



## *Friends of Fleet Lions*

## Welcome to the Friends of Fleet Lions Spring newsletter.

### Our Man Dan



Our man Dan first became involved with Fleet Lions in 2009 (aged 32 years) after talking to Lions at our annual beer festival. Before becoming a member, Dan volunteered at various fund raising events such as the Fleet Fireworks Fiesta and joining our Christmas float on its journey around Fleet, before going along to Club meetings. Dan became a Lion early in 2010 and later that year helped organise the Lions Beer Festival - a job he has continued and cherished ever since.

In a recent full page article in the Fleet News and Mail celebrating Lions Clubs centenary, Dan says "Despite the hard work involved, there is a huge feeling of satisfaction in organising a successful and ever-more well attended event like the beer festival. The reaction from the punters speaks for itself and we have served many thousands of happy drinkers over the years; all of them supping for a worthwhile cause."

Dan also enjoys Fleet's annual fireworks display and is now part of the team responsible for setting off the display. He drives minibuses to the Lions annual carol concert for the elderly and helps at other year-round activities run by Fleet Lions. Says Dan "Like many, the rigours of a full-time job can often get in the way of things and the Lions appreciate this. The Club is flexible to people's needs and do not pressurise volunteers into committing to events."

Dan encourages anyone interested in volunteering to come to a meeting or event to find out more.

### Unwanted Spectacles

Do you wear spectacles? Take them off for half an hour and imagine how you would cope, earn your living and support your family without them. This is a problem facing many people in the Third World.

Many of us update our glasses every two years. Why not donate the unwanted pair by dropping them off in one of the Lions labelled boxes to be found in Fleet at Specsavers, Harwoods, Brown & White and Leightons. The glasses will be collected by Fleet Lions and sent for cleaning and optical grading before onward despatch to Lions Eye-Camps in Third World Countries.

Last year Fleet Lions collected over 5,000 pairs of glasses, we would like to exceed this total by our 2017 Easter deadline/.

Go to [www.fleetlions.org.uk/spectrek](http://www.fleetlions.org.uk/spectrek) for more information.



## Saving Lives

First they painted Fleet pink to raise an impressive £30,000 towards the Frimley Park Hospital Breast Care Appeal and then red, white and blue to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday.

Now, in partnership with Fleet Lions, the Fleet Business Forum will be painting Fleet blue this March to highlight prostate cancer awareness.



Last year the Lions organised prostate cancer screening at Fleet Hospital.

Of the 360 men tested, around 10% were recommended to see their doctor for further testing and some of these subsequently required hospital treatment. With a man dying every hour in the UK of prostate cancer, Fleet Lions will be following the March prostate cancer awareness event with an invitation to men in Fleet over age 45 years and who have not been previously screened, to attend one of the screening sessions at Fleet Hospital on April 6<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>.

If you wish to attend, pre-register by going to [www.fleetlions.org.uk/ps](http://www.fleetlions.org.uk/ps)

## Helping Others

Throughout the year we receive requests from groups, local organisations and individuals to help them either to achieve a worthwhile project, or assist them in times of hardship or disability.



A surprise 60<sup>th</sup> birthday present; a team of Fleet Lions valet a car as part of the 100 wishes programme

There are a number of levels in which the Club and members themselves meet these requests. It may be in the form of a cash donation to help a local charity, or service organisation, or with the purchase of some vital equipment. For example, a specialised bed for a Hospice, or tenting kit for a local Scout Group.

At another level it may require a number of Lions Club members helping to move furniture, or decorating the rooms of a disadvantaged local resident, or simply taking an otherwise solitary and infirm person for a drive in the country.

If you know of anyone we may help in this way, please email [comsec@fleetlions.org.uk](mailto:comsec@fleetlions.org.uk)

## Lions Den

We are offering local voluntary/community organisations an opportunity to present their ideas to a panel of experts with a chance of winning financial or other support. Each organisation will have five minutes to present their idea or concept to the panel who will then ask questions to clarify any points. The panel discuss the presentations and decide which to support.

Application forms can be found by going to: [www.fleetlions.org.uk/lionsden](http://www.fleetlions.org.uk/lionsden)

Last year's beneficiaries included:

- a local junior school's play area
- a toddler group
- several scouts and guides troops
- a food bank



Please register your interest by 30<sup>th</sup> April 2017, contact [comsec@fleetlions.org.uk](mailto:comsec@fleetlions.org.uk)

## Car Boot Sale

Our monthly car boot sales recommence on Sunday 12th March at the Key Centre car park, Elvetham Heath, Fleet GU51 1HA.

The sale starts at 10:00am and ends at 1:00pm - admission is free for buyers. There will be all sorts of items on sale no doubt including a wide selection of good quality clothing for both adults and children, DVDs & books, rugs, prams, scooters, children's toys and games, as well as all sorts of household items; and all at amazing prices. We cannot guarantee what will be available for you at the sale - that is the joy of car-booting; you never know what you might find to take home!

Why not come along and find yourself a bargain or two, knowing that you are also helping Fleet Lions to support worthy local causes? There will be a tea, coffee and food vendor at the sale so come along and have a late breakfast or an early lunch, in between snapping up those bargains.

In order to avoid the Easter Bank Holiday weekend our April car boot sale will be on Sunday April 23rd, but from then on we will be running a car boot sale on the third Sunday of every month through to September. So our car boot dates for your diary are: March 12th, April 23rd, May 21st, June 18th, July 16th, August 20th and September 17th. Go to [www.fleetlions.org.uk/carboot](http://www.fleetlions.org.uk/carboot)



## Classic Motorcycle Rally 1st May



As part of our celebrations of 100 years since Lions Clubs first came into being, we are looking for a motor cycle enthusiast who has a bike built in 1917 to attend our annual May Day Classic Motor Cycle Rally. Whether we are successful or not, the event always attracts a wide array of classic bikes.

Why not join us at the Key Centre car park at Elvetham Heath on Bank Holiday Monday, 1st May and see how many classic bikes you can spot. Refreshments will be available.



Go to [www.fleetlions.org.uk/mc](http://www.fleetlions.org.uk/mc) for more information.

## Millions of Pounds for Charity

Fleet Lions Club was formed in 1974 and has since raised and donated millions of pounds for (mostly local) good causes as well as entertaining thousands of people on the way with a variety of fund raising events. Our Fireworks Fiesta last November raised £27,114 with record attendances and our Christmas charity collections raised £6,939 as well as making an important contribution to the Christmas spirit in Fleet.

You can donate to our causes, see the information at the end of this newsletter.



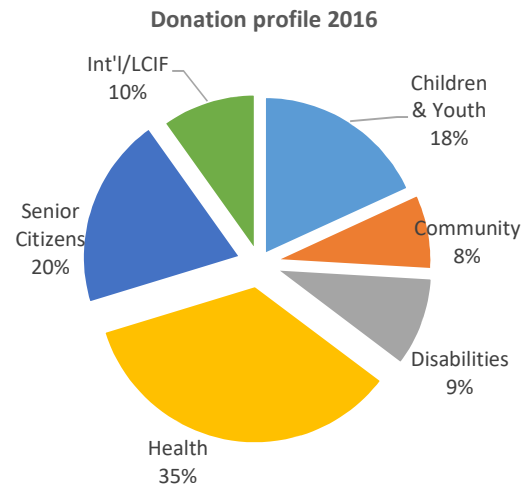


## Donations to Fleet Lions Charitable Trust

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.



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

## Interested in becoming a Lion?

Fleet Lions are seeking New Members - for more information contact Jim Pitkin on [membership@fleetlions.org.uk](mailto:membership@fleetlions.org.uk).



If you would like to receive future updates of this newsletter or other information about the activities of Fleet Lions, please go to <http://www.fleetlions.org.uk/contactfriends>

