



June 2011

LCI MD 105 and St Dunstan's – a unique partnership

Over the past 6 months Lions Clubs in MD 105 have been busily raising much needed funds to assist St Dunstan's to build a new centre of excellence in Llandudno, North Wales, to support blind and visually impaired ex-Service men and women.

Across MD 105, already £70,000 has been raised and donated with a further £20,000 pledged towards our initial target of £100,000 which will mean two day rooms in the new centre will be recognised through Lions support. The first room will be named the Lion Melvin Jones room and the second will be named the Lion Bert Mason room with the potential to dedicate and name bedrooms if our target is exceeded.

Young men and women from our armed forces whose sight has been damaged in combat, including the rising number of newly war-blinded Service personnel returning from current conflicts, as well as older beneficiaries, will benefit hugely from the new Centre. Using the latest techniques and training available, Llandudno will give vital support to those with sight related medical and rehabilitation needs. In addition to medical help, there will be sporting, social and training activities with a strong focus on rehabilitation. St Dunstan's offers a superb community spirit and camaraderie that are both so important in recovery.

If your Club has donated or pledged funds, *thank you* and be aware that they are being put to the benefit of our blind and visually impaired veterans and their families just as they have helped us in the past.

If your Club has not yet made a donation *please, please* consider doing so for there are many of our young Service personnel returning from Afghanistan not just physically impaired but visually impaired *as well* – they have lost both limbs and their sight and St Dunstan's needs our assistance in order to be able to rehabilitate these brave young people and prepare them for the rest of their lives.

LCI MD 105 and St Dunstan's are proud to be working together and have signed a Partnership Charter that will benefit the inclusion and increase the independence of blind and visually impaired ex-Service men and women. This partnership will work on a basis of service offering the Lions of MD 105 opportunities to volunteer their time and experience to help in the rehabilitation of our brave Service personnel.

PDG Lion Evan Wm Jones

Co-ordinator

MD 105 Special Appeal for St Dunstan's Llandudno Project