

November
2018
Edition

Lions 105M

Midland News

Welcome to your new look news from around the District



Newsletter Editors: (Double Trouble...) Lions Joy Haffner & Brigitte Green
Many thanks to District PR Officer Lion Dave Blakeman for his help.
Blog: <http://midlandnews105m.wordpress.com> Lion Simon Moss
Email: news@lions105m.org.uk

Kettering & District Lions, friends & guests, recently enjoyed a social evening of Beetle drive at The Burton Band Club.

These evenings can become quite competitive and great fun, so much so that the people in the bar next door, jokingly thought we were holding a speed dating evening! A raffle was held and it raised £157.

The evening was brought to a close, with the presentation of The Lions Centennial Award, for outstanding service to the local community, to Simon Aston, in acknowledgement of all the hard work and commitment, to make Kettering Football Club the success it is today.

Since he joined in 2012, with the help of his team of coaches and volunteers, the club has grown from 1 under 18's boys team, to at present, 11 boys youth teams, 5 Ladies/Girls teams, 2 disability youth groups and 1 veteran team, plus Simon helps with the development of

The Wildcats for Girls. Simon and the Team are constantly looking for ways to raise the funds to keep the club going and growing, they look after the grounds at the

Lowther Centre at Glendon, an even more challenging task, as someone recently decided that they needed the mower and strimmer more than the club did.

We wish Simon and the Team continued success in the future.



Corby Lions help local Scout group

Pictured are Group Scout leader Paul Hewett, of 20th Corby Scouts based on Occupation Road, being presented with a cheque by Corby Lions president Jenny Clarke and Corby Mayor Mohammed Rehman.



A Corby and District Lion's spokesman said, 'We were approached by Ian for help in renovating a 40 sq m plot of derelict land adjacent to their scout hut. They wanted to use the land to expand their outdoor activities which are an important feature of Scouting, e.g fire lighting, cooking and pioneering.' As a voluntary group they receive no outside funding - whatever they need they have to fund raise for first.

The £500 grant they were given, combined with the proceeds of bag packing at a local supermarket will allow them to purchase materials to do the job themselves. What impressed us was that they have parents with the necessary skills and qualifications to complete the work at no charge to the group.'

Corby and District Lions are always looking for organisations or clubs who need help with start up costs. They are also open to requests from individuals or families who need help purchasing special equipment such as an adapted wheelchair. Contact John on 01536 741509 or email john.w.2@btinternet.com or via our Facebook page.

Warwick Lions have donated £500 to the local Ambulance Association to go towards the purchase of a much needed medical mannequin which will be used for training on recovery techniques.

The donation was made at a recent meeting by Lion President John Tunney to association members Mia Pannu and Rebekah Dimmock. Mia Pannu, pictured in the centre has also put herself forward as a potential candidate for the 2019 Young Ambassador Competition.



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Lions Celebrate Challenging Year Knowle and Dorridge Lions Club celebrated a challenging year last month when the club held its annual presentation evening at the Greswolde Hotel in Knowle.

Welcoming supporters and sponsors Deputy Richard Buckley announced that the club had raised over £69,000 for charity over the past 12 months, primarily through its Knowle Fun Run, Festive Walk and Heart of England Bike Ride. He thanked all the sponsors saying 'It's great for our club of only 20 Lions to celebrate such success again, but without the help from companies like yourselves our events would never realise so much for charity.' He emphasised how his Club needed more active Lions if it is going to sustain this tremendous fundraising and community support programme in future years.

"The Lions year started last December with its 25th Festive Walk from Baddesley Clinton House where heavy rain the night before on top of already water logged fields meant that we had to curtail the walks we were offering. The weather certainly did not affect some walker's enthusiasm with nearly 800 generously donating over £3,800 for Breast Cancer Haven & Headway our two partner charities, as well as local causes too."

Richard then illustrated some of the Lions projects the club has embraced including Lions International Foundation, Hikkaduwa Flood Appeal in Sri Lanka, Lions Sight Savers Trust, Message in a Bottle, Great Spec Collect where over 1,000 pairs had been donated in just over a month for recycling in Ghana, Nigeria & Nepal. Chris Kiddle Morris, Chair of the clubs Community Services Committee, explained the aims of the club's Youth Travel Bursary and introduced a presentation prepared by last year's winner Kristian Bennett of his time with the Flavela brass band Project in Rio Janeiro.

Chris Kiddle-Morris explained that the Club retained 50% of raised funds to be spent on locally determined causes. During the year his committee had spent over £18,000 on a variety of local and not so local projects as well as those for youth and elderly. These included donations to the local Fast Aid Group, 4th Knowle Sea Scouts, Dorridge Primary school, the refurbishment of Chadwick End Village Hall kitchen, MyAware, Meningitis Now, refurbishment of Knowle Knot Garden and memorial benches in both Knowle and Dorridge. A full list of organisations supported this year and how to nominate a local cause can be found at www.knowleanddorridgelions.com/charities

Richard then presented cheques totalling £22,297 the 2

partner charities Breast Cancer Haven & Headway (Birmingham & Solihull), who in turn thanked the Lions for their fantastic fundraising

Richard then welcomed Jan Prior and Maria Brown from SoLO – Solihull Life Opportunities and Adrian Davenport from The UK Sepsis Trust who briefly thanked the Lions for choosing as the partner charities for the next Festive Walk on Thursday 27th December and Knowle Fun Run in May



Photo: Richard Buckley presents cheques to Headway (Solihull & Birmingham) & Breast Cancer Haven - Solihull

North Sea Lions Annual Board meeting meets in Leeuwarden, Netherlands

For the 38th time the board members of the 11 Districts making up North Sea Lions (NSL) met up to decide which project would receive the annual grant of apx. €62,000.

11 Districts from UK, Netherlands, Germany and Denmark make up NSL. 105E and 105M are the UK districts taking part in NSL. All clubs in these 11 districts donate €80 and the total of this adds up to apx. €62,000. Clubs in these districts can submit projects which have to be in the developing world and East Europe. This year we had a bumper crop with 4 projects submitted, one from each country. From the UK we had a project from Rothwell and Desborough LC who planned to build a secondary school in Uganda. The 2 members that made the trip to NL gave a good presentation, but this time the board choose a project in Tanzania, submitted by a Dutch club. The project is a solar power plant that supplies a hospital with energy.

Next year the meeting will be in Bremen, Germany. As 105 is into redistricting, 105 E and M will have to say farewell to NSL. But the 2 officers see it as their task to motivate the new districts to join NSL again. The opportunities it creates are enormous. NSL assists in real big projects that clubs on their own would find difficult to fund.

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Hinckley Food Bank have been given a boost by caring members of Hinckley and Burbage Lions Club.

After an urgent appeal for goods, the club donated food, urgent toiletries and vital supplies to the worthy cause.

Lions President Jackie Parratt said: 'our aim is to help others in our community and more than ever, people are needing to call on the Food Bank for assistance.

We spend our spare time fundraising for those who need our help and this is one of the most necessary at the present time.

A spokesman for Hinckley Food Bank agreed and said: 'More than ever we are finding there is more and more need for our operation.

After we weighed all the goods, the Lions had donated, it worked out that we could offer in excess of £350 worth of goods to help those in need.

We are extremely grateful to the club and those who have backed their fundraising efforts.'



Hinckley and Burbage Lions treasurer Mike Hanson left, hands over the goods to the Food Bank watched by Lions President Jackie Parratt, second right.

In Zone G all our Zone meetings are well attended, and this was no exception, 40 Lions joined together to enjoy friendship, laughter and food - that's nearly half of the Lions in the Zone so a fantastic response. IPDG Chris Burrows and his partner Josephine came along and presented some very important chevrons and certificates to the assembled gathering before enjoying a competitive game of skittles and a wonderful buffet. IPDG Chris presented a 50 year Certificate to Northampton Lions Club, signed by Sophie, Countess of

Wessex and Chair of Council Peter Burnett, Lion David Williams received the certificate on behalf of the Club. It was unfortunate but because of the atrocious weather conditions Northampton's Charter member, Lion David Soans, couldn't be there to receive his 50 year chevron but this will be presented to him by the Zone Chair Lion Cath Kendall as soon as possible, a wonderful achievement.

The skittles competition was hard fought, mathematic skills were put to the test, but with a little bit of help from Towcester's President Alan Walgrave and scrutiny by Northampton 80's Neville fair play was seen to be done and the Zone Chair managed no major faux pas. The winners of the competition were Wellingborough a hard-fought final game against Rugby Rokeby saw them victorious.

IPDG Chris Burrows presenting Lion David Williams with the 50 Year Certificate for Northampton Lions Club.



IPDG Chris looking very relaxed.

Zone G Chair Cath keeping score.



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LIONS FOCUS ON READING PROJECTS

Wellingborough & District Lions Club have recently taken on two projects, each one connected with learning to read.

The Head Teacher of Irthlingborough Infant and Nursery School told Wellingborough Lions that the school would love some help with raising funds or helping to support their Reading Caravan. The caravan was donated by a local family and as reading is a major priority for the school community they felt that bringing fun and excitement into reading would spark the children.

With the possibility of many libraries closing, they wanted children, parents and grandparents to be able to enjoy this space together and help to keep the passion for reading alive in Irthlingborough.

The caravan needs some internal work doing to make it fit for purpose as well as furnishing to make it a cosy spot for children and families. They also want to have the outside painted to be bright and colourful. The children have come up with their own design.

Wellingborough Lions Club has accepted the challenge and members are looking forward to seeing the project come to fruition.

READ EASY WELLINGBOROUGH

A new community-based group working to train and support volunteers to give one-to-one reading tuition to adults who struggle with reading has been formed in Wellingborough.



TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Wellingborough & District Lions Club received a very warm response to an invitation to 'Spend a Night Under the Stars' on 6th October, to raise much needed funding for the Wellingborough Homeless Forum Winter Nightshelter.

The success of the event, which raised over £3,000.00, was due to a number of groups all working together to make a difference.

Each participant received a warm woolly hat, much appreciated on a chilly night under the stars. These were knitted by WIK Knit & Natter Group, St Barnabas Church congregation, as well as friends and family of Lions.

Hot drinks were supplied throughout the night and breakfast served in the morning by the Lions and a number of volunteers.

The President of Wellingborough & District Lions Club, Amanda Coleshill, presented each participant with a certificate of achievement, thanking them for their contribution to such a good cause. She also thanked the Mayor of Wellingborough, Councillor Malcolm Ward, for visiting and giving encouragement to those taking part; and to St Barnabas Church for so generously allowing the church hall and garden to be used for this event.



Valerie Anslow, Chair of Wellingborough Homeless Forum, who worked in partnership with Wellingborough Lions to organise the Sponsored Sleepout, was delighted with the result and said she hoped the event could be repeated next year.

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Kingswinford and Stourbridge Lions will be taking Santa and his Sleigh around our area to meet as many children as he can in the run-up to Christmas again this year. We have been doing this for more than 30 years and we are now on our 3rd sleigh!



Come and see us if you can.

We begin on the 24th November and the final run will be 23rd December.

Full details of all routes can be found on our website - kandslions.org.uk

Sandwell Rocks!



Who said you need to quiet in a library? It certainly wasn't in Thimblemill when Sandwell Lions brought the midlands based rock band No Proof to the library on a Friday night in October. The band played a set lasting over 2 hours which included classic songs from some of the best known bands of the 60s 70s 80s and 90s. All money raised on the night will be used to support a number of ongoing club projects.

Bedworth Groups given £7500 Friday 19th October saw the second Lion's Den Event, held at Bedworth Ex-servicemen's Club. A panel of 5, from Bedworth Lions & Nuneaton Round Table put five local groups in the spotlight, where they were bidding for a share of the £7500 prize money.

The evening was hosted by local man Jim Lee who presents on Radio 4. Over the evening each group had to give a five minute presentation in front of an audience, before being questioned for five minutes by the Den. At the end of the evening the Deputy Mayor - Councillor June Tandy gave out the following awards:

Bedworth Walking Football- £1000; Friends of the Nook- £1400; St. Michael's Academy Tranquillity Garden- £1400; Warwickshire Vision Support- £1700 and the top prize of £2000 went to Roots and Branches Autism Network.

Denise Musson, Project Lead said "Once again the people of Bedworth came together to demonstrate a fabulous community attitude. Even though groups were competing with each other, everyone supported each presentation."

Christine Gill, Vision Support Officer for Warwickshire Vision Support said "I can't put into words how pleased we all for the cheque awarded us on Friday evening – this money will really help our beneficiaries to partake in social activities which will enrich their lives."

Kelly Mills co-founder of Roots To Branches Autism Network Said "We at Roots to Branches are delighted by the very generous donation made by the Bedworth Lions, the money will enable us to make a difference to the lives of our young members who need our continued support and services"



Photo shows: Deputy Mayor Councillor June Tandy; Kelly Mills, David Mills & Harley Mills

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Corby Lions Raise Awareness of World Sight Day



Our picture shows a blindfolded Corby Mayor Mohammed Rehman and Corby Lions President Jenny Clark, with others, outside Specsavers in the town centre.

A Lion spokesman explained, 'Lions clubs around the world try to support World Sight Day, which was on the 13th October this year. We are seeking to raise awareness of the importance of getting eyes checked regularly in order to prevent sight threatening conditions. At the same time, we are raising money to support 'Eye Camps' in developing countries, eg treating people with cataracts, glaucoma and treating the infections that can cause River Blindness. We are grateful to Specsavers for supporting our work and providing pamphlets about eye problems. We are also grateful to Margaret Lithall from National Association for the Blind for attending and displaying various products which can assist the partially sighted and blind in their own homes.'

To draw attention to all of the above, some of the shoppers would have been aware of Corby Mayor, Mohamed Rayman, carrying a white stick and taking a blindfolding walk round the shops. This was so he could appreciate some of the difficulties himself whilst trying to find and buy an item in a shop and purchase a cup of coffee.

St Gabriel's Church Hall,
Walstead Road, WS5 4LZ

ENTRY £3
CHILDREN UNDER 12 FREE
Tuesday 27th
November
7.30pm

BEETLE DRIVE

Evening of fun
and laughter
bring your
own drinks

raffle prizes

Pick up a FREE
Message-in-a-bottle
WALSALL LIONS CLUB
our motto 'we serve'

Proceeds will aid
Walsall residents

For more details ring Linda 01922 625560

WARWICK LIONS would like to thank members of District 105M for their Fantastic support following their appeal for help at the APF Forestry & Machinery Exhibition at the Ragley Estate in September.

Members from the following clubs turned out to help fit identity wrist bands to children attending the exhibition, Bedworth, Busby, Coventry Godiva, Shakespeare Stour Valley, Sutton Coldfield & Edington, Warwick and Wellesbourne and received a very positive response from the general public.

A bucket collection was also organised which by popular vote it was decided to donate to Papyrus the child suicide prevention charity.



Photographed at the exhibition are Lions Ruby and Kiran from the Coventry Godiva Club and Lions Hannah and Peter from Warwick.

LIONS BOOK SHOP
Charity No 190329

FINAL CLEARANCE SALE

- Hardback £1
- Paperback 50p
- Children's 20p

ALL BOOKS MUST GO!

Friday 2nd November & Saturday 3rd November 2018
The Scout Hut, New Street Car Park, New Street, Shipston on Stour
Friday:- 10.00 a.m - 4.00 p.m. & Saturday:- 10.00 a.m. - 2.00 p.m.
All proceeds to Lions Local Projects.

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