



# MIDLANDS NEWS

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## April 2014

### Lions collecting for Flood victims

Hundreds of families and local communities have been affected by the ongoing UK flooding crisis and so Balsall Common Lions, (supporting Worcester Lions), collected outside their local Heart of England Co-op store on two Saturday mornings in February.

Thanks to the kind generosity of our local residents we raised £516, which will be increased to £1,000 by the Lions.

This will help to provide assistance where it is most needed, with every penny donated to us going directly to help those in need.

The Lions collected on a rota basis and the photo shows Lions Stan Shakeshaft & Tony Cunningham on duty.



**Birmingham Chinatown Lions Club**

**27th Charter Dinner**

伯明翰華埠獅子會



**Date:** -Friday 11th April 2014  
**Time:** -7.30pm  
**Carriages:** -12.30pm  
**Price:** -£28.00 per person

**Tickets from:**  
 - Lion President David Cox  
 chinatownlions@hotmail.com

**Dancing to the sounds of:**  
 - Lion Stewart Sherman

**Venue:**  
 - Lord Knights Suite Tally Ho  
 Parkside Road Birmingham B5 7RN  
 Lots of free parking

**Raising funds for:**  
 - West Midlands Police Benevolent Fund  
 Various locally supported Lions Charities  
 BCLC "The Big Project"

**Dress Code:**  
 - Black Tie or National Costume

@BCLC  
 @Birmingham Chinatown Lions

**Ordinary people  
 Amazing things**

## Knowle & Dorridge Lions Masterteam Quiz

Congratulations go to the “Errant Gnomes” from Marston Green Lions Club who are now the new Master Team Champions for 2014.

25 teams from Lions clubs across the Midlands gathered together to battle for the coveted Masterteam trophy. The Gnomes were clear winners by 3 points having entered a strong team that included District Governor Simon Moss. There was a nail biting finish as “Nun but the Best” and “Morris Men” were neck and neck in second place and were forced into a tie-break (their request to share the prize was denied by an impromptu room vote). Nuneaton won the tie-break and took second place and the Memorial Rose Bowl Trophy.

Thanks go to Steve Worrall who once again provided an excellent quiz with questions ranging from the sublime to verging on the ridiculous though always educational (and as always fun). Thanks and appreciation also goes to the Strawberry Bank Hotel who once again provided the great venue.

All profits raised from the event go to Asian Eye Camps.



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## YOUNG LION LIAM AWARDED INTERNATIONAL MEDAL

Twenty year old Birmingham Medical Student, Lion Liam Barrett of Marston Green & District Lions Club, has been honoured by Lions Clubs International with a Lion Recognition Medal by International President Barry Palmer at a ceremony at the House of Commons on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March. The occasion was Lions at the UN Day which was held in the Grand Committee Room and was attended by 170 guests including parliamentarians, UNICEF Trustee and former Radio 4 Today Presenter Sue MacGregor.



Liam was asked to talk about his charity work in Ghana last year and his election as President to lead this year's medical expedition to a remote rural area of Honduras in Central America. Liam will lead a Global Medical Brigade team of 44 doctors, pharmacists and fellow medical students from around the UK to treat thousands of patients and complete a public hygiene project in a ten day expedition.

Speaking after the presentation of the award, which came as a complete surprise to him, he said “What an incredible and humbling day. I can't believe I was awarded a recognition medal by the Lions Clubs International President in the House of Commons for my work with Global Brigades.”

Lions International President, Barry Palmer said in the citation to the medal “The Lions Recognition Medal is given to those Lions who have set themselves apart in disaster relief or lifesaving endeavour. Your actions typify the spirit of our organisation and define our mission of service to others. It gives me great pleasure to recognise you for actions above and beyond what would normally be expected.”

Professor Kate Thomas, Vice Dean of Birmingham Medical School said “Liam had a fantastic experience at the UN Day in the Houses of Parliament.” She said to Liam, “Many congratulations on being awarded a recognition medal by the Lions – that really is a rare honour. The Dean and I are very proud indeed to have medical students like you here; you really add a shine to the programme.”



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## Vivo in Concert with local comedian Ollie Spencer

Balsall Common Lions organised a concert featuring "Vivo" a very popular group in the Midlands, supported by local comedian Ollie Spencer.

This was a complete sell-out replacing our regular annual "Malc Stent" event who had given us song, fun and laughter for 37 years.

The feedback we have received from those who attended was that it was a brilliant night and very enjoyable.

Plans are now being made to repeat the event next year.

We held a Raffle on the night that raised £453 which will go towards our Prostate Screening programme in October (watch out for more details).

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



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## Warwick Lions Defibrillator Presentation

The generosity of the residents of Warwick has helped Warwick Lions to raise the funds locally to enable the purchase of two defibrillators which have been presented to The Warwick Ambulance Association. The Warwick Ambulance Association is also a charity and is often seen at local events in and around Warwick.

The new defibrillators will be for use in the ambulances attending sporting and fun events. This also means that all four ambulances will now be equipped with a defibrillator.

A big thank you goes out to the residents of Warwick for supporting both Warwick Lions and The Warwick Ambulance Association. The members of both groups are all volunteers and always welcome anyone wishing to learn more about what we do.

Photo shows Warwick Lions President Neil Chisholm presenting two defibrillators to Mike and Barbara Cornes of the Warwick Ambulance Association.



The second picture is of very pleased Warwick Ambulance Association members with members of Warwick Lions Club.



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## Jaap goes Dutch

Lion Jaap De Jonge, a member of Shirley Lions will be attempting a charity cycle ride with a difference this May. Jaap will be doing his ride on a 1939 Dutch Batavus cycle originally owned by his father in Holland which has an antiquated braking system, no suspension or gears and has seen better days.

During the Second World War German troops regularly commandeered Dutch cycles and so for most of the war this cycle was hidden in their attic. Dutch people are said to still be looking for their cycles to this very day and a regular feature of Holland versus Germany football matches is Dutch fans holding up signs asking "Where is my bike?"

The 110 mile ride from Jaap's home in Solihull to the Lions annual Convention in Manchester would normally be fairly easy on today's modern cycles with their 24 gears, disc brakes and hydraulic suspensions but on a bike that is 75 years old the task becomes a lot more daunting. Jaap said "I have been in training with a few rides around the Solihull area and am confident the bike and I will complete the journey. I am raising funds for the local Solihull Alzheimer's Society as both my wife's family and my family have been affected by this terrible disease".

Anyone wishing to sponsor Lion Jaap can do so via [www.justgiving.com/jaapdejonge](http://www.justgiving.com/jaapdejonge)



**Balsall Common  
Lions Club**



presents:

**An Evening of Motown Magic**

with

**Jackie Marie**



**Saturday May 17<sup>th</sup> 2014**

**7.30pm for 8.00pm**

at

**St Peters Church Hall  
Balsall Common CV7 7EA**

**Tickets £12.50 (includes hot supper)**

Tickets from Mark Whitfield  
01676 535572  
07795 184745  
whitfieldfamily@btinternet.com

Pay Bar

No Returns

## Shakespeare supports green project

Round Oak School is a school for young people with special needs and learning difficulties. Recently they started a farm project in some nearby poly tunnels to grow plants and vegetables to use both in the school and to sell through the school. Shakespeare Lions Club has donated money to buy special tools for wheelchair users and for those who have difficulty holding things.

Lion President Tim and Lion Ron went along to present the cheque and to see the progress that has been made and were thrilled to see how professionally the project was being run. The students take great pride in their work and as you can see the results speak for themselves. Plants are grown both inside and outside and the intention is to build the project so that it becomes a commercial venture. This would then become a business venture, providing work for ex-students who could act as support for existing students.



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## . Visiting Lions in Phuket

On a recent holiday in Phuket, Thailand, Lions Mike and Dot Gee of Harborough Twenty 12 Lions were invited to attend the Fellowship Dinner and Business Meeting of the Patong Beach Lions Club. Both Dot and Mike were presented with their host club's pins whilst Mike presented his Club's Friendship Banner to President Jean Leon.



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## Marie Curie Appeal in Stratford

Shakespeare Lions stepped up again to support the Marie Curie Daffodil Appeal and donned the hats to collect money at their local Tesco store. The collection raised a magnificent £485.



## Marie Curie Appeal in Wellingborough

Wellingborough & District Lions Club assisted with the Marie Curie Great Daffodil Appeal in March. Over two days they raised a total of £1,133.69. Yes, those eye-catching hats do make a difference!



**mnda**  
Motor Neurone Disease Association

**mnda**  
MOTOR NEURONE DISEASE ASSOCIATION

**MNDA Vs Aston Villa Old Stars** (k.o. 2pm)

**Charity Family Fun Day**

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2014 at 1.00pm**

**The Pavilion, Moor Lane, Birmingham B6 7AA**

Join us for an unmissable family fun day!  
With live music & entertainment until 6.30pm, refreshments, Raffle of quality football memorabilia and a chance to meet some of Villa's biggest legends, there really is something for everyone!

Every penny raised will support MNDA's invaluable work.

Entrance by purchase of an Official Match Programme @ £5 (Child £3)

Request an Official Match Programme in advance, find out more or to donate visit: [virginmoneygiving.com/team/villamnda](http://virginmoneygiving.com/team/villamnda)

PHOTOGRAPH BY STEPHEN BROADBENT  
0121 454 1311  
0121 454 1311  
www.mnda.org.uk

Thank you for your support!

**mnda**  
Motor Neurone Disease Association

**Schedule for Family Fun Day Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2014:**

1 pm Gates open & Entertainment commences (Face painting, Information Stalls, Food, Ice Cream, Bouncy Castle, Music)

2 pm MNDA v Villa Old Stars match kick-off (parade lead by Birmingham Irish Pipes & Drums / mascots)

2.45 Half-time Penalty Shoot-out for young people & Music

4pm Move to Pavilion for Early Evening entertainment including:  
Live Music - Help! Beatles Tribute Band until 6.30,  
Presentation of Trophy (5.15), Photo opportunity with players,  
Raffle & Announcement of 'Most Impressive WAG/G'  
(Wives and Girl / Girlfriends) (6.30)

This Fundraising event is the brainchild of John Condon who himself is living with Motor Neurone Disease (MND) but is keen to do something to fight back against this disease. Because John is a life-long Aston Villa supporter he approached the club and has arranged a Charity Football match between a team of MNDA supporters against a team of Aston Villa Old Stars (Villa Former Players Association).

MND is a progressive and fatal disease which can affect any adult at any time. It attacks the motor neurons in the body and prevents messages from the brain being received by muscles – leaving people unable to use arms, to walk, talk or feed themselves. The cause of the disease is unknown and there is currently no known cure.

The Motor Neurone Disease (MND) Association is the only national organisation in the country dedicated to the support of people with MND and those who care for them. MNDA funds research to understand what causes MND, how to diagnose it and, most importantly, how to effectively treat it so that it no longer devastates lives.

Richard Shackelford (MNDA Regional Fundraiser) said: "Without the amazing support of people like John Condon and his friends, the MND Association simply would not be able to provide the vital support services nor fund research to find a cure. Together we are making a real difference for people affected by this disease."

Your support will be greatly appreciated

More Information Visit: <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/team/villamnda>

PHOTOGRAPH BY STEPHEN BROADBENT  
0121 454 1311  
0121 454 1311  
www.mnda.org.uk

Thank you for your support!

## "The End of the Pier Show"

- Who? - The Lions of 105M
- What? - The 2014 District Convention
- Why? - To learn, to enjoy and to celebrate the year
- Where? - St John's Hotel, Solihull
- When? - 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2014

- Host Night. A colourful and lively affair, with the theme of “The End of the Pier Show”. Compared by Convention and Zone Chairman, Lion Chris Burrows who provided a running theme of awful jokes whilst music and songs were provided by Acocks Green Lions and the DG himself. The highlight of the evening was the human Punch & Judy show provided by Shirley Lions.



- Saturday started with the flag ceremony performed by Shirley Sea Scouts and continued with the formal opening of the Business session by the Mayor of Solihull, Councillor Joe Tildesley.



- DG candidate Lion Ian Haffner, 1<sup>st</sup> VDG candidate Lion Heather Jeavons and 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG candidate Lion John Gray all addressed Convention. DG Lion Simon subsequently announced that Lion Ian had been duly endorsed as DG Elect, with Lion Heather as 1<sup>st</sup> VDG and Lion John as 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG.



- The 3 resolutions proposed were debated all were carried.
- Presentations were made to Lion Bob Steer of Kenilworth Lions, Kenilworth, Knowle & Dorridge and Sandwell Clubs plus the Clubs of Zone A for their exceptional support of the Niger Water Wells project.
- All the Convention reports were presented and carried.
- In the run up to lunch presentations were given by the Health Committee and by PDG Lion Dave Seager on the MD Convention in Manchester.
- Following lunch presentations were given by the Youth and International Committees. The Youth presentation included an address to Convention by our Young Ambassador, Abigail Lake.



- PCC Lion Andy Pemberton gave an update on Europa Forum 2014.
- Competition winners were announced :  
 Peace Poster – Mohamed Aslam, sponsored by Birmingham Chinatown Lions  
 Young Ambassador – Abigail Lake sponsored by Shirley Lions  
 Youth Exchange Individual – Harry Fry, Aldridge Lions  
 Environmental Photo Competition – Mike Blaxland, Kingswinford & Stourbridge Lions  
 Environmental Competition – Castle Bromwich  
 Scrapbook Competition – Castle Bromwich Lions  
 Website Competition – Sandwell Lions  
 Press & PR Competition – Shirley Lions  
 Travelling Lion – Shirley Lions  
 First Timer Competition – Jaap De Jonge, Shirley Lions  
 Golf Men's – John Broughton, Shakespeare Lions  
 Golf Ladies – Maureen Whitmore Kingswinford & Stourbridge Lions  
 Golf PDGs – Brian Burgess, Knowle & Dorridge Lions





- Presentation by our International Guest, International Director, Lion Kenneth Persson from Vellinge, Sweden.



- Club excellence awards were presented to Shakespeare Lions, Wellesbourne Lions, Marston Green Lions, Harborough 2012 Lions, Kidderminster Lions and Northampton 80 Lions. An individual award was presented in his absence to PDG Lion Norman Allen who has recently completed 50 years service.
- Lion John Barnes announced that Convention 2015 would be organised by Sandwell Lions but at present there are no volunteers for 2016.



- Host Chairman Lion Chris Burrows and his committee were introduced and thanked.
  - Convention closed with the singing of Land of Hope and Glory.
  - Saturday Night was a banquet black tie and tiara ball. Speeches were kept to the minimum and everyone simply enjoyed themselves.
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## Balsall Common Lions join in with Great Daffodil Appeal

Members of Balsall Common Lions supported the Marie Curie Cancer Care Great Daffodil Appeal with fund-raising collections in Solihull during March.

With kind permission from Tesco Extra, Balsall Common Lions collected towards the Appeal outside their store in Shirley Solihull and raised the magnificent sum of £955.75. The club then rounded this up to £1,000.



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## Diabetes Screening

Our DG Lion Simon Moss was persuaded to complete the online Diabetes risk assessment questionnaire at our recent Convention proving how quick and easy it is to complete. The resulting score will give you an indication if you are susceptible to developing type 2 diabetes in the future and if you should consult your GP for more conclusive fasting blood tests. This is an opportunity to adapt a change of life style that will not only benefit your present health but by halting diabetes type 2 will possibly prevent heart attacks, strokes, circulatory problems often resulting in amputation of the lower limbs, kidney problems requiring dialysis and visual impairment leading to eventual blindness. All these could be prevented if you just complete this simple online questionnaire from Diabetes UK or the NHS because Diabetes type 1 and type 2 are not curable but type two is preventable and controllable.



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## 105M Golf Tournament

Last year's District 105M Golf tournament was held at Bromsgrove Golf Centre on 15th August 2013. 15 Lions attended and the prize winners were:-

**Overall winner**

John Broughton      Shakespeare Lions

**Longest drive**

John      Heard      Knowle and Dorridge Lions

**Nearest the pin**

David Beese      Shakespeare Lions

**Ladies trophy winner**

Maureen      Whitmore      Kingswinford Lions

**PDG trophy winner**

Brian Burgess      Knowle and Dorridge Lions

This year's tournaments will be held on Thursday 14th August at Bromsgrove and we would welcome more players. Contact PDG Brian Burgess for more information on 01564 777600 or email [brianburgess@gmail.com](mailto:brianburgess@gmail.com)

