

105  
SC



SENTINEL

DECEMBER 2020 EDITION



**“Think big and dream big” -  
The Lions ROAR on page 11**



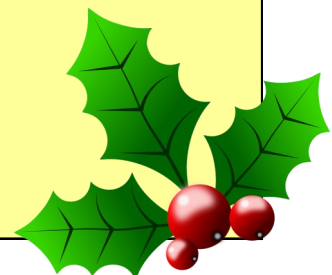
The International Association of Lions Clubs

**District 105SC**

District Governor 2020 - 2021 ♦ Lion Steve Petty

✉ [dg@lions105sc.org.uk](mailto:dg@lions105sc.org.uk) ♦ [www.lions105sc.org.uk](http://www.lions105sc.org.uk)

**“Kindness Matters”**



# The DG's Seasonal Leader...

"We are all volunteers and give of our time freely, let us enjoy ourselves and spread fun, joy and laughter as we do what we do best - We Serve"

## *My Fellow Lions*

December has arrived and the outside world is still determined to be challenging with no let up in the foreseeable future. However life continues and we are here to serve in whatever way we can within our local rules and regulations. Many Clubs have now finished planning their pre-Christmas events and it has been interesting to hear and see how they are to deliver these. Some are going out, within the rules and within the advice of local authorities, and some are taking Santa to Zoom. I wish you all a successful season. Woe betide any Club that tries to promote the myth that Santa is not a key worker.

November was a busy month with many activities taking place online.

We had a good response to the Peace Poster competition with many Clubs taking part. My thanks to all those Clubs that promoted the scheme and can announce that we have several winners. The entry from 12 years old Eva sponsored by Swindon Lions Club has now been forwarded to the next level at MD105 and I wish her, and the Swindon Lions Club, good luck at that level. We also have winners for both of the District Junior Peace Poster competitions in that of Year 4 student Eden and of Year 6 student Ella who were both sponsored by Yateley and District Lions Club. A double congratulation to the Club for submitting both winners. My thanks and condolences for those who were unsuccessful this year and hope that you will try again next year. Can I also thank our District Peace Poster Officer Lion Frances Bond for making this happen in such difficult times. I am sure she is now available to hear from any clubs wanting to take part in the next rounds of all Peace Poster Competitions.

We also supported the MD symposium in November with thanks to the two attendees who I hope enjoyed the experience and will hopefully let us know what they thought of the first online experience.

I am proud to have submitted two applications to the International Presidents Award Scheme and look forward to a successful outcome in both cases.

I understand that we are still looking for any applications to become 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governor next year and are reminding everyone that time is getting short. If you are interested and require more information before applying then please ask or visit the LCI website for guidance. There is also still time for Clubs to put in any Convention resolution they think would further your Club or District.

In the run up to Christmas we are suggesting that if you are sending cards then please use the Brain Tumour Research Appeal cards obtainable from MD but if you just want to send a greeting, we can accommodate this on the 105SC website for a small donation to my designated DG charity of **Hope For Tomorrow** which brings mobile cancer treatment to your community.

Stay Safe and have a good Christmas and I look forward to seeing you all next year.



*Lion Steve* District Governor 105SC





# The bigger picture

## Global Service Team News

This year has certainly been very different in all aspects of Lionism but it has not all been bad. We may not have been able to do our normal fund raising but we have provided service, often in new exciting ways. We have helped our Food Banks, helped deliver medicines and food stuffs to the self-isolating and helped our schools in many ways including Zone 2E who have refurbished and delivered PCs and laptops to schools so that children could work at home.

December is normally one of the busiest months for Lions Clubs but this year will be less so for many. Covid-19 has meant that many Clubs have either given up their sleigh runs altogether or changed them so that they are driving through and not stopping to knock on doors as normal or are doing static events. I wish you well in all that you are able to do because you will be bringing Christmas cheer to people and the sheer joy on a child's face of seeing Father Christmas can make the whole evening worthwhile.

We are getting towards the time when entries for the Environmental competitions need to be in.

Entries for the Photographic Competition need to be with me by Monday 4 January. Entries must be sent to me and not directly to MDHQ. This way they can be entered into the District Competition. I will ensure they reach MDHQ on time. Please send **printed** photos to me. This way you will know that the colour in the photos is correct.

You have until 1 March for your Environmental Posters to reach me. The theme this year is "How We Spoil Our Beaches and Countryside - The Impact of Litter on our Food Sources".

In both cases please send your entries to me at 88A, Franklin Avenue, Tadley RG26 4EU.

After Christmas please remember to recycle as much as you can. Some charities will collect Christmas cards for recycling into new ones and some supermarkets will collect them. You can find ideas of how to dispose of Christmas cards on many websites.

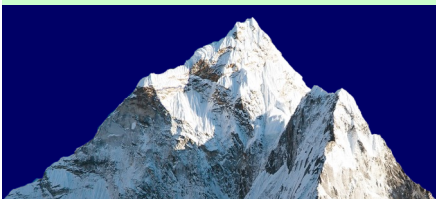
Please save your Christmas stamps for the RNIB who will recycle them into funds to help projects such as their letters from Santa which are sent to children with vision impairment. You can get pre-paid collection envelopes or boxes plus further details by completing a request form on their website <https://www.mib.org.uk/donations-and-fundraising/fundraising-your-community/stamps-appeal/get-your-pre-paid-envelopes> or calling the helpline on 0303 123 9999.

Another form of recycling which can be done at any time of year is hearing aids. Small quantities of these can be sent by post to Dr. Michael Nolan, Lumb Gaps Barn, Haslington Old Road, Rawtenstall, Rossendale, Lancashire BB4 8TT. Larger quantities (up to 15kg) can be shipped using Hermes - see <https://www.myhermes.co.uk>. PLEASE do not send batteries or boxes just the aids. Alternatively, send them to Chichester Lions when they are open again. If you are sending to Chichester could you let me know how many you are sending so that I can forward the number to the MD Officer as Chichester do not record where the hearing aids come from.

Finally I hope you all have a very happy Christmas

*Lion Judith Goodchild*

105SC GST Coordinator [gst@lions105sc.org.uk](mailto:gst@lions105sc.org.uk)  
Tel: 0118 981 2260



**Our greatest glory is not in never falling,  
but in rising every time we fall. Confucius**

# Matters of moment



## 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.

DEVIZES - Lion Christopher Tamlyn

MAIDENHEAD - Lions Romilly Hryczanek  
and Lukas James

WESTBURY - Lion Heather Blackley

DG Lion *Steve*

## Living with Covid-19



First published in The Jersey Lion



I hope that by the time you read this you will have had sight of the most recent District mailing. In that mailing you will see a letter from ID Lion Geoff Leeder and PID Lion Howard Lee concerning Korle Bu, the Lions Eye Centre in Ghana which we have supported alongside Moorfields Hospital Charity. It informs us that an agreement between LCIF, MLKBT & MD105 that any unrestricted donations sent by Clubs to support LCIF from MD 105, unless designated for a particular purpose, e.g. disaster relief, diabetes, etc. will be allocated by LCIF for Korle Bu. This is a great way to support the way forward for the centre. Any donations still count towards Campaign 100 goals, Model Club targets and, of course, Melvin Jones Awards. There is a video link which I urge you to take time to view.

I mentioned a few newsletters ago LCIF Day 2021 which the Lions of Europe are hoping will become a regular event. During the week of 12 June 2021, it is hoped that every Club in Europe will arrange a fundraiser for LCIF. There are three main goals the event hopes to achieve:

**Fundraising for Campaign 100**

**Engaging Lions in service projects and reporting.**

**Increasing membership**

I know for some Clubs even during normal circumstances this is an ambitious idea and during a world-wide pandemic even more so. However, we have been there to support those who needed it most during the first wave, by supplying over \$5million in grants for Covid projects around the world. If we are to continue our fantastic work, we need to support our Foundation so it can be there in the future whenever or whatever our communities may need. Please do consider supporting LCIF Day 2021 and if your Club does decide to do so, please let me know. Of course, your Club can continue to make donations to the Foundation at any time.

Thank you to all who have continued to support LCIF during these difficult times when the needs at home were strong, it is appreciated.

*I wish you and your families a safe and Happy Christmas.*

*Lion Ann Huntley M&J*

District 105SC LCIF Coordinator



# Lions gearing up for a Covid-Christmas



1st VDG Lion Brian Donovan gives an insight into Abingdon Lions' sleighride

Despite lockdown and whatever tier Oxfordshire will be in after 2 December, my festive month is mapped out for local service events. My Club is running a 'virtual' Santa during December and we had a trial run with the Chief Elf and three Santas (and I am one of those and providing the Zoom hosting for it) with practice children - our youngest three members volunteered and aged 24, 28 and 31 they were the closest we could find to the real thing! Chief Elf is a little relieved that it worked but it was very different from being in an actual grotto or going from door to door. At least I will not be running in full Santa kit to keep up with the sleigh.

Our sleigh has already had an outing to the Helen and Douglas House Hospice in Oxford with Santa for an early all Covid-19 compliant visit. A video was made of Santa's arrival and him giving a talk which will be played to the children over Christmas. Santa will make a few personal visits to an old people's home and a nursery where we can exert appropriate crowd control. The sleigh will also spend two nights on the streets of a local village but we cannot really do our normal round in the town, not even a drive through, since it would attract too much of a crowd and we could not guarantee social distancing. A shame.

*Lion Brian Donovan*

1st Vice District Governor



**Ho, Ho Ho!**

**Santa's on his way!**

This year in particular we think you will all agree that we need a little extra Christmas cheer. Which is why the clever little elves at Windsor Lions have persuaded Santa to come out of furlough and make an early appearance. Santa will be out on his sleigh from Friday 4 December bringing some much needed sparkle to the streets - all in a Covid-friendly, socially distanced way, of course.

Santa is specially keen to see the little ones and wish them a "Jolly Merry Christmas" and he'll be delighted to accept any coins (and notes!) in his bucket to help provide a gift for children who might not otherwise receive one. That will bring an even bigger smile to his jolly red cheeks!

## Eastleigh Lions donations help local Basics Bank

Following a pre-Christmas appeal for items for the Eastleigh Basics Bank, the Club



responded with several trolleys full of goods. Lions Anne and Jon took a consignment of food and other basics to the Basics Bank in Wells Place. The Lions have been busily collecting to donate to needy families in the Eastleigh area.

Lions Anne and Jon are seen with some of the goods outside the shop with the manager, Dom Hooley, who looks as though he is wondering where he will put it all!



# Lions doing what they do well...

## Wokingham Lions' quizzes benefit local charities

The Great #Woky Pub Quiz, organised by Lion Ian Grange, added an extra to "lockdown" on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November, via a live stream on Facebook. This virtual online pub quiz supported Link Visiting Scheme's Christmas Appeal (<https://www.linkvisiting.org/christmas>), which aims to support some of the most isolated and vulnerable people in our community over the Christmas period.

The online quiz on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November was in aid of the Diabetes UK Reading and District Group. This is a support group for people with diabetes in the Reading and Wokingham areas, as well as those who care for someone with diabetes, and those who want to know more about it.

The quiz on 29<sup>th</sup> October raised £330 for Berkshire Vision. Sara Gibbons, the Head of Finance, said: "We were delighted with our recent donation from the Wokingham Lions Club's virtual pub quiz. Donations such as these enable us to continue our support of individuals living with sight loss throughout the county of Berkshire."

Lion Ian Grange, the quiz organiser at Wokingham Lions said: "This is Berkshire's best virtual pub quizzing experience, bringing together family, friends and neighbours, either as teams or challenging each other to see who comes out on top. It's all free, but donations to support local charities are very welcome."

Other quizzes are scheduled for Fridays 17 December and 28 January. Donations can be made at [www.wokinghamlions.org.uk/donate](http://www.wokinghamlions.org.uk/donate). Anyone can participate via the Wokingham Lions Club Facebook page at [fb.com/wokinghamlions/video](https://fb.com/wokinghamlions/video).



## Petersfield Lions raise awareness of World Food Day

Lions Mary Putnam and Sandra Manktelow can be seen buying foodstuffs worth £220 in Tesco, this along with food from Pound-Land being donated to the Petersfield Food Bank for World Food Day. The Club also had a stall outside Lloyds Bank on Saturday 17 October raising awareness of the 75th Anniversary of World Food Day. This donation will help deserving residents of Petersfield during this difficult time.

The Lions were also collecting old spectacles and promoting Message in a Bottle and the Club's own Message in a Wallet.



Woolmer Forest Lions have put details and press reports of what they do and have done into a Time Capsule to be buried in the Makers Market in Whitehill and Bordon. The capsule is being organised by Whitehill and Bordon Community Trust and will be opened in 50 years' time.

# Every change brings opportunity with it...

## A comment on Covid-19



### Toys for Christmas



### from the Blandford Lions

Following an ongoing appeal from the Blandford Foodbank for Christmas Toys, Blandford Lions supplied a van load of new toys thanks to an anonymous wellwisher.

Gail Del-Pinto of the Blandford Foodbank said that the generous gift will make a huge difference to many local families this Christmas.

Pictured delivering the toys are Past President Lion James Mayo, Gail and Blandford Lions treasurer Lion Nigel Hodder.

## FLEET LIONS REMEMBER



**F**LEET LIONS were pleased to do something for their community at their town's Remembrance event. As with most towns, the event was very low key compared to the norm with a marching band and parade. This year there were just a few officials laying wreaths to the rule of six.

So a few Fleet Lions helped the Royal British Legion by marshalling the event - sadly to keep the public at bay. It was still very emotional and around 50 members of the public were in the area, many in uniform with wreaths to lay. The Council live-streamed the event too.

Lions had also helped with poppy sales though several regulars were too vulnerable to help this year. The RBL had got their act together with tap-and-go payments, programmed with fixed amounts.

It made a nice change to be out and about in our Lions gear having cancelled our fire-works and our new round of the world conker championships due to storm Alex! The Club has not been pleased to cancell so many enjoyable fundraisers and events.

This year the Santa runs have been revamped but the cheery old gentleman will be out and about complying with Covid rules. We are also keeping our fingers crossed for a rearranged (and smaller) beerfest in February!

Fleet president Lion Bill Petley with the Lions' wreath

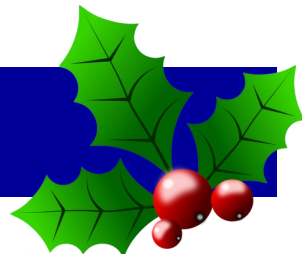


## MEDICAL ALERT ALERT!

Some people have received cold calls claiming to be from MedicalAlert. THIS IS A SCAM.

MedicalAlert will never make a promotional cold call.





## **Unseasonal thanks from Wimborne and Ferndown Lions!**

For 30 years now the Wimborne and Ferndown Lions have organised a very popular annual draw with giant Easter Eggs as prizes. In the process the Club has raised more than £61,000 for various good causes.

Covid-19 and the consequent lock-down have hampered the Club with the draw this year but nevertheless £1,620 has been raised and is being donated locally to Macmillan Cancer Support.

The Lions are keen to thank their many loyal participating locations (e.g, pubs, clubs, cafés, salons, etc.) and, of course, the general public who have supported this venture at a time when charity incomes have really suffered.

## **Windsor Foodshare founder recognised by the Windsor Lions**

In a suitably socially distanced ceremony at Dedworth Green Baptist Church, Sarah Howard, founding volunteer and driving force behind Windsor Foodshare received a Certificate of Appreciation from Windsor Lions president, Lion Judy Hill. The award recognised Sarah's amazing contribution to the community by her dedication and vision in growing the project from modest beginnings seven years ago to the substantial charity it is today, providing food and support for up to 75 families each week.

Sarah organised donations of food from a variety of sources - primarily Tesco in Dedworth and Waitrose in the centre of Windsor, plus local churches, schools and local community collections. Along with a great team of helpers, Sarah also oversaw the adaption of Foodshare to cope successfully with the challenges thrown at them by Covid-19.

Sarah has recently handed over the baton at Windsor Foodshare to a new team who were also recognised with an award to the organisation as a whole, presented at the same ceremony to the Dedworth Green Baptist Church minister, Matthew Scott.

Sarah was delighted, commenting, "I was so surprised by the award and very much appreciate it. I think it's amazing that the Lions, who do tireless work for so many causes, go out of their way to appreciate others. I am honoured."

President Lion Judy Hill responded by stating that Sarah had done amazing work in bringing Windsor Foodshare thus far and the Windsor Lions were proud to be a part of it. "We wish the new team the best of luck in continuing to grow the project and pledge our ongoing support."



Sarah Howard and Matthew Scott with their Certificates of Appreciation



**For myself, I am an optimist - it does not seem to be much use being anything else - Winston Churchill**

## **Making a big difference... what it's all about!**

Meon Valley Lions secured funding of £4,395 from a generous benefactor to buy a Smartdrive 'Power wheel add on' to power up the wheelchair of a young lady in Bishops Waltham. This device is truly life changing.



The Club received a letter of thanks from her mother saying "She can't stop bouncing in her chair and grinning from ear to ear every time it's mentioned! It really will make a huge difference to her quality of life and it is so wonderful to see her so enthused after what has been a difficult year. Father Christmas literally delivered early this year!"

## **A surprising silver lining to the Covid cloud**

A resident of a Basingstoke Lion's village contacted her initially to ask whether they could jointly work a community service project. This person was unknown to the Lion but had read the Lion's biography on the Club website. This progressed to a request for a suggestion of a suitable Basingstoke charity to which said resident could make an anonymous donation from funds accumulated from savings on the family budget during Covid-19 and with the desire that it be directed to those who had suffered hardship due to the virus.

Suffice it to say that after six weeks of many emails, many questions about exactly the 'who', the 'what' and the 'how' Lions operate, and having been provided with information and links from the LCIF and the Club's websites, a one-off sum of **£500** found its way into the Basingstoke Lions' charity account.

While recognising the devil that the virus has created, it's also created an angel - and a fan of Lions everywhere.



**Instead of posting Christmas cards this year, why not make a donation to the District Governor's charity "Hope for Tomorrow". See the donations page— [www.lions105sc.org.uk/donations](http://www.lions105sc.org.uk/donations)**

**In the middle of difficulty lies an opportunity**

# BRACKNELL NEWSROUND

News from our Berkshire correspondent Lion Clare Dowling

## Bracknell Lions partnership with Wildridings School

After a successful collection back in February, Bracknell Forest Lions have once again teamed up with Wildridings Primary School to collect items for the Foodbank.

### November collection

On Thursday 5 November, Club members operated a socially distanced collection at Wildridings School where generous families donated more than 350 items, including long-life foodstuffs and gifts for Christmas. Over the year, they have contributed more than 700 items to the Foodbank which provides local families locked in poverty with emergency food and support.

### 60% increase in food parcels needed

In September this year, the Trussel Trust which runs foodbanks all over the United Kingdom forecast a 61 per cent increase in food parcels would be needed between October and December and this was prior to the second lockdown being announced. Families with children are the hardest hit by Covid-19 and this year around half the people who have used the foodbanks have never needed one before.

Organiser Lion Clare Dowling said, "We are very grateful to the school for helping us help others. All the school community were involved to make this a success and special thanks to headteacher Mr Cope."



## A sponsored walk inspired by other Lions Clubs

In September Bracknell Lions were wracking their brains working out how to raise funds to support local charities, since they had missed out on raising the thousands they could have expected from the annual Bracknell Show.

It was Lion Marcia who suggested that instead, to raise funds, the Club create and take part in a socially distanced sponsored walk over a weekend. Arranging the walk was hard because the guidelines for social distancing prevented the use of the fields where the Bracknell Show would have been staged to start as a group in a spirit of friendship and fellowship. Instead, participants had to walk alone or in small groups, keeping their distance!

Club members challenged themselves to walk a total of 100 miles over the weekend as a group (the Club has just 13 members). In fact they achieved a very laudable 166 miles - one member even *running* 50 miles - and raised £1,000!

The walk was great fun and did good for the Club members' morale, their physical and mental health, was great for social media interaction and a very pleasing result in every way.







## Sentinel's eye on...

### Card Readers

A number of requests have been received from Clubs regarding 'card readers' that will enable them to move away from handling cash, especially in these difficult times where people have minimal cash on them. One or two Clubs are thinking of what to use for Christmas Collections and 'Santa Sleigh' activities etc.

Card Readers supplied by banks tend to be very expensive and work on a monthly fee, which is not ideal for Lions Clubs who may only use them occasionally.

There are a number of 'pay for use' providers in the market one of which, iZettle, has been highly recommended and it is one that our Club has used for a couple of years now.

The reader is simple to use, you only pay when you use it (approx. 1.5 per cent commission) once you have purchased it for around £25 and you can get itemised readouts of your transactions immediately.

You attach the Bluetooth reader to any phone; you need a 4G WiFi internet connection, and you are ready to proceed. Payment is into a nominated bank account in around 3-4 days. For audit purposes, every transaction can be accessed and reports are available. Their helpline is complimented too.

For more information, go to <https://www.izettle.com/gb>.

There are other suppliers, e.g., FourSquare and SumUp ([www.sumup.co.uk](http://www.sumup.co.uk)). World Pay and PayPal tend to be better for larger volumes of use, due to cost. Uttoxeter Lions Club have apparently negotiated a one-off card terminal payment fee of £30.00 and each transaction is 1 per cent, with PayPal; this may be worth further investigation.

If you require any further information, please let me know.

*Lion Tim Hanton*

District Treasurer.

### Watch the Lions ROAR Final live

This year, on Wednesday 9 December, the Lions ROAR final will be live on Zoom, all Lions and UK primary schools are invited to be in the audience.

Lions ROAR is an education programme in its fourth year that encourages children to 'think big and dream big', while generating brilliant 'world changing' ideas.

**ROAR is interesting, ROAR is exciting and ROAR is FUN.**

ROAR is run by 7 Billion Ideas, an award-winning education company, in conjunction with Lions Clubs in the UK.

To learn more about ROAR please click on these links:-

<https://lionsclubs.co/MemberArea/knowledge/latest-roar-2020-lions-and-7billionideas/>  
<https://www.lions-roar.com/>

This year 58 primary schools entered ROAR from four Lions Districts. In the final, which will be live on Zoom from 10.30 to 12.00 on Wednesday 9 December, the winning schools will present their ideas by video, along with their model, jingle and poster. The judges will then award a number of prizes.

ROAR benefits primary schools by offering a Lions-funded programme that meets all PSHE curriculum requirements, benefits Lions Clubs by promoting your local Club and Lifeskills. If your Club would like to be part of this exciting development in our Youth Services next year then please view this MD Final. The Zoom link to join is :-

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82066086986?pwd=SENHWGVodFFJTIRuUks3VDZZVTV2QT09>

If your Club plans to support a school next year please invite them to view the final too.

**Enjoy the day and get involved in 2021.**



# OLD MONARCH

*The Editor has the last word...*

I imagine that there are few of us who will not be pleased to see 2020 pass into dim memory for there can be few who have ever experienced a year such as this.

I recall looking forward to the bright new year just 12 months ago and who would have thought that a virus, so microscopic that all of them worldwide would fit into a dessert spoon (according to *The Times*), could wreak such havoc on our lives.

These pages have recorded just how vigorously 105SC Lions have responded to the Covid-19 crises and led the way in ensuring that they still served their communities in any way they could.

In the meantime enjoy Christmas as best you can and may 2021 return us all to good cheer and happiness.

*Lion Peter Tabb*



**Lions  
tail...**



**Socially distanced Woodley and Earley Lions encounter a rare species in a local car park**

Please send all articles and pictures for publication in the

**DISTRICT 105SC SENTINEL**

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