



MIDLANDS NEWS

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Blog: <http://midlandnews105m.wordpress.com>

July 2015



It is hard to believe that another Lions year passed. We wish our new DG, Lion Heather Jeavons all the best and we are confident we will have another great year ahead of us. We thank Ian for all the hard work during the last year.

I have added a new column to the newsletter. It is not one we like to turn to, but we need a place where we can give space to our members that have passed away. Our friends have a right to have their lives of service celebrated. Clubs, I know, it is sad news, but please let me know.

Raise money for your club. Register your club using this [link](#) and tell your members, family, friends about it and everytime 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. Over 1,000 lions will see your advert. An excellent place to advertise your 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.

Lions 105M Centennial

I hope that many of you will be aware already that Lions Clubs International will be 100 years old in 2017.

Celebration of this will run from the start of the 2016-2017 Lions year up until the end of the calendar year 2017. The logo above can be adopted as soon as you like – it can be found on the Lions100.org website, along with other resources and information – as well as the Centennial slogan, “Where there’s a need there’s a Lion”.

The aim is to capitalise on a virtuous circle – Service is Celebrated; Celebration gets Publicity; Publicity gets Members; Members gets Service achieved; Service is Celebrated; and on and on. International President Joe Preston has already launched the Centennial Service Challenge; and the Centennial Membership Challenge (which finally pushed membership through the 1.4million mark), although it is important that we do not run out of steam before 2016-17, but because we want to arrive at the start of that year with good news worth shouting about already.

Within our own District, Kettering Lions Club & Kidderminster & District Lions Club have already received awards for their achievements against the Centennial Service Challenge, which I’m really pleased about.

Some plans are also taking shape at Multiple District level (Lion Ron Cross and I are attending the MD Centennial Co-Ordination meetings), covering many possible Service activities.

These range from Recycling 1,000,000 batteries, to making 100,000 Blood Donations; arranging 100,000 Diabetes screenings to planting 100,000 bulbs; 1,000,000 spectacles recycled to 100,000 lengths of a 50m pool being swum for charity; and the list goes on. The intention is that Centennial branded polo shirts will be used along the theme “I gave blood... with my friends/I planted trees... with my friends” etc, so that there will hopefully be a growing, but consistent, visibility to our Service.

We will share news of these MD Challenges as the arrangements become more settled. You can make a start now with the Battery recycling; don't accumulate lots of batteries (that poses a fire risk!), but start logging the total weight (rather than the number) of any domestic batteries you recycle at home or at work, which will then be converted in due course to the equivalent number of AA batteries recycled. Please let Lion Ron Cross know how you are getting along with that.

Of course, proper recording of all these activities on MyLCI is very important – it is by adding together the achievements across the District, the Multiple District and Internationally that the facts and figures make the biggest impression.

We will only get one shot at our Centenary – we'd better try to get it right!

North Sea Lions



The incoming North Sea Lions Officer (Lion Jaap de Jonge) was informed that the post was not a walk in the park. Having lost profile in the District, the task is improving exposure and familiarity with what NSL does. The investment in a banner will help in increasing visibility at events and a good power point presentation has been created. Jaap is ready to visit any club, zone meeting and everything else to inform you about the NSL activities. With the NSL board meeting in the District (Solihull) in September, there is no better time to show your support for NSL.

NSL Project -- Mtwapa Kenya

105E District Secretary Lion Graham Venables was in Kenya recently on holidays and took the opportunity to visit the CHink Academy to see the progress of the construction of the additional classrooms.

Here are some photographs on the on going work. As you can see the work is proceeding well and is expected to complete in the next few weeks.



Shirley Lions donates baby changing units to Birmingham Women's Hospital



Lion President Ken Barker visited Birmingham Women's Hospital to officially hand over two baby changing tables donated by the club. Club member Lion Claire De Jonge-Vors is a midwife there and had made the club aware that despite it's size the hospital had just one single baby changing table for mothers waiting for their appointment. A small gesture by the club but something desperately needed by the hospital.



Coventry Mercia celebrates second Charter

This was a picture of fellow Coventry Mercia Lions members with some partners at a home BBQ function which was recently followed by our 2nd Charter Night

Balsall Common

Balsall Common Lions help out at SIFA-Fireside



Balsall Common #Lions Club were pleased to be able to help out again this week at #SIFAFireside in Birmingham serving breakfast & lunch, along with regular volunteers Phil & Marie. We served 53 breakfasts and 84 lunches.

We also met Sister Sabina, who was one of the founders of the centre in Pershore Street when it was first set up by The Sisters of Charity of St Paul the Apostle.

SIFA-Fireside was formed in 2007 through the



merger of two well established Birmingham charities: SIFA (Supporting Independence from Alcohol) set up in 1982, and the Fireside Charity set up in 1983.

Whilst there Carole Fox Operations Manager received a cheque from Lion President Mark Whitfield.

#SIFAFireside is run almost entirely on charitable donations, so they are always looking for help and support. The centre is also grateful for donations of food, money or clothing.

Visit their website for more information www.sifafireside.co.uk

Balsall Common Lions welcome Briefcase Blues Brothers Band.



Thank you to everyone who came along last night to see the talented Briefcase Blues Brothers Tribute Band. An act that you really won't forget.

They were brilliant, with so much energy, enjoying themselves as well, and getting the audience rocking and dancing joining in the fun.

In the second part of the show they continued to entertain with music from the 80's.

It was an excellent mix of music, dancing and a bit of comedy.

As always a big Thank You to everyone who supported us on the evening.

Knowle and Dorrige Lions

Eight members of our Club were recently given awards for service and their longstanding contributions to the club's activities. Seven were given Melvin Jones Fellowships (MJF), the eighth a Progressive MJF, one of the highest Lions' awards.



The first was awarded in March to Brian Gibbs, at his home. Sadly Brian passed away not long after receiving his award which he dearly cherished.

Five awards were made at the Club's anniversary lunch in May at the Navigation Inn at Lapworth where Past District Governor and founder (Charter) Member, Brian Burgess also received a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellowship for his outstanding service to the Club and to the District in a number of capacities.

The final award was made to Jamie Walsh in June

at the Club's last meeting for the year. All of the recipients had run events, chaired committees and most had been President, some more than once.

The awards were provided to the Club by Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) following the large donation made to their SightFirst 2 programme.

Clockwise from the top: Lion President Barry Dale awards Melvin Jones fellowships to Lions Peter Smith, John Horton, Jamie Walsh, Eddie Matthews and Maldwyn Jenkins. In the centre Past District Governor Brian Burgess surprises Barry Dale with his award.

Message from the Competitions officer, Ken Barker

Why are the various competitions organised by Lions Clubs International so poorly supported?

Is it because Clubs do not think competitions are something a community service organisation should not be involved in or is it simply apathy ?

Either way not supporting our competitions is a missed opportunity to showcase, acknowledge and reward the talented youngsters in your area.

There must be talented artists in your area so seek them out and support them in the Lions Peace Poster competition.



This annual contest encourages young people who are aged 11, 12 or 13 on or before November 15th to think about what peace means to them and to share their own unique vision with others through art. The contest theme changes annually with the 2015-16 theme being "Share Peace." Young people select a medium as outlined in the Contest Rules and Conditions to draw, paint or sketch their interpretation of the theme. Each poster is then judged on originality, artistic merit and expression of the theme. Clubs wishing to sponsor an entry into this contest should approach local schools and youth organisations to request their participation and purchase a Peace Poster pack from MDHQ by October 1st. The cost of

a pack for the 2015-16 contest is £11.00 plus package and postage. The pack includes an Achievement Award Certificate and a Certificate of Appreciation together with details of all the rules and information needed to enter the competition. Any questions regarding the contest should be directed to the District Competitions Officer.

Please note: It is really important that the rules of the competition are adhered to. In particular:

1. Artwork must be no smaller than 13 inches by 20 inches and no larger than 20 inches by 24 inches. Do not mat or frame artwork.
2. Three dimensional entries will not be accepted. Nothing may be glued, stapled or attached to the artwork in any way.
3. The use of lettering or numbering on the front of the poster is not allowed.
4. Artwork should be produced on a flexible material so that it can be rolled for posting in a postage tube. Do not fold the poster.
5. A kit must be purchased for each entry sponsored.
6. Entries should be received by the Competitions Officer by no later than November 15th to allow judging to take place at the November Cabinet Meeting (to be held on November 22nd in 2015).
7. Participants accept all responsibility for late, lost, misdirected or illegible entries.
8. Entries cannot be returned or acknowledged. They become the property of Lions Clubs International upon receipt.

Peace Poster leaflets are available from MDHQ at a cost of 90p for 10.

Obituaries

Here we pay respects to our fellow Lions who have passed to higher service. We wish their families and friends strength during these difficult times.

Lion Edward (Ted) Wilkinson.

It is with deep sadness that Rugby Rokeby Lions report the passing of Lion Edward (Ted) Wilkinson. A Lion for 45 years, originally with Daventry Lions where he was secretary for 34 years, Lion Ted will be greatly missed and our thoughts go out at this time to Nancy his wife of 60 years and two sons. Details of his funeral arrangements will follow when known.

Forthcoming Events

Droitwich Lions Club

are presenting a Charity Fashion Show

on Friday 3rd July 2015 at 6.30pm, price £3.00

at M&Co, St Andrews Square, Droitwich, WR9 8HE

Tickets available from Val Sherwen, Tel 01905 770687 or e mail valeriesherwen@live.com

Barwell & Earl Shilton Club

are holding their annual Ferret Race Night

on Sat 4th July 6.45pm til late

at Ashby Road Sports Club, Hangmans Lane, Hinckley LE10 3DA

Cost £12.50 includes hot food, pay bar available too.

For tickets please contact Lisa on 07989696109 or Lorraine 07941441830

or via e-mail mcquillanlisa@hotmail.com or lorraineshipleigh@hotmail.com

Heart of England Bike Ride 19/7



Lion Paul Wheatley and Donna Stokes as Hearty, with sponsor Tim Andrews MD of Hollywood Monster launch Heart of England Bike Ride at Packwood House

Registration is now open for this year's Heart of England Bike Ride. This well-established, popular family bike ride organised by the Knowle and Dorrige Lions will again raise funds for the British Heart Foundation (BHF) Mending Broken Hearts Appeal and local causes.

'This year will see the 10th Lions Bike Ride, the 4th in aid of BHF, from Packwood House National Trust property' says Lions organiser Paul Wheatley. 'Why not bring your bike along and enjoy a great day out on Sunday 19th July, cycling along quiet country lanes and exploring the wonderful Warwickshire countryside.

Starting between 9.30am and 11.30am at the stunning Packwood House National Trust property, cyclists will have a choice of 13, 19 & 31 mile circular routes (20km, 30km & 50km) along country lanes in Solihull and Warwickshire. Or take on the ultimate challenge and cycle 100km by completing all three routes. Whether you're on a family day out or looking for more of a challenge, this charity fundraiser is a great opportunity to spend a Sunday with friends, family or colleagues cycling through the glorious Warwickshire countryside and villages. Get on your bike, enjoy the scenery and help fight heart disease.

Donna Stokes, local BHF Fundraising Manager said: "Last year we received great feedback from many of the 600 participants, who enjoyed the lovely atmosphere, getting fit, completing a challenge and raising over £18,000 for charity, all at the same time. After the bike ride, food will be available to purchase from the Lions BBQ and there is free entry to Packwood House and gardens. It's a great day out for everyone!"

Before the 9 July, discounted advance entry costs £10.00 Adults, £5 Children and after that date, an entry fee of £15.00 Adult and £7.50 Children applies. The entry fee covers the costs of promoting and organising the event safely and it is the sponsorship money that really makes a difference. You can register online via www.knowleanddorrigelions.com/bikeride or call 0121 661 5100 for a registration form.

OUR OWN "CAPTAIN JACK SPARROW" IS COMING TO

SHIRLEY LIONS' CARNIVAL



Captain Jack Sparrow Isballe



AND JUDGING THE FANCY DRESS COMPETITION

If you are 11 years old or under get your pirate's costume on and come to

Shirley Park on Saturday 11th July 2015.

12 NOON TILL 4.30

Fancy Dress Judging 3.30pm



The District Golf Competition

incorporating the PDG Golf Competition is again being held at Bromsgrove Golf Club on Thursday 6th August 2015 from 12.00noon. The cost is £25 to include a bacon sandwich on arrival.

Anyone wanting to play should contact PDG John Poole at
poolejoann@blueyonder.co.uk

Dudley Lions are organising an Summer Fun Day 23/8

Dudley Lions are organising an Summer Fun Day and we'd love you to join us!

We are looking for a variety of trade stalls (gift, craft)- so if you are interested drop me a line with a brief description of what you'd like to sell and I'll send you the booking form.

Thanking you in advance for your support.

Date: Saturday 23rd August 2015

Venue: Vine Pub, 1 Dunsley Road, Kinver, West Midlands, DY7 6LJ

Time: 11am until 5pm

Contact: Shona Jones, Dudley Lion

Tel: Number: 07886 405128

Email: stardustgifts@live.com

Cost: £20 per standard 3m x 3m pitch for Gazebo.

Wellesbourne and Shakespeare Lions clubs' raft race 26 July

Sheldon Lions have won the Lions Club Cup as the fastest Lions raft on the River Avon for more than a decade. More than 60 rafts enter this event each year but Sheldon have been the only Lions Club to do so. **So in 2015 why not join them and give them some competition.**

Participants in this year's Wellesbourne and Shakespeare Lions clubs' raft race are looking to raise more than £10,000 to fund specialist services at The Shakespeare Hospice's bespoke Young Persons Hub recently opened by H.R.H. Prince Charles. The race, which takes place over seven miles and across two weirs along the River Avon between Wasperton and Stratford, is on Sunday July 26. It will be the 39th running of the event, which began in 1976 and has taken place every year - apart from 2001 when it was cancelled because of the Foot and Mouth epidemic. Over the years it has raised more than £700,000 for charity.

Further information and entry and sponsorship forms visit our website: www.rafrace.org

Bromsgrove Lions

October 16th 2015, Abba Tribute Night

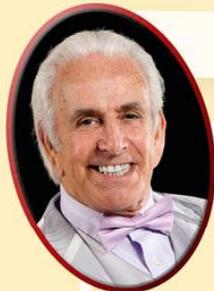
Longbridge Social & Working Men's Club & Institute,
1012, Bristol Road South, Birmingham, B31 2QU

Castle Bromwich Barn Dance

Castle Bromwich and District Lions Club invites you to a Barn Dance at the Grounds Farm, Wishaw, Sutton Coldfield on Saturday 24th October 2015. £16.00 dinner and dance includes our popular 2 Course hot meal.

To register, please contact Lion Phil White on: 01217850392 or 07969621256 or e-mail: philpwhite@talktalk.net.

“a Music Extravaganza”
with
THE Leicester BIG BAND
Singing along with the best music from the **60's & 70's**



with **Don Maclean** supported by **The Belles of Three Spires**



In aid of Coventry Foodbank
Coventry Resource Centre for the Blind
Local charities and good causes



Saturday 28th November 2015 - 7.30pm

The Albany Theatre, Butts, Coventry

Tickets £12.00

Available from The Albany Theatre Box Office: **024 7699 8964**
or online @: www.albanytheatre.co.uk

For further information email: concert@leofriclions.org.uk

PARKING @ Coventry Rugby Club Butts Park

Charters

WELLINGBOROUGH AND DISTRICT LIONS CLUB

42nd Anniversary Charter Lunch

Sunday 25th October 2015

La Rocca, Tithe Barn Road,
Wellingborough, NN8 1AH

Cost: £25

Arrival: 12.30pm for 1pm

Numbers will be limited so please respond asap but at the latest by 10th October 2015

Replies and choices to be sent to:

Lion Wendy McKean - e-mail: wendyamckean@hotmail.co.uk

In the papers

Lions to lead by example

COMMUNITY-minded Kingswinford and Stourbridge Lions Club are trying to spread the word about their Young Leaders in Service scheme.

They want more teenagers to help out in their community.

Youngsters must complete 50 or 100 hours of community work over a 12-month period to put themselves in line for an award.

Those completing 100 hours will receive a gold accolade – and those able to complete 50 will gain a silver accolade.

By Nick Pullen

01384 358224

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newsquest.co.uk

Twitter @StourbridgeNews

Karen Rice, Young Leaders in Service officer for the Lions, said: "There must be loads of youngsters out there who do great work but don't get recognised and we want them to come forward and get involved with the scheme.

"It's open to anyone from 11 to 18 years and

covers a whole range of activities.

"It could include someone who acts as a carer or works in a local charity shop to those who help raise funds for good causes.

"I've written to a number of local organisations, but haven't had many takers so far.

"But the more people we can get involved, the more we believe the scheme will snowball."

The Lions will be holding a presentation evening at Stourbridge Institute next month.