



Guildford Lions Club

Guildford's Best Kept Secret!

Friends' and Supporters' News

October 2025

President's News

On 14th September Wendy and I attended a service at Holy Trinity Church to commemorate VE Day 80. This was a Civic Service postponed from earlier in the year. At the service the Mayor of Guildford, Cllr Howard Smith reaffirmed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office and Oath of Allegiance. I was able to re-acquaint myself with Mayor Howard whom I last met when hosting him and his family at our Raft Race in July. The great and the good were gathered at the event and I was delighted to reacquaint myself also with a former colleague, Bob Crooks, now Mayor of Godalming. Bob was a founder of Guildford Action, for which he was awarded an MBE and is its current chair of trustees. Guildford Lions Club is a long standing supporter of Guildford Action.



Over the weekend of 5th/6th October 40 or so of us enjoyed a weekend away in Salisbury. A historic and interesting city whose cathedral boasts Britain's tallest medieval spire. It also houses the best presented original copy of the Magna Carta. It's also the last resting place of former Prime Minister Edward Heath.



Our charity shop challenge on Saturday night provided some interesting dressing up. A quick tot-up suggested our total purchases benefited local charity shops by around £400!

Community & Welfare News

The bench in memory of past Guildford Lions member John Derbyshire has been installed at the Fountain Centre, joining two existing chairs.



Donations made -

- Guildford Food Bank £464.
- A skip has been provided by a local decorator / property maintenance proprietor in exchange for four Fireworks tickets.
- £500 to Basketball4all, a charity providing basketball coaching for the disabled and disadvantaged locally.
- £774 to Jigsaw School for those with autism, to complete the amount needed to purchase a new sunshade for the Early Years playground.
- Small fridge / freezer for 17 year old mother, a victim of domestic abuse. Also the cost of transporting furniture for her, purchased from Furniture Link by one of our supporters.
- £264 to replenish our stock of 'Message in a Bottle' supplies.

Fundraising News

Survival Football

Progressing well after three weeks with a healthy number of participants. Graham is doing a magnificent job managing the entries.

Fireworks, Saturday 8th November

A big thank you to all the volunteers who have agreed to participate this year. We have had a great response. The Early Bird ticket sales have gone well with just over 500 adult tickets being sold accompanied by 270 children. Now the real work begins to sell at least a further 5/6000 adult tickets. To purchase tickets visit -

<https://guildfordlions.com/firework-festival/>

Further good news is that we have filled all the Trader pitches which will ensure an excellent variety of food and drink offerings for the event.



Supermarket Collections

Supermarket collections have been arranged at three local superstores, Tesco, Sainsbury and Waitrose raising funds to supply supermarket vouchers to families in need over the Christmas period.

Santa Sleigh

It is hoped that we can provide enjoyment to Guildford Residents for several days prior to Christmas as well as providing opportunities for Merrow Scouts to assist.

High Street Classic Cars, Sunday 26th April

Organisation is underway for our third event.

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Guildford Lions Club CIO Charity number 1175962