



# Guildford Lions Club

## Guildford's Best Kept Secret!

### Friends' and Supporters' News

July 2023

#### President's News

Welcome to another Lions' year.

The Raft Race on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July certainly got the year off to a flying start as the Club hit the deck running. This could well have said hit the deck swimming given the bombardment the Mayor and I got on what was supposed to be a gentle cruise on the Wey. It was a really successful event thanks to

Geoff and his team getting the entries up to an impressive number. It looked a great spectacle with the river covered in rafts of all shapes and sizes. The Mayor certainly enjoyed himself.

So Trish and I are certainly going to enjoy our year and I trust you will all come along for the ride and enjoy it too.



#### Community & Welfare News

##### Donations made this month -

- £6,000 to Sight for Surrey following our very successful Music in the Park.
- £1,000 to Guildford Talking Newspaper following Music in the Park.
- £1,000 to Kids' Cancer Charity for respite breaks for families at Haven Park on the Welsh coast.
- £334 for purchase of cooker to unemployed disabled Guildford resident, via CAB.
- One donated laptop to an Afghan refugee family
- £592 to Guildford & Godalming Food Banks.

##### Extract from North Guildford Food Bank Six Month Report

"Most of you know that we remain based at St Clare's Church in Park Barn - which provides us with a great space for storing stock and allowing us to provide a free café for clients collecting their food parcels. We are thankful that we continue to receive generous donations from loyal customers at Sainsbury's and Waitrose, from churches, schools, businesses and individuals. We have needed and greatly appreciate support from you all. A particular mention also needs to be made to the Guildford Lions who buy in eggs, potatoes & carrots for us each week. This is a huge commitment - with client numbers and costs remaining so high. The Guildford Lions also ran a campaign to raise money for fuel top-ups for clients this year, raising more than £6,000 over the winter period! A huge thanks to you all!"

## Community News

Guildford and several other local Lions Clubs have pledged funds to support [GASP Motor Project](#) based at Albury near Guildford. GASP delivers accredited courses in basic motor mechanics and practical engineering skills and contributes to students' positive personal development, by providing specialist, practical, hands-on learning within a focused, personalised and disciplined framework. This is either at their fully equipped custom-built workshop in Albury or through a mobile unit, which enables the courses to go out to schools and youth organisations across Surrey. The GASP course gives young people an opportunity to learn skills that they wouldn't be able to access through the school curriculum.

The cost of a 12-week course for six students is currently £4,500 and this amount has recently been donated to the GASP. This very worthwhile project increases the confidence of students who are struggling in mainstream education and giving them some practical skills - many going on to college and others getting apprenticeships at local businesses.

### Chris Ewbank of Ewbank Auctioneers 1945-2023

It is with great sadness that we heard of the passing of this old friend and valued supporter of Guildford Lions. Our condolences go to his wife and family. We wish to express our gratitude and thanks for his support over many years. RIP

## Fundraising News

### Raft Race, Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July

The raft race enjoyed excellent coverage by Guildford Dragon online <https://guildford-dragon.com/poo-protest-on-the-wey-as-lions-raft-race-splashes-past/> Full results will be published on our website and social media. Our relationship with Surrey Care Trust and Zero Carbon provided us with many extra volunteers to help with the set up, walk the course, pull out the rafts and keep the show on the road. Our links with the Wey Kayak Club and The Sub Aqua Club who swam in the river, sold ducks and ran the bar is what the Club needs to take this event forward.



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

Golf Day 2023 is looking good. There are still a few spaces, please reply to this email if you would like to join us. If anyone knows any local business who would be willing to donate raffle or auction prizes for the benefit of Jigsaw School, please let us know. Thank you.



### Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November, Fireworks, Stoke Park

Our plans are coming together extremely well. Early bird tickets go on sale from 1<sup>st</sup> August. The only major task remaining is to organise the weather!

To view our website follow this link <https://www.guildfordlions.com/firework-fiesta/>

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