



THE LIONS SHARE

Special Edition MD410 Convention – May 2025

2025 MD410 CONVENTION OF LIGHT



Some Lions & Partners In Service travelled by road, others by plane to the Goudini Spa, Rawsonville, Western Cape — all to be part of the 2025 MD410 Convention of Light.



And what a light-filled experience it was! If you weren't there, you truly missed out. But don't worry — this Newsletter, especially the photos that speak a thousand words, is here to make sure you feel part of the highlight of the Lions fiscal year.



THE PROGRAMME

PROGRAMME FOR MD410 CONVENTION OF LIGHT 2025		
WEDNESDAY, 30 APRIL		
EVENT	TIME	VENUE
Registration opens (Council delegates)	14h00	Badsberg Room
Council and Incoming Council dinner	18h00	Die Eike Restaurant
THURSDAY, 1 MAY		
Council meeting	09h00	Worcester LC
Registration opens	10h00	Badsberg Room
Lunch for Council & Cabinet members	13h15	Worcester LC
D410E Cabinet Meeting (no tea break)	14h00	Worcester LC
D410W Cabinet Meeting (no tea break)	14h00	Worcester LC
Welcome Evening	19h00	Eikesaal
FRIDAY, 2 MAY		
PDG Breakfast	07h30	Koswerf Restaurant
Registration opens	08h00	Badsberg Room
D410E Convention	09h00	Barlinka
D410W Convention	09h00	Boland Hall
Tea break	10h30	Goudini Hall
Lunch	13h00	Goudini Hall
Ethics - Mission 1.5 Q&A	14h00	Hanepoot Room
Banquet - bread table	18h00	Goudini Hall
Banquet - delegates to be seated by	18h15	Goudini Hall
Banquet	18h30	Goudini Hall
SATURDAY, 3 MAY		
LPE Meet & Greet	07h15	Hanepoot Room
MD 410 Convention	08h30	Boland Hall
Tea Break	10h30	Goudini Hall
MD 410 Convention continues	11h00	Boland Hall
Lunch for Melvin Jones Fellows	13h00	Outer Boland Hall
Lunch for rest of delegates	13h00	Goudini Hall
MD 410 Convention continues	14h00	Boland Hall
Theme Evening/Party time!	19h00	Goudini Hall

A jam-packed programme with few gaps, but just enough time for some to squeeze in a bit of sightseeing, visit a wine estate or two, catch a quick nap, or simply unwind. Plenty of fresh Boland air and incredible views—crisp and chilly for the most part, until the very last day when things finally warmed up!





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MD410 COUNCIL & INCOMING COUNCIL DINNER 30 APRIL 2025



The MD410 Incumbent and Incoming Council for 2025–2026 shared with PIP Joe & Lion Joni Preston, enjoyed a wonderful evening together at Die Elke Restaurant. An evening filled with laughter, fellowship, and fun was shared by all—truly a memorable gathering to celebrate leadership and connection!



MD410 CONVENTION OF LIGHT OPEN FOR BUSINESS – 1 MAY 2025



Any MD410 Convention Committee will attest that the registration process is no easy task. Ensuring that delegates are attended to swiftly and efficiently requires careful coordination and dedication. While some delegates may be quite demanding, the Registration Team consistently rises to the occasion—greeting everyone with a smile and handling every challenge with professionalism and grace.





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The 2025 MD410 Convention of Light Team went above and beyond to ensure that every delegate had an unforgettable experience, leaving the Convention filled with joy, lasting memories, and a true sense of unity.

MD410 3rd COUNCIL MEETING 1 MAY 2025



They didn't call it Workers' Day for nothing! A good MD410 Council Meeting, chaired by CC Bennie Smith, brought together the MD410 Council and Council Officers for a productive session.



Of course, we have to have some mischievous goings on otherwise how boring!



The MD410 3rd and final Council Meeting was hosted by the Lions Club of Worcester who have been serving their community since 1958, at their superb Clubhouse. The catering was par excellence and was only superseded by the friendliness and hospitality of the Lions and Lions Ladies of Worcester.

DISTRICT 4th 410E CABINET MEETING 1 MAY 2025



The final District 410E Cabinet Meeting for the 2024–2025 fiscal year was held, during which the business of District 410E was addressed. Various Cabinet Officers contributed to their respective reports, providing updates and additions as needed. The meeting was hosted by the Lions Club of Worcester.





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WELCOME EVENING 1 MAY 2025



After a full day of meetings — and with the rather miserable weather settling in — many Lions were tempted to slip into their winter woollies, curl up by the fire with a warm drink, and skip the Welcome Evening. Thank goodness they didn't!



District Governor Perry presented Certificates of Appreciation and badges, expressing his gratitude for everyone's dedication and hard work throughout the year. As the saying goes, "the proof of the pudding is in the eating"—with two new clubs chartered and two more on the horizon, the results speak for themselves.



And what would a Lions Meeting be without the mischievous one's again!



What unfolded was an absolute "wow" of an evening, filled with fun, laughter, singing (ranging from the impressive to the hilariously off-key), dancing, heartfelt fellowship, and the joy of reconnecting with old friends while making new ones. Our definite winners were without PIP Joe & Lion Joni Preston who blew us away with their incredible voices.





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PAST DISTRICT GOVERNORS BREAKFAST 2 MAY 2025



The morning of 2 May dawned bright and early for the Past District Governors and incumbent District Governors, Perry Chetty (410E) and José Braga Borges of MD410 — though some were feeling a little worse for wear after the previous night's festivities. As tradition dictates, DG José and DG Perry were "inducted," although, by all accounts, they got off quite lightly.



This will definitely *not* be the case at the 2026 MD410 Convention — be afraid, DGE Avril and DGE Bevil... be very afraid!

Hosted by the Lions Club of Worcester at Die Eikesaal, the evening was a roaring success. The food was delicious, the drinks flowed freely, and the atmosphere was electric. It was the perfect start to a memorable gathering — and a testament to the vibrant spirit of our Lions community.

I wanna wake up
in a city
That doesn't sleep
And find I'm king of the hill
Top of the heap



Note: Never, ever let PCC Bernd Gerhard near a microphone. Frank Sinatra he is definitely not!



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DISTRICT 410E CONVENTION 2 MAY 2025



After a quick breakfast and a few much-needed cups of coffee, it was off to the District 410E Convention, chaired by District Governor Perry. We were honoured to have PCC Viv Grater open our Convention with some very wise words.



The agenda was packed with significant business, including the voting on key resolutions that will impact our members. A highlight of the day was the secret ballot election for the leadership team for the 2025–2026 term: District Governor, First Vice District Governor, and Second Vice District Governor.



Following the count, the Chairman of Elections Committee, PCC Bernd Gerhard announced that for the forthcoming fiscal year 2025–2026, the DG for 410E was DGE Avril Hobbs (Lions Club of North Durban), FVDGE Mark van Heerden (Lions Club of Pretoria Jakaranda) and SVDGE Patrick Gamedze (Lions Club of Manzini). **CONGRATULATIONS TO THEM!**



A very special moment, when DGE Avril received her green blazer from PIP Joe Preston. Suddenly all was a reality!

It was a day of thoughtful decision-making and active participation—democracy in action within our District!



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With business concluded and Lions selflessly giving their time without financial reward, the recognition of Clubs through the Club Excellence Awards remains a highlight of every District 410E Convention. DG Perry presented the following Awards:



Lions Service Project of the Year: Lions Club of Durban East Coast.



International Relations: IPDG Lindie van Wyk and her team for the PIP/Chairperson LCIF Patti Hill's visit.



Lions Fund Raising Project of the Year: Lions Club of Uitenhage.



Social Media: Lions Club of Alberton



Lions Club Scrapbook of the Year Electronic Scrapbook: Lions Club of Roodepoort Clearwater Cyber.



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We Serve: Lions Club of Alberton



**Protecting our Environment: Lions Club of Roodepoort
Clearwater Cyber**



Diabetes Awareness: Lions Club of Durban East Coast.



Hunger Alleviation: Lions Club of Alberton



Knights of the Blind: Lions Club of Midrand.



**Peace Poster Contest: Lions Club of Roodepoort Wilro
Park**



Childhood Cancer: Lions Club of Alberton



Peace Essay Contest: Lions Club of Durban East Coast



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Club Efficiency: Lions Club of Roodepoort Wilro Park



Lions Club of Year: Lions Club of Manzini



**Club Secretary of the Year: Lion Colleen van Heerden,
Lions Club of Pretoria Jakaranda**



**Lions Leader of the Year: Lion President Mukesh Dayah,
Lions Club of Alberton**



**Promotion of Growth of Lionism: Lions Club of Roodepoort
Wilro Park**



Membership Growth: Lions Club of Pretoria Jakaranda



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Lions Clubs International Foundation LCIF Award: Lions Club of Pretoria South



Greatest Pro-rate to Membership Christmas Cakes Sales: Lions Club of Edenvale



Greatest Christmas Cake Sales: Lions Club of Alberton



Animal Life: Lion Keith Holliman, Lions Club of Alberton



Most Improved Christmas Cake Sales: Lions Club of Benoni Lakes



Bird Life: Lion Keith Holliman, Lions Club of Alberton



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Endangered Species: PDG Alistair Tuckett, Lions Club of Roodepoort Clearwater Cyber



Landscape: Lion Melanie Browne, Lions Club of Midrand



Plant Life: Lion Sally Fitzgerald, Lions Club of Cowies Hill



Weather Phenomenon & Best in Show: Lion Sanet Emmerick, Lions Club of Port Elizabeth St. Croix



District Governor Perry Chetty was proudly presented with the **Louis Volks Humanitarian Award** by IPDG Lindle van Wyk on behalf of District 410E in recognition of his leadership and dedicated service during the **2024–2025 fiscal year**. DG Chetty exemplified what it means to serve with *Passion and Pride*.





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MD410 MISSION 1.5 Q & A SESSION 2 MAY 2025



Following the District Conventions, attendees enjoyed a stunning lunch, which was followed by an extremely engaging session on Mission 1.5. The session was hosted by Past International President Joe Preston and GAT Area Leader, PCC Cliff Hocking. Despite some curveballs and completely off-topic questions being thrown his way, PIP Joe responded with humility and a humanitarian spirit, drawing on his profound wisdom and deep knowledge of Lions International to provide thoughtful answers.



MD410 CONVENTION BANQUET 2 MAY 2025



The highlight of any Lions Multiple District 410 Convention is undoubtedly the Banquet. This formal occasion offers delegates the opportunity to don their evening finery—ladies in elegant dresses and gentlemen in classic black tie.



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The Lions Club of Paarl is to be commended on the outstanding management of this auspicious occasion.



The Parade of Flags is always a moving and memorable spectacle, complemented by the dignified protocol and exquisite table décor that truly befit the significance of the event.

MD410 Incoming Council of Governors 2025-2026



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It was with tremendous honour that Council Chairperson Bennie Smith and the MD410 Council of Governors presented Past International President Joe Preston with the prestigious Louis Volks Humanitarian Award. PIP Joe has been a member of the Mesa Thunderbird Lions Club and has been a Lion since 1974. During his tenure as Lions, he has dedicated many years of outstanding service to Lions Clubs International, exemplifying our core values of service, compassion, and leadership. His enduring commitment continues to inspire Lions around the world.



Another deeply moving and often tear-jerking moment at the MD410 Banquet is the presentation of the **Citizen of the Year** award. This truly humbling occasion honours a remarkable individual from the community—someone who is not a Lion yet embodies the very spirit of humanitarian service. They give selflessly, never seeking recognition, but driven purely by a desire to uplift and care for those less fortunate.





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MD410 61st CONVENTION 3 MAY 2025



The final day of the MD410 Convention was filled with laughter, camaraderie, and the serious business of voting and decision-making by the members — the valued shareholders of the Multiple District.



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Amidst the joy and fellowship, the convention reached its pinnacle with the installation of the Council Chairperson Elect for 2025–2026, CCE Ian King, fondly known as "Lion King." In a heartfelt and symbolic gesture, outgoing Council Chairperson Bennie Smith invited MDC GST Lion Sandy King — the wife of CCE Ian — to join him in assisting with the installation. This touching moment underscored the importance of family in Lion Ian's life and added a deeply personal dimension to the proceedings.



The ceremony marked not just a transition in leadership, but a celebration of the values and community spirit that define MD410.



The Team that will lead Multiple District 410 to the best of their abilities for the 2025 – 2026 fiscal year.

MD410 MELVIN JONES FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON 3 MAY 2025



As is tradition in Multiple District 410, a special luncheon was held to honor the Melvin Jones Fellowship members — individuals recognized for their outstanding commitment to humanitarian service. This distinguished gathering was addressed by Past International President (PIP) Joe Preston, whose words inspired and reaffirmed the values of dedication and service that the Fellowship represents.



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MD410 THEME EVENING 3 MAY 2025



And so another MD410 Convention comes to an end — capped off by yet another superb event hosted by the Lions Club of Tulbagh.





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The creativity and innovation shown in the interpretation of *"Be The Light"* by the delegates was truly mind-blowing, providing a fitting and memorable finale to an outstanding MD410 Convention.

A HUGE THANK YOU TO THE 2025 MD410 CONVENTION OF LIGHT COMMITTEE FOR THEIR INCREDIBLE HARD WORK AND DEDICATION. IF ANY DELEGATES DIDN'T HAVE A GOOD TIME—IT CERTAINLY WASN'T FOR LACK OF EFFORT! THE SUCCESS OF THIS CONVENTION IS A TRUE TESTAMENT TO YOUR COMMITMENT.

**SEE YOU AT THE
2026 MD410 LIONS ROAR CONVENTION
24 – 26 APRIL 2026**



More information will be forthcoming from the 2026 Convention Committee soon.