



CONVENTION '25

A Very Happy New Year to all Lions and readers of this January Convention Newsletter !

Convention is very nearly with us – just five weeks away – and I'm pleased to say that our website continues to take Delegate and Alternate Registrations plus bookings for the social events and our Partners' Outing.

If you haven't yet booked, please do so as soon as possible as the website will be closing on **Sunday 26th January** to enable us to collate the data and advise numbers to the Cathedral Lodge.

The website has the most up-to-date information and can be found at :

www.lions105se.uk

If you would like to book a Display Stand at Convention, we need to hear from you now and a booking form is available from my Vice-Chairman Lynne :

lynne.ireland68@gmail.com

On the 'Hotels' page of the website there are details of Canterbury Cathedral Lodge, the Hampton by Hilton and other accommodation in the city.

Due to a cancellation at The Lodge they currently have a double, a twin and 2 single rooms available in their annex. Call Chloe Wright now on 01227-866204.

On the 'Trains and Parking' web-page we have shown details of the Lions' Shuttle Bus that will operate between Canterbury West Station and the Convention venue.

Also details of the City's Park & Ride buses, other parking available and photo directions to the Lodge.

Parking at The Lodge in the Cathedral Precincts is severely restricted - but a drop-off is permitted. Virtual Parking Tickets may then be purchased from The Lodge Reception covering 9 city car parks. These are £13.50 for a 24hr period.

Our web-site has pages to register Club Delegates and Alternates and to read Nominations for Office and the Resolutions submitted.



DG Steve's theme is "Having a Voice" - and this is YOUR Convention where you can have your say - and share time with fellow Lions from this and other countries.

This is our District's AGM where you can take part in the business, help influence decisions on our future and listen to specially invited speakers.

We are very pleased, and honoured, that our special guest will be International 2nd Vice-President Mark Lyon who, along with his wife Lion Lyn Lyon, will be with us for the weekend and will address Convention.



2nd IVP Mark is from Brookfield, Connecticut and before retirement worked in corporate legal administration and financial services with several major companies.

He joined Brookfield Lions in 1996 and since then has held many offices within his MD and he became an International Director. He was appointed a member of the LCI Forward project team, a Global Action Team area leader, a District Governor-Elect Seminar group leader, and board liaison to the 2019 USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum Executive Committee.

He was elected as our 2nd IVP in June this year at the Melbourne International Convention.

It will also be good to see our friends from our twinned districts in Germany and France who have confirmed they will be with us - together with Lions from other Districts and Countries joining us to celebrate our "54th Birthday". We have already heard that Lions from Iceland, Belgium and Holland will be with us.

The Friday is, of course, a special day as it will be the 14th of February and Valentine's Day, so naturally the party night will have a "Love" theme and will be coupled with an 80s disco.

The eagle-eyed amongst you will have noted we have very slightly amended the name of the event – to make it easier to chose your costume. The theme is now "Love" or "1980's School Disco" – and we have worked with the venue to come up with an 80's themed menu !



Saturday evening will be our traditional end-of-Convention Banquet and Ball – and you will be able to choose from the venue's full 'Archbishop's Menu' !

We are to be entertained by a high quality six-piece band named "Plastic Orange".

As you will be in the Precincts of the 1,400 year old Canterbury Cathedral you may like to attend one of their services. The link below shows that Choral Evensong is at 5.30 pm on the Friday and Saturday and Sung Eucharist is at 11am on the Sunday. However please check their website prior to your visit for opening times, closures and any entry restrictions :

<https://www.canterbury-cathedral.org/media/p3akwnap/january-march-2025-whats-on-guide-final-online-pdf.pdf>

Finally, DG Steve and all the Team hope we will see you in Canterbury in February for a great Convention !

Kind regards

David

David Burstow - Convention Chairman - January 2025