



## DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER

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### MAKING OUR MARK



I am writing this exactly a week before Chris and I fly out to Hamburg for the District Governors-Elect training school and International Convention, where I will be confirmed as your District Governor for 2013-14.

I have chosen as my theme for my year as District Governor **"Making our Mark through Service"**. My vision is not about changing the world, but about continuity and building on the work that has gone before. So, "Making Our Mark" is about putting a SMILE into Lionism, as Neil did in his year and, "Making Our Mark Through Service" is about continuing to "Touch the Hearts of those in need" as Paul has in his year.

First and foremost I want us to make our mark on the people we serve in our communities and across the world. I also want us to affect the people around those we serve by making our mark through good PR. The more people know about what we do, the more they will want to get involved. We should not be afraid to tell others about the personal satisfaction and enjoyment we get from being Lions, as well as about the things we do for others.

I want to challenge every Club in the District to look for opportunities to make a permanent mark on their community. This could be through ensuring that the Lions name and logo appears on a piece of donated equipment, on the outside of the building where they meet, or on a park bench or other civic amenity provided by them. Tell me how your club is making a permanent mark and send me pictures so that I can share your success.

I want us to make our mark by building upon the work we have already done with the Signature Projects, particularly Young Leaders in Service, where we have established good contacts with a variety of organisations, and are beginning to show that Young Leaders in Service can lead to membership opportunities.

I also want to improve the way that district officers work by moving away from one officer one job to a more collective approach within the service committees of the district.

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To this end I will be asking next year's committee chairs to work with their new teams to produce short and long term plans that ensure that enough resources are available to help clubs at the right times. These plans will feed back into the district five year plan and into the district budget.

I have finally managed to complete my cabinet with a fair few new faces, as well as a good smattering of experience. I want to dispel the notion that district officers are any different from you or me. District officers are just ordinary Lions who choose, as part of the service they offer, to serve their fellow Lions. Lions Clubs International has a range of projects, many of them local projects, to suit every taste. As members of this great organisation your clubs should be using these ready-made projects to help you **make your mark**.

With the district five year plan we have begun to make our mark on membership in the district with numbers increasing and this year I want the GMT to build new branch clubs as well as continuing the good work in strengthening our weaker clubs. I want us to continue to make our mark on leadership through the high standard of training that is provided to new members as well as club and district officers. It is the leaders of the future that will ensure that we continue to make our mark.

Finally, **making our mark through service** is about the impact we have on each other through the shared experience of serving and through the fun and fellowship that follows a job well done.

For those clubs that "only want to work locally" I would ask that you at least consider your neighbours. Helping a neighbouring Lions club to run an event is just as valuable service as running your own event.

For the more enlightened clubs who are prepared to look further afield, I would ask you to try and find a more distant neighbour to work with on a small project.

I want us to look for opportunities to work with other Clubs and with other like-minded organisations to provide a level of service that demands that others take notice of what we do. In doing so we will create new friendships and truly make our mark as part of the world's greatest service organisation - **Lions Clubs International**.

**Please circulate to all Club Members**

## MAKING MY MARK

There are a number of ways that you can keep up with my activities as District Governor as well as this Newsletter. I try to post what I'm doing on Facebook (Simon Moss and Lions District One O'Fivem) and Twitter (@simonhmoss and @lions105m).

I have also been writing a blog entitled "My Life as a Lion" since I was elected as 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG and I intend to step up the pace on this blog during my year as DG. You can find it at lionssimonmoss.wordpress.com

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**LION SIMON MOSS' BLOG**  
My Life As A Lion

Feeds: Posts Comments

**Rushing towards Hamburg**  
May 16, 2013 by Lion Simon Moss

This will be a very short post as there seems to be so little time to do everything.

Since my last post I have attended my second Council of Governor's meeting including the first meeting of next year's council to select MD Officers. I have been introduced along with Christine, my fellow District Governors Elect and

DG Simon Moss  
105M 2013-2014  
MAKING OUR MARK  
THROUGH SERVICE

## MARKING YOUR DIARIES

Here are some dates to put in your diaries for the forthcoming year:

21 July 2013 – District Changeover – St John's Hotel, Solihull

20 October 2013 – Autumn Forum – St John's Hotel Solihull

21-23 March 2014 – District Convention – St John's Hotel Solihull

Details of all these events will be circulated by Joy during the year.

## TOP MARKS?

The leadership team will be holding an information session on 30 July (venue to be confirmed) on what is involved in becoming District Governor for 105M. It is open to anyone whether they are thinking of doing it sooner, later or never.

Please let Phil White know if you're interested in coming along.

## YOUR DISTRICT OFFICERS

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all district officers for the hard work I know that they will put into their roles during the year. Being a district officer comes with no special privileges but usually involves putting in extra hours on Lions' activities in order to serve the clubs and members in the district.

I would particularly like to welcome those lions who have district roles for the first time, Rosie Eynon (Speech and Hearing), Lorraine Shipley (Physical and Learning Disabilities), Carole Moseley (Water Projects), Angie Wytcherley (Street Children), Kanubhai Patel (Zone B Chair), Chris Burrows (Zone C Chair), John Kelly (Zone F Chair) and Sarah Hill (Zone I Chair). Please give all district officers your full support.

## MARK MY WORDS

"I am only one, but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something; and because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do something that I can do."

*Helen Keller*

**Please circulate to all Club Members**

## DG PARTNER'S APPEAL



When deciding on a charity for my year as the DG's partner, I was keen to find one that I hoped clubs felt they could support in their own way.

Because Lions are proud of the fact that the money we raise for charity goes to charity, I wanted to ensure that any money donated would end up going to good causes and not paying for administration. I have found a charity which I feel meets my criteria - **Me & Dee**.

### Why Me & Dee?

Me & Dee is run by a remarkable lady by the name of Maria Hanson. Maria, along with her cousin Delia, wanted to start a charity to give special moments where time was precious. Unfortunately, Delia lost her battle with cancer, but Maria made the decision to create the charity anyway.

Maria has become aware, whilst meeting families with very poorly children, that there is little time between diagnosis and admittance to hospital. For the parents, the last thing on their mind is necessities such as toiletries, or the time and funds to buy hot drinks. She therefore provides "Comfort Packs". The parents' pack contains two of everything in toiletries, cups and utensils, lip balms, hand cream, tea and coffee, hot chocolate and cup-a-soups, tissues, towels and more. The teenager's pack contains toiletries, lip balms and a range of games. The children's pack contains toiletries, games and a soft toy.

As Maria's health is not very good she also wants to leave behind a lasting opportunity to provide a treat and would love to buy a caravan so that those who need it most can get a break.

### How Can you get Involved?

This is why I love this charity! There are many ways you can get involved:

- By providing a special moment to someone in need
- You can nominate someone to receive a special moment
- You can donate to the charity so that Maria can continue to provide special moments
- You can sponsor a comfort pack and have that pack delivered to either someone in need or have several packs delivered to a hospice near you.

Examples of the treats that Maria has given in the past include a trips to the theatre, Alton Towers and a photo makeover. More examples can be found on the website, [www.meanddee.co.uk](http://www.meanddee.co.uk) where you will also find out more about this remarkable woman and her charity, or follow MeandDee Charity on facebook or @MeandDeeUK on Twitter.

## ON YOUR MARKS .....

In support of Christine's charity of the year, **Me & Dee**, I am challenging the district to find me at least one 10K to 10 mile race in each zone to run during the year. I will be setting up a fund raising page so that people can sponsor me and also running competitions to guess my time or position in some of the races. Races lined up so far are:

Zone A – TBC

Zone B – TBC

Zone C – Shirley Fun Run 10K – 15 September

Zone D – Great Midlands Fun Run 8.5 miles – 1 June

Zone E – TBC

Zone F – TBC

Zone G – TBC

Zone H – TBC

Zone I – TBC

Please find me races, preferably with a Lions connection, and email me the details to [dg@lions105m.org.uk](mailto:dg@lions105m.org.uk)

## DG TEAM TRAVELS

The following is a provisional list of club visits, charter anniversaries and other events that members of the District Governor team will be undertaking in the next couple of months. It is provisional as confirmation is still awaited by the District Club Visits officer, Mick Taylor.

If you are President or Secretary of your club next year, you should have received a request on behalf of Ian or me. Please respond as soon as possible as we have to visit all clubs between us.

### District Governor

#### July

1-9 International Convention and DGE Training

14 Sutton Coldfield and Erdington Charter

21 District Changeover

26-28 Council of Governors

30 DG Team

#### August

1 Club visit – Corby & District

11 Cabinet

21 Club visit – Towcester & District

27 DG Team

#### 1<sup>st</sup> VDG

#### July

5-9 International Convention

21 District Changeover

30 DG team

#### August

6 Club visit – Market Harborough

11 Cabinet

14 Club visit – Thurnby

27 DG Team

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG

#### July

30 DG Team

#### August

27 DG Team

**Please circulate to all Club Members**