



## *Friends of Fleet Lions*

## Welcome to the Fleet Lions Summer newsletter

### Local, national and global

Because we are local, we first and foremost, serve the unique needs of the community in which we live. We also work with other Lions Clubs in Hampshire and neighbouring counties, as well as contribute to regional and countrywide good causes.

Because Lions are also global, we can join with Lions worldwide to address challenges wherever they arise. Our newsletters normally focus on local projects but as this year Lions are celebrating one hundred years of voluntary service worldwide, the following is a flavour of our wider interests.

### Service worldwide

Through the Lions Clubs International Foundation, Lions worldwide have set themselves humanitarian service goals in the four key areas of sight, youth, disaster relief and other humanitarian efforts.

We give sight, by combating eye diseases, improving eye care delivery, increasing eye care professionals and making vision care more equitable and sustainable where these needs are not otherwise being met.

We support youth, so they can have the chance to achieve their dreams, by having development programmes that help children learn to work together, make positive decisions and serve their communities. Lions also support youth through constructing schools, youth centres and vocational training centres.



**Lions Clubs International  
FOUNDATION**



A healthcare worker vaccinates a child in Tamale, Ghana

We provide disaster relief and Lions are often some of the first to arrive to provide relief, help devastated communities survive after disasters and bring hope by assisting in long-term efforts of rebuilding of homes and lives.

We address humanitarian needs by working with the World Health Organisation and others to combat global health issues such as measles and diabetes to empowering those with disabilities to lead more independent and fulfilling lives.

**LIBRA**  
Lions International Blood Research Appeal

Lions International Blood Research Appeal is one example of an international project being delivered from the UK. The Lions are funding the Haematology Department at Kings College Hospital in London to create new and improved treatments for patients with a variety of blood cancers including leukaemia, lymphoma and myeloma. Successful treatments will benefit patients across the UK and overseas.

## Countrywide projects

We give children a helping hand through Medic Alert's Early Start Programme which provides crucial protection to children who have a medical condition or allergy that needs to be identified in an emergency. Medic Alert jewellery helps avoid any risk of misdiagnosis and ensures fast treatment.



Lions introduced Medic Alert into the UK way back in 1964 and we continue to support the charity, which receives no government funding, so that it can carry on providing lifesaving identification systems to people with hidden medical conditions and allergies.

In a similar vein, we help the emergency services save lives by providing more than 5 million people across the British Isles with "Message in the Bottle" kits which enable people with health conditions and life threatening illnesses to store their medical details in their fridge, so that they can easily be found in an emergency.

Lions supply these kits free of charge. Each kit contains a medical form, a bottle, and window and fridge stickers. Many hospitals, health centres, doctors' surgeries and chemists have already benefited from the scheme.

## Working with other Lions locally

### Funfest

Together with the Lions Clubs of Aldershot, Farnborough, Hart, Hook & Odiham, Lodden Valley and Yateley, we organise an annual fun day out for people with disabilities and their families who live in or near the area. From horse rides to bungee jumping, from a coconut shy to face painting, from marching bands to an Elvis impersonator and much more - all free for our 650 plus friends who so rarely get an opportunity to enjoy these kinds of things in the big world.



Which fairground waits for as long as it takes while a disabled child is carefully helped onto and off a roundabout? Funfest does. Which fete shows a challenged senior how to aim and fire a crossbow? Funfest does. Which festival lets the contestants move closer and closer until they do win a prize? Funfest does.

### Lions Community Store



Since 1995, the Store has helped over 20,000 families by collecting and redistributing thousands and thousands of otherwise unwanted household appliances, furniture and clothing, etc. to benefit genuinely need people in the area referred to the Store by various caring agencies such as Social Services.

The Store is operated entirely by volunteers with practical and financial support from local Lions Clubs. Helpers are always needed, why not contact the store to volunteer: [www.communitystore.org.uk/](http://www.communitystore.org.uk/)

### Fleet Lions 11th Hour Beerfest

Why not help us celebrate the centenary of Lions serving communities worldwide on **Saturday August 5th**. Tickets for our annual BeerFest are now available by going to our website at: [www.fleetlions.org.uk/beerfest](http://www.fleetlions.org.uk/beerfest)



This year we are raising funds for "Hearing Dogs for Deaf People" as well as other good causes.

## Prostate Cancer Screening

We held two prostate cancer screening sessions at Fleet Hospital during April.

Retired consultant urologist, Mr David Baxter-Smith has now notified each of the 453 men screened of their result. We understand, 20 men were advised to see their Doctor for immediate follow up checks and a further 11 to keep their prostate specific antigen under review, whilst the results for the remainder were normal.

Thanks to the funds raised as a result of the Paint Fleet Blue campaign in March, we intend to hold further screenings next year and, hopefully, beyond.

## Fleet Lions Celebrating 100 years of Lionism

Over the past year, we have been celebrating the one hundredth year of Lionism worldwide, culminating with the organisations birthday on 7th June 2017.

So far our celebrations have included:

- With the Fleet Pond Society, we erected a plaque marking the Lions Centennial at the Lions View overlooking Fleet Pond
- At Our August BeerFest last year, we introduced a new beer, Lions Golden Pride, specially brewed for us by Langhams Brewery
- We produced a centennial firework theme at our November Firework Fiesta
- We ran two free concerts. In July, featuring the Pelly Orchestra a show for our local senior citizens and VIPs. The second in December which, in addition to providing Christmas cheer, looked back to World War II and events leading to Lionism being introduced into the British Isles
- We commissioned a special film showing the work of Fleet Lions in the local community during the course of the year
- We set ourselves the challenge of responding to 100 wishes/requests from local people for help with a worthwhile project or assist them in times of hardship or disability
- We featured a 1917 motorcycle, along with modern 2017 bikes, at our 2017 Classic Bike Rally and Concourse.



*Some of our  
Centennial events*

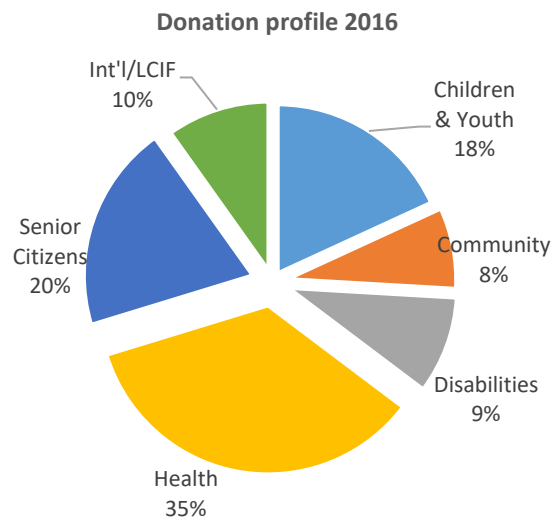
We will be concluding the year with a birthday celebration at the Prince Arthur with guests from other local clubs and organisations we have sought to support over recent years. We will also be holding a display in Hart Centre on 10th June to celebrate the centennial and promote the work of Fleet Lions in the local community.

## Donations to Fleet Lions Charitable Trust

Fleet Lions run various fund raising events throughout the year.

Every penny raised is spent on good causes. 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?

If you want to serve your community in the company of men and women who share your ideals and objectives and you place self-fulfilment, fellowship and commitment above material reward, then you are likely to have all the qualities you need to be a Lion.

Fleet Lions always welcome New Members - 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>



Celebrating 100 Years of Service



Ordinary People  
Amazing Things