



# We Serve with Love



District 308-A1 Singapore • 2021-2022 e-Newsletter Vol. 1 | The International Association Of Lions Clubs

Dear Lions,

With the various social media available like Facebook, Instagram, and the trend to do reading online, I did ask myself whether a Bulletin is necessary.

Afterall, events and projects can be posted on the District website and the other social media platforms. However, these are passive modes of information and require the Lions to log in and access the platforms. Not all of us would have accessed the District website or have Facebook or Instagram accounts.

I remembered what PDG Steven Seah wrote in his first District Bulletin regarding the purposes of a Bulletin. He stated that the District Bulletin serves the following purposes:

- To inform members of the activities in the District
- To educate members through articles by Lions commenting or sharing views on Lions matters.
- To update members on the developments in the District and Lions Clubs International
- To provide reading materials to enrich Lions.

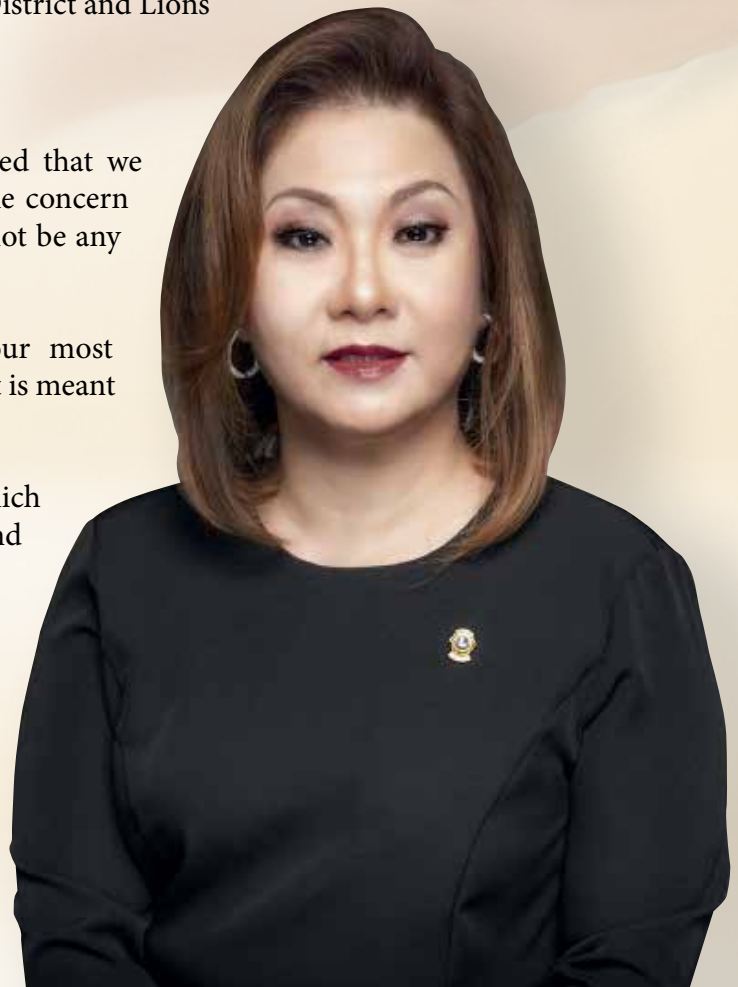
These purposes remain relevant, and it was decided that we should have a District Bulletin. Bearing in mind the concern for our environment and sustainability, there will not be any hard copies.

The Bulletin will be emailed to all Lions by our most hardworking Cabinet Secretary and his Secretariat. It is meant to reach out to all Lions in the District.

I do hope all of you will enjoy reading the Bulletin which attempts to have a healthy mix of pictures, news, and articles.

## **LESA GAN**

District Governor 2021-2022  
Lions Clubs International  
District 308-A1



# District 308-A1 Joint Installation Ceremony 2021-2022

4<sup>th</sup> September 2021





# 1<sup>st</sup> District Cabinet Meeting



24<sup>th</sup> July 2021



# District 308-A1 Cabinet Officers, Club Officers School

26-27 June 2021







# USED CLOTHES DONATION DRIVE

Donate your preloved clothes for a good cause!  
In collaboration with Lions Clubs District 308-A1

**Date: 31st July 2021 (Saturday)**

**Time: 9am to 3pm**

Collection Points:

1. Lions Home for The Elders @ Bedok Main Gate
2. Pavilion near Blk 150 Mei Ling Street (LB Mei Ling SAC)

Adults and children's clothes, winter wear,  
bags, shoes and more.

*Please ensure clothes are cleaned and in good condition before donating.  
No soiled clothes or undergarments please.*

Collaboration with:







# Yellow Ribbon

11-12 September 2021





# QUE SERA SERA – LIONS' RESPONSE TO COVID 19

*'Que Sera, Sera  
Whatever will be, will be  
The future's not ours to see  
Que Sera, Sera  
What will be, will be'*

- Composed by Livingston & Evans

## QUE SERA SERA

Considered an evergreen as well as Doris Day's signature song, Que Sera Sera with its nice and easy tune, suggests an attitude of resignation or nonchalance. The bounciness of the melody invites a carefree outlook in life.

Covid – 19 challenges our “que sera, sera” mentality.

## COVID-19

The Covid 19 pandemic has resulted in many changes – in the way we live, work, socialise and do things. We face restrictions in our daily interactions. Our behaviour may display extremes – one of extreme fear or one of careless disregard bordering on fatalism. Or perhaps a melancholy resignation of whatever will be will be.

The circuit breaker measures came at a time when traditionally a new team comes on board – the newly elected District Governor, his Cabinet Officers and newly elected Presidents of the Clubs. Many wondered what 2020 & 2021 would be like for the Lions – some even for-seeing that it is a year of inaction and inactivity.

## CURTAILED ACTIVITIES

The measures affected many activities, events and projects. They were cancelled, postponed, downsized or modified. Some examples are as follows:

1. the Joint Installation of the Cabinet Officers and Club Presidents. It is a prestigious and well-attended event with at least 800 Lions participating. This is an event that every District Governor cherishes. This did not take place in 2020.
2. Clubs' anniversaries – These anniversaries could not be held physically and had to be cancelled or postponed.
3. Meetings of clubs – these could not be held physically.
4. Projects – the regular projects, especially visits to the Lions Homes or other elderly Homes had to be suspended.
5. Training events – seminars or classes could not be held physically.
6. Big events like the Yellow Ribbon Walk were cancelled.

Fortunately, this did not mean that all activities came to a standstill.

## ADAPTABILITY & TECHNOLOGY

Lions were able to adapt and make the best of the situation. Lions were quick to harness technology to get things done.

Credit to the Lions leadership and Lions for not being paralysed by the pandemic but having the mental agility and fortitude to continue with various events and activities. All these were undertaken in compliance with Covid-19 regulations and safe-distancing measures.

The Installation of Cabinet Officers and Presidents was held via the Zoom platform in groupings within the permitted numbers.

Training was held over Zoom and this in a way increased attendance without affecting the effectiveness.

Meetings were conducted remotely through the various online platforms.

The District Convention in 2020 was conducted via the Zoom platform. There were concerns about the efficacy of holding a Convention in this manner. With careful planning and a willingness to try new things, the Convention went ahead as a virtual meeting.

With the easing of measures, the Convention in 2021 was organised in a hybrid format - both virtual and physical.

## **INNOVATION**

Lions were also quick to realise that there were other needs in the community. Rather than lament over the usual projects that could not be held – Yellow Ribbon Walk or Visit to Homes or Distribution of Food – Lions were involved in other activities.

At that time, one of the pressing needs was to reach out to the many foreign workers who were confined to the dormitories. Lions in small groups distributed gift packs to them. The frontline health workers and care givers were not forgotten and were recipients of snacks and goodies.

When the measures were eased, the Lions ramped up the efforts to serve the community. This extended to service beyond what we did previously. These were door to door visits, initiatives to collect clothes to send to the communities in need of clothing abroad or re-cycle them and even distributing home-baked cookies to the community.

## **LIONS SPIRIT**

Most important, the Lions Spirit did not falter but soared during the pandemic.

Lions did not sit around and sing Que Sera Sera all day long. Lions came together and rallied to serve the community

## **CONCLUSION**

Covid-19 was a revelation – that the Lions Spirit rises above the pandemic.

DG Lesa Gan's theme is We Serve with Love – amidst the Covid 19 pandemic, we may expand on her theme to read as "We Serve with Love - In All Circumstances".

We may ask – What will happen post-pandemic?  
Que Sera Sera!

**PDG Steven Seah BBM**



# Perspectives - Singapore

## An Independent District

Singapore District 308-A1 has initiated and concluded its two domestic constitutional procedural steps, to becoming an Independent District to cease affiliation with Multiple District 308. The delegates voted overwhelmingly, at the respective, 22nd District Convention (65.1%) and the recent 59th MD Convention (87%) to complete the 2-step procedure. Lions Clubs International (LCI) has since been officially advised of the development. The District is now awaiting LCI's direction to complete the final independence procedure.

It is important at the onset to reiterate the independence proceeding is a well-conceived decision to address Singapore District's future development, not any binary competition with the Malaysian Districts.

Perhaps, it is important for our members especially the newer ones to learn of the District's history since its inception from 1958 and the factors behind this independence initiative.

In order to give a brief but concise history of our 64-year growth, easiest way is to relate it under three broad headings — History, Divergence and Future Growth.

### History

The very first Lions Club - indeed in the whole MD308 - was organised and chartered in Singapore on 5th November 1958. Lions Club International (LCI) assigned D308 as the provisional District number to clubs formed under the then British ruled Singapore, Peninsula Malaya (W Malaysia), British N Borneo (E Malaysia) and Brunei. In 1961, D308 was designated a full District, when it achieved the stipulated criteria.

At the Bifurcation proceeding in FY1982/83 to address continuing growth, D308 became a Multiple District with two Sub Districts, namely:

D308A covering Singapore, South Johore up to Kluang, East Malaysia and Brunei.

D308B covering the rest of Peninsula West Malaysia.

Again, with steady growth, at the FY1998/99 Redistricting proceeding MD308 was reconfigured into four Sub Districts:

With steady growth, MD308 was further reconfigured into four Sub Districts at the FY1998/99

Redistricting proceeding as follows:

D308-A1 (Singapore); D308-A2 (East Malaysia and Brunei); D308-B1 (East Coast states of Peninsula Malaysia from Kelantan down to Johore); D308-B2 (West-Northern states of Peninsula Malaysia including Penang)

The 4-District MD308 continues with steady growth, especially in the 3 Malaysian Districts, that brought with them inevitable rising expectation from their grassroots level. Notwithstanding the rising expectation, the 4-District MD308's configuration remains unchanged since 1999, and as at end June 2021.

### Divergence

The living and social environment in MD308 has undergone rapid changes over the years. However, the differing services and needs between the 4 districts, remain relatively little change, from one another.

The Singapore District notable and stark differences with the other three Districts are that Singapore's community services and needs remain largely urban in context, structured and with much emphasis on elderly care. Besides, the relevant Government authorities providing adequate financial support, there are growing number of privately initiated community out-reach programs, also provide useful source of financial support.

The three Malaysian Districts cover very wide geographical spread, from E. Malaysia to peninsula W. Malaysia. Their community services and needs are varied, though primarily more of suburban town and rural context. Each individual area, however, identifies its own local community needs. Authority's support though sporadic but responsive to appeals. The districts generally dependent more on their own local business community and organisations, for support.

Singapore District's aspiration to become an Independent District, has remained ever since the Bifurcation in FY1982/83. The issue was again raised, debated and voted upon in two occasions, in FY1992/93 and FY1994/95, respectively.

In the first occasion, the voting conducted through postal means with majority of the members voted

in favour for an Independent District. However, the results could not be formalised under the then CBL. In the second occasion, there were intense debates, prior to an independence Resolution being tabled for decision, at the District EOGM. It was very narrowly defeated, not due to its lack of merits. At the debates, Past Officers (POAs) urged members to go with D308B's views of needed suitable time to address the then disparity in the numbers of Past Officers in the MD, which was then in Singapore's favour.

That thorny issue, among others, had been amicably resolved at the Redistricting proceeding in FY1998/99. Equitable parity in numbers of Past Officers had been addressed, resulting with the larger membership growth in the three Malaysian Districts.

The District's record showed the numbers of Past Officers (POAs) in the two countries, as of April 2020, were: (Refer to active POAs, not inclusive of the VDGs)

Singapore = 25; Three Malaysian Districts, total = 88. (Ratio 1:3.5)

Total membership strength:

Singapore = 2534; Three Malaysian Districts total = 10,272. (Ratio 1:4)

The larger Malaysian membership, invariably, has altered the dynamics of MD308's intra-district relationship. Singapore members are now more aware of MD's shift in its perspective, that tilts more toward Malaysian centric in decisions and actions.

In the recent few years, the Malaysian Districts are also actively planning to redistrict among themselves, to address their continued growth. It is very likely to seeing five new districts emerging from among the Malaysian Districts, in the next few years.

As referred earlier, the services in Singapore and those in the Malaysian Districts remain different and stark. Therefore, it is understandable with Singapore not featuring in any of their redistricting plans. Their simmering desire is to seeing Singapore to be its own District, which is quite revealing.

### Future Growth

An Independent Singapore District, would entail inevitable adjustments to its future growth path and services direction such as align more closely and ability to swiftly respond to the continuing changing domestic environment.

In the past few years, more Singapore members are feeling less comfortable with the incremental MD's

perspective shift. To addressing the discomfort, District tabled a Resolution, at the April 2018 Convention, to set up a Review Committee to study the best way forward. Members decisively voted for the Resolution, with the Committee to set up in FY2018/19. The Redistricting Committee, under the purview of the District Long Range Planning Committee, however, was finally set up in FY2019/20.

The Redistricting Committee comprised of Past Officers with substantial experience on past MD's development and growth. It substantively reviewed the range of the inherent issues, as referred to in Divergence.

The Redistricting Committee's suggested plan-of-work served well as pivotal guide, enabling to smoothly complete the two (2) domestic Constitutional Procedural steps.

With the Redistricting Committee completed its role, the current team of Senior District Leaders shall continue to liaise with LCI to complete the final Independence procedure.

The Redistricting Committee, however, would humbly like to offer few helpful suggestions, for Singapore Independent District, to achieving healthy and sustainable growth in the years ahead.

1. Appeal officially to LCI allowing the new Singapore Independent District's number to retain the number '308', in some form, to serve as historical link, reflecting the roots of MD308's Lionsism, began with Singapore 64 years ago. It is also a good psychological impetus for Singapore's future growth.
2. In spite of Singapore's small population size with a very competitive environment, it is viable to have a 2-district MD in the near future. Importantly, members must prepare to accept shared burden to build a genial and inclusive District. Firmly discard the decades of self-defeating and archaic intractable "big-divide" mindset.
3. Make determined effort returning to the friendly amicable practices of the 1980s, to having an orderly district's leadership succession process.

In conclusion, on behalf of the Redistricting Committee, I would like to thank all those who have rendered much help, one way or another, to complete the Independence Procedural Initiative.

**PCC Lim Hon Chee Moderator**

Redistricting Committee June 2021



# Women as Lions



The history of women in Lions goes way back to 1917, when Lions International was founded. Subsequently in 1925, Helen Keller was honoured as the “First Lady of Lionism”. In 1987, the Lioness programme began: and LCI was the first service club organisation to admit women as members.

The many women’s initiative that followed included promoting women’s membership development, which later introduced the women’s and family membership development and participation chairperson position. From 2011, chairpersons also called specialists work under the GMT District Coordinator.

District 308-A1 has certainly embraced women into its membership, with women members accounting for more than 34% – a comparable statistic with countries worldwide. It has been said that only 20% of LCI members are women! That being so, there is thus tremendous potential for Lions growth through the increasing participation of women, and family members.

Lest I be accused of gender bias, studies have shown that women are more motivated than men to help others. They score higher on measures of caring and empathy. Across cultures, women are more likely to believe that service to others is important, and

to support the provision of basic human needs and help to mitigate income inequalities.

Past International President Gudrun Yngvadottir, the very first woman president of our organisation, believes that, quote “the more we see women joining in and doing interesting important things, the more we will see other women doing the same. And this is how we build an even stronger future for Lions.” unquote.

As the MD Council Committee member for Family and Women’s Specialist, appointed by DG Lesa Gan, I look forward to working with all clubs in the District and Multiple District to invite families and women members to join our organisation. Through Lions, resources which include pursuing leadership development are available, as well as hands-on service projects that we hope will attract new family and women members.

So, with more caring women and family members serving and working together for the good of the community and mankind, a stronger and more vibrant organisation we will be able to have, and to make a lasting impact in a needy world.

**PDG Isabel Cheong**

# 狮友学习之旅



亲爱的狮子会会员，

作为一位狮子会会员，多数人参加的目的是为了要帮助有需要的人。也有人说为什么要参加狮子会，不参加狮子会也可以做善事啊。

答案是：国际狮子会是全球最大的服务组织，拥有超过4万8千个分会，遍布超过26个国家，会员人数超过140万。我们的座右铭是“我们服务”。

成为了狮子会会员，你除了可以和你的队友一起帮助弱势群体的同时，狮子会也提供给你成为优秀领导者的机会。使你成为分会干部或区干部，您将有机会带领您的分会，振兴会员从而提高服务质量，取得新的成功。良好的领导力不仅仅是天生的能力。这是一项需要持续发展，才能让领导者充分发挥潜力的技能。

**“我们需要领袖来启发更多的领袖”**

—雷伯南

**“It takes leaders to grow leaders.”**

— Ray Blunt

LCI District 308-A1为了培养优质的领导，成立了狮友训练学院 (District Lions Training Institute – DLTI)。它的导狮团是由多位资深以及有丰富培训经验的导狮组成。

DLTI 所提供的一些课程包括：

- New members orientation (新会员培训)
- Region & Zone Chairperson roles & responsibilities. (专区及分区主席的职责)

- Clubs' officer duties & responsibilities (分会干部的职责)
- Meeting members satisfaction (会员的满意度)
- Team Building (建立团队)
- Motivation & Recognition (激励及奖赏)
- Time Management (时间管理)
- Project Management (项目管理)
- Goal Setting (如何设定目标)
- Diversity (多元化的环境)
- Effective Communication skill (有效的沟通法)
- Conduct Meeting effectively (举行有效率的会议)

我鼓励您和您的分会利用狮子会的所有绝佳机会来培养您的领导技能。联系您的区领导协调员(District GLT Coordinator)，以了解她为你们准备的 训练课程表，报名手续，以帮助您和您的狮友发展您想要的技能。

当您承诺培养新的领导技能和培养新的狮子会领导者时，您和您的分会将能够取得持续成功！

**“优秀的领导者不是天生的。如果你有欲望和意志力，你可以成为一个有效的领导者。”**

**优秀的领导者通过开发一个永无止境的学习过程；自学与教育，不断培训和累积经验”**

加革, 1982

**萧永祥**

**Lawrence Sew**

DLTI Chairperson



# 狮说心语

心语录：

一花一世界，一叶一如来。

狮路廿十载，精髓之处，莫过于几个字：  
自信，领悟与言行！

人一定要有自信，什么叫自信？

我很喜欢一句话：

“我自风流潇洒与世无争”

我觉得这也是活到一定最高境界了。

在不干扰别人的情况下，在不给别人带来麻烦的情况下。

其实真不必那么看重别人的想法，

也不必那么看重别人的意见。

如果你的自由干扰了别人，

也影响到了别人的自由？

这不行！

如果你的自由是不道德的？

那更不行！

在这里有一个自由的规定，只要你不影响别人，随你怎么变态。

这就叫“自信”！

而现实生活中，且行且领悟。

我们和谁在一起的确很重要，

甚至能改变我们的成长轨迹，

决定我们的人生成败。

心简单，世界就简单，幸福才会生长。

人生如路，须在荒凉中，走出繁华的风景来。

须知一颗好心永远比不上一张好嘴

多少关系变了，都是因为一张嘴。

喜我者，我惜之！

嫌我者，我避之！

我们都有眼睛，那就别用耳朵去了解一个人！

时间，绝对是个好东西！

验证了对的，也见证了错的。

人之言行举止中，往往也注定了成败！

多留点口德，多积点阴德，

多行不义必自毙……

人要有格！什么样的格局，

决定什么样的结局……

情绪没控制好？即便有了整个世界，也早晚毁掉一切。

成不了心态的主人，必然会沦为情绪的奴隶。

切记：脾气永远不要大于本事！

积德虽无人见，行善自有天知。

人为善，不在于别人夸赞，而在于自己安详。

总而言之，一句话！

好人，天不辜负。

善人，天会眷顾。

别人想什么，我们控制不了。

别人做什么，我们也强求不来。

唯一可以做的，就是尽心尽力，

做好自己的事，走好自己的路。

花若盛开，蝴蝶自来

我若精彩，天自安排！

狮子精神，你我共勉！

前总监

郑俊平

PDG Jerrick Tay

## *Congratulation to Newly Charter Club*



### **Lions Club of Singapore Aurora**



## **Upcoming Project**



District 308-A1



**PLANT A MILLION TREES**

**SAVE THE** 

Oct/Dec/Feb

**\$300 per Club \* 2.5 Tax Exempt**

**Lions Clubs of Singapore**

**District 308-A1**

c/o Lions Home For The Elders

487 Bedok South Avenue 2 (Level 3) Singapore 469316

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