

COMMUNITY RELATIONS PORTFOLIO HOLDER - **Lion Iain Pudney**

This has been a very challenging year for my Second Year as Portfolio Holder and I do not have much to report given the current COVID restrictions.

It is a smaller portfolio than my predecessor had, for which I am extremely grateful, as I am to the Vulnerable Persons Officer, Christine Munday; to the Paultons Park Projects Officer, John Drago and to District Alzheimer & Dementia Awareness Officer, PDG Pat Nixon.

My role incorporates the following areas: -

From **MedicAlert Officer & Message in a Bottle Officer - Lion Iain Pudney**

MedicAlert Early Start programme is continuing to prove a very beneficial scheme, and by promoting MedicAlert at events, were we able to hold any, alongside Message in a Bottle, you could successfully save someone's life without even knowing it.

The main benefits of MedicAlert are: -

24/7 cover for 365 days a year regardless of where you are in the world

The only information carried around is the bracelet or pendant with a phone number and minimal information on main medical conditions

There is a membership number giving a unique identification to each Member

The relevant personal data is held on a secure database at the London Ambulance Service

There is a medical professional on the end of the phone line whenever it is called

Training is available for medical professionals

On the front of the bracelet or pendant is a universally recognised medical symbol

MedicAlert provide Training for the Emergency Services as part of their normal operations

The Message in a Bottle scheme is really proving to be a lifesaver and a very good promotional tool. You might think the scheme has run its course but there are always new people who would benefit from the scheme to replace those who no longer require it. This was proved at recent events where many bottles were handed out along with some MedicAlert Leaflets. The need is out there, let us continue to fill it and give people peace of mind and save lives.

Please make sure that you promote the scheme on a regular basis, so that we can make sure the public can benefit.

Message in a Wallet, whilst a very welcome addition, is not currently supported by the Council of Governors and is therefore a very localised scheme, whilst MedicAlert and Message in a Bottle are both National Schemes and anyone who has one will be able to benefit wherever they are in the UK.

Finally, when distributing leaflets to the public, please ensure that the Club name at least is on the leaflet either in the form of a sticker or stamp. That way Lions will get the recognition we deserve both at MedicAlert, in respect of MedicAlert Leaflets, and with the public at large with respect to any leaflets we are distributing.

Lion Iain Pudney

District 105SC Community Services Officer

welfare@lions105sc.org.uk

Tel: 01628 665019

From LION IAIN PUDNEY District Sight & Hearing Officer

I have only taken on this role very recently and have only got a limited knowledge of the subject and Any leaflets and posters which are available.

Please remember, Lions are Knights of the Blind, and we should always remember this when discussing our benefits with the General Public.

We should also remind them that we do have several leaflets available for those who might require information on any Hearing support Lions can provide, including "I see what you are saying" badges for those who can either Lip Read or talk to hearing impaired people using Sign Language.

Lion Iain Pudney
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From PDG LION PAT NIXON District Dementia Awareness Officer

'There is so much more that Lions Clubs can do !.....With knowledge you can all help!'

PDG Lion Pat Nixon
adao@lions105sc.org.uk

From Lion John Drago Paultons Park Day Outing

Lion John Drago
disabilities@lions105sc.org.uk

From District 105SC VPO Lion Christine Munday

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