



District 105SE Reports to Convention 2022

International Team

International Relations Officer – Phil Robinson

The main focus of International relations over the past year has been to maintain the contact and encouragement of mutual projects where they can with our twin districts in Germany and France.

I am sure it will come as no surprise that every country has been equally hit by Covid, but as we have seen in so many Lions Clubs in SE, Clubs in France and Germany have also stepped up to serve their communities with support for the elderly and vulnerable and with their vaccination efforts.

IRO meetings were all online in February and April 21 with a good level of support. In Nov 21 DG Ian and VDG Rizvi were able to get to Paris for the French convention and were warmly welcomed.

We continue to be impressed with the spread of Message in a bottle in Germany driven by our good friend to SE, PDG Hans Peter Fischer. We can also now report that both France and Italy have adopted the system. We have provided copies of Message in a wallet to see if this can also be taken up.

Germany and France are really focusing on Diabetes awareness and we have shared the Diabetes literature we have produced in MD.

We are at the time of writing this report, expecting 12 colleagues from Germany and three from France to attend our Convention, and I am sure you will give all of them a warm welcome.

German IRO Stefan Wagner is also running a stand at our Convention focusing on the German Convention in April which will also be our 45th twinning event. If you are interested in coming to Germany, please take the opportunity to say hello and get some details. I know we are all unsure about what will happen with Covid, but hopefully by April we will be back with International travel.

The next jumalage meeting will be in Uckfield on Friday afternoon where we are looking into introduce the ROAR project to our partners.

UN Day

The Lions UN Day 2021 moved online and was very successful with over 700 Lions taking part or watching event streamed live. With the Houses of Parliament undergoing repairs, we must again look for a different option for 2022.

In addition, the MD Officer normally charged with organising UN day has stood down due to other external commitments, so for 2022 our own PID Howard Lee has stepped in. Howard will advise you as soon as a plan is in place.

LCIF Co-ordinator – Jackie Robinson

My Fellow Lions we are nearing the end of Campaign 100.....

Last year I was very happy with the way the District responded to donating to this campaign and we ended the year top of the 12 districts, so very well done.

Unfortunately, this year is not so good... ☐....

I am really asking clubs to donate to OUR foundation, it is this where emergency grants are sent from when World disasters happen, without our help and donations LCIF will not be able to continue to provide these grants.

We have just had Tornados in America. Typhoons in the Philippines and now tragic devastating floods in Malaysia.

We will not be able to help with these, hunger, diabetes, and all the other projects that LCIF is involved in without your help.

*The Mission of Lions Clubs International Foundation is:-
To support the efforts of Lions clubs and partners in serving communities locally and globally, giving hope and impacting lives through humanitarian service projects and grants.*

Over the past 100 years, we have proven that Lions united in service can transform millions of lives. As Lions, we serve proudly, empowered by our global foundation. Together, we will be able to serve more than 200 million people a year by 2021. Our goals are expansive, and no individual Lion, club or district can take them on alone; but together, empowered by our global foundation, we can.

We remain as committed as ever to serving proudly in the areas of vision, youth, disaster relief and humanitarian causes. As the challenges facing our world expand, so too must our focus and capacity. Our foundation is strengthening our humanitarian mission by expanding our global causes to include diabetes, hunger, childhood cancer and the environment.

100 years from now, we hope Lions will still be making the world a better place.

Please Lions of 105SE this is not a lot to ask, let us see if District 105SE is still “The Best District in the World”.

I look forward to welcoming PIP Gudrun Yngvadottir who is the Immediate Past Chairman of Lions Clubs International Foundation to our convention and hope that she will inspire you and your clubs.

Thank you very much.

Belarus Appeals Chairman – Chris Iles



Report to Convention February 2022

2021 has been another difficult year for us all, and Gomel Lions Club in Belarus is no different to the rest of us. Belarus and several of the Club members have been diagnosed COVID 19 positive with a couple of them hospitalised in a quite serious condition. Thankfully now recovered. Being a relatively sparsely populated country, they do in fact have more hospital beds per head of population than we do in UK.

Gomel Lions Club is registered in Belarus as a charitable organisation and members have continued to be careful to keep clear of all controversial political activities and went about their community service as well as possible, while observing COVID restrictions. Many of the members have talents and abilities which many of us would envy. Singing and entertaining the elderly in care homes. Baking and providing sweet treats for families and orphanages at special festival times through the year. Their activities have not slackened during 2021 at all, led by their current President Ekaterina Melnikova.

Thank you for the support we have received from a few Clubs for the two appeals we launched in January 2020. Fortunately, the donations received have in the past year been topped up by a few clubs and with that improvement in funds we have been able to complete a major portion of each of those projects.

As previously stated, it has been impossible to visit the region this year and review the work which they are doing in the name of Lions Clubs International. Most of what they do relies on the generosity of Lions Clubs in 105SE through the Belarus Trust. Can I ask again, that all delegates carry our thanks back to those clubs who regularly donate to the Trust and any donations to our general fund would be gratefully received. Thank you to those clubs who have generously donated since the last Convention.

Trustees feel that it is time to support a new project and that is to replace many of the old timber windows in Kindergarten no.99, the school for children with serious speech impediment. Trustees and members who visited Belarus in 2019 were shown these totally rotten window frames which let in rain, snow, and wind in a country which has temperatures down to minus 20 degrees in the winter. Full details of this appeal are in our 2022 newsletter sent to all Clubs.

We are pleased to be able to report that the community work of the Gomel Lions Club continues to be very effective in the region, working in partnership with several charities including the Heritage of Chernobyl and the Children's Charity, both of which are represented in Gomel Lions Club with senior members. However, they could not be as effective as they are without the continued support of the Lions Belarus Trust in 105SE. Gomel Lions are very grateful for the support they receive from us and constantly thankful. Gifts are distributed at many events which they organise for families in need, orphanages, and old people's homes, in the weeks leading up to Christmas and throughout the year and we see evidence of these donations in all their reports of their activities.

My sincere thanks to my fellow Trustees of the Lions Belarus Trust, Past Chairman Howard Lee, Peter Drysdale, Frank Lees, Paul Withers, Mike Shaw, and Jackie Robinson for their support and to our friends in 111MN and 103IE, without whom many projects would not have been the success that they were.