



One Three Three District Newsletter

Number 153 25th January 2021.

From District Governor Des Ryan

Amanda's Words Ring True



*'This is the era of just redemption
We feared at its inception
We did not feel prepared to be the heirs
of such a terrifying hour
but within it we found the power
to author a new chapter
To offer hope and laughter to ourselves
So while once we asked,
how could we possibly prevail over catastrophe?
Now we assert
How could catastrophe possibly prevail over us?*

Amanda Gorman may have had something else on her mind when she spoke these words at the inauguration of Joe Biden as President of the USA, but they also have a strong resonance with the manner in which we Lions have coped with the challenges of Covid 19.

We did not see it coming, but when it came among us, we shook off our indifference, we rallied to the cause, we stayed close to each other while keeping our distance and we continued to serve our communities, local, national and global, with a renewed sense of purpose.

Covid has demanded at we innovate, finding new means of communicating with each other, raising funds from our local communities and above all, providing new and necessary services to those in need. We have run breakfast clubs, distributed hampers and food boxes, promoted diabetes awareness, distributed hero shields- and much, much more.

But we cannot rest. The pandemic remains virulent and ubiquitous, vaccination of the nation will take time and the need for service will certainly grow. To quote another great writer, Samuel Becket; *'I can't go on. I'll go on'*

As Lions we know that we can go on- and we will.

Pizza Party for the Homeless -Clubs invited to participate



Dublin Lions Club has invited Lions throughout District 133 to join them in a unique 'Pizza Party for the Homeless' in February.

On Saturday February 27th Lions Clubs will deliver pizzas and materials for a fun competition, to hostels in Dublin and other centres together with a You Tube link to specially-recorded entertainment.

Bray, Wicklow and Drogheda Lions Clubs have already agreed to participate in the project and other clubs are invited to come on board.

The project arose from Dublin Lions on-going engagement with the homeless which has seen the club organise events such as the annual Eric's Party. This party, which is named in honour of one of its founding fathers –Lion Eric Webb- has been hosted in recent years in the GPO. Due to Covid-19, Eric's Party 2021 will not be one large event but rather more than 30 Pizza Parties in hostels and other locations run in partnership with Homeless and other Agencies.

Say PDG Frank O'Donoghue of Dublin Lions Club: This approach will see the party go to our guests rather than our guests coming us'.



Frank O'Donoghue continues: 'Dublin Lions have adopted this approach, because we believe that this event can be organised in a way that is safe for the guests and staff in the hostels and also for Lions. Homeless people have a need for a fun evening and this has been confirmed by the agencies working with the homeless. It is important for Lions to continue to demonstrate a commitment and empathy with the homeless

Our confidence that we can deliver a fun event, in a safe way, is based on our experience of an event we organized in partnership with SIMON to mark World Homeless Day on 10th October 2020. Residents in 15 SIMON-run hostels enjoyed hot pizza, soft drinks; music by leading Irish performers and entertainment including colouring specially designed posters. The feedback was hugely positive. Based on this recent experience, Dublin Lions Club has decided to work again with Simon. We also decided to widen our scope to include other hostels in the Dublin Area.

There will again be 3 pillars to the party:

- **Hot pizza, soft drinks and chocolates will be provided by Lions.**

- ***Music**

Dublin Lions will work with a number of musicians to create a music programme, which will be available on ‘You Tube’.

- **Entertainment:** Dublin Lions Club will provide posters and colouring pencils/crayons

The management of the event is the responsibility of the agency we work in partnership with. Dublin Lions arrange all the food, drinks etc but do not attend the event nor visit the venue. To ensure the safety of the guests and staff in the hostels and the Lions, it is imperative that there is no direct involvement by the Lions. In this case we are hands-off enablers and facilitators. As we developed our plans, we realized that that it may be possible to expand the project if other Lion Clubs also arranged pizza parties for the homeless and other groups.

Where other Lions Clubs are able to identify suitable groups to work with and are willing to meet the cost of the food, drinks and other supplies, Dublin Lions will provide the music and posters.

Our planned date for the new style Eric’s Party is February 27th 2021.

Clubs wishing to participate in what could be a National Pizza Party for the Homeless should contact Frank O’Donoghue at odonoghuefrank164@gmail.com or on 087 2312637



Lions Awards -Final Chance



Deadlines for entering the District Communications Awards are approaching fast and clubs and Lions who wish to be considered for a 2021 Award should apply without delay.

The deadline for entries in the Club Website competition has been extended to 31st January 2021.

Lions District 133 Awards were received very well over the last number of years and Competitions Officer Joe Smith would like to see even more Clubs entering this year. They will again recognise excellence in communications.

The District Communications Awards will again be presented at the 2021 District Convention.

Awards will be presented to Lions Clubs and Lions in four categories-Best Website, Best Social Media Presence, Club PRO of the Year and the 'Scribe Award' for contributions to the District Newsletter.

To enter the Best Website category please send your club website 'url' to fcorr100@gmail.com by 31st January 2021. All submitted websites will be assessed by the District Communications Team.

To enter Best Social Media presence please send your Club's Facebook, Twitter or other social media address to fcorr100@gmail.com by January 21. These social media pages will also be assessed by the District Communications Team.

To Enter 'Club PRO of the Year', please submit a summary of your Club's PR Activity in 2020 by 21st of January 2021

to fcorr100@gmail.com . You can include attachments of your Press Releases and other PR Materials.

The winner of the 'Scribe Award' will be chosen by the District Communications Team based on submissions to 'One Three Three', the District Newsletter in 2020.

Clubs asked to support LCIF



District 133 LCIF Coordinator Frank O'Donoghue has appealed to all Lions Clubs to support the work of Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF). Past International President Gudrun Yngvadottir, chairperson of LCIF, outlines in her appeal the emergency grant supports in response to natural disasters provided by our Foundation in the last two months. These include

- Flood relief in India, Brazil, Italy and Sri Lanka
- Tropical Storm relief in Columbia
- Typhoon relief in the Phillippines
- Earthquake Relief in Greece and Croatia

The most recent of these disasters was in Croatia, when on 28th December 2020 an

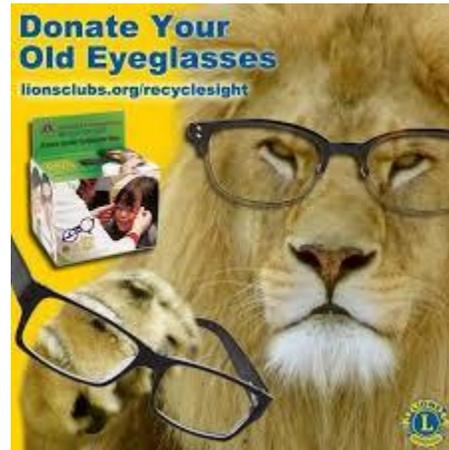
earthquake hit the area surrounding Petrinja town and resulted in eight deaths and caused serious damage to homes, shops, schools, and workplaces. It is estimated that some 70,000 people have been impacted by the earthquake which measured 6.3 on the Richter scale and was felt as far away as Germany, Romania, Italy, and the Czech Republic.

District Governor Des has also received a request from Lion Phil Nathan, for support for the LCIF Croatia Appeal. Lion Phil, who is a strong supporter of our District, has a commitment to assisting the needy in the Balkans since the time of the civil war in former Yugoslavia. He has taken a very hands-on role in providing much needed assistance and fostering the development of Lions Clubs in the Balkan Countries. In response, the District Governor Team has decided to make an immediate grant of €10,000 from the District Emergency Fund and has extended the appeal to all clubs within District 133.

Says Frank O'Donoghue:

'Fund raising is particularly difficult at present, but Lions in Ireland have a proud history of generously supporting LCIF appeals. Donations should be sent to the District Treasurer Lion Kevin Harty. Cheques should be made payable to 'Lions Clubs International District 133' and marked 'LCIF Croatia' on the reverse.

Spectacle Exports Suspended



Lion John O'Donovan has been advised by DPD that the company is, with immediate effect, suspending the delivery of spectacles to the Lions Club of Chichester as they are working through challenges with regard to Brexit protocols for parcels traveling between Ireland and Great Britain.

However, Lions Clubs can continue to collect spectacles for recycling and hold on to them until the service is restored in due course.

John O'Donovan will continue to monitor the situation and keep clubs informed of developments.

Malahide Promotes MIAB

Malahide Lions have congratulated Ballina Lions Club which held a successful pilot of Message in a Bottle campaign.

Says PRO Paula Bradley: 'They have set a great example of a community coming together'.



Malahide Lions are also actively promoting MIAB. Damian Carberry, a former president delivered 3,000 bottles for the launch. The club is progressing links with pharmacy chains to promote the message of MIAB, with Damian bringing 35 branches of the McCauley Pharmacy group on board.

Malahide Lions are ‘overwhelmed’ by the results of their Christmas Appeal 2020, which more than quadrupled the amount raised in 2019. Lions thank the great Malahide Community, the Schools, Astro Football, Credit Union, Bank of Ireland and others who all helped so generously. Using the SumUp card reader at a newly purchased stand was a great decision. Donations through PayPal from Al Foran’s video helped enormously. Malahide Lions were able buy food vouchers for local families and will continue with support on into 2021.

Clonmel Sponsors 350 Hampers

Clonmel Lions Club ran a successful Food Appeal in December 2020 thanks to the support of Clonmel Show Committee.



The Club was in a position to provide 350 Hampers to those who needed support at the end of a very difficult year. A small number of Lions and helpers packed the hampers in preparation for delivery, which was carried out by Clonmel Branch of the Irish Red Cross, Order of Malta and the Community Gardai.



Ashbourne Walk for Diabetes



Ashbourne Lions are creating awareness of Type 2 Diabetes by walking in their area on all 28 days of February 2021. They are inviting the local community to join in the 30 minute daily walks and each registered walker will receive a complementary hi-viz vest. Lions say that the walks will improve the physical and mental fitness levels of participants as well as highlighting the incidence of Type 2 Diabetes. Daily updates will be posted to Ashbourne Lions website and details of the walks are available on Eventbrite.

Marketing Expertise Welcome

District 133 PR and Marketing Team has commissioned a survey from a leading market research company and is currently analysing the data which has emerged from the poll.

The team would welcome any Lion who has marketing or market research expertise to join them in advancing a major brand development project for Lions Clubs in Ireland.

Please contact DG Des.

Ennis Remembrance Tree Endures



The 'Remembrance Tree' is a signature project in the calendar of Lions Club of Ennis. The concept of remembering loved ones deceased or unavoidably absent from home at special times of the year is one which has universal resonance. With the onset of Christmas, a tree in The Market Square, Ennis becomes bedecked with yellow ribbons. Each ribbon fondly remembers a loved one either deceased or unavoidably away from home at Christmas. In remembering their loved ones, patrons are also providing much needed funding for Cahercalla Hospice, which offers respite and support for cancer patients and their loved ones.



This Lions Club project very much resonates with the people of Ennis and beyond. It has evolved from an earlier club initiative where bulbs on the Christmas tree were sponsored mainly by businesses in the town. The yellow ribbon concept mirrored a similar project operated by Cork Rotary. Ennis Lions first launched The Remembrance Tree in 2012 and in the intervening years it has enjoyed significant support from the people of Ennis and beyond. It is very much a collaborative exercise. Support from Ennis Town Council (now Municipal District) has been vital. As an original partner in the project, Ennis Rotary Club has been very supportive and there has been a huge effort by family, friends and colleagues of Lions. The attractive sales hut in the Market Square has become as much part of the Christmas decorations as the Remembrance Tree itself. A visit to the hut and the act of writing a message on a yellow ribbon has become a very important event for many people at Christmas time.

This Christmas, due to the Covid 19 restrictions, the person remembering a loved one dictated the message to a volunteer behind a protective screen, with none of the emotionally uplifting process being lost as a

result. The creation of a donation page online also made it possible for those who could not visit the Market, to remember loved ones with a message online. Each online message was transferred to a yellow ribbon before being placed on the Remembrance Tree by a Lion. The intentions of those having ribbons placed on the Remembrance Tree will also be prayed for at a service which will be conducted in the Ennis Cathedral on 30th Jan 2021.

Lions Club of Ennis and Cahercalla Hospice are fortunate that Clare native and TV personality Marty Morrissey has been an enthusiastic sponsor of the project, giving of his time generously to promote the Remembrance Tree project. He has participated in photo-calls and has prepared promotional audio and video clips for advertising purposes.

As a fundraiser for Cahercalla Hospice the Remembrance Tree Project has been very successful. From a modest €7,400 in 2012 to a very gratifying €16,300 in 2019, the Remembrance Tree has raised over €86,000 in total for the Hospice. Despite the restrictions imposed by Covid in 2020, in excess of €13,000 was raised.

Lions Club of Ennis is very optimistic for the future of the Remembrance Tree Project and is already planning improvements and refinements for Remembrance Tree 2021.

Wicklow Gets Its ‘Satisfaction’

For the second year in a row Wicklow and District Lions Club has earned the

Membership Satisfaction Award from Lions International .



The members are thrilled and already looking forward to making it three- in- a -- row for Wicklow .

.....and that's all for this week



This is awarded when a Lions club meets or exceeds the expectations of its members which leads to membership satisfaction and retention

In a letter from International President Jung Yul Choi to Sean Olohan he said ‘The strength of your club supports your ability to help those in need and it is club’s like yours in Wicklow that truly exemplify the Lions Mission Statement and to empower volunteers to serve their communities’.

The club received the fiscal year patch which will be placed on the banner awarded to the club last year.