



2020

&

2021





Look out for our Easter Eggs

In recent years we have asked several local businesses to run an Easter Egg Draw on our behalf to help us raise funds. This year we have 20 eggs out in our community waiting for some lucky person to win them. If you see one please help our cause and have a go.

Last year we put the proceeds towards the cost of our Annual Day Out at Wicksteed Park for disadvantaged Children/Families & Young Carers

Easter Egg Draw 2020

Pick a number for £1
Win a 1kg Egg



Eggs may be found at:

Biggleswade

Conservative Club
Kings Reach
The Saxon Centre
Surfin Café

The Yorkshire Grey

Broom

The Cock

Clifton

The Admiral

Everton

The Thornton Arms

Gamlingay

The Wheatsheaf

Henlow

The Engineers Arms

The Five Bells (From Mid-March)

Moggerhanger

The Guinea

Potton

John O'Gaunt Golf Club (2 Eggs)

The Royal Oak

Sandy

The Bell

Britannia Pharmacy

The Queens Head

The Sir William Peel

Southill

The White Horse

We were up and running when our potential customers were all locked up at home.

Fortunately, we managed to cover our costs and 20 lucky ticket owners won 1kg eggs.



2019 Ended on a high, Spring is here we hold our breath

March

- Keith Hichisson of Langford Garden Centre presents us with a generous cheque in thanks for manning the Christmas Grotto back in December.
- **Mar 14th** - Finds us at Morrisons in Shefford, collecting for Marie Curie
- Mar 18th** - Coronavirus threat causes us to cancel the Jumble Sale and put on hold our plans for attending Summer Fêtes and Carnivals.



Biggleswade Sandy Lions Grand Famous Charity



Sat 28th March

Clifton Community Centre

Doors Open 1.30pm

Entrance Fee: 50p per Adult

All Welcome!



Incorporating Biggleswade and Sandy Lions Welfare Fund.
Registered charity number 1049281



Fêtes and Carnivals 2020



This year we planned to attend

- **Ickwell May Day** - Sat 9th May
- **Shefford STMA** - Sun 31st May
- **Sandy Carnival** - Sat 6th June (Flying Chicken)
- **Langford Summer Fête** - Sat 4th July (Flying Chicken)
- **Letchworth Lions Fun Day** - Sat 11th July
- **Kempston Fun Day** - To be confirmed
- **Arlesey Fun Day** - Sat 5th September
- **Upper Caldecote Village Show** - To be confirmed

We are now waiting to see how events unfold before we make any plans for the summer season.



2020 We Had Our Year Planned

2020

- Jumble Sale - 28th March
- Easter Egg Draw - There's 20 of them around our area.
- Logo Quiz - sheets available from 28th March (At our Jumble Sale)

Calendar to be established:

- Village Fêtes
- Throughout the summer
- Wicksteed Park Trip
- Date to be confirmed
- Christmas Dance - 28th November



Jumble Sale

28th March 2020

Probably the best Jumble Sale in Clifton in March



Village Fêtes

Throughout the Summer Starting with
Ickwell May Day
Saturday 9th May



Wicksteed

Date to be confirmed

*All Cancelled
Due to Covid*



We're Missing You Too!

Events have overtaken us all. The Jumble Sale was cancelled and it looks like we won't be seeing many of you, our friends at village fetes for some of this year. However, Lions are rarely beaten for long. You may not be seeing us around temporarily, but we're still as active as we can be. We're giving financial support to both Kathy at Preens and Gordon of the Need Project to help them in buying food to supplement their Food Bank stores. Demand is definitely growing on Food Banks and we're pleased to be really supporting our Community so positively at this time.

Good Neighbour Schemes (or Village Care Schemes) are active in our area. There are over 40 Schemes in Central Bedfordshire and Bedford Borough. Of which we have 12 set up in our Lions area of Central Beds. Such Schemes can help to lessen the impact on a community caused by the decline in services and facilities such as public transport, shops, Post Offices, doctor's surgeries and pubs. They can also help to reduce feelings of isolation and exclusion experienced by some individuals if families and friends move away in the search for employment, education or affordable housing. At this time, Volunteers in the Schemes are doing their best to help and support their local communities. Lions are hard at work working in at least one of these Schemes and helping local folk.

If you need to contact your local scheme for help the following telephone numbers for the Schemes were correct at January 2020:

Biggleswade Good Neighbours Group	07771 104255
Clifton Care Scheme	07817 614654
Dunton Good Neighbour Group	07926 021155
Haynes Good Neighbours	07948 977832
Henlow Village Care Scheme	07914 425038
Langford Friends	07884 046741
Meppershall Gnomes	07760 793921
Potton Good Neighbours Scheme	07484 301289
Sandy Good Neighbours	07810 213935
Shefford Good Neighbour Group	07599 937811
Stondon Good Neighbours	07856 810273
Stotfold Good Neighbours	07599 925587

Look after yourselves, stay safe and 'do as you're told'. We shall be back meeting you all again at the usual community events as soon as we're all allowed out and about.

Our very best wishes to you all.

bslions.org.uk

Meetings held on 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 8:00pm
The Biggleswade Sea Cadets Unit, 4 Station Road, Biggleswade, SG18 8AL
Visitors most welcome





£140K Lions Clubs supporting communities during COVID-19 crisis

The Biggleswade Sandy Lions Club has received a share of £140,000 from the Lions Clubs Foundation of the British Isles. Lions Clubs across the British Isles have benefited from a special fund launched to support local communities during the COVID-19 crisis.

Biggleswade Sandy Lions will utilise the grant to support the food banks run by Preens in Biggleswade & The Need Project, based in Stotfold at this critical time.

Judith Hagger, Club President, said: *"This is a significant sum of money that we are putting to good use straightaway. This Coronavirus pandemic is hurting lots of local people in lots of different ways - just because we are all social distancing doesn't stop us from caring - we are doing what we can, and this cash injection will help us do more."*

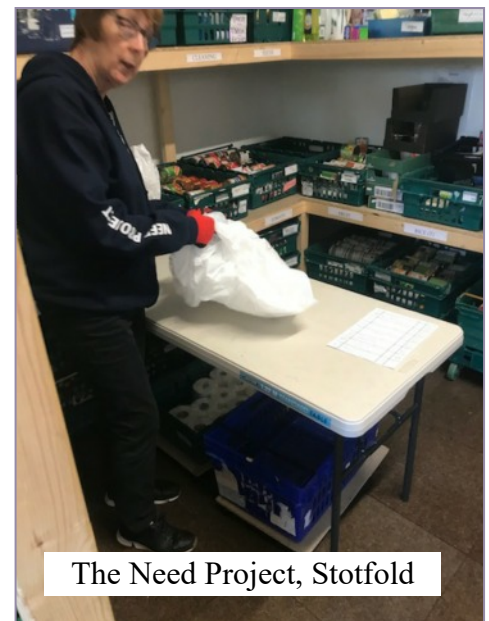
When a humanitarian crisis strikes, the Lions Clubs Foundation of the British Isles works with and are guided by their own Lions members who are ordinary people actively working at the heart of their communities. Your local Lions Club supports a range of good causes and local projects where you can get involved, please contact us >>>



**Lions Clubs Foundation
British Isles**

LCI MD 105 Foundation Registered Charity Number 1164711

The Foundation supports local Lions Clubs to provide humanitarian aid, disaster relief, and support a range of youth programmes.



The Need Project, Stotfold



Preens, Biggleswade





Forthcoming Events

2020

Programme of events now affected by the ongoing Coronavirus issues

- Our Sleigh will be visiting the streets of:

- Clifton 1 - Fri. 11th Dec
- Biggleswade 1 - Mon 14th Dec
- Langford 1 - Tues 15th Dec
- Clifton 2 - Wed 16th Dec
- Biggleswade 2 - Thurs 17th Dec
- ~~Potton~~ - Mon 21st Dec
- ~~Langford 2~~ - Tue 22nd Dec
- ~~Henlow~~ - Wed 23rd Dec

Sorry, we can't come knocking this year
Please visit our Just Giving page

Please help to fill our bucket

Our Sleigh

December 2020

We'll be coming round,
but not collecting



Tier 4 Applied

We're very sorry. We've had to cancel the planned nights out (21st-23rd Dec) for the sleigh to visit, Potton, Langford 2 and Henlow.

2021

To be confirmed





Welcome to Biggleswade Sandy Lions Club

Biggleswade Sandy Lions are part of Lions Clubs International, a volunteer service organisation with 46,000 clubs; more than 1.4 million members in over 200 countries.

We meet each month at 8:00 PM on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday at the Biggleswade Sea Cadet Unit, 4 Station Road, Biggleswade SG18 8AL. Visitors are most welcome. Our area covers 23 towns and villages in Bedfordshire, England. SG18 8AL

The following pages describe some of our past and forthcoming events both within our local community and the Lions organisation.



Since 1978 Biggleswade Sandy Lions has been able to actively support the needs of the community through your generous donations at our various events. But this year fundraising for the year virtually ceased back in March when we had to cancel our Jumble Sale; followed by our Logo Quiz; attendance at Summer Fetes etc. Our Easter Egg draw disintegrated when all the pubs were shut. We have continued to support our community this year on the funds we raised in 2019. At this time of year we are normally in the thick of planning our December activities: Tin shakes at Supermarkets; taking our Christmas float around the villages; knocking on your doors; raising the funds we need to provide Food Parcels and support for the local Food Banks and other community needs and requests.

Concerns for everyone's safety this year, means that very regrettably we are unable to distribute food parcels to individual households as we have done over the years, however, to help as many people as possible in the community, we have agreed to double our support to the local food banks.

Because of social distancing, knocking on doors and getting up close to Father Christmas isn't going to be possible, but, as long as Government and Local Authority Regulations allow, we are planning to bring our sleigh and Father Christmas along our usual routes, and bring a little Christmas cheer along with us. **We really need to rebuild our funds to enable us to continue supporting the Biggleswade Sandy community throughout the new year until we can once again resume our normal fund-raising activities in 2021.**

So we ask you now: Please, if you are able; make a donations to our 'Just Giving page', no matter how small

Please help to fill our bucket

We Changed Our Front Page

bslions.org.uk

Meetings held on 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 8:00pm
The Biggleswade Sea Cadets Unit, 4 Station Road, Biggleswade, SG18 8AL
Visitors most welcome





Dance The Night Away In Style



Our 2019 Dance, with New Vintage Plus

We have been running this popular Ballroom Dance for well over 25 years

Featuring

- Modern
- Old Time
- Modern Sequence
- Latin American
- Fun Dances

A good night is assured for all.

We have an excellent band:

New Vintage Plus

Rebooked by popular demand.

Biggleswade Sandy Lions Club

Christmas Dance

28th November 2020

The Weatherley Centre

**We're hoping that
we'll be able to run
our dance in
November 2021**

Incorporating Biggleswade and Sandy Welfare Fund
registered charity No 1049281



Christmas 2020 - Tiers all round

Rudolph and his friends have seen the Vet and have been given a clean bill of health. The sleigh has been washed and Santa is ready to do his rounds again. Biggleswade Sandy Lions Club will be bringing him round the streets as usual this year but due to Covid 19 we will not be knocking on your doors nor will we be collecting money. Do come out and give Santa a wave.

Although we cannot collect we still need your donations to continue our work. The majority of monies raised are spent locally with no charge for administration. Following Covid there is a bigger need than ever.

We all look forward to 2021 being much better than 2020. We will be with you at the various fetes etc with our range of games. Do come and talk to us when we shall be pleased to tell you about Lions Clubs International and particularly about Biggleswade Sandy Lions Club.

All the members of Biggleswade Sandy Lions wish you all a happy Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year

Tier 4 Applied

We're very sorry. We've had to cancel the planned nights out (21st-23rd Dec) for the sleigh to visit, Potton, Langford 2 and Henlow.

Please help to fill our bucket

From Happier Times





2021

March

Biggleswade Sandy Lions - current situation

Like many organisations our lives changed on 23rd March 2020. We cancelled our impending Jumble Sale, and our Logo Quiz competition. We just about covered the cost of our Easter Egg Raffles. There were no Village Fêtes to attend and our Christmas Dance at the Weatherley Centre and the Supermarket Tin Shakes were cancelled. We set out to do sleigh runs, without knocking on doors, round Clifton, Biggleswade and Langford but those at Potton, Langford-2 and Henlow were then cancelled on Government advice. This meant that our fundraising for the entire year was negligible. This in turn impacts on our Community Service support programme, which since last March includes over £5,000 donated to our local Food Banks, Preens and The Need Project.

As for 2021, we've once again cancelled the Jumble Sale, Easter Egg Raffle and the Logo Quiz and are awaiting news on local Village Fêtes in the hope that normality will resume this summer. Perhaps we will be able to hold a Dance in November and return to normal with our Christmas sleigh at the supermarkets and round the streets?



We're Back and Getting Started....

Our next meeting meeting is on 18th August at the Sea Cadet Unit and we plan to return to our normal twice monthly schedule in September on the first and third Wednesdays at 8:00pm **We now have three village shows on our programme for August and September at Sandy, Potton and Gamlingay**

On the 17th July we were lent a driveway so that we could take part in the Arlesey Street Market. Thank you Arlesey, it was good to be out and about again.

2nd Vice District Governor Lesley Spence joined us at our meeting on 21st July to talk to us about the Lions ROAR project, for which, Biggleswade Sandy Lions are sponsoring 3 local Primary Schools. **(Gamlingay, Northill and Shefford)**

During the closedown we continued to attend to Community Services needs among which have been £3,200 help to the Preen and Need Project Food banks. In 2018 we,, together with Bedford Lions, bought a horse called Maisie for the Bedford Disabled Horse Riding Association. During the close down we provided £500 towards the cost of feeding her. We donated £500 towards the Lord Lieutenants collection for Chromebooks for schools in our area. We never stopped supplying "Message in a Bottle" & "Message in a Wallet" and continued collecting spectacles for recycling throughout the pandemic.





ROAR 2021

Biggleswade Sandy Lions Club are sponsoring 3 local Primary Schools (Gamlingay, Shefford and Northill) taking part in the ROAR 2021 Competition.

Excerpt from the Spring 2021 edition of Lion Magazine on last year's competition.....

COMPETITION

LIONS ROAR 2020 — INSPIRATIONAL EDUCATION COMPETITION

The largest-ever audience from Lions clubs and primary schools attended the 2020 Lions Roar final on 9 December 2020. This unique programme run in partnership with 8BillionIdeas aims to inspire children to think big and dream big about their ideas. All of the schools ran internal class competitions during the COVID-19 restrictions, and the winning group from each school, who created the most inspirational, innovative idea then went on to compete in the finals.

Fifty-eight primary schools entered the Roar 2020 finals competition across two Lions districts. During the finals held live on Zoom, children presented their

world-changing ideas on video, alongside their model, jingle and poster.

The ingenuity and scope of the designs were remarkable and the joint first place winning ideas will be described and published in a book, made available to purchase on Amazon.

All those pupils that took part received a Lions Roar T-shirt, a certificate and a medal as a memento of their hard work and achievement.

LOWES WONG JUNIOR SCHOOL

Prizes were awarded to the following winners

Joint first place

Lowes Wong Junior School – 'The Wasteless App' The Wasteless App helps us understand how much waste we use and encourages us to use less and make a world we can all be proud of.

Wonerish Shamley Green School – 'Automatic Temperature Checker' The Automatic Temperature Checker is a machine that checks body temperatures to help control viruses by using a heat sensor.

Joint second place

West Butterwick School – 'OxYGenTo' A machine that is placed on car exhausts to suck-up the gasses (fumes) and turn into oxygen.

St John's Primary School – 'Huggiesaurus Roar' A six foot singing huggiesaurus that will be transported by plane and balloon across the world to give everyone hugs.

Joint third place

Haxey School – 'H2OTG' A water purification system provided through a back pack, enabling anyone across the world to access clean water.

Rudgwick Primary School – 'The Mover Suit' A body suit designed for those with a paralysis to assist with movement.



WONERISH SHAMLEY GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Get involved with ROAR 2021

Lions Clubs are invited to join in by providing financial support to their local schools. Please contact either Steve Scall via email: stevescall@gmail.com or Viv Diggins via email: diggins2000@hotmail.com for further information



Chicken in the Basket to Celebrate the Season's Finale at Gamlingay Village Show

Our summer season didn't really start until the 22nd August when the Sandy Community Fun Day reminded us of the pleasures normally associated with an English Summer Show. Potton continued the theme and yesterday, 18th September we ended our 2021 Summer Fête season in glorious style at Gamlingay when our famous chickens joined Duxford with their Flying Display and yes, one of our talented competitors landed his chicken in the basket and left with his £10 prize money. We're now preparing for our **Dance on November 27th** and our Christmas Activities through December



17th July - Arlesey Street Market



10th August - Biggleswade Action Day



Setting up the Chicken Guns



Gamlingay Village Show

18th September - We were ready and waiting....



On Target



The Winner



Potton Village Show

11th September - We were ready and waiting....



Sandy Community Fun Day

22nd August - We were ready and waiting....



43 Years and Time For a Small Celebration

2020 was the first year we didn't celebrate the Clubs Formation back in 1978 with a Charter Dinner.

The 8th October 2021 marked our return. So because of the lingering nature of the pandemic, we kept the celebration "in-house" at The White Horse in Southill, hence only 4 tables.

We had good reason to celebrate. We are out and about again. Starting back in August, we attended three village Fêtes, which in turn allowed our famous chickens to fly freely once more. We're sponsoring three local primary schools in the **ROAR** Competition. We're busy planning our Christmas activities, and returning to the pattern of life that existed for the first 41 years for Biggleswade Sandy Lions Club.

It was time to celebrate being back!





Like I've Never Been Gone

Normally the last weekend in November sees the start of our Christmas activities, beginning with our annual Christmas Dance, held in the Weatherley Centre.

2020 changed all this and we set out to return to "normal" in 2021

In September we had to determine whether folk would come to our dance, after all this is a fund-raising event for our Charity. We were told YES; so plans were put in place; our long-held bookings with the hall and band "New Vintage Plus" were confirmed. Updated catering arrangements were made, and tickets sold.

On the night, folk turned up, obviously planning to enjoy the dance. When the band started up, we were back to where we'd left off in 2019; like we'd never been gone. New Vintage Plus kept everyone dancing throughout the evening playing music to suit everyone's taste and dancing capabilities.

Before we were ready, the evening was over. All agreed that it had been a excellent evening, and as they left, guests told us that they'd definitely be back next year for our next Christmas Dance on Saturday 26th November 2022.

We would like to thank all our guests for coming & for their generosity when purchasing tickets for our tombola.





**2021 could have been worse.
2022 has to be a whole lot better**



Our summer season didn't really start until the 22nd August when the Sandy Community Fun Day reminded us of the pleasures normally associated with an English Summer Show. Potton continued the theme and we ended our 2021 Summer Fête season in glorious style at Gamlingay when our famous chickens joined Duxford with their Flying Display and yes, one of our talented competitors landed his chicken in the basket and left with his £10 prize money. We held a most successful Dance on 27th November at the Weatherley Centre. December opened with the COVID-19 threat re-emerging and we had to restrict our Sleigh to visiting the various Retail Outlets in our patch. We would like to thank, in no particular order, **Asda** (Biggleswade), **G&M Growers**, **Morrisons** (Shefford), **Sainsburys** (Biggleswade), **Tesco** (Sandy) and **Cherry Lane**-Langford Garden Centre for giving us hope for the future by letting us collect outside your stores.

