



The International Association of Lions Clubs

DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER

District 105D - MAY 2014



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"Service with Pride, Friendship and Enjoyment"



DG David badging up 2 new members left June Edwardes and right Lucy Paul at Bridports 41st Charter

My Fellow Lions

Life as District Governor continues to be an exciting and most enjoyable whirlwind of visits and events to attend and we are still reeling from all the many positive comments we have received about our Convention in Winchester

at the end of March. Amongst some of the comments are:

'Thank you District Governor and your team for a most enjoyable Convention'.

'All our members agreed the location and hotel, including food, were excellent'.

'It will be difficult to better Friday evening's entertainment'.

'The best District Convention in a long time and we will definitely be back next year'.

'A weekend of fun and friendship – just what Convention should be'.

My aims were to encourage people to continue to attend Convention and so spread the word of its success with the hope even more Lions will attend in the future.

There were changes and these seem to have been well accepted and I hope will prove a foundation for further changes in the future.

The comments I have included and their sentiments make the whole effort of arranging a District Convention our Lions feel that attending has been so worthwhile. I must repeat my grateful thanks to all of the Convention Committee for their sterling efforts and to everyone who attended, who through their enthusiasm and commitment, combined to make Convention 2014 one to be long remembered, and with affection.

Although I would love to report on every Visit we make and every Charter Anniversary we attend that would not be possible, although every one of them has particular memories for us both.

However on this occasion 2 Charter Anniversaries do deserve a mention. It was particularly special to help the Lions of

Warminster celebrate their 50th Charter Anniversary and to present the Club with a Certificate, signed personally by our Patron, HRH the Countess of Wessex,



to honour this very special occasion. At Bridport's Charter Anniversary I was delighted to be able to induct 2 new members – always

a special moment for any District Governor – and one was the youngest Lion I have ever inducted and consequently a hope that young people are still joining our wonderful organisation. I also had the perfect opportunity to present Lion



President Peter Garlick with a much deserved International President's Medal for Leadership in recognition of the excellent Newsletter Peter produces every month. This was

particularly poignant as Lion Peter has decided it is time for a new Editor to take over the reins of our Monthly Newsletters.

My last Official Visit as a District Governor was to the Lions Club of Southampton Solent and what a visit that turned out to be. Initially the format followed a similar fashion to many such visits until we came to the end when I was asked to present no less than 3 Melvin Jones Fellowships – another first in presenting a total of 3 Fellowships to members of one Club at the same visit, and none of them had the faintest idea what was to happen. This was a privilege for me and a real thrill to see the looks of astonishment on the face of each of the Lions concerned.

The next main Lions event on the horizon which will involve so many of us is the Multiple District Convention in Manchester. In addition to the many Resolutions it will be that special occasion on the Sunday morning when District Governor Elect Mike, and Brigid, will be welcomed into the Hall with the usual enthusiasm shown by the Lions of 105D.

I hope all of those attending have made their social bookings with our Headquarters as these need to be booked separately from the accommodation (and the accommodation at the Palace Hotel is now full). I have forwarded to all Clubs and District Officers the details re our suggested dress code for the Host Night and I am grateful for the support and ideas promoted by the Lions of Hart. I reprise their email for those of you who still have not committed your selves yet to this colourful event:

'As you know Hart Lions love an excuse to dress up so we are eager to get started on our costumes for MD Convention.

The theme this year is **Lions around The World** and we have settled on a play on the title ' Pirates of the Caribbean' by calling ourselves '**LIONS OF THE CARIBBEAN**'.

This will be suitable for those who want something simple or those who like to go to town.

There are loads of ideas within that title from simple colourful shirts for the men through to some Lion Pirates. We did do a Caribbean theme some years ago so some people may have a costume or the makings of one in the back of their wardrobes. At least it should be very colourful.'

The following message is from Lion Diana and concerns her Charity Appeal for this year:

This being David's last District Governor's Newsletter I must take this opportunity to thank the 25 Clubs who have donated to my Charity so far this year. I have raised a goodly sum and Clubs have been very generous. Remember a £50 donation keeps a poster campaign for one missing individual going for a whole year. I am a little disappointed less than half of the District's Clubs have supported me. Some may not have heard of Missing People until Brian Higgins inspired us all at Convention. And I am hoping the Clubs who were inspired will soon be sending their

donations to the District Treasurer, cheques should be made payable to LCI District 105D and endorsed Missing People, please. Remember, if your child went missing wouldn't you want the whole world to stop and look for them?

This lionistic year has passed by so very quickly and all too soon this is my last District Governor Newsletter although during my year there is still one District Newsletter to follow – but it has been a real pleasure to keep you, the Lions of District 105D, aware of the experiences Lion Diana and I have enjoyed to date, throughout my year as District Governor.

New Members

The following new members have joined 105D in the last month:

Alton	William Tigg
Bridport	June Edwardes and Lucy Paull
Loddon Valley	Eddie McGrath
Maidenhead	Katherine Rendle
Salisbury	Rob Clarke
Yateley and District	Peter Ford

We wish them a long, enjoyable and successful time as Lions and hope they find fulfilment in helping those most in need.

David's Diary for May

4th-5th	New Club Development Programme Training in Alton
8th-9th	Council of Governors in Manchester
9th-11th	Multiple District Convention in Manchester
13th	One Shot One Life Dinner in Newbury
14th	District Governor Team Meeting in Newbury
17th	Fareham CA
18th am	District Cabinet Meeting in Alton
18 th pm	pre Cabinet Meeting in Alton
24th	District and Club Officers Seminar in Eastleigh
	Andover 50 th CA

Yours in Lionism
David Merchant