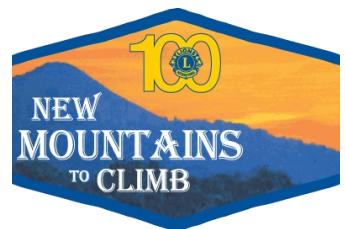




# DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER

DG Lion Ron Cross: dg@lions105m.org.uk

*Newsletter Editor:*  
Lion Joy Haffner: webmaster@lions105m.org.uk



## ELEVENTH NEWSLETTER OF MY YEAR AS DISTRICT GOVERNOR - THE SEQUEL

### SAD NEWS

To start with this month. We said goodbye to two good friends. PDG Governor Maurice Hayes and Lion President Phil Lawrence passed to higher service in April. Our condolences have been passed to their respective families.

### BETTER NEWS

I am pleased to give a warm welcome to the following new members notified in April. Congratulations to their respective clubs.

Amanda Featherstone	Birmingham Moseley & Kings Heath
Simon Bradley	Corby and District
Hardip Singh Ubhi	Coventry Mercia
David Hancox	Southam

Membership at end of April was net +1, congratulations.

### SOME THOUGHTFUL NEWS

Over the past year or so, when the word “redistricting” has been mentioned many of you have either gone to sleep or run a mile to avoid it. However, the resolution to redistrict was passed at the MD Convention in Blackpool last month. This has now to be presented to the International Board for their October meeting for ratification. The act of redistricting, once ratified for legality, will take place at the end of the International Convention in 2019. In the meantime, we can talk and debate about how we manage larger districts but we cannot make firm decisions, only suggestions for when we are “legal”.

Having been in the midst of discussions, along with my fellow Governors, I am glad that we are moving forward, and I would like to share my thoughts on the future. Let us begin by realising that Club, zone and district boundaries are only lines on a map and are there for administrative purpose only. Let's go back to basics and appreciate that we Lions are not fundraisers, we are providers of service, help to the needy whether they are disabled, blind or just temporarily unfortunate.

If you consider the centre of your Club to be a centre of excellence as far as service is concerned then radiating out from that centre the excellence will diminish due to distance, or reduction in the members who live there. This will not be a circle because urban development tends to follow roads and valleys. Spread further out and you will meet up with your neighbouring club coming from the other direction. If at this point you ignore the line on the map and combine resources with your neighbour then service in those areas will be enhanced. Consider this thought further and keep going over country borders and seas and you will eventually meet up with another neighbour coming up behind you. Join up with them and you have completed a network which covers the whole world, serving the whole world, with your club being a small but very important link in that network that we call “Lions Clubs International”.

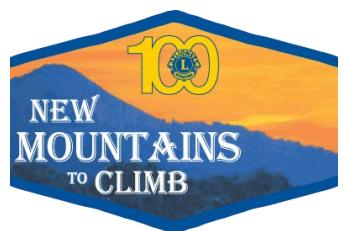
**Please circulate to all Club Members**



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### WHERE DID I GO IN APRIL?

Club visits to Rushden, Alcester Club Branch, Nuneaton and Marston Green. Charter Anniversary Meals at Shirley. Had a wonderful time in the Royal Hotel in Weston-super-Mare. If you have never been to one of Shirley Lions "away" Charter weekend you have missed a lot of fun and fellowship. Why not try it next year and see for yourself?

And, of course, Council of Governors and MD Convention in Blackpool. Linda and I survived the Norbreck Castle Hotel for the third time. If there is a next time, maybe they might have finished the re-furbishing. Debate was good though. Plenty of courtesy to opposing ideas and views. Redistricting Resolution was passed, we heard words of wisdom from our International President. To say that the Banquet and Ball was fun is an understatement. Outside the Convention, the sea was flat, sunsets were superb but the highlight of the weekend was that my Worcestershire Bus pass was accepted on the buses but sadly not the trams.

### GOVERNOR'S TRAVELS - WHERE AM I GOING IN MAY?



- 3<sup>rd</sup> Bushby CV
- 6<sup>th</sup> Kidderminster CD
- 7<sup>th</sup> Coventry Godiva CL
- 8<sup>th</sup> Kenilworth CV Including tour of their Furniture Store
- 10<sup>th</sup> Birmingham Sheldon
- 13<sup>th</sup> Coventry Mercia CD
- 14<sup>th</sup> Thurnby CL
- 20<sup>th</sup> Aldridge CD
- 21<sup>st</sup> Last Cabinet of the year.

### DG's PARTNER'S PROJECT

At the Multiple District Convention in Blackpool I had the opportunity to speak to our International President's wife, Lion Dianne Corlew, about the school in Zambia. She, at Fukuoka, had urged the new DGs wives to become partners in Education. I had emailed her about the school for Blind & Visually Impaired Pupils in Zambia and she seemed to remember it. When I told her of the "death" of the old "stove" and that meals were being cooked outdoors on charcoal fires she was very pleased that we had been able to supply them with the money to purchase a new stove. Her comment was that children who were hungry could not concentrate properly and would therefore not receive the full benefit from lessons. As winter is approaching for them, outdoor cooking could not be relied upon for regular meals.

Further donations will be spent on equipment that the students need for their studies.

Thank you

*Linda Cross*

**Please circulate to all Club Members**