



SMILE WE SERVE

DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER

DG Lion Neil Chisholm: dg@lions105m.org.uk

Newsletter Editor: Lion Pauline Hoogerwerf: hoogerwerf@btopenworld.com



Is it time that we had a look at what we doing within our own club? I have adapted a poem that was originally written by an Australian Lion, Greg Dunn, to reflect that perhaps it is time to change and the way to do it.

IT IS TIME TO CHANGE

We're comfortable in our Lions Club, every couple of weeks we meet.
 We're not really energetic and our projects are all discreet.
 We tend to run our club low key. We do not make a fuss;
 We also got new members once, but they wouldn't agree with us.
 They tried to throw in new ideas, which did not go down well.
 What do they think they're doing? Who are trying to tell?
 These new ideas are all old hat we tried them all before,
 Maybe it was not quite like that, but they still won't work, I'm sure.
 But why is my club so small with new members hard to get,
 We don't accept alternative ways; our attitudes are far too set.
 Perhaps the "My Ideal Club" programme would help us change our minds,
 We can look at ourselves in a constructive way and see what we will find.
 We would benefit from this experience and look at ourselves in a positive light.
 Now when we can attract new members they will not leave in a fright.
 We will look at their ideas; let's keep an open mind,
 Past experience and new talent, together as one combined.
 Our membership could grow as well, more knocking at the door.
 It may take a bit of effort, but worth it to get more.
 The community might also realise that they have a Lions Club,
 And an increase in good fellowship, emanating from the hub.
 To think we could discover, the answer to our dream.
 From doing one simple exercise we created an exciting team.
 A new exuberance in the club, I can't explain it's strange,
 And all because of "My Idea Club" that we elected to change.



This is a picture of 1st Vice District Governor Greg Dunn from District 201-N5. New South Wales Australia taken in Seattle at the British Isles and Ireland reception.

DISTRICT CONVENTION

This is a reminder that it is taking place in Corby at the Holiday Inn from Friday 23rd March to Sunday 25th March.
 Theme **SMILE WE SERVE**

The initial special packages at £200 per couple for the whole weekend have all been taken. John Bush is trying to get more rooms at the reduced rate, but again it will be on a first come first served basis. This will have to increase to £230 if the hotel is not prepared to reduce their room rates. Further details from John Bush.

My International Guest is Per Kaerager Christensen from Denmark, 2nd Year International Director Europe, who has some interesting views on the future of Lions.

Social events

Host Night Friday 23rd March theme "Lions entertain Lions" followed by a Disco. This is not fancy dress, just smart casual.

Banquet and Ball on the Saturday night will contain some very short speeches.

There will be a Live Band so you can dance the night away.

Booking form and more details on the District Web site.

Please circulate to all Club Members

MULTIPLE DISTRICT CONVENTION

The Multiple District Convention is taking place on our patch - Hilton Metropole Hotel at the NEC in Birmingham (or should I say Solihull) on 4th to 6th May 2012. Details are in the Lion Magazine and on the Lions 105MD website.

Host night has an Olympic theme. The Banquet and Ball has the Joe Loss Orchestra. This band has been performing continuously since being founded in 1930. They perform songs from the 50's, 60's, 70's, 80's, and 90's and provide a total entertainment package. It is not just for those who want to dance!

I have been to the last three Charity concerts which they have done for Shakespeare Lions.

SERVICE

Now you might ask why I have included pictures of Charter Lunches, Charter Nights and Club visits under the heading of Service. It is all because I have been learning about the service activities that the clubs are involved in.

There is also a common theme in all the pictures - a certain card and banner. Yes it is important to spread the message. I was able to give a card to the Incoming International President Wayne Madden when he visited the Multiple District Young Ambassador Final in Dudley last month.

The Dudley Lions Club put a lot of work in to make this event such a success. Unfortunately our candidate, Liam Barratt, did not win but you will be able to hear him at the District Convention.



Birmingham Exhibition Charter Lunch



The Mayor of Kenilworth receiving a Banner at the Kenilworth Charter Night



Walsall Charter Night



Sheldon Club Visit.



Bushby Charter Lunch



Bromsgrove Charter Night with Pat Proudfoot being framed .



As I am still a Club Lion I am including a picture of me cleaning some plastic chairs, that we had just collected, which had been donated to the Warwick club.

Just a **WARNING** to clubs there have been some cases of large Charities trying to get indemnities signed when making a collection on their behalf.

Please do not sign these forms as it can affect the Lions Insurance cover and can make you personally liable. If you are asked to complete a form then seek advice from the District Insurance Advisor Suresh Gohil.

Signature Projects

By now all clubs should have received a Signature project brochure. If not please contact your Zone Chairman.

I believe that this does actually give all club two great projects which can be used to promote Lions, the Lions Eye Health Programme and Young Leaders in Service.

I have asked 2nd Vice District Governor Simon Moss to head the projects and hopefully you will have seen "Everything you wanted to know about Signature Projects but were afraid to ask."

Please circulate to all Club Members

MEMBERSHIP

I would like to welcome the following members to our organisation:

Bedworth	Colin Rowley
Bilston and Willenhall	Barbara Brassington Michael Cowley June Hawkins Sue Winstone
B'ham Acocks Green	Matthew Smith Doreen Wallis
B'ham Handsworth	Chandrakant Pankhania
Coventry Phoenix	Harish Wara Brian Niland Maureen Niland Avis Raynor
Droitwich	John Hargreaves Glen Neville
Kenilworth	Patrick Murphy
Knowle and Dorridge	Margaret Barretto Alistair Clark Annabelle Kiddle-Morris Christopher Kiddle-Morris Christopher Kinahan
Malvern Hills	John Lawson Firth
Sandwell	Jackie Bate Nick Bate David Mc Laughlin Ann Staniland Ray Staniland Victoria Thomas
Solihull	Anne Jackson Jean Wragg Ian Carey
Southam	Graeme Wright
Southam	Ralph Barrington
Sutton Coldfield/Erdington	Tressetta Prentice
Worcester	Dennis Chamberlain Peter Terry

I would remind Clubs that now is the best time to look at doing a card drop and a Drinks & Nibbles evening.

Farewell

Jenny and Peter Wells, long-serving members of the Walsall Club and former Cabinet members, are leaving the District and moving back home to the Wirral. They are planning to transfer their membership. This picture was taken at the Club's Charter Night, when they were presented with a parting gift.



INTERNATIONAL

The International President Wing-Kun Tam is making his one and only visit to England on Monday 12th March and Tuesday 13th March 2012.



There are two events which are open to all Lions to attend in this area:

He will be planting a tree outside the Lions Shelter at the National Arboretum in Alrewas, Staffordshire at 3pm to 4pm on Monday 12th March.

Following that there is a Meet the President evening at the Yew Tree Hotel and Conference Centre in Kegworth at 6pm to 8.30pm. Buffet costs £7.95.

The International President would like to meet as any Club Presidents as possible.

For this event you must book via the MD website as numbers will be limited.

If you are aiming to go to the Arboretum could you please let District Secretary Mike Cooke know, so that we have an idea of numbers.

Admission to the Arboretum is free but there is a car park charge (maximum cost £3). There is a cafe on site.

On Tuesday 13th March President Wing-Kun Tam is meeting our patron HRH, the Countess of Wessex, and then he will be going to the House of Commons for United Nations Day.

Tree Planting

I am pleased to report that we are still planting trees.



Shrub Planting

In the case of Dudley Lions Club it was shrubs and another 50 have been added to the District's total.



The finished job

Please circulate to all Club Members

LEADERSHIP

I am enclosing the dates for the Officers' Workshops this Spring;

Zone and Region Chairmen

Sunday 29th April at MDHQ, 9.30 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.

Club Presidents, Secretaries and Treasurers

Sunday 13th May at MDHQ 9.30 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.

District Officers

Sunday 20th May at MDHQ, 9.30 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.

I would encourage all Officers to attend, even those who have done the job before, as things are always changing. The incoming District Governor will be at all the Workshops.

**Public Relations Workshop:
STAND AND DELIVER**

Following the success of last year's workshop, another has been organised for Sunday 1st April 2012 at the St. John's Hotel, Solihull.

This, however, is NOT the same workshop as last year; the content is completely different. Selling is a dirty word, so how can we persuade people to listen and understand the Lions' message? Find out how by coming to the workshop.

The workshop will once again be led by Heather Yaxley and those who attended last year will know just what a good speaker she is. Being a daughter of a Past District Governor, she understands our organisation.

The cost will be £12.75, to include a sit-down two course lunch. To attend, please send your details and a covering cheque payable to LCI 105M to the District PR Officer, Lion Ken Barker, at 37 Amington Road, Shirley, B90 2RF.

ENJOY

Knowle and Dorridge Lions Club know how to enjoy themselves, along with another 120 Lions and friends who took part in the annual Masterteam Quiz at the Strawberry Bank Hotel in Meriden.



After a lot of head scratching, the winners were Marston Green & District.

Masterteam continued...

The runners up were Kenilworth and the team that came last was from a Club starting with "S" - that's right, they call themselves the "Seniors".



DATES FOR THE DIARY:

Mon. 12th March: International President's visit -

- 3.00 p.m. National Arboretum
- 6.00 p.m. Yew Tree Hotel, Kegworth

Fri. 23rd to Sun. 25th March: District Convention, Holiday Inn, Corby

Fri. 4th to Sun. 6th May: MD Convention, Birmingham NEC Hilton Metropole Hotel

CLUB VISITS MARCH:

Wed. 7th: Towcester	Thurs. 8th: Walsall
---------------------	---------------------

OTHER EVENTS:

Fri. 9th: Barwell & Earl Shilton Charter Night	Sat. 10th: Coventry Leofric in the Pink 25th Charter Night
Mon. 12th: International President's Visit	Tues. 13th: United Nations Day, House of Commons
Sat. 17th: Kingswinford & Stourbridge Tree Planting	Sat. 17th: Nuneaton and Bedworth Lions Clubs Charter Night
Fri. 23rd - Sun. 25th: District Convention, Corby	Tues. 27th: District Governor's Team meeting

If you have an event or a community project that you would like me to attend, please let me know.

FINALLY



This is Zone Chairman Martin Hill making a clean sweep at Bushby Charter Lunch. Now I have heard some excuses for not attending District Convention, but I think you might agree that Martin's is unusual.

He is Chairman of the Ex Round-Tablers, who are going to the Lake District to play tiddly winks. Sarah his wife, however, is coming to the District Convention. I hope you are too! See you there. **SMILE WE SERVE**

Please circulate to all Club Members