

#### **News from our District Governor**

My best wishes to you all for 2023

I had a great District Governor's Club Visit to **Birmingham Handsworth** Lions, where three long service Chevrons were presented; Lion Joginder Phul a 15 Year Service Chevron, Lion Dev Dalvair a 30 Year Service Chevron and Lion Ravinder Rahanu a 30 Year Service Chevron.



It was a great honour to meet inspiring Past District Governor (2002/2003) Lion Harcharan (Harry) Hunjan from our previous District 105M. He is a very experienced Lion, Charter Member of the Club since 1986.







**Nuneaton** Lions Club inducted 4 new members in their December 2022 Business Meeting. These are very experienced volunteers already serving their local, national and international communities.



My dear wife Lion Jas and I were kindly invited to **Coventry Godiva Lions** Charity Fundraiser on New Year's Eve, which was in aid of Cancer Research.

The charity function was attended by over 250 people and thousands of pounds were raised. I took the initiative to present the Club Excellence Award for 2021/2022 to the Immediate Past Club President Lion Pranoti.





#### Membership Matters.

It's a new calendar year - a great time to make a new start!

As we think ahead to what 2023 might hold, do you have a plan for the next 6 months of this Lions year and how you will grow your Club. Do you aim to expand and recruit to make your club stronger and able to make more of a difference?

Planning is so important. Without a plan, it is so much harder to achieve success.

Membership growth all starts with a plan and maybe one way to start can be to ask a simple question – where do we want our club to be in 5 years time?

Do we want to have our club still active and serving as 2027 turns to 2028?

Do we want to build a legacy of service to our community so we can hand this on to future generations?

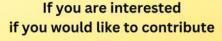
5 years sounds like a long way off, but we all know how time flies! If we develop a Membership Mindset we can build a Club that volunteers want to join. We will have relevant Service projects, productive meetings and a good selection of social activities. Being a Lion is about being amongst like-minded people who do what they can to make a difference for others. New Year is a good time to focus on what joins us together and a chance to make sure we go forward with a shared sense of purpose.

If you have views on anything Membership related, please feel free to get in touch or come to the next Membership Monthly Mid-Month Brunch on Zoom.

Sue Wilding Membership Coordinator <u>gmt@lions105cw.org.uk</u>

We are looking for Lions to join the Membership Team







Get in Touch and let's talk Sue gmt@lions105cw.org.uk

### Welcome to our newest members

BLACK MOUNTAINS LIONS CLUB	MARY STRODE	RUTLAND LIONS	JACQUIE DRANE
CENTRAL WEST BRITISH ISLES 2020 VIRTUAL LIONS	JANE EDWARDS	RUTLAND LIONS	PETER RONALD LIGHT
CENTRAL WEST BRITISH ISLES 2020 VIRTUAL LIONS	JULIAN EDWARDS	SHIRLEY LIONS CLUB	DAVID COVE
HINCKLEY BURBAGE LIONS	VAL BINNS	SHIRLEY LIONS CLUB	ANGELA GOLDINGAY
HINCKLEY BURBAGE LIONS	TANYA SHAW	SHIRLEY LIONS CLUB	EMMA MCGANN

## **Club News**

#### Rugby Rokeby score a big one

Rugby Rokeby Lions Club recently announced a sponsorship deal with **Rugby Lionesses Women's Rugby Team.** This promises to be a great connection for the club who now have their logo emblazoned on the team's shirts and we are looking forward to supporting the Lionesses, just as they look forward to supporting Lions.

Club members have recently attended one of the Lionesses home games and held one of the club meetings at the Lionesses clubhouse in Rugby. Some of the Lionesses have volunteered to join in 'Santa Season' with the sleigh out on the streets of Rugby, collecting for various local charities and charitable causes that Rugby Rokeby supports.



### **Dursley Lions Queens Jubilee Tree Planting**

The club wanted to mark the Jubilee by planting 70 assorted trees. Having gained the various permissions & liaising with the community, the grand planting day arrived. Children from 3 local schools came along to plant batches, ably assisted by the Air cadets. The project organiser, Lion Dave Waugh (9<sup>th</sup> from left), can be seen helping the children at one site.



**Warwick Lions** have rounded off 2022 in style and are eagerly looking forward to a new year of active community service in 2023.

At the beginning of the month we conducted our Christmas can collection collecting some 3500 donated items of non- perishable food stuffs donated by householders and local supermarkets which with the help of the Mayor of Warwick Councillor Parminder Singh Birdi, members of the No.1368 ATC Squadron, members of other local charities and friends we made up into 215 food parcels which our members delivered to needy citizens as well as 10 bags of food going to the local food bank.

Later we staged jointly with the Rotary Club what has become for many local people the precursor to their Christmas activities the greatly anticipated Carol Concert at Warwick Castle which this year celebrated it 50th anniversary with a firework display and was a hugely successful sell out."



#### Kenilworth Lions Carols at the Castle

December 17<sup>th</sup> saw the annual Kenilworth Lions Carol Concert for 2022 – back in its traditional home at the stunning Kenilworth Castle. This iconic structure, specially lit up for the evening, made a fitting backdrop to an event attended by up to a thousand residents.

With the Coventry Salvation Army Band providing the music, we sang the 10 most popular Carols selected by residents in advance, ending with the number one choice - Silent Night. We also had the pleasure of listening to

the choir from St. Augustine's Junior School, an instrumental duet by pupils of Kenilworth High School, and members of a local male voice choir. Readings were given by our Member of Parliament and by the Deputy Mayor.

As in previous years, a "sweet" version of the Christmas Story was delivered. This proved very popular with the younger members of the audience as it involved throwing chocolate bars from the stage at every mention of one. Mars, Gold,



Bounty, Celebrations, Whisper – all made an appearance in the story, as did Caramel (sounds like a Camel apparently!)

Kenilworth Lions and partners provided refreshments – including our famous mulled wine, very popular on such a cold evening. There was a bucket collection in aid of Medics to Medics, a local initiative providing equipment and medical supplies directly to medical facilities on the front lines in Ukraine – well over £800 was donated to this very deserving cause. Thanks must go to English Heritage for allowing us to hold the event at the Castle and permitting the bucket collection.

Along with the Grand Show held every June, the Kenilworth Lions Carol Concert is delivered as a service to the town, providing fun and fellowship and a thank you to all the residents who support us throughout the year.

# Working together for sight

**Coventry Godiva Lions** held a Free eye camp in association with **Lions club of Karad** at Morna Hospital, Shirala in Maharashtra, India. A team of Eye specialists from Lions Charitable Eye hospital, Karad came to do the eye check-up. The doctors brought well-equipped eye examination tools to examine the needy effectively.

120 people from nearby villages took advantage of this camp. The objective of this event was to spread awareness on eye disorders and their early diagnosis particularly detection of cataract. More than 30 patients were detected with cataract and were offered free surgery.

Out of these 2 were with full cataract in both eyes literally resulting in blindness. It was an amazing and humbling experience to see the needy take advantage and genuinely happy to receive the service they received.

Lions Club of Coventry Godiva members also visited the Lions Charitable Eye Hospital at Karad. It was great to visit the hospital and to see the commendable work they do. Godiva Lions also donated £2000 towards the surgeries and to the hospital for future surgeries of un-affording patients.







Wotton Lions were happy to have been able to include Ukrainian families in our Christmas hamper deliveries.

Each Year Wotton Lions supply everything to make Christmas day special for families nominated by the local food bank. We always have huge support for local business to help fill the baskets.



#### Redditch Lions have a van for sale

After several years of declining usage we have decided to sell our lovely Lions van.

If any other Lions Club is interested we will of course consider a reasonable near offer as the LIONS LOGOS are in good condition and very easily changed to another club.

<u>For any other buyer</u> - we would expect to get on the open market our asking price of £6,000, for a well kept van with only 31,500 miles and a Full Dealer Service History.

Please Contact — Redditch Lion Dave at 07963 213824. — Or write to Secretary@redditchlions.org.uk



Editor: Lion Pat Comer Email: news@lions105cw.org.uk

Closing date for articles is 25th of month