



MIDLANDS NEWS

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

February 2015

It is with enormous pride to our District that PDG Simon Moss has been elected to become Council Chairman 2015/2016. District M is delivering the best man for the job. Simon Moss is brimming with energy and is a hands on Lion who personifies what Lionism stands for. We wish him success in his new position.



It is good to read that Lions clubs are co-operating with other Service clubs. We can all keep our identity while at the same time supporting each other doing good. Everybody is a winner this way.

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.

Diabetes costs the NHS about £10 billion a year.

3 MILLION PEOPLE IN BRITAIN SUFFER WITH DIABETES.

Mounting concerns about the rising levels of obesity, which is one of the major factors causing type 2 diabetes, have resulted in the introduction of a new national programme encouraging GPs to offer overweight patients treatment to lose weight, whilst companies will be encouraged to offer financial incentives to employees to tempt them to lose weight.

Levels of obesity in the last twenty years have increased from 15% of the population to 25% prompting the chief executive of NHS England, Simon Stevens, to announce a programme of special diets and exercise routines in a bid to stave off the threat of diabetes.

Diabetes Awareness is a major Lions initiative. The reduction in the number of sufferers not only saves their lives and improves their quality of life, but also frees up monies that could be spent on other non-curable and non preventable diseases, enabling the development and progress of more preventive measures in health education and improvement of existing treatments.

Come on fellow Lions, don't be complacent, what have you and your club members done about your own health? I know that all clubs have different agendas, priorities and pet projects and may not have the time, interest or inclination to organise an event focusing on diabetes but why not become aware of the risks and consequences of diabetes and consider the well-being and health of your fellow club members. I am not proposing that you take a tape measure or set of bath room scales to your next meeting and say to a fellow member you are obese-- No on second thoughts why not???---but at least in the privacy of your own home take note of your weight, especially after the Christmas festivities.

Remember please that **DIABETES IS NOT CURABLE BUT IT IS PREVENTABLE.**

I urge you to take responsibility for your own health, a fitter number of club members means that you can achieve more activities and be more effective Lions.

Barbara Dutton, Diabetes Officer 105M

Latest update from the District Governors Wife's Appeal - The Homeless of 105M

Firstly I would like to say a huge thank you to all clubs who have provided items for their local Homeless Centres, I am sure that your continued support will be much appreciated by these Centres in the months still to come, and perhaps in the longer term as many clubs have forged links that I am sure will continue for many years.

I am now asking for cash donations (**cheques to be made payable to LCI 105M** – endorsed on the back **‘DG’s Wife’s Appeal – The Homeless’** and sent to the **District Treasurer or myself** from clubs to help me provide ‘rough sleeper packs’ to those homeless in greatest need, we have all sorted out old clothes, shoes, boots, games, towels, bedding, pots and pans, crockery and such like and sent them to the Centres, but at this time of the year and indeed all year round, there are people out on the streets with no roof over their heads and in desperate need of help, it is with these people in mind I now appeal to clubs to provide a cash donation to my central ‘pot’ of money in order for me to be able to buy items in bulk (thus cheaper than individual clubs can buy). So if I can buy in bulk more packs can be bought and then the possibility of even more than the original 6 Centres and their rough sleepers being supported across the District

When considering donations in the coming months please consider my charity and give generously, following what I hope has been a successful Christmas fundraising time, I hope that you will be able to allocate some money to help me.

Once again thank you for taking this charity to your hearts and supporting it so well, there is a further 6 months to go so we're only half way we can still do so much more to help the Homeless of 105M.

Lion Joy Haffner

Hinkley Lions and Rotary co-operate for the local Foodbank



Hinkley and Burbage Lions Club secretary Cynthia Lines hands over the donated food gifts to a delighted Hinkley food bank representatives

A FESTIVE night of fun shared by two charity fundraising groups helped swell the funds of Hinkley food bank. The Hinkley and Burbage Lions Club and the town’s Rotary Club held a joint social night at Hinkley Golf Club last week. After an enjoyable meal, seasonal carols and songs were performed by St Mary’s Silver Band and also by singer Rebecca Howsin. A raffle based on Take Your Pick was run which raised £160. And Lions secretary Cynthia Lines, in the true spirit of Christmas, decided to donate her winning sum to the local food bank. Lions President Danielle Benn said: ‘Everyone had a lovely evening and we were all delighted that one of our members has decided to help such a worthy cause, especially at this time of giving.’



Kingswinford and Stourbridge Lions Club, Sleigh Presentation Evening

Once again Kingswinford and Stourbridge Lions Club hosted an evening where those organisations, charities and other good causes, that helped us to collect with our Sleigh or our static collections, could receive their reward for their efforts.

The event was attended by some 26 organisations, who between them received almost £7,000 in donations, as well as a special presentation to the Alzheimer's Society from the funds raised at our recent Passion for Fashion event.



Cheques were presented by the Mayor of Dudley, Councillor Margaret Aston, and assisted by our own President Lion Mary Thompson.

Report on the Christmas Shoe boxes for P3, the homeless charity.



Some people count sheep to help them sleep, I have been counting shoe boxes—all 52 of them!

In total we provided presents for eighty nine homeless men and rough sleepers in Wolverhampton, all thanks to the extremely generous monetary donation from Kingswinford and Stourbridge Lions with additional smaller monetary donations from Sandwell Club, our zone chairman Praful, Lion June Berry together with

new items kindly given by individual lions.

The shoe boxes were for two of the hostels operated by P3, the charity for the homeless, each hostel accommodating sixteen homeless men. The remainder were taken by my husband Lion Bob Dutton from Bromsgrove lions and Lion Stephen Pitt from Wolverhampton and myself to the P3 drop-in centre, the Navigator Cafe, to be distributed to the rough sleepers.

All the boxes contained a selection of biscuits, boxes of Cadbury's Milk Tray, thermal hats, gloves, socks and scarves. Those given to the men in the hostels also contained playing cards, diaries or puzzles and two articles of toiletries. Those given to the rough sleepers also contained thermos travel mugs. An additional ten boxes provided for the male rough sleepers contained hand towels and a wash bag filled with toiletries. Two further boxes contained articles for females.

I wrapped another twenty individual items such as chocolates, biscuits, toiletries or hats, socks, scarves or gloves, to provide two gifts for each of the ten men in the hostel catering for the more independent men.



Dudley Lions club, although a small club, generously provided seventy five presents, three for each of the twenty five clients temporarily living at the Direct Access hostel. These included twenty five jars of preserves provided by club President Sue Harris and twenty five chocolate oranges given by new member Shona Jones.

Sue Harris and I were able to see for ourselves how grateful and appreciative the clients were when we helped to serve Christmas Day lunch to thirty five men at this hostel. It was a rewarding but humbling and moving experience. We were surprised that they were mostly young men, with only one Eastern European and one Asian lad.

Although it was a very time consuming project collecting shoe boxes, then covering each one and its lid with Christmas paper prior to filling them, investigating wholesalers, markets, charity shops and pound shops to source the best prices and values, and then actually filling the boxes and writing Christmas cards for every client, it was well worth the effort. Jim who tours the street of Wolverhampton every morning at 6am looking for rough sleepers, told us how grateful the rough sleepers were when he gave out the boxes early on Christmas morning. I received a thank you letter from the charity.

I am very grateful for the donations and help I received and would like to repeat my thanks to everyone who contributed, making it a very enjoyable and successful project.

Forthcoming Events

St Valentine's Day Dance with Cactus Jam and the Steve Kendrick Experience

Wellesbourne & District Lions Club present

St Valentine's Day Dance with Cactus Jam and the Steve Kendrick Experience

At Ettington Community Centre CV37 7SX

From 7.30 until 11.30pm on Saturday February 14th

Tickets £10 in aid of Community First Responders

Bar. Raffle. BYO bring your own food.

Contacts Lions John Liley 01789 841745 and Max Down 01789 841567

Pink Pamper Evening In aid of Worcestershire Breast Unit

Campaign Registered Charity Number 518895

Presented by Worcester Lions Club

Date: Monday 16th February 2015

From: 7:30 onwards

Venue: Bowl Xtreme, The Edgar Suite, Droitwich Road, Worcester

FREE beauty treatments

Demonstrations of beauty techniques

Gift stalls

Raffle - main prize £100

Entry £5.00 per person – holders of tickets bought in advance will also be presented with a goody bag on the night and entered into a free draw (please pre-book for your free goody bag, by 12th February).

Bar Available, Ten Pin Bowling Available (need to pre-book with the venue)

Contact Joy:

Email: lionsjoyandian@worcesterlionsclub.org.uk or telephone: 0845 833 8625 / 01905 21587 / 0770 303 4625

Lion President Stewart Sherman invites you to join the members of Birmingham Chinatown Lions Club in celebrating the special occasion of



CHINESE NEW YEAR 2015
(THE YEAR OF THE GOAT)

To be held at Tin Tin's Restaurant Brindley Place
Birmingham B1 2HL
www.tintinbirmingham.com

Saturday 21 February 2015, (7.00 for 7.30pm) cost £29

The evening includes...

3 Course Chinese Banquet
Singer Rachel Perry
Chinese Lion Dance
The God of Wealth
Games and a Raffle

To book your tickets please contact Lion President Stewart
Sherman

stewart@chamberlainssurveyors.co.uk

07973 833 519

Master Team 2015

I hope you and all your club members have enjoyed the magnificent summer and are now looking forward to the Christmas festivities.

Just to give you and your members something to look forward to, once the Turkey and Christmas pudding have been eaten and the strains of Auld Lang Syne fade away, our popular **Master Team quiz will be held on Monday 23rd February**. We are delighted to announce that our regular Quiz master Steve Worrell will once again be setting the questions to stimulate those little grey cells. The venue and time are the same as last year, 19:00 for 19:30 start at the Strawberry Bank Hotel, Main Street, Meriden. Profits from the event will be put towards the eye camp programme.

So all you need to do is get a team or teams of 4 from your club members; fill the form in and send it with a cheque for £16 (payable to 'Knowle and Dorridge Lions Club') to me at the address shown below.

Please choose an appropriate team name and remember the maximum number in a team is four. We must make this a condition for the trophy in order to be fair to the other teams. You can always make up another team with members from another Lions club.

Yours in Lionism

Lion Peter Smith

Master Quiz Organiser

Email: petersmith28@blueyonder.co.uk Tel: 01564 773118

28 Moorfield Avenue Knowle Solihull B93 9RA

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

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

Vivo in Concert
plus comedian (to be announced)

on

Saturday 7th March 2015

7.30 p.m. for 8.00 p.m.

Tickets £16.00

Two acts for the price of one!

Two Course Hot Supper

Licensed Bar

At

Heart of England School

Gypsy lane

Balsall Common CV7 7FW

For Tickets contact Lions

Mark Whitfield

01676 535572/07795 184745

Ross Collins

01676 534820/07813 937921

Worcester Lions Quiz Night

Friday 13th March 2015 7.30pm

The Blue Bell

Callow End

Nr Worcester

WR2 4TY

Come along and test your knowledge at our fun quiz night.

Teams of up to 6 people can be made up on the night.

£8 per person to include a meal.

Book your place by email: cathtemp@btinternet.com or ring 01905 749025

Quiz for the DG's Wife's Appeal 'The Homeless' Supporting

Date: 14th APRIL 2015
Time: 7:00PM
Cost: £5.00 PER PERSON INCLUDES FOOD
Teams: MAXIMUM OF 6
Venue: EDMUNDS LOUNGE BAR
EDMUND STREET
BIRMINGHAM
B3 2ES
WWW.EDMUNDSBAR.CO.UK
Raffle: TO BE HELD ON THE NIGHT

To register your team please contact:

Lion President Stewart Sherman, stewart@chamberlainssurveyors.co.uk

Kingswinford and Stourbridge Lions

Invite you to a

An Italian Buffet Meal (including entertainment)
proceeds for the District Governor's Wife's Appeal 'The Homeless'

Saturday 28th February

St. Mary's Church Centre, The Village, Kingswinford DY6 8AY (opposite the Old Court House Hotel)

Time 7:00pm for 7.30pm

Cost; £13.75

Bring your own drinks or wine available for a donation.

Selection of Antipasti; Chicken Caccitore; Bolognese; Risotto; Lasagne; various pastas;
Selection of sweets including Tiramisu, Torta di riso; Zupps Inglese.

Limited spaces available

RSVP by 16th February to Barbara Dutton; 5 Woods Lane, Brierley Hill, West Midlands, DY5 2QS;
01384 891074 or; barbaramdutton@hotmail.co.uk
Cheques payable to; Kingswinford & Stourbridge Lions



Knowle Fun Run

Entries are open for this year's 32nd Knowle Fun Run on **Sunday 17th May**. Hundreds of runners have already made their New Year's resolution to run in Solihull's biggest fundraising event of its kind. Why not join them for this popular 5 mile Fun Run with great community atmosphere on traffic-free streets and help raise funds for Arthritis Research UK, Knowle Football Club, Solihull Young Carers and local causes.

More details and enter online now at www.knowlefunrun.org.uk.

DISTRICT ACTIVITIES:

20th – 22nd March 2015 District Convention, Park Inn by Radisson, West Bromwich
8th–10th May 2015 MD Convention, Hilton Birmingham Metropole

Charters

Walsall Lions Club 40th Charter Anniversary

14th February 2015

At The County Hotel, Birmingham Road, Walsall

6.45 For 7.15

Look forward to a special meal and entertainment to celebrate our ruby anniversary.
Menu and details to follow from

Linda Wilton, Secretary, Walsall Lions Club

Bushby Lions Club

Lion President Dullabhbhai Patel invites
Fellow Lions and Guests to Bushby Lions
Charter Anniversary Luncheon
on

SUNDAY 22nd February 2015

Venue and menu to follow

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New year in advance

Josh Ramji

Secretary Bushby Lions Club

Bromsgrove's 35th Annual Charter

14th March 2015

Bromsgrove Hilton

7.00 for 7.30pm.

Dress code: Black tie

Cost £25.

Speeches will be kept short to allow time for our Frank Sinatra Tribute Artist.

It is our aim to make this a party night, NOT a speeches night!

Booking, please, with menu selections through

Lion President Bob Wilkes on 01527 877603

bertiewilkes39@aol.com

Apologies for the problems with finding the menu on the Bromsgrove Lions web site.

It is available on the NEXT PAGE tab on our home page.

<http://www.bromsgrovelions.org.uk>

The Lions Club of Nuneaton Charter night celebration

Saturday 14th March 2015

Weston Hall Hotel, Bulkington, CV12 9RU

7pm for 7.30pm - Dress Code: Black Tie
Entertainment: Warren Dewitt – Sings Country

Cost per person £30
To book places please contact
Lion Lesley Wilkinson, 1, Hidcote Close, Nuneaton, CV11 4YG

Kingswinford & Stourbridge Lions Club's 40th Charter Anniversary Dinner

Lion President Mary Thompson & Members invite you to join them
At The Granary, Shenstone, Kidderminster, DY10 4BS
On Saturday 11th April 2015

7-00pm for 7-30pm

Contact for details:

Lion Ray Robinson – Secretary:-	ray.robinson164@blueyonder.co.uk	Tel:No: 01384 374644
Lion Maureen Whitmore Soc:Sec:	mo.whitmore@virginmedia.com	Tel:No: 01384 374795
Lion Richard Styles	lionrichardstyles@talktalk.net	Tel:No: 01384 565024

SHIRLEY LIONS

Lion President Ken Barker invites you, your partner, guests and friends to join us for a great weekend in Southampton.

Friday/Saturday 13th/14th March 2015 at the
Meon Valley Hotel & Country Club

We hope you will join us for a superb Spring weekend, bring along some friends and come for at least one night as there is so much to see and do.

Enjoy a full English breakfast on the Saturday morning and explore either Southampton or Winchester all day.

Get back in time for the Charter Dinner where we will entertain you with the traditional Shirley Lions cabaret followed by a Disco

COSTINGS

The package for Friday/Saturday B&B, Saturday/Sunday B&B plus Charter meal on the Saturday evening is £210 for a couple.

Should you wish to make a long weekend of it and stay Sunday/Monday B&B this will be charged at £80 for a couple.

Single rooms are available at £80.

To secure your booking we will require a £20 per room deposit and your choice of menu.

Please complete the attached form.

Please note that rooms can only be held until 1st February 2015 and the Saturday Charter dinner is limited to 70 people.

For this reason an early booking would be very much appreciated.

For details and registration contact Ken Barker: barkerken@hotmail.com

Towcester & District Lions Club

Towcester & District President Roger Pye, invites all Lions and their partners to join him at his Club's 42nd Annual Charter Anniversary Dinner at the Whittlebury Golf & Country Club on Friday, 10th April.

The dress code will be black tie and the cost is £25 per person.

All bookings should be sent to the Club Secretary Peter Stratton on 01327 830552 or by e-mail:- p.stratton126@btinternet.com.

Hinckley & Burbage Lions Club & Barwell & Earl Shilton Lions Club

Lion Presidents Danielle Benn, David Burchnall and the members of both clubs would like to invite you to their **joint 40th Charter Night** celebrations to be held at Hinckley Golf Club on the 18th April 2015, 6:45 – 7:00. Speeches will be prior to the meal commencing at 7:15 to keep them 'short and sweet'.

Dress code is Black tie or Lounge suit and there will be after dinner entertainment by the critically acclaimed **big band singer Matt Ford** and a disco for those who wish to party into the night.

To obtain a booking form email liondaniellebenn@gmail.com or call 07825265239

In the papers

The Observer, Thursday January 15, 2015

(from opposite) received and make it clear that this is not something that is either needed or wanted in Catherine de Barnes.

The plans are to build on green belt land which cannot be supported.

Please, don't think that other people will write, so you don't have to.

Make your views known to the developers and show the depth of feeling locally.

This development is at the wrong time with everything else that is happening in this area at the moment, and in the wrong place.

I urge you to let the developers know that they need to think again about this proposal!

**Councillor Alison Rolf
Bickenhill Ward**

Thank you

On behalf of Shirley Lions Club I should like to thank all the residents of Shirley and Solihull Lodge who contributed so generously to this year's Christmas Sleigh collection.

In the run-up to Christmas we managed to collect the magnificent sum of £6,470.00, which will be used to fund a number of local, national and international Lion's projects starting with the Shirley Pensioner's New Year party at the Shirley Community Centre this Saturday.

I must also express our thanks to Asda, Sainsbury's, Tesco's and Marks & Spencer for their support as without their help such fund raising would not be possible.

Special thanks are also given to Avonvale Honda as without their CRV we would not have been able to cover all those roads every evening, plus Knowle & Dorridge Lions and SoLO who helped with the collecting.

Anyone interested in finding out more about Shirley Lions should visit our Facebook or Twitter page, website www.shirleylions.co.uk or telephone 0845 833 9547.

**Shirley Lions
Via e-mail**

www.solihullobserver.co.uk

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