



MIDLANDS NEWS

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Hello and welcome to the September edition of the Midland News. Hope you enjoyed my first.

If you have any feedback please contact me on the above address.

Lion Darren

Raise money for your club. Register your club using this [link](#) and tell your members, family, friends about it and every time they buy online (Amazon, Ebay, booking.com etc.) through this site, a small percentage goes to the club.

If members want to advertise, for only £10, we can place small advertisements. All funds raised for the district charity account. Almost 1,000 lions will see your advert. An excellent place to advertise your company, holiday home, camper, old bike etc. Please contact us for details.

Last but not least, please send reports, news about forthcoming events, charter dates, newspaper clippings and anything else you think we should know about.

TACHCC DEFIBRILATOR PRESENTATION – SHIRLEY LIONS



SHIRLEY LIONS CLUB GOLF COMPETITION

This year's District Golf Competition was held on August 17th at the Widney Manor Golf Club in Solihull. Organised this year for the first time by Lion Andy Lockett of Shirley Lions, 19 golfers turned up on a gloriously sunny day to contest the various trophies up for grabs. The overall winner was Lion Gary Gould from Shirley Lions whilst the PDG's trophy was won by PDG Lion Burgess from Knowle and Dorridge Lions. The "Nearest the Pin" trophy went to PDG Lion John Bush from Harborough 2012 Lions and the winning "3 Ball Team" were Lion Gary Gould, Lion David Breese from Shakespeare Lions and his son Adam Breese" Unfortunately DG Lion Chris Burrows did not trouble the scorers but did a great job in presenting the trophies!



SPECIAL OLYMPICS GB-SHEFFIELD 2017

District 105M was represented by four members of Shakespeare Lions Club at SPGB 2017 (Special Olympics GB) held in Sheffield early in August this year. Lions Keith and Tina Hillyard and Trevor and June Lloyd-Adams spent a busy five days at Ponds Forge in Sheffield city centre helping with the Aquatics and Boccia events.



The Opening Ceremony, held at Sheffield United's football stadium saw 20,000 people celebrating the start of the event in the rain! The athletes did not mind but it was a cold and wet evening despite the great entertainment. We were lucky to receive some well know faces and these included the International Youth Group and their supporting Lions as well as Chairman of Council!



The event, held every four years, attracts 2,600 athletes competing in 17 events, 7,000 friends and family and over 60 coaches.

Lions Trevor and June were allocated the task of looking after VIPs both at the Opening Ceremony and at the Aquatics Centre. The VIPs were asked to present the medals so they met some very interesting people – stars, footballers, Olympic winners and a well know Lion who is also on the Special Olympics Board, PID Lion Phil Nathan!



No prizes for guessing who this is – isn't he tall!



NEWS TERRY SMITH – DISTRICT LIFE SKILLS OFFICER

On behalf of the Lions Clubs of Solihull (Zone C) as District Lifeskills Officer I managed to negotiate an exciting partnership with Bev Petch the Education Improvement Advisor, Health and Wellbeing and her colleague Natalie Chamberlain at Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council. This partnership involved rewarding local schools who achieve Healthy Schools Status with a Lions Lifeskills resource and facilitates a personal introduction to each school and their local club.

What follows is one clubs amazing journey.

Proving Gardening is a Lifeskill

Towards the end of 2016 Shirley Lions was invited to a presentation organised by the District Officer and Solihull Council. Local schools, mainly primary were celebrating their awards of Healthy Schools status and as a part of this were being given a Lifeskills resource and an information pack. It was suggested to us that we could use this opportunity to introduce ourselves to the schools and see if this developed into a useful relationship.

Shirley Youth Committee took this on board and over the last few months have been talking to the local schools with some interesting outcomes.

Some schools of course took their resource with gratitude but did not want to go any further but others were very interested to talk to us about our shared interests in the local community and to explore how we could support each other.

This lead very quickly to us supplying a much needed Father Christmas to one school who had been unfortunately let down and another school's PTA joining us with the Santa Sleigh collection in their area - they kept the money raised that night for PTA funds and had a great time dressing up as elves.

In the springtime one school was keen to join in a litter pick in the local park bringing along 60 children who ran excitedly from one piece of litter to the next, clearing the park and also learning how irresponsible it is to drop litter. The same school's Eco and Gardening Committees then joined in a pond planting morning to replace the indigenous marginal pond plants surrounding a pond in our local ancient woodland. The species had been lost over the years but are now thriving. We didn't even have any children fall in which for me was the major achievement of the morning.

How could we involve the schools more directly in the annual Shirley Carnival became a key subject in our club discussions and this led to the schools more actively promoting the carnival and one PTA taking a stall for Glitter Painting.

But the most interesting outcome has been the first Shirley Junior and Infants School Gardening Competition. All the local schools were invited to create a garden which was then judged by the Community Ambassador of Notcutts Garden Centre which also put up the prizes of gift vouchers for both the infants and the junior categories of schools.

The judging took place the week before Carnival and we went round the schools to see their gardens and hear the children explain how they had collected waste from snack time to make the compost, had planted seeds and looked after the plants and then enjoyed the food as part of school lunches. The teachers had managed to link so much into the creation of the gardens teaching about nutrition, sustainability, and biology. The gardens in many cases were themed some linking to history projects about how children had to "Grow your Own" in the Second World War, others were linked to literacy including a herbology garden complete with a Harry Potter broomstick.

But nothing compared to the excitement at Carnival when the winners were announced and children were thrilled to step up to the stage to receive their prizes, certificates and cuddly "Shirley Lions" as mementoes of their achievements.

Lifeskills resources have led us to working with schools we haven't previously had a relationship with and we as well as the children shared some fantastic life skills opportunities to work together in our local community.

Lion Jackie Culliford – Shirley Lions

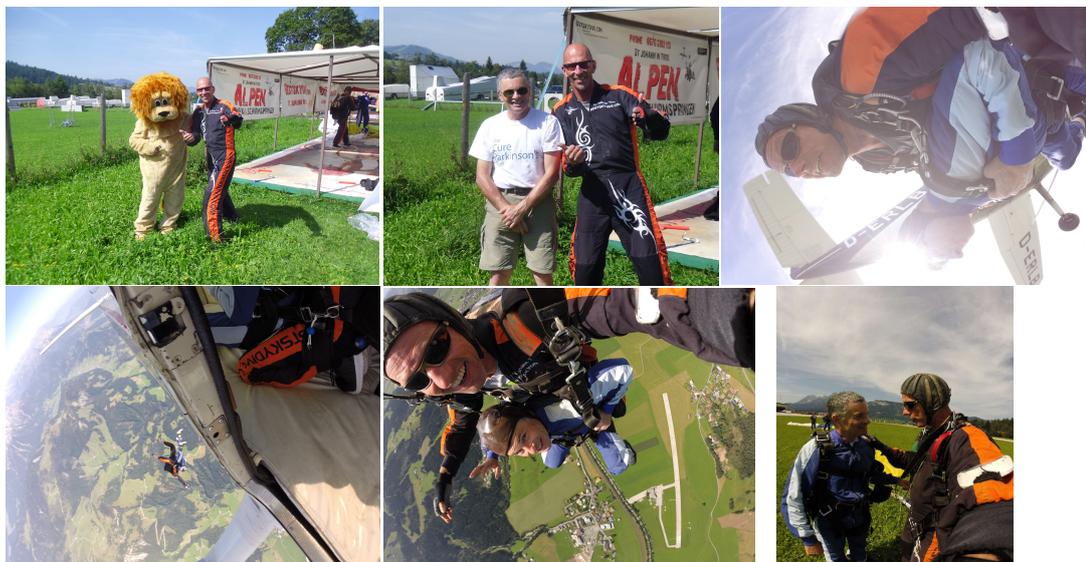
Lion Terry Smith – Lifeskills DLO

Is it a Flying Dutchman? No, it is a Flying Lion!

Shirley Lion Jaap had a lifetime of fear of heights, a friend who did a hypnotherapy course was tasked with sorting out this problem. About 5 years ago this happened and since that time Jaap definitely felt more confident on high ladders, high buildings and the like. But the real test would be jumping out a plane. The crazy idea was not as frightening as it would have been many years ago. Ofcourse the choice of the skydiving company helped. Near the hotel were Lions Claire & Jaap go regularly in Tirol, Austria is a small

airfield with a such a company. Jaap saw them 2 year ago and the idea of jumping with them took hold. When fellow Lion Ali of Shirley Lions was sponsored by the club when he did a Loop the Loop for a good cause the die was cast. Jaap said: "If he gets sponsored for staying **in** a plane, what do you give for a Lion jumping **out** of a plane?" The chosen cause was The Cure Parkinson's Trust. A charity for which he has fundraised before as one of Jaap's best friends suffers from this disease for many years. A cure would be very welcome.

August 30 it happened and as Jaap stated: "I would lie if I said it was all fun, but it was the first time and a next time I might enjoy it more." Who knows, there might be a next time. If you would like to show your support, please follow this link: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/jakob-de-jonge>



Obituaries

Advertising

Forthcoming Events



You could have 2 free return flights plus £300
spending money for just the price of a £1.00 ticket
in the Bromsgrove Lions Raffle

Any Jet 2 destination from Birmingham or
East Midlands airport

T/C's APPLY

Bromsgrove Lions Club's Grand Summer Raffle is now underway and will be drawn on Monday 4th September. Tickets cost £1.00 each or £5.00 per book and are available from Bromsgrove Lions Club.

BROMSGROVE LIONS CLUB
ABBA TRIBUTE CONCERT

Bromsgrove Lions Club would like to invite you to join us at an Abba Tribute Night that will be held on Friday, 24th November at Longbridge Social Club, Northfield.

Tickets cost £10.00 each and are available from Longbridge Social Club or Lion President Alan James, tel: 07771 968158.

It's an excellent night out and funds raised will help us to provide defibrillators in schools and, of course, other good causes.

2 Days of Fabulous 20th Century Musical Memories 24+25 November

As I am sure you will have seen from the Lion Magazine 'Sounds of a Century' is off and running. The entertainment is different each evening, menus have been agreed with the 'New Dock' [they will be different on each night] and Mandy has done a magnificent job in putting everything together in terms of flyers, design etc.

In summary:

Friday

Dinner: 6 hours of entertainment including 3 course meal: **Only £65.**

Saturday

Afternoon Tea plus 2 hours of entertainment: **Only £25.**

Dinner: 6 hours of entertainment including 3 course meal: **Only £65.**

Saturday Package: Afternoon Tea & Evening meal: **Only £80.**

Weekend Package: All 3 musical events, including entertainment and meals: Exceptional Value at Only £135.

2 Days of Fabulous 20th Century Musical Memories

Featuring Top Tribute Performances

A booking form for tickets will be available at Convention, in Blackpool; book a table for a Club night out or a weekend away.

MDHQ advise they have already received enquiries from Lions wishing to book tickets.

Marston Green Lions 40th Charter Anniversary Dinner and Dance

Event: Marston Green Lions 40th Charter Anniversary Dinner and Dance

Date: Saturday 7th October 2017 - 7 for 7:30pm

Venue: The Arden Hotel, Coventry Road (A45) B92 0EH

Price: £25 per person

Details:

Lion President Simon Moss invites you to join Marston Green Lions for a night of fun and fellowship as they celebrate 40 years of serving the community. 3 course dinner followed by dancing to Lion Darren Blenkiron's excellent disco.

Please contact Lion President Simon Moss at simonmoss@blueyonder.co.uk for menu and a booking form. Please book early to avoid disappointment.

IN THE PAPERS