



105 M
in the heart
of England

DISTRICT GOVERNORS **news** letter

Issue 12 - JUNE 2009

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Thank You 105 M for a Great Year

Well as I write this my final newsletter for the year, only four days to go and I will be a PDG.

Both Ann and I have had a great year, everyone we have met has been so kind.

On the Club visits we have met so many enthusiastic and committed Lions living the Lions' ethic of WE SERVE.

Cabinet

I am grateful to all the Lions who served on Cabinet; they have committed extra time to serving the District.

I am especially grateful to the Zone & Region Chairmen who have worked hard to bring together the Clubs, and following Cabinet

meetings, communicate with them as part of my policy of informing Clubs of what's happening.

Midland News

Thanks to everyone who has submitted articles and to Lion Simon Moss for presenting them professionally on our web site.

Future

I am impressed by the work done by Femi, Martin and Neil in preparing for the future. They are working together to ensure the District **does** go forward. Each will have a slightly different approach but that's to be expected. But they are all going forward Building not Destroying.

Memories

Thanks to the Digital age we have hundreds of pictures, copies of

speeches and presentations from Convention.

Along the way we have been blessed with two more grandchildren Violet and Drew.

We have endured being trapped in a car in a lift in Cannes, spoken to the MD Convention with a knotted handkerchief on my head. Dressed as a hippie and a farm labourer (not at the same time). We have met many friends we never knew we had.

So now I begin a year as Chairman of the Council of Governors. The motto for the year again will be **Forward Together**.

Thank you for allowing me the honour of serving you and helping me take 105M Forward Together

PLEASE PHOTOCOPY THIS NEWSLETTER FOR ALL CLUBMEMBERS

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Membership

I am disappointed that we as a District have gone backwards during the last 12 months, after the formation of Sandwell in March we looked to be going forward.

However, Northampton Chinatown has closed and several clubs have lost members who have not been attending meetings nor have they been delivering Service.

So as at 16th June we have a net loss of 21 members (66 new members and 87 losses), 12 of these losses are members who have died.

18 Clubs have increased membership including Sandwell; they are listed here. There are 13 Clubs having no net change, and 28 Clubs have a net loss.

The Clubs with a net loss have worked hard to increase numbers. Thanks to the hard work of the membership team and local clubs, we have positive signs of growth in Birmingham Erdington and Alcester. Work has begun on a new Club in Coventry and rebuilding Wolverhampton.

I honestly believe that we have set in motion some real opportunities for growth. Femi will be back from DG Training School with lots of ideas to add to his plans.

We have to find replacements for those members who are getting older at the same time as trying to increase our numbers.

I look forward to working with DGE Femi and PDG Doug Cross on the membership team next year.

Roll Of Honour

Sandwell

Birmingham Sheldon

Wellesbourne

Aldridge

Birmingham Exhibition

Castle Bromwich

Kingswinford&Stourbridge

Rushden

Worcester

Balsall Common

Barwell and Earl Shilton

Birmingham Chinatown

Droitwich

Evesham Vale

Market harborough

Redditch

Sutton Coldfield

Thurnby

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Bert Mason Award

During my year I have had the pleasure to present two Bert Mason Humanitarian Awards.

The Award supports LCIF and Youth Work; they are a great honour for those who have devoted Service to youth.



Peace Poster

You will remember the winner of the 105M Peace Poster Competition was sponsored by Redditch Club.

You can now buy notelets featuring this poster, they are available from MDHQ at £2.50 for thirteen.

Also available are the posters from all 13 District winners, again £2.50 for a set of all thirteen.

The back page acknowledges Lions and the Peace Poster competition.

Marketing Supplies

MDHQ are taking orders for the new style roller banners.

They cost £97.75 each inc. vat and delivery. Ring MDHQ to discuss your requirements.

Melvin Jones Fellows

Its always a pleasure to present an MJF to Lions for their dedicated Humanitarian Service.

At Rugby Rokeby Charter lunch I surprised Lion Alan Ince with a presentation. Alan's fight to recover from a stroke and the Clubs support for him have been heart warming.

I was also delighted to present an MJF to Lion Iqbal Rihal Past President of Coventry Godiva Club. During her year in office she worked hard to deliver humanitarian Service.



Youth Symposium

On behalf of 105M I hosted a Multiple District Youth Symposium in Birmingham.

3 members of our two newest Club Sandwell and Thurnby attended the 2 day event, along with 45 Lions from 10 Districts. It was a great experience for all who attended.

They reviewed current Lions Programmes like Tacade and were presented programmes new to Lions like Papyrus which deals with child suicide.

A special mention was made of the Young Leaders in Service Programme; a programme that we as an MD have not utilised fully. Expect to hear more about this Service Programme.

You can research the details on LCI web site. MDHQ have a supply of information packs.



Supporting anyone affected by the death of a baby and promoting research to reduce the loss of babies' lives

I have seen the highways and bye-ways of the Midlands, the totals are:-

Club Visits
3,500 miles
Charter events
1,800 miles
Council meetings
800 miles

I have visited all 60 Clubs including branches Ann and I have attended 32 charter functions. however we were unable to attend 12 charters because of date clashes, sorry to those concerned.

We have been late once, forgotten my speech twice and my chain once. No one is perfect!!

I thank Ann for listening to my speech before and during the Charters, and to those who heard me speak more than once for not heckling

For those who made me suffer by wearing Wolves, Villa and Coventry shirts please note Birmingham are back in the Premiership.

We have reported the progress of Ann's appeal throughout the year.

Well thanks to you so far we have raised over £12,000 enough to provide Precious Memory Boxes in the near future to the following Hospitals

Birmingham Women's
Sutton Coldfield Good Hope
Birmingham Heartlands
Sandwell
Russell's Hall
Walsall Manor
Wolverhampton New Cross
Solihull
Alexander Hospital Redditch
University Hospital Coventry
Warwick Hospital
George Elliot
St Cross Rugby
Worcester Royal
Northampton General
Kettering General
Leicester Royal Infirmary
Leicester general
Glenfield Hospital

If you think we have missed your Hospital let Ann know

In addition we will contribute, at the request of certain Clubs, to research.

If any one still wants to contribute please send your donation to District Treasurer.

The Sands organisers are overwhelmed by the contributions.

Lions have been featured in Sands group magazines in Solihull and Birmingham as well as their national newsletter.

Ann and I were moved by the following email received from the recipients of a Precious Memory Box

"We were particularly touched by the gesture of a memory box, our sincere thanks, this was really appreciated, the box is now full ! "

The recipients of a box some time ago wrote -

"We have a box to keep all her special things in. Each year on her anniversary I always go through them looking at her photos and reading the cards everyone sent. This box is so precious to us; after all it is all I have to show for her short life."

Thanks to you almost 1,000 babies will be remembered throughout District 105M.