



**LIONS INTERNATIONAL**  
**DISTRICT 410W (SOUTH AFRICA & NAMIBIA)**  
**NPO: 034-551 / PBO: 930024713**  
**DISTRICT GOVERNOR JOSE BRAGA BORGES (2024-2025)**  
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District 410W, PO Box 491, Rondebosch, 7701



## REPORT TO THE THIRD COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS MEETING

1 May 2025

Dear CC Bennie and fellow Council members,

It gives me great pleasure in reporting the activities of our District since July 01, 2024.

### ADMINISTRATION

No major issues and everything seem to be running smoothly.

### VISION 2024-2027 – MISSION 1.5

It still is and will still be work in progress for the next two years. We will have to strengthen/improve our cooperation/collaboration amongst all clubs if we really want to achieve our goals. We will have to carry on trying to build up a self-pride attitude within all clubs, as it is basically where everything starts. It is my personal feeling that we could have done a bit more than what we have achieved. But let's not give up and let's persevere! We still have two years ahead of us!

### MEMBERSHIP

Although we are still not where we would like to be, I feel that we did not do that bad, if we take into account the economic situation we currently facing. If forecasts materialize, we hope to induct about 60 members during April.

And we must carry on making the current members happy as well, if we want to succeed.

### GAT

It is and it will always be work in progress.

### GRT

We keep on emphasizing to clubs the importance of membership satisfaction in their clubs, in order to avoid members leaving.



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## GET

Here is the present situation: -

### REGION 'A' – (Garden Route)

- Wilderness – They had their first meeting on March 29, where they opted for a branch club (for now). Their next follow up meeting is on April 26.

- Joubertina – Nothing happening at the moment, as they want to concentrate on Wilderness first. Uniondale club still very keen in supporting Joubertina, and they will resume talks in May.

### REGION 'B' – (Namibia)

Nothing changed. They are Concentrating on increasing Membership as well as making sure that there is a culture of membership satisfaction in all clubs. They will be inducting a total of 12 members in April!

### REGION 'C' – (West/Platteland)

It is still work in progress in the Wolsley area towards the formation of a branch club (for now, sponsored by Tulbagh Lions) but it will most likely happen early next year.

Regarding the Rawsonville area, talks will resume soon, and although there is a strong good will amongst all interested parties, I don't expect any final results this year.

### REGION 'D' (Northern City Area)

Apart from a diabetes day which was run in Atlantis (by Table view Lions) so that Lions could be exposed a little further, nothing really much happened. So, it is still work in progress, but we might only see some positive results next year, although efforts are being made to change things around.

### REGION 'E' (Southern City Area)

A second get together meeting took place in Strandfontein on April 9 (which I attended) and although only 11 interested people participated, there was a vibrant atmosphere in the air, during the short presentation, judging by the questions asked by the participants.



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The Councillor is a very passionate person about service, and I can feel positive results emanating from this area. The follow up meeting will be some time later, this month!

#### GMA

This is an ongoing portfolio where through the ZC's clubs have to be constantly reminded about their obligations towards membership as well as the wellbeing of clubs. The principle of "if a club loses one member, they should try to induct two", if they really want to succeed, should be applied.

#### GLT

It seems that clubs are a bit more motivated and we have given them a detailed training program (via Zoom and in person), starting this month all the way till the end of June. This is vital towards the survival of the leadership, going forward.

#### GST

There was a remarkable progress where clubs participate in joining projects and I am sure that, and going forward, more positive results will emanate from the new approach established.

#### DISASTER RELIEF AND HUMANITARIAN AID

A vital portfolio which has been properly managed and where the coordinators have been put to the test once again, where together with clubs of Zone 7 they did a remarkable job in assisting the hundreds of homeless people due to the recent fire in the Wellington area. Clubs that could not directly assist, sent donations which are always in demand.

#### 4<sup>TH</sup> CABINET MEETING

It will take place at Lions Club of Worcester on Thursday 1 May 2025 at 14.00 hrs.

#### ENVIRONMENT

Another important portfolio which has been properly managed, but I feel that we should have more clubs participating in setting the example towards the protection of this lovely planet of ours. We will have to carry on persevering until we start seeing some positive results.



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## LEOS

Considerable progress has been taking place in Namibia where Leos have been really active, and there is a possibility of another 3 clubs being chartered in our District.

## SIGHT

Clubs are slowly, slowly getting interested on how to participate in this portfolio, via Bright Sight, which is a good sign. I am sure that we will be seeing more prescriptions circulating, for the benefit of all concerned. Newsletters being circulated regularly.

## PEACE POSTER/ASSAY CONTEST

This is another portfolio which has been properly managed, but there is still room for improvement. The marketing should be more aggressive as it is a fantastic project where the youth can participate, provided it is made aware of it. I am sure that things will improve, going forward.

## LCIF

Also another portfolio being run as it should, but the current economic situation does not help much towards members having spare cash to donate. We are still short of our district target, but we will see what happens between now and the end of June.

## CHILDHOOD CANCER

A type of fundraising project well accepted by both districts and the support has been great. We are making a steady progress on this portfolio as well, judging by the funds raised till now.

## YOUTH

Nothing really exciting happening and I don't think we will manage to achieve any success by trying to do it alone, as costs are too high to be borne by one District. We will see how things develop going forward.



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## PRO – NAMIBIA

Things are going well, and I have great hopes for Namibia, especially with Leos where they are properly nurtured. The relationship between Lions and the community is absolutely amazing. We could well do with some of it.

In closing, and when I look back and start analyzing the problems we had with our clubs, it is really sad to say, but a great majority of them were unnecessary as the main cause was personal ego from the part of the leadership (with some having been Lions for over 10 years, which is really shocking) while others, due to poor leadership. Let's all make an effort of being normal leaders, let's try and tolerate each other so that the leadership can continuously focus on the wellbeing of our fellow members, and leave the personal egos at home!

Thank you all for the cooperation and collaboration shown throughout my year.

Yours in service

J. Braga Borges

District Governor



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