

**THE LIONS CLUB
OF
BRADFORD ON AVON
WILTSHIRE**



WE SERVE

WHAT IS A LIONS CLUB?

The Lions Club of Bradford on Avon is a local branch of the International Association of Lions Clubs, the largest Service Organisation in the world with over 1.5 million members in over 186 countries.

In the United Kingdom and Ireland there are about 19,000 members in 950 Clubs.

Whilst each Club is autonomous they all work within national and international guide lines and are grouped in Districts throughout the Country.

The area covered by the Bradford on Avon Lions Club is the Town, Winsley, Holt with Broughton Gilford, Westwood, Monkton Farleigh and the Wraxalls. We do not take too much notice of these boundaries when there is a need to be flexible. We work closely with our colleagues in the Trowbridge and Melksham Clubs to try and not overlap our areas and thus our efforts. It works extremely well.

WHAT DO WE DO?

We try helping the less fortunate of the community. To do this we meet once per month as at Club and once per month there is a Committee Meeting to which members are allocated. At meetings we discuss ways-of raising funds to support worthy causes, report on projects and approve spending.

WHY DO WE DO IT?

Because we realise there are always people in genuine need, and worthwhile causes to support. They would not get the help they so desperately need without such organisation as ours. .

DO WE GET PAID?

No and every penny given to our Fund raising events goes to help others and certainly not run the administration of the Lions Club.

SO WHAT DO WE THE LIONS GET OUT OF IT?

Lots of fun and as a member of a team and superb fellowship. Great pleasure and satisfaction in being able to help those who are disadvantaged.

A FEW MORE FACTS.

A caring man named Melvin Jones formed the Lions Club Organisation in the USA in 1917. The first Club in England was formed in 1950 and the Bradford on Avon Lions Club in 1970. We still have two of the original members and a number who have served our community for over 25 years.

WE SERVE.

This is our international motto and one, which we try to live up to by helping not only our own needy folk but also the people of third world countries and in disaster areas.

HOW DO WE DO IT?

We raise funds by organising events such as music evenings, concerts, race nights, jumble sales, raffles and sponsored walks. In December we take a Christmas Float around the town and adjacent villages making a collection. On the late Spring Bank Holiday Monday we run a Fun Day giving the public a superb day out and enable us to raise additional funds. We also attend other organisations events and help them raise funds. We welcome suggestions.

WHO DO WE HELP?

Our local Welfare and Community Projects range widely, from Christmas Parcels for the elderly and needy, youth sports and nursery equipment. Major support has been given to the St John Ambulance enabling them to procure an ambulance for the local unit. Donations have also been made to the SE Asia Disaster Appeal, Wiltshire Children's Breakaway, Disability Junior Athletics, Dorothy House and others.

THE SOCIAL SIDE OF BEING A LION.

We do have a great deal of fun. We enjoy social events that we organise; visit other Clubs and some of the more energetic take part in the walks that are organised. Our partners play a very hill part in all our Lions activities and some husband and wife teams are both full members of the Club.

INTERESTED IN JOINING LIONS?

You could make a difference to the lives of people less fortunate than you. Bradford on Avon is a beautiful place to live and we do not have a great deal of poverty or cases of hardship but they do exist. Becoming a Lion is a wonderful opportunity to give something back to our local community and help third world countries. As a member of the Lions Club you will quickly become aware of the pressing needs of others and being a Lion empowers you to help in a way no one person could do alone.

MEMBERSHIP.

Membership is open to men and women over the age of 18 and normally members would live in Bradford on Avon but this is not an essential qualification. We have members in Frome and Trowbridge areas. We come from many walks of life, some retired, some still in full time employment. Members have a range of skills derived from their occupations in engineering, banking, civil and local government service, teaching, medical and home management. We currently have 26 members and we have maintained about this number for many years.

We need to expand this membership to cover our current activities and serve our community even better.

Lions Clubs are not associated with any religious or political organisations.

WHERE DO WE MEET?

The Lions Club of Bradford on Avon meets on the third Wednesday of each month at the Cumberwell Park Golf Club at 3.00p.m. Whilst these are formal meetings, there is little ceremony and we attempt to make each meeting interesting and involve every member.

Some committee meetings are held in local inns and others in the homes of members.

HOW DO I JOIN?

Contact one of the members listed below who will be pleased to give you more information and as appropriate meet you to explain our Organisation and in particular the Bradford on Avon Lions Club.

You will not be under any obligation and we welcome prospective members to attend some of our meetings so that they can feel the Organisation at first hand.

IF I JUST WANT TO HELP OCCASIONALLY?

Yes, we would welcome you as a helper without the obligation of being a Lion and attending meetings. Your assistance on some of our labour intensive activities like the Fun Day and the Christmas Float would be most welcome. We would send you an occasional News Letter to keep abreast of our activities, both fund raising and social.

CONTACT

Lion Chris Penny 01225 866 551

Lion Ken Giles 01225 863 349