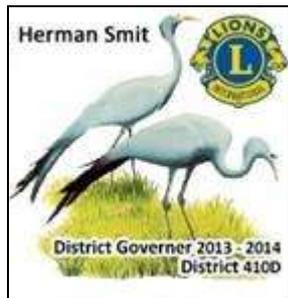


DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER

DISTRICT 410 D

DISTRICT GOVERNOR HERMAN SMIT



JANUARY 2014



IF MY DREAM IS TO BE, IT'S UP TO ME

Introducing you to 1st Vice District Governor, Carl and family

Carl grew up in Cape Town as one of 3 brothers. From an early age he had a fascination for the magical arts and he studied to be a magician at the College of Magic. On weekends he worked as a children's entertainer at parties, where he realised he had a talent for working with children. After school, he studied to be a primary school teacher, which he did from 1994 to 2003, but he always had an interest in community service and worked in the evenings as a police reservist, as well as completing a course as a Life Line counsellor.

Carl has always been an entrepreneur at heart and had many side businesses while teaching. In 2003, the opportunity arose to start his own business in George, so the van Blerks moved to George the next year, where Carl began working as the Southern Cape franchisee of Computers 4 Kids and IT School Innovation.

After settling into the area, Carl began looking around for a group that he could align himself with, to further his passion for community service. He joined the George Lions Club in 2006, where he was a member till 2009. During the course of that year, he discovered that there were many community-minded people in George looking for new ways to channel their enthusiasm. In 2009, under the guidance of PDG's Joggie Kastner and Patrick Murray, the Eden Lions Club was chartered, with Carl as the Charter President.

With his flair for marketing, Carl has introduced many club projects which have become successful annual events, as well as introducing projects to the multiple district, such as the Feed Me Campaign, Melvin Mascot and Lions Pledge Water. At the moment he is busy with a new concept, The Care Coin, which has already received international attention.

Since his year as Charter President, Carl has occupied the positions of Zone Chairman, District Chair and is currently the 1VDG of District 410D.

Carl has been recognised at club, national and international level for his dedication to the cause of Lionism. Some of the more memorable awards are:

2009/2010 - International President's Certificate of Appreciation

2009/2010 - Extension Award for Eden Club charter

2010/2011 - International President's Letter of Commendation

2010/2011 - 410D Certificate of appreciation: Zone Chair

2011/2012 - Eden Club Lion of the Year

2011/2012 - MD Certificate of Appreciation for Marketing

2011 - Melvin Jones Fellowship

2012 - International President's Award/Medal

Carl has enjoyed serving on cabinet for the past year as 1VDG, and is hoping the members of 410D will continue to put their faith in him, by electing him as District Governor next year.



1st VDG Carl van Blerk & wife Debby

And children, Jade and Tyler



GONUBIE LIONS SUPPORT BRIGHTSIGHT

We have a very kind optometrist in Gonubie who is always willing to assist us with fundraising and eye testing. Through the years she has willingly tested many local residents eyes for us.

During January Shelley from Shelley's Place contacted us regarding Mrs Marjorie Crannage who is 96 years young and a state patient.

In no time at all Christel tested Marjorie's eyes and we have just sent yet another script through to the Brightsight offices.

Marjorie says she can't wait for her new specs so that she can read to Shelley for a change instead of Shelly having to do all the reading!



A few more happy recipients from Bight Sight – all tested by Christel:



Scholar Kuhle Gebe with Lion Aletta



Brendward Makie with optician

Christel & Lions Jeanette & Lyn



Yvonne Fry & Nancy du Plooy

(who both received specs)
standing with Christel

KOUGA LIONS CLUB

Earlier this month Francis & I had a visit from Lion Wulf Mampel and his wife Thora of the Wattenscheid Lions Club in Germany. Ray & Libby were visiting to plan our Windhoek trip so it was a good Lions luncheon. The photo is of Lion Ray (President Cape Recife), Lion Wulf and Lion President Francis exchanging banners. We also presented him with the 410D Peace Poster calendar and a bottle of "Lions" water. We will continue to correspond and hopefully benefit from the visit.



PORT ALFRED LIONS CLUB

Last night was GREAT. We have an alternative venue at Settlers Park and it has no STAIRS & President HORRELBEEN could access !!

I include a few pics. Mike was Inducting officer (Not often Lions are inducted by Council Chairman). The New Lions are husband & wife Couple Andre & Sandra Cronje. Their Sponsor was 1st VP Nico Muller.

OUR SECRET!! Never stop talking to GOOD quality folk. Invite prospective Lions & spouses to functions such as these. This way they get the mood & the vibe.

Have included pics of 2 prospective Lions as well.

We had 17 of our present Lions (2 were out of town) in attendance with 5 spouses/partners & 2 prospective Lions. I was MOST IMPRESSED and an Extremely proud President (albeit not @ my best !)

Each Lion brought a snack platter.





PORT REX LIONS CLUB

Port Rex Lions Club members at the official opening of the Greenleeves library. Greenleeves is a childrens home run by Di Lehy who was honoured as a Melvin Jones fellow at the Aloe Convention in East London. As part of the literacy programme Lion Elizabeth undertook the project





Sesethu (second from left) has been chosen as the Library monitor.
In the picture with her is Lion Elizabeth who has co ordinated the library project



Christmas parcel packing and decanting in December. 60 parcels were packed and distributed to needy families. A bring and braai was held afterwards



Port Rex renovated the bathrooms at Eldorado Retirement centre
The baths were replaced by senior citizens friendly showers



Frere Hospital parcels – Look how many black bags full of presents, toys and sweets there were.



SWELLENDAM LIONS CLUB

MARGARET SE SOPKOMBUIS

Verlede week het ons gaan besoek aflê by Margaret se sopkombuis en 'n klompie broodnodige bestanddele daar gaan afgee. Die bestanddele word tussen verskillende vrouens uitgedeel wat vir Margaret help om die sop te maak. Die volgende dag het Lions President Mike Saunders en sy vrou Gail gaan kyk hoe ongeveer 120 kinders kom tustaan om sop te kry. Vir baie is dit miskien hul enigste maaltyd vir die dag. Daar is reeds verskeie sopkombuise in die dorp wat aan hierdie groot nood in die dorp se behoefte voorsien en bedank ons vir almal wat hier die voortou vat. Dit is nie aldag 'n maklike taak nie want ons beseft julle is grootliks afhanklik van skenkings. Baie dankie vir elkeen wat die inisiatief geneem het om hierdie liefdestaak vir hul medemens te doen.



BREAD TAGS URGENTLY NEEDED

The Prosperity club members (Strand) are very much involved in their club's own community project - bread tags for wheel chairs.

To qualify for a wheel chair, you need to collect 200kg of bread tags.

They are proud to announce that they have collected enough bread tags (800kg) to qualify for 4 wheel chairs. Needless to say, they are on their way to number FIVE!

The main purpose of this project is to help people in need. They lend these chairs where the need arises.

Currently they assist 2 terminally ill patients, one wheel chair is on standby for when they go out on events and the 4th wheel chair was donated to the Swellendam Lions Club as a token of appreciation for all the effort they put in when the club members visited the Swellendam area in 2009 and 2012. In the photo is a past President of the Swellendam Lions Club, Mr Eric Basson, doing the hand over to the matron of an old age home in Swellendam



Sommer met die afskop van 2014 was dit die Lions se gholfdag. Die weer het wonderlik saamgespeel en was dit 'n fees vir die deelnemers om op die lowergroen veld die balle te peper.

Baie dankie aan al ons borge, ondersteuners en deelnemers wat meegehelp het om van hierdie dag 'n reuse-sukses te maak.

Swellendam Lions



KERS - EN PEACE POSTER VREUGDE OP BARRYDALE

Op 'n bloedige, warm dag, net voordat die skole vir Desember gesluit het, het Swellendam Lions drie skole in die Barrydale omgewing gaan besoek en onder andere 'n heerlike hamburger en slap chips, koeldrank (die ysblokkies was 'n bonus) en roomys vir elke leerder uitgedeel. Daar was ook 'n geskenkpakkie vir elke leerder maar heel eerste het elkeen eers 'n krismiskep gekry. Rosemary Cardoso was die projekteier en het sy soos altyd niks ontsien om dit vir die kinders 'n onvergeetlike dag te maak nie. ABSA het vir elke kind 'n spaarbussie geskenk en was dit nou werklik 'n vrolike, kleurvolle gesig: die kinders met die rooi keppe en rooi spaarbussies in die hand.

Die skole wat verlede jaar 'n beurt gekry het om deel te wees van die Kersprojek was Weltevrede Primêr, Vleiplaas Primêr en Akkerboom Primêr.

Ons het ook sommer van die geleentheid gebruik gemaak om die Peace Poster Wenner vir die Barrydale streek aan te kondig. Baie geluk aan al die deelnemers en prysweners. Die jaar 2013 was beslis die jaar van die skoner geslag. Marleen Harmse van Laerskool Buffeljagsrivier het vir die hoogtepunt gesorg toe sy landswyd die 3de plek bekom het en hier in Barrydale het Jay-Marie Scheepers van Barrydale Hoërskool stof in die ander se oë geskop.

oOOOo

LIONS SKENK KOS EN KLERE VIR HAWELOSES

Swellendam het 'n ongekende vlaag reën beleef en moes daar dringend ingegryp word om droë klere en voedsel vir die haweloses te voorsien. Selfs die Rooikruis het ingegryp. Behalwe vir 'n goeie voorraad klere, het die Swellendam Lions Vrydagaand en Saterdagdaand etes aan 160 inwoners van Buffeljagsrivier voorsien.

Die Liondames het soos een man ingespring en gou-gou was Vrydagaand se ete gereed. Saterdagdaand het hulle kon weglê aan onder andere heerlike roosterkoeke wat deur Steyn van Niekerk van B P, Buffeljagsrivier voorsien is en hierdie keer was dit die manne se beurt om te wys hoe hoender gebraai moet word.

Sondag is die afsluitingsfunksie gehou en kon al die mense weer na hulle onderskeie wonings terugkeer.

Links agter is dit Raadslid Hartnick van Buffelsjags Strykyster Gemeenskap, Lt Generaal Mlangu, Hoof van Buffeljags Korrektiewe Dienste en Evangelis Roy October .

Voor is Mike Saunders, Lions President en Onderburgermeester Ryno Carelse.

