

The International Association of Lions Clubs
Multiple District 105 British Isles Convention May 2024
The Winter Gardens, Weston Super Mare

1. Convention was called to order by SAA Bill O'Neill BO at 9am
2. The Health & Safety Briefing was given by Lion Andrew Wilcox
3. DP welcomed all attendees and introduced the top table Lions – DP was elected as MD Leo president in Weston Super Mare many years ago.
4. The National Anthems of Great Britain & Ireland were sung followed by the Lions song.
5. DP introduced the special guests - our PIDs, board appointee and GAT area leader.
6. DP acknowledged Leos, first timers at an MD convention and members with 50 or 60 years of service awards.
7. The In Memoriam service took place, DG Paul Dedman lit the candle of peace, DG James Mathers gave the invocation and the District Governor of each District placed a rose in the vase whilst convention stood in respect.
8. DG David McKirdy read the Lions Purposes.
9. DG Barry Prior read the Lions Code of Ethics
10. DG Paul Southerton read the Lions Mission Statement
11. Loyal Greetings, messages and apologies were read by BO.
12. The Convention was formally opened by Vice Lord-Lieutenant of Somerset Ted Allen DL
He informed convention what a beautiful county he lives in, and we are all visiting. He thanked all the Lions for their dedication and service throughout the world.
13. DP proposed a vote of thanks to VLL TA and presented him with a gift.
14. An attendance update was given by BO - 165 delegates.
15. MD CNRO Trevor Kell TK explained the convention voting procedures.
16. The minutes of the 2023 MD convention were accepted and signed by DP & PB.
17. There were no matters arising from the minutes.
18. DP introduced our visiting international guests IPID Teresa Dineen and visiting DGs from Ireland, France, Germany & The Netherlands.
19. MD Treasurer Philip Goodier PG presented his treasurers report.
He outlined the budget requirements to maintain our ability to serve as present.
A proportion of the dues paid for insurance can be charged to clubs charitable accounts. The Lions principal activity is fundraising and service. The dues include £9.24 for insurance per member, each member can offset up to £7 per member should they wish to.
He gave a comprehensive outline of the expenses incurred by the organisation and how they are increasing.
If membership continues to decline we may need to take far reaching decisions on our costs.

Andrew Zelkin, Southend asked why all family members get a magazine. Surely one copy per family would save postal costs. PG answered we print 12,000, each individual magazine has a minimal cost. The printers state that it is more cost effective to send a magazine to all rather than spend time sorting through lists to look for duplication.

David Firth, Westbury feels that a 20% increase in their dues is unacceptable. It should be paused and MD should spend time looking for cost savings. PG replied that as part of our constitution we cannot pause a resolution. He ensured convention that council are very diligent in addressing costs.

Mark Grundy, East Anglia Lioness disagreed that a selective list using address' is easily doable to save postal costs for the magazine per family

John Quincey Cateram, Oxted & Godstone Lions suggested that all the insurance element should be chargeable to the charity accounts

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Multiple District 105 British Isles Convention May 2024
The Winter Gardens, Weston Super Mare

Paul Withers Cranleigh & District Lions reminded members that fundraising is permitted for the admin accounts as long as the public are made aware of this. PG answered that it is board ruling that only family members can be asked to fund such events.

Michael Philips Coningsby & Tattershall Lions Club also feels that constitutionally fundraising for admin is permitted as long as the public are aware.

Insurance –

Our brokers gave us notice last year, we then used Gallaghers who asked what activities we did and a questionnaire was sent to clubs, only 50% of clubs responded.

PG outlined the responses from insurance companies some of whom refused our business. 80-90% of clubs in our MD have no issues.

Clubs are taking insurance and risk assessments more seriously.

The clubs with issues are the ones with more complex needs.

PG is frustrated by the lack of support from Gallaghers to the MD. This includes the lack of an insurance booklet, the inability of clubs to get insurance quotes less than 3 months before events.

PG is looking at alternatives for next year.

DP thanked PG for all his efforts financially and with the insurance.

20. Resolution number 2 was proposed by DG James Mathers and seconded by DG Paul Dedman

- **This Convention Resolves** to amend the Multiple District Constitution by:

Deleting Article III Section 7 and Section 8 in their entirety and amending Section 9 by adding the words:

These additional insurances to include assets insurance and legal expenses insurance if these two are not included in a general policy. The levy for such insurances shall be equal to the total cost of such insurance for any year divided by the number of members within the Multiple District on the 30th June immediately preceding such year and charged to clubs on their individual membership numbers at that time.

Further, Section 9 then to be renumbered to Section 7

To read in full

Section 7 – Additional Insurances

The Multiple District shall, supplementary to the International Association's policy, effect such additional insurances as are determined by the Multiple District Convention or Council from time to time. These additional insurances to include assets insurance and legal expenses insurance if these two are not included in a general policy. The levy for such insurances shall be equal to the total cost of such insurance for any year divided by the number of members within the Multiple District on the 30th June immediately preceding such year and charged to clubs on their individual membership numbers at that time.

Carried

The International Association of Lions Clubs
Multiple District 105 British Isles Convention May 2024
The Winter Gardens, Weston Super Mare

21. PG proposed Resolution No 3 – (seconded by DG David McKirdy) –

This Convention Resolves that the Multiple District Per Capita Levy for the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 shall be £42.00 (forty-two pounds) per member, payable in two equal instalments, the first in August 2024 based on membership as at 30 June 2024 and the second in February 2025 based on membership as at 31 December 2024.

David Firth Westbury Lions again asked if the resolution can be paused for a year.

Paul Murphy Sandwell Lions Club reminded delegates that we are talking about £4 a year here – the cost of a coffee or a pint!! It is worth the increase for what we receive.

Paul Withers Cranleigh Lions club again reminded convention that there are other ways to raise money

Simon Smith Centennial Lions asked what happens if it is voted down. TK informed convention that last year convention agreed an increase to £40 so we are only talking of a £2 increase.

Resolution carried by majority

22. Resolution Number 1 was proposed by PCC Lion David Firth of Westbury Lions Club & seconded by Lion Chris Speed of Great Yarmouth Lions Club

This Convention resolves that Multiple District 105 shall adopt the policy of Lions Clubs international regarding Leo-Lions - that current or former Leos of legal majority (18 years of age) through to age 35, who have served as a Leo for at least a one year and one day may continue to serve as a Leo-Lion, thus giving a discount of 50% of Multiple District Dues.

Derek Prior Billericay Lions asked how many this could affect in the next year.

Doreen Allen MD Leo Officer answered we have four Leo Lions in the MD

Richard Williams Bromyard Lions agreed with the resolution and asked for an age increase!

Resolution carried

23. Council Secretary Peter Burnett presented his report

He outlined the hard work carried out by our paid staff and asked for an ovation from convention to show their appreciation.

24. DP asked for all the MD Officer reports to be accepted en-bloc, he asked them to stand and be recognised by convention & he thanked all the Officers for their hard work this year.

25. Resolution 4 was proposed by DG Paul Southerton & seconded by DG Kevin Hunter

This Convention Resolves to amend By-Law 11 to the MD Constitution By deleting the current wording in its entirety and replacing with the words:

"Quorum.

The International Association of Lions Clubs
Multiple District 105 British Isles Convention May 2024
The Winter Gardens, Weston Super Mare

11. A minimum of 1% (rounded up to the next whole number) of the Multiple District membership as recorded at LCI on the 31st December in the year immediately preceding the Convention shall constitute a quorum.

If such a quorum is found not to be present during any session of Convention during which matters requiring a vote by registered delegates remain to be dealt with, the Chairperson shall immediately declare that Convention Stands Adjourned – until a time and place to be determined by the Council of Governors."

Carried

26. Resolution 5 was proposed by DG Lesley Spence & seconded by DG Barry Prior

This Convention resolves that the sum of £4.00 (four pounds) per Club Member currently requested from Clubs to support Multiple District Youth Activities be increased to £6.00 (six pounds) per Club Member for the Lionistic Year 2024-2025.

This Convention further resolves that the Council of Governors continues to review this sum on an annual basis and make a recommendation to successive Conventions as to a suitable sum to be requested for the immediately following Lionistic Year.

In the event that no such recommendation is made or, that same is rejected by Convention, the sum to be requested shall be that agreed at the most recent preceding Convention.

Melissa Murphy Sandwell Lions Club spoke passionately about the Young Ambassador weekend. She also reminded clubs this is a charity account cost.

David Harvey Folkestone, Hythe & District Lions Club asked if this is a regular request as he has not heard of it. PG responded that it is sent to all clubs with the dues request

Satnam Loyal Harrow & Pinner asked how many members contribute at present.

Stewart Sherman-Kahn Birmingham China Town Lions Club informed highest district contributes 92% and the lowest 24% of potential payments.

Carried

27. Resolution 6 was proposed by DG Kevin Hunter and seconded by ADG Sandra Manktelow

This Convention resolves to amend the Multiple District Constitution Article II Section 6(a) by inserting a new sentence after the words 'with which he shall serve'

'In the event of a Vice District Governor for a District being unable to attend such election, then the Second Vice District Governor of that District or in his absence, the current District Governor of that District may substitute to represent the District in the election process.'

to read:

The International Association of Lions Clubs
Multiple District 105 British Isles Convention May 2024
The Winter Gardens, Weston Super Mare

'The Council Chairman shall be elected from those so qualified under Section 3 above, by the Vice District Governors who will form the Council of Governors with which he shall serve. In the event of a Vice District Governor for a District being unable to attend such election, then the Second Vice District Governor of that District or in his absence, the current District Governor of that District may substitute to represent the District in the election process. This election shall be at a time and place of their choosing.'

Susie Morris Helen Keller Internet Club – pointed out that the term 'they' should replace 'all people'. TK pointed out that this follows the constitution. SM asked that a resolution changing this be brought to a future convention. Chris Speed Great Yarmouth agreed. Stu Young Coventry pointed out that all Lions should be careful of wording used on the podium and in writing to ensure inclusivity.

Carried

DP thanked TK for all his hard work over the weekend.

28. PDG Patrick Hamblin gave a presentation on Lions Sight Savers

PCC David Firth was presented with a progressive MJF for his 25 years of service a trustee.

29. Lion David Skinner gave a presentation on ROAR.

ROAR has now benefitted over 100,000 children.

Convention was shown the ROAR 2024 promotional video and a winning video from last year.

DP presented David Skinner with an MJF for David Harkins the CEO of 8 Billion Ideas

David Harkins which will be presented at a later date, DH responded with a video message.

30. District Officer PDG Keith Wilding gave a presentation on LCIF and presentations were made

Year to date MD donations of over 346,000 dollars

Our area (Europe) has raised over 6.7 million dollars.

Worldwide the figure is nearly 15million dollars.

Our area has received grants of 8.4billion dollars

Remember you can donate MJFs to non-Lions within your communities.

A video was shown on the work of LCIF

Mention was made of PDG Roy Chambers who passed away recently.

Alastair Joel received an LCIF medal for the work done during his year.

31. PDG Geoff Leeder introduced our International Guest IPID & LCIF Board Appointee Lion

Teresa Dineen. He outlined all her roles at board level.

32. IPID Lion Teresa Dineen TD addressed convention.

She praised the organising team for an amazing convention.

We must remember 'us' and remember that we are all volunteers.

The International Association of Lions Clubs
Multiple District 105 British Isles Convention May 2024
The Winter Gardens, Weston Super Mare

She informed us of decisions made at the last board meeting.

The title Child Sight UK was approved at this meeting.

She outlined the grants available from LCIF.

A video message from IPIP Brian Sheehan was shown.

33. DG Lesley Spence gave a vote of thanks to TD

34. DP gave TD a personal gift and presented her with a PMJF from the MD.

35. A presentation on GMT was given by Lion Sue Wilding & PDG Rav Sandhu.

The MD Global Membership Team has a representative from all Districts together with New Voices and PR. They meet monthly on zoom to discuss membership initiatives.

She informed convention of the importance of GMA - Global Membership Approach.

She showed convention the New Members magazine and encouraged all clubs to use them for our new members.

Since 1st July we have a loss of 161 members and 10 clubs.

Every District has new members but are losing more.

We do not charter new clubs in sufficiently numbers.

We need more members; we need members who could become our leaders in the future.

We need to make change happen, we need to be more visible, we need to be more flexible in attitudes, we need to welcome new members and ensure inclusivity. We need to inspire people about the differences we can make with their help.

We need to be more creative in how we open new branches.

GAT Area Leader Rav Sandhu informed convention where we are with Mission 1.5.

It is important for all of us to work together to achieve this.

Speciality clubs are one of the easiest ways to make this happen.

Our Constitutional area (Europe) is up by approx. 1000 members this year.

36. SAA BO made announcements and convention broke for lunch.

37. Convention reconvened at 14.05 and was called to order by BO.

38. An update on attendance was given by BO – delegate numbers unchanged.

39. A presentation was made on Global service by PID Lion Phil Nathan PN

He explained how all our projects are synergistic and this can then lead to more members.

He then informed convention of the history and latest initiative an orphanage in Africa from A Gift for Living.

The International Association of Lions Clubs
Multiple District 105 British Isles Convention May 2024
The Winter Gardens, Weston Super Mare

40. DGE Lion Stu Young updated convention on the progress of the Lions Vision Screening project

We have a title – Lions Child Sight UK

The numbers have not changed since we first spoke about eye screening.

27% of children get their eyes screened in England, 28% in Scotland and 52% in Wales.

He introduced the Plus Optics camera which is licensed for use in Europe.

From September we are working with the HCRG group in Essex after the launch with Mark & Lynn Lyons in Essex.

Once the trials are successful we can look to roll it out District by District. Hopefully by this time next year we will be able to screen in most Districts.

We are applying for matched funding from LCIF

We are at present negotiating with the manufacturers for a competitive price.

41. A presentation on PTSD Resolution was given by Charles Highett their CEO.

A video on the effects of PTSD and the work of PTSD resolution was shown.

PTSD have treated over 4000 veterans so far., they work in prisons and with drug & alcohol dependent sufferers.

87 Lions Clubs have already supported this charity.

An individual's treatment costs £850.

42. Lion Caroline Martin introduced her team who presented on New Voices

New Voices support new Lions as well as new initiatives.

There is an annual New Voices workshop held in conjunction with the Young Ambassador weekend. There are also online New Voices seminars and a WhatsApp group.

43. PCC Alastair Joel gave a presentation on GLT

He gave a definition of a leader. All attendees are leaders in one way or another.

He also gave an update on the Lions Portal which is now available.

He gave a brief training on how to access the portal.

There are very informative YouTube videos on how to use the Portal.

AJ outlined the various training programmes available – Young Lions Symposium, RLLI, DG training programmes, Multiple District Officer training, New Voices training, Mentor training, New members orientation training.

AJ thanked Brigitte and her team for all their support.

44. A presentation on International service was given by Lions Rich & Susie Morris RM & SM

SM informed convention about their attendance at the second global service week in February 2024. It took place in India working with the local Lions Club and a team of International Lions.

The International Association of Lions Clubs
Multiple District 105 British Isles Convention May 2024
The Winter Gardens, Weston Super Mare

They took part in amongst other things vision screening, diabetes screening, food parcel preparation. Convention watched a video of their week of service.

More information can be seen on the LCIF Tell a Thon on June 2nd.

45. Lions International & LCIF awards were made by PIDs Phil Nathan, Howard Lee & Geoff Leeder together with IPID Teresa Dineen

International Presidents Certificate of Appreciation to Lion Linda Picton

International Presidents Leadership Medal to Lion Sue Taylor

International Presidents Leadership Medal to Lion Sally Marsh

International Presidents Award to Lion Kevin Hunter

International Presidents Award to Lion Brigitte Green

International Presidents Award to Lion PDG David Ebsworth

International Presidents Award to CC Lion David Pope

Progressive MJF to PDG Lion John Sutherland

International Certificate of Appreciation to PDG Lion Pat Nixon

Council Chairmans Certificate of Appreciation to Lion Heidi Nathan

A Melvin Jones Fellowship to Lion Simon Smith

46. Convention was ended for the day at 16.23 after a few notices.

47. On Sunday morning 7th May at 9.30 BO called convention to order

48. Convention were asked to receive the following

PID Lion Phil Nathan MBE & Lion Heidi

PID Lion Geoff Leeder & Lion May

CC Lion David Pope & Claire

49. The current Council of Governors was introduced

50. Council Chairman Elect Lion Kavaljit Dev & Lion Pammy were introduced

51. Council of Governors for the year 2024- 2025 were introduced

52. CCE Kavaljit Dev KD addressed convention

53. PID PN introduced the key note speaker Lion David Evangelista

54. A presentation on 'The Importance of Volunteers' was made by Lion David Evangelista DE

55. IPCC Alastair Joel proposed a vote of thanks to DE

56. Lion Lynne Roberts gave a presentation on Lions Brain Tumour Research appeal and announced the start of this years virtual balloon race

57. An update our youth programmes was made by MD Officer PDG Doreen Allen

58. A presentation on Peace poster, peace essay, HQ spectacles recycling and MIAB was given by the adorable Lion Brigitte Green

The International Association of Lions Clubs
Multiple District 105 British Isles Convention May 2024
The Winter Gardens, Weston Super Mare

59. MD Officer PDG Sally Marsh introduced our Young Ambassador winner Liliana Noor who presented to convention by means of a video presentation.
60. A presentation on 'Our Youth Programmes – The Future' was made by Lion Rich Allen
61. A presentation on our Foundation was made by PCC & Board Appointee Lion Stewart Sherman-Kahn
62. Presentations of the following trophies were made by DP & BG
 - MD travelling Lion competition – No winner this year
 - Scrap Book -Llandudno LC
 - Photo competition – Lion Douglas Plume from Burnham on Sea Lions Club
 - Bert Mason Memorial Trophy was awarded by PIDs GL & PN to
 - International Presidents Certificates were awarded to
63. A presentation on the International Convention was made by PCC Lion Philip Goodier
64. A presentation on Europa Forum was made by MDO PDG Neil Martin
65. The 2024 MD Convention Chairman PDG Lion Dave Ebsworth introduced his committee, they were recognised and thanked by convention
66. DE & JC made a presentation on the 2025 convention in Llandudno
67. A presentation to the RNLI was made by DE & DP £774 raised on Friday night
68. DE presented the convention flag to the host of the 2025 MD Convention PDG John Chambers JC
69. DP gave his closing remarks to convention
70. BO gave his final announcements
71. The closing ceremony took place at 13:00