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DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER

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DEUTSCH MARKS – INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION IN HAMBURG

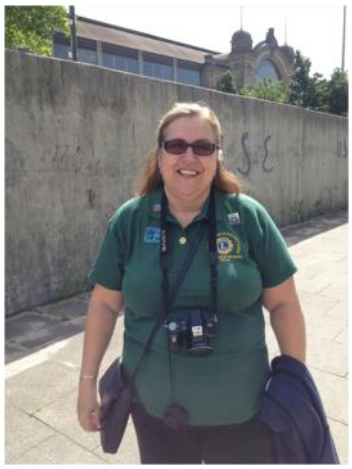
Well I made it back and must say I had a really good time in Hamburg although there was a lot of hard work. We arrived in Hamburg on Monday 1st July and were soon ensconced on the 21st floor of the Radisson Blu Hotel, one of the appointed hotels for DG Elects.

The view from the hotel

On Tuesday we had to be up early to register, collect various papers and goodie bags and to have the official photograph with incoming International President Barry Palmer. I was DG number 76 of 754 to have their photo with Barry and, to be honest, I didn't envy his day of sitting and smiling. We were ushered in and out very quickly with no opportunity to interact, so it was more a case of having our picture taken in the same room as Barry rather than with him.

The Official Photo

Once the photo was done we were free for the rest of the day so Christine and I took the opportunity to do the bus tour of Hamburg which was fascinating.



Christine in tourist mode

Large sign on the side of the docks

Wednesday was another early start for the first of three days training. It started with an opening ceremony with aboriginal music and dancing and the introduction of Barry Palmer and his theme of "Follow Your Dream". Then it was into the classroom to meet my classmates for the week, Chris and Liam from 105NE and 105I respectively and 28 other DGEs from the Netherlands (6), India (6), New York (5), North Carolina (3), California (4) and Minnesota and Manitoba (4).

All in all a great bunch led by our wonderful group leader PID Tom Matney from Kentucky.

Continued……...

HAMBURG CONTINUED

My class of 2013

Because of the high quality of the training provided by our Multiple District there was little in the way of new information, aside from the international theme, but there were plenty of opportunities to practise our leadership and presentation skills. Most importantly, there was an opportunity to interact with fellow governors from around the world and to share ideas and experiences. The training week finished with the traditional DG Elects' banquet and the first opportunity to wear those white jackets. The menu seemed to consist entirely of food and drink designed to leave nasty stains on white jackets but fortunately there were no spillages.

On Saturday, the International Parade took place, around the smaller of the two lakes in the centre of Hamburg. For the spectators I have no doubt it was an excellent experience, but I have to say for us it involved standing for three hours in the sunshine waiting to start. I am not a fan of the blue blazer as a uniform and especially not in temperatures in the high twenties. I thought we looked particularly drab when seen next to the other multiple districts who were dressed more suitably, more brightly and who seemed to be having a party. The parade itself was good once we got going with plenty of waving and smiling and many kind greetings from our German hosts.

The Parade

A chance to meet Barry Palmer

That evening, after a nice meal with friends, there was an opportunity to meet Barry Palmer at a small gathering for his Facebook friends.

It was only a short meet and greet, but nice to see that Barry embraces modern communication media.

Sunday, Monday and Tuesday were devoted to the Convention itself with keynote speeches from Laura Bush and Princess Laurentien of the Netherlands, on Sunday and Monday respectively, both speaking about literacy programmes.

Tuesday was the highlight though, with the session ending with our swearing in as district governors.

The moment I officially became DG,
as Christine pulls off the Elect ribbon
and IPDG Paul puts on the chain of office

It's Official! DG Simon Moss

The Wurst Convention picture

Tuesday night found us out with most of the MD 105 DGs and partners for a meal before an earlyish flight home on Wednesday morning after a memorable week in Hamburg.

Please circulate to all Club Members

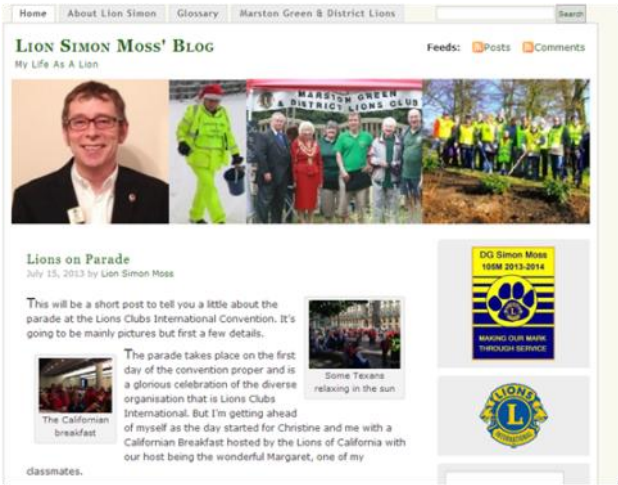
MAKING MY MARK

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 2nd VDG and I intend to step up the pace on this blog during my year as DG.

You can find it at **lionsimonmoss.com**



MAKING THEIR MARK

I am extremely pleased to be able to welcome a new club into our district, Coventry Mercia Lions Club. This includes the following new members:

President	Secretary
Sundeep Singh Virk 16 Ten Shilling Drive Coventry CV4 8GZ 07967 678397 sundeep-virk@gmail.com	Rakesh Sachdev 5 Albany Road Coventry CV5 6JQ 02476 552220 rak-sachdev2002@yahoo.co.uk

I would also like to welcome the following new members who also joined the Family of Lions in July:

Janine Davis	Kidderminster & District
Shriprasad Giri	Knowle & Dorridge
Mark Stokes	Shirley
Christine Baker	Worcester

MARKS OF CHANGE

I would like to thank everybody, nearly 100 people, who came to District Changeover on 21st July. This was an opportunity for Paul to reflect on his year and to make some final thank you's, the highlight being the award of a Melvin Jones Fellowship to Pauline Hoogerwerf for her work with the Niger Wells project.

Pauline receives her Melvin Jones Fellowship from IPDG Paul

It also gave Jackie Anstice a chance to announce the total amount raised for the Teenage Cancer Trust, a staggering £10,000 including donations made directly to them by clubs.

It was then an opportunity for me to introduce my Dream Team for 2013-14.

1st VDG, Ian Haffner

2nd VDG, Heather Jeavons

Christine made her first presentation about her charity for the year, Me & Dee.

Further details are available on the District web site and there will be a presentation at Autumn Forum on 20th October.

Please circulate to all Club Members

ON YOUR MARKS…GET SET…

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.

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 – Possible half marathon
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.

If you wish to sponsor me you can do so online at https://mydonate.bt.com/events/medeerun/102104.

DG TEAM TRAVELS

The following is a list of club visits, charters and other events that members of the District Governor team will be undertaking in the next couple of months.

If you are President or Secretary of your club next year, and have not yet confirmed your visit date, please contact my club visits officer, Mick Taylor (micky.t1@tesco.net)

DISTRICT GOVERNOR

August

1	Club visit – Corby & District
6	Club visit – Rushden & District
8	Club visit – Kidderminster & District
11	Cabinet
12	Club visit – Hinckley & Burbage
21	Club visit – Towcester & District
27	DG Team

September

3	Club visit – Worcester
4	Club visit – Coventry Godiva
9	Club visit – Kettering & District
11	Club visit – Rowell
12	Club visit – Wolverhampton
15	Run - Shirley Blythe Valley Fun Run (10Km)
17	Club visit – Harborough Twenty 12
24	DG Team
29	Acocks Green Sponsored Walk

1st VDG

August

6	Club visit – Market Harborough
11	Cabinet
14	Club visit – Thurnby
27	DG Team

September

9	Club visit – Birmingham Sheldon
11	Club visit – Birmingham Chinatown
21	Charter – Wellingborough
24	DG Team

2nd VDG

August

11	Cabinet Meeting
15	Zone "F" Meeting
18	Club visit to Evesham to present Rugby Tournament DVD's re Evesham schools (to be confirmed)
27	DG Team meeting
29	Membership Team Meeting

September

TBC	Zone "I" Meeting
TBC	Zone "G" meeting
10	LRP Meeting
24	DG Team Meeting

MARKING YOUR DIARIES

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

5-13 October	Lions awareness week
10-13 October	World sight days
20 October	Autumn Forum, St John's Hotel Solihull
21-23 March 2014	District Convention, St John's Hotel Solihull
9-11 May	MD Convention, Manchester

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

MARK MY WORDS

Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant.

Robert Louis Stevenson

Please circulate to all Club Members