



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.

BIGGLESWADE SANDY LIONS CLUB

Logo Quiz 2023
£2 per entry
£200 Prize

Proceeds to Biggleswade Sandy Lions
Closing Date 30th September 2023

Entries only accepted on official Biggleswade Sandy Lions Quiz sheets.
Completed sheets should be returned to:
Biggleswade Sandy Lions
c/o 29 Swansholme Gardens,
Sandy, Beds, SG19 1HL.

In the case of more than one entry tying with the highest number of correct answers; there will be a draw to determine the overall quiz winner, who will receive the £200 prize. The draw will take place on 6th October 2023 and the results announced to the public via the Biggleswade Sandy Lions website and facebook site

Contestant's Contact Details
Name:
Address:
Phone:

Help us to continue to help our community.
Incorporating Biggleswade and Sandy Lions Club Welfare Fund, Registered Charity No 1049281

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



This Years Winners are:

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



BIGGLESWADE SANDY LIONS CLUB - LOGO QUIZ 2023

BSL - 1000

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Will we have a Fête-Full Calendar this year?

Sandy Spring Market

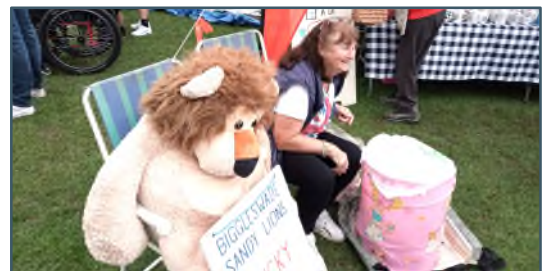
This was our first event here. It proved to be much better than expected. The initial weather forecast was very wet and cold but we had no rain until we started to pack up. We sold out of lucky dips and lucky mugs around 3 P.M. This was our first event selling Lucky Mugs and Quiz Sheets for £2. There 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!
(4 Years 1 Week)***



Thank you Keith

and

Very Many Thanks Judi!



Back at Wicksteed

It's been three years since we cancelled our Annual Wicksteed day-out thanks the Covid crisis, but this year we managed to get it back on the programme.

We didn't lose anyone!!!

The coach doors opened at Wicksteed and our guests equipped with their armbands, spilled out and grabbed a Greggs doughnut and headed off for some fun in the sun.

The huge downpour after lunch didn't curb enthusiasm, thankfully there was shelter. A few were wet from the water rides by then anyway!

Everybody who came enjoyed their day, including us, and seeing such happy faces makes this trip so worthwhile.

The sleepy heads on the way home was a joy to behold....which always signifies a good day out.

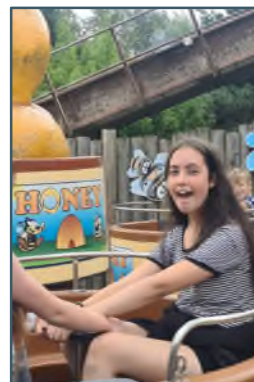
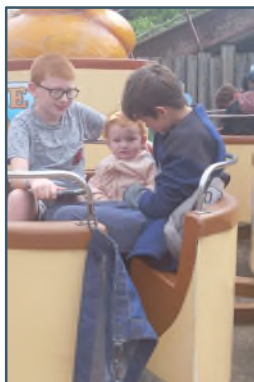


Thank you to:

Wicksteed Park for all their help,

Safford Coaches for getting us there and back,

Greggs and Tesco for donations of food.



Our 2023 Fetes (1)

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.



10th 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. **Woolworth's was never this good!**



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.



Our 2023 Fetes (2)

8th July - Gothic Mede School Fête - And the weather is returning to Standard British Summer. A Heavy shower around 12:30, followed by further showers had their effect on the Fête and our Flying Chicken, Lucky Dip and Quiz Sheets.

29th July - Letchworth Fun Day - A very long, but thankfully dry day with numerous stalls, a Fun Fair and an interesting programme of events in the Arena

9th September Arlesey Summer Fête - An exceedingly hot day for our Lucky Dips and Mugs, Quiz Sheets, skittles, golf and books/jigsaws.

16th September - Gamlingay Show - What a magnificent day, a beautiful sunny non-stop day. Not only Lucky Dips and Mugs, Quiz Sheets and Flying Chickens, but a BBMF Lancaster flew around to listen to the Dam-busters being played at the showground on their way to Duxford..... And a young lad called Dylan flew his chicken into the basket and won £10.





45 and Going Strong

There was a time when "45" was a 7" record. Now its the record number of years the Biggleswade Sandy Lions have been serving our Community. We celebrated this fact at the White Horse in Southill and here are a few pictures to recall that celebration.



Table One



Judi gets a History Book



Linda is about to get a lost pony



DG Lesley picks the Logo Quiz Winner



What next Judi?

Sometimes its Good to Stop and Smell the Roses

Lions Keith, Dave, Pete, Karen and Judith paid a visit to the Home Farm Trust in Shefford to view the installed arch and four scented rose plants that we donated to make an entryway to their sensory garden. We are pictured here with Teresa, a volunteer, who is the guiding force of the project.

As you can see the arch is wide enough for the largest of wheelchairs to go through and once the roses grow up and over it will be a beautiful entry to a garden full of fragrance, texture and colour to stimulate the senses.

We were shown around outside by one of Teresa's gardening team who was very knowledgeable and enthusiastic. Coffee was served and we spent time with the staff and residents before being presented with a handmade card to thank us.

We are looking forward to revisiting once the roses start to bloom.



The Countdown to Christmas has started

The last weekend in November was non-stop

The last weekend in November is regularly a busy warm-up weekend in preparation for the December run up to Christmas, 2023 was no exception.

Friday 24th November

The Biggleswade Christmas Light Switch-on

The day started slowly at 11:00 am when a 2 minute hail storm started, followed by a gust of wind and 3 gazebos took flight. We had a quiet spot down on Station Road and it wasn't until after dark when Father Christmas turned up that the public discovered where we were. In the end we had a good day, but it was noticeably cold throughout the quiet spell.

Saturday 25th November

Our Christmas Dance

We were entertained once again by our favourite local band, New Vintage Plus, and together with some excellent Tombola prizes and a plated supper, everyone had a jolly good evening and we raised some valuable funds for our Community Services team.

Sunday 26th November

District 105A's District Youth Celebration

This is the 15th year that our Lions District has run this party for children and carers and we've got in the habit of taking a coach-load down the Allum Hall in Elstree to join the party. The hall takes around 450, we hired a coach from Landmark Coaches and took 40 who occupied the four tables in the bottom left hand corner of the picture below.

On reflection, the weekend started slowly, until Father Christmas turned up at Station Road on Friday, then it was Dancing and Partying all weekend.



Friday 24th November
Biggleswade Light Switch-on



Saturday 25th November
When the band is good get onto the floor and DANCE



Sunday 26th November
The District Youth Celebration
We filled four tables at the front





Saturday Night's Alright for Dancing

We're getting back in the habit of holding a Christmas Dance at the end of November, warming up for our December Collections and there we were on 26th November at the Weatherley Centre for Biggleswade Sandy Lions Christmas Dance

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 30th 2024.





So this is Christmas

MERRY CHRISTMAS 2023 TO ONE AND ALL



Thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas collections in whatever way they could, every penny counts and it all adds up helping 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.

