



SMILE WE SERVE

DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER

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INTRODUCTION

Last month was quiet compared with March but there was still a lot going on. So it is back to the usual format this month, starting with a poem. I have adapted this from the original written by an Australian Lion Greg Dunn to reflect the approach that we should take to membership.

MEMBERSHIP

How do I convince my club that everybody we meet
 Is potentially a member if seeking is discreet?
 Just how do we approach someone to join us in our quest?
 Just what is it that makes us Lions different from the rest?
 We have to be ourselves you know, People just like us,
 We are no different to the rest; we do not make a fuss.
 It's this we must convey to future members that we meet
 A friendly face, a smile, an invitation, but make sure that it is sweet.
 Tell them of the fun we have and friendships that we've won,
 How someone else will benefit because of what we have done.
 We do need to stress the fun part; it's like sand without the beach,
 But even more important is that we practice what we preach.
 We are Ordinary People doing Amazing Things enjoying what we do.
 Our approach should be an invite others so they can enjoy it too.
 Sometimes the simple show of deeds is all it needs to be,
 Like photos of our events that are laid out for all to see.
 Our projects are another thing, but does the public know,
 It really is our fault if the publicity is not on show.
 Well as I have always said who is responsible for getting someone new?
 Yes we are all recruitment officers, that right it is you.
 So when we think of membership do not be reserved,
 Just remember as a Lion my motto "SMILE WE SERVE".

JUST A FEW REMINDERS:

District Shopping List:

Has your club donated ? Thank you to those who have.

Measles Initiative "One Shot One Life" :

Has your club donated? Thank you to those who have.

Any donation should be sent to the District Treasurer payable to "LCI 105M."

Disability Games:

Tuesday 15th May 2012, The Ryeland Centre, Bromsgrove.

Can you help? If yes, contact Greg Hession;
 gregory.hession@yahoo.co.uk

Please circulate to all Club Members

SERVICE

I am learning a lot about clubs as I continue my visits - only a handful to go.

At Towcester I found out that they have a 5 year Club plan. I am looking to see whether as a District we can put an outline of a plan together which could be used by clubs.



I presented a Melvin Jones Fellowship award to David Powell.



Very few clubs have a weekend away to celebrate their Charter but Shirley do. It was off to the West Country, Webbington in Somerset. Beryl and I joined them for a very relaxing weekend. Our hosts and organisers were President Ann Carter and the President of Knowle and Dorridge, Dave Carter. I would like to congratulate them on a job well done.



As you can see from the next picture, there was a lot of horse play. This was due to Ann's love of horses and it was also the weekend of the Grand National.



I think you will have to work out for yourself who is being led astray? Answer at the end.

The Shirley Players gallop in to render their own version of the Old Grey Mare.



The Charter was attended by 17 different clubs, with 5 coming from the surrounding area.

CAP Christians Against Poverty

Beryl would like to update you on her charity for the year CAP Christians Against Poverty. As you are aware, this has not been a Fund Raising project, but the intention has been to link Lions Clubs with CAP clients who have specific needs.

That said, the following clubs have made donations that will be used to help clients. Handsworth, Balsall Common, Towcester and Kingswinford and Stourbridge. Also a donation is coming from the Zone A skittles evening

I am listing below some of the help that has been provided to date:

Warwick provided carpet for a young mother whose flat was flooded. They also helped a young man with a cooker and freezer and another mother with a washing machine.

Bushby provided funding to pay for admission for families to go to a firework display in Leicester.

Wolverhampton help a young mother with a bed.

Northampton 80 helped a family with their food bill.

Worcester paid for a young girl to go on a school trip.

Nuneaton provided a tumble drier which was donated by a Shakespeare Lion.

Shirley provided funding for a cooker for a young lady.

Handsworth are currently looking at a request to help with a cooker and fridge freezer.

Moseley are currently looking to help with a cooker for a young guy.

Beryl said "I knew that Lions were good at meeting the needs of individuals in their communities and you have proved me right. I want say a huge thank you to the Clubs which have helped so far and for those who have made donations."

However that is not the end of the story. Although not actually helping CAP clients, the Coventry Food Bank has been helped by Coventry Godiva who donated a large amount of rice and helped collect food at the supermarket and even cooked curry to feed people on Christmas Eve.

On top of that the Food Bank Manager, through being taken along to talk to Lions at a Zone meeting about CAP and the Food Bank, has now joined Lions.

So as well as helping those in need in the Community, it has resulted in an increase in membership.

What a result!

Please circulate to all Club Members

MEMBERSHIP

I would like to welcome the following members to our organisation.

Graham Pemberton	Kenilworth
Ralph Lilley	Knowle & Dorridge
Carol Blundell	Stour Valley
Mark Ellis	Stour Valley
Julia Forrest	Stour Valley

I would remind clubs that now is the best time to look at doing a card drop and a Drinks and Nibbles evening.

INTERNATIONAL - TREE PLANTING

On tree planting worldwide, we planted over 8 million trees. In this District I set a goal of as many trees as members. I found out at the District Convention that we have already planted 3,000 and there is more to come.

So now I would like to get as many members as we planted trees. Is that possible? Keep planting. It is a great Community project.

LEADERSHIP

I am enclosing the dates for the Officers workshop this Spring:

Club Presidents, Secretaries and Treasurers -
Sunday 13th May 2012 at MDHQ 9.30a.m. to 3.00 p.m.

District Officers -
Sunday 20th May 2012 at MDHQ 9.30 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.

I would encourage all officers to attend, even those who have done the job before, as things are always changing.

The incoming District Governor Paul Anstice will be at all the Workshops.

ENJOY

Balsall Common St. Georges Night at the local village hall was a very enjoyable night, where they enrolled five new members.



Food was provided by the Pembertons, with in-house bar.

Melvin Jones Fellowships were presented to

Tony French and Ross Collins and there was a lot of banter.

Best of all I did not have to do a speech!!!!



CLUB VISITS IN MAY:

9th: Thurnby	14th: Malvern Hills
15th: Market Harborough Branch	16th: Towcester

OTHER EVENTS:

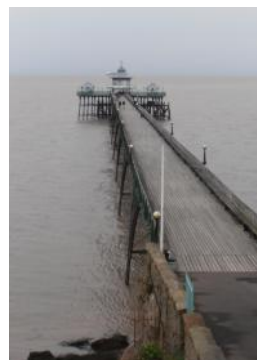
3rd-4th: COG, Metropole Hilton Hotel	4th-6th: MD Convention, Metropole Hilton Hotel
6th: Birmingham Chinatown Charter Night	11th: Droitwich Charter Night
13th: Club Officers training, MDHQ	15th: Disability Games, Bromsgrove
18th: Aldridge Charter Night	19th: Plant Sale, Burntwood (involving Walsall, Kingswinford/ Stourbridge)
19th: Redditch 40th Charter Night	20th: Thurnby Charter Lunch
27th: District Cabinet, St.Johns	27th: Coventry Phoenix Charter Lunch
29th: Meeting with VDG's	

If you have an event or community project you would like me to attend, please let me know.

AND FINALLY -

I have always said that I am going for a long walk off a short pier. As we live a long way from the sea we were able to do exactly that over the Shirley weekend away.

On the Saturday it was Clevedon Pier and on the Sunday it was newly refurbished Weston-Super-Mare Pier. On both occasions we had tea at the end of the pier.



Talking about a Mare, who was being led astray? It is **Mike and Mavis Cooke** who are in the picture.

And now it is off to **MULTIPLE DISTRICT CONVENTION**. Hope to see you there.

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