

## Welcome to the Friends of Fleet Lions newsletter.

The purpose of this note is to update "Friends of Fleet Lions" on some of the Lions activity and to invite you to register an interest in receiving future quarterly updates.

This can be done by going to http://www.fleetlions.org.uk/contactfriends

#### **Christmas Past**

The Lions Christmas Float in aid of local charities raised £7,473. So that householders are not troubled too often by Santa, the Lions agreed with the Rotary Club to collect in different parts of Fleet. Last December the Lions Float visited homes to the east of Reading Road North and South as well on Elvetham Heath. The routes were published on the Lions Web site and it was very pleasing to receive this feedback from a local resident:



"A great thank you to all the Lions and volunteers. We have been watching out for Santa for over forty years. We always found out when he would be coming and which route he'd be taking. The visit and the anticipation were always so exciting when our children were young and now they're part of our Christmas tradition to mark the start of festivities. So thanks all round, especially to those volunteers who give up evenings with their families in the run up to Christmas" Mel H via Streetlife

Thank you to all the generous people of Fleet!



# **Classic Motorcycle Rally**



The Fleet Lions Classic Motorcycle Rally is an annual event held on May Day Bank Holiday Monday. Although previously held at the Victoria Road Car Park in Fleet, this year's rally is moving to **The Key** car park at Elvetham Heath. The event normally attracts well over 200 entrants with bikes ranging from the early 1900's to the later Classics, with condition varying from untouched original to gleaming concours restoration. Riders come from far and wide around the South East to take part, as it has become a well-established event in the enthusiast's calendar.



Riders arrive between 9:30am and 11:00am and enjoy a hearty breakfast made available by the Lions Club catering team and washed down with a Tea or Coffee. Many riders and visitors meet up year after year at this event. We are always pleased to see old friends and old bikes.

Last year's Bike Rally (in its 32nd year) was viewed by around 350 members of the public who came to share the day with the riders. The monies raised was a fantastic £2,200 going to the Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice and Naomi House Children's Hospice, so we wish to thank all the enthusiasts, members of the public and sponsors. Over the past 32 years the event has raised over £61,000 for designated charities. This year our profits will again be supporting the two hospices.

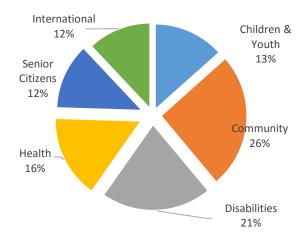
For more information go to www.fleetlions.org.uk/mc

## **Donations to Fleet Lions Charitable Trust**

Fleet Lions run various fund raising events throughout the year.

Every penny raised is spent on good causes. Lions Club administrative costs are met by Lions themselves. The chart shows the areas where Fleet Lions have given financial support over recent months.

If this is the sort of thing you would like to support, why not join us and help out at one of our events or support our charitable work by making a donation to our Charity Trust? Amounts up to £10 can be donated via Text Giving. Text LCIF40 £10 to 70070. As confirmation you will receive a message "LIONSOFFLEET £10". This amount will be deducted from your mobile account. Lesser amounts may be used.



Fleet Lion's donations over the last 12 mths



Alternatively donate through our MyDonate page <a href="https://mydonate.bt.com/charities/lionscluboffleet">https://mydonate.bt.com/charities/lionscluboffleet</a>

## **Lions Centennial**

This is a special time for Lions Clubs. For nearly 100 years, Lions Clubs world-wide have served their communities and touched the lives of millions of people. The Lions Club of Fleet has been serving the community for over 43 years. The Centennial is an opportunity for Lions to celebrate the 100th anniversary by doing what Lions do best – serving others.

During the centennial celebrations, Lions clubs world-wide will work to achieve the goal of serving at least 100 million people by participating in campaigns which support youth activities, vision programs, hunger initiatives, and environmental projects around the world.



**Celebrating 100 Years of Service** 

World-wide there are over 46,000 autonomous Lions Clubs which together make up the largest service club organization in the world. Its 1.35 million members serve communities in more than 200 countries and geographical areas around the globe. Since 1917, Lions clubs have aided the blind and visually impaired, championed youth initiatives and strengthened local communities through hands-on service and humanitarian projects.

For more information about Lions Clubs International, visit <u>www.lionsclubs.org</u>.

#### **Fleet Beer Festival**



Planning is well underway for the tenth Fleet Beer Festival, set for August 6<sup>th</sup> at The Harlington once again. The hall is booked, bands likewise and we are already investigating what ales and ciders we will be having this year (hard work, this job, I can tell you!).

This year, drinkers are also in for a real treat – in a first for us, we are launching our very own beer, specially brewed for us by Langham Brewery. This is to celebrate not only ten hugely successful beer festivals, but also the centenary of Lions International.

There will be music from Kindred Spirit during the lunchtime session – the first time this eclectic, prog-folk rock band has performed for us. Evening drinkers will again be treated to a set from the ever-popular and suitably named, Fleet Booze Hound Blues Band.

Tickets will be £7 in advance and £9 on the door, subject to availability.

Further details can be found at: www.fleetlions.org.uk/beerfest



### **Prostate Cancer Screening**

One in eight men in the UK will get prostate cancer which mainly affects men over 50. Men worried about having prostate cancer should contact their GP.



A man dies every hour of Prostate Cancer in the UK

A 3 minute simple blood test could save your life.

Fleet Lions will be holding free prostate screening at Fleet Hospital on **Friday 13th May**. To register an interest in attending please go to <u>www.fleetlions.org.uk/prostatescreening</u>

#### **Lions Community Store**

The mission of the Lions Community Store is to recycle redundant household goods, appliances, clothing etc. to benefit genuinely needy people in the area and thereby reduce unnecessary waste to the advantage of the environment. Every month the Store receives over 300 requests for household items, bedding and clothing, which are generously donated by local residents. All the people helped are referred to the Store by their Social Workers or other supporting organisation as being in genuine need.

The Lions Community Store is always in need of more helpers. Volunteers work shifts to suit themselves, ranging from one morning or afternoon a week to one day a month, although some volunteer several days a week. In particular the Store needs stand-by drivers who can come in on occasion at short notice to cover in case of sickness, holiday etc. As you can imagine, if a driver is unable to work at the last minute, the Stores work schedule can go seriously awry.

Tel: 01252 616998 or email: admin@communitystore.org.uk

Web site: www.communitystore.org.uk

If you would like to contact the team producing this Newsletter you can email us on: marcomms@fleetlions.org.uk.

