



# MIDLANDS NEWS

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## November 2014

This journal is highlighting the activities of our District. But not all clubs submit articles and that is a pity. When reading this newsletter you might be fooled to think it is the Balsall Commons Lions newsletter again! I am sure there are more clubs that do interesting things, like Kenilworth who run a used furniture store. We need to know what you do, it paints the Lions picture.

This issue Lion Barbara Gray introduces her job in the Cabinet, promoting the Young Leaders in service program.



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.

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### District Young Leaders in Service Officer Lion Barbara Gray



I thoroughly enjoyed my 33 year career in teaching and youth work, and with my husband, John, already a Lion it was a natural progression to use my experience to provide young people with opportunities to serve their communities and to continue their development as valued citizens.

As a member of Kettering & District Lions Club I have been Club President and served on the Membership Committee, with special responsibility for promoting and developing the Lions Young Leaders in Service Award.

My main role now is to support the District Youth Team, focussing particularly on promoting the Young Leaders in Service Award throughout 105M. I am looking forward to working with Clubs, Zones and other organisations to inspire young people to achieve their awards.

### Young Leaders In Service Award



The aim of the project is for Lions to recognise and reward young people between the ages of 11 and 18 who carry out voluntary community service in their local area. We hope to not only encourage them to be active citizens but also to show that they can play a valuable role within their towns and villages.

The range of service activities covers many topics. Young people can enhance their local or school environment, provide learning opportunities for others, and take leadership roles in uniformed organisations. Other activities involve them in helping closer to home e.g.

caring for a disabled family member, collecting a younger sibling from school, helping with homework or basic literacy skills, or shopping for an elderly neighbour. The list is never ending! Hopefully we're also encouraging caring young citizens to come forward and some may develop into Lions of the future.



**Presentation Evening at a local school**

This internationally recognised award is also of considerable value when applying for jobs or university, and enhances every participant's CV.

The scheme is easy to administer and is free to the young people if the local Lions Club provides information leaflets and Log Books which are supplied to record the voluntary hours completed – signed by an appropriate adult or youth leader, and verified by the Club.



**Young volunteers at EFDS Games, Warwick Uni.**

Full details of the Young Leaders In Service Award Scheme are available from me, District YLiS Officer Lion Barbara Gray, either by telephone 01536 724959 or email [ylis@lions105m.org.uk](mailto:ylis@lions105m.org.uk). I am also happy to come out to Clubs, Zones and organisations to provide further information or give a PowerPoint presentation.

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## Autumn Forum

5 October the annual Autumn Forum took place in the St. Johns hotel in Solihull. About 70 Lions participated in a packed day, full with energy, information and workshops. Of course also a good opportunity to strengthen old friendships and make new. Lions from all over the District were at the event. The various stands around the room highlighted various causes the Lions support. It was an opportunity for instance to check your risk for contracting diabetes.

After a short opening by DG Lion Ian Haffner two certificates were handed out. One to Lion Pauline Fati of Warwick Lions becoming a certified guiding Lion and one to IPDG Lion Simon Moss as appreciation for all his hard work during the last year.

A report was given by Lion Christine Moss, about the charity she supported, [Me and Dee](#), a charity which gives treats to children and adults with terminal illnesses. During her year £7,000 was raised. Christine thanked all those that supported her. Her husband, who ran many races to support the charity, now continues to run to raise money for the current DG wives charity. Maria Hanson, who set up Me and Dee has been chosen as the East Midlands winner of the annual Pride of Britain awards. She was nominated as a fundraising hero in June after ITN and the Daily Mirror appealed for "inspirational people who are passionate about their cause".

Lion Joy Haffner very passionately promoted her chosen cause, helping the Homeless in our district. Although she is after items that the homeless need, from underpants to toothbrushes and all in between, Joy is also after financial donations. With this Joy wants to purchase sleeping bags and rucksacks filled with supplies that the homeless need. After her Carole Fox, Operations Manager of [SIFA Fireside](#), a Birmingham based charity tackling homelessness & alcohol misuse, went into further detail about the

clients and the problems they have and the funding issues this institution has to cope with. A very hidden problem that might be closer to you than you think.

Lion Rosie Eynon and Lion Paul Murphy of Sandwell Lions promoted the District convention, which will take place 20-22 March 2015 in West Bromwich. This promises to be a great event. The organising club is young and full with energy. They are proud of their area and will make a great effort to give the district a convention to remember. For details, registration, prices, please contact [convention@lions105m.org](mailto:convention@lions105m.org). More details at the end of this newsletter.



There were two workshops which opened our eyes to the issue of leadership and consequences of change. As always, very professionally lead by fellow Lions. It is great Lions have these talented people in the organisation.

The last main item on the agenda was a report by Marston Green Lion Liam Barrett and his colleague Thomas Cox who told us about their summer

trip with 40 fellow medical students to bring medical services to people who do not have it. It was as part of [Global Brigades](#). A year ago Liam went to Ghana as a participant, but this time he led the group. Our District supported him with £2,100 which was used to purchase medicines to be used during the clinics. The whole group was also wearing blue T-shirts with the Lion logo on the chest, so it was also a great PR coup, having these super energetic young people promoting Lions International. Everybody was enthused by the energy this young man has, joining also the national organisation of Global Brigades. He has a career as a motivational speaker! A member of Northampton Lions at the convention, of the same age as Liam, was so happy to see that there was another young Lion.



After a short question and answer session with DG Ian the Forum finished.

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## Kingswinford & Stourbridge Lions



On Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October we held a Fashion Show and Gift Fayre in aid of the Alzheimer's Society. Volunteer models strutted their stuff showcasing clothes by Tu at Sainsbury's, while an array of stalls



sold cakes, chocolate, jams, jewellery and handmade gifts .

The sell-out event was held at David Lloyd Leisure, Brierley Hill where more than 150 people attended and we raised over £2750.00 for the charity.

The models included our very own members - Lion President Mary Thompson, Lion Lesley Ankers and Lion Barbara Dutton.



## Shirley Lions Fun Run

The eleventh annual Shirley Lions Blythe Valley Park Charity Fun Run in Solihull built on the success of previous years as young and old, together as both runners and spectators turned out to raise money for a great cause.



The event is made up of a 500m fun run and 5km and 10km races around the countryside and pathways of the business and Country Park that can be found off junction 4 of the M42.

Entry fees are collected by organisers Shirley Lions Club and Blythe Valley Park, and then donated to a nominated charity.

This year, all proceeds will go to Solihull Leisure Opportunities (SoLO) which provides support to people with learning disabilities to improve their quality of life.

The 10km race was won by Jonathon Randell in a time of 39 minutes and 54 seconds while Emma Simkin was the quickest woman to cover the 10k in 42 minutes and three seconds.

Benjamin Dillon was victorious in the 5km race (19:53) with Louise Robinson (24:36) taking the women's crown over that distance.

Prizes were also being presented to the oldest competitor, 80-year-old Margaret Smith and the fancy dress winners Ethan Gray and Thomas Hickey.

Park Manager Deborah Fennell, said: "It was fantastic to see such a great turn out for the event once again. It really has developed into a date that people from the local community look forward to and come out in force to be a part of.



"We are delighted to be able to contribute to such a worthwhile cause that we feel will have a huge impact in our community.

"It is also nice to see so many people work together to make this event such a success. We would like to thank everyone that took part as well as the Shirley Lions Club, who organise the event."

Ken Barker, President of

Shirley Lions Club, said: "It was another brilliant event with people from the local community coming together to enjoy themselves while helping a worthy cause.

"Once again it was fantastic to be involved and hopefully we can continue to build on this success."

For full race results and times log on to [www.shirleylions.co.uk/fundraisingevents.html](http://www.shirleylions.co.uk/fundraisingevents.html)

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## Solihull Lions



Solihull Lions President Paul Jolly & secretary Doug Cross recently visited the Acorns Trust to make a presentation of £3,000.00 to Joanna Danaher.

Solihull had decided that the proceeds of Lions Solihull Carnival this year would be given to the Acorn Trust to help towards the incredible work they do for children.

Carnival was ruined as a fund raising project by terrible weather conditions but the club decided we would still make a donation.

Paul & Doug were shown around the superb accommodation and met many of the very dedicated staff - many of whom are volunteers.

What a great job they do.

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## Lion Keith Ogley, Kettering & District Lions Club



During May/June 2013 Lion Keith Ogley walked Wainwright's Coast to Coast Path, in memory of his wife, to celebrate his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday and to raise funds for the local Hospice and for Kettering Lions.

He is now planning to walk from Lands End to John O'Groats during the summer of 2015. The walk will take a little under three months and Keith is hoping to raise a sizeable sum of cash, again to be shared equally between the Lions and the local hospice.

To this end he is hoping for support from other Lions clubs and we have contacted all those we believe to be on his route. He will need some practical support as well as whatever financial fundraising can be done on his behalf. It is hoped to have a caravan to be sited at various points along the route and that we can find a driver (for a week or two at a time) to move the caravan from one site to the next and to drop Keith at his daily start point and pick him up at the end of each day. We have a few volunteers already but need more.

Keith will be setting up a "blog" probably on Facebook to keep everyone advised re training and planning and on progress during the walk itself. Details of the blog address will be notified once it is set up.

Keith can be contacted at [keith84@btinternet.com](mailto:keith84@btinternet.com) for a sponsor form or donations (directly to the hospice) can be made at [www.JustGiving.com/keith-ogley1](http://www.JustGiving.com/keith-ogley1) or directly into the bank Account set up for this event at LloydsBank – Sort Code 77-21-05 A/C No 40044460.

## COLLECTION AT SAINSBURYS

Kettering Lions Club organised a bucket collection at the town's J. Sainsbury supermarket, and raised over £400, which will be shared between the Cransley Hospice and the Lions charity fund. This will go towards the food vouchers that the Lions donate before each Christmas to needy and lonely people in the town, and also to the Food Bank and homeless shelter. Members of the Cransley Hospice Support Group assisted



the Lions, and the collection was organised by Lion Keith Ogley, as part of his major fund raising project, culminating with him doing the "End to End walk", from Land's End to John o' Groats. We are very grateful to the Sainsbury's staff and management team for their help and encouragement on the day, and the Burton Latimer branch is also welcoming us to their store on Saturday 15th November.

## Wellingborough 41st Charter Anniversary



Lion Chris Haynes MJF receiving his 30 year chevron award and PDG Roger Handcock MJF receiving an award for sponsoring 3 new Lions during 2014. The awards were presented by DG Ian Haffner on the 41st Charter Anniversary dinner in October.



## Balsall Common Lions

### Balsall Common Festival



Balsall Common Festival took place on Saturday 20th September. It set out with a plan this year to be bigger and better with more of everything, from entertainment, music and attractions to demonstrations, children's activities and catering. It also had 2 outdoor stages and Kidzone Marquee. This year it also had a couple of significant firsts, Balsall Commons Inaugural Fun Run (and three mini Fun Runs) and Balsall's Got the Voice Finals.

Balsall Common Lions were pleased to be part of the 50 stalls also present, with the infamous 'Ball in Bog' and Treasure Hunt. We were also had a Plant/Jewellery stand and Lions were giving out information on our Prostrate Screening Event

and promoting Message in a Bottle. It was a great day, attended by around 4,000 including the Fun Runners, and the weather even kept fine for us. We would like to thank all of you who came to talk to us on our stall and





especially those of you who tried your skill on 'Ball in the Bog'. All our Balls were won! Congratulations must go to The Festival Committee for their wonderful organisation and hard work in putting the whole event together.

## A Race Night with a Difference



A big Thank You from Balsall Common Lions to The Balsall & Berkswell Hornets FC and Balsall Common (2nd Methodist) Scouts for coming along to our Race Evening helping to make it such an enjoyable event. Lion David Hickson did a wonderful job compering the night persuading everyone to part with their money, along with Clerk of the Course, Lion President Mark Whitfield.

We also had some extremely young talented jockeys who helped us make it not only a great Fund raising evening but also a great Fun one.

The two pictures show firstly Lion President Mark Whitfield making cheque presentations at the end of the evening to Steve Tidy from the Hornets and Group Scout Leader Shirley Brookes and then our young Jockeys.



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## Balsall Common Lions organise Free Prostate Screening Event

Balsall Common Lions Prostate Screening event on Saturday 4th October was great success with 211 men coming along for a free blood test to check their Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA). The event was organised in partnership with the Worcester Prostate Awareness Group.

After their testing many men stopped to listen to a very informative talk by our Consultant Urologist David Baxter-Smith, while enjoying free light refreshments.

The seven Phlebotomists present were kept busy, under the supervision of nursing sister, Mrs Dorothy Baxter-Smith, who packed the



blood samples which were sent directly to a hospital laboratory for analysis. The results were sent direct to Mr Baxter-Smith for review who has then forwarded these to each of the men tested with their results, which is categorised Green, Amber or Red.

This will give advice on any future action.

As a result of this Screening Event, 11 men have been diagnosed with abnormal PSA levels.

Increasing awareness is the key to improving both treatment and diagnosis, and in turn quality of life.

Balsall Common Lions were pleased to be able to serve the



community with this free service.

The pictures show Mr David Baxter-Smith, with his wife Dorothy, Lion Ann Pemberton and Lion President Mark Whitfield, who also made a cheque donation to Mr Baxter-Smith for the Worcester Awareness Group & the Phlebotomists.

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## Europa Forum Hot from the press!

While this is written the Europa Forum is in full swing. Lions from all over the world were at the the Hilton Metropole (NEC) for 5 days with Past and Current International Presidents leading the pride. Many Lions from the District volunteered and a few pictures give an idea of the event.



DG Ian Haffner and Joy with important visitor



Dedicating the new Lion flag at the NEC



District M Lions (and one from outside) welcoming delegates at the airport

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## Barwell & Earl Shilton Lions

cordially invite you to their annual charity ball.

This year we are taking you all the way to VEGAS!

Entertainment provided by internationally acclaimed big band singer Matthew Ford.

A silent auction will be taking place including fantastic one of a kind prizes.

You can also expect plenty of laughs when trying your hand at the casino tables or on the slot machines. . .  
but do not fear . . . its all for fun!

There will be a drinks reception, table buffet (to avoid those queues) and a disco for those who wish to dance into the night.



This FABULOUS event is on the

15<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2014

At Greene King Stadium, Leicester Road, Hinckley, LE10 3DR

7:00 – 7:30

£27.50 per person

Black Tie/Lounge Suit – Fancy dress optional.

To book tickets or for more information please call LISA on 07989696109 or AMY on 07817317302 /  
[amybenn1@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:amybenn1@hotmail.co.uk)

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### Sandwell Lions

would like to invite you to our Barn Dance Social night.

Friday 21st November 2014 - 7:45 until late o'clock!

£6 entrance ticket (to include fish and chip supper)

St Huberts School Hall, Clent Road, Oldbury

Contact Nick or Jackie on 07974134014 for tickets or more information

We look forward to stripping the willow with you!!!

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### CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Market Harborough Theatre Lounge  
Church Square, LE16 7NB

November 22nd  
2pm – 4pm

Various Craft Stalls, Tea and Cakes

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### Coventry Leofric Lions

are organizing a concert to raise funds for the Coventry Resource Centre for the Blind and the Coventry food bank.

7.30pm on Saturday 29th November at the Albany Theatre, Butts, Coventry.

Featuring: Don Maclean, Don Mather and his Miller Men, The Belles of Three Spires and Last Train Home.

Tickets £12.00 available from [www.albanytheatre.co.uk](http://www.albanytheatre.co.uk)

Further information available from [www.leofriclions.org.uk](http://www.leofriclions.org.uk)

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### Balsall Common Lions Club

Present

**"A NIGHT OF BLACK COUNTRY HUMOUR"**

with

COMEDY DUO

"DANDY"

**Saturday 6th December 2014**

7.30pm. for 8.00pm.

**TICKETS £12.50**

includes Fish & Chip Supper  
at

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

**Contact Lion Ross Collins**

**01676 534820 / 07813 937921**

Pay Bar

No Refunds

A man with short brown hair, wearing a blue button-down shirt and dark trousers, is standing and playing a red acoustic guitar. He is looking towards the camera with a slight smile. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

**Droitwich Lions**

**Malcolm Stent**  
Comedian, musician, songwriter!

**Live at  
Droitwich Working Men's club  
7th November 2014  
Time 7.30  
Tickets £10  
Available From  
Lion Carole Moseley  
Tel: 01905 796565  
Or from the Working Men's Club**

Proceeds to St Richard's Hospice  
And  
Other Lions Charities

 **St. Richard's Hospice**  
CARING FOR LIFE



## Knowle and Dorridge Lions



**Walk off your Christmas pudding, bring your friends and relatives, just turn up and make a donation** – that's the invitation from Knowle and Dorridge Lions. This year's FREE Festive Walk from Baddesley Clinton National Trust House on Sunday **28<sup>th</sup> December** offers a choice of 3, 7 or 9 mile signed circular routes and an opportunity to help the Lions raise funds for the Arthritis Research UK, Knowle Football Club, Solihull Young Carers and local causes. Details online at [www.knowleanddorridgelions.com/walk](http://www.knowleanddorridgelions.com/walk) or call 08458 335 894. Put it on your calendar now.

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### District 105M Convention 20-22 March 2015

#### Park Inn Radisson-West Bromwich

Package (2 nights B&B, host night, Saturday Lunch, banquet & ball, Sunday coffee)

£240/couple, £165 Single occupancy

For booking form: [convention@lions105m.org](mailto:convention@lions105m.org)

Friday host night theme: 1970's

Saturday Business session Free of Charge

International guest: Past Int. Director Douglas Alexander from New York

Sunday Morning: stroll through the Sandwell Valley followed by Q&A session

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### **DISTRICT ACTIVITIES:**

20th – 22nd March 2015 District Convention, Park Inn by Radisson, West Bromwich

8th–10th May 2015 MD Convention, Hilton Birmingham Metropole

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### **Charters**

#### HARBOROUGH TWENTY 12 LIONS

2nd Anniversary Charter Dinner

Saturday 8th November, 7pm

at Market Harborough Golf Club

Harborough Road

LE16 8NB

Dress – Black Tie

For information and booking form:

[lionjbush@aol.com](mailto:lionjbush@aol.com)

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#### SOLIHULL LIONS CHARTER

We are having a "Jolly" night this year.

No formal speeches

Lounge Suits

Shirley Golf Club  
November 15th 2014  
7.30 for 8.00pm  
Details later

Would you like to join President Paul and Lynn Jolly

Contact Ken Bate on 0121-744 7306

We would love to see you

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NORTHAMPTON EIGHTY LIONS CLUB 34<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
AND  
NORTHAMPTON LIONS CLUB 46<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY JOINT CHARTER DINNER  
on  
Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> November  
7.00 for 7.30pm  
at

Cheyne Walk Club, 2 Cheyne Walk, Northampton NN1 5PU

Dress: Ladies – long or cocktail dresses, Gentlemen – formal or lounge suits

Price: £26 per person

Contact: Jackie Anstice on 01604 880572 or [paul.anstice@pera.com](mailto:paul.anstice@pera.com)

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### Worcester Lions Charter 22nd November 2014

Lion President Gordon Templeton would like to invite you to Worcester Lions Club 45<sup>th</sup> Charter Dinner.

Venue: The Bank House Hotel, Bransford, Worcester, WR6 5JD

Date: 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2014

Time: 7 for 7.30pm

For further info. please contact Lion Joy Haffner [lionsjoyandian@worcesterlionsclub.org.uk](mailto:lionsjoyandian@worcesterlionsclub.org.uk)

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### SHIRLEY LIONS

For a number of years now our Charter celebration has been a full weekend away and in a different part of the country each year. Our 2015 Charter will be:

Friday 13th March to Sunday 15th March 2015

Meon Valley Marriott Hotel, Southampton.

Package price for 2 nights B&B plus Banquet & Ball is £105 per person.

For details and registration contact Ken Barker: [barkerken@hotmail.com](mailto:barkerken@hotmail.com)

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The Youth Travel Bursary students gave an insightful talk on their experiences abroad.



Right: Representatives from Vision Care gratefully accept their donation.



The British Heart Foundation gratefully receives its cheque.



Left: The Brain Tumour Charity also benefitted from the Lions' year of successful fundraising.

# Lions club claws in £74,000 for causes

*Strictly, Men Singing*

KNOWLE and Dorridge Lions Club celebrated yet another successful year - in which it raised nearly £74,000 for local charities - at its annual presentation evening at the Greswolde Hotel in Knowle.



Northleigh House was the final beneficiary of the year's fundraising efforts.