

MIDLANDS NEWS

Editor Lion Jaap de Jonge news@lions105m.org.uk



Blog: http://midlandnews105m.wordpress.com

April 2016



We had a most enjoyable and motivating District convention, which was held in Hinckley. Full praise to the organizers.

What we learned is that the forthcoming MD convention is one where crucial decisions will be taken. Clubs are encouraged to try to ensure that their club delegates attend. A coach can be organized and interested parties should contact the District secretary (Brigitte) at MDHQ.

Balsall Common LC, well respected for its activities and ability to fill up this newsletter has competition. Malvern Hills LC shows that a small club can compete with the best!

Advertising in this newsletter has raised £250.- so far. My thanks to Chamberlains Surveyors who have committed to 12 months. Thanks to all advertisers for your support.

Raise money for your club. Register your club using this <u>link</u> and tell your members, family, friends about it and every time they buy online (Amazon, ebay, booking.com etc.) through this site, a small percentage goes to the club.

If members want to advertise, for only £10, we can place small advertisements. All funds raised for the district charity account. Almost 1,000 lions will see your advert. An excellent place to advertise your company, 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.



Solihull Lions welcomes new member

Alan Odey, our new Lion.

Hinckley and Burbage Lions Club

Walkers are being given the chance to follow in the footsteps of history and raise cash for a worthy cause at the same time, when Hinckley and Burbage Lions Club host their annual sponsored walk. The event takes place around Bosworth Battlefield on Sunday May 15 and will have a staggered start between 10 and 11.30pm.

And the club warmly invite you to join them in helping to support worthwhile local causes, whilst also boosting your own club or organisation's funds. The cash you generate will be shared equally between your club and the Hinckley and Burbage Lions Club.



HINCKLEY AIR TRAINING CORPS MEMBERS HAND OVER A CHEQUE TO LION PRESIDENT SUE PATRICK AFTER THEY RAISED £1000 AT LAST YEAR'S EVENT

Ramblers can either walk a one and a half mile circuit, or the longer four mile one. The Lions will carry out the entire organisation, including risk assessment, sponsor forms, instructions for the walk, as well as arranging for marshals and first aid.

For further information and sponsor forms or to register your interest please phone 0845 833 5892, or email susanmarydavies14@gmail.com, or write to Lion Cynthia Lines, 60 Princess Road, Hinckley, LE10 1EB.

Cycle from the MD105 Convention in Eastbourne to Solihull in aid of The Cure Parkinson's Trust

8 and 9 May Lion Jaap de Jonge from Solihull will be cycling from Eastbourne to Solihull to raise money for The Cure Parkinson's Trust. The bicycle is a Dutch made 1939 Batavus bike, bereft of any modcons, but a trusty piece that won't let the cycler down.

Jaap is cycling as one of his best friends has been coping with this disease for over 20 years His friend has been helped tremendously by the progress in treatments, but a cure is even better.



Parkinson's disease is a neurological disorder which affects over 127,000 people in the UK alone and one person in twenty with Parkinson's is under the age of 40. It is characterised by the presence of tremors, stiffness, slowness of movement, and balance problems, but there are numerous other symptoms connected with the condition. The treatment of Parkinson's disease has not changed significantly in the past 50 years.

'We're incredibly grateful to Jaap.' says Tom Isaacs, co-founder of The Cure Parkinson's Trust. 'Fundraising support is absolutely critical for the charity to enable us to achieve our goal. We aim to cure Parkinson's and the only way we will do this is through the help of all our supporters - it's as simple as that!' To sponsor Jaap go to https://www.justgiving.com/Jaap-de-Jonge.

Lions help to send Kenilworth School Team to the World Student Games in Athens

Kenilworth Lions Club has made a grant of £1,000 to help send the Kenilworth School Young Sports Leaders Team to the World Schools Education Games in Athens in April 2016. The team of four boys and four girls was selected last November to represent England at the Games, organised by the International



School Sport Federation, which has 95 member countries across five continents. The event will coincide with the formal handover of the Olympic Flame from London 2012 to Rio 2016.

The Lions logo will feature prominently on the England kit that the team will wear throughout the Games.

Lions President Paddy Murphy said: "Kenilworth can be justly proud of its young people being chosen to represent England at this unique event. The Lions are delighted to have been able to help the school and parents raise the funds necessary. We look forward to hearing all about the team's exploits when it returns."

Pictured: Lion President Paddy Murphy (right) and Publicity Officer

John Whitehouse (left) with Leader in Charge Ian Lockren and the Kenilworth School/England team: Yr 9: Holly Glover & Lucy Hancocks Yr 10: Catherine Beattie, Hannah Matthews, Charlie Morris, Max Dumper, Jamie Roote & Tom Morgan.

Kidderminster Helping to buy new talking books for the blind

One of the lesser-known attractions of the Kenilworth Lions Store in Farmer Ward Road is the 'Bazaar' shop, which sells many collectables, glassware, crockery, household kitchen items, ornaments, vases, pictures and toys donated by members of the public. The volunteers who run the Bazaar recently asked Kenilworth Lions to make a donation of £650 to De Montfort Talking Books Service (DMTBS) on their behalf, using the profits from the Bazaar activity.

The donation will enable the Service to buy about 60 new audio books. Listening to these books will give great pleasure and enjoyment to many of the 200 blind people who are members of the talking books library and who live in the county of Warwickshire.

DMTBS is based at the Kenilworth Library, is run by about 35 volunteer staff and opens from Monday to Friday each week. It has a library of about 5,000 book titles on tape cassette and is currently building up its library of titles recorded on MP3 memory sticks. The MP3 format is especially helpful for blind people



because a complete book title can be recorded on just one small memory stick – about 2 inches long and 1 inch wide – plugged in, and played on a very simple MP3 player costing about £30. The Lions Bazaar is open every Saturday morning through the year excluding holiday weekends, between 9.30 am and 12.30 pm. Donations of items for onward sale can be made by calling into the Store, or via the Lions web site http://www.kenilworthlionsclub.co.uk/. New volunteers are always welcome, so if you like the idea of joining a friendly team and helping to raise money for more local good causes, do drop in during shop-opening hours and have a chat.

Pictured: Val Stene and Raymond Macdonald of De Montfort Talking Books Service receive the cheque from a group of Kenilworth Lions Bazaar volunteers: Mary Bailey, Jean Henderson, Judy Lee, Noelle Murphy, Caroline Robertson and Patricia Sankey.



Nine groups received funding from the Worcester Lions Community Grant Scheme.

The money was handed out at a special reception at the Guildhall <u>I</u> in Worcester on Tuesday, by the Mayor of Worcester, Cllr Roger Knight.

The groups were awarded grants ranged from £50 to £300, and came from money raised by the Lions Christmas Sleigh Collections and administered in partnership with the Worcester News.

Worcester Community Trust received £225. Spokesman Sharon Amos said: "We are thrilled. We rely on receiving donations and this could help up to 80 people. "Our cause helps elderly people to socialise and this money will go towards afternoon tea parties in Ronkswood and Tolladine."

St Paul's Creative Group received £100 to help run activities such as poetry and photography.

Gerry Loman said: "We cannot tell you how grateful we are to receive this for the third time. The Lions do such a great job."

Nora Parsons day centre received £150 to purchase a new cooker, since their current one is not big enough to cater for the groups of 30 or 40 who regularly attend events such as coffee mornings. The centre provides company and support for lonely people or carers needing respite.

Worcester Heart Support Group got £300 towards replacing a defibrillator for three exercise groups of cardiac patients.

After the award, Cllr Knight declared his intention to make Worcester a Heart Safe city through having defibrillator stations.

Worcestershire Young Carers received £225 towards taking a group to a national young carer's festival in Southampton. Young Carers cater for people aged seven to 25 who have to look after someone. At the they will experience camping and activities such as rock climbing. Vicky Parker and Lucy Buckland from the Worcestershire Young Carers said: "It really is quite touching to receive a grant like this, it will be great to be able to take the carers to the festival."

Sea Cadets which offer the chance to learn to sail and do adventure training received £150 to buy 10 special whistles.

King George V Playing Fields got £200 to help fund activities for children and the elderly in their community.

Sons of Rest received £50 to help a group of men, mainly aged 80+ who meet three times a week in Barbourne Park.

Warndon Villages Volunteer Group, which aim to clean up the streets received 20 high viz vests sporting the Lions logo. They have recently been partaking in the Clean for the Queen initiative and the jackets will help them be more easily recognised.

Cllr Knight said: "It is things like this that make me want to continue doing this job.

- "I am astonished by how much good work all of these groups do.
- "I think if groups like these all shut down Worcester would just stop functioning."

Worcester Lions President Joy Haffner said: "It is great to be able to learn a little more about the fantastic work these groups do.

"We use the money we collect to help groups and organisations based in Worcester with a specific need, all the groups here tonight do brilliant work."

2016 District Convention



This convention was one for the history books. The Wild West themed Host night set the level for the whole weekend. High octane line dancing with a very nice meal. The opportunity to mix with friends in a fun atmosphere was excellently organized by the Barwell and Earl Shilton LC and Hinckley and Burbage LC under the leadership of Danielle Benn. The setting in the Sketchley Grange Hotel & Spa was very good. The meals were excellent and the accommodation for the meals and convention was also perfect. The VIP this year was Past International President Wing Kun Tam and his speech on Saturday gave us a good idea what is happening to Lions in a worldwide perspective.



The convention was very ably led by DG Heather and supported by the usual team of Wim Hoogerwerf, Ron Cross, John Barnes and Brigitte Waterfield. Various issues were discussed, like the redistricting, which in M looks like generally being agreed with. Dues were left the same, John Barnes, Chris Burrows and Martin Hill were all voted in as DG, 1st vice and 2d vice DG.

In the afternoon the Districts Young ambassador, Jessica Browne gave her inspiring talk, while DG 105E, Paul Stafford lead an interesting session about the need to cross boundaries, leading up to a request to support 105E in raising funds to purchase a ventilator to be put on the air ambulance. The idea being that this air ambulance will fly into our district as well, saving lives on our patch. Competitions officer Ken Barker handed out the prices to the winners of the various competitions. The Shirley LC President took home about 5 of these. It is not that Shirley is that good, it is often the only club to participate. Ken asks politely but strongly other clubs to participate as

these competitions do have a purpose, like the traveling Lion, promoting club visits, which are very useful as always something is learned from such a visit.

PIP Tam talked about our organization, drawing from many years' experience in the organization. The new district convention venues were introduced and news will follow in due course.

The evening Banquet and ball was very enjoyable and many people stayed till the event finished.



Photo collages by Lion David Blakeman

Walkers Vehicle

The Coventry Walkathon which will take place on the Sunday 15 May at The War Memorial Park as proven over the 20years as being a marvelous vehicle for raising money.

The event has now raised a staggering £241387.20 for local charities

and good causes – thanks to the efforts of the walkers who support the event (organised by Coventry Leofric Lions).

Its thanks to our Sponsors, Coventry Council ,CWR ,the Coventry Building Society, Drayton Manor and Warwickshire Ambulance that ALL the MONEY RAISED by the walker for sponsorship goes to their pledged charity or good cause

What's the advantages of taking part? It gives you the opportunity to get as many people to walk a safe; well marked course. Sponsor

Forms are supplied and adequate marshals and first aid will be on hand. Your biggest job will be to collect the sponsor money.

The 1.75 mile perimeter of the park will serve as a lap of the walk and each walker can decide how many laps they would like to attempt.

There is a fancy dress competition which will be judged by the Lord Mayor and the Coventry Leofric Lions President - giving you a chance to swell your sponsor money by £100 and there are other minor prizes.

If you have a personal story about your entry which would help promote the event, for example, why you are supporting a particular charity or the fact you are dressing up as a Penguin. Then ring or email Reg who would love to hear from you

Further information can be gained by contacting the organizer: Reg Brown 0776 6667349 of the Lions email <u>walkathon@leofriclions</u> or visit <u>www.leofriclions.org.uk</u> to download the required Entry, Sponsor Forms and Information Sheets.

Malvern Hills Lions Club

Quiz Night.

Earlier in the month around 90 people attend the Malvern Hills Lions Club Quiz Night, held at Powick Village Hall. They didn't only enjoy an excellent Quiz but also a first class Fish and Chip Supper. The evening raised just over £670, which following the amount being reported to a recent meeting of the club members was rounded up to £700, to be donated to the Birmingham Children's Hospital Hologram Scanner Appeal. Heather Jeavens who is a member of the Malvern club, is also the Lions District Governor for the Midlands area. Her husband, club President, Dave Jeavons has chosen this appeal as his District Governor's Partners Appeal to run during the time of his wife's term in office.

When completed the Hologram effect within the CT scanner room at the hospital will be the first facility of it's kind in Europe, creating a much more relaxing environment to the young patients having to use it, compared to the dull and daunting room the scanner is housed in at present. It's hoped that it will also enable more scans to be carried out, saving both time and money.

Donations Presentation.

Before the start of a recent meeting of Malvern Hills Lions Club. President Dave Jeavons made presentations of different amounts to a number of young people, to help them with the funding of there various projects and activities. The recipients were.

Lydia Dean is a local second year medic student at Cambridge University. She is one of 40 Oxford,

Cambridge and UCL students chosen by the charity Education Partnerships Africa from the universities to go to schools in Kenya and Uganda each summer. Lydia will leave in July and spend ten weeks working closely with a partner in schools to oversee the efficient running of the investment programme, as well as running local projects. She believes that the project has a great impact on the quality of education in those local areas, and will be an incredible opportunity for her to become part of a community in a different culture. Lydia has raised over £1,000 of the money



she needs herself by fund raising in various ways. She said that this donation will be a great help towards the remaining cost of her trip.

Emma Witherford has been selected to be a member of the GB Freestyle Kayaking Team. This qualified her to compete at The World Freestyle Championships. She regularly trains at the Wychavon Kayak and Canoe Club based in Pershore and travels to the Thames Valley for coaching and practice. Emma believes that the coaching sessions helped her to finish Joint 1st overall in the Junior Women's category at the GB Selections. Her aim is to be in the top 5 paddlers at The World Championships. In the 1st year of competing internationally she finished 4th in The Europeans Championships and 3rd in the World Cup Series. Again Emma has raised money herself in a number of ways. She said that the very kind donation from Lions will really help her get to the European Championships in Germany this year.



Aimee Stephenson spends as much time on the water sailing as possible. Some times this can involve a round trip of 300 miles to attend training and coaching courses. She has regularly competed with RYA GBR Squad members sailing in Toppers and Laser Radials and came first in the Junior Coronation Cup. She also beat Adam Rowlet in his Laser Radial to come first in the Junior John Morgan Cup. Aimee at present trains with the UK youth squad and has recently competed in the National Winter Championships in which she was sailing in Arctic conditions with incredibly strong winds. Her

aim is to go to the World Championships in Ireland in June and then the National Championships in Scotland. Aimee's mother thank the Lions for their donation and said that as a single parent, any help to support a talented young person financially was very welcome.



LEFT TO RIGHT. GEORGINA ATKINSON, EMMA WITHERFORD, CLUB PRESIDENT DAVE JEAVONS, AIMEE STEPHENSON AND LYDIA DEAN.

hopefully make some fantastic new friends.

Georgina Atkinson is a Girlguiding Ranger with the 5th Malvern Link Guides and Rangers Group. She also helps with 7th Malvern Link Brownie Unit as a Young Leader. She is the only one from the Malvern Division of Girlguiding to be fortunate enough to be selected to join a team to represent Girlguiding Worcestershire on a trip to the USA and Canada in August 2016, this is as part of the county Stateside team. The team is called 'The Worcestershire Wanderers'. They will be visiting New York, Ontario and Massachusetts over a period of eleven days and also getting involved in charity work while they are there. Georgina herself has again raised a lot of the money she need to make this trip.

She thanked the Lions for helping her to have this great opportunity to taking part in this trip, travel outside of Europe and experience a different culture and also

Club President Dave said that it was a great privilege for Malvern Hills Lions Club to be able to help these young people in this way and was amazed at their dedication and achievements.

Other donations that the club has made recently were to Emily Lloyd, a member of Girlguiding Worcestershire. One of only eight girls to been selected to represent this county at the Cabana World Centre. The donation was to help fund travel expenses, accommodation and the personal kit that she will need.

A further donations has been made to 1st Malvern Link Scout Group to enable them to purchase a replacement Microwave cooker and Toaster to go into their newly refurbished kitchen.

At the start of the meeting that followed the presentations, Club President Dave inducted, pinned and welcomed Paul Rivers as a member to the club.



LEFT TO RIGHT. CLUB PRESIDENT DAVE JEAVONS, NEW MEMBER PAUL RIVERS AND NEW MEMBERS SPONSORING MEMBER KEN READER

Malvern Hills Lions Club Help 'Clean for the Queen'!



Organised by Malvern Hills Conservators. Members of Malvern Hills Lions Club joined more than 20 other volunteers last Saturday, and help in one of the events organised locally as part of the national "Clean for the Queen" campaign.

32 enormous bags of litter were collected from the edges of the woodlands around the Retail and Industrial Park in the Malvern Link area of the town.

Beck Baker, Community and Conservation Officer for Malvern Hills Conservators said "We were so pleased to see so many volunteers come along to help clear up this section of woodland. I'm amazed at how much we collected in just over two hours". She thanked all of those who lent a hand!

Birmingham Chinatown Lions held second Health Awareness Day

This is an annual event held in memory of the late Lion David Cox MJF and is funded from the David Cox Memorial Fund.



10 charities exhibited at the event and over 150 members of the local community attended.



Shirley's Young Ambassador from 2015 met Royalty



Balsall Common

Balsall Common Lions help out at SIFA-Fireside



Lt Col Richard Ayres, who was in charge of the overall expedi-

> Balsall Common Lions helped out again at SIFA-Fireside, a local Birmingham drop in Centre, attending over 4 days in March. Over that period we prepared and served a total 452 lunches, and 97 breakfasts, reaching a new record one day of 132 lunches.

first aid into real life practice

SIFA-Fireside is run almost entirely on charitable donations, so they are always looking for help and support. The centre is also grateful for donations of food, money or clothing.

Visit their website for more information www.sifafireside.co.uk.

VIVO Rocks Balsall Common again!

Back by popular demand, Vivo, played again to a 'Sell Out Audience' and Balsall Common rocked again. These guys have a reputation for great musicianship, professionalism and a versatility that's astounding & they never let us down.

It was a great Charity Fundraising event and the raffle raised £535 which will be split between two charities, Cumbrian Flood Relief, which will be sent direct to the local Lions clubs helping in the area, and to Lions clubs in Bosnia helping to provide Winter Clothing for refugees.

As always a big Thank You to everyone who came along to support us to make it a great evening. We hope to see you all again next year.





Lions support The Great Daffodil Appeal

Lions Clubs once again are in partnership with Marie Curie in support of the Marie Curie UK Great Daffodil and Balsall Common Lions, alongside Marie Curie volunteers, collected in the village.

It was a chilly day but thanks to the warm hearted people of Balsall Common we raised £764.25

As always a big Thank You to everyone who donated.





We had a great fun this month at The Swan Inn @ Studley when Balsall Common Lions met Kidderminster & District Lions in the Region's Skittles semifinals. It was a hard fought match, in good

spirit but unfortunately only one team can be the winner.

This time it was Balsall Common who came out on top and now go through to the Final.



Emily & UN Day at the Houses of Parliament

On Tuesday 15th March Balsall Common Lions
President and Youth Officer Andy & Ann Pemberton,
with Emily Lyndsey (UK Peace Poster winner), & her
Parents, attended the UN Day at the Houses of
Parliament. They had a special tour and refreshments
and Emily was presented with a certificate as one of
the 23 International merit award winners and a
specially framed copy of her painting.



Birmingham Moseley and Kings Heath Lions

Birmingham Moseley and Kings Heath Lions are working hard towards their Centennial challenge of Spectacle collection - The Club has counted almost 3000 pairs of glasses sent to be recycled, many of these were collected from the Clubs local National Express bus depot in Birmingham. Anyone not knowing what to do with unwanted spectacles can send them into Lions HQ and the team there will send them onto Lions Recycling depot in Chichester.

Rugby Rokeby Lions Breaking record



Once again the "little people" from Rugby Rokeby Lions come out of hibernation to support the annual Marie Curie Daffodil Appeal. Our thanks must go to the customers of the Tesco Store as their generosity made it a record of nearly £500 for a one day collection.

Constitution of the second of

North Sea Lions

You might have thought the Zone M NSL officer has gone quiet, but no, he is still moving around. NSL had a stall at the M District convention and were invited at the Zone D meeting. Clubs are donating, but we are not there yet by a long way, so please clubs, if you haven't done so yet, please send your cheques.



Obituaries

Here we pay respects to our fellow Lions who have passed to higher service. We wish their families and friends strength during these difficult times.

Charles Cravos

Shirley Lions mourns the sudden and unexpected death of Charles Cravos March 12. Charles was not a Lion but he might as well have been as he supported many of our fundraising activities and in particular was always out on the sleigh. He also, through his connection with EH Smith, was able to get them to sponsor many of our events. Charles was a gentleman in the true sense of the word and we share Pat and the family's grief.

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Forthcoming Events

Knowle Fun Run



Sunday 15 May 2016

Entries now open at

www.knowlefunrun.org.uk



Help raise funds for







& local causes

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Organised by





Arden Academy, Knowle, Solihull

COVENTRY (Walkathon)

Walk in the War Memorial Park on Sunday 15 May in pursuit of a healthier lifestyle.



Sunday 15 May 2016 War Memorial Park 10.30am for 11.00am start

> More information? leofriclions.org.uk or Reg Brown (07766 667349)

Coventry Walkathon 2016 is sponsored by



















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Date: Thursday 19th May 2016

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Email worcester@lions105m.org.uk

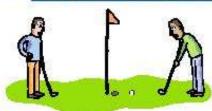
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Interested in joining ...

www.worcesterlionsclub.org.uk Email worcester@lions105m.org.uk





Charters

Kingswinford & Stourbridge Lions Club

Lion President Richard Styles and the members of Kingswinford & Stourbridge Lions Club would like to invite you to our: -

41st Charter Anniversary Dinner

At Hagley Golf & Country Club, Wassell Grove.

On Saturday 2nd April 2016 7-00pm for 7-30pm

For any more information please contact either:

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

TOWCESTER AND DISTRICT LIONS CLUB

42nd ANNIVERSARY CHARTER DINNER

Lion President Graham Edmonds would like to invite members of the Lions Club of Northampton 80 to his club's 42nd Anniversary Charter Dinner which is to take place at

Whittlebury Park Golf & Country Club, Towcester On Friday, 8th April 2016, 7.30 pm for 8.00 pm

Tickets are priced at £25 per person

Dress - DJs or Lounge Suits

Please reply by the 11th March to Lion Peter Stratton, 2 The Beeches, Pattishall, Towcester, NN12 8LT Telephone 01327 830552 - e-mail:- p.stratton126@btinternet.com

Lion President Richard Williams invites you to Kidderminster & District Lions Club

41st Annual Charter Dinner at the Bewdley Pines Golf Club, Habberley Road, Bewdley DY12 1LY

23rd April 2016, 7.30 for 8.00pm

Dresss Code Black Tie or Dark Lounge Suit Please
Booking with Menu Choices to jackardone@tiscali.co.uk or 01568 614089 by 9th April 2016

£21 PP Looking forward to seeing you

Shirley Lions Charter Lunch

The Limes Country Lodge Hotel, Earlswood, Solihull B94 5JZ

for only £23

Sunday 24th April 2016

To book your place please contact Lion President Martin Wright at lionmartinwright@yahoo.co.uk.

DROITWICH LIONS CLUB 31st CHARTER DINNER

Lion President Dave Jepson and his wife Dee would like to invite you to join them for the 31st Droitwich Lions Charter Dinner on Friday 13th May 2016.

Please contact us on 01527 821019 or at jeppo179@hotmail.com to reserve your place DATE & TIME Friday 13th May 2016, 7:00 for 7:30pm.

DRESS Black tie or lounge suits and fancy frocks for the ladies.

PRICE £25 per person

VENUE
The Pear Tree Inn & Country Hotel
Smite Lane
Smite
Worcester
WR3 8SY

Malvern Hills Lions Club 41st Charter Lunch 5th June 2016.

Venue is the Worcestershire Golf Club, Malvern Wells. Menus will be made available nearer the date.