



# MD105 Council Chairman's Newsletter



Welcome to your newsletter from Council Chairman Stewart Sherman-Kahn

Welcome to my first of what will be a Bi-Monthly newsletter during my year as Council Chairman. I hope that you find this useful with a mix of information relevant to you the Lions of MD105.

In my role as Chairman of Council I am also the Multiple District Global Action Team Leader. In recent years Lions Clubs International has brought together Leadership and Membership with Service to ensure that Lions maximise their Global Impact.

This is also the model which should be followed at both District and Club level as together these three parts should not be regarded in isolation but in a cycle all strengthening each other.

To that end my first Newsletter focuses on Leadership, Membership and Service with contributions from all three of the Multiple District Teams.

On the last weekend on July the first Council of Governors Meeting was held and already the new Team of District Governors are working hard to ensure that you are supported to help us all be the best Lions we can be.

I have a busy programme of events to attend over the coming months and look forward to meeting many of you on my travels.

The team is also working hard on an exciting and somewhat radical Multiple District Convention next May which I hope many of you will attend.

**Stewart Sherman-Kahn**  
Council Chairman MD105  
cc@lionsclubs.co



## Child Sight UK MD105 Child Vision Screening Programme

We have now completed three trials, screened 670 young people and issued 73 referral letters, meaning that 10.9 % of all those screened needed further assessment by health-care professionals.

The initial feedback from these schools has been very positive and a number of young people referred to the optician are under complex medical investigations.

Watch out for updates in the next few months on the training opportunities within your District as we start to roll out the screening program across MD105.

This is a great opportunity for Lions Clubs to engage with their local community & schools, and to raise awareness of one of our five core service activities.

We would like to challenge every UK Lion to become a **Knight Of The Blind!**



## Brain Tumour Research

More children and adults under the age of 40 die from a Brain Tumour than any other cancer. Join the fight and help us raise £1million over the next 4years.

We are just about on target, but need your help to continue the trend to success. Let our Brain Tumour Research Project Lead, Lion Fran Stary know what events you are holding and how much you are raising for the cause at [franstary@lionsclubs.co.uk](mailto:franstary@lionsclubs.co.uk)



**Brain Tumour Research**

**WORKING TOGETHER TO CURE BRAIN TUMOURS**

WHERE THERE'S A NEED THERE'S A LION

Suggested Donation **£5**

Please support our Brain Tumour Research and Lions Clubs International partnership programme

**Pin Revealed**



**#LionsGetInvolved**



Diabetes



Environment



Hunger



Vision



Childhood Cancer



Young People



Respond to humanitarian crises

# Membership Matters... VISIBILITY

## How well known are Lions Clubs – in our towns, in our counties, in our country?

Many would say not as well as Lions would like, there is a comment about Lions being a well-kept secret. How do we change that... we must change that... because we must make sure that the public know who we are and what we all achieve.

We must use every tool of publicity – traditional media, social media, websites, all need to be used and their messages up to date. Banners, flags, flyers, posters, shop window displays, all can be used to get the name work of Lions



known. We need to be known by our Community leaders and present at Community events to talk to people and tell them about our Clubs and the difference we make. Tell people about the 'why' of being a Lion – why you joined and why they should too!

Lions are doing amazing things, we help so many people and make such a difference. Each one of us has a responsibility to wear our logo and talk about Lions to the people who might be the next new volunteer or member of our Clubs.

**Susan Wilding** MD Membership Co-ordinator  
suewilding@lionsclubs.co.uk

## Leadership – what it *really* means

My dictionary defines leadership as “*guiding or inspiring others*”. In other words leadership provides opportunities. This applies as much to Lions as to leadership within any organisation. I understand that whilst the concept of leadership is something many Lions appear to shy away from, should it not be the concept every Lion aspires to and embraces: by virtue of what we Lions do?

Here is just a selection of examples which will be familiar to you all and where individual Lions act as Leaders on a regular basis: delivering support to a local individual in need; collecting someone from their home for a medical appointment; links with the local press; a link with local Social Services; arranging the rotas for the Christmas Float; chairing Club Meetings; arranging social events; leading a team at a local major event eg: Fun Day or Fireworks Display. This is about being part of a team, mapping the way forward, achieving a shared vision and motivating others to achieve successfully.

It is often stated that ‘*Great Leaders started their journey as Great Followers*’: learning as they travelled about what works, and even more importantly, what does not work. All organisations, including Lions Clubs, needs structure with various levels of responsibilities.

If you wish to take your own personal ambitions within lionism further, then do so! It is perfectly acceptable to advance your own credentials and ambitions. These Lions need our full support and encouragement. But please, if you aim to take your personal leadership ambitions further, seek to go only as far as you know you are comfortable with, and remain at a level where you will succeed.

I have said that as Lions we are naturally Leaders, and within Clubs, Districts and the Multiple District there is a pressing need for strong Leaders – but this has to be about those who wish to be Leaders. Willing Leaders will lead successfully, reluctant Leaders will not.

Finally, remember these tips to being a successful Leader:

- create excitement and fun within the activities you promote;
- engage with the hearts of those around you;
- do not attempt to micro-manage (*in other words do not attempt to do it all yourself*) and do not burn the candle at both ends.

Whatever roles you decide are for you... enjoy the experience.

**David Merchant** MD Leadership Co-ordinator  
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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**UN DAY, LONDON PALACE OF WESTMINSTER**  
10th MARCH, 2020

**MD CONVENTION, GRANTHAM**  
2nd & 3rd MAY, 2020

**INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION, SINGAPORE**  
27th – 30th JUNE, 2020

## GET IN TOUCH

You can contact me anytime...

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Council Chairman MD105

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