 event and survey numbers so far suggest 14 clubs are recycling spectacles. Final numbers will be advised when know.

A newsletter to all clubs also summarised the excellent work of Lions Sight Savers. Donations up to December 2009 total £1,350 for 105M with a total of £34,928 for 105.

OBJECTIVES:

To promote sight related activities by Lions both locally at club level and internationally by Lions Clubs International.

Aim to visit Zone meetings to promote sight activities.

To increase participation in World Sight Day and spectacle collections.



Name **Rajnikant Hindocha**
Office **DIABETES AWARENESS OFFICER**
Date **01.02.2010**

2009-10

DECISIONS REQUIRED

None

ACTION SINCE LAST REPORT

PCT has agreed to work with Bushby Lions to raise awareness about Diabetes. This project would involve local British Diabetes Association as well. PCT has not progressed on this matter to date.

OBJECTIVES

Continue promoting Lions activity About Diabetes awareness. The District Diabetes Strategy document has been sent to all the clubs last year.

NAME: Lion Roger Handcock,
OFFICE: District 105M Speech & Hearing Officer
DATE: 27th January 2010

DECISIONS REQUIRED

1. Permission to proceed with the idea of a District 105M "Lions Deaf Awareness Day".
2. Permission to have a stand at Convention, similar to the one I had at Forum.

JUSTIFICATION FOR DECISION

1. This has the potential of being a tremendous promotion facility for Lions clubs whilst showing support for people with speech & hearing difficulties.
2. A stand at Convention will keep Lions informed of speech & hearing activities.

ACTION SINCE LAST REPORT

Since the last Cabinet meeting, I have not been able to get involved, as much as I would have liked to, in many speech & hearing issues, due to unforeseen family commitments in various quarters. As a result, I was unable to attend the MD Deaf Awareness Training session held at Leighton Buzzard on 21 November 2009. Also, the Christmas period is a very busy period for our club, now with only ten members and shortly reducing to eight.

However, the Lions Speech & Hearing, District 105M, Petition to support the "Lions campaign to reduce background noise in television programmes", seems to be gathering momentum. Hopefully this trend will continue, particularly following promotion in my newsletter and at District Convention.

Petition forms are available to all clubs for the asking. I can be contacted by email on: speechhearing@lions105m.org.uk or telephone 01933 273770.

My newsletter **HEARTHIS** appears to have been well received and the third issue, which I am currently working on, is planned to be available at Convention.

In my last report I made reference to my idea of a "Lions Deaf Awareness Day". This is proposed for early May 2010 to coincide with 'The Royal National Institute for Deaf People' Deaf Awareness Week. If clubs wanted to take this project on board, they could get involved at whatever level they wanted to, no pressure. There are many things they could do to support the project such as: the "Petition" already mentioned even if it was just getting their own club members and families' signatures in support; supporting the installation of a hearing loop somewhere in their locality; getting a hearing aid collection off the ground, (similar to spectacle collections); just putting up a poster somewhere that would make more people aware of issues relating to people with hearing difficulties; there are so many things, and I would provide a list of suggestions and support at all levels of involvement. This could be a tremendous opportunity to promote Lions whilst helping people with hearing difficulties. Don't forget 1 in 7 - how many potential Lions could that be? It has great possibilities.

If any Cabinet members would like further information on any Speech & Hearing related issues, please don't hesitate to contact me. Thank you again for your support.

OBJECTIVES

To try and make Lions and the public more aware of the problems encountered by people with speech & hearing difficulties and to develop better understanding and tolerance of the problem.

NAME: Cedric Brocklehurst
OFFICE: MedicAlert
DATE: February, 2010

ACTIONS SINCE LAST REPORT

Liaised with Lion Clem Aprille of Solihull Lions, an emblem wearer and keen supporter of MedicAlert, by providing him with materials to make a presentation he was keen to do at his Club.

Liaised with Lion John Hadley of Dudley Lions regarding an application he was dealing with for a friend. Informed him that all details can now be "downloaded" with the minimum of delay and cost same.

The Nuneaton Club displayed "Green to be Seen" material at The Civic Bonfire & Fireworks Display. This resulted in good-publicity in local press and much comment on the night. A £50 donation sent to MedicAlert.

NAME: Gulab Mistry
OFFICE: Message in a bottle officer
DATE: 29.01.2010

DECISIONS REQUIRED:

None

ACTIONS SINCE LAST REPORT:

Since July 07, we have distributed 236 boxes, which equates to some 49,560 bottles

In addition Solihull PCT have taken some 90 boxes (19,000 bottles) which have been distributed with some Lions Clubs in the area more active than others.

BEN PCT area have over 60,000 bottles distributed to people over 65, but not to people who are in need but are much younger; requests from them for bottles are being referred to local Lions Clubs where appropriate.

Leicester Constabulary have funded the purchase (cost £5,500.00) of an initial distribution of some 31,500 bottles (150 boxes) by the Lions Clubs in the region, through local Pharmacies. This distribution is now complete.

Leicester PCT, purchased 15 boxes (3150 bottles) for distribution direct to patients.

There are currently only a handful of clubs who are actively promoting Miab, the lack of availability of funding being the main constraint to further progress.

OBJECTIVES:

To promote the Lions Message in a Bottle Scheme to all the Clubs and other organisations in the district. I hope to continue to attend Zone meetings to encourage more Clubs to participate in MiaB.

NAME: Lion Paul Murphy
OFFICE: Physical and Learning Difficulties
DATE: Jan 2010

Thanks to all Lions who will have attended the West Midlands Regional Junior Boccia & Power/Electric Slalom Competition at the end of January and thanks to Lion Gregory Hession for organizing this.

A reminder that we are also invited to volunteer at the Disability Games Event on 16th May 2010 in Birmingham, where athletes will travel from all over our district to compete. It would be fantastic if we could provide approximately 80 volunteers to help during this very worthwhile and fulfilling service activity.