



2014 Résumé

Jumble - [Details >>](#)

We were suffering from a very wet winter, fingers were crossed that it would be dry when we held our Jumble Sale.

Easter - [Details >>](#)

A very big thank you to everyone who helped by taking one of our Easter Eggs and running a raffle on our behalf.

Fêtes - [Details >>](#)

The weather is the key to summer fêtes in England

Wicksteed - [Details >>](#)

On Saturday, June 14th we took a party to Wicksteed Park and a Lancaster bomber flew by to check on us.

Steam Fayre

Once again we managed the main gate on the Bedfordshire Steam Fayre

Charter

We held our 36th Charter Dinner at the Guinea at Moggerhanger, a good time was had by all.

Peace Poster Competition - [Details >>](#)

Marie Watkins Peace Poster won 3rd Prize at the Lions 105A District Peace Poster judging.

District Youth Celebration - [Details >>](#)

We took two parties of youngsters to the District Youth Celebrations at the Alum Hall in Elstree on 16th November

Christmas - [Details >>](#)

December was a very busy month with sleigh runs, can shakes parcel packing & delivery and Santa Claus visiting Langford Garden Centre.





Thank goodness it stayed dry!

We've had a wet winter, not as wet as some, but the prospect of having to transport everything into the hall in the rain was not the most enthralling prospect. On top of this if it did rain, would anyone turn up?

Thankfully this is British weather, and where as we couldn't rely on it, it didn't let us down. We were able to get everything to the hall and prepared without getting wet, and those hardy souls that arrived early, only to find the doors were locked until opening time had a dry wait too.

Once again we had an excellent attendance with many people leaving laden with a variety of purchases and smiles on their faces. We hope this is a sign that perhaps we'll see them back again in 2015.

We made around £550 profit from the Jumble Sale. Thank you to everyone who donated goods, helped on the day; or turned up to buy whatever we had to sell.





17 Eggs and a Happy Easter

April was a very fine month, this year, according to the weatherman. Whether that helped our gallant Pubs and Clubs to sell the squares for our Easter Eggs, I couldn't tell you; but sell them they did! Biggleswade Sandy Lions say thank you to them all and to everyone who bought a square in the hope of winning an egg..

We are, once again, organising a trip to Wicksteed Park in June for disadvantaged children / families and young carers and the near £1200 raised by these eggs will go a long way towards paying for the day.

Thank you everybody.



The Easter Egg Draws took place at:

Biggleswade

- The Conservative Club
- The New Inn
- Saxon Centre

Winner - Garry D
Winner - Stuart Little
Winner - Brenda Stamper

Clifton

- The Golden Lion

Winner - Kirsty

Henlow

- The Engineers Arms
- The Five Bells
- RAF Henlow

Winner - Kim Clark
Winner - Katie Harris
Winner - Nige Hutchinson

Northill

- The Crown

Winner - Matti Ince

Sandy

- John O'Gaunt Golf Club
- Sir William Peel
- The Roundabout Club
- The Bell
- Keech Hospice Shop
- The Kings Arms

Winner - Sue Bassindale & Alan Clark (2 Eggs)
Winner - Freddie Smith
Winner - Pete Fil
Winner - Stuart Dorrell
Winner - Sarah
Winner - Keith

Sheffield

- The Brewery Tap

Winner - John & Laura Taylor

Tempsford

- The Wheatsheaf

Winner - Mr Devon



Fêtes and Carnivals - 1

Ickwell Monday 5th May

A sunny day brought the crowds out at Ickwell and they seemed determined to spend some money. Bric-a-brac, lucky dip and second hand books and jigsaws sold well.

We were one of only two stalls offering games for children and queues soon developed at our skittle alley and for the golf and duck games. Some young boys were so determined to win a prize football at the golf game that they returned for another go time and time again. Visitors seemed to be enjoying themselves so much that they didn't want to go home. However, we were very tired after a long day and started dismantling the stall at 4.45. The end of a very successful and enjoyable day.



Sandy Carnival Saturday 14th June

This was a busy day, coinciding with the Wicksted Park trip, we had to split our resources to cover both events.

Despite the early rain, the Sandy Carnival was a great success. The rain started soon after we had erected the gazebo and everybody's thoughts went back to last year when high winds and rain wrecked the afternoon events. Fortunately the rain stopped before the Carnival parade which ended at the Sandye Place Academy and the crowds poured into the school playing field. There they enjoyed the numerous stalls, a funfair, beer tent, food outlets and various demonstrations in the parade ring all afternoon.

The Lions stall offered mug Tombola, lucky dip, books, jigsaws and a new game of "Splat the Rat". The mug Tombola proved ever popular with young and old and the children loved the lucky dip. All too soon it was 5 o'clock, the raffle was being drawn and we had to pack away the stall ready for the next event. Everybody went home happy but tired after a successful day.



Meppershall Summer Fair 28th June

The Fair opened at 1pm in steady rain with only stall holders and a few children, determined to get soaked, in attendance. Our books and jigsaws were hidden under our blue tarpaulin and the golf carpet was kept dry under the gazebo never to be used on the day. The rain eased off around 2.30 and Keith decided the time had come to get custom on a rain soaked skittle alley by offering a football as a prize for knocking down all the skittles with 3 balls. This proved very popular and we handed out 17 balls. The ladies were pushing the lucky dip, sheltering under an umbrella and then walking around the site. Altogether they sold 75 lucky dips. Eventually people started to buy books and jigsaws.

Fortunately it remained dry for the rest of the afternoon and everything managed to dry out before packing away. It was even good enough to allow a short display from a Battle of Britain Memorial Flight Spitfire.



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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



Fêtes and Carnivals - 2

Arlesey Fun Day 5th July

After several wet and windy Fun Days, it was decided to move the date from June to July. The organisers must have been apprehensive to wake up to a rainy morning. However, the rain eventually turned to showers interspersed with sunshine and the families started to arrive. The dog show attracted a large number of entrants of all types large and small.

The Biggleswade Sandy Lions used their large gazebo so that people could shelter from the rain and look at our selection of books and jigsaws in the dry. Our "all weather" skittle alley did a roaring trade particularly with the youngsters. The prize of a football for knocking over all the pins with three balls proved very popular. The lucky dip was also very popular with the younger children.

At the end of the day we were able to take down the stall in the dry and load our cars with thankfully less than we had brought. Hard work, but enjoyable, where we had brought some fun and happiness to the day and raised some money for our local community projects.

Letchworth Lions Fun Day 19th July

The day started early in the rain for the team but thankfully the weather had turned to showers by the time we were erecting our stall. There was much to display including books, jigsaws, toys and bric-a-brac, not to mention the ever popular lucky dip and mug Tombola.

As the weather improved the number of visitors to the fun fair and the stalls steadily increased. By the afternoon in the hot sun and high humidity, the stall holders began to appreciate what the England World Cup footballers experienced playing in Manaus! Everything sold well on the day and we went home with considerably less than we brought

Old Warden Fete 31st August

A pleasant sunny day brought the crowds out at the Old Warden Fete held at the Cricket Field. The arrival of two steam traction engines at the start of the fete caused much interest to young and old and some consternation to those who used to play cricket there.

Visitors, however, soon started to try their luck on the games available on many of the stalls. Our skittles proved ever popular and the winner of the highest score on the day came from Liskeard in Cornwall. Our golf putting game faced competition from two other stalls offering different golf games but our lucky dip proved to be a winner with the young children. In addition we sold second hand books and jigsaws.

Upper Caldecote Village Show 7th September

The Lions had a very successful day at the Upper Caldecote Village Show. The crowds turned out on a warm and sunny afternoon.

The mug Tombola and lucky dip proved ever popular and we were kept busy on the skittles and golf putting games. The dog show and games in the arena kept the crowds entertained as well as a fantastic flying display from a Hawker Hunter performing nearby at the Shuttleworth Air Pageant



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Wicksteed Park

Including a Celebrity Fly-Past

This year we've asked Lion Keith to tell us about our Wicksteed Day ... Early in January it was decided that we would organise another of our highly successful trips to Wicksteed Park.

So all was arranged, date decided, Saturday 14th June, two coaches booked - one for families & children who would really enjoy a day out and one for young carers who would really benefit from a fun day for themselves. Next was inviting the families & carers to join us and finally, but very importantly, arranging & collecting food for the picnic lunch.

I arrived early at the first pick up point in Potton to make sure that all was ready for the arrival of the coach. I needn't have been concerned as all of those invited were already there excitedly waiting. It was exactly the same at both of the next points, Biggleswade and Sandy. So with a coach full of excited families we were off promptly by 9.45.

The weather wasn't as hot as Friday's and indeed we had some light rain on route (and briefly during the day) But this didn't dampen spirits at all, it wasn't long before the excited youngest children were asking "are we there yet?!"

Lions Catriona & Keith on the coach with families & Lion Ian on the one with Young Carers phoned ahead to the advance party, Lions Judith, Dave & Julie with the final numbers. So, when both coaches arrived, no time was lost in handing out wrist bands & tickets for the rides and everyone was quickly heading towards their first of the day.

Again this year, there was a militaria show in the grounds providing added interest for both adults & children. One of the highlights of this event were several low passes over the area by a Lancaster from World War 2 days.

All the families and young carers returned to the coaches at 12.30, as requested, where the Lions handed out picnic lunches & drinks to all. The children were anxious to tell us the rides they had been on, their favourites and which they intended to go on after lunch. Then, when all had eaten enough, it was back to the rides for more fun.

All were asked to make their way back to the coaches for 4 o'clock, knowing there would be a few stragglers who lost track of the time!! Everyone said how much they had enjoyed the day and how they would take away many happy memories





Peace Poster Competition

“Peace Love and Understanding”

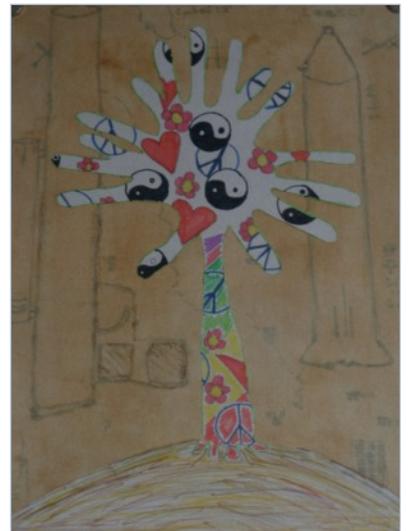
Each year Lions Clubs International holds a Peace Poster Competition. It is now in its 27th year. Last year more than 400,000 students worldwide, ages 11-13, submitted posters to be considered for the grand prize or one of the contest’s 23 merit awards.

This year’s theme is “Peace, Love and Understanding”

These are the winners from our schools. These Posters have been forwarded to the District Competition.



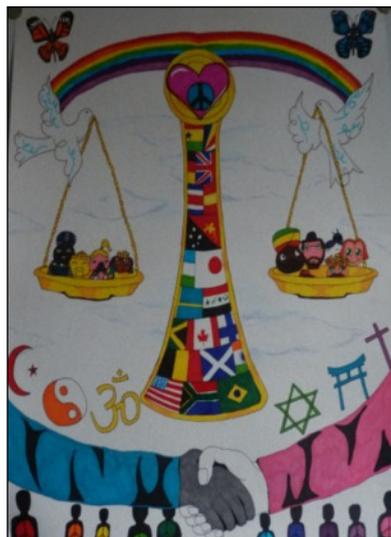
Edward Peake Middle School
Elise Conninier (11)



Gamlingay Village College
Andrew Barnes (12)



Etonbury Academy
Jack Puttock (12)



Robert Bloomfield Academy
Peter Grant (12)



Biggleswade Academy
Isabelle Yung (12)



Burgoyne Middle School
Erin Jeffers(10)



District Youth Celebration

16th November 2014

The seventh District Youth Celebration took place this November and was a great success with over 400 disabled and disadvantaged young people and their carers enjoying a grand party at the Alum Hall in Elstree

Biggleswade Sandy Lions took two tables and because we booked early we were on the front row, with all the action.

I think the pictures tell you the rest of the story.



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Christmas 2014

Thank you for your support, once again



Suddenly Christmas is over, life can return to its normal pace.

Since holding a most successful Annual Christmas Dance on November 22nd at the Weatherly Centre:-

- We've shaken our collecting buckets at G&M Growers, Tesco in Sandy, Morrisons Local in Biggleswade and Sainsburys in Biggleswade.
- Our Sleigh has been round the streets of Biggleswade, Clifton, Henlow, Langford, Potton, Stotfold and our collectors knocked on all your doors as we passed by.
- We bought a mountain of food at Biggleswade Aldi transported it to Sutton Village Hall and packed 170 Christmas food parcels which were then distributed across our area.
- Our Santa Claus popped round to the Langford Garden Centre on each Saturday and Sunday to say hello to the youngsters who were seeking reassurance that he would pay them a call on Christmas Eve.
- We decorated a Christmas tree kindly provided by Langford Garden Centre for the St Swithun's Sandy Christmas Tree festival.

We would like to thank everyone who helped us carry out this work; contributed to our collections; or gave us permission to stand outside their business to collect. The funds raised not only finance the Christmas food parcels that we distributed, but go a long way towards our 2015 programme of service to this community.

Rudolph and the sleigh have gone into hibernation, we wish everyone a most happy new year and we hope to see you all again in December.



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