



MIDLANDS NEWS

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Kettering Lions present YLIS awards

3,900 hours of community service have been given by local young people in the past year through the Lions Clubs International 'Young Leaders in Service Award Scheme'.

Kettering & District Lions Club President, Barbara Gray, said, "They certainly dispel the myth that all young people are trouble-makers and we are extremely proud of their achievements, particularly helping those less fortunate than themselves".

The Club welcomed 49 exceptional young people and their families to the first presentation ceremony at Southfield School, which is a keen supporter of the scheme. On Tuesday 25th March 20 participants received Silver Standard Awards for 50 hours of service, and 29 received Gold Standard Awards for 100 hours. The internationally recognised 'Young Leaders in Service Award Scheme' rewards these community-minded young people, between the ages of 11 and 18, with badges and certificates signed by the Lions International President.

Other young people currently involved in the scheme include members of South & East Midlands Air Training Corps, Kettering Police Cadets, local youth clubs and other individuals.



Heart of England Bike Ride 2014

This event, organised by Knowle and Dorridge Lions, has been growing annually and is now in its 9th consecutive year and the third in aid of the **British Heart Foundation**. Enjoy a great day out on the 20th July, cycling along quiet country lanes and exploring the wonderful Warwickshire countryside setting off from the beautiful historic site of Packwood House NT, Packwood Lane, Lapworth B94 6AT. Whether you're on a family day out or looking for more of a challenge, this cycling event has a route to suit you. Get on your bike, enjoy the scenery and help fight heart disease.

Choose between 13, 19 or 31 miles (20, 30 or 50km) circular routes and raise funds for the BHF Mending Broken Hearts Appeal*. The routes pass through pretty Warwickshire villages on quiet country lanes. Bring your friends, family or colleagues, enjoy the friendly atmosphere, benefit from the exercise, have fun and raise money for a great cause at the same time. After the ride – enjoy something from the Lions hog roast and view the National Trust property and gardens. Refreshments are also available at the new Packwood House Restaurant. A great day out for all.

Don't forget to [register online](#) before the 6th July to get the discounted entry fee of £10 adults, £5 children (on the day registration is £15 adult £7.50 children) *20% of net proceeds are retained by Knowle and Dorridge Lions for local causes.



Solihull Lions provide a new Sensory Room

Solihull Lions have just given a donation to SoLO for £5,583 to build their Sensory Room. SoLO (Solihull Life Opportunities) is a charity run organisation that helps children, young people and adults who have learning difficulties from around the area of Solihull. There are a lot of volunteers who help the main staff and they all work together to bring new challenges for the people who go there. The members are able to make new friends and the staff try to teach them a sense of independence and gain new personal skills. At the end of last year they moved to new premises at the rear of the fire station in Solihull and have had to renovate and totally decorate and furnish the new premises; a major part was given by Solihull Lions.

Ken Bate, the President of Solihull Lions said, "It is an honour to be able to give to such a worthy cause. The fact that SoLO has just moved to new premises in Solihull makes it all the more special. It is quite moving to hear what SoLO undertakes for its members and they seem to have so much fun as well as learning new things."

In the photos are Lion President Ken Bate, Lion Jean Wragg, Janet Down CEO at SoLO and members of SoLO (their guardians have given permission for the photos to be printed.)



Kettering Lions collect for Marie Curie

Kettering & District Lions Club took part in the Marie Curie Daffodill Appeal over two days in the local Tesco's store, and raised a total of £1363. Bernard Jones and Ivan Mayers said the public were very generous and said this was a charity that deserved being supported. The hats were a great source of amusement, but they complained that it spoilt their hair styles (polished).



Italian Fiesta!
Friday 30th May 2014
Bramcote Waters Golf Club, Nuneaton

Tables of 6
Tickets: £23 per head
Includes 5 wines and 5 courses!!

Book individually or take a table

Menu

Starter—Antipasti— A selection of cold meats, parma ham, olives, melon, served with bread and dipping oils

*Main— Choose from beef lasagne, chicken arrabiata, or spinach and ricotta cannelloni—or taste all three!
Served with a selection of salads and garlic bread*

Dessert— Tiramisu— A traditionally indulgent pudding

Cheese & Biscuits, with a glass of port

Coffee and mints

*For tickets contact Peter Thomas on 02476 372933 or
Email: lionpeterthomas@hotmail.co.uk*

Proceeds in aid of Nuneaton Lions Club

A celebration in Acocks Green

We have so much help throughout the year from so many people that enables our Lions Club to play a part in community life in Acocks Green, Birmingham. This year is our 35th and looking back we have done much to build the reputation of Lions locally. We decided to celebrate this achievement by hosting a Celebration Evening at the Fox Hollies Forum to thank those who support us, those who raised money at our Annual Walk and induct two members with help of Zone Chairman, Lion Chris Burrows. Every club has people in the background who add value to Lions efforts and this was our way of saying thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

The occasion saw them receiving a certificate and some bulbs which are to be planted to remind them of the good contribution they make in other people's lives.

One photograph depicts Millie collecting a cheque on behalf of the Jamaican Foundation her nominated charity that benefits from her successfully completing the sponsored walk at Earlswood last September. Another shows Chris Burrows stylishly modelling one of the aprons we donated to mark the great working relationship we have with Ninestiles School whose pupils and staff help out at many of our events or allow us to use the school premises as a base for our quiz or pensioners afternoon tea. The other snap shows Chris inducting Sara and Penny the latest additions to the team.

A super hot buffet even brought some back for thirds. Displays provided information of the work of the various committees and promoted Lions in really positive ways. It proved to be a very relaxed and enjoyable evening that we are determined to make an annual event because quite simply there is always something to CELEBRATE.



**English Federation
of Disability Sport**



Lions Partnership with EFDS How you can help

Volunteers are now needed for the EFDS National Junior Athletics to be held at Warwick University on 12-13 July 2014

Contact Ian Clare on 07801 717846 or email ian.clare2@blueyonder.co.uk

Teams will be representing Scotland, England, Wales and Ireland

Lions Clubs partnership with the English Federation of Disability Sport (EFDS) began more than 20 years ago, and has so far raised over £200,000 to support their Regional and National Junior Athletics Championships.

This initiative has helped identify and develop new talent, as well as engaging many Lions members as volunteers. Every Lion member attending the National Junior Athletics Championship recalls this as a truly memorable experience. It is no wonder this event is an important part of our annual calendar, not only for fund-raising but for the pure fun gained in volunteering with this excellent organisation.

The English Federation of Disability Sport has a vision that disabled people are active for life. It was established in 1998 as the national body and charity dedicated to disabled people in sport and physical activity throughout England. The organisation works with a range of partners and sports to encourage participation at every level by disabled people and help sport to deliver inclusive programmes.

This partnership confirms two of Lions Clubs key areas of commitment to local communities: health and youth, encouraging fulfilling lives and empowering the next generation.

A Junior Athlete said "For me competing in athletics is an important part of my life, it not only gives me physical freedom but a mental freedom too. Athletics is one of my 'answers' to the situation I face day to day, whenever I train or compete it gives me a special feeling that comes from my heart and runs right through my body. A feeling of freedom, belonging and fitting into, what for me is and has been a crazy and testing life. On Saturday when I received my 2 Gold medals it brought everything into place, like icing on a cake. I can look at them, remember why I have them and know that I earned those medals and that I earned those few minutes of an indescribable powerful feeling. I aim to put my all into athletics so that I can feel the way it makes me feel."

For more information about the English Federation of Disability Sport please see their website www.efds.co.uk.

It is appreciated that not all Lions Clubs are able to volunteer for the National event, however, donations to support the National Games would be most welcome. Please send cheques to your District Treasurer, payable to Lions Clubs International and endorsed EFDS on the back. The District Treasurer will forward clubs donations to the MD Charity Treasurer. Letters of thanks will be issued to any club making a donation.

Kettering and District Lions Club organised an evening of first aid training, so that we would be able to help in an emergency.

The Red Cross provided the trainer for the course which was attended by a total of twenty Lions with their families and friends. We all felt that we had learned a lot, and would be more confident in dealing with people needing assistance. One of the main lessons was to follow Corporal Jones maxim of "Don't Panic".



The Lord Mayor's Annual Ball 2014

The Social Event of the Year

Organised by
 Birmingham Chinatown Lions Club

In Aid of The Lord Mayor's chosen Charities:

- ☛ Birmingham St Mary's Hospice
- ☛ Cystic Fibrosis Trust
- ☛ Scouts and Guides
- ☛ Brandwood Centre and PRODH

Date: Saturday 7th June 2014

Time: 6:45pm

Venue: The Historic Banqueting Suite, Birmingham City Council House

Ticket price: £75.00 including Five Tickets for the Grand Raffle Draw to win TWO return tickets on the direct flight from Birmingham to Beijing (Tuesday 22nd July 2014 returning on Tuesday 5th August 2014)

Dress Code: Black Tie - Evening Dresses

Tickets available from: Lion President David Cox MJF

E-mail: chinatownlions@hotmail.com

Limited Tickets Available

Logos at the bottom of the poster include: Scouts Birmingham Scouts, Girlguiding Birmingham, Life Changing Birmingham St Mary's Hospice, Cystic Fibrosis, and PRODH.

Acocks Green Lions Brain of Brum Quiz

A big thank you for the support from Shirley, Solihull, Knowle and Dorridge, Sheldon, Castle Bromwich and Nuneaton Lions Clubs as well as family and friends who turned out in great numbers to this event and helped raise £630 on the night to help Acocks Green Lions Club to provide much needed support in the area. Looking forward to the next one?

Two new members for Wellingborough Lions

Two more new members were inducted at the meeting of Wellingborough & District Lions Club on 7th April 2014. Husband and wife team Adrian & Debbie Jeffs decided to join the club after a flyer was put through the door of Debbie's mum during the Christmas parcel food appeal. So the message is to use every opportunity to invite new members. If you're delivering to any address, try a yellow card at the same time, you've got nothing to lose!

That now makes 3 husband and wife teams in the Club.



Race Night with a Difference

Worcester Lions Club partnering with Christopher Whitehead Language College, to help raise funds for the school trip to Mombasa, held a Race Night with a Difference.

A fun night was had by all with staff, students and parents letting their hair down as jockeys, owners and punters across a series of races with £570.00 being raised toward the trip on the night.

Students from the College will be embarking on an exciting trip to Kenya in October of this year. The group of 17 students will be setting off to stay in the Tsavo National Park, two hours north of Mombasa, where they will be working on a number of environmental projects as well as helping to build and restore some of the local schools. The students have been working hard to raise the funds to help them cover some of the costs of the trip and have so far raised over £6000.



Cheque Presentation to Air Ambulance

Balsall Common Lion President Ray Stephens was pleased to present a cheque for £1,000 to Peter Hayward from Warwickshire & Northamptonshire Air Ambulance Service, which was money raised from our successful '100' Club, which has now been running for 5 years.

In this individuals purchase a number between 1 and 100 each year costing £24, with a chance to win monthly prizes of £50, £20 and £10. In December there is an additional Bonus prize of £100.

Every year a different Charity is chosen by the club.



Kettering Lions and Police Cadets join forces

On Saturday April 12th members of the recently formed Kettering Police Cadets were etching post codes on bicycles to reduce thefts, and be able to return stolen bikes to their owners. This event was held at the Rockingham Road Park where five cadets and two PCSOs were offering this service free of charge. The group of 23 cadets meet regularly and undertake various duties to help the police, and have all signed up to the Young Leaders in Service scheme. This is where the Lions clubs challenge young people to complete 100 hours of community service in a year, to receive the gold award, and this service counted towards this. Two members of Kettering and District Lions club visited the park to encourage the cadets, and to learn more about their activities.



Stour Valley and Shakespeare Lions climb the ladder of success

Stour Valley and Shakespeare Lions rallied again this spring to paint the Warwickshire Guide Huts in Shipston on Stour. Last year unfortunately one of the huts had to be painted on a wet and miserable day. This year saw a much better day with many more Lions turning out to complete the task. Seen here are Lions and friends from both Clubs.



Easter Egg Tombolas in Wellingborough

The annual Easter Egg Tombolas were once again a great success for Wellingborough & District Lions Club. The tombolas were held on Good Friday in the local Morrison's supermarket and Easter Saturday in the Swansgate centre. As usual the events were very well received and a total of £731.58 was raised.



Christopher in his new chair

Christopher is a pupil at Reynolds Cross Special School in Solihull and needed a new chair as his existing one was inadequate for his needs. Christopher lives in Solihull but has family connections in Balsall Common. Balsall Common Lions together with Solihull Lions were happy to make a contribution towards this. His school were then able to provide the difference.

Christopher's new chair was made to measure, fits him snugly, thereby making him feel safe and secure. Because the chair comes into contact with various pressure points on Christopher's body, it also provides him with a sensory experience whilst sitting in it. Christopher no longer rocks in his chair, but sits still and is much more contented.

In turn, his concentration has improved, enabling him to participate more in classroom activities.

