



DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER

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“The Time is drawing near!!!”

“Nearer and nearer draws the time
The Time that shall surely be
When our Chain of District Governorship
Shall pass on and adorn our new Governor Martin;
Who for yet another year District 105M will lead,
To hand over again on 30th of June 2011,
To our ever smiling Neil; then Neil to Paul,
And on and on from year to year, the Chain will move on.”

MD CONVENTION

The lateness of this penultimate Newsletter was to give me the opportunity of giving you a report of the MD Convention and the celebration of the 60th anniversary of Lions in the British Isles and Ireland, which took place in Leeds between the 29th of April and the 2nd of May 2010.

I commend the attendance this year of very many Lions (estimated at close to 100) from our District, and what a wonderful Convention and anniversary celebration it was, full of fun and fellowship.

The programme began on Thursday with a privileged private introduction of all Council members and spouses to our Patron, Her Royal Highness Sophie, the Countess of Wessex, the Lord Mayor and Lord Lieutenant of Leeds. This was followed by an International Dinner where HRH Sophie mingled and chatted with many of our Lions and delivered an excellent speech as a true Lions' Patron.

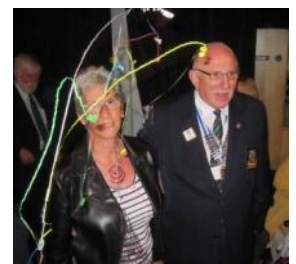
Friday witnessed a flamboyant array of fascinating and spectacular displays at the International Show in the afternoon, followed in the evening by a well attended and colorful 60's theme Host Night.



The Convention on Saturday was attended by the International President Eberhard J Wirfs and his wife Lion Margit and Lions dignitaries from all over Europe. Past International Director Phil Nathan was endorsed as our MD candidate to contest for the office of 2nd Vice International President in due course. Resolutions passed included an increase in MD membership dues by 90 pence in line with Inflation and the number of Directories to be distributed to Clubs as requested from the 2011/2012 Lions year.

International President's Leadership Medals were awarded to our outgoing District Treasurer PDG John Bush and outgoing MERL Chairman PDG Doug Cross and our incoming MERL Chairman and Chairman of Council IPDG Andy Pemberton for their dedicated Services over several years to our District and Multiple District. Our Council Chairman Andy did our District proud by his organised control and mature handling of the Convention proceedings. Congratulation and very well done to all three.

The highlight of the closing ceremony on Sunday was the presentation by Dr. Paul Whittaker (Deaf) and his Orchestra all made up of Deaf musicians. It ended with a very moving reception and Introduction of District Governors 2010/2011 where our very own Martin Bye was enthusiastically clapped in by more than 50 Lions from our District.



Please circulate to all Club Members

Belfast 2011

The MD Convention 2011 will take place in Belfast. District Events Officer Lion John Barnes has already booked a Hotel to accommodate members from our District. He has informed me that there are only 30 Rooms available on first come first served basis. If you are planning to attend the Belfast Convention, please contact John ASAP.

Apology

In my April Newsletter I reported that Terry White had won the Golf Competition at our District Convention. It was in fact Terry Ward, also from Bromsgrove Club, so apologies to Terry and congratulations to Terry!!

Membership

The month of April has been another good month for the induction of new members. We still continued to maintain good membership increases and as at 23rd April, we had a net gain of 10 members with total net membership of 1078. 6 new members inducted by Castle Bromwich Lions Club on the 22nd April are not included in this month's records.

We look forward to more growth in membership in the remaining 2 months of our Lions' year. It is heart warming to see that we are heading towards a good positive gain.

I continue to urge Clubs especially those with less than 15 members to plan yellow Card drops. Please remember that the MERL Team is there to help you and also remember that there is funds available to you for your membership drive initiatives if you have 15 members or less.

I wish to remind all our Clubs of the importance of your relatives, friends and social acquaintances to our membership growth. Remember Lions Clubs are founded on invitation; print your own invitation cards and carry them about with you to hand out as business cards.

If you know of any service minded relative, friend or acquaintance, you would prefer others to invite, please refer them to a member of the MERL committee and they will approach or contact them.

Welcome to New Members

I welcome the following Lions to the family of the International Association of Lions Clubs:

Philip & Moira Hague	Warwick
Ken Snead	Moseley & Kings Heath
Janet Stanbridge	“ “
John Bowen	Dudley
David King	Shakespeare Alcester Branch
Rosemary Eynon	Sandwell
Stephen & Maureen Else	Castle Bromwich & District
Mike & Audrey Baker	Castle Bromwich & District
Eric & Terrie Knibb	Castle Bromwich & District

I commend the efforts of all the Clubs above for their initiative, drive and effort in bringing these new members into the Lions fold.

Midland News

The District Governor's Newsletter is meant to give information to all Lions in the District of official activities and matters relating to the administration of the District.

The Midland News covers District and Clubs Events and activities and carries photographs sent by Clubs and individual Lions which should be of interest to all, to the Midland News Officer, Lion Joy Haffner.



There is presently a very large coverage on the District Website where all District & Clubs events are vividly displayed.

I urge all our Lions to please visit our website regularly: <http://www.lions105m.org.uk>

Please circulate to all Club Members

District Governor's Shopping List

My fellow Lions, this is my last opportunity to remind Clubs that have not responded to the DG Shopping List to do so before the end of June. To all who have contributed, I am extremely grateful and I wish all our Clubs continued successes in their contributions to their communities and humanity.

I am extremely grateful to Clubs that have contributed generously to the National Memorial Arboretum. Our District has contributed over £5,000 of the £30,000 from all Districts in the MD.

DG Travels in May

I have only one visit to Kenilworth Lions Club in May, leaving me with one more in June.

Handsworth Ladies is still outstanding hoping for a date to be agreed.

Charter Anniversaries

The following Clubs Charter Anniversaries will be attended in May:

Coventry Godiva	8th May
Droitwich 25th Anniversary	14th May
Bedworth	15th May
Aldridge	21st May
Knowle & Dorridge	22nd May
Cannock (105BS) Formation	27th May

Obituary

It is with deepest regret that I announce the passing to Glory of the following serving Lions in the month of May 2010:

Lion William (Bill) Humphries of Solihull Lions
Lion Haydn Thomas of Kenilworth Lions

On behalf of all Lions in District 105 M, our condolences go out to their families. May their souls Rest in Peace.

Hospice at Home Project—Pyjama Walk

Don't forget Anna's Hospice at Home Pyjama Walk on 6th June at Cannon Hill Park.

As well as taking part in the sponsored walk, Lions are invited to bring stalls and table top stands to the event. The pitch is free to Lions, but we do ask that 20% of the takings is given to the Hospice at Home project.

So far, we have face painting, a bouncy castle, mini train ride, ice cream vendor, hot dogs and soft drinks, a bric-a-brac stall and a tombola.

A cake stall is being looked into so, if you are interested in baking a cake or running a cake stall, please get in touch.

If any Lion knows a contact for a band/orchestra/quartet, who might be available on the day, that would be very helpful.

Please contact Lion Greg Hession for further information or to book your pitch:

(m) 07508 015580
 email region1@lions105m.org.uk

Conclusion

“Whilst we are talking Envious Ages are flying by, Capture the present Day (opportunities), Not giving too much credit to succeeding Days.”

How time flies; only 12 months ago we made our plans for the year and started on our journey. We have taken each month one at a time, covered all the Clubs one by one and did our best to ensure that our targets were met, blessed with cooperation from all quarters.

We are however mindful that none of the achievements can we claim to be under our control. It is heart-warming as the year draws to a close, assessing our plusses and minuses, to find that we have more plusses than minuses!

My sincerest gratitude to all Lions in the District. My achievement has mostly been because of your cooperation and my strong belief that we are:

“All One in Service”

Please circulate to all Club Members