

8. HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT REPORTS

NAME: Martin Wright
OFFICE: Health & Environment Committee Chairman
DATE: November 2009

DECISIONS REQUIRED: NONE

ACTIONS SINCE LAST REPORT:

Attended Autumn Forum and gave a presentation about grants but linked the presentation to health issues and collaborative working with other like minded organisations. Not only will this raise the profile of Lions with the general public but it will raise the profile with other organisations who merely view Lions as a possible source of funds and not as a potential source of partnership working.

For those who attended Forum the last suggestion about a sponsored walk/run aimed specifically at people with a disability may be going ahead with various disability sports and activities being showcased at the same time. This will highlight opportunities to disabled participants and their friends as well as the opportunities open to sports clubs. At the moment there is no Lions involvement but as plans are developed there will be opportunities for clubs in the Solihull area if they are willing to help. From the positive response received from the Solihull Council, Solihull NHS Care Trust, and CSW Sport, this is an activity which could eventually be copied elsewhere in partnership with the appropriate local organisations.

Grant application submitted to Birmingham Airport Foundation Trust approved in full allowing for the purchase of a portable hearing loop system for Cabinet and other meetings. By purchasing the same system as the one that has been borrowed at the last few meetings it will allow for both systems to work alongside each other to give greater clarity in a large venue. A request for information about this system has already been received from District 105BS.

There is some crossover with safeguarding vulnerable adults and this committee. There is to be a World Elder Abuse Awareness Day in June next year but locally the remit is to be extended to cover all vulnerable adults and will in particular cover financial abuse. There may be the opportunity for Lions to participate in this event in some way and in doing so raise their profile with the general public and other participating organisations. I will be looking for appropriate opportunities for involvement.

Further issues of the Hearing and the Committee Newsletters have been circulated to clubs. Apart from raising awareness of the activities of the committee these newsletters can also raise awareness of activities to non-Lions.

Clubs have been asked for contact details for the health committee as agreed at the last meeting. Responses have been received from around half of the clubs but in some zones there has been a nil response. Further reminders will be sent out but a far higher response rate is needed for this to be effective.

OBJECTIVES:

1. To encourage, motivate and support District Officers in their roles
2. Increase awareness of Clubs' in projects managed by the committee.
3. Provide Clubs with the opportunity to raise awareness of projects with the general public.
4. To liaise with MD officers and MDHQ.

NAME: Ron Cross
OFFICE: Environment Officer
DATE: 13.11.09

DECISIONS REQUIRED: None

ACTIONS SINCE LAST REPORT:

I was requested to confirm whether the arrangements for recycling Christmas Cards were valid for 2009/2010. I have been in touch with the following.

MORRISONS will be providing collection bins which will be collected by Salvation Army.

M& S – yes, the same as last year.

SAINSBURY - we normally do, so probably.

TESCO – no reason to suppose we won't.

Looks like yes from all, but watch the space at your local supermarket.

I have an appointment next week with the Director of Bishop's Wood Environment Centre just outside Kidderminster. I was most impressed with the facilities and aims of this establishment when I visited it a few weeks ago. I have asked him to give me details of other such establishments in our "patch" and for some ideas as to how Lions Clubs can help. I will circulate Clubs with the details when I have them.

OBJECTIVES:

What is the "Environment"? According to newspaper headlines, it is Chinese Power Stations pumping carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. It is Amazon rainforests being destroyed for profit. Yes it is but, these are things that are beyond the control of each Lions Club. The "environment" is all around us. Reduction in waste. Non-use of unnecessary packaging. Recycling. These are all projects which are going on around us. Trees are as important in our gardens as they are in rainforests. They absorb carbon dioxide and convert it to the oxygen that we breathe. If it wasn't for trees we would have died out from oxygen starvation centuries ago. So why not plant one more in your garden? Why not plant one in memory of every person you cared for who has passed on.

Please contact your local "environment education centre" to find out how we explain to youngsters that it is not clever to pull branches from trees or remove the bark for fun. Find out how we can help them to understand the need to balance our ecosystem and not destroy parts of it. Find out how we stop people spreading litter rather than have to "litter pick" for ever more.

ENVIRONMENT PHOTO COMP.

Deadline for photos. Must be in my hands on or before 8th January.

As a footnote: Has anybody found a site for the District Compost Heap yet?

NAME: Ian Haffner
OFFICE: Sight Conservation & LEHP Officer
DATE: 13th November

DECISIONS REQUIRED: None

World Sight Day

Attended several World Sight Day events.

Some clubs managed to organise events on the day – Thursday 9th October incorporating the common 'Step into the Unknown' theme including Kenilworth, Rugby and Worcester Lions Clubs. Certainly I am aware that Rugby and Worcester Lions clubs both received excellent coverage of the event in the local paper with pictures of the respective Mayors being blindfolded and being led by Lions.

I also attended sight awareness events with Kidderminster Lions and Bromsgrove Lions both with excellent venues as part of the Bewdley Festival and in Bromsgrove centre.

Most of the clubs had partners for the events, WAB supported Worcester and Bromsgrove with Wyre Forest Talking Newspaper supporting Kidderminster.

Feedback from clubs was that more notice of the world sight event would be welcome, particularly notice of the common theme to be promoted ('Step into the unknown') which for some clubs was received too late for them to take part.

Lions Sight Savers

Also attended an excellent fund raising event hosted by Wellesbourne & District Lions Club to raise awareness and funds for Lions Sight Savers. There was an excellent meal at Shah's Restaurant with Bollywood style singers and dancers.

Lions Sight Savers Trust Donations received in October for 105M was £350.00 from Knowle & Dorridge and Northampton Lions, this together with £1,000.00 in July totals £1,350.00 so far for 105M in 2009/2010. This is out of a total £18,633.00 for MD105 (13 districts).

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, thanks to Zone A Chairman for the invitation to their Zone Meeting on the 24th November.

Proposed to survey clubs about all sight related activities including world sight day, spectacle collections and fundraisers.

Much to do, even more to learn!

LIONS DISTRICT 105M

CABINET REPORT



Name Rajnikant Hindocha
Office DIABETES AWARENESS OFFICER
Date 15th Nov 2009

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 .

I did not display the Diabetes Stand in Aug 2009 event as attendance had dropped for this event.

Therefore approved amount of £200.00 was not used. As soon as the British Diabetes Association gets its joint project with of the ground Bushby Lions would provide the volunteers to assist with the Desmond project awareness.

OBJECTIVES

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

NAME: Roger Handcock
OFFICE: District 105M Speech & Hearing Officer
DATE: 13 November 2009

DECISIONS REQUIRED: None

ACTIONS SINCE LAST REPORT:

Since the last Cabinet meeting, I have produced two issues of my newsletter HEARTHIS. These have been distributed via the District Webmaster for which I am most grateful. I have also taken hard copies with me to club visits and the second issue was distributed at Forum.

I had a display stand at Forum which seemed to attract a number of visitors. I also had a ten minute slot to do a presentation, which appeared to be well received. I talked on a number of issues relating to deaf awareness, including the idea of a Petition for support of a campaign to look into reducing background noise in TV programmes.

I was originally looking to getting this off the ground during next year. However, it has received considerable response, and with the approval and support of our District Governor, the campaign is already off the ground, thanks to Birmingham Exhibition Lions Club, and Petition forms are available to all clubs for the asking. I can be contacted by email on: speechhearing@lions105m.org.uk

Those who attended Forum and heard my talk will know I also said I was looking at the 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. 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 potential. More on this project at a later date.

At this point I would like to thank the many Lions that have showed support over the past couple of months and given me new encouragement. I have actually received emails and telephone calls of encouragement. THANK YOU all. I particularly would Like to thank DG Lion Femi for letting me have a promotional platform at Forum and for the support and encouragement he has shown me. Please don't forget me at District Convention. I would welcome the opportunity to put up another display and there will be a Convention Issue of HEARTHIS plus other goodies!

I recently gave a talk on Speech & Hearing to Shirley Lions Club and thank them for the invitation. I have also been invited to give a talk at a Zone meeting in February 2010.

I attended the MD District Speech & Hearing Officers Meeting at Lions MD Headquarters on 20 September 2009.

I will be attending Deaf Awareness Training at Leighton Buzzard on 21 November 2009.

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: 10th November 2009

DECISIONS REQUIRED:

None

ACTIONS SINCE LAST REPORT:

The annual issue of posters/leaflets, etc. From MedicAlert is no longer being made, due to the highly computerised back office now in place. All relevant application forms, emblem designs and other information can be downloaded at any time from www.medicalert.org.uk

The “flyer” that was intended to be inserted in Lions Magazine has, I am informed, been delayed.

Telephone calls have been received throughout the quarter from fellow Lions and I have been pleased to give help and advice as required.

A new initiative to be introduced soon and designed to appeal to male applicants particularly, is an emblem on a leather “watch strap” rather than a chain.

Nuneaton Lions again made full use of the “Green to be Seen” initiative at the Bonfire & Firework Display on Saturday last.

OBJECTIVES:

To liaise with members as and when required.

NAME: Gulab Mistry
OFFICE: Message in a bottle officer
DATE: 13.11.2009

DECISIONS REQUIRED:

None

ACTIONS SINCE LAST REPORT:

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.

The benefits of Miab with regard to current swine flu pandemic via "Heath and Environment" Newsletter has been published, but I am not sure it has been circulated around the district.

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: Paul Murphy

OFFICE: Physical and Learning Disabilities Officer

DATE: November 2009

DECISIONS REQUIRED:

None

ACTIONS SINCE LAST REPORT:

Attended meeting with Lion Gregory Hession, Lion Eric Hughes and Lion Trevor Jones and Dennis Hodgkins, Regional Development Manager for the English Federation of Disability Sport, with regards to the Disability Games, Midlands region, which are to be held in May 2010. EFDS are looking for support in the marshalling and general organisation of the event. If you get involved, you could potentially be supporting a competitor for the Para-Olympics in 2012!

No other requests to report.

OBJECTIVES:

To be a source of information for clubs.