

JUDI'S YEAR



Lion Judith Hagger
President of Biggleswade Sandy Lions
From
23rd June 2019
to
2nd July 2023



23rd June 2019 to 2nd July 2023



1470 Days



Here to listen



Here to do



We've done it again!

Extended the Presidency from a year to a sentence

A Club President's Year

(365 days, give or take the odd 29th February)

The year of a Biggleswade Sandy Lions President is meant to last 12 months, during which time we will have raised funds through a Jumble Sale, Easter Egg Draws at our local Pubs, a Logo Quiz throughout the Summer, attended several Village Fêtes, held a Christmas Dance, street collections and tin shakes throughout December and social events.

Throughout that 12 months we will have supported our Local Community, Schools, Food Banks and individual pleas for help. We will have supported the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) and its various International Disaster Appeals.

This activity is all led by the Lions Club President, who generally speaking, deserve and enjoy the relative peace and quiet that follows on from their extremely busy year.

Judi's Year

(1470 days which include that odd 29th February)

Judi's year was different to any since Biggleswade Sandy Lions was chartered in 1978. Her year started on 23rd June 2019 and ended on 2nd July 2023. All was relatively straightforward until 23rd March 2020 when the Country shut down for the Covid Pandemic. Fund raising virtually ceased at that point, but the needs of our Local Community continued. During 2020 we donated £5,000 to local Food Banks.

In 2021, when vaccines were available, hope returned. In July we borrowed a driveway and took part in the Arlesey Street Market. Meetings started again. Through August and September we attended Sandy, Potton and Gamlingay Fêtes. We held our Charter Dinner in October and our Dance at the end of November. However in December the COVID threat re-emerged and we restricted our sleigh to collections at the supermarkets.

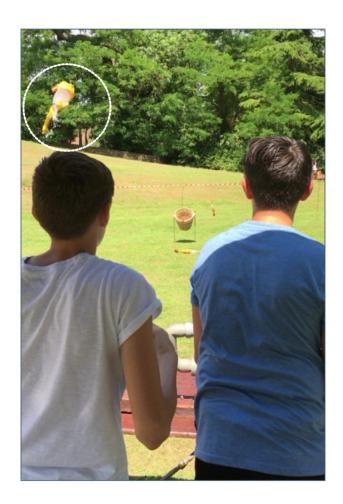
We started 2022 with the resolve to return to normal; starting with the Jumble Sale, which ended up being totally in support of LCIF's Ukraine appeal. Our Easter Egg Draw was back in the Public Houses. May Day at Ickwell started off our Fête season complete with Quiz Sheets. Our Flying Chickens were hitting the baskets again. It felt like we were back on course at our Charter Dinner. Once again the Christmas Season started with our Dance, followed by the District Youth Celebration and then the Supermarket Collections.

It's 2023 and we all agree; we are back on track.

Judi's year has not been the easiest. Its been a lot longer than planned. We've appreciated her continuous leadership throughout.

Thank you Judi.





Having accepted the honour of being Lion President; One expects things to run through the normal course to the following July when the next Lion President will take over.

However Judi's year followed the Chicken in the Basket model....

- Point the chicken in the direction of the basket
- Adjust the elevation of the chicken cannon
- Pump up the pressure to send the Chicken on the correct trajectory
- The Chicken takes off
- Cross fingers
- Pray for Divine Providence to guide the Chicken into the basket.

The following pages illustrate how Biggleswade Sandy's Website covered events following on from Judi's launch on 23rd June 2019 to the winning basket of 2nd July 2023.







50 Years ago, It was men on the Moon

Now....

Club Diary July

- Jul 6th The chickens were out in Langford again.
- Jul 13th Letchworth Lions Fun Day was a relatively quiet day.
- Jul 14th Sandye Place Academy Final Farewell 2 brothers achieve the impossible by landing their chickens in the basket. It was also a good day for cricket down at Lords.

August

• Aug 24th - It's a long time since we had a Bank Holiday that was this hot. Everyone came to Kempston Fun Day. It kept us very busy

September

- Sept 7th Arlesey Fun Day A busy start to the end of our summer season.
- Sept 8th Upper Caldecote Village Show Our Logo Ouiz Sheets have sold out and the chickens landed in the basket twice, though there were several near misses.
- Sept 13th A most successful Macmillan Coffee Morning raising over £275. Over 12 years our Coffee Mornings have raised £2,582 for Macmillan















Fêtes and Carnivals

Langford - 6th July

You only have to look at the photos to notice that the sky wasn't blue, It was a grey day, which was a shame for this well organised Summer Fête in Langford. The day before had been a scorcher! Never the less, it was a well attended Fête and the few drops of rain that did appear caused no alarm. We were there with our team of Lions and flying chickens and were kept busy throughout the day. There were some very near misses, but alas this was one of those rare days when no-one managed to guide their chicken into the basket. Better luck next time.



This was the start of a grand sporting weekend, with Wimbledon Ladies Final so that sun had no plans for showing its face, thankfully it didn't rain. We took our Mug Tombola, Lucky Dip, Quiz Sheets, Jigsaws and books etc, but the afternoon was quieter than previous years

Sandye Place Academy Final Farewell - 14th July

Today's competition was Wimbledon Men's Final; The World Cup Cricket Final and the British Grand Prix; so we would like to thank everyone who turned up to say farewell to Sandye Place Academy. It was a day for breaking records, and Sandye Place Academy was no exception. Two young brothers demonstrated how easy it was to land a chicken in the basket. To the best of our knowledge **this is a world first**; a most fitting celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of those two Americans landing on the moon. Well done you two, we'll be looking out for your return.













Fêtes and Carnivals

Kempston Fun Day - 24th August

It was an energy sapping, scorching hot day. We had wanted to take our flying chickens, but were unable to book the required space. The spray from the chickens taking off would have been most welcome.

The Fun Day, organised by Bedford Lions, was very well attended with a large number of stalls, a fun fair, classic cars, a full programme in the arena and even a fly past by the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight Dakota. We took our Mug Tombola, Lucky Dips, Logo Quiz sheets, golf game and sun glasses and were kept busy all day

We'll book it a little earlier next year and take our chickens...

Arlesey Fun Day - 7th September

The weather was fair to middling. The Fun Day was well organised with a full programme in the arena throughout the day. There were a good number of stalls, fairground stalls and even a dog show. Unfortunately the wind was too strong for the BBMF Lancaster fly past. We took our lucky dip, mug tombola, skittles, golf game, jigsaws, DVDs & quiz sheets and were kept pretty busy throughout.

Upper Caldecote Village Show - 8th September

The weather was warm and a lot sunnier than the day before in Arlesey. It was very well attended with a full programme (Pilates demonstration, dog show, birds of prey demo, children's games etc.) in the arena. We took along our Flying Chickens, Lucky Dip, bric-a-brac and our Logo Quiz sheets. Two young ladies, Nancy and Casey, landed their chicken in our basket, winning ten pounds each and we finally sold the last of this year's quiz sheets.











We attended nine Village Fêtes throughout the summer, the proceeds are used to help deserving local causes. We'd like to thank everyone who supported us at these events either by paying to have a go or by helping us run the stalls; you make it all possible; we'd be lost without you.



Logo Quiz

Over the course of the summer we have sold 600 Logo Quiz sheets, 83 were returned for checking, of which 33 were completely correct.

The overall winner who receives the £100 prize was drawn from this list of 33 on Friday 4th October 2019 by our District Governor, Lion Kamal Sharma, at our Annual Charter Dinner.



This year's winner is Mr & Mrs Giddings of Sandy

Thank you to everyone who bought a Quiz Sheet we hoped you enjoyed participating.

BIGGLESWADE SANDY LIONS CLUB - LOGO QUIZ 2019		
1 Royal Dutch Shell	26 MSN	
2 Tommy Hilfiger	27 (i) Indesit	
3 Derby County FC	28 Lyle Golden Syrup	
4 NFU Mutual	29 👪 Lowenbrau	
5 Stena Line	30 Wolverhamton Wanderers FC	
6 Swiss Air Lines	31 NBC	
7 OOO TNT	32 Kiwi Shoe Polish	
8 Ralph Lauren	33 EDF Energy	
9 Autoglass	34 // Aldi	
10 New Balance	35 Peugeot	
11 Mandarin Oriental	36 Mick George	
12 IIIIII Cisco Systems	37 🕟 Spar	
13 The Rank Group	38 Lions International	
14 Princess Cruises	39 Kuehne & Nagel	
15 Fuji Xerox	40 C Ocado	
16 McCarthy & Stone	41 National Grid	
17 Strongbow	42 Santander	
18 Kitemark	43 Premier Inn	
19 Pepsi	44 Norvatis	
20 W Rolex	45 Unilever	
21 Uniroyal Tyres	46 Berghaus	
22 Patek Philippe	47 Barnardo's	
23 Mazda	48 Iberia Airlines	
24 Thomas Cook	49 MK Dons Football Club	
25 Travis Perkins	50 Food Standards Agency	
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Doing Amazing Things

Biggleswade Sandy Lions Club (CIO)1193179



1978 - 2019 = 41 Years Serving our Community

Each year we celebrate our Charter Formation back in 1978. It's a time to catch up with friends, associates and members of neighbouring Clubs. A time to reflect on the busy 12 months that have just passed and look forward to the forthcoming months.

Much of our public exposure involves fund-raising to enable us to support worthy local causes and Lions Clubs International.

During the last twelve months we held a Christmas Dance; took a group of young people to the District Youth Party at Elstree. In December we spent 11 days collecting outside local supermarkets, 6 nights with the sleigh around and about, 4 weeks at a local Garden Centre Grotto. We held a Jumble Sale, Easter Egg Draw, attended 9 Village Fêtes and ran a Logo Quiz

We also took a coach load of youngsters out for a day at Wicksteed Park. Much of this is detailed elsewhere on this website.















Come December It will be all hands on Deck

Club Diary

October

- Oct 4th We hold our 41st Charter Dinner at the Mount Pleasant Golf Club.
- Oct 4th Mr and Mrs Giddings of Sandy win our 2019 Logo Quiz Prize

November

- Nov 24th DYC. We took a party to the Party in Elstree
- Nov 30th Another great Dance took place at the Weatherly Centre

December

- 6 Nights with our sleigh around the Towns and Villages, knocking on doors
- 12 Days at the Supermarket doors
- 2½ Weeks with Santa at Langford Garden Centre















The 2019 District Youth Celebration

On the last Sunday in November, Allum Hall in Elstree has been the place to Party for the last twelve years. That's when the Lions Clubs in our District which extends from Central London in the south to Bedford in the north, from Chipping Norton in the West to Ilford in the East. The Lions team arrive at the hall early on Sunday Morning to work their magic and convert the hall into a Party Palace fit for our guests.

Biggleswade Sandy Lions booked their tables earlyto ensure they were at the front of the hall close to all the action. There were just short of 600 people including the Lions there that afternoon and for three hours the celebration never stopped. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves dancing to disco music; having their faces painted; balloons modelled into animals or shapes they chose. They also had plenty to eat & drink. At the end not only the parents & carers told us how much they had enjoyed the event, but many of the children came to us saying they couldn't wait to be invited again!











Bigg Sandy's Dance gets even better

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

A team of Club Members gathered in the afternoon to get the hall prepared, to greet the band, the very popular New Vintage Plus, & ensure they had everything they needed for the evening. Finally to prepare the plated supper in readiness for the interval. The Weatherley Centre staff had already created a Christmas Wonderland in the hall with fairy lights covering walls & ceiling.

By 7.30pm our first guests, of the 140 or so expected, were arriving & at 8 the music started & very soon the dance floor was crowded with people dancing. In true New Vintage Plus style, music was played to meet all people's tastes & dance styles including the Gay Gordon, which got everyone onto the floor at the same time. The evening ended traditionally with everyone joining arms & singing Auld Lang Syne.

All agreed that it had been a marvellous evening, & guests as they left told us that they'd definitely be back next year on Saturday 28th November 2020 for our next Christmas Dance.

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















We had a long Christmas this year

Christmas has occupied more of our time than We spent the summer usual this year. refurbishing our sleigh and it was well received throughout December.

At the end of November our planning was all in place, our friends and volunteers were lined up and we were ready to go. It all started on 30th November with our Christmas Dance. From 2nd December and over the next two weeks, we took our sleigh around the streets, knocking on the doors of Biggleswade, Clifton, Henlow, Langford and Potton. Santa was kept busy too; attending the Langford Garden Centre as well as our sleigh runs and Supermarket tin shakes.

For 12 days we collected at our local supermarkets and would like to thank Morrisons in Shefford, Tesco at Sandy; Asda, Sainsburys & Matalan in Biggleswade.

Thank you to everyone who helped us with our fund-raising; contributed to our collections; or gave us permission to stand outside their business to collect much needed funds.

- We distributed 100 food parcels and gave £500 each to the Preen Food-bank and the Need Project.
- The remaining funds raised will go a long way towards our 2020 programme of service to this community

After Christmas, comes January, we'll then have to start planning for Christmas 2020.







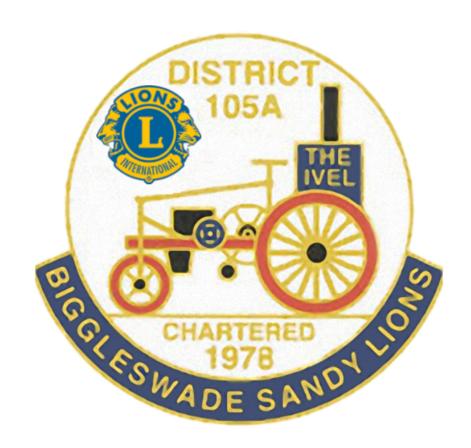














Look out for our Easter Eggs

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



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.









We Had Our Year Planned

- 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 Probably the best jumble sale in Clifton in March



Village Fêtes
Throughout the Summer Starting with
Ickwell - Saturday 9th May



Wicksteed
Date to be confirmed



Fêtes and Carnivals



This year we planned to attend

- Ickwell May Day Mon 4th 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.





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 supplements 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.



£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



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











Forthcoming Events

Programme of events now affected by the ongoing Coronavirus issue

Our sleigh will be visiting the streets of:

- Clifton 1 - Fri 11th Dec
- **Biggleswade 1** Mon 14th Dec
- Langford 1 - Tue 15th Dec
- Clifton 2 - Wed 16th Dec
- Biggleswade 2
 Thu 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



2021

To be confirmed



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

Doing Amazing Things



Biggleswade Sandy Lions Club (CIO)1193179

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

Amazing Things



Biggleswade Sandy Lions Club (CIO)1193179

Dance The Night Away In Style



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

Re-booked 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







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.



By the end of 2020 a vaccine had been developed,
but it would take several months to apply across the Nation
Hope was returning to the Country

Everything had been stopped and would have to start again.



These were strange and worrying times

It was considered necessary to wear a mask

Even when collecting for the British Legion's Poppy Appeal













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 close-down 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.







2021

Biggleswade Sandy Lions Club (CIO)1193179



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.....





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





















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 Billy Fury 1963

le Doing Amazing Things

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.











g Amazing Things

Biggleswade Sandy Lions Club (CIO)1193179





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

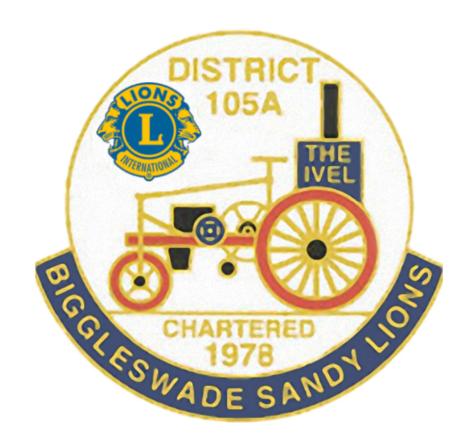


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December opened with the COVID-19 threat re-emerging and we had to restrict our Sleigh to visiting the various Retail Outlets in our patch. We would like to thank, in no particular order, **Asda** (Biggleswade), **G&M Growers**, **Morrisons** (Shefford), **Sainsburys** (Biggleswade), **Tesco** (Sandy) and **Cherry Lane**-Langford Garden Centre for giving us hope for the future by letting us collect outside your stores.









This Year's Jumble Sale

Supporting the Ukraine

This year's Jumble Sale was planned well in advance, at a time when we weren't even aware of the Russians gathering on the border of Ukraine. We had hoped that it would perhaps mark the end of the Covid-19 restrictions and help us rebuild the funds that we use for supporting our local community.

At our Club meeting on 2nd March the members unanimously agreed that we should donate the proceeds of this year's Jumble Sale to the Lions Clubs International Foundations (LCIF) Special Fund for Refugees and Displaced Persons from Ukraine and in anticipation of the support we would receive from the local community, immediately sent a cheque for £500

Then the real work began, collecting and sorting all the donated jumble and laying it all out in time for the doors opening at 1:30 PM on the Saturday afternoon. We were not disappointed when the doors opened and our customers poured in to briskly sort through what was on offer and leave with their selected spoils, after which we cleared up in the hall. We then counted the takings and were really pleased with the amount.

In total we raised £688.50 and we can now send a further cheque for £200 to the LCIF Special Fund for Refugees and Displaced Persons from Ukraine.

We would like to thank everyone who supported us by donating items, helping sort through them, helping on the day and turned up on the day to buy the displayed goods. Without you the world would be a poorer place; thank you once again.





UPDATE: 4/4/22 A kind gentleman from Shefford has matched our initial donation of £500 to the LCIF Special Fund for Refugees and Displaced Persons from Ukraine and because we are now a CIO Registered Charity, we are also able to claim Gift Aid, thereby increasing the value of this to £625 making our current total donated to date to £1,325



le Doing Amazing Things



Biggleswade Sandy Lions Club (CIO)1193179

Any Old Specs?

What do you do with your old spectacles, when every couple of years you get a new pair?

I put them to one side, just in case I break my new pair; but what to do with them in two years time when there's yet another new pair?

Unfortunately, the Lions specialise in best kept secrets and for well over thirty years our Club has been collecting old spectacles and forwarding them within our national organisation to be sorted for use by those in need in the third world, where a pair of spectacles changes the entire life of the new

In this country Lions Clubs International started recycling spectacles way back in 1967 down in Chichester and nowadays Lions Clubs throughout the country collect both Spectacles and hearing aids for onward use in Africa, India and Eastern Europe.

Since we started collecting spectacles in the Biggleswade Sandy area we have recycled over 60,000 pairs to help those overseas clinics provide glasses to those in need and recently we have been able to significantly increase the number of collection points we have.

Please help us to continue helping in this way by putting your no longer needed spectacles &/or hearing aids into one of our bins at any of the locations listed below

	Adam Loveday	Opticians	99 High Street	NOWS DOO
	Clear Vision Direct	Opticians	54 High Street	MEC.
	Allders	Opticians	39 High Street	Rec for S
Biggleswade	Harolds	Opticians	29a Market Square	Your
	Ivel Medical Centre	Doctors Surgery	Chestnut Avenue	collecti
	Specsavers	Opticians	Market Square	us ey
	Specsavers	Opticians	Above Sainsbury's	
	Sandy Health Centre	Doctors Surgery	Northcroft	
Sandy	Wood Green (Animal Rescue)	Charity Shop	Shannon Court	
	Allders	Opticians	Market Square	7
Clifton	Clifton Parish Church			### #LionsGetInvolved
Shefford	Hing	Opticians		Small sequiries@tionschute.os Registered C
Gamlingay	Potton View Nursing Home			Q
	1			





Our Easter Eggs The Winners

Thank you very much to everyone who took on the responsibility of selling an egg for us, and all of you who bought a number on the off chance that they might win an egg. Thank you once again and better luck next year. This year we raised over £1,200



This year's winners are:-

and year 5 winners are.		
Biggleswade	The Conservative Club	Ben Barker
	The Saxon Centre	Serrah Walters
	Surfin' Cafe	Gleenis McCreay
Broom	The Cock	Nigel
Everton	The Thornton Arms	Jo Neville
Gamlingay	The Wheatsheaf	Not Known
Henlow	The Engineers Arms	Val Buckley
	The Five Bells	Hannah
Moggerhanger	The Guinea	Mark
Old Warden	Hare & Hounds	Chris Milton
Potton	John O'Gaunt Golf Club	Steve Perrin
	The Rising Sun	Duncan Smith
	The Royal Oak	David Dalton
Sandy	The Bell	Lias Magill
	Britannia Pharmacy	Traceyanne Hopkins
	The Sir William Peal	Philip
Southill	The White Horse	Tom



Fêtes are a good indication that Summer's out there

2022 is really starting to shine....

2022 is starting to respond to our hopes and prayers. After two years of Covid despondency we all hoped for the light at the end of the tunnel to appear and; fingers crossed, it's here.

We planned our March Jumble Sale back in January and diverted it to a Ukraine Fundraiser, with subsequent donations from the public, we have now donated £1350 to the LCIF Special Fund for Refugees and Displaced Persons from Ukraine.

Easter witnessed 20 Easter Eggs being won at various venues on our behalf

Monday the 2nd May saw our return to an Incredible Ickwell May Day and what a magnificent day it was. We got there early, set up and relaxed, awaiting customers to arrive around lunchtime. They arrived early, at 10:00 am and we were kept busy all day; Brilliant! We sold out of Lucky Dips, Lucky Mugs and Quiz Sheets. The Golf Game and Skittles kept busy all day. The book sales, bric-a-brac and jigsaws went well too. Was this living proof that our traditional English Summer was returning? We certainly hope so.

5th June found us with a Bigg Sandy PR stall in Sandy

Now all we need is a normal Calendar of Summer Fêtes. At the moment we have Langford, Arlesey, Letchworth and Gamlingay lined up.











'Twas a Hot & Dry Summer

11th June Found us at Sandy Carnival and a good time was had by all. It was sunny, warm and well attended, we had a choice of Lucky Dip, Flying Chicken, Quiz Sheets, Marbles in the jar, Name the unicorn and bric-a brac.

30th June - We had a Cruise on the Ouse in Bedford for Club Members and special guests

9th July It was a very hot and sunny day at Langford Fête; perhaps too early to call it exceptional; except the Flying Chickens decided that they were homing pigeons and three of our customers won £10 prizes. I think that is exceptional!

16th July - Gothic Mede School Fête - another hot and sunny day with skittles, Lucky Mugs, Lucky Dips and our Logo Quiz



July, we joined forces with a local Parish Council Refugee Response Group and Rotary Clubs' Support Group to help with fully furnishing and equipping a three-bedroom house in readiness for a Ukrainian refugee family

10th Sept. - Potton Village Show - The weather is changing. - Today we had thick clouds, scorching hot sun and one very heavy shower. We also had Lucky Mugs, Lucky Dip, Bric-a-Brac, Logo Quiz Sheets together with a busy afternoon.

17th Sept. - Gamlingay - An excellent end to the season. A sunny day with a strong wind, building up from a slow start to a busy afternoon. We had our usual Lucky Mugs, Lucky Dip and Quiz Sheets which all went well. We also had our Flying Chickens, which if you remember, played at homing pigeons last time they were out, back in July. This time they remembered who they were and and only one landed in the basket for a ten pound prize. Everyone who was there tells me it was the perfect flight, they all knew it was going to land in the basket from the very moment it took off.





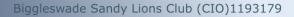














Logo Quiz

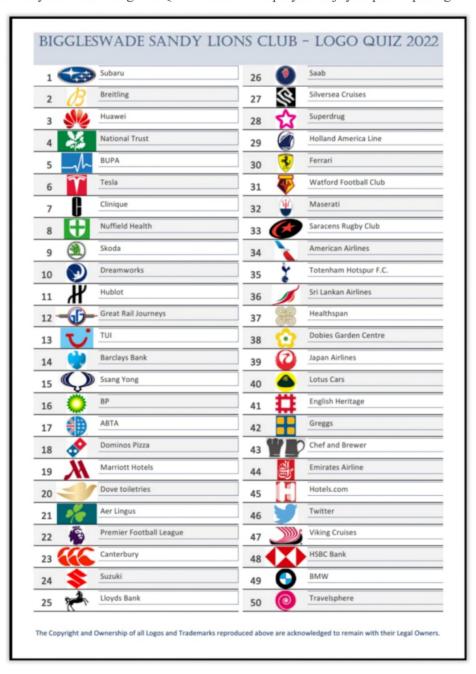
We had a bit of a slow start with the Logo Quiz (our first since 2019) this year, but by the end of our last fête of the year at Gamlingay, we had sold just short of 400 quiz sheets.

We received a number of completed sheets for checking; of which 3 were completely correct.

We held a draw for the winner of the £100 prize at our Club's Charter Dinner on the 7th October.

This year's winner is Andrew Ashenhurst of Exeter

Thank you to everyone who bought a Quiz Sheet we hope you enjoyed participating.





44 Years and Back on Course

The 7th October saw the Club back at the White Horse in Southill to celebrate the Club's formation back in 1978.

We've had a year of building up to get back where we were: Jumble Sale, Easter Egg Draw, Village Fêtes, Christmas Dance, Planning the forthcoming Christmas activities throughout December and recruiting new members to ensure our continuity.

It's really a case of we've done that before, now that the pandemic is behind us, let's get going again and see if we can do it even better. We're a team, together we can succeed.













Would you be a Dementia Friend too?

On November 16th we were pleased to welcome an ambassador from Dementia Friends, an Alzheimer's Society Initiative, as our speaker.

After a very informative, interactive session where we learned how Dementia affects memory, thinking, communication and everyday tasks as well as gaining an understanding of how we can help those with Dementia in their daily lives, we are proud to say every Lion present signed up to be a Dementia Friend



Contact details for those wanting information, support or advice about Dementia are in the following link:

https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/about-dementia/five-things-you-should-know-about-dementia

As a club we would highly recommend any organisation, workplace or health care setting to contact Dementia Friends to arrange a talk. Individuals can access the information online and become a Dementia Friend by watching the presentation. Information and contact details can be found at:

https://www.dementiafriends.org.uk/

Please share this article and get people talking. Thank you



Christmas Calendar 2022

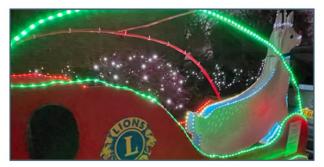
Biggleswade Sandy Lions depend heavily on our Christmas Fund Raising activities to enable us to support our local community throughout the following year. We normally plan our Christmas activities during the summer, taking account of available resources within our membership and reliable helpers.

We are disappointed/sad that once again we have had to accept the fact that without new members joining our Club we have to consider our ability to carry out all the activities that we used to do. This continues to affect our capacity to effectively carry out street collections around the town and villages until a time arrives when we have sufficient new members to return to the streets.

Sat 26 th November		Christmas Dance
Sat 3 rd December	Tesco, Sandy	Tin Shake
Sun 4th December	Tesco, Sandy	Tin Shake
Fri 9 th December	Asda, Biggleswade	Tin Shake
Sat 10 th December	Asda, Biggleswade	Tin Shake
Sun 11th December	Asda, Biggleswade	Tin Shake
Mon 12th December	Morrisons, Shefford	Tin Shake - Snowed off
Tue 13th December	Morrisons, Shefford	Tin Shake
Wed 14th December	End of Year Dinner	Club Social Evening
Thur 15 th December	G&M Growers	Tin Shake
Fri 16 th December	G&M Growers	Tin Shake
Sat 17th December	Sainsburys, Biggleswade	Tin Shake
Sun 18th December	Sainsburys, Biggleswade	Tin Shake
Mon 19th December	Sainsburys, Biggleswade	Tin Shake
Tue 20th December	Santa's Grotto - Biggleswad	e Market
Thur 22 nd December	Matalan	Tin Shake









Ordinary People Doing Amazing Things

Biggleswade Sandy Lions Club (CIO)1193179



Let's Twist Again

Like we did pre-Covid









Life's changing so quickly at the moment, so it's good to have the opportunity to have an evening out the way it used be and that's what we experienced on the 27th November at Biggleswade Sandy's Christmas Dance at the Weatherley Centre.

The Dance represents the start of our Christmas Activities. Once again New Vintage Plus (the band) kept everyone entertained and dancing. Part way through the evening a break for a plated supper to keep energy levels up and Tombola to raise some extra funds for our Community Service activities gave the band a break before playing through to the evening's finish.

"A good time was had by all" Many thanks to all our guests for supporting us this year. We enjoyed your company and look forward very much to seeing you again next year and extend a warm welcome to all who wish to enjoy a splendid evening.

Date for the diary – Saturday November 25th 2023.

Ordinary People Doing Amazing Thir

Biggleswade Sandy Lions Club (CIO)1193179

The District Youth Celebration is back!

On the last Sunday in November, Allum Hall in Elstree has been the place for children to Party, dating back around 15 years. That was until the Pandemic and for a couple of years there was no partying. 2022 saw things back on track.

The Lions Clubs in our District which extends from Central London in the South to Bedford in the North, from Chipping Norton in the West to Ilford in the East are back in action and on November 27th we had a great party.

Thank you to all who support our fundraising efforts. The funds raised this year meant we were able to book four tables and take a coach full of young people to this year's party.

Great fun was had by all the children, parents and Lions members who attended. The hall was packed! No, packed is an understatement. The place buzzed with activity.

Party food, clowns, balloon modelling, face painting, Bollywood dancing and a disco were enjoyed and when all was done we headed for the coach and home, with sing-a-long Christmas music playing.

There were a lot of happy, sleepy heads at the end of the day!

Thank you for helping us make this happen.















End of the Calendar Year Let's have a Party!



Christmas is Coming

We generally go out for a meal for our last Club meeting of the year. This year we had a splendid evening at the White Horse in Southill



After the meal, we had a pass the parcels episode which appeared to attach our Club President Judi to a pole in the middle of the room, with everyone else sat round the perimeter following her somewhat random instructions on parcel distribution.













Christmas

MERRY CHRISTMAS 2022 TO ONE AND ALL

Thank you to everyone who has been supporting our Christmas collections in whatever way they can, every penny counts and adds up to help us achieve our goals in supporting our community.



We would also like to thank, in no particular order:

- Tesco in Sandy
- Asda, Sainsburys,
 G & M Growers and Matalan in Biggleswade
- Morrisons in Shefford

For allowing us to bring our Sleigh. Play Christmas music and raise funds at their shops during December.

The proceeds are fundamental to our ability to support our local community over the forthcoming year.



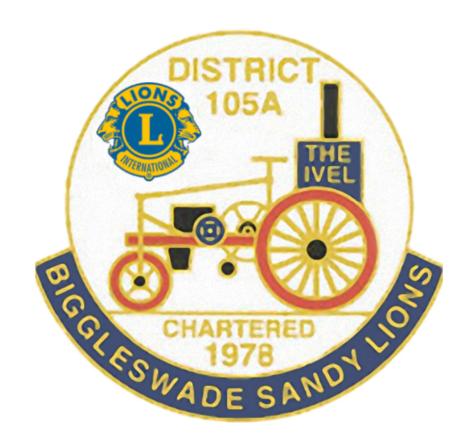








2023





2023 already - Time to look forward



Planning ahead....

January is that time each year when we recover from the rigours of our December fundraising (Dance & Tin Shakes)a time to plan for the year ahead.

This Spring will include our ever popular Jumble Sale on 25th March; a new Logo Quiz and 19 Easter Egg Draws at local businesses around our patch.

This will be followed throughout the summer with stalls at the local Summer Fêtes, usually starting with Ickwell at the beginning of May, we've booked Sandy Carnival in June and we will book a pitch at the other Fêtes as and when they are announced.

Towards the end of the year, our Dance has been booked for the 25th November













Spring started with Daffodils in Shefford

March means daffodils and Jumble Sales. Daffodils mean collecting for Marie Curie and wearing those big yellow top hats, which we did back at the beginning of the month.

Then our Jumble Sale takes precedence; when what seems like weeks of gathering donated items, culminates in the final sorting on Friday to be ready for laying it all out on Saturday morning.

Come Saturday morning, we get very busy; by 12:30 we're all set and it's time to sit down for a quick bite of lunch before the 1:30 start. Meanwhile the queue outside has already started to form.

By 1:30 there's a lengthy queue at the door and once open its followed by a very busy hour or two before everything left has to be packed up and moved on. We had an excellent day, fine weather, no showers and good sales. Thank you to everyone who donated items for the Jumble Sale, and thank you to all our customers who turned up on the day to purchase them.

We also started to sell our Logo Quiz sheets at the Jumble Sale. These will be available throughout the summer at the events that we attend.

We're booking slots at the Village Fêtes, and where space allows we'll be bringing along our famous Flying Chickens, and where space doesn't allow we'll still be there with our games and stall full of interesting items.



Roll on 2023, we're ready for you.











April Involves Easter and Eggs

We're quite egg-less now, thank you everybody.

Thank you very much to everyone who took on the responsibility of selling an egg for us, and all of you who bought a number on the off chance that they might win an egg.

Thank you once again and better luck next year.

This year we raised over £1,400

Sandy

Southill



This Years Winners are:		
Biggleswade	The Conservative Club	Ben Barker
	The Saxon Centre	Serrah Walters
	Surfin' Cafe	Glennis McCreay
Broom	The Cock	Nigel
Everton	The Thornton Arms	Jo Neville
Gamlingay	The Wheatsheaf	Not Known
Henlow	The Engineers Arms	Val Buckley
	The Five Bells	Hannah
Moggerhanger	The Guinea	Mark
Old Warden	Hare & Hounds	Chris Milton
Potton	John O'Gaunt Golf Club	Steve Perrin
	The Rising Sun	Duncan Smith
	The Royal Oak	David Dalton

The Bell Lias Magill Britannia Pharmacy Tracyanne Hopkins

Sir William Peel Philip The White Horse Tom





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Will we have a Fête-Full Calendar this year?

Sandy Spring Market

This was our first event here. It proved to be much better than expected. The initial weather forecast was very wet and cold but we had no rain until we started to pack up. We sold out of lucky dips and lucky mugs around 3 P.M. This was our first event selling Lucky Mugs and Quiz Sheets for £2. There were no adverse comments.



Ickwell May Day

Where we emulate the super-stores with our wide range of offerings -

- Lucky mugs,
- · Lucky Dip,
- Bric-a-Brac
- Skittles
- Golf
- Quiz sheets.

Despite a few light rain showers early-on, the weather stayed on our side and we had a busy and enjoyable and profitable day.











2023 - Our Events Calendar

As at March 2023

- Jumble Sale 25th March
- Easter Egg Draw
- Sandy Spring Market 23rd April
- Logo Quiz May to September
- Village Fêtes
 - Ickwell 1st May
 - Sandy Carnival 10th June
 - **Dunton Summer Fête** 24th June
 - Langford Fête 1st July
 - Gothic Mede School
 8th July
 - Letchworth Lions Fun Day
 29th July
 - Potton Village Show 9th Sept
 - Gamlingay Show 16th Sept
- Wicksteed Park 12th August
- Christmas Light Switch-on
- · The DYC?
- Dance 25th November
- Supermarket Tin Shakes

















Feeling the Heat this Summer?

10th June - Sandy Carnival

We had a very hot, sunny, tiring, yet rewarding day when we took our chickens and ducks to fly past the basket. However, one young man, Alfie, defied the odds and persuaded his chicken to land in the basket and win a prize. Well done Alfie!

24th June - Dunton Fête

A very hot and humid day, our first time at Dunton Fête. We took our general store - Lucky Mugs, Quiz Sheets, Skittles, Golf, Books and Sunglasses! We had a busy day.

1st July - Langford Fête

A long day with folk queuing to fire the chicken, which wasn't co-operating this week and avoided the basket.













Time's Up!

It was a very long time coming!



Thank you Keith
and
Very Many Thanks Judi!



2023 - Our Events Calendar

As at July 2023 (Handover)

- Jumble Sale 25th March
- Easter Egg Draw
- Sandy Spring Market 23rd April
- Logo Quiz May to September
- Village Fêtes
 - Ickwell 1st May
 - Sandy Carnival 10th June
 - **Dunton Summer Fête** - 24th June
 - Langford Fête 1st July
 - **Gothic Mede School** - 8th July
 - **Letchworth Lions Fun Day** - 29th July
 - Arlesey Fête 2nd Sept
 - Potton Village Show 9th Sept
 - Gamlingay Show 16th Sept
- Wicksteed Park 12th August
- Christmas Light Switch-on
- Dance 25th November
- **The District Youth Celebration** - 26th November
- Supermarket Tin Shakes













