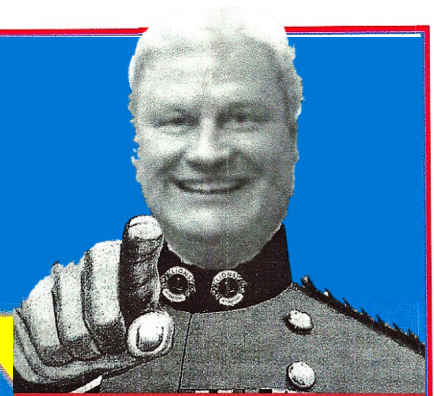




**LOCKDOWN
GOES ON!**

SENTINEL

MAY 2020 EDITION



WASH YOUR HANDS!



**KEEP CALM
AND
CARRY
ON and ON
and ON**

Do we have any
choice?



The International Association of Lions Clubs

District 105SC



District Governor 2019 - 2020 ♦ Lion Jarvis MacDonald

✉ dg@lions105sc.org.uk ♦ www.lions105sc.org.uk

“Lions Serve to Create a Better World for All”

Matters of Moment

NOTIFICATION OF CLUB OFFICERS FOR 2020 - 2021

It has been rumoured that, due to the unusual circumstances in which we find ourselves, Clubs do not need to register the Club Officers for the upcoming year. This is not true. Clubs do need to register their Officers for 2020 - 2021 in the normal manner. Staff at Oakbrook are still working, but from home, so although things may take a longer, they will get done.



Welcome New Lions!

I am delighted to welcome the following new members into Lions Clubs International and wish them a long and happy time as Lions.

DG Lion *Jarvis*

LODDON VALLEY - Lions Peter Avery, Alan Goddard and Shawn Pullman

FUND RAISING DURING CORONA VIRUS PANDEMIC

Together, social isolation and distancing means this is a difficult time to raise additional funds that will be much needed in the coming months. In the spirit of 'leaving no stone unturned' Gift Aid is really worth trying. It's a process that several Clubs have benefitted from, including my own where we have achieved £3,075 already in the current Lions year.

So just a reminder. Every Club in the District should now either have a Charitable Trust (CT) or be a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and as such be able to claim Gift Aid from HMRC. CTs can claim for donations where the donor has agreed to a Gift Aid claim and for other small donations (from the public) through the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme (GASDS). CIOs can claim for both of these and also claim Gift Aid on member's subscriptions.

Where Gift Aid is claimed on donations and members' subscriptions, an HMRC template spread sheet needs to be completed with details of the donor or member, address and post code, level of donation and date last made. For the GASDS only the total value of donations made is required up to a maximum of £8,000. However it is recommended that Treasurers keep a record of where and when the donations were collected (e.g. Street Collection, Santa Run, etc.). Claims are made on-line to HMRC through the Government Gateway website by searching Gift Aid. To start with it takes a bit of time and is a bit protracted as much checking is required (including some Trustee information) for HMRC to ensure claimants are legitimate, but the persistence is worth it. However once set up, HMRC responds quickly and the cash is paid into the Club account within days. Depending on the computer literacy of treasurers, they may need some help or support to work through the HMRC websites.

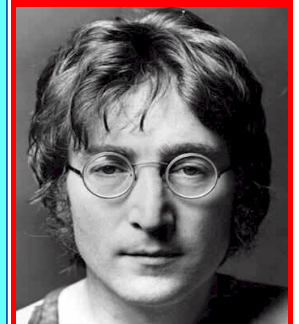
Of course, the level of return depends on the level of the Club's fund raising activity but we pay subscriptions (dues) and it is possible to claim for previous years. As we are not out there actively fund raising, why not put some energy into claiming Gift Aid instead. After all when you complete the exercise its not just for now, it will work well into the future, when we get to a new normal.

Lion Mike Baker 105SC - GLI

LIONS WIT

Everything will be okay in the end. If it's not okay, it's not the end.

*John
Winston
Lennon*



The DG's Leader...

"Fund Raising, Fun Seeking, Service Giving, Life Saving – Creating a better world for All"

My Fellow Lions

So here we are; it's May already and it doesn't seem five minutes since I was in Milan being sworn in as District Governor.

Where has the time gone? I hope you are all keeping safe and your minds active even if you cannot get out and do the physical things we are all so used to.

Modern technology is helping Lions to keep in touch. I have had more meetings this month online than I would normally attend if I was out and about including a number of meetings with my fellow Governors. We all face the same issues in how to keep everyone keen and active during this lockdown period. A very positive step was the decision by the Trustees of the MD Charity Foundation to donate in excess of £135,000 in grants which was available to all Lions Clubs throughout MD105 to enable them to assist their communities where individuals and organisations are struggling in these difficult times. In our District, 14 Clubs were successful in obtaining grants and this money has been paid out to the Clubs who I know in the main have in turn been able to increase the service given to those less fortunate in their communities. The PR team at MDHQ are compiling information on all the assistance given by Clubs over this period, so they can produce an article to promote Lionism throughout the UK.

It is estimated that so far Lions within the UK have donated over £500,000 to good causes. I can tell you that the Clubs in 105SC have not been idle, nearly £50,000 has already been donated to food banks, Citizens Advice Bureau, blood bikers (who have turned their talents to delivering test samples of Covid-19), homeless organisations, refuge homes for the abused and many more good causes – well done to all of you.

I have met with numerous members of the cabinet on a number of occasions, where a fair number of good ideas have emerged. One which I hope all Club Secretaries have received is an information sheet on many ideas on what we Lions can do to keep busy even if we cannot venture outdoors. Many Clubs have held online quizzes, Wokingham in particular seemed to have cracked it with over 250 people joining in on some evenings, having a lot of fun and more than £540 raised for their charity account in one session. Also Reading Lions tell me they dusted down their Santa Float and, with permission from the police and local council, were able to go door to door collecting food stuffs for the local food bank, which is great because it is very visible and Lions are being seen on the streets serving their community.

As we were all unable to hold our District Convention, we held an online District Convention which was a great success, and was the first online District Convention to take place in the world with online voting taking place for the first time. There were presentations, music from both our very own dynamic duo "Us Two" and "Rubix Groove", online voting for resolutions and the incoming DG team, and I hosted a live question and answer session which was quite lively with many of you participating and keeping me on my toes. My thanks to the individuals who made it possible - PDG Lion David Taylor for keeping us all legal and overseeing voting along with PDG Lion Roger Huntley. Also my thanks to Lion David Firth for kicking off proceedings and for his hard work with his team leading up to the Convention. My biggest 'thank you' must go to Lions Tom Sayers and Juliet Browne for the huge amount of work they put in to ensuring the online Convention went ahead, their joint communications skills enabling all the District members to come together

Keep safe, look after your fellow Lions and, above all, **KEEP SMILING**

Lion Jarvis District Governor 105SC



The bigger picture



Global Service Team News

The Covid-19 crisis continues but this should not stop us from continuing with Lions activities. We can also look to the future and consider how we can increase our service. The Environmental Competitions are still continuing and can be considered now:

The Environmental Poster Competition for young people

I have contacted our DGE Steve and he has suggested the theme should be:

HOW WE SPOIL OUR BEACHES AND COUNTRYSIDE THE IMPACT OF LITTER ON THEM and on OUR FOOD SOURCES

The posters could depict just the disfigurement of beaches and the countryside but also the problems of fish eating plastic or the effects of cattle eating litter or the dumping of foodstuffs leading meaning wastage in a world which is short of food in many places. This could also be considered as part of Feed the Hungry.

Whilst schools are closed to most pupils many are still open for a few. The shut down would seem to be ongoing so why not contact your local schools and ask them to take part either as a topic for those still attending or as something they can suggest for children to do at home. They could be more interested than usual as teachers would not have to find time to allow posters to be produced in school. Also why not suggest that your grandchildren have a go while they are at home? Full details can be found at

<https://www.lions105sc.org.uk/clubs/competitions/environmentcompetitions.html#photo>

The MD Environmental Photographic Competition

This will be continuing into the next Lionistic year. The subjects will be animals, plant life, weather phenomenon and other aspects of nature including landscapes and I will need them by Monday 4 January. It will be announced nationally later on but in the mean time get your cameras out and see what you can photograph in your garden or on your permitted walks. Again details can be found at

<https://www.lions105sc.org.uk/clubs/competitions/environmentcompetitions.html#photo>

Thank you to all the Clubs who responded to my questionnaire about collecting specs. It is still not too late to respond. The information will help Chichester Lions plan for the future.

Please keep well and safe and continue to serve,

Lion Judith Goodchild

PDG Judith Goodchild 105SC GST Coordinator
gst@lions105sc.org.uk Tel: 0118 981 2260



So, lockdown week six is underway. I never thought when I wrote my last article that our lives would have changed so much. I know that all Clubs are having to think how they can help their communities while abiding by the Government guidelines, and that we are all still trying to help where we can safely do so.

LCIF is continuing to serve the needs of those whose lives were hard enough before lockdowns and social distancing by carrying out their work from home. Grants are still being issued and priority is being considered to support regions with extreme rates of Covid-19. The focus is on addressing the needs that exist within local medical and management systems that are coordinating efforts within the World Health Organisation (WHO) and Centre for Disease & Protection (CDP) guidelines. As I write 137 grants totalling \$2,784,655 have so far been awarded and this will have probably increased by the time you are reading this. This is our Foundation doing great work while being overseen by Club Lions like you and me. To carry on serving the needs of the most vulnerable, the Foundation relies on donations from Lions Clubs around the world. If your Club has already donated, I thank you, if it has not, I would like to ask that among all the other worthwhile causes your Club considers donating to, please consider a donation to LCIF, so that Lions can help those who really need it during these difficult times.

Thank you for the support you have, as a district given to LCIF, every bit helps. In the meantime, I hope you and yours are well and safe and that they continue to be so.

Take care.

Lion Ann Huntley MGF

District 105SC LCIF Coordinator

News around the Clubs (virtually)...

Nice to know we're nice to know!

While not able to meet in person during the reign of Covid-19, doubtless like many other Clubs, the Basingstoke Lions have continued to congregate 'virtually' and respond to need. So members were delighted to be approached by the British Red Cross who were representing a local man recently discharged from hospital but who had no mattress for his bed and lockdown was seemingly making it impossible to supply one.

Enter the BLC 'cavalry'. Contact was made with the Community Furniture Project (CFP) who were able quickly to provide and deliver a suitable mattress. The recipient reportedly was 'over the moon' with his new bed.

The CFP has worked closely with Basingstoke Lions for many years, providing furniture and appliances for people in need. While closed to the public during the lockdown, it remains on hand to provide essentials when necessary. Project manager Phelim O'Hagan commented: "It's wonderful that at times like these that three charities can work together as one to help someone in need."

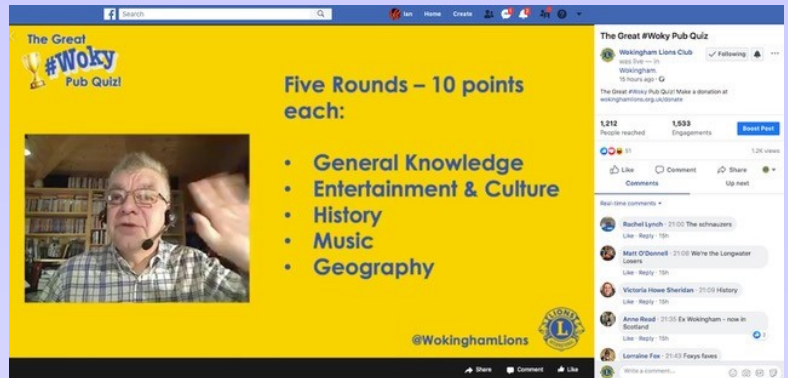
And from the British Red Cross: "...extremely grateful to the Lions for the compassionate approach and interest in our client's situation. The Basingstoke Lions are a marvellous charity and we are very fortunate to have you. Thank you for your prompt response during this difficult time."

The Basingstoke Lions are pleased that they made a big difference with a small deed.

Ferrying for the Foodbank

With an existing good working relationship with the Basingstoke Foodbank for whom 'Lennie', the Basingstoke Lion, has boosted their takings at his appearances, the Foodbank readily accepted an offer from the Lions to deliver food parcels during the Covid-19 lockdown. Apparently the need had quadrupled in recent weeks, the increase in demand being attributed largely to the loss of employment in the area. As ever the Lions were happy to be able to help.

WOKINGHAM LIONS ORGANISE FIRST VIRTUAL GREAT #WOKY PUB QUIZ



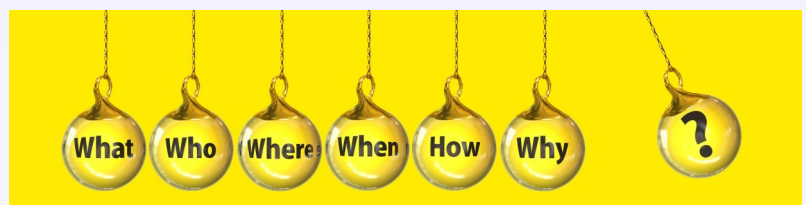
The Wokingham Lions Club has organised its first virtual Pub Quiz, raising more than £300 for the Wokingham Borough Community Hub, which is acting as the main point of contact for the Wokingham community during the Covid-19 crisis.

The quiz was live-streamed over Facebook with more than 200 teams taking part, and more than 1,400 people watching the video so far. The quiz was free to enter, but attendees could choose to make a charitable donation at the end. Although aimed at Wokingham residents, attendees came from as far afield as Singapore and Scotland.

Organiser Lion Ian Grange said "I really missed the Thursday night quiz at the Two Poplars, and I thought others would be missing their weekly quiz fix as well. Therefore I decided to organise a virtual one over Facebook, with the help of my fellow Lions. The response has been wonderful. It's great to hear that so many people enjoyed it, and that we were able to raise some funds to support Wokingham Community Hub, who are doing so much to support our community."

Wokingham Lions President Lion Lyn Baily added: "During lockdown, it's easy to feel isolated. It's part of the Lions' objective to make a difference in our community, so we are happy to have organised something that brings people together in these difficult times."

Feedback was very positive. Participant Helen Saich commented: "Such a very good quizmaster, made it look so easy. Well done. Really enjoyed it." Simon Brown added, "That was awesome. Thank you." Liz Fletcher said, "Thank you so much for a wonderful lockdown quiz, we really enjoyed it and hope you do another one!"



More news from the Clubs - virtual and otherwise



Keeping their social distance!

WOKINGHAM LIONS CLUB POSTPONES WOKINGHAM WALK

It is with regret that the Wokingham Lions Club decided to postpone the fifth annual Wokingham Walk, which was scheduled for Sunday 3 May, due to the extended lockdown caused by Covid-19.

The Wokingham Walk will now take place on **Sunday, 6 September**. Walkers have a choice of three routes, which are five, ten and 15 miles, to suit a range of different challenges for those participating. All routes start and finish in Howard Palmer Gardens. All proceeds will be donated to Alexander Devine Children's Hospice Service.

Lion Andy Slay (one of the original joint organisers of the event) said: "Obviously this a great disappointment, and we held off postponing as late as we could, in the hope that there would be some degree of lifting of the lockdown arrangements, that might have let the event proceed. Charities have suffered enormously this Spring, and I know that Alexander Devine Children's Hospice Service desperately needs the money that the Walk would have generated."

"Let's all hope that we will be able to go ahead on **Sunday 6 September**, with even more people supporting this great cause by joining us enjoying the countryside around Wokingham, on

Since the start of restrictions imposed by Covid-19, Ryde Lions have supported the local community. Ryde president Lion Barrie Jehan presents a cheque for £500 to Caroline Linton of the Ryde Foodbank.



Typical countryside along the Wokingham Walk

URGENT APPEAL FOR LAPTOPS & DESKTOPS

We are in urgent need of equipment! We, your local Lions Clubs, have been able to provide many students with laptops/desktops to enable them to continue their education. Unfortunately we are running out of stock and there are still students in need. Do you have a spare computer that we could collect from your doorstep, cleanse it and reload it with official Windows 10pro and a range of free software including Libre Office? We are trying to ensure all children can continue with their home learning at this time.

Please contact it@fleetlions.org.uk where we can have a chat. Thank you

And finally..

LIONS IT REFURBISHMENT PROJECT IN N. HAMPSHIRE

This project, which involves several Lions Clubs in Zone E, is currently donating computers to children to assist with their home education while the Covid-19 pandemic is happening.

Details can be seen on <https://youtu.be/TCjvi2kR9hs>.

BUT, we are running into problems with the increase in demand. We need more desktops/laptops plus the associated keyboards/monitors/cables to be offered.

DO YOU HAVE ANY or know someone who does?

Contact email: it@fleetlions.org.uk.

COVID-19 and Membership – an Opportunity

In times like these we need to take care of not only the public but also our own, our members and friends' wellbeing, specially those who may be feeling lonely, isolated, vulnerable or just bored!

Here are a few pointers to consider.

Why not discuss them as a Club and keep yourselves involved during social distancing and isolation; although the 'normal' methods of communicating may have changed it should not mean the old-fashioned communication stops.

Make sure Lions maintain communications both internally with members and externally with the public.

Clubs need to ensure they are still promoting their activities to the public; we are still here 'To Serve'.

Wokingham Lions have set up a weekly quiz which is hosted on Facebook and available to members of the public. And attracted more than 200 entrants.

Social Media such as Websites, Facebook, WhatsApp, Twitter, etc. or the local press. Remind the world (and members) of what we have done - acts of kindness as kindness matters.

Don't let a silent void evolve, Sound matters when isolated.

Ring members, WhatsApp members, Skype members and use Zoom for meetings.

Write a list of members' contact details, set up a telephone tree, and get on the phone. We are Lions - apart, but together.

IN FOND MEMORY

This month, with sadness, the *105SC Sentinel* reports the passing to higher service of several Lions.

Lion John Chapman of the Alton Lions Club.

Lion Helen Mitchell of the Lions Club of Swanwick.

Lion Peter Mitson of the Woodley and Earley Lions Club.

Each of these Lions will be a sad loss to all who knew them.

With sincere condolences of the *105SC Sentinel* to their families, friends and fellow Lions.



Sentinel's eye on...

This month 75 years ago...



At 3.00 pm on Tuesday 8 May 1945, Winston Churchill announced that 'hostilities had ceased all along the front at one minute past midnight' on that day. What he also went on to say (which tends to be left out of repeats of his broadcast) was that 'our dear Channel Islands are also to be freed today'. For five years the Islands, the southernmost parts of 105SC, had been under German occupation. In fact, as they did in many French ports, the German forces surrendered the following day.

The poignancy of that day, Wednesday 9 May 1945, (still a public holiday in the Islands) is captured in the following verses penned by Therese Tabb who, as was her husband, Sentinel editor Lion Peter Tabb, was present for the German surrender and the arrival of the British liberating force.

INVASION - OCCUPATION - LIBERATION

THEY ARE COMING

Shall we go? Shall we stay?
Pack up. Leave everything.
One suitcase. Close the door.
To the harbour.
Go...

THEY ARE HERE

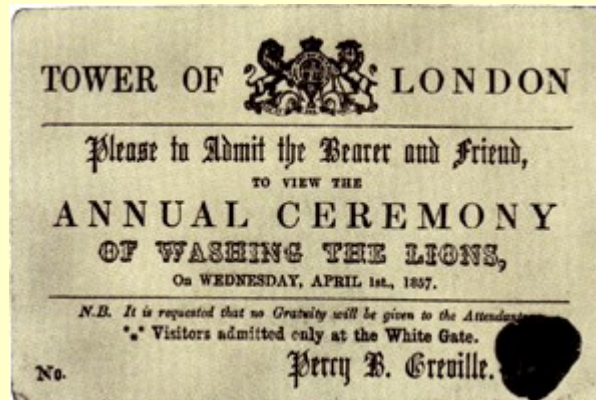
Last boat gone. No place for us.
No choice. We have to stay.
So we stay.
Five long years.
Before...

THEY ARE GONE

We are free.
'Our dear Channel Islands are free today'.
Jubilant! We cheer the Union Jack.
Hooray! Hooray!
We greet the British Tommy.
With tears and kisses.
We salute you.
Thank you! Thank you!
For our freedom.

THEY WERE COMING—THEY WERE HERE—THEY ARE GONE

This day 322 years ago...



April 1, 1698: As reported in *Dawk's News-Letter* the following day "several persons were sent to the Tower Ditch to see the Lions washed". This is the earliest known record of an April Fool's Day prank. The joke was that there were no lions being washed in the Ditch (moat) of the Tower of London. It was a fool's errand.

For well over a century after this, the prank of sending unsuspecting victims to see the "washing of the Lions" at the Tower of London remained a favourite April Fool's Day joke.

In the mid-nineteenth century, pranksters even printed official looking tickets (one is reproduced above) which they distributed around London on April 1, promising admittance to the (non-existent) annual lions-washing ceremony.

The Editor's thanks to Lion Jim Storey of Fleet Lions for sending this intriguing tale (fittingly, but sadly, it arrived on 1 April too late for the April edition) but too uplifting to leave out of this one.



OLD MONARCH

The Editor has the last word...

In the month when the country will celebrate the 75th anniversary of VE-Day, we find ourselves still engaged in a conflict about which it seems that we can do little other than grin and bear the restrictions on freedoms we have enjoyed since. That most of us are enduring a sort of 'house arrest' for which we are, as far as we know, blameless, is frustrating to say the least.

It is not in the nature of Lions to 'grin and bear it' and, as ever, these pages are a record of how Lions have adapted to circumstances none of us have never before had to face. As ever our concerns are for our communities which we are pledged to serve and despite the evident difficulties, that service continues. As John Lennon also said: "What we've got to do is keep hope alive. Because without it we will sink." Keep well and keep safe!

Lion Peter Tabb



**Lions
tail...**



Please send all articles and pictures for publication in the

DISTRICT 105SC SENTINEL

to the Editor, Lion Peter Tabb, email : news@lions105sc.org.uk and/or peteretabb@gmail.com
ideally at least a week before the end of the month