

## **From Constitution, Nominations And Resolutions Officer - PDG Lion David Merchant**

Following last year's District Convention the International Office at Oak Brook was advised of the names of the successful candidates in the ballots for District Governor and First and Second District Governor for 2017-18. The District Constitution was revised in line with the decisions taken at Convention 2017 and the revised version published on the District website. The District Cabinet, at their May Meeting, accepted a proposal to host Convention 2019 in a venue yet to be decided, and there will be a presentation on this proposal during Convention 2018.

The Convention 2018 Call was issued by District Governor Peter Burnett in August 2017. This included requesting Nominations for the posts of District Governor, First and Second Vice District Governors for 2018-19, Resolutions for debate at Convention 2018 and an Invitation to host Convention in 2020.

By the closing date for receipt of Nominations, Resolutions and Invitations:

One nomination had been received for the post of District Governor 2018-19.

One nomination had been received for the post of First Vice District Governor 2018-19.

No nominations had been received for the post of Second Vice District Governor 2018-19. However it will be acceptable to receive Nominations, for suitably qualified Lions, from the floor during Convention 2018.

All nominations will require an election by way of secret ballot at Convention 2018.

Five Resolutions had been received for debate at Convention 2018, 4 in the name of the District Cabinet and 1 from Clubs within the District.

No Invitation was received to host Convention 2020.

Details of the above Nominations and Resolutions were circulated to Clubs by the due date and are included in the Convention Booklet. I can confirm both nominated candidates are fully qualified (as defined by the Constitution and By-Laws of our International Association) to stand for the posts for which they have been nominated.

At the time of writing this report, December 2017, I had received an amendment to one of the published Resolutions. However, as the closing date for receipt of amendments by me was Monday 15th January 2018 it is possible further amendments could have been received. Clubs will have been advised accordingly when the final details of all the Nominations and Resolutions were issued in late January 2018.

I continue to provide the District Governor and the District Cabinet with advice on constitutional matters. Now that the decision of the International Board to agree to redistricting has been received, there will be a number of necessary steps to be undertaken in the foreseeable future including an Extraordinary Meeting to be held in the autumn of 2018. This will involve all Clubs within the new District and will include Nominations for the District Governor Team from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019, along with details of a District Constitution and budgetary requirements.

Please remember I am always willing to offer advice to Clubs on constitutional matters and I can provide advice to help Clubs wishing to prepare Resolutions for debate at Convention.

This is my last CNRO Report to Convention as my new Multiple District Role means I have more than enough to keep me busy! I am grateful to those District Governors who have appointed me to the role of CNRO and I wish my successor every success as they guide the District through the inevitable changes redistricting will bring about.

## **DG TEAM - CONVENTION 2018 REPORTS**

### **District Governor – Lion Peter Burnett**

I am absolutely amazed by the sheer amount of work which the majority of our clubs get through during the Lions year. I am writing this just after Christmas so I am totally in awe of the activities which have taken place during December.

It is disappointing that the consistent high profile of our clubs within their areas is not leading to enough new members and membership remains a concern for all of the District Governor team. In fact at the end of last year we lost two clubs – Slough & Cosham, and then a further one at the end of December – Hythe & Waterside. These were all great clubs who somehow lost the ability to attract new members and as their membership aged they all gave up the fight. It is also disappointing that some clubs seem to focus on the perceived problems of attracting new members rather than being positive and really getting out there trying to drum up support. One thing that the DG team has noticed on their travels is that a minority, but still too many clubs, are not that attractive to new, especially younger, members. Please, after the convention, go back and look at yourselves, would you join your own club after visiting one of your meetings?

That's the whinging out of the way there have been a lot of positives during the first half of my year of course started by our amazing trip to the Centenary International Convention in Chicago. This was soon followed by our District Handover which took place at the St Leonard's Hotel. Visiting the clubs by one or other of the DG team remains the high point of doing this job, it is incredible how different clubs can be, even ones close together. Once upon a time clubs used to visit each other's meetings quite regularly, this seems to have died off, I would suggest that you consider visiting neighbouring clubs for inspiration.

This is the final year of the Centennial celebrations and most clubs have taken part in something towards this. Indeed there have been some amazing centenary legacy projects throughout the district, my own personal favourite being the carved bench which Alton Lions have had made. Still only 69% of clubs are reporting their centennial activities, most of which are things we do anyway. Despite this, at the time of writing we had served over 193 million people during the centennial period against an initial target of 100 million. If you have not previously reported your activities please do so that we can get that target up to around 250 million by the end of the centennial in June.

Debbie and I are both very grateful to the clubs who have donated to Different Strokes and we should be able to make a substantial donation to them at Convention. Please keep the donations coming in via District treasurer Linda as we can make a further donation at the end of the year.

At the end of January I attend, along with 1<sup>st</sup> VDG Ken, the first MD Council meeting after the re-districting was ratified. Hopefully we will at that meeting start planning the logistics of how the re-districting will happen. We will be able to update convention accordingly.

Thank you to all the volunteers who have given up their time to serve on my cabinet. Also thanks to all the clubs for the welcome you have shown Debbie, myself and the Vice-Governors when we have visited your clubs. Finally & most importantly, a really big thank you to each and every member in the District, without you all giving up some of your free time to help those in need, the world would be a much worse place to live in.

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### **Immediate Past District Governor – Lion David Taylor**

My time as DG after last year's highly successful District Convention was (as for all my predecessors) short - most of it concerning the MD Convention and final Council meetings.

However, I did so with the tremendous feeling of elation that came from our own Convention, the superb planning by the Convention team and our hosts from Bournemouth Lions Club plus the manner in which our members participated – even the Q&A session on the final day over-ran because of the enthusiasm of the participants!

Moving onto Blackpool, I was not alone in thinking the Multiple District Convention in would be a nightmare. Reviews about the hotel and the convention hall did not bode well. Moreover, the standard of behavior during the debate at the 2016 convention, and some of the ill informed messages posted on Facebook, meant 2017 was anticipated with trepidation. However, while the accommodation lived down to expectations for many people, the convention was well organized with passionate, but polite, debate and followed by a banquet and ball that had everyone singing and dancing to a brilliant DJ (come to this year's MD Convention in Bracknell for a reprise!).

At Blackpool we also saw one of our guests in Bournemouth elected as our next International Director will be; congratulations to Geoff Leeder and best wishes for 2018-2021.

With regard to reducing the subsidy for partners' travel to International Conventions, 60% of the delegates agreed with the resolution from Alton and Meon Valley, however the resolution failed to be voted in because such a change requires a two-thirds majority.

Finally, redistricting. After the passionate debate previously mentioned, the vote was clearly in favour – 245 votes for and 158 against. The decision has now been ratified by the International Board, so DG Peter and his team will be able to set to work welcoming some and saying farewell to others.

I am proud of this District, proud of our achievements and proud of the work undertaken by all of our members – in clubs large and small. A very sincere, “Thank You” for all your efforts and hard work, now let’s do our best to stick together, look forward and continue to recruit. You have an excellent DG team in Peter, Ken and Jarvis, please continue to support them in the months to come.

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### **1st Vice District Governor – [Lion Ken Staniforth](#)**

I have managed to complete 17 Club visits and have booked the final 1.

Jean and I attended Swanwick’s Christmas Dinner with DG Peter and Debbie.

Also attended DG Training and Council of Governors Meeting in Birmingham. Contributed to the 105D Times.

Thank you fellow cabinet members for your support over the months. I am pleased to say that I am well into recovery and slowly getting up to speed (literally), even if the hair can’t make up its damn mind which way to go!!

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### **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governor – [Lion Jarvis MacDonald](#)**

As I write this report I have carried out all of my club visits, attended district cabinet meetings, a few zone meetings and a fair number of charter dinners

You are always nervous when you undertake a role for the very first time as you want to carry out the role to the best of your ability and leave a good impression. I had no need to worry as I received a warm welcome from all clubs, and had some really great discussions on all manner of topics

#### **Of the Clubs Visited**

3 x clubs were absolutely flying with strong membership numbers, potential members and a very proactive membership recruitment policy

3 x clubs were in good standing with a steady number of members, potential members and a proactive membership recruitment policy

6 x clubs were in good standing with a steady number of members, but perhaps could do with some guidance in adopting a proactive membership recruitment policy

7 x clubs had a very positive approach but membership numbers are low and the clubs require assistance with their membership recruitment policy

#### **Re-districting**

Only a few clubs were interested in redistricting, and were more concerned with the other clubs in their immediate zone

#### **Service**

I explained the new focus on Service with an additional role being added to the Global Action Team. I have to say that certainly all the clubs I visited - if you look up their websites, read the minutes of their meetings or talk to the welfare committees the clubs already carry out a large number of service projects and although I think it is a very good idea to focus on Service it may well be that many clubs in 105D are already achieving what are esteemed international president is striving for

#### **Going Forward**

A number of training sessions and membership meetings have been cancelled so far this year due to lack of numbers/training, perhaps a discussion should take place to decide whether to carry out training/meetings at zone level to encourage increased participation

**PR/Marketing** – a number of clubs have asked if we could be more proactive at club / district level in promoting Lions, a suggestion is perhaps forming a small team to assist the PR and marketing co-ordinator (which is Richard Keeley at present) as it could be a major task

## **DISTRICT ALMONER - CONVENTION 2017 REPORT – PDG Lion Ron Twining**

At the start of the Lionistic Year, I sent out the usual letter introducing myself and asking for details of those passing to higher service along with funeral details, also details of special occasions such as special birthdays, special wedding anniversaries, and of course any one taken ill with a very serious illness, along with details of where to send condolence, congratulation and get well cards etc. A lot of these details have not been very forthcoming and have made the job somewhat difficult, to say the least.

The Title of Almoner is not given to a person who only deals with deaths but someone who is there to help and deal with other more happy occasions as well, but it seems Lions think it is only to deal with sympathy in death. I have to say that I am not encouraged to report on ex Lions no matter how long it has been since they left the organization, even when they may have served for very many years before leaving for whatever reason. It makes me sad that a Lion who may have served for say 40 years and has to resign due to health, is no longer remembered.

The District Remembrance Book is of course the permanent way the Lions who pass to higher service are remembered. Thank you District Governor Peter for allowing me to be your District Almoner for the past year.

*So let us also remember those ex-lions, who during their life gave of their time and who have now also passed to higher service*

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## **DISTRICT ADMIN TEAM - CONVENTION 2017 REPORTS**

### **From District Secretary – PDG Lion Godwin Micallef**

As usual, my role this year has been similar to prior years which include minute taking at various District meetings and supporting the Clubs with District mailings and assistance, when requested.

Please remember that a one year History of mailings is available on our District website at

<http://www.lions105d.org.uk/index/secretary.html>

This information is available to any Lion member, as well as the Public who access our website, so please let your members know. These mailings are regularly posted on the 25<sup>th</sup> of a month, and are available regardless of whether you receive a notification email from me, or not.

The District Directory is also available on our District website. This Directory information is restricted, and is only accessible by authorised Club and District Officers.

Please note that the MyLCI website should be kept up to date, with any changes to member's details and/or meeting places/dates etc. Unfortunately, there is no mechanism to provide me with such changes, therefore please make me aware of any changes relating to the Club President, Secretary, Treasurer or to meeting dates/locations. I will then update the online Directory.

The other important factor is that MDHQ also use the MyLCI database, to create the MD Directory and also to post the Lion magazine. Therefore, it is important that all members information is kept up to date.

Convention Books are a summary of our year, in preparation for our Annual General Meeting/Convention.

Some information, such as Nominations & Resolutions, will have already been provided to Clubs, by end of January.

However, the full Convention Book, including Cabinet Officer Reports etc. are on our District website,

<http://www.lions105d.org.uk/about/convention.html> and is accessible by anyone.

This is my 10<sup>th</sup> and final year as District Secretary and I will be standing down as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018.

I would like to thank all you who have interacted with me over the years, not only in supporting your own Club, but also in supporting our greater Lions Community/Organisation.

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### **From District Treasurer - Lion Linda Picton**

District Treasurer Report – Lion Linda Picton.

Final Accounts for 2016-2017 can be viewed on District 105D website financial information page. <https://www.lions105d.org.uk/index/financialinformation/2016-17.html>. This link has also been circulated in the district mailing. Administration and Charitable Trust Accounts have been inspected by Gilroy and Brookes, Accountants and I am pleased to advise that no issues were highlighted. We continue to be grateful for the level of service received enabling our reporting deadlines to be achieved, particularly as on a no fee basis.

***Reminder: no hard copies of accounts will be printed for Convention.***

Convention 2017 was again a successful event with numbers attending in excess of budget figure which made it possible for a small surplus to be transferred into reserves against previous losses. Cabinet agreed that a line should now be drawn under the historic losses and funds being held against Convention Social Reserve have been transferred to General Reserve funds at year end. There are budget challenges with conventions as a commitment to secure a venue and entertainment is made some 18+ months in advance of bookings being made by attendees. It is always the intention to offer value for money with a 'break even' result rather than the need to make a profit.

Many District Officers did not fully claim items of expenditure allowable under the current guidelines which contributed to administrative savings, increasing the reserve funds at the end of the year.

Please can I encourage all club members to read the annual report and accounts 2016-2017 and to let me know, in advance of Convention, if there are any areas for which I can offer any further explanation.

Expenditure on the Administration Account 2017-2018 as at 31st December 2017 appears on target and can be viewed in the relevant column on the Proposed Budget Plan 2018-2019 (copy below) which recommends dues for District 105D to be set at £10 per member. This budget is based on a membership of 1175, which was a realistic membership figure at the time of planning. A credit of £5 per member for 2018-2019 is also proposed by Resolution at Convention 2018, reducing reserve funds on a fair and equitable per member basis and this budget will, if realised, require approx. £6.60 member from reserves.

This budget plan as reviewed by Finance Committee and endorsed by Cabinet in October 2017 is now recommended to Convention 2018. The notes page offers more details by way of explanation.

There are some who view the level of reserve funds to be too high – they have been higher. Finance Committee (who also have Trustee responsibility to Charitable Trust) discussed in detail and reported to Cabinet. Uncertainties relating to financial implications of redistricting proposals for MD105 remain. The budget target is for a gradual reduction in reserves over an agreed period.

All clubs are encouraged to review their income and expenditure plans for the year and to ensure that dues are set to adequately cover annual membership fees and other administrative costs associated with the club. All clubs are reminded to send a copy of club end of year accounts to District Treasurer please.

Clubs with Charitable Trusts are also reminded of the importance of Charity Commission compliance issues relating to reporting of finances and details of Trustees.

Clubs are now successfully being registered as Charitable Organisation (CIO). There are still some issues relating to transfer of assets and liabilities from the club to the new CIO, but it is anticipated that high level discussions between Solicitors and Charity Commission will resolve this.

Clubs with income in excess of £5,000 and not currently registered with a Charitable Trust remain a priority. The expectations of those clubs with Charitable Trust status and an identified need to become a CIO can be managed as part of the initial process. There is a waiting list. Currently the wait is likely to be between 8 and 10 months. Please email [md105cioregistration@lionsclubs.co](mailto:md105cioregistration@lionsclubs.co) to get your club added to this list.

Special thanks must go to Lion Mike Baker and Lion John Geering who are acting as mentors in the CIO registration process. Efficiently guiding clubs through the paperwork and the charity commission application process.

Cooperation of all club treasurers is much appreciated for meeting payment deadlines and for so generously supporting the emergency appeals and Lions projects during the year. Details of charity donations YTD are updated at the end of each calendar month, and can be viewed on the 105D website.

<https://www.lions105d.org.uk/index/financialinformation/2017-18.html>

It is recommended that donations be made via District Treasurer. Keep it simple - for all payments – cheques to District Treasurer – payee - 'LCI District 105D or by BACS if you prefer.

The Finance Committee meets regularly during the year to monitor the finances of District 105D and I am grateful for the support offered. My thanks also go to the District Governor for once again offering me this opportunity to serve as District Treasurer.

| 2011-2012 | 2012-2013 | 2013-2014 | 2014-2015 | 2015-2016 | 2016-2017 | 2016-2017 | 2017-2018 | 2017-2018 | 2018-2019 |                         |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------------------|
| final     | final     | final     | final     | final     | BUDGET    | YTD       | PLAN      | YTD       | DRAFT     |                         |
| 30-Jun-12 | 30-Jun-13 | Jun-14    | 30-Jun-15 | Jun-16    | PLAN      | Jun-17    |           | Dec-17    |           |                         |
| 12154     | 11859     | 14472     | 12926     | 13788     | 6765      | 7251      | 12250     | 5789      | 11750     | INCOME                  |
| 186       | 162       | 139       | 131       | 116       |           | 113       |           |           |           | Membership Dues         |
| 72        | 779       |           |           | 207       |           | 637       |           |           |           | Affinity Card           |
|           |           | 1775      | 1156      | 798       |           | 134       |           |           |           | Sundry Income           |
|           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           | Convention Social       |
| 12412     | 12800     | 16386     | 14213     | 14909     | 6765      | 8,135     | 12250     | 5789      | 11750     | <b>Total Income</b>     |
|           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           | <b>EXPENDITURE</b>      |
|           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           | <b>District</b>         |
| 800       | 800       | 800       | 800       | 800       | 800       | 800       | 800       | 800       | 800       | District Governor       |
|           |           |           |           |           |           | 609       |           |           | 5875      | District Dues Credit    |
|           |           |           |           | 420       | 400       | 141       | 400       | 200       | 400       | Vice District Governors |
| 804       | 320       | 95        | 175       | 148       | 200       | 92        | 200       | 15        | 200       | District Secretary      |
| 279       | 209       | 134       | 175       | 172       | 200       | 263       | 200       | 142       | 250       | District Treasurer      |
|           | 18        |           | 96        | 63        | 250       | 557       | 350       | 97        | 200       | Sgt at Arms/Centennial  |
|           |           |           |           |           | 50        |           | 50        | 121       | 500       | Special Committee       |
| 106       | 75        | 128       | 107       |           | 100       |           | 100       |           | 100       | Almoner                 |
| 352       | 67        |           | 43        | 103       | 200       |           | 250       |           | 200       | Region 1                |
| 543       | 437       | 315       |           | 371       | 450       |           | 475       |           | 400       | Region 2                |
| 99        | 179       | 70        | 169       | 187       | 200       | 74        | 250       | 17        | 200       | Region 3                |
| 96        |           |           | 114       | 75        | 200       | 80        | 250       |           | 200       | Region 4                |
| 210       | 145       | 27        | 28        | 36        | 200       |           | 250       | 44        | 200       | Region 5                |
| 1229      |           | 1553      | 755       | 260       | 2000      | 210       | 2000      | 467       | 1500      | Forums & Room Hire      |
| 495       | 350       | 10        | 132       |           | 200       | 281       | 200       |           | 250       | Equipment/Regalia       |
| 606       | 883       | 697       | 303       | 598       | 750       | 356       | 650       | 127       | 600       | Island Travel           |
|           |           |           | 20        |           |           |           |           |           |           | Bank Charges            |
| 280       | 67        | 119       | 169       | 51        | 200       | 166       | 200       | 150       | 200       | Room Hire (Cabinet)     |
| 150       |           |           |           |           |           |           |           | 1080      |           | Miscellaneous           |
| 6049      | 3550      | 3948      | 3086      | 3284      | 6400      | 3629      | 6625      | 3260      | 12075     | <b>Total District</b>   |
|           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           | <b>Committees</b>       |
| 120       | 367       | 316       | 230       | 221       | 400       | 581       | 375       | 214       | 350       | Communications          |
| 797       | 733       | 354       | 476       | 408       | 500       | 256       | 450       | 203       | 400       | Community Service       |
| 2846      | 3688      | 3651      | 2320      | 2086      | 2500      | 2820      | 2500      | 2000      | 2750      | Convention              |
| 6756      | 764       |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           | Convention Social       |
| 281       | 341       | 155       | 272       | 117       | 200       | 177       | 150       | 38        | 150       | Finance                 |
| 420       | 328       | 580       | 256       | 350       | 400       | 116       | 375       |           | 300       | International Relations |
| 119       | 119       |           |           |           | 50        | 76        | 50        |           | 50        | CNRO                    |
| 714       |           | 127       |           |           | 400       |           | 400       |           |           | Lord Mayor Show         |
| 313       | 275       | 565       | 410       | 500       | 1000      | 407       | 1000      |           | 1000      | Membership Drives       |
| 1336      | 741       | 829       | 782       | 800       | 1000      | 510       | 950       | 389       | 750       | Global Action Team      |
|           |           |           |           |           | 700       |           | 700       |           | 700       | New Club Development    |
| 319       | 775       |           | 12        |           | 300       | 276       | 200       |           | 250       | PR                      |
|           |           |           |           |           | 440       | 160       | 440       |           | 280       | Training                |
| 574       | 770       | 390       | 264       | 417       | 400       | 659       | 400       | 157       | 450       | Youth                   |
| 14595     | 8901      | 6967      | 5022      | 4899      | 8290      | 6038      | 7990      | 3001      | 7430      | <b>Total Committees</b> |
|           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |                         |
| 20644     | 12451     | 10915     | 8108      | 8183      | 14690     | 9667      | 14615     | 6261      | 19505     | <b>Total Expenses</b>   |
|           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |                         |
| -8232     | 349       | 5471      | 6105      | 6726      | -7925     | -1532     | -2365     | -472      | -7755     | Shortfall/Surplus       |
|           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |                         |
| 1347      | 1327      | 1316      |           |           | 1230      |           | 1225      | 1171      | 1175      | Members                 |
| 9.00      | 9.00      | 11.00     |           |           | 11.00     | 5.50      | 10.00     |           | 10.00     |                         |
|           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           | <b>Reserves</b>         |
| 15404     | 15753     | 17399     | 22348     | 28439     |           | 30636     |           | 28272     | 20517     | Administration          |
| 685       | 685       | 685       | 685       | 522       |           | 522       |           | 522       | 522       | Leos                    |
| 5000      | 5000      | 5000      | 5000      | 5000      |           | 5000      |           | 5000      | 5000      | Convention Business     |
| 0         |           | 1775      | 2931      | 3729      |           |           |           |           |           | Convention Social       |
| 2445      | 2445      | 4495      | 4495      | 4495      |           | 4495      |           | 4495      | 4495      | Membership              |
| 23534     | 23883     | 29354     | 35459     | 42185     |           | 40653     |           | 38289     | 30534     | <b>Total Reserves</b>   |
|           |           |           |           |           | 11.9431   |           | 11.93     |           | 16.60     | inc £5 member credit    |



|   |           |                 |           |                 |   |
|---|-----------|-----------------|-----------|-----------------|---|
| NOTES TO BUDGET PLAN  |           |                 |           |                 |   |
| <b>Income based on membership 1175 @ £10 per member</b>   |           |                 |           |                 |   |
| with provision for 50% dues credit  |           |                 |           |                 |   |
| <b>Expenditure</b>  |           |                 |           |                 |   |
| ALL Minor amendments reflect historic expenditure and new Cabinet Structure   |           |                 |           |                 |   |
| Sgt.at Arms Now includes Centennial Officer until 2018  |           |                 |           |                 |   |
| Special Meetings - to include expenses associated with CIO and mentoring  |           |                 |           |                 |   |
| DG Advisory Committee - not previously utilised - token sum as precaution special meetings                              |           |                 |           |                 |   |
| Region/Zone: minor amendment budget also available within GMT/GLT   |           |                 |           |                 |   |
| Forums and Room Hire - no change in allocation. Will also provide workshops at convention.                              |           |                 |           |                 |   |
| Island travel - minor amendment to reflect new officers   |           |                 |           |                 |   |
| Room Hire Cabinet - venue/charge unknown - precautionary sum  |           |                 |           |                 |   |
| New Club Development  |           |                 |           |                 |   |
| Training: monies collected to assist with attendance at Institutes etc. IF MOVED TO RESERVES WILL PAY OUT OF GLT BUDGET |           |                 |           |                 |   |
| Vice District Governors: previously within GMT/GLT for meetings/visits not covered under official LCI budget            |           |                 |           |                 |   |
| Lord Mayor Show: no budget allocated - project ceased   |           |                 |           |                 |   |
| Long Range Planning: reassigned CNRO  |           |                 |           |                 |   |
| Region/Zone budgets: element to assist with transport costs guest speakers at Zone meetings                             |           |                 |           |                 |   |
| GMT/GLT reassigned Global Action Team   |           |                 |           |                 |   |
| Balance 2013-2014 GMT/GLT/Forums/Membership Drives  |           |                 |           |                 |   |
| . £2050 to New Club Development Reserves.   |           |                 |           |                 |   |
| . Planned expenditure New club Development over 3 years - note not used year 1  |           |                 |           |                 |   |
| RESERVES  | 2015-2016 | 2016-2017       | 2017-2018 | 2018-2019       | rationale   |
| Administration  | 28439     | 30636           | 28271     | 20992           | general reserves  |
| Leos  | 522       | 522             | 522       | 522             | ring-fenced funds from closure of District Leo Account                            |
| Convention Business   | 5000      | 5000            | 5000      | 5000            | ring-fenced funds emergency cancellation protection                               |
| Convention Social   | 3729      |                 |           |                 | previous overspend written off as agreed Cabinet sum transferred general reserves |
| Membership  | 4495      | 4495            | 4495      | 4495            | ring-fenced funds for New Club Development and Membership projects                |
| Total Reserves  | 42185     | 40653           | 38288     | 31009           |   |
| Estimate use reserves as budget plan  |           | -1531           | -2365     | -7280           | 5000 Equipment/regalia replacement  |
|   |           |                 |           |                 | 5000 Extra ordinary Convention contingency (redistricting)                        |
|   |           | 50% dues credit |           | 50% dues credit |   |
|   |           |                 |           |                 | ? PR/Marketing Initiatives  |
|   |           |                 |           |                 | ? Priorities from zones   |
|   |           |                 |           |                 | ? redistricting/reorganisational uncertainties                                    |
|   |           |                 |           |                 | Overall aim would be gradual reduction in general reserves                        |
|   |           |                 |           |                 | to approx £10,000 on equivalent 1 year operational costs                          |

## **CHAIR OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE - CONVENTION 2017 REPORT – IPDG Lion David Taylor**

The 2017 – 2018 Finance Committee consists of myself (Chairman), District Treasurer Lion Linda Picton, District Secretary Godwin Micallef, 1<sup>st</sup> VDG Lion Ken Staniforth and 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG Lion Jarvis MacDonald. The Committee scheduled three formal meetings, including conference calls.

The question remained regarding the level of general reserves held by the District. It was accepted that the levels might seem high under normal circumstances; however, uncertainty still existed regarding the formation of a new District and the requirement for a Special Convention in addition to the reserves required should any planned convention be cancelled. Consequently a staged reduction in reserves was proposed, accepted by Cabinet and prepared for Convention in the form of Membership Subscriptions being held to £10. In addition, for the forthcoming year 2017/18, the Finance Committee is proposing an amendment to this motion to give a further £5 per member rebate to Clubs.

Although not submitted through the Finance Committee, there is a proposal from Meon Valley and agreed by Cabinet to pay the new members' joining fee for one year from 1st July 2018. We note that this proposal has the condition that it is reviewed annually by the Finance Committee to ensure affordability.

It continues to be the case that very few Cabinet members make the claims that they are entitled to; if a cabinet member does not wish to claim their expenses, there is a box on the claim form to donate the money to a District project of their choice. In the absence of this, as we have to budget for all District Officers projected expenses, the absence of claims remains one of the reasons the reserves continue to grow.

The District accounts for 2016/2017 have been inspected by our auditors and found to be an accurate record for the year. We continue recommend using Gilroy Brooks as our auditors, as the inspection is done by different personnel each year.

The Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) process is proceeding with more Clubs having completed the process.

Finally, the task of the Finance Committee in monitoring and protecting the District's assets is one of necessity without being prominent. The task could not be completed but with the experience and contribution assistance of our District Treasurer Lion Linda and our District Secretary PDG Godwin. I am sure the other members of the committee would support my sincere thanks to both of them, but especially Linda, for their dedication and professionalism in keeping this District at the forefront of financial management.

## Resolutions for Convention 2018

### RESOLUTION No. 1

Propose by District Cabinet

This Convention resolves that:

"Messrs Gilroy & Brookes, Chartered Accountants of Farnham, be sincerely thanked for their services to the District in the past and that they be, and the same are hereby, re-appointed as Independent Examiner to the District for the forthcoming Year."

#### Explanatory Note:

*Article IV Section 4 (a) of District 105D Constitution (as adopted March 1984 – with amendments to March 2017) reads:*

*"The Governor or Cabinet shall provide for an independent examination of the books, records and Financial Statements of the District covering the Year by a suitably qualified person to be appointed (or re-appointed as the case may be) by resolution at Convention each Year."*

**This Resolution requires a simple majority**

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### RESOLUTION No. 2

Proposed by District Cabinet

This Convention resolves that:

"The District Per Capita Levy for the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 shall be in the sum of £10.00 per Lion. This shall be payable in two equal instalments - £5.00 per Lion by 1 August 2018 based upon the known membership as at 30 June 2018 and £5.00 per Lion by 1 February 2019 based upon the known membership as at 31 December 2018"

#### Explanatory Note:

*Article IV Section 1 of District 105D Constitution (as adopted March 1984 – with amendments to March 2017) reads:*

*(a) (i) To provide revenue to defray administration and Convention expenses of the District, and such other matters as the Governor or Cabinet shall from time to time deem fit, a Per Capita levy for a Year shall be collected from each Club by the District Treasurer at such times and in such amounts as shall be passed by way of Resolution proposed by District Cabinet at Convention held in the previous Year.*

*(ii) In the event that any Resolution to determine a Per-Capita levy for a Year is not passed at Convention held in the previous Year, the amounts collectable from each Club for the Year shall remain those as determined at the most recent preceding Convention.*

*(b) Clubs organised or re-organised during the Year shall be liable to pay per-capita dues calculated on a pro-rata basis commencing from the first day of the month following the date of their organisation or re-organisation meeting.*

*(c) (i) Payment of District Dues will not be collected for members shown as dropped by the Association's Official Records within 30 days of the commencement of the billing period (30th June or 31st December, as appropriate). In the event that the Club has already paid the District dues for that half year, the Club shall be reimbursed.*

*(ii) Billing for District Dues for a new member will begin the first day of the month in which the member joins, as shown by the records of the Association and the Club will be liable for payment of the District Dues on a pro-rata basis at the average monthly rate, based on the agreed annual District Dues, through to the end of the billing period. These Dues shall be collected by the District Treasurer at the commencement of the next billing period (30th June or 31st December, as appropriate)*

*(iii) Payment of Multiple District Dues shall be as laid down by the Multiple District Constitution*

*(d) From and after 1 July 2000 Cabinet shall be empowered to levy a supplementary charge, not exceeding £10.00p as shall be determined at their first meeting in the Year, on any Per-Capita Levy not settled in full by the due date.*

**This Resolution requires a simple majority**

### AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION No. 2

Proposed: District Cabinet

This Convention resolves to amend Resolution No. 2 to insert paragraph 2 into the original resolution:

"The District Per Capita Levy for the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 shall be in the sum of £10.00 per Lion. This shall be payable in two equal instalments - £5.00 per Lion by 1 August 2018 based upon the known membership as at 30 June 2018 and £5.00 per Lion by 1 February 2019 based upon the known membership as at 31 December 2018"



"This Convention Resolves that for 2018-2019 Fiscal Year every club should receive a 'one-off' credit in the sum of £5 per member against payment of District 105D Annual Membership Subscriptions 2018-2019. The levy for the year shall be collected from each Club by the District Treasurer for each member officially recorded as follows:

- (i) The sum of £2.50 per member as at 30th June 2018
- (ii) The sum of £2.50 per member as at 31st December 2018

NB: This is a credit per member for 2018-2019 only and not a reduction in Annual Membership Subscriptions."

#### Explanatory Note:

Article IV Section 1 of District 105D Constitution (as adopted March 1984 – with amendments to March 2017) reads :

(a) (i) To provide revenue to defray administration and Convention expenses of the District, and such other matters as the Governor or Cabinet shall from time to time deem fit, a Per Capita levy for a Year shall be collected from each Club by the District Treasurer at such times and in such amounts as shall be passed by way of Resolution proposed by District Cabinet at Convention held in the previous Year.

(ii) In the event that any Resolution to determine a Per-Capita levy for a Year is not passed at Convention held in the previous Year, the amounts collectable from each Club for the Year shall remain those as determined at the most recent preceding Convention.

(b) Clubs organised or re-organised during the Year shall be liable to pay per-capita dues calculated on a pro-rata basis commencing from the first day of the month following the date of their organisation or re-organisation meeting.

(c) (i) Payment of District Dues will not be collected for members shown as dropped by the Association's Official Records within 30 days of the commencement of the billing period (30th June or 31st December, as appropriate). In the event that the Club has already paid the District dues for that half year, the Club shall be reimbursed.

(ii) Billing for District Dues for a new member will begin the first day of the month in which the member joins, as shown by the records of the Association and the Club will be liable for payment of the District Dues on a pro-rata basis at the average monthly rate, based on the agreed annual District Dues, through to the end of the billing period. These Dues shall be collected by the District Treasurer at the commencement of the next billing period (30th June or 31st December, as appropriate)

(iii) Payment of Multiple District Dues shall be as laid down by the Multiple District Constitution

(d) From and after 1 July 2000 Cabinet shall be empowered to levy a carrying charge, not exceeding £10.00p as shall be determined at their first meeting in the Year, on any Per-Capita Levy not settled in full by the due date.

District Administration Reserve Funds continue to be at a level where it is possible to reimburse the clubs on a fair and equitable known membership basis.

#### This Resolution requires a simple majority

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#### RESOLUTION No. 3

Proposed by Meon Valley Lions Club  
Seconded by Alton Lions Club

#### This Convention resolves that:

That District 105D will pay the LCI new members joining fee (currently \$35) for all new members joining any club in the District from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2018. This would be initially for one year funded from the annual operating surpluses accrued during the period 2013 to 2017 currently held by the District. Continuation of this payment in subsequent years would be subject to a financial viability assessment by the District Finance Committee and approval at Convention.

#### Explanatory Note:

In trying to encourage new membership it is considered that the initial cost of entry should be minimised. The recent increase from \$25 to \$35 (a 40% increase) makes the cost of joining Lions a little less palatable. District payment of the LCI joining fee would mean that the total cost for new members in the first year of membership would not be more than that of an existing member.

A number of clubs already pay the joining fee on behalf of new members but this is less affordable by the smaller clubs.

The annual cost to the District for 100 new members per year would be approximately £2700 and for 150 new members approximately £4050

Over recent years there has been a continuous shortfall in the District's annual spend against the income from members' dues; the increasing surplus each being added to the reserves as shown below:-

|                          | 2013-14 | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | 2016-17 |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Annual Surplus/Shortfall | £5471   | £6105   | £6726   | -£1532  |
| Total Reserves/Surplus   | £29354  | £34459  | £42185  | £40653  |

NB. The shortfall in the 2016-17 figures is because each club was credited 50% of the 2016-17 dues (£5.50 per member) and not because of a significant increase in expenditure.

There are identified specific reserves of £10017 and the balance £30636 is held as a reserve for operating expenses. For the last 4 years Operating Expenses have been less than £10000 per annum. With no long term expense commitments and a guaranteed income from the membership there should not be a need for an Operating Expense reserve greater than one year's average expenditure (ie.£10000). This leaves a current excess in the region of £20000 from which the joining fee could be easily funded.

It is considered that the surplus/reserves could be used to the benefit of clubs and can be seen as an aid to recruitment which is of paramount importance to the future of the District and Lions.

#### **This Resolution requires a simple majority**

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#### **RESOLUTION No. 4**

**Proposed by District Cabinet**

#### **This Convention resolves that:**

Each Lions Club within District 105D shall be required to prepare annually a set of accounts. These accounts to be examined by a suitably qualified independent examiner who shall append to the accounts a report of his/her examination. All Clubs will file the accounts and the independent examiner's report with the District Treasurer within six months of the Club's financial year end."

#### **Explanatory Note:**

*This will ensure Clubs are maintaining financial records which are examined by a suitably qualified practitioner, and that the District has a record of each Club's accounts.*

#### **This Resolution requires a simple majority**

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#### **RESOLUTION No. 5**

**Proposed by District Cabinet**

#### **This Convention Resolves that:**

By Law Article V111 District Administration Fund of the District Convention for District 105D be amended as per the attached version. This replaces the existing words 'dues' or 'tax' with the word 'subscriptions'.

#### **Explanatory Note:**

*The proposed amendment brings Article V111 in line with HMRC guidelines and will be of particular relevance to those Clubs who have achieved CIO status, or intend to seek such status, when making application for Gift Aid on subscriptions.*

#### **This Resolution requires a two thirds majority.**

#### **By Laws ARTICLE VIII District Administration Fund**

**Section 1. DISTRICT REVENUE.** To provide revenue for approved district projects and to defray the administrative expenses of the district, an annual district administrative subscription is levied upon each member of each club in the district and shall be collected and paid in advance by each club in two (2) semi-annual payments per club member by July 21<sup>st</sup> of each year to cover the semi-annual period July 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> and per club member on January 21<sup>st</sup> of each year, to cover the semi-annual period January 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup> with billings of the same to be based upon the roster of each club as of the first days of July and January, respectively. Said subscriptions shall be paid to the

District Treasurer by each club in the district, except newly chartered and reorganized clubs, which shall collect and pay said subscriptions on a pro-rata basis from the first day of the second month following the date of their organization or reorganization, as the case may be. Said subscriptions shall be disbursed only for administrative expenses of the district and only upon approval by the district governor's cabinet. Disbursement therefrom shall be by checks drawn and signed by the cabinet treasurer and countersigned by the district governor.

(a) Payment of District subscriptions will not be collected for members shown as dropped by the Association's Official Records within 30 days of the commencement of the billing period (June 30<sup>th</sup> or December 31<sup>st</sup> as appropriate). In the event that the Club has already paid the District subscriptions for that half year, the Club shall be reimbursed.

(b) Billing for District subscriptions for a new member will begin the first day of the month in which the member joins, as shown by the records of the Association and the Club will be liable for payment of the District subscriptions on a pro-rata basis at the average monthly rate, based on the agreed annual District subscriptions, through to the end of the billing period. These subscriptions shall be collected by the District Treasurer at the commencement of the next billing period (June 30<sup>th</sup> or December 31<sup>st</sup> as appropriate).

(c) Payment of Multiple District subscriptions shall be as laid down by the Multiple District Constitution.

(d) The District Treasurer shall be empowered to levy a supplementary charge, not exceeding Ten Pounds (£10.00) per Club, on any Per Capita Levy not settled in full by the due date.

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## ZONE CHAIRMEN - CONVENTION 2018 REPORTS

### Zone 1A Chairman - [Lion Mark Lockie](#)

The Club Health Assessment for December it shows we have two clubs with twenty members or more and two clubs with a level of membership which is problematic with falling numbers.

As a zone we are trying to improve this situation.

Looking at the individual clubs it can be noted that we are all doing well with both our activities and our Community service.

#### Dorchester

Members 10

Fund raising July to Jan £450.0 with several more events coming up in the new year. Several events well under way in planning

Community service grants to £1800.00

#### Bridport

Members 14

Fund raising July to Jan £4900.0 with several more events coming up in the new year.

Community service grants to £2200.00

#### Blackmore Vale

Fund raising July to sept £1000.00 with several more events coming up in the new year.

Community service grants to £3000.00

#### Weymouth & Portland

Membership 24

Fund raising July to Jan approx. £4000.00 with several more events coming up in the new year.

Community service grants individual grants.

#### Activities: all clubs

Motor X , golf days, Swimathons and harbour swims, collection at supermarkets etc.

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### Zone 1B Chairman - [Lion Teresa North](#)

All clubs have been trying hard to increase membership. Bournemouth have managed to increase their numbers quite well by again recruiting some younger members, and Poole club has also recruited new members as well.

Southbourne and Boscombe are struggling to recruit and Wimborne and Ferndown members remain low, although they have recently badged up a new member. Wareham club figures remain good.

All clubs have the same aim- to raise as much money as possible and to help as many people as possible, and all Clubs have contributed to local, national and international causes.

Bournemouth Lions are once again putting on their fabulous panto in January, and Poole did their Swimathon. Both events take a lot of planning and Lions time and shows the dedication and commitment of the members

Clubs once again enjoyed the Zone Fun Day thanks to the generosity of the farm owners who allow this to take place. Disabled people enjoyed being on the water in special adapted boats, a disco, BBQ, ice cream and drinks, farm trailer rides, and a host of other games. It is always one of the highlights of the year.

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### Zone 2C Chairman - [Lion David Rose](#)

By the time the convention arrives, I will have completed my visits to all of my zone clubs. The clubs are serving their areas extremely well. Importantly they are having fun and laughter at the same time.

As a zone we have 122 members. Most of the clubs in my zone have gained new members in recent months.

I would have held three zone meetings so far (Exchanges) which have been lively events. There were lots of ideas passing around the table, helping each other out, and working as a fantastic team.

We are also going to have a social event soon, maybe a fishing contest with a bbq.

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### Zone 2D Chairman - [Lion Bryan Smith](#)

Attended Eastleigh Club meeting and found it to be a very good example of an organised Club. The meeting was relaxed, positive and well attended.

I am looking forward to visiting Romsey, Jersey and Guernsey. I hope to organise a Zone Exchange in the next few weeks.

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### **Zone 2E Chairman - [Lion Jenny Bithell](#)**

The clubs in this zone continue to work effectively. Three of the five clubs have increased their membership this year and their existing members have been retained. Recruitment as ever has been a problem, and recruitment events have not worked well for all the clubs.

A lot of work produced very successful centennial events in Christchurch, Lymington and New Milton with Ringwood & Fordingbridge also running a continuous programme of events during the year.

Hythe & Waterside was working with very reduced numbers and has reluctantly closed in December, after a last effort Quiz which was well supported and a great last function.

The local link with Brockenhurst College remains strong and another group of young people went on Youth Exchanges this year, returning to give their presentations at an evening in New Milton. This programme has also been very successfully promoted by Ringwood & Fordingbridge lions along with their very active Lions Den events with their local schools. Christchurch had their first experience of running a Fun Day under new local council rules which proved quite difficult to satisfy. Having done so with great success, this now looks as though it may become an annual event.

Next year will be challenging for the remaining 4 clubs, with New Milton coming to terms with their new CIO status and Lymington & Brockenhurst starting on that road while continuing to try to attract new members. Brockenhurst itself has proved to be an almost impossible recruitment ground. It has been good to see the clubs working to support each others' events in the zone.

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### **Zone 3F Chairman – [Lion David Andrews](#)**

A couple of club visits completed and one Zone meeting, by the Spring all will have been attended at least once and we will have hosted our second Zone get together. This year the meetings have been planned to be informal, relaxed and friendly – *to be enjoyed not endured!*

Like other Zones, membership remains the key issue and clubs have worked hard to adjust their activities to match the manpower available and I have personally stressed that 'We Serve' can simply be achieved by helping another organisations, individuals, groups or charities with their work – it doesn't all have to be fundraising, as important as this is.

It is likely with all the best of intentions and very hard work by Zone members, that we will see a year close with lower numbers, maybe the lowest for many years – but this does allow us now, the opportunity to introduce those changes that have been in the back of our minds, but maybe have lacked the courage to voice – whilst this situation could be viewed as negative, I much prefer to see these changing times as a positive, this is OUR opportunity to complete the necessary transition into a modern World with its very different way of life – the general public won't change to suit Lions, so it must come from within us, we already have that magic mixture of enthusiasm and experience – 2018, bring it on, I say!

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### **Zone 3G Chairman – [Lion Janet MacKay](#)**

The clubs in my Zone seem to be progressing well. I have managed to undertake 4 club visits and still have one to complete which is Ventnor and I am hoping to do this shortly. I have decided to revisit each of my clubs in the New Year so that I can monitor progress. All the clubs are struggling with recruiting new members.

I have completed two Zone Exchanges hosted by Sandown & Shanklin and Ryde. Sandown & Shanklin will be hosting the next meeting on behalf of Ventnor in January as they have no meeting place at the moment. Newport will be in April followed by Cowes in May.

Sandown & Shanklin Club hosted a Zone social at the end of the year. The club held a horseracing night provided by Ryde Club followed by a hot supper. Proceeds went to the Grenfell Tower Fire and Canine Dogs.

Four of the clubs on the island were involved in the Centennial two-day event which unfortunately was marred by very bad weather.

All the clubs are involved in their local community with many ongoing events i.e. collections at our local supermarkets, car boot sales, Quiz Nights and Christmas festivities.

The clubs held a children's Christmas party for the IOW Armed Forces community who have many sick and injured servicemen on the island. This was enjoyed by 30 children and parents. We put on entertainment, presents, food and Father Christmas.

I would like to thank Pauline & Michael McCreanor for their support in my first year.

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### **Zone 3H Chairman – [Lion Gordon Rhodes](#)**

Since the last Convention Cosham Club was closed at the end of the last Lion's Year in June 2017. This was not totally unexpected as the Club had been struggling with low membership numbers, age profile and illnesses.

The rest of the Clubs in the Zone have continued much as before with Hayling and Havant Clubs both in healthy positions and Portsmouth continuing to struggle. All Clubs have been visited and a successful social event, a curry night, has been held. A number of non-members were invited to this event and it was hoped that it might lead to some new members, particularly for Portsmouth Club, but there were no positive results.

The major concern is the future of Portsmouth Club as although they have twelve members on paper only a few of these are active and meetings are very poorly attended. Despite this, they still hold a few fundraising events. Fundamental change is needed if they are to attract new members and retain those that they have but it is difficult to see where that change is coming from.

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### **Zone 4I Chairman – [Lion Mike Baker](#)**

Two **Zone Meetings** held to date each reasonably well attended. Meets have been held with all clubs in the Zone (and in other zones) as part as part of the CIO process.

**Membership** continues to head the agenda with the Zone now standing at 96, a net increase of two over the last twelve months after deaths, incapacitating illnesses, movers and new recruits. Analysis of the membership statistics show that 47% of the membership are over 70 (e.g. those who are generally moving into less active roles) and 50% in the 50 to 70 age brackets. There are just 3 members under 50. The figures also reveal that 33% of members have less than 5year's service, 54% have less than 10 years service and that this increases to 64% with less than 15 years service.

These numbers suggest that the clubs can recruit well in the 50 – 70 age range, which would indicate that this is the 'target audience', whilst any recruits below the age of 40 are a surprising bonus. It is considered that establishing clubs in 20 – 40 age group is best left to the GMT team with local intelligence (e.g. growth and potential growth areas) and support from local clubs.

**Public Relations and Marketing** is the other issue routinely raised by members and concerns the lack of wider brand promotion (e.g. identity) and regional/national public relationships (e.g. stakeholders). Suggestions this year are for a Lions Calendar and Christmas Card. MD admitted that several clubs do their own cards but also thought MDHQ sold Christmas cards (which they don't). These cards would be specifically for stakeholders, recipients of Lions services and whoever needs reminding who Lions are and what they do. The calendar suggestion follows the same pattern, but in this case, lasts all year, hopefully in a prominent place with photos of Lions providing community services and including Lions key dates such as UN Day, Diabetes Day etc.

**Centenary events** were completed by all clubs and finally culminated in the installation of a solid English oak carved bench, with sculpted Lions, set in a prominent position on 'The Butts' in Alton.

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### **10.5.10 Zone 4J Chairman – [Lion Tony Bamberger](#)**

The zone clubs are all active and membership has generally held up well over the past year. Unfortunately the Andover club has found it impossible to recruit new members and for a variety of reasons the members are unable to continue, the club will therefore cease at the end of this lionistic year.

The zone meetings are generally well attended by all clubs. This year the clubs had agreed to support an initiative from Loddon Valley to install a call monitoring system for vulnerable people but this proved not to be suitable for taking forward, the clubs will debate a new possible zone project this January.

Three club visits have been completed with another due in first quarter of 2018.

We have had two Zone Exchanges so far with another to be arranged for May.

Membership is currently Andover 7, Basingstoke 21, Loddon Valley 34 and Newbury 17. All four clubs have been active and committed and have done some great work in the community and raised lots of money. There are a wide range of activities across the zone from firework displays, pink pig races, treacle fair to concerts, swimathons, quizzes and of course Christmas collections. A huge range of welfare type work has also been achieved from individuals requiring help to efforts around world site day, special school minibus and many others.

The clubs are very supportive of each other and always willing to help with ideas and advice and guidance.

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#### **10.5.11 Zone 4K Chairman – [Lion Graham Drayton](#)**

Pursuing the philosophy of 'democracy for all' the management direction taken this year by Zone K has been dictated by the Club and Branch Club Presidents.

At a meeting early in the Lionistic Year, a number of objectives and concerns were discussed by the Presidents. From this, a plan of action has been outlined whereby closer cooperation with other Clubs in the Zone should work to their mutual benefit. Implementation of selected actions/projects is being led by appointed team leaders with representation being sought from all clubs.

Whilst co-operative action is in hand for such matters as MIAB, Spectrek, and with the established Zone Funfest, the more trickier problems of Leadership Succession and Membership Expansion are still to be tackled.

With a strong Zone membership of 131 Lions and with most of the clubs operating in the Hart District Council area – recognised as the most desirable area in the country to live - and with successful established fundraising and welfare projects in hand, *are we too comfortable with the status quo ?*

Most of the Clubs are forced to recycle leadership roles within a small group of 'good fellows'. Yet these same Clubs lack the desire to support any customised training development sessions for their members. There appears to be an acceptance of not wishing to challenge or to accept that all members should be encouraged and supported into taking on leadership roles within their club.

Likewise, the smaller clubs particular in the Zone are aware that their membership numbers need to be increased, yet to date there is either an inability or a reluctance to implement formal structured plans of action, or to seek support from others.

The Zone objective for the remaining second half of the year is to set into motion a number of the agreed long term actions/projects that will achieve and maintain the desired effect of collectively assisting each club in reaching its goals.

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#### **10.5.12 Zone 5L Chairman – [Lion Halyna Pudney](#)**

At the end of the first half of this Lionistic Year there are 109 members over 4 clubs. This is down by 6 members since June 2017. This is primary due to the sad loss of Slough Lions Club.

We have held two zone meetings with another due to be held in February 2018. These are held together with Zone M as we believe this gives a better dynamic and more scope for ideas over a greater area. In the last zone meeting we particularly asked New Members to come along so that they could meet other member s socially outside their club environment.

Our clubs work together very well and we are always willing to help each other out.

Henley on Thames ran a Santa's sleigh and a Santa's grotto over the Christmas period. They launched a Winter Fuel Project, encouraging the public to donate their allowance to those in real need with their fuel and utility bills. They also gave a generous donation to the Henley Music School.

Maidenhead club gave Kids Garden Awards and to the Sea Scouts Bell Boats. They continue to raise funds with their Duck Derby & Lions Train giving everyone a fun ride. They manage to make up over 350 food parcels and deliver them to those in need locally. In the New Year they are planning another fantastic Swimathon.

Windsor Lions have been very busy organising and running their Horse Ride & Swimathon. They have also just had a Lions Den encouraging 20 teams to take part in, and competing for financial and other support for their local community projects. There are also running a Prostate Awareness day in the New Year.

Burnham club had a very successful Centennial Ball with all the funds from the auction going to Lions Charities. They had a very busy Xmas Faye and Parade with lots of schools, guides and dancing groups taking part. They also ran a Santa's sleigh and made up food parcels for those in need in the local area.

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## **COMMITTEES - CONVENTION 2018 REPORTS**

### **DISTRICT CLUB DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

#### **GMT Co-ordinator - [Lion Tim Hanton](#)**

I took over as Chair of GMT in July 2017.

The number of members within the District has fallen by 13 in the six months since July and is reflective of a national drop in membership. However, we have attracted 46 new members over the last 6 months. Whilst Clubs should do everything they can to retain members, there needs to be an acceptance that we will lose members for a number of reasons (higher service, retirement from Lions, currently have insufficient time for Lions etc.). Therefore, our focus should be trying to bring in new members, encouraging them to take on roles within the Club and being supportive to their new ideas and changes that they suggest.

It is disappointing that we have lost Hythe & Waterside, despite the best efforts of a number of people. However, Lions Clubs cannot buck the trend of demographic changes and it is inevitable this is likely to lead to the closure of some Clubs, particularly in larger areas where there is a limited sense of community. I believe that there is a significant link between active service activities and projects and in attracting new members and this is an area that we should continue to try and develop throughout the District.

In terms of activities that I am looking to carry at a District level:

1. Writing a regular column for the 105D Times on membership. Hopefully, some of these ideas will be useful for some of the Clubs to try out.
2. I am looking to visit as many Zones at their Zone meetings over the next 6 months to listen and offer support where I can.
3. District can look to support Clubs financially e.g. in terms of a membership drive and other activities but for this to have a good chance of being fully effective, support must be there at a Club level to support this activity.
4. On the Sunday of Convention, I am pleased to say that Keith Messenger (MD 105 Membership Coordinator) has agreed to run a workshop on Membership. We are also looking to have a presentation from a group of younger Lions members sharing their ideas on membership. Multi-District did not appoint Keith as the MD 105 Membership Coordinator until September 2017. He has now arranged a get together for all GMT Chairs throughout the UK and I am hopeful that this will be productive in offering some additional thoughts and suggestions that we can try within our District. If in the meantime, there is anything I can assist with, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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#### **District Retention Officer: [Lion Pauline McCreanor](#)**

This year District Governor Peter separated the roles within GMT my role is a new one and has been quiet challenging, at the beginning of the year I organised an open forum concentrating on retention as well as membership, sadly we felt we had to cancel this due to lack of support from the clubs which was disappointing for those who were interested in attending.

At the time of writing this report, since the first of July we have dropped fifty eight members with three of those passing to higher service, out of the remaining fifty five, five have left within three years of joining, six within two years, six within one year, and two within six months these figures do not include members that have moved. This highlights that clubs really do need to analyse why these members are leaving so soon into their Lions service.

My thanks go to district Governor Peter for offering me the opportunity to serve in this my final year on cabinet.

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#### **District Membership coordinator, [PDG Alan Chapman](#)**

At the time of writing this report our membership is at an all time low showing minus 6 members on the year. We have inducted 44 new members but unfortunately lost 50, 3 have gone to Higher Service and 47 for reasons unknown. We have lost 2 clubs, Slough and Hythe & Waterside with the possibility of a third by the end of this half year. This gives me the feeling that we are losing the battle unless we support the smaller clubs where the losses cannot be sustained.

At the beginning of this Lionistic year, DG Peter asked me to try and set up a Young Lions Advisory Group, the idea was to find out from some of the younger members what changes they would consider to improve the prospect of bringing in new younger members and possible changes to the standard club meeting would encourage younger members to become Lions.

This has been a struggle to get the ideas put into practice mainly due to the busy lives of the group members. The summary of their first meeting was as follows:-

- **Increase our profile by using new media channels which young adults use.**
- **Due to younger member's commitments, Virtual meetings might work depending on the location of clubs.**
- **Social meetings would appeal more to younger members rather than the standard business format that we are all used to.**
- **Having a supportive media network across 105D for younger and new members.**

The latter may well be the answer to slowing down the number of losses within the first 3 years of membership where they can discuss their grievances and dissatisfaction among themselves and find their own solutions to problems.

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#### **GLT Co-Ordinator – PDG Lion David Merchant**

Since our last District Convention the following leadership opportunities have been held:

- (i) The Incoming Officers Seminars – which were well attended and well received. These led to both Club Officers and Zone Chairs being prepared for their year in office. The Zone Chair event was held in Southampton whilst the Club Officers' were held in 3 separate locations around the District on 3 different days of the week – the aim being to offer all Club Officers a variety of opportunities to attend.
- (ii) An evening on Leadership was held in Southampton in October; this was not well attended but a series of useful notes, for use by Lions throughout the District, have been circulated with a copy on the District website.

It is pleasing to report this year that 2 Zones, a few Clubs and individual Lions have sought support or advice on the effects of Global Action Teams and hopefully there is an increased understanding of this new version of the way Clubs, Districts and the Multiple District operate within the realms of Leadership, Membership and Service.

As I have been appointed as the Multiple District Leadership Coordinator, details of the arrangements for Incoming Officers at both Club and District Level will be provided by my successor in the District.

Consequently this is my last GLT Report to Convention, as the Multiple District Role means I have more than enough to keep me busy! I am grateful to those District Governors who have appointed me to the role of GLT Coordinator and I wish my successor every success as they help prepare District and Club Officers for their roles within our organisation.

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#### **GLOBAL SERVICE TEAM COORDINATOR - PDG Lion Judith Goodchild**

This is a new post and forms part of the District Global Action Team. The premise is that Good service will increase Membership.

There has been a very slow start to the year but I hope to increase my involvement in the next few months. To some extent it mirrors my other role of Community Services Portfolio Holder. My columns in the 105D Times are part of the way of increasing service. I am attending a meeting in Birmingham in February when I hope to learn of plans nationally which can be adapted to our District.

I thank DG Peter for entrusting me to take on this role.

[gst@lions105d.org.uk](mailto:gst@lions105d.org.uk) or [judith.goodchild@lions105d.org.uk](mailto:judith.goodchild@lions105d.org.uk)

Tel: 0118 981 2260

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#### **DISTRICT COMMUNICATIONS PORTFOLIO – Lion Tom Sayers**

##### **Communications Portfolio Coordinator – Tom Sayers**

PRO Richard Keeley and I continue to work to further improve the information available to Cabinet Officers and clubs. Much more information can be accessed once logged-in. The District Directory is a good example but various documents and forms are available, such as Insurance documents and Risk Assessments maintained by HSO Jo Hamblin, Cabinet Minutes and District Mailings maintained by Secretary Godwin Micallef and Financial Information maintained by Treasurer Linda Picton.

Social Media such as Facebook and Twitter are being used more and more by clubs and District to help spread awareness of Lions projects. There is a Facebook feed on our Home page so you can read District posts even if you do not use Facebook.

This year's Convention website is simply <http://2018.lions105d.org.uk> and reflects the Convention theme for the year, "The 70s" and gives comprehensive information and an on-line booking form.

The District 105D Times newsletters, ably edited by Peter Tabb, are uploaded to the website each month and appear on a 'Lions year' page ([www.lions105d.org.uk/newsletters](http://www.lions105d.org.uk/newsletters)) with archives back to 2006. The latest issue is featured on the Home page with a thumbnail image and link to the full colour version and another link to a reduced colour version for printing without coloured backgrounds to save your ink!

The Clubs page of the website is a database of club information such as the names of the officers, meeting dates/venues and links to the club website/contacts together with Zone and Region data. Club secretaries may log-in and update 'their page' to add/edit details of meetings and venues etc. It now features a map of our District showing 105D clubs.

We have a great resource in our website and I urge you all to get involved in using it, promoting it and improving it.  
**Tom Sayers – [it@lions105d.org.uk](mailto:it@lions105d.org.uk)**

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**District Insurance Adviser – Jo Hamblin**

I am continuing to use the District Mailing and the 105D Times newsletter to issue insurance guidance information to Club Presidents.

I am continuing to update the links on the insurance webpage to the Multiple District website together with that of our Insurance Brokers, Miles Smith.

I continue to answer calls and emails from Clubs relating to insurance queries and to be available to provide assistance to Clubs and Members as required.

**Jo Hamblin – [insurance@lions105d.org.uk](mailto:insurance@lions105d.org.uk)**

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**District Health & Safety Officer – Jo Hamblin**

I am continuing to update Clubs on Health & Safety matters using the District website and the District 105D Times newsletter.

I continue to answer calls and emails from Clubs relating to Health & Safety queries and to be available to provide assistance to Clubs and Members as required.

**Jo Hamblin – [insurance@lions105d.org.uk](mailto:insurance@lions105d.org.uk)**

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**Marketing & PR Co-ordinator – Richard Keeley**

The number of regular requests for PR advice from clubs has dropped off this Lionistic year. As Lions become more confident and tech savvy using their websites and social media outlets this is a good sign as I see an increased social media profile for many clubs throughout 105D.

A Facebook page has been created to allow the free flow of information and positive ideas and discussions about PR, fundraising and raising the profile of Lions using community service. This is a 'closed group' available only to Lions Club members in 105D. The boundaries will stretch on redistricting to allow club members joining our new District as well as retaining the club members we lose to SW.

All Lions in 105D are encouraged to join this group and contribute. Just go to [www.facebook.com/groups/lionsideas105d](http://www.facebook.com/groups/lionsideas105d) or search Facebook for 'Lions District 105D Ideas Group' and click the Join button.

For some years District 105D took part in the Lord Mayors Show annually in London alongside Districts 105A, EA and SE. That has stopped in recent years, due to the high cost involved and the difficulty gaining sponsorship. On the passing to higher service of the Committee Treasurer Bill Blake of Guildford Lions I was asked to take over the accounts. These I passed on to District Treasurer Linda who after gaining permission from the DGs of the 4 Districts closed the account and distributed the £576.73 residual balance equally to the 4 Districts. The proceeds of the 105D share are earmarked towards the purchase of a feather flag to add to the PR Equipment Loan Pool.

District equipment loan requests have continued through 2016/17. The centralisation of the PR equipment storage and distribution has gone fairly smoothly. My thanks go to Salisbury Lions for enthusiastically taking on this task. Difficulties have been experienced with Clubs transferring equipment items without recording or informing us of the ongoing locations. Also not returning items promptly has required unnecessary emails and phone calls to locate them, creating unavailability issues, disappointment and inconvenience to other clubs.

Two centennial banners have been purchased and these are available for club use through the equipment booking system. These are loaned out from the DG in the south of the District and SAA in the north. Email [pro@lions105d.org.uk](mailto:pro@lions105d.org.uk) for details.

The PR Equipment Database has encountered a few gremlins which have delayed its release through the PR equipment loan web page on the 105D website. Despite these, the database has been working successfully alongside the older Google Calendar based system shadowing equipment movements and sending out automatic notifications to clubs booking equipment. The technical problems are being worked through towards its full release soon.

A review of the future of some District banners will take place once the forthcoming name of District 105D is fixed on redistricting. Currently some contain the name and contact details for 'District 105D'.

District PR training sessions in the traditional tutorial setting have not taken place in 2017. However, online training has been explored through the 'Lions District 105D Ideas Group' on Facebook. This forum has enabled me to present case studies of successful PR campaigns which have proved informative and interesting. It also gives the opportunity to ask questions and resolve issues such as the future of Lions Clubs 0845 telephone numbers. All this can be accessed from the comfort of your own home. Further tutorial type sessions for PR training can be produced if there is sufficient ongoing interest.

The regular MD PR Newsfeed releases have lessened in the last year but are still available through the Lions 105D website [www.lions105d.org.uk/pro](http://www.lions105d.org.uk/pro).

**Richard Keeley – [pro@lions105d.org.uk](mailto:pro@lions105d.org.uk)**

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**From [Lion Peter Tabb](#), Editor of the 105D Newsletter – 105D Times**

One of the benefits of being the Editor of the District Newsletter is that my Convention report is relatively easy to write since what I do tends not to vary from month to month. Notwithstanding I try to make the 105D Times visually interesting and readable and I am grateful to a regular cadre of Clubs – an articulate minority – who enable me to do that with well written (mostly) and well-illustrated (mostly) records of their various activities. It is they who provide what we all hope is an inspirational publication that reflects the dynamism of the District and the Clubs that comprise it.

Having established that eight pages are capable of relatively easy transmission, that number of pages has now become the norm although even ten pages are still within the limits of most inboxes (newsletters are also available from the District website [www.lions105d.org.uk/newsletters](http://www.lions105d.org.uk/newsletters)). Thus I can devote entire pages to a single topic if I perceive that it's worth it. Nevertheless I still receive articles that are far too wordy and although I tend to be much more sympathetic with my use of the editorial blue pencil than other print media, the briefer and more to the point articles are, the more I can accommodate. Articles that I am likely to include are often quite unsuitable for publication elsewhere. My Lions publication "Engaging the Media" (the result of my own ongoing 50 years' experience) is available from the District website [www.lions105d.org.uk/public/Engaging\\_the\\_media\\_II.pdf](http://www.lions105d.org.uk/public/Engaging_the_media_II.pdf).

My thanks go once again in particular to our webmaster Lion Tom Sayers for his consistent help and advice.

My appreciation above all goes to all those Club press officers who take the time and trouble to prepare articles for publication and as long as I am wielding the editorial blue pencil I will seek always to present the Clubs of our District (whatever we call it) as the innovative, enthusiastic, caring and hard-working organisations they are, ably fulfilling the ethos of our founder that 'we serve' to make a real and lasting difference.

**Peter Tabb – [news@lions105d.org.uk](mailto:news@lions105d.org.uk)**



## **COMMUNITY RELATIONS PORTFOLIO HOLDER - PDG Lion Judith Goodchild**

As ever this has again been a very exciting and challenging year and I thank DG Peter for giving me the opportunity to continue this role and for having confidence in me to carry it out. It is a very big portfolio and I am very grateful to my Deputy Iain Pudney, who is looking after MIAB and MedicAlert, to the Vulnerable Persons Officer Marilyn Skennerton; to the Paultons Park Projects Officer John Drago and to PDG Pat Nixon who has continued in the role of District Alzheimer & Dementia Awareness Officer for taking on some of the responsibility.

I have educated myself, and continue to do so, in all aspects of the portfolio. I maintain web pages as needed. I have written items for the District Mailing but now have a regular column in the 195D Times.

I have the following comments to make on the various aspects of the portfolio:

### **Competitions**

As I write this I await entries in the Environmental Poster and Photographic competitions. Of the remaining competitions some will both have been announced and reported on elsewhere, e.g. Peace Poster and Young Ambassador, but the remaining winners will be announced at Convention.

### **Environmental Projects**

This year the emphasis has been on the Centennial projects as many are related to the environment and I am pleased to see that clubs are planting bulbs and flowers and trees, recycling batteries and clearing paths.

### **Diabetes Awareness**

Diabetes remains a serious health problem. I advertised the fact that World Diabetes Day was on November 14<sup>th</sup> and asked if clubs were doing anything. I was very pleased to receive a report on Jersey's activities. I attended a Diabetic Conference in Brockenhurst and handed out MIAB bottles and information on Medic Alert. I also listened to the lectures and improved my knowledge on the subject.

### **Disabilities, Speech and Hearing**

Paultons Park was again a great success despite some concerns about whether it would take place as the Rotary day had been cancelled.

Once more I would recommend CSSEF as a local charity to support. Karen Jackson has spoken at past conventions and her team is working hard to help children who cannot hear. Many Lions suffer from hearing loss as they get older and it is frustrating for both those who cannot hear and those close to them who have to repeat what they are saying. Just imagine how much more difficult it is for a child who has never heard anything? Hearing aids that are no longer needed can be recycled.

### **Sight Programmes**

Once again, Spec Trek 2017 was very successful with a large number of spectacles collected. Thanks to both Petersfield Club who organised the day and to all Clubs that collect spectacles for re-use. Sadly this was to be the last Spek Trek and we now have to send our specs to Chichester Lions via Parcel Force but please contact Sue Boucher before doing so.

A good local charity to support is Living Paintings based at Kingsclere who provide special "living books" for the blind to enjoy.

A number of Clubs took part in World Sight Day and several Lions enjoyed visiting Chichester Lions Open Day. The Lions Eye Health Programme is a very important public awareness opportunity, reminding people to have their eyes tested to combat glaucoma and diabetic retinopathy. This is achieved by distribution of literature and poster displays. Thank you to all the Clubs within our District continue to promote the programme.

If anyone requires further information on any of the above topics then please contact me

PDG Judith Goodchild

[welfare@lions105d.org.uk](mailto:welfare@lions105d.org.uk) or [judith.goodchild@lions105d.org.uk](mailto:judith.goodchild@lions105d.org.uk)

Tel: 0118 981 2260

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### **From MedicAlert Officer & Message in a Bottle Officer - Lion Iain Pudney**

MedicAlert are proud to have been working with Lions since 1962 and we should all strive to maintain the links we have built up over the years.

Their current Fund-Raising Scheme is the Early Start Programme, which is aimed at providing youngsters with FREE MedicAlert membership up to the age of 11, that is for the first 10 years of their life. A donation of £300.00 will cover one child for 10 years or 9 children for one year, or any mix in between. This is also one of our Centennial Projects and I would urge clubs to please contribute. So far this year we have donated £1,350 from District 105D. Please let us try to make it £3,000 by the end of the Lionistic Year.



The main benefits of MedicAlert are: -

- 1) 24/7 cover for 365 days a year regardless of where you are in the world
- 2) The only information carried around is the bracelet or pendant with a phone number and minimal information on main medical conditions
- 3) There is a membership number giving a unique identification to each Member
- 4) The relevant personal data is held on a secure database at the London Ambulance Service
- 5) There is a medical professional on the end of the phone line whenever it is called
- 6) Training is available for medical professionals
- 7) On the front of the bracelet or pendant is a universally recognised medical symbol
- 8) MedicAlert provide Training for the Emergency Services as part of their normal operations

If you wish to have a presentation for your Members we have PowerPoint presentations, posters and leaflets. I am also available at any time to come and give a talk to any group in your area, just contact me.

Remember, the scheme works well with Message in a Bottle if you stress that Message in a Bottle is for Inside the Home and MedicAlert is for Outside the Home.

The Message in a Bottle scheme is really proving to be a lifesaver and a very good promotional tool. There has been a steady flow of bottles into the District, and although you might think it has run its course, there are always new people who would benefit from the scheme to replace those who no longer require it.

Please make sure that you promote the scheme on a regular basis, so that we can make sure the public can benefit.

Message in a Wallet, whilst a very welcome addition, is not currently supported by the Council of Governors and is therefore a very localised scheme, whilst MedicAlert and Message in a Bottle are both National Schemes and anyone who has one will be able to benefit wherever they are in the UK.

Finally, when distributing leaflets to the public, please ensure that the Club name, at least, is on the leaflet either in the form of a sticker or stamp. That way Lions will get the recognition we deserve both at MedicAlert, in respect of MedicAlert Leaflets, and with the public at large with respect to any leaflets we are distributing.

Lion Iain Pudney  
District 105D Deputy Community Services Officer  
[depwelfare@lions105d.org.uk](mailto:depwelfare@lions105d.org.uk)  
Tel: 01628 665019

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**From PDG LION PAT NIXON District Dementia Awareness Officer**

*'There is so much more that Lion's Club can do!..... With knowledge you can all help!'*

That is how I finished my Convention 2017 report.

I have not heard of any recent activities except in Zone F and H and obviously that is because I am directly involved in those areas.... Tea Dances are popular and all enjoy the company and the music .....Fareham Lions have financially supported one that takes place every two months ....The Care facility who are the organisers include a Lions logo on their advertising. A Day Care centre is supported .....donating a Chocolate Santa enabling more funds to be raised. MIAB's are given out by Dementia case workers and Gosport Lions supply the Adult Mental Health Team with bottles. ...Thea and Lynden McIntyre came to talk to a Kit Bags Group about entertainment during the war. Not to mention Cricket at the Ageas Bowl and I've arranged to speak to Years 10 & 11 at a local secondary school.....these youngsters will be the age that are looking for part-time jobs often facing confused Dementia patients at the Cash out.

The Alzheimer's Society are to have a stand at Convention .....I will be preparing a stand next to them to show some of the things that have been achieved by us in 105D

There is little we can do to help Dementia in its later stages but there is much we that we are able to do helping Dementia patients to continue as long as is possible with interesting activities Lion Eric at this time is playing a full part as a Lion raising funds at Christmas .....Yes his Red Suit has been donned several times  
So once again.....

*'There is so much more that Lions Clubs can do !.....With knowledge you can all help!'*

PDG Lion Pat Nixon

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## From [Lion John Drago Paultons Park Day Outing](#)

Following the successful visit in 2017 when some 1,580 guests were entertained by 33 Clubs from the District, arrangements have now been confirmed for this year (2017), and details will be circulated by the District Secretary in January.

After consultation with the DG and Paultons Park we will be able to visit again on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> June, Ticket requests will need to be back with us by 11<sup>th</sup> May 2018. Tickets are £11.00 with packed lunches at £5.20

Lion John Drago  
[disabilities@lions105d.org.uk](mailto:disabilities@lions105d.org.uk)

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## From [District 105D VPO Lion Marilyn Skennerton](#)

More clubs are now recognising that a DBS check is a necessity in this day and age. This is not just for Father Christmas activities (which is the one that comes to mind every Christmas) but for events throughout the year. Many schools and organisations that Lions help in require those members to be checked so if we are to serve our community as our motto requires 'We Serve' it is essential that at least some of the club members agree to be checked.

In 105D there has been a great increase in clubs applying for forms and members agreeing to be checked. This is good. Some clubs just select a few members to be checked. These are the members who would usually be the ones coming into contact with vulnerable people. Other clubs have made the decision that all new members will automatically be checked. This is for the individual club to decide.

The other good news is that more and more clubs are now appointing a Vulnerable Persons Officer. I am sure the paperwork seems overwhelming when first sent out but there is help readily available both on the Lions web site and the Government web site. I am also always on the end of a telephone.

The paper certificate is still only valid for 3 years but each member is encouraged to register on the Update Service within 14 days of receiving their certificate. This means your certificate is automatically renewed each year.

I would like to add that I do not make the rules. All information on filling in the application form is given with the form. I cannot send forms off if they contain errors so I do apologise if I have to return them to you. Please read the question carefully and check your form once completed - this will prevent any delays.

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## **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS – [PDG Lion Barrie Richardson.](#)**

### **1. Europa Forum.**

What is Europa Forum? Quite simply it is the Annual General Meeting of all the Multiple Districts in Europe, our Constitutional Area, very much as our District Convention is the Annual General Meeting of all Clubs within our District. Business takes place over three days with added social events. Voting on any Resolutions proposed is on the basis of one vote for each Multiple District present.

My job as I see it, is to encourage participation by members of our District, disseminate information as it is received, encourage Clubs, Zones and Regions to prepare and submit reports of successful activities which could be considered for inclusion in future Forums and to investigate Group travel facilities for members attending where this is practicable.

The **63<sup>rd</sup> Europa Forum** was held in **Montreux, Switzerland** on **28<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2017**, hosted by our colleagues in **MD 102 Switzerland & Liechtenstein** and followed the theme of ***"Water means life"***. I was the only representative from our District to attend.

Detailed papers in support of the published programme and accepted proposals for the consideration of the European Council were all made available by the due dates as the Rules of Procedure.

The Forum took place in the Montreux Music & Congress Centre situated not far from the centre of the city overlooking lake Geneva with excellent facilities for all parts of the programme. Most of the Hotels were located close to the Congress Centre and those few that were not were easily accessible on the local transport system that delegates and partners were entitled to use for free throughout their stay.

The "Get-Together" provided by our hosts on the Thursday evening was held in the Market Square that was roofed over but open sided, overlooking lake Geneva. Here we were entertained with a traditional Swiss yodel ensemble and Swiss horns whilst enjoying an aperitif, regional cheese and wine. Taking in the views of the lake and the snow topped mountains around whilst enjoying the local atmosphere was a superb way to end the day.

The “Gala Night” on the Friday evening was a formal dinner at the Palace Montreux Hotel: Petit Palais. It was a grand affair but with some 1,000 people to be seated over two floors without a formal seating plan it was a bit of a bun fight to find suitable tables and seating that took time to sort out. My only criticism of the entire Forum! Having said that the subsequent meal and service was excellent.

The “Host Evening” on the Saturday was a buffet and wine at the Casino Barrière with music and folklore surprises thrown in. As soon as you see the word “buffet” at a Europa Forum you expect the food to run out and it did, so no surprise there! A panoramic view of a spectacular sunset over the lake was more than adequate compensation.

The Forum itself was extremely well organised with a variety of interesting seminars and workshops on many Lions activities with a high input from Oakbrook promoting the new Global Service Initiative that was both interesting and informative.

Reports of the proceedings including the minutes, presentations and voting of the of the plenary sessions of the European Council will be published as and when they become available, for viewing/downloading from the official Europa Forum 2017 website at [www.europaforum2017.org](http://www.europaforum2017.org). Suffice for me to advise now that all Resolutions previously notified for consideration were accepted howbeit with a slight amendment to the wording of some; District 133 Ireland’s application for membership was accepted; Election to the position of Forum Accountant resulted in the present incumbent being re-elected for a five year term following the second round; Election to the position of Forum Archivist and Advisor resulted in the appointment of PID Lion Phil Nathan for a five year term; and our International Director Candidate PCC Lion Jeff Leader was presented along with those from other MD’s.

The winner of the Thomas Kuti European Music Competition was the entry from Portugal.

The winner of the Bert Mason European Young Ambassador Competition was the entry from Turkey with our entry being placed joint third.

This was an extremely well organised Forum and the Host Committee are to be congratulated in this respect. They were very well supported by a considerable number of Lions from all over Switzerland acting as volunteers who could not have been more welcoming and helpful in everything they did. They certainly have a big thank you from me and I hope that they enjoyed it as much as I did.

Yes it was expensive, probably the most expensive Forum that I have attended but Switzerland is a very expensive place to live and the cost reflected that. Out of all the Forum’s that I have attended this Forum ranks in the top tier for its organisation and content. Added to that was the beautiful setting of the mountains, the lake and apart from the final day, the glorious weather with sunshine and temperatures around 23 °C. In the words of the Mayor at the Closing ceremony “The sun has been shining because it was pleased you were visiting us. Today it is crying because you are leaving”.

The 64<sup>th</sup> Europa Forum will be in Skopje, Macedonia on 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> October 2018 hosted by our colleagues in District 132 Macedonia with the theme “*Awareness and Empathy*”. The official Forum website at [www.europaforum2018.org](http://www.europaforum2018.org) is active and just being populated at the time of writing this report.

## **2. Lions Day With The United Nations at Geneva.**

I attended the first ever such event to be held at the United Nations Office the Palais des Nations in Geneva on the day preceding the opening of Europa Forum, in celebration of the 40-year anniversary of our association with the United Nations.

The theme “Working Together Globally to Combat Diabetes”. Chaired by PIP Prof. Dr. G. “Pino” Grimaldi we heard from our partners and many other experts in this field to learn more about this disease and how we, as volunteers and community leaders can help with education, prevention, detection and research. As a little bit of light relief we had a classical violin performance by the 2016 European Lions Music Contest winner Anthony Fournier during an intermission in the morning and a performance by the Lions World Song Festival for the Blind winner Szilvia Agardi during an intermission in the afternoon. I understand that LCI will be issuing a video of the event in due course.

I also took the opportunity of a guided tour of the offices and different Assembly Rooms and Halls, all very impressive.

A day that was well organised, educational and inspirational and I felt very privileged to be able to attend.

## **3. United Nations Day at the Palace of Westminster.**

Eleven members from our District attended last year’s event that was held on Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> March 2017. A well organised event with many interesting topics presented with a good report in the Lion magazine. Some enjoyed the fun and fellowship at a Dinner following the event before departing on the homeward journey.

Seven members have registered an interest in attending this year’s event to be held on Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> March 2018 in our usual venue, Committee Room 14.

#### **4. A New District International Project “Freedom Kit Bags”.**

On my recommendation Cabinet gave approval at their October meeting to adopt a new District International Project, the first for many a year.

Freedom Kit Bags is a Swindon based registered charity whose stated charitable objects are “The relief of poverty and the preservation of health and well-being in Nepal by providing or assisting in: - healthcare and health related projects - health related education, training and research - support of those affected by domestic violence or social exclusion - support to enable individuals to generate a sustainable income”.

Details of the project and its initial requirement for funding towards eco-friendly, sustainable, hygienic sanitary wear for girls and women were distributed to Clubs in the November District Mailing.

The Trustees of this Charity are remarkable people who are devoting their time and energy to helping the poorest in Nepal and deserve our support and I look forward to working with them to further develop our relationship in the coming months.

#### **5. MD Initiated International Projects.**

Generally as previous years reports to Convention with changes and additions as detailed below:

**Street Children.** As previous reports.

**Lions/WaterAid.** ([www.wateraid.org/uk/audience/community-groups/lions](http://www.wateraid.org/uk/audience/community-groups/lions)). Winter Appeal circulated that would be match funded by the UK Government as long as they are received prior to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2018.

**Lions/UNICEF School in a Box.** As previous reports.

**Malawi Education Programme.** Currently deferred in favour of distributing a Lifeskills programme through SchoolAid.

**Gift for Living.** A new appeal has been issued to purchase two new Gynecological Theatre Beds in the University Hospital of Tuzla.

**Lions International Eye Centre, Korle Bu, Ghana.** Finally up and running after ten years in the making and dealing with upwards of 200 patients per day. Such has been the impact of the Project that the World Health Organization has indicated a desire to use it as a benchmark for similar Projects worldwide.

**Refugee Crisis.** Circulation of UNICEF's Winter Appeal for Resources for relief for Syrian Children.

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#### **6. Dentaïd Liaison Committee Chairman – [PDG Lion Roger Huntley](#).**

Committee: Lions Richard Frost and Tricia Snook.

In the last year the Dentaïd charity has continued to progress well.

A number of projects have been undertaken during the year, with Dentaïd again expanding it's operation in the UK with the use of the Mobile Surgery purchased from the Dorset Health Authority. This service is aimed at the homeless community and those in the community who are unable to afford NHS or private dental charges. The mobile surgery is also being used to attend schools and provide oral health education. Lions decals have been provided to be put on the vehicle, in appreciation of Lions support. At the moment this service operates under the CQC registration of a local dentist in the area where they are operating, but this is not ideal as the dentist has to release a dentist to work with the team. Dentaïd are working towards obtaining their own CQC registration for the Mobile Surgery, the stumbling block with this is a) The bureaucracy and b) The cost which is upward of £20,000 to put the criteria in place. The CQC frowns on the use of volunteer administrators/record keepers.

Dentaïd has also been working alongside the Red Cross at various European Refugee Camps mainly in Greece, and is now hoping to raise funds to send teams of dental professionals and equipment to the refugee camps in Northern Uganda, to where some three million people have fled from South Sudan. More equipment is also needed to support the dental clinic at Moira Camp on the Greek Island of Lesbos, where Dentaïd volunteers are treating hundreds of refugees suffering acute pain and dental infections.

I express grateful thanks to the Lions Clubs and members of the committee for the enthusiasm and support shown towards Dentaïd, particularly with financial donations and the collection of recycled equipment, which is efficiently administered by Lion Richard Frost of Blackmore Vale Lions Club, much of which is perfectly serviceable and useable but simply does not meet with current EU/UK requirements.

Lion Ian Simpson of Blackmore Vale Lions Club has decided that it is now time to stand down from the committee. Lion Ian is the longest serving member of the Dentaïd Liaison Committee and has given many years of service to this cause, for which we express our sincere thanks.

The staff at Dentaïd are now an extremely professional team and together we hope to improve dental care and education throughout the UK and rest of the world, particularly in areas where it would otherwise be unavailable, and yes fellow Lions there are many areas of the UK that now fall into this category.

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## **LCIF AND DISASTER COORDINATOR – [PDG Lion Patrick Hamblin](#)**

Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) is our own international charity. The work of LCIF can be found on its website – [www.lcif.org](http://www.lcif.org). To ensure that all funds are used wisely they are managed with local Lions Clubs' involvement. With your donations, Lions and LCIF will continue to fight blindness, support youth, provide disaster relief and meet humanitarian needs all around the world. Through LCIF Lions are addressing global health issues such as measles and diabetes.

The last fiscal year (1<sup>st</sup> June 2016 to 30<sup>th</sup> July 2017) was a very good year for donations from Clubs in District 105D, with 80% of Clubs making at least one donation and donating a total of £30,851.50, which was 12.88% of the total raised by all Clubs throughout the Multiple District. A huge 'thank you' to all Clubs that donated to make this figure.

This fiscal year to date (1<sup>st</sup> July 2017 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017) Clubs in the District have donated £13,825.00. This is from 25 Clubs and I do hope that all other Clubs will consider a donation to LCIF in the remaining part of the fiscal year. I know from first-hand experience how well the funds are managed.

The worldwide fundraising campaign for measles elimination has ended and it will be very interesting to learn in due course how many potential lives have been saved.

Melvin Jones Fellowships (MJFs) continue to be awarded by Clubs and many Clubs in the District have donated adequate funds to LCIF to be able to award this recognition without additional donations. Assistance has been given to a number of Clubs with MJF applications.

I am continuing with my monthly column in the 105D Times – I believe this is generally a better method of communication than sending letters to Clubs.

The demand for presentations on LCIF continues to be very limited. The story of LCIF and what it has done and is doing is an amazing one and I urge Clubs and particularly Zones to request a presentation.

Many members are unaware just how major our own charity is in the world rankings of charities. I would remind members that all funds donated to LCIF are used for the provision of grants. Administration charges are funded from interest on investments. Investments are needed because it is never known when the next disaster will occur or the next need for a grant will arise and also to pay for the running costs with interest gained.

To date, there have not been any 'disasters' in the District where my involvement has been required in this Lionistic year.

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## **YOUTH COMMITTEE - [Lion Denise Stenner](#)**

### **Youth Exchange (YEX) Report - [Lion John Apps](#)**

At the last MD YEX meeting at Birmingham there were two main discussion points:- the difficulty in finding Hosts and our non-compliance with Data Protection Legislation. The MDO had recently returned from Europa Forum where delegates were warned that ignorance of the legislation was no defence in law, we need to act. The YEX application forms are in 30kb downloadable Excel format, easy to complete and easy to copy and send electronically. This also makes them very vulnerable to Hackers who can extract data such as passport number DoB etc etc. Neither MD105 nor international have a secure server and so the YEX MDO has decided to purchase an encrypted application for files that he only controls. This will ensure the sensitive information is protected and the YEX committee are data compliant.

### **Outgoing**

Our Purpose to 'Create and foster a spirit of understanding among the peoples of the world' is exemplified by two lions in this district Lion Steve Sherring from Ringwood & Fordingbridge and Alan Cowap from New Milton. Between them they sent 29 young people abroad last year, this is 3 times as many as the rest of the combined districts making up MD105. There are a similar number this year.



## Incoming

The 2017 camp was held at Worcester attended by 40 young people from 26 countries. One element of their 10 day stay was to participate in the Special Olympics held in Sheffield. Unfortunately Special Olympics were not expecting them!

Hosts will be needed for the 2018 UK Youth Camp to be based at the Pestalozzi Centre near Hastings (105SE).

The 2019 Youth Camp is to be a 'Travelling' Camp. The MDO envisaged a few days in the North and then a few days in the South. Once again he looked to me to comment on the possibility of 105D being involved!

## Peace Poster/Poetry/Essay Competitions – [Lion Frances Bond](#)

To date I have been keeping up all the websites for Peace Poster, Poetry, and Essay competitions. I have also kept the clubs informed via District mailings as well as answering any individual enquires regarding all competitions.

All the winning Peace Posters have been up loaded to the website and all winning clubs informed.

There were no entries again this year for the Essay competition.

I have not received any entries as of writing this Convention report for the Poetry Competition, I have already updated the website regarding this and have kept the same Theme for 2018/19, if however I receive entries after I have sent this report but they are post marked 15<sup>th</sup> December, I will update the website with immediate effect and inform the Youth team as such.

## Young Ambassador of the 21st Century - [Lion Yorky Tuke](#)

I am disappointed to have to report to Convention that we have produced only **one** candidate for the 2018 Young Ambassador Competition.

Some years ago a Lion from Jersey Club said to me "I am looking forward to this inspiring event once again. The most amazing part is the involvement and passion of the youngsters. The next most amazing part is that EVERY club does not find a representative. I have never understood why

Young Ambassador is ignored by so many, when the work we are celebrating abounds in every corner of the district".

Well guess what? We've almost hit rock bottom. Only one club, Jersey, out of over sixty clubs has managed to put forward a candidate. As recently as 2014 we had seven candidates and the future looked brighter. We must halt this decline.

## Young Leaders in Service - [Lion Yorky Tuke](#)

The Young Leaders in Service project is making steady progress in District 105 D. Awareness of this project within the district has increased and this is demonstrated by the increase in enquiries I have had. Facebook and Twitter are also being utilised much more. A number of changes have been made to the administration of this project. A simplified version of the forms can be downloaded from the District Young Leaders in Service website. These are the forms that must be used and when completed should be sent to the District Young Leaders in Service Officer. These changes are designed to streamline the admin work of clubs and district officers.

## Lions Lifeskills – [Lion Denise Stenner](#)

Clubs in 105D have again shown little interest in promoting Lifeskills resources, which are produced to link with the school curriculum and are appropriate for any group of children or young people. Some clubs did respond to the Lifeskills Africa Appeal for donations so that Lifeskills resources could be sent to Tanzania, South Africa and Malawi.

The long awaited bereavement resource for young people aged 11 years or more, called Life Changes 2, has now been completed and was launched in London, in September. Details of all resources can be found at [www.lionslifeskills.co.uk](http://www.lionslifeskills.co.uk)

I have responded to any enquiries regarding Lifeskills, but have not received any invitations to attend Zone meetings.



## **Leo Clubs – [Lion Michelle Strout](#)**

Westbury Leos Club continues to thrive with about 18 active members, but with several others intending to join following recruitment at school. They have attended and served at more than 18 local events over the past year and have several more planned. Their many hours of service was recognised by the community when the Leos Club won 'Westbury young volunteers of the year.'

Guernsey Leos remain very active, although with a reduced membership. Activities included a beach clean and helping with the Donkey Derby and they have more planned.

Windsor Leos are few in number but helped Windsor Lions Club with a sponsored horse ride and have planned several fundraising activities. They have also identified Shelter Slough and another project to support the homeless, which they wish to support in the coming year.

All clubs are actively seeking to recruit more members.

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