MD105 International Convention Committee Newsletter No.4 - May 2013

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Introduction

Well we are now on the final run down to Hamburg, and am delighted to report that as at last week, we have some 317 members and partners registered to attend the International Convention, which is amazing and well done to everyone. I must just make one observation, however, and draw to your attention, that if you have not registered your spouse and/or partners on the LCI website, they will NOT be allowed entry to the Arena for the sessions, or the International Show or Parade nor to the registration and exhibition area, nor be allowed access on the shuttle busses. This is why the registration fees are charged per person. If anyone has not registered their spouse /partners, would suggest you do so now, to avoid any disappointment.

MD Convention – Torquay

The ICC Team had a stand in the exhibition area at MD Convention at Torquay. This proved worthwhile and was very busy, answering questions and queries on Hamburg, and material for Toronto 2014 being handed out.

On Sunday afternoon, a briefing meeting was held for members going to Hamburg. From registration, we had assumed some 50-60 people would attend, but eventually some 112 came. The meeting room was enlarged by removal of a dividing wall. Lion Kumar gave a presentation on Hamburg, which was the same as given to the DGE's in January. This was meant to be informative but also amusing, and trust assisted some understanding of the area. The Team went through the events for the week, and the functions, and gave details of the shuttle bus arrangements from the Hotels to the event

centres. Please be aware, however, that NO shuttle busses will be available to take members from Hotels / City to the B & I Reception, as this



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does not commence until 9pm and buses finish there days at approx. 6pm. Some protracted discussions (as always) were held on the Parade Uniform. This is stipulated by the Council of Governors, and normally follows a three-year theme. Hamburg will be the final year of the current three, and details of the Parade Uniform are detailed below within the Parade details.

Hamburg – 5th to 9th July

I gave full details in Newsletter No3 of the B & I Briefing and the B & I Reception, but to confirm, have detailed these again.

The B & I Briefing Meeting will be held from 7pm on Thursday 4th July. This will be held in the Grosser Festsaal at the Atlantic Kempinski Hotel. This is located at An de Alster 72-79, Hamburg 20099 Tel: 49 40 28 88 11. This is located on the main Alster Lake and is some 10-15 mins walk from the Radison Blu Hotel, and he nearest U Bahn station is Nord Haupt-Bahnhof (main railway station) The briefing will last for 1.5 hrs. and will run through the entire programme for the week. A free drink and nibbles will be provided. A cash bar will also allow for any other drinks required.

I am aware that a number of members will not be arriving until later on Thursday night or Friday, but would suggest that all who can come to the Briefing please do so.

The B & I Reception will be held in Convention Hall 3 at the Congress Center Hamburg (CCH) Am Dammtor / Marseiller Strasse, 20355 Hamburg Tel : 49 4035 693116 and is located in the City immediately adjacent the Radisson Blu Hotel, The nearest U Bahn Station is Stephans Platz and the S Bahn train to Dammtor.

The Reception will commence at 9pm sharp, and will finish at midnight. Please arrange to arrive

from 8.30pm, so our own members can be there to welcome gusts from overseas. We will be providing free of charge desserts and savouries and fruit, with tea or coffee. Cash bars will be available, with waitress service to the tables. We always arrange for everyone attending to be able to site down at a table to allow a better social interaction.

Every person who is on the registration list will receive **ONE** ticket for the Reception in the post from MDHQ. A number of members have asked about the possibility of obtaining extra tickets. At this time, it is unlikely that any spare tickets will be available, as we are catering for 1000 people. All DGE's and PIP's will have a number of tickets and would suggest firstly ask your DGE's if they have any spare.

The International Parade will be held on Saturday 6th July from 10am. We are in the green zone, and will 'step off' at about 10.45am or thereabouts. This is being held around the Lower Alster Lake, and shuttle busses will drop off at the joining area. Any members making there own way, juts follow the crowd and make your way to the Town Hall square. The Parade route is about 1 mile, and will take some 2-3 hours altogether to complete. Please bring water bottles with you. The Parade Uniform Is:

Male : Navy blazer with MD badge White short sleeve shirt with MD badge Grey trousers Black shoes and dark socks 'Proud to Serve' tie

Female : Navy Jacket Navy trousers (or skirt) to match White camisole / tee -shirt 'Proud to Serve' scarf (worn loose around neck, outside jacket and looped over) Navy handbag (for water – what else!)

> Also- white blouse with MD badge for use at Plenary sessions (or if to hot to wear a jacket on the Parade

This is the agreed MD uniform to be in the 'judged' section of the Parade. Other day wear can be worn, but and members not wearing the approved uniform will have to join at the back of the MD105 group. We have the services of an excellent local Pipe Band, and DG Jim Cawte will be bringing his restored PO van to lead the walking group, behind the Band. This is a wonderful experience for every member to enjoy, but inevitably, some members may not be able to walk. An area of seating Is provided at the end of the Parade, and tickets 'may ' be available. Any members wishing to have seating tickets, please let David Firth know please.

Lion Kumar (Citibond Travel) has advertised pre and post Convention trips, and will be writing to everyone regarding a day coach trip to Berlin.

This is the final Newsletter we shall produce, before all going to Hamburg, so any queries, please let me know. Further local information can be found at <u>hamburg.de</u> (once logged in, click the union flag on the top left hand side for English)

Please all have a great time, and see you there



Hotel Atlantic Kempinski

International Convention Team

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