

#TEAMCW

105CW News and Information May 2023



News from our District Governor

I have had the privilege of attending three District Conventions this Lionistic year, District 105SE in Brexley Heath, 105A in Stevenage and 105CW in Meriden. Now, my dear wife Lion Jas and I are looking forward to attending the Multi District Convention in Newcastle and the International Convention in Boston, USA.

I would like to thank our District 105CW Convention 2023 Team for all the hard work in organising and delivering such a successful Convention in Meriden. We were honored to have two inspirational guest speakers, Lion AP Singh International Third Vice President and Lion Sangeeta Jatia Past International Director.

We have received very positive feedback from our members who attended the Convention, and the Black Tie Formal Gala Dinner on the Friday evening, Convention during the day on Saturday and the party on the Saturday evening with the live Bhangra group.

These lovely photos were taken by Lion Karam Bharij and Lion Surinder Bhamra.

Thank you once again for making the Convention so successful and memorable.





THE 2023-2024 CONTEST

Dare to Dream

To a young person, a dream isn't just a wish, hope or desire — it's a path, a goal, an ambition. But achieving that dream takes hard work. So this year, we're asking young people to show how they'll turn their dream of a peaceful world into reality.



Dare To Dream – The 2023 -2024 Peace Poster / Essay Contest is already up and running

For over three decades, Lions clubs around the globe have been sponsoring a very special art contest in schools and youth groups. Creating peace posters gives children everywhere the chance to express their visions of peace and inspire the world through art and creative writing. let us mark this with a bumper crop of entries in in 23-24, we only had three from the whole of the district in the last Lionistic year.

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This years topic is Dare to Dream, students aged 11, 12 or 13 as of November 15 are eligible to participate in the International Peace Poster / Essay Contest. The Peace Essay is designed for those who are non or partially sighted.

- **October 1:** Deadline to purchase kits from the Club Supplies Sales Department via MD Headquarters.
- **November 15:** Postmark deadline for a club to send one winning poster (per contest sponsored) to the district governor.

Further details and the link to purchase the poster and essay packs can be found here - <https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/start-our-approach/youth/peace-poster#contest>

You can also email me, Stuart Milsom, directly at peace@lions105cw.org.uk, I am sure you will already know which schools and youth groups are in your area, but I have made a list of special schools and schools that specialise in blind and children with sight loss. We all know of the Scouting and Guiding groups, but there are the many more age groups we could be looking at also. From the Boys Brigade, St Johns Ambulance, Fire and Police Cadets, various military cadets, The Woodcraft Folk, Various Church Brigades for various religions, The Young Kennel Club are all just a few examples of youth groups all across the UK. There WILL be one near you.

Membership Matters.

Have you got a Superpower? Something you are good at and enjoy doing?
Hopefully you have more than one Superpower – and the list includes being a Lion. Being a Lion and belonging to your Lion's Club is very powerful.



What about your Club, does your Club have a Superpower? Something your Club is good at and your members enjoy doing? Hopefully your Club will be good at more than one thing, have more than one way that you serve your community and do good for others in need.

So, what does your Club do well and how could it do even better? As part of the new Approach to Membership Growth, it is suggested that Clubs carry out a SWOT analysis. Let's simplify that and say the key part is to know the Strengths of your Club and the Areas where you could Improve.

We need to make time to think about where we can improve and how we can do that. We know the saying

If we always do what we've always done, we'll always get what we've always got.

Sometimes its hard to look at ourselves and see what we need to improve. We are often happy as we are and don't want the trouble of making changes. Maybe it would be easier to ask someone else.

At our District Convention, 3IVP A.P. Singh said we should ask our children and families a simple question along the lines of "Would you join a Lions Club and if not, why not?" He said we don't need expensive and time consuming research, we just need to find out what makes joining us unattractive and then we can work towards making joining us attractive.

Potential New Members will only come if they like the look of what you do. If you carry out projects that interest non-Lions, you will have a better chance of attracting interest. Watch the news, ask your own family members or neighbours, check out what younger people are interested in. We don't bring in new Members by just hoping they will appear, we have to make an impact and be showing that we care about our world and the people in it.

Sue Wilding 105CW Membership Team gmt@lions105cw.org.uk



This month we welcome.

Birmingham Handsworth
Birmingham Handsworth
Birmingham Handsworth
Cardiff
Coventry Mercia
Coventry Mercia

Markhan Mahay
Manjeet S Rakhra
Upasana Magar
Rashidat Hassan
Neetu Rai
Sarinder Rai

Coventry Mercia
Dursley
Newport
Tenby And District
Tetbury

Perminder Bains
Donald Gibson
Deborah Nash
Rowland Fury
Kathryn Minchew

The Lions Easter Bunny Gives Out Donations

The **Pembroke and Pembroke Dock** Lion's very own Easter Bunny hopped in to the Pembroke Town Hall this week to present donations to worthy causes at the Lion's Craft Fair and Coffee Morning.

Pembroke and Pembroke Dock Lions Club President, Victoria Wilson, invited the Easter bunny (a.k.a. long-standing Lion Peter Depono) to present egg-citing donations to John Hardwicke of the Wales Air Ambulance (£500); Emma Picton-Jones of the DPJ Foundation (£250); Monica Vanner of Macmillan Cancer Support (£250); and Toni Dorkings of Paul Sartori (£250). Earlier, John Hardwicke had given a talk about the work that the Wales Air Ambulance carries out.



Fifteen stallholders were present at the craft fair selling a wide range of items from jewellery and knitted goods to fudges, virgin rapeseed oil and honey.

Towards the end of the event, the Lion's White Rabbit presented the prize to the "Decorate Your Egg" competition and also drew the winning tickets for the Easter raffle winners.

The Pembroke and Pembroke Dock Lions would like to thank everyone who supports them through donations, purchases from their charity shop on Main Street, Pembroke, and, at our charity fundraising events throughout the year. In particular, they would like to

thank both, the Haverfordwest salon of Andrew Price for the prize that they donated, and also, the manager and staff of Aldi, Pembroke Dock for allowing them to sell raffle tickets.



WARWICK LIONS eager to publicise the club and the good work that Lions do in the area took a stall at the Warwick Town Annual Meeting on 3rd. April.

This official town event hosted by the Mayor Councillor Parminder Singh Birdi is designed to publicise and promote local organisations and charities and give them the opportunity to report on their recent activities.



Balsall Common Lions

Easter Egg Collection for Easter Eggs to Solihull Young Carers.

Over 70 eggs were donated at our collection point, including over 30 eggs from Heart of England School – thanks to students, parents and staff at H of E school! *(See some of the other work that we have been doing with local schools)*

Service Chair, Lion Steve Meakin taking delivery of over thirty Easter Eggs from Heart of England school, directly en route to Solihull Young Carers

Partnership with local schools

The Easter Egg collection is part of our schools liaison initiative, which has pledged a number of donations

- **Heart of England School** £350 donation to school hardship fund
- **Balsall Common Primary School** £1,180 for a collection of SEND library books ; £800 towards the pond refurbishment project.

In addition, we will be funding and providing First Aid Training to Year 6 students at Balsall Common Primary, Berkswell C of E Primary School, and Meriden C of E Primary School.



Spring Food Bank Collection

Our Spring Food Bank, on the weekend of 15 April was another huge success. The donations have been delivered to our four nominated local food banks.

In addition, we made a special delivery to Coventry Foodbank in conjunction with our partners Unity Automotive (Carstins) and the Co-op, where we recorded a delivery over 330kg of donations – that makes nearly 1.5 tonnes in total for all four foodbanks!

Charity Quiz Nights!

By popular demand, our Sunday Charity Quiz Nights at the White Horse are back, and a sell-out audience! Our first quiz raised £483, which will go to the Solihull Hospital Charity.

This was a very popular night, due in no small part to our **guest quiz master – Lion Stewart Sherman-Kahn!**

Balsall Common Lions supporting the Big Help Out

To mark His Majesty The King's Coronation Balsall Common Lions will be undertaking several activities around Balsall Common and the local community. This will include :

- Refurbishment of the pond and garden at Balsall Common Primary School
- Refurbishment, replacement (and decoration) of Lions benches throughout the village of Balsall Common
- Also, in recognition of the fiftieth anniversary of Balsall Common Lions, we hope to plant fifty trees around the village and the local area ... we are already at nineteen trees so far, so quite a few to go!

Finally – District Convention 2023

We thoroughly enjoyed being the host club for our District Convention in Meriden. Thanks to the organising committee for their hard work – well planned, well organised, and well executed with a great convention and two highly enjoyable evenings of entertainment ... most of all “the company makes the feast!”

If you enjoyed it, and would like to experience more Balsall Common Lions hospitality, please come to our Charter Dinner next January (20 January 2024). We only host our Charter Dinner every five years to make it extra special, so put the date in your diaries, and look out for notices!

Ross on Wye Celebrate



Making Lion connections—Wear your Lions Badge, Jacket, Hat etc., with pride. You never know who you may meet.

The newsletter editor was finishing a volunteer shift at The Willow Trust and whilst pulling alongside the canal bank. One of people watching was wearing a Lions Hat. Welcome to Lion Monir and Lion Nasrin visiting from Bangladesh.

