Bradford on Avon Lions Club

Newsletter

Volume 53 Number 7 – January 2026

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President's Remarks

Dear Friends and Fellow Lions,

Wishing you all a very happy healthy new year. The scenery outside of our windows is certainly very wintry so sincerely hope you are wrapping up well if venturing outside - mind the bits that the sun doesn't reach - still very icy.

Christmas was a busy but very successful time. Funds raised were well over £5,000. An incredible effort from everyone involved - Whether it was supporting Santa with the float runs; or delivering the baskets of bulbs or vouchers or being an elf outside Sainsbury's or simply carrying a bucket for donations at the Christmas Eve of carol singing in Westbury Gardens with the expertise from our pianist Kate - all contributions were amazing. The electrics were such a welcomed addition and really made a huge difference to the sound/centre stage to be lit up.

Thank you Mike for taking on the role of being MC - a role I am happy to hand over!

A huge thank you to Phil for his fantastic organising of the float runs and for being one of a few jolly Santas who ensured they smiled, waved on wet windy freezing evenings. So many people involved including the kind drivers who are so patient and wait as we knock and knock again. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who was involved. We really couldn't do it without you all. What a team!

Our Lions year ended with a meal at Cumberwell - guaranteed to give us a good roast dinner and we pulled a cracker or two! Thank you to our social organisers for sorting and ensuring we had fun to see out 2025.

Overall a very successful Christmas of fundraising and supporting activities and for the Lions to be seen so visibly in the community.

Our next main event will be at Easter and a Dog Show is planned for September so hoping to give you a better more informed update very soon.

Bye for now
Lynn

MESSAGES

Raffle prize for January Meeting – Janie, please.

AGENDA

Introduction of Guests – Lion Mike.
Present
Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 17th November 2025.
For Action or Decision: Trustees
Treasurer
Community Services
Fun Day
Fund Raising
Social
Correspondence
Any Other Relevant Business

MINUTES

1. Minutes of a meeting of the Lions Club of Bradford on Avon, held on Monday 17th November 2025.

2. Attendance. There were 17 members present.
3. Apologies. Lions Trish, Bob S. and Pete.
4. Guest. None.

5. Approval of Minutes of meeting held on 20th October 2025. Approved.

6. Matters Arising from previous meeting
a) 6a – Benches, ongoing. **Action Phil.**
b) 9a – Therapy Dog, ongoing. **Action Community Services Committee.**
c) 9b – Christchurch School, ongoing. **Action Community Services Committee.**
d) 7b – Treasurer, possible transfer of accounts, ongoing. **See Treasurer's report.**
e) 11b – Young Person's Award, **see Community Services report.**
f) Dog Show – **see Fund Raising report.**
h) DBS forms – **see 10b of Trustees report, no further action required.**
i) MIAB – new order for bottles to be placed in New Year. **Action Community Services through Ken.**
j) India/Pakistan Flood appeal from LCIF – **see Community Services report.**
k) Menu for Christmas meal – **see Social report.**
l) Christmas Tree Festival – complete.
m) Town Christmas Tree – complete.
n) Zone project – complete.

7. Trustees.
a) DBS forms – It was agreed to take the renewal of members DBS certificates no further.
b) No other issues from Trustees report.

8. Treasurer.
a) Admin account £321.66, Charity/Activities account £9900.
b Mark said that Lloyds Bank have recognised the club as a charity but we will still have costs for their services to pay. Mark is now investigating whether the Co Op Bank is a better and cheaper option. **Action Mark.**

9. Community Services
a) Leo Ibison – a donation will be made to the Wiltshire Scouts instead of individual scouts. More information needed. **Action Lynn.**
b) Holt Youth Club, donation of £168 approved.
c) Kindwaves, complete.
d) Winsley Acorn, complete.
e) Wendy O'Grady, complete.
f) Wilts Young Musicians, complete.
g) Young Persons Award, the committee has decided to try again in 2026. The application forms will be sent out in March with a proposed presentation night in July.
h) LCIF appeals, it was decided that a new yearly payment to LCIF of £1000 will be made which will be a one off with no other donations appeals considered. **Action Judith to change the budget figures.**
i) Christmas Parcels, Lynn will confirm date and times of collection of bulbs and vouchers. **Action Lynn.**
j) Christmas Tree Festival, Lynn needs key for garage. Lynn and Janie will dress our tree. **Action Lynn and Janie.**
k) Town Christmas Tree, cost this year £800, approval given.
l) Sight Savers, £500 donation approved.
m) Carols Round the Tree, Bob to print off 100 copies of carol sheet. Phil to sort out the power and sound. **Action Bob S and Phil.**
n) Water Aid, at the next Community Services committee they will discuss the donation to Water Aid. **Action Community Services committee.**
o) St. Laurence School, the Sports Department at the school have approached the club for financial help to buy equipment. Their request will be considered at the next Community Services committee meeting. **Action Community Services committee.**

10. Fun Day. Nothing to report.

11. Fund Raising.
a) Dog Show. Jon told the meeting that plans for the Dog Show in September 2026 are progressing well. There will be an On Line raffle and it is hoped that we can get sponsorship from a company in the town. A Risk Assessment for the event will be needed **Action Ron**. Jon asked the members for volunteers to form a small committee to organise the event. **Action all members to volunteer to help on a committee.** It has been agreed that profits from the event will be split 75% to the Lions and 25% to the Town council who will plough their share, back into the community.
b) Christmas Float – Phil confirmed the rota to the membership.
b1) Phil confirmed that the float will start the evening's collection at 5-15pm.
b2) Keith played the recording that will be transmitted by West Wilts Radio in the hope that new names will be discovered of people that the club might be able to help with bulbs and vouchers this Christmas. Thanks go to Bob S for his help in the recording.

12. Social.
a) Charter, another successful event. Numbers were down this year but thanks to a good raffle a profit of around £50 was made.
b) The Social Committee will meet to discuss future Charter events and whether we should change the present format. **Action Hilary.**
c) Christmas meal, the menu for the Christmas meal is shown in the November Newsletter.

13. Correspondence. The secretary has forwarded on all relevant correspondence by email.

14. Any other business.
a) **There will be no club meeting in December.**
b) Jon suggested that we put a flyer through the letter box of houses who are not in at the time of collection.

15. Raffle.
a) The raffle was won by Liz.
b) Raffle prize for January meeting, Janie please.
Lion president Lynn closed the meeting at 9-00pm.

TRUSTEES

1. Minutes of meeting of the Trustees of the Lions Club of Bradford on Avon, held on Wednesday 7th January 2026.
2. Present – Lions Lynn, Mike, Phil, Janie, Hilary, Mark and Keith.
3. Apologies – Lion Bob F.

4. Minutes – Minutes of previous meeting held on 5th November 2025 were approved.

5. Matters arising –

1. 5a – New bench for Westbury Gardens is still ongoing. **Action Phil.**
2. 5b – Candy Floss and Pimms for Fun Day, still to be discussed. See Committees report below.
3. 6b – Booking of Holy Trinity Church, complete.
4. 6c – Change of accounts to Co-Op bank. See Treasurers report.
5. 7b – Inspecs, possible sponsorship, ongoing. **Action Mike.**
6. 7c – Pegasus sponsorship, ongoing. **Action Mark.**
7. 10a – Key for Holt Village Hall, Mike, Lynn and Keith have the key code.
8. 10b – Delivery of specs, complete.
9. 8a – New members, see Membership report below.
10. 9a – License for float, complete.
11. 9d – Candy floss and Pimms for Fun day, see Committees report below.
12. 9e – Contacting Town Council, complete.
13. 9e1 – Contacting Andy Matthews, complete.
14. 9e2 – Contacting Kate, complete.
15. 9e3 – Christmas tree, complete.
16. 10a – Future Charters, see Committees report below.
17. 10b – DBS, no further action required, complete.
18. 10c – International appeals, complete.

6. Treasurer.

a) Most members have paid their half yearly dues. 7 members still to pay who Mark will contact. **Action Mark.**
b) Mark confirmed that the hire charge for Holt Village Hall is paid by direct debit.
c) Charity a/c £10,957, Admin a/c £102.44.

d) Possible change of banks is still ongoing. **Action Mark.**

7. Correspondence.

a) The secretary has forwarded all relevant emails to members.
b) Letter to Lynn from LCIF regarding Melvin Jones Awards has been passed to Bob S for inclusion in the Lynn's Year Book.
c) Phil had received a message from David Garcia of the Wiltshire Music Centre, saying he may be able to organise a steel drum band for our Fun Day.

8. Membership. Mike said that he is trying to contact two people who he thinks may be interested in joining. **Action Mike.**

9. Committees.

a) A meeting of the Fun Day committee will be arranged to discuss selling Pimms and candy floss at the 2026 event. **Action Keith to arrange meeting.**
b) Hilary said that future Charters have been discussed at committee. However, it was felt that the club members should have their say in how we organise the event. **Club discussion at January meeting.**

10. Any other business.

I t was decided to ask for a volunteer to act as 1st Vice President to replace Lynn at the end of her term of office at the end of June.

11. Date of the next meeting - Wednesday 15th April 2026 at Lynn's, starting at 2-00pm. <u>Please note the change of date to that decided upon during the January meeting.</u>

Signed **President of the Lions Club of Bradford on Avon.**

TREASURER'S REPORT

<u>Report 9th January 2026</u>

The balance on the Admin account is £1149.44 (December £883.16)
We have paid the Cumberwell invoice for the charter lunch but not the bi-annual dues of £843.97. Once this leaves the account we will have a balance of approx. £200.00 with 6 subs of £40.00 due ie (£240.00)

The balance on the Charity and Activity account is £10,961.62 (December £7,595.15)

<u>Outgoings</u>
We have paid out £800.00 for the Xmas tree, £875.00 for the Xmas vouchers and £250 for Carer Support Wilts.

<u>Incomings</u>
We receive all the generous donations from the Santa Float. We are therefore £2,500 better off this month than last.

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Nothing to report – will be updated in the February Newsletter.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Social Report for January 2026

After another very enjoyable Christmas Lunch at Cumberwell, followed by a coffee morning at Timbrells, we are now turning to our social events in 2026. In particular, our Charter event. Hopefully you have all seen my recent email with the following suggestions:

1. Have the same format but without the cost of invited paid for guests, entertainment.
2. Have the event just for our club members (+ partners, family, Friends) on the same weekend in November.
3. Combine Charter with Handover on the traditional Handover date at the end of June, for our members, family, partners, Friends of Lions.
4. Have Handover and Charter combined at the end of June in someone's garden - weather and garden availability permitting!

Decision time!

2026 Calendar of BoA Lions Events

April 6th	Easter bonnets/Easter egg hunt - Victory Field
May 25th	Fun Day and Car Boot Sale – Victory Field/Culver
June 13th	Craft Choirs Coffee Cake – Trinity Church
June 28th	Handover Lunch ** to be confirmed
September 12th	Dog Show – Poulton field
September 19th	Choir event – Trinity Church
November 1st ?	Charter Lunch ** to be confirmed
December 10th – 19th	Santa Float
December 24th	Carols round the tree – Westbury gardens

Additional social events to be confirmed.

Bradford on Avon Lions Club Charities Account 2025/26

Payments from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026

Date	Amount	Recipient
7/25	£1000.00	Dorothy House
7/25	£550.00	Kindwaves
10/25	£500.00	Brain Tumour Research
11/25	£1185.60	Wiltshire Young Musicians
11/25	£1000.00	Winsley Acorn Pre School
11/25	£500.00	BoA Dementia Action Alliance
12/25	£300.00	MS
12/25	£875.00	Christmas Vouchers
12/25	£250.00	The Hub
12/25	£250.00	Carer Support Wiltshire
12/25	£800.00	Christmas Tree
Total	**£7210.60**	

Club Diary January & February 2026

January	7	Trustees Meeting	1400hrs	Hilary's
	9	Coffee Morning	10.30hrs	Timbrells Yard
	14	Comm Serv Meeting		
	19	Club Meeting	1930hrs	Holt
February	7	Trustees Meeting	1400hrs	Hilary's
	14	Comm Serv Meeting		
	19	Club Meeting	1930hrs	Holt

Dates to Remember

Trustees Meeting - 15th April

Magazine Deadlines

Could you please ensure that all information for the monthly Newsletter reaches Judith by the next deadline: Monday 9th February

COMMUNITY SERVICES BUDGET FORECAST 2025/2026

Event	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Young Peoples Award L				400								
Christmas Tree L					750							
Christmas Parcels L						800						
Community Outings L				100		200						
Sight Savers I					500							
Poppy Wreath L					100							
Julia's House L										300		
Lions Youth Projects N		120										
Water Aid I							300					
LCIF I								1000				
Medic Alert I							150					
SPLASH L								300				
Easter Egg Hunt L										250		
Brain Tumour Research N			500									
Other Causes	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350
Running Total	350	820	1670	2520	4220	5570	6370	8020	8370	9270	9620	9970
Running Total Spent	**1550**	**1550**	**1550**	**2050**	**4736**	**6410**	**7210**					
Total Budget		**£ 9,970**			**Total spent up to 8/1/26**				**£**	**7,210**		

Event marker: L Local N National I International