

## **SECTION 4: REPORTS OF HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

**NAME:** Martin Wright

**OFFICE:** Health and Environment Committee Chairman

**DATE:** April 2010

**DECISIONS REQUIRED:** None

### **ACTIONS SINCE LAST REPORT:**

There are sweeping changes being introduced to the way in which disabled people receive their benefits. This is receiving a very high profile with health and social service at all levels. Research has indicated that a relatively large proportion of people particularly younger people and those with learning disabilities are looking to spend some of this funding on sport and physical activities. However suitable facilities are not available for everyone. I am looking for a way Lions can help in this area even though it may be in indirect ways by encouraging local sports clubs to look at ways they can accommodate people with disabilities. Attendance at the Disability Sport Awards Dinner at Aston Villa with other members of Cabinet showed us what can be achieved if this support is put into place. I will report back options to my successor as they become clearer.

A rearranged committee meeting unfortunately had to be cancelled due to difficulties in attending. This is to be rearranged ASAP hopefully with the new committee when they are known.

There have been difficulties in putting together the next issue of the Health Newsletter but this should be ready after MD Convention.

An issue has been raised about MIAB bottles and this is being investigated and will be reported at Cabinet.

### **OBJECTIVES:**

To raise awareness of health and environment issues and to support clubs into looking at new approaches.

**NAME:** Lion Ron Cross

**OFFICE:** Environment Officer

**DATE:** 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2010

**DECISIONS REQUIRED:** None

### **ACTIONS SINCE LAST REPORT:**

Environment Photographic Competition was supported by only a few Lions but those few produced some splendid pictures. Winner CC Lion Andy Pemberton. Runners-up Lion Mike Blaxland (Kingswinford and Stourbridge) and District Secretary Lion Pauline Hoogerwerf.

Lion Andy declined the prize of half an acre of equatorial rainforest in favour of a donation to LCIF designated to the Haiti Fund.

I have researched further into the "Environment" and how it affects Lions and how Lions can affect it.

**OBJECTIVES:**

I must present my findings in a newsletter. There was an old song which said "love is all around". Well, the more you look, so is the environment. Of course it is. The dictionary defines environment as "surroundings; external conditions influencing development or growth of people, animals or plants". So, by my reckoning, everything that we do as Lions could be called environmental. All our projects are designed to influence the conditions influencing development. Think about it. Recycling spectacles, Dentaaid, Wateraid, North Sea Lions Projects, Tacade, Message in a bottle etc. They are all affecting somebody's environment.

Look out for the newsletter. Have you ever thought about "guerrilla gardening"? Good for improving the looks of a neighbourhood and could be good PR. Interested? Have you moved into a flat and left the garden behind? What have you done with your old gardening tools? Give me a ring if you want to get rid of them to good effect.

Finally, thank you DG Femi for asking me to look into this subject. I have learned a lot and I must now pass that knowledge on to my successor and to the District as a whole.

**NAME:** Ian Haffner

**OFFICE:** Sight Conservation & LEHP Officer

**DATE:** 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2010

**DECISIONS REQUIRED:** None

**ACTIONS SINCE LAST REPORT:**

Survey of clubs confirm about 10% of Clubs in 105M take part in World Sight Day with about 30% of clubs recycling spectacles.

Sent a further Newsletter to clubs highlighting the date for the next World Sight Day on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2010. Attend Zone meeting to promote Sight conservation activities. Attended District 105M convention, set up table top display and also demonstrate 'Boom Box' available to play back a speaking Lions Club Magazine from a memory stick. This is provided by Lion John May from Lichfield Lions Club.

Attending Multiple District Convention in Leeds and will assist MD Sight Officer and other District Sight Officers with a Sight Conservation Display and further demonstration of the Boom Box.

Lions 'Sight Savers' donation total circa £52,000 for 105 against a full year target of £80,000 with contributions of £2,800 from 105M.

Two Bronze Awards received from Lions Sight Savers for making 10 donation over the years. One for Acocks Green club, presented by Region Chairman Gregory Hession and to Worcester Club presented by Regional Chairman David Jeavons.

**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.

Increase participation in World Sight Day and spectacle collections.

**Name:** Lion Rajnikant Hindocha

**Office:** District Diabetes officer

**Date:** APRIL 2010

**DECISIONS REQUIRED:** NONE

**ACTIONS SINCE LAST REPORT:** NONE

**OBJECTIVES:**

To promote Diabetes Awareness amongst District clubs, in line with District Diabetes Awareness Strategy.

**NAME:** Roger Handcock

**OFFICE:** District 105M Speech & Hearing Officer

**DATE:** 25 April 2010

**DECISIONS REQUIRED:** None.

**ACTIONS SINCE LAST REPORT:**

The third issue of HEAR THIS Newsletter was published and sent out via the District Webmaster prior to District Convention. Printed copies were also available at Convention. This was a six page "Bumper" issue, and from feedback received so far, it appears to have been well received.

The main feature was on the "Lions Deaf Awareness Day". This was originally planned to take place in May to coincide with RNID Deaf Awareness Week. However, RNID moved their week to end of June/beginning of July to avoid clashing with the general election, so I went for the 30 June for the Lions Deaf Awareness Day. So far, I have had only a few clubs feedback on taking part, but it is early days and I hope many clubs will take up the challenge even if only a small way. Clubs can get involved at whatever level they feel they can manage, and I will support them any way I can.

Included with the third issue of HEAR THIS, I included a Petition Form for the campaign to reduce background noise in television programmes. Petition Forms were also available at Convention on the Speech & Hearing Display Stand.

I now have a supply of "I see what you're saying" badges, issued by the Multiple District. I have received two requests to date. They are free of charge to anyone who could benefit from one. Please contact me if you are interested.

Finally, my thanks to everyone who has encouraged and supported me this past year.

**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 Officer**

**DATE: 14<sup>th</sup> April 2010**

**DECISIONS REQUIRED: None**

**ACTIONS SINCE LAST REPORT:**

There has been very little activity since last report on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2010. Information has been passed on to two Clubs, Hinckley & Nuneaton. However, no feedback has been received to date.

Reports received from MedicAlert reveals that an extensive programme of work has been started to bring its facilities to a wider field than heretofore. Contacts have been made with Police forces, Ambulance services and MPs have been lobbied in efforts to widen the area of influence enjoyed by MedicAlert.

**OBJECTIVES:**

Continue to be available to give details of MedicAlert services as required.

**NAME: Gulab Mistry**

**OFFICE: Message in a bottle officer**

**DATE: 23.04.2010**

**DECISIONS REQUIRED: None**

**ACTIONS SINCE LAST REPORT:**

**Background**

Since July 07, we have distributed 225 boxes, which equates to some 47,250 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 in progress.

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

### **Current**

Following last Cabinet meeting, I have contacted Lion George King, of Rugby Rokeby Lions, who looks after "Lions Lifeline" project in Northamptonshire. He has confirmed that they have distributed over 45,000 bottles since 2002. I have requested that they supply District 105m MIAB officer with regular updates.

The current requirement for the bottles from the District has slowed considerably.

### **OBJECTIVES:**

To promote the Lions Message in a Bottle Scheme to all the Clubs and other organisations in the district.

This is my last report as MIAB officer. I would like to thank all the District cabinet members and individual Club MIAB officers who have supported me over the last few years whilst I have been the MIAB officer. I believe that MIAB is an excellent project with direct welfare benefits, which all Lions should promote.

**NAME:** Paul Murphy

**OFFICE:** Learning and Physical Disabilities Officer

**DATE:** April 2010

**DECISIONS REQUIRED:** None

### **ACTIONS SINCE LAST REPORT:**

Again I offer my thanks to Gregory Hession for his efforts in organising volunteers to act as marshals at the Disability Games on the 16<sup>th</sup> May.

I have received no requests from clubs for information.

Unfortunately, I have not been able to give this post enough time due to work and family commitments.