

# PRIDE OF LIONS

District 105A News, Issue 4  
October 2022

## **VISION AWARENESS MONTH**

October is Vision Awareness Month. If your club has done something for this month, please send in your article to be featured in the next issue. Our contact details can be found at the bottom of page 10.



DG KAVALJIT DEV

## **IN THIS ISSUE**

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD'S  
BOOK SHOP

WORLD SIGHT DAY COMES  
TO STONY STRATFORD

THE GILLIAN HANSON  
DIABETES TEAM

AND MORE

# TABLE OF CONTENTS



*Passion to Make a Difference*

**3**

**NOTICE BOARD**

---

**4**

**HEMEL HEMPSTEAD'S BOOK SHOP**

---

**5**

**WORLD SIGHT DAY COMES TO STONY STRATFORD**

*by Lion Doreen Allen*

---

**6**

**THE GILLIAN HANSON DIABETES TEAM**

*by Lion Surjit K. Chodda*

---

**7**

**CONVENTION WEEKEND PACKAGE**

---

**8**

**TRING LIONS DONATION FOR BENCHES**

*by Tring Lions Club*

---

**8**

**PLANTING TREES AND RECYCLING**

*by Lion Kam Kalra*

---

**9**

**FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES**

*by Amptill & District Lions Club*

---

**10**

**OUT AND ABOUT WITH DG KAV**

# NOTICE BOARD



## Welcome to the team

Below are the names of the newest additions to our family of Lions. Congratulations to: Jacqueline Robson (Biggleswade-Sandy Lions Club), Asit Shah (Friern Barnet Centennia Lions Club), Arif Asgaraly (Harrow & Pinner Lions Club), Lamyra Asgaraly (Harrow & Pinner Lions Club), Randhir Sahota (Hayes & Harlington Lions Club), Sukhvinder Sahota (Hayes & Harlington Lions Club), Olayinka Towaju (Letchworth Garden City & Baldock Lions Club), Gita Bhatt (London Kingsbury Lions Club), Bharti Ghumra (London Kingsbury Lions Club), Sandip Madhvani (London Seven Kings Lions Club), Devinder Bahra (Wanstead & Woodford Lions Club), Kilvir Bahra (Wanstead & Woodford Lions Club), Ashish Obhrai (Wanstead & Woodford Lions Club).

***To take an active interest in the civic, cultural, social and moral welfare of the community.***

– One of the Lions Purposes

### District Governor's diary for November 2022

**01/11/2022** – Kingsbury Lions Club

**04/11/2022** – LGC and Baldock Fireworks Night

**05/11/2022** – Zone Chairs briefing online

**05/11/2022** – Webinar reports to LCI as easy as 1-2-3

**06/11/2022** – Health and Well Being summit

**08/11/2022** – Ruislip Lions Club visit

**09/11/2022** – Barking Lions Club visit

**10/11/2022** – London Central Host Lions Club visit

**11/11/2022** – Convention planning meeting

**12/11/2022** – Tring Lions Club Charter

**13/11/2022** – Remembrance Service with LGC and Baldock Lions

**14/11/2022** – Milton Keynes Food Larder and Food Cupboard

**16/11/2022** – Southall Lions Club visit

**18/11/2022** – Enfield Lions Club Charter

**19/11/2022** – Peace Poster Judging

**21/11/2022** – DG and GAT meeting

**22/11/2022** – Zones E,D,F and G Zone Quiz

**26/11/2022** – LGC and Baldock Lions Club's fundraiser and Lights switch on

**27/11/2022** – District Youth Party

**28/11/2022** – Online Council Meeting

## Hemel Hempstead's book shop

Supported by clubs in Zone H and I, the bookshop is well run by members of these clubs. They have a vast assortment of books and arrange different genres and group sessions. The Lions Book Shop was set up in 2010 by Barbara Daniels, who had volunteered at other charity shops but wanted to do something special to raise money for Lions Club International, a charity close to her heart. Barbara recently received a donation of books, and as they were being sorted, a surprise was found: an inscribed scroll. Barbara explained how she discovered the scroll, saying: "I was down there the other day and I found this scroll and I said to the person who was there, 'is anybody doing anything about this?' and they said 'no'. So, I said I'll take it and do something with it. If I can reunite it with its family that would be wonderful."



Written on the scroll, in exquisite pen and ink writing, are the following emotive words: 'He whom this scroll commemorates was numbered among those who, at the call of King and Country, left all that was dear to them, endured hardness, faced danger, and finally passed out of the sight of men by the path of duty and self-sacrifice, giving up their own lives that others might live in freedom. Let those who come after see to it that his name be not forgotten' - Pte William Leonard Chapman, Northamptonshire Regiment. After some research by Barbara's son-in-law, Howard, the family discovered that Pte William Chapman came from Potten End, which is near Hemel Hempstead where the Lions Book Shop is. The 31-year-old was killed at the Somme in France on 29 September 1916. Pte Chapman was born in Great Gaddesden and is buried in Tincourt New British Cemetery, France. His father, Mr C Chapman of 12 Potten End, ordered his headstone inscription which reads 'his end was peace'.

Barbara made it her mission to find the person who donated it and via a route which involved her son-in-law in Wales, was invited on to BBC Radio Northampton, 3 times, Forces News, and Three Counties Radio. The person who had brought the script in was found and didn't want it back! Not to be outdone, Barbara visited Potten End in Hertfordshire. She discovered there were no living relatives, but then a breakthrough came. Two people came along who proved to Barbara that they were relatives. They were, with their permission, put in touch with each other and a decision made who should receive the scroll. It was suggested that the parchment be donated to Potten End Church on Remembrance Sunday. This has yet to be confirmed, but if so, they will attend.

# World Sight Day comes to Stony Stratford

by Lion Doreen Allen

On Thursday 13 October, World Sight Day was celebrated by members of Milton Keynes Lions Club (Stony Stratford). As Vision is one of LCIs five global causes, it was the ideal way to promote our work for sight. We also had a table promoting the Lions Eye Health Programme, spectacle collecting and Message in a Bottle/Wallet.

Local Councillor Jane Carr was blindfolded, given a white cane for confidence and assisted to walk the length of the High Street. Also accompanying the Lions group was Paula Suchy, Chairman of MK Readers and MK Sound. Both of these organisations have Lion members volunteering in various roles for the betterment of blind and visually impaired local residents.

During the walk, it was noted that the tactile road crossings were hindered by floral containers. There were A- frames and street furniture that were in certain areas, a danger to the visually impaired and that there was not consistency with the tactile road markings. Members of the public stopped to look and whilst no e-scooters were in the area, there were some members of the public using phones and totally oblivious to the world around them!

After the walk we retired to the MacIntyre Café, which is manned by special needs staff, for refreshments and to talk about the event. We were also able to give a presentation on Message in a Bottle/Wallet. Cllr Jane was very impressed with the event, having had the experience of being in darkness, not being in total control, the fear of having to rely on her other senses and totally dependent on LP Doreen's support.

As the walk progressed, we all learnt something new about our local area. Was it worthwhile? Yes. Would we do it again? Another yes.



# The Gillian Hanson Diabetes Team

by Lion Surjit K. Chodda, Fairlop Lions Club

In our October meeting, Fairlop Lions were very honoured to be able to present the Gillian Hanson Diabetes Centre from Whipps Cross Hospital with a much deserved token of recognition for the invaluable services they have been providing. They collaborate with Fairlop Lions to hold screening camps in town centres, places of worship and Town Halls to check for diabetes, blood pressure and conduct other medical screening checks.

Their wonderful team consists of Consultants, Junior Doctors, Diabetes Nurses, Podiatrists, Dieticians, Retinal Screening Team, Smoking Cessation Team, Administrators and Secretarial Staff. As well as the screening project itself, a lot of work goes on behind the scenes that would not be possible without the collaboration of all the staff jointly.

The team have worked with Fairlop Lions for over 14 years and hope to continue to provide this service, the team voluntarily give their time to do these checks and are very grateful to be able to help and are thankful to Fairlop Lions as this was a Lions initiative, knowing that diabetes is one of the Lions 5 pillars of service. We are very fortunate to have a member who works closely with the diabetes team and created a rapport with them from where this project started.



## Convention weekend package

The Convention starts on Friday evening with a three-course meal for two including live entertainment. Then it's off to bed in a four-star luxury room for the night. Saturday morning starts with a delicious breakfast, followed by the Lions Convention. Included in the convention is a two-course lunch. Saturday evening offers you another night of live entertainment complete with a five-course dinner for two and yet another night in that luxury room.

Sunday morning, after another fine breakfast, you get to meet the international guest and relax for a while before your journey home.

We, your Convention Committee, can offer you this weekend package for just £230 per couple or £175 per single. We'll also throw in two brightly coloured enamel convention pins and parking.

However, there's a catch - you must book this event before the end of this year (31 December 2022). If left until next January or February, the prices will be much higher. Details of the booking facilities are on our [District website](#).



**Lions International** Lion Kavaljit Dev would like to Welcome you all to our

**58th ANNUAL DISTRICT 105 A CONVENTION 2023**

VENUE: **HOLIDAY INN**  
ST. GEORGE'S WAY STEVENAGE SG1 2HS



## Tring Lions donation for benches

*by Tring Lions Club*

Tring Lions Club celebrates their 50th anniversary this year and the members of the Club were looking for ideas that will have a lasting effect on the town. At the same time the local church, St.Peter & St Pauls, were putting a project together to celebrate the Queens Platinum Jubilee by raising funds to replace seating in the churchyard. This resulted in Tring Lions donating £1000, to purchase two seats which will sit either side of the town's war memorial. In all, the church replaced five benches. As can be seen from the photographs, each of the Lions benches had a suitable plaque attached.



## Planting trees and recycling

*by Lion Kam Kalra*

We have participated in group initiatives and have been active in Harpenden in this regard for 10+ years. Under the aegis of the local council, the local Lions group have planted hedges, cleared undergrowth and improved the local habitat by participating in litter picking initiatives.

In the last year we have helped the planting of 200 trees in Rothampsted Park in Harpenden, and in the last 18 months we have also participated in an initiative to recycle blister pack and have collected these from a range of local pharmacies for recycling. In this last year alone, we have collected 700 kgs of blister packs - which would otherwise have gone to landfill.

We are aware of the need to reforest to support the Queen's Green Canopy initiative and our services committee to donate to 100 square meters of woodland, and we are aware of the need to think of contributing to the "Your tree our future" - an initiative from Hertfordshire County Council which aims to plant 1.8 million new trees in our area by 2030.



# Fundraising activities

*by Ampthill & District Lions Club*

President Alan Wood who has been in the club since 2012, and has been President for the past 5 years, tends to see the brighter and funny side of most things while still being a dedicated hard-working member. Because of his work ethic and attitude, the rest of this small group of members soak up that enthusiasm and focus too. Now the club has 6 members (their aim is for 20 in the next 12 months though) who range in age and length of service.

Their main fundraiser is their Christmas Santa sleigh-run, which runs for 23 days (every night) from 20 November to 22 December, going around 7 villages in the district covering approximately 20 miles per night. On the first Sunday, there will be a Christmas party at the club premises where families can come along and meet Santa before they go on their sleigh-ride. This year they are aiming to work with the local Round Table, which could mean that they cover the equivalent of 46 days of work. They have the support of businesses and the community so have helpers and manage to achieve a phenomenal amount with such a small core of dedicated Lions. They have also joined forces with Letchworth G.C. & Baldock Lions to hold a Fireworks Display in Letchworth at the Rugby Club on 4 November as a joint fundraiser. Lion Harry Lote (Letchworth G.C. & Baldock Lions) recently received a cheque from Ampthill towards half of the cost for the fireworks.



DG Kav visited the club on 3 October and handed LP Alan her banner and badge, she also gave all members her badge too - she applauded the hard-work and support that they give to their communities. They donated a substantial amount of money to a young lady towards her treatment therapy in India. In order to raise funds for McMillan Cancer, she was going to ride a bicycle from Lands' End to John O'Groats.



Unfortunately, just before her venture she had an accident and fractured her ankle, this put paid to her being able to go for her treatment, so it's being held in trust for her. Other community service projects are the Remembrance Day wreath laying with the British Legion which will be on 13 November. Then there will be two Christmas light 'switch ons' where they'll have a stall with a raffle prize of a hamper plus a Lion information stand in Ampthill on 20 November and then in Mauldon on 3 December. The older children will receive a selection box and the young ones will get an advent calendar.



# Out and about with DG Kav

Find out what our DG has been up to recently

*"It must be October, the trees are falling away and showing their true colours."* —  
Charmaine J Forde

I can hardly believe that four months have already gone for this Lionistic year and we are starting our countdown to the busiest period for many of our clubs.

On 9 October, we had our second Cabinet meeting. It was the first meeting in which partners of the Cabinet members were also invited for the day. While we discussed District matters such as the budget for the next fiscal year and the District Constitution, partners played detective to solve a murder mystery and then developing their skills in flower arranging.



October is also the month of Charter anniversaries, and Pammy and I had the pleasure to join two celebrations: Hemel Hempstead Lions Club and Bletchley Milton Keynes Lions Club. Hemel Hempstead Lions Club celebrated their 61st Charter on 7 October.

On 15 October, we joined Bletchley Milton Keynes Lions Club's 53rd Charter anniversary. I felt honoured presenting long term service chevrons to Lions John Miller (40 years) and Mrs Chris Bryant (10 years).



On 16 October, we were proud to attend Ealing Lions Club's gathering, where a generous donation of £3500 was made to the National Trust for planting 700 trees. It was my pleasure to recognise long service Lions, Lion Mahabir Singh Kalsi (45 years) and Lion Neel Sharma (30 years).

In addition, Pammy and I were invited to participate in the meetings of the Ampthill District Lions Clubs: Letchworth GC and Baldock; Bicester, Milton Keynes Stony Stratford, Zones C, D and E.



I am also happy to report that on 10 October, the Global Membership Team held a Club preformation information meeting for potential members and we are looking forward to opening a new Lions Club in our District in the next couple of months.

Finally, the weather is getting cold. Please take care and look after yourselves.