



60TH ANNUAL CONVENTION

A truly special and unforgettable celebration of service and unity.



DISTRICT 105A



Pride Of Lions

A glimpse through the unifying & inspirational Diamond Anniversary convention of District 105A

60+

Years of Service
Roaring to Serve

MERCURE BEDFORD CENTRE HOTEL
2 St. Marys Street, Bedford MK42 0AR

28th Feb - 2nd Mar 2025

DG's Message

DG Kadambari Shah



It has been a true privilege and an honour to lead our District during this milestone 60th Diamond Jubilee year—an occasion made even more special as it coincided with 75 years of Lionism in the UK, with the very first club founded right here in our own District 105A.

To mark this significant year, we came together for a glittering Diamond Jubilee Convention in Bedford from 28th February to 1st March, 2025. The weekend was filled with vibrant fellowship, meaningful business sessions, and memorable moments of celebration. We were honoured to have the convention officially opened by the Lord Lieutenant of Bedfordshire, with the Mayor of Bedford in attendance.



We were privileged to welcome PID Elisabeth Haderer from the Netherlands as our chief guest, alongside Colonel Leona Barr-Jones, who delivered a powerful motivational message, and Manjiri Gokhale-Joshi, whose inspiring words greatly enriched the event. It was a memorable celebration of our legacy, service, and unity.

Let us carry forward the passion, purpose, and fellowship we reignited during the convention. The memories we have created remind us why we serve. Together, let us keep that spirit alive and turn it into meaningful action for the remainder of the Lionistic year—because there is still so much good to be done, and the world needs Lions like us now more than ever.

To make our mark, let us continue ROARING TO SERVE with heart, with purpose, and inspire change across the globe.

International Guests



PID Elisabeth Haderer

Past International Director Elisabeth Haderer is from Netherlands. She has held many offices within the association, including zone chairperson, district governor, district GLT coordinator, multiple district council chairperson and International Director. She is a servant leader and leads by example and experience. Everywhere she goes, she brings TIM with her. TIM stands for TRUST – INSPIRATION – MOTIVATION. These are her ingredients for servant leadership at each level.



Lord Lieutenant of Bedfordshire Susan Lousada

Mrs Susan Lousada is the official representative of His Majesty The King for the county of Bedfordshire.

We were honoured to have her graciously open our 60th Diamond Anniversary Convention. And join us for the Gala Dinner in the evening



Mayor of Bedford Borough Tom Wootton

We were humbled by having both the Lord Lieutenant and the Mayor of Bedford Borough at the opening of our Diamond Anniversary Convention.

Motivational Speaker

Colonel Leona Barr-Jones DL VR

Chief Executive : East Anglia – Reserve Forces' and Cadets' Association (RFCA) and a Deputy Lieutenant to HM's Lord-Lieutenant of Bedfordshire

Colonel Leona Barr-Jones has served in the Regular and the Army Reserve. She is a Fellow of the Institute of Directors (FloD), the Chartered Management Institute (FCMI) and of the Institute of Leadership and Management (FInstLM). She is a Freeman of the City of London and Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Stationers and Newspaper Makers.



Inspirational Speaker

Manjiri Gokhale-Joshi

Author - Entrepreneur- Philanthropist

Manjiri Gokhale-Joshi holds a Master's in Mega-Project Management from Oxford University. Manjiri facilitates leaders in achieving optimal business outcomes through leadership training and coaching and has published five books.



Cabinet Meeting & High Tea

Cabinet meeting to introduce our International Guests was held at 4pm. Thanks to Lion Rita Kimberger for ensuring that hats were available for a small donation to Lion Kaushik's chosen charity – Brain Tumour Research.

High Tea was enjoyed by all. Thank you to Lion Jatinder Kaur for the scrumptious cakes and Rupal Pandya for the yummy savouries.



60's Themed Host Party

What a groovy night! Lions from near and far turned back the clock for our 1960s-themed Host Night party—complete with vintage tunes, bold fashion, and nonstop dancing! From tie-dye shirts to peace signs and bell-bottoms, the spirit of the 60's was alive and well as we celebrated fellowship in true retro style. A huge thank you to the host clubs - Milton Keynes Central LC and London Hendon LC for an unforgettable evening of fun, laughter, and unity.

THROWBACK TO THE SWINGING 60s – HOST NIGHT AT THE LIONS CONVENTION 2025



Convention Business Session

The District 105A Lions 60th Convention Business Session was a proud milestone, bringing together leaders and members to reflect, plan, and lead with purpose. Opened with flags and dignitaries, including the Lord Lieutenant and Mayor of Bedford, the session featured key reports, elections, and spirited discussions. Motivational speakers and the Tail Twister team added inspiration and fun, showcasing District 105A's commitment to progress, unity, and impactful leadership.





Gala Night

What a spectacular evening to close the convention! The Gala Night was a celebration of leadership, service, and comaderie, as we celebrated our District's Diamond Jubilee in style. It was a night filled with pride and appreciation for a year with distinguished guests joining us for a night to remember. Thank you to everyone who helped make the evening so special







SUNDAY INFORMAL MEETING

Members enjoyed the final morning of the convention with a leisurely breakfast followed by an open forum with our International Guest PID Elisabeth Haderer.



SOME OF THE TOPICS THAT WERE COVERED IN THE DISCUSSIONS WERE :

- ✓ Mission 1.5
- ✓ Membership & retention of members
- ✓ Youth
- ✓ Transparency & accountability

Resolution 1

Passed

PROPOSED BY THE DISTRICT TREASURER ON BEHALF OF DISTRICT CABINET

This Convention resolves that:

The District Dues for the Fiscal Year 2025/26 shall be in the sum of £12.00 per member as per breakdown below :

The breakdown of figures are: **2025-2026 2024-2025**

Administration Fund 5.28 4.88

105A News Fund 0.00 0.80

Convention Fund 6.72 6.40

District Dues - 2025/2026 12.00 12.08

This sum shall be payable in two equal instalments - £6.00 per Lion member b y 31st July 2025 based upon the known membership as at 1st July 2025 and £6.00 per Lion member b y 31st January 2026 based upon the known membership as at 1st January 2026.

Resolution 2

Passed

RESOLUTION 2 PROPOSED BY FAIRLOP LIONS CLUB

This Convention Resolves that:

District 105A shall adopt the policy of Lions International and MD 105 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 one year and one day may continue to serve as a Leo-Lion, thus giving a discount of 50% of District Dues.



DISTRICT 105A LEADERSHIP TEAM FOR 2025-26



*From Left to Right
2nd VDGe Robert Spragg , DGe Harvinder Virdee and 1st VDGe Dilip Shah*

