



# Guildford Lions Club

**Guildford's Best Kept Secret!**

**Friends' and Supporters' News**

**January 2023**

**It was a busy festive season -**

- £6,000+ supermarket vouchers, helping 305 families
- £3,500+ collected at supermarkets
- £800+ collected with Santa's Sleigh
- £4,500+ raised to date for Lions Weathering Winter Together campaign

One of the many thank you's received

"I would like to say a huge thank you for the £20 Tesco vouchers and to let you know that the 30 that you delivered to Queen Eleanor's School means that we are able to ensure that all our FSM families receive a voucher this Christmas. This is much appreciated by the school and I would like to say thank you and wish you all at Guildford Lions Club a wonderful and restful Christmas. Kind regards

Home School Link Worker"

## President's News

The Club had a really busy month! I won't list everything that's been going on however, I must say a big thank you to everyone who has taken part in our activities during the month. What a brilliant effort!

But let's not stop now. The Weathering Winter Together campaign is still running, and to date we have collected about £4,500 for fuel poverty being addressed by North Guildford Food Bank. Please keep on mentioning this to everyone you know - some people are still receiving Government aid for fuel bills and donating this via our Just Giving Page means it's a relatively painless way to help others AND we can collect Gift Aid on top! We are looking to ramp up the advertising again this month, but word of mouth is invaluable. If you would like to help those Guildfordians finding it hardest to get through this winter, please do reach out to us by emailing us at [guildfordlions@btinternet.com](mailto:guildfordlions@btinternet.com) or visit <https://www.guildfordlions.com/weathering-winter-together-campaign/>

It was great to see so many at the Christmas meal at Clandon Regis Golf Club, for which we received very complimentary comments about the food and service. December was a great demonstration that we can all still work hard and play hard together as it was also a pleasure to see so many club members at the President's At Home afternoon. It was great to be able to chat to everyone, and nice to see the fellowship of the Club in action. Val and I wish you all a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year!

## Community & Welfare News

### Donations made this month -

- £6,000+ for supermarket vouchers for Lions Christmas appeal
- £600 for Lighthouse, specialist centre for deaf children at Guildford Grove Primary School
- £115 for a 10 year boy to attend drama club
- £100 for a charity based in Haslemere supporting those living with dementia across SW Surrey
- £444 for supply and installation of new fridge/freezer for single mother
- £1,500 to Momentum, a charity based at RSCH, supporting families of seriously ill children
- £870 to Food Banks

## Fundraising News

### Supermarket Collections

Thanks to a group of hardy volunteers, who braved freezing temperatures, we collected donations for our Christmas Appeal over five days in December at Sainsbury's, Tesco and Waitrose supermarkets.

We exceeded expectations, as well as previous years' collections, by raising a total of £3,595 in donations, through both cash and credit card payments. Interestingly, 73% of this total came through the more traditional cash donations, with the remaining 23% from credit cards.

Using these donations, and boosted with Lions funds, we were able to purchase and distribute 305 Christmas cards, each containing a £20 supermarket gift voucher to people and families in need across Guildford. Working with the GBC Wellbeing Team and Family Liaison Officers in local primary schools, we able to ensure that the gift vouchers went to the most deserving folk in Guildford. We received positive feedback, the gift vouchers, although relatively modest, have been warmly and gratefully received by recipients.



### Father Christmas Sleigh

One very wet evening and one dry with each session raising similar donations. It was well received by the public, created many happy smiles and earned £800 in only two nights.

### Winter Zoom Talks, Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January

David Rose, local historian and writer, has agreed to give one of his popular talks, entitled Guildford - Fun and Entertainment, looking at the wide range of leisure pursuits people enjoyed in times gone by. His talk begins with a peek at the theatres in Guildford from the 19<sup>th</sup> century onwards through to the opening of the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre in 1965. There is a nostalgic look at the town's cinemas, plus venues that held dinner-dances, as well as a thriving post-war youth theatre scene. Plus, a glimpse of some of the town's pubs that no longer exist and finishing off with Guildford's exceptional live music scene in the 1960s featuring the bands and the venues they played at.

To register your interest, please send an email to [guildfordlionstalk@gmail.com](mailto:guildfordlionstalk@gmail.com) and payment methods, by bank transfer or PayPal will be sent to you by return. You will be sent the Zoom link 24 hours before the talk.

### Music in the Park, Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June

The National Trust and The Music Works continue with their support for MITP again this year. We will be supporting Sight for Surrey this year with a donation from the money raised on the night made to Guildford's Talking Newspaper.

### Charity Golf Day, Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September

We will hold another charity golf day for Jigsaw School at Clandon Regis Golf Club. More details later.



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Guildford Lions Club CIO Charity number 1175962

