

August 2018
Edition

Lions 105M

Midland News

Welcome to your new look news from around the District



Newsletter Editors: (Double Trouble...) Lions Joy Haffner & Brigitte Green

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Club members Lion John McQuillan and Lion Carl Kings who were presented with Melvin Jones Fellowships at the Barwell & Earl Shilton Club Charter Dinner.

John is a Charter member of the club and Carl joined very soon afterwards - both have given over 40 years service to the club and our local community.

As well as serving the local community, Carl also served on District 105M and gave many years service to the District Football League.



The photos show John and Carl as well as their wives Linda and Merle who have also supported our club and local area over the years.



Pictured here at Barwell & Earl Shilton Club's Presidential Changeover are Lion John McQuillan

MJF (Club Charter Member), his daughter Lisa Agbanusi who is our current Club President and her son Thomas Agbanusi who we are sure will become a member in the future! Lisa & John are continuing the legacy of John's late father Gordon McQuillan MJF, also a Charter member who gave many years service to the Club & local community.

Malvern Hills Lions Entertain Young Visitors from Chernobyl Malvern Hills Lions held a BBQ to support the families hosting young visitors from Chernobyl Children's Lifeline.

The children are in Malvern for 4 weeks staying with local families. Malvern Lions organised an afternoon of traditional outdoor children's games and a BBQ for the host families and children to meet up and relax together.

The photos show Lion President Russell Emery with some of the young visitors from Belarus, and some of the hard-working Lions in the cooking and serving team taking a break after BBQ duties.



Kettering & District Lions Club had a great time at Burton Latimer's annual Duck race (The annual duck race sees hundreds of plastic ducks bought by competitors released into the River Isle, with cash prizes for the winners), trying to raise the club's profile, and running a tombola stall and kids lucky dip stand which raised £106.50.



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Recognition for the Lions Clubs of District 105M from Birmingham Children's Hospital Lion Dave Jeavons of Balsall Common Lions Club was recently presented with an award by Birmingham Children's Hospital to recognise the outstanding contribution made by the Lions Clubs of District 105M to the Hologram Scanner Appeal.

The photograph shows him being presented with the award by the CEO of the Hospital. There will also be a mural "balloon" painted on the wall of the Birmingham Children's Hospital Reception for the next 12 months which thanks the Lions Clubs of the Midlands who are recognised as one of the Hundred Heroes of the Children's Hospital.

Lion Dave is the husband of PCC Heather Jeavons of Malvern Hills Lions Club who was District Governor in 2015/16. Dave chose the Hologram Scanner Appeal as his charity for that year, and all together around £10,000 was raised by District 105M Clubs for that appeal. The Hologram Scanner will enable children having an MRI scan to be accompanied inside the equipment by a comforting hologram of their choosing, which can be their mum and dad or a favourite cartoon character. Having an MRI scan can be very scary for a child and this will help them stay calm and still for the essential scan.

Dave says a big thank you once again for the generosity of the Clubs of our District and that this award is a recognition of all of the Lions in the District.

Walsall Mayor Marco Longhi playing the Key Game at Aldridge Fayre



Stuart Richmond says great Job done as Bilston and Willenhall Lions Club present their cheque to Marie Curie.

Lions from Coventry Leofric, Kidderminster, Knowle, Rugby, Sandwell, Shirley and Warwick all responded to PDG Neil Chisholm's clarion call to become "Knights of the Blind" at the beginning of July by turning out to assist bowlers competing in the Annual National Visually Impaired Bowling Championships held in Leamington Spa.

Assisting these remarkable bowlers is a truly rewarding experience and District 105M have once again stepped up to meet Helen Keller's challenge to serve in the "Crusade against darkness".



Jaap de Jonge - Zone C Chairman reports that Zone C clubbed together to support Solihull Hospital with a £5,000 donation for the Chemo Ward Project. The donation has been recognised on the beautiful board in the ward.



Andy Pemberton and Balsall Common Lions Club have reported that they are immensely proud of their Zone. Seeing Lions Clubs represented on the display at Solihull Hospital as equals with the good and great is a great achievement.

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Mikey's Wish Family Fun Day We kicked off our Fete season attendances recently with our visit



with 'Ball in the Bog' to Mikey's Wish Family Fun Day & Charity Football Match @ The Hornets ground on Lavender Hall Lane, Balsall Common.

A great afternoon, well attended & a few of our footballs were won. Thank You to everyone who came along and had a go to win a football.

The picture shows (from L-R) Lions Tony Cunningham, Marie-Louise Marsden & Mark Whitfield presenting a cheque to Mikey, (an Aston Villa supporter).

Berkswell Village Fete Another great afternoon at Berkswell Village Fete. Lots of things going on including a Beer & Pimms Tent, a Dog Show, dancing by the girls from Capella Academy of Dance, a classic car display and live Music.

There were many children's activities including ourselves with Ball in the Bog & this time we had a few experts who won many of our footballs. Some of you are getting too good at this!

Thank You everyone who came along & stopped for a chat & to those of you that had a go.



Hope to see you all again at Barston Fete in August.

CPR Training @ Balsall Common Primary School

For 7 years we have been providing First Aid Training for local schools & this year we have teamed up with Warwickshire Hearts.

Warwickshire Hearts was originally set up in the name of Warwick District Community First Responders to provide immediate trained response to 999 calls when there is not a West Midlands Ambulance Service (WMAS) resource immediately available. Volunteers are trained by West Midlands Ambulance Service and are activated by the 999. Ambulance Control to these emergencies. Over the last five years since formation, the Group has averaged around 300 call outs to 999 emergencies each year.

Recently saw the annual visit to Balsall Common Primary School by The Balsall Common Lions Club and their First Aid Trainers from Warwickshire Hearts.

Children learnt the importance of knowing CPR and how being able to perform it can be vital in saving a life. In Scandinavia, 27% of people are trained and know how to perform CPR. In the UK, it is just 7%.

Lion President Steve Meakin stated **we** are delighted to continue with First Aid Training with Warwickshire Hearts to help equip these youngsters with such important skills. It was good to see how attentive and enthusiastic the pupils all were & they all enjoyed the training.



The picture shows Lion President Steve Meakin (on the left) with Trainer Richard Booker, Year 6 pupils and Howard Rose (right), Director of Funding & Publicity from the School.

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Kenilworth Lions' partners, who run the 'Bazaar'



bric-a-brac shop at the Store each week, were delighted to make a contribution of £650 towards the new Bluebell Birth Centre at Warwick Hospital, which opened today. Pictured presenting the cheque to Michelle Waterfall, Supervisor of Midwives are Caroline Robertson, Pam Cartwright, Sylvia Curtis, Jean Hulse and Mary Bailey.

Picture Gallery Opens at Lions Furniture Store

The new picture gallery on the mezzanine floor of the Lions Furniture Store was opened on Saturday 7th July by Gordon Henderson, President of Kenilworth Lions. Gordon thanked the team of Lions members who had worked hard to open up the mezzanine to the public, and to arrange the large display of donated pictures for sale, typically at prices between £5 and £20.

By chance the first customers were the Deputy Mayor of Kenilworth, Cllr Pat Cain, and her husband Gordon. Although not an official visit, Pat spoke warmly of her admiration for what the Lions do in Kenilworth.

Also on display on the mezzanine floor are a selection of rugs and carpets, and the occasional more unusual item of furniture for sale, for example currently an African hardwood chest and a Japanese inlaid coffee table.

The Lions Furniture Store in Farmer Ward Road is open every Saturday morning between 9.00 am and 12.30 pm.

Kenilworth Lions president Gordon Henderson with Cllr Pat Cain.



Pictured L to R – Phil Inshaw, Dave Maxted, Tim Lee, Pat Cain, Gordon Henderson, Ted Curtis and John Whitehouse.

For the 5th Year Stroke Survivors From Bromsgrove enjoyed a boat trip on the Worcester to Birmingham Canal, thanks to Bromsgrove Lions and Anglo Welsh Waterway Holidays.

Two trips, saw 14 survivors and carers from Bromsgrove's Stroke Association travel to Alvechurch and back aboard day boat Emma and enjoy a picnic lunch at Tardebigge Wharf.



Keith from Bromsgrove Lions said: "A stroke can have a huge impact on someone's life, and this group really demonstrates how well they are able to combat the effects through mutual support."

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Balsall Common Beerfest Saturday 30th June 2018

Balsall Beerfest2 was held at The Triangle in Lavender Hall Lane, organised by Balsall Common Lions and Berkswell & Balsall Common Hornets Football Club for the enjoyment of the local community, promoting local breweries and raising money for the Hornets and local causes. We featured beer from 14 local breweries - all within a 20 mile radius, together with local live music.

There was also a bar selling Prosecco, Wine, Lager, Cider with plenty of soft drinks for the children. We also had hot food, a Sweet Stall & Martin from the Ice Cream Cart Company.

On the night, we had a large crowd who created a great family feel.

The live music for the evening was opened up, in the beautiful sunshine, by the talented Balsall Commoner Ellis Gallagher who kept the crowd happy with his familiar acoustic set. Throughout the evening DJ Darren & his Disco entertained the crowds.

The day was once again a complete sell out – even though we had increased the number of tickets from last year, helped by the glorious weather we are enjoying at the minute.

The 17 beers helped deal with our thirst in the hot weather (along with more than 80 bottles of Prosecco). Blonde Star from Silhill was the most popular on the night, along with Colonial Pale Ale from Milestone and Goat's Milk from Church End – more information is on the website – www.balsallbeerfest.com.

Once again, a special thanks needs to go to Mark at Silhill Brewery in Catherine de Barnes who helped organise the beers and keep them cool on a very hot day.

See you all again next year.

Thanks to Michael's Drinks World and Oakes Farm for selling the tickets – and Thanks to our Sponsors: adlington Turkeys Ltd, acclaimed mortgage consultants, BALSALLCOM.COM, Balsall Common Dental Practice, Bengal

Brasserie, CP's Barbers, Direct Carpets, Eastwood Hay Guest House, G. R. Dawson Garden Services, LAVENDER HALL FISHERY, Michaels Drinks World, Retail Transport Services, The White Horse and XACT homes.

Thanks to everyone who helped us on the night and finally

Thanks to everyone for coming along and making it a fantastic day.



Without you all it couldn't happen.

Balsall Common Lions welcome new President

After a very successful year it was time for President Steve to pass over the reins to Lion Marie-Louise Marsden. Unfortunately Steve was ill

on the day & couldn't attend so the Immediate Past President Dave Blakeman passed over the chain.



Marie-Louise has been in Balsall Common Lions for almost 10 years and has lots of experience including holding the position of Fundraising chair organising many events for us. She's

very active in the village as a local Parish Councillor and a member of Balsall Common Village Committee, amongst other things.

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33 years dedicated to the community It was with understanding and sadness that our Club accepted the resignation of Lion Maldwyn Jenkins after thirty-three years of service to our community. *Maldwyn receives his Melvin Jones Fellowship in 2015.*

In his letter of resignation Melvin Jones Fellow Lion Maldwyn wrote "As I said at the last meeting I am now finding it difficult to concentrate at night, physical jobs have to be done at a pace acceptable to my body and personal inclination. I



wish to thank all who over the years have given me fellowship. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time with you all. I see a new energy in the club and look forward to seeing its development. I shall continue to support you and possibly join some of your fund raising and social occasions".

Incoming President Bob Thurtle remarked that twice President Maldwyn (in 1989-90 & 1996-97) will be sorely missed not only for his

total dedication to serve those less fortunate in our community but for his humour and his loyalty to Welsh rugby.

Following their successful Concert in aid of the Helping Hands Charity Warwick Lions met up with Gary Matthews the Manager of Gateway Cafe in Warwick which is run by The Charity to present a cheque for £500.



Lion President Pauline Fanti is seen handing over the cheque flanked by Neil Chisholm, Angela Watson-Bell

Birmingham Moseley and Kings Heath Lions Club

we were delighted to support the newly opened Breast Cancer Haven situated on St Bernards Road Solihull which offers counselling and support to anyone diagnosed with Breast cancer. The Club worked on some super fundraising ideas including a live ferret race night and decided to help the Centre after a guest speaker from Breast Cancer Haven came in to talk to the Club. All members agreed they would love to support the great work being done there. £1000 allows for ten hours of treatments to any patient attending.



Pictured above is Lion John Barnes MBE and new member Johanna Chandler handing our first cheque over to The Fundraising Team at their recent open day at the Centre.

Lions try their benches for size This week Knowle and Dorridge Lions made the most of the good weather to inspect the 2 new benches which they have donated and had installed on Knowle High Street in recent weeks.

At the same time we took advantage of the visit of our Zone Chairman Lion Jaap de Jonge to perform the handover of the chain of office from 5 times President Brian Burgess to new President Bob Thurtle.



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This is her second term in office as she held the post previously in 2011/12.

We wish Lion President Marie-Louise every success over the coming year.

PS Get well soon Lion Steve.



Two new members join the club

We are very pleased to be able to induct two new members to the club at our recent Handover Lunch, Alex Spedding & Simon Edwards. Both live local & have already attended Meetings and helped us out at events and we welcome them on board. Both will be a valuable addition. Are **YOU** interested in helping others and becoming a Lion and meeting new people? Being a Lion allows you to help change lives. Volunteer and make a difference in **YOUR** local Community.

If you want to know more about us or are interested in joining please contact **Lion Mark Whitfield**: email whitfieldfamily@btinternet.com or Telephone 07795 184745.

The White Horse pub and restaurant in Balsall Common has launched a new wine list – and formed a fundraising link with The Balsall Common Lions Club.

For the next 12 months, customers who enjoy a good red are urged to choose the 'Parlez Vous Malbec' as £1 from every bottle sold



will be donated to the local group of Lions, part of Lions Clubs International, a network of volunteers who work together to answer the needs that challenge communities around the world.

Alastair Tyson, owner of The White Horse said: "We've been supporting charities for a number of years now through dining donations so we thought it was time to change. There's some additional good news – as well as fundraising for a great cause – if you choose the Parlez Vous Malbec on a Thursday – our 'wine'down' day – there's £5 off the bottle too."

Mark Whitfield, Membership Director, Balsall Common Lions Club said: "We're really pleased to have an association with The White Horse – a good pub, great food and the Parlez-Vous Malbec is delicious! We have a few other ideas for our partnership in the pipeline – watch our social media channels for announcements in the near future."

Rugby Rokeby Attending the English visually impaired bowling



championship. How these bowlers with little or no vision can get their bowls within an inch of the jack is incredible. All done by markers who give length of the last bowl and distance from the jack based on a clock face.

Dates for your Diary

23rd September 2018 The Chase Hotel Ross on Wye New District Meeting

14th October 2018 District Autumn Forum - The Stadium Club, Wheelers Lane, Kings Heath B13 0ST

16th March 2019 District Convention

4th and 5th May 2019 MD Convention in Swansea at Brangwyn Hall and the Convention hotel is the Marriott

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