Guildford Lions Club

Celebrating 60 years serving Guildford

Guildford's Best Kept Secret!

Friends' and Supporters' News

November 2026

President's News

October was a quieter month, I am not complaining, ahead of our busier November and December.

At our October Club meeting Maggie and Bridie from Barchester Healthcare Homes learned more about what we do as a Lions Club and we were able find out from them how we can we work together. Also Sarah, co-founder of Guildford Shakespeare Company, brought us up to date with their 'Put Up Your Swords' Knife Crime Awareness project, our nominated charity for part of the proceeds from our Firework Festival.



Now November. The country is going through a strange time with a rise in inflation, increasing energy and fuel costs and quite a lot of negativity. We are being told to stockpile goods in case supply trains break down. Ticket sales for the Firework Festival were down, but our event had been organised to the usual high standard and all those who attended had a great evening. It was a really happy atmosphere with the public greatly enjoying the excellent music provided by 'The Hired Guns', a fantastic firework display, the funfair and a great array of food and beverage stalls. The Mayor and her husband had not previously been to our event in this format and were overwhelmed by the extent of it.



The Remembrance Service and Parade went smoothly. As President I laid the wreath at the WW1/WW2 memorial and Graham laid the wreath at the memorial to those killed in active service since WW2. A good number of Guildford Lions acted as marshals outside Holy Trinity and in the Castle Grounds. After the ceremonies, in the Guildhall, the Mayor gave a short speech which included thanks to all those who had assisted.





Now we start thinking about Christmas! Most of the slots on the Supermarket collections rota are filled, we have the AAKSS Carol Concert at Guildford Cathedral and Santa's outings with his sleigh are being planned.

Chris, President of Guildford Wey Rotary; Deputy Mayor Dominique Williams; and myself at the Guildhall on Wednesday 11th November.

Community & Welfare News

Donations made -

- £6,000 to purchase supermarket gift vouchers for distribution.
- £495 to Guildford & Godalming Food Banks.

Fundraising News

Survival Football

Graham continues to devote his spare time to manage this challenge. With only four points across the first ten places, anything could happen.

Guildford Lions Firework Festival

We had a great evening on Saturday 7th. It will be a few weeks before the financial outcome is known.

AAKSS Carol Service, Wednesday 9th December

We will be marshalling at the Air Ambulance Carol Service held at Guildford Cathedral. To purchase tickets to support this event go to aakss.org.uk.

Christmas Collections and Santa Sleigh

We have collection dates at three large supermarkets around the town - Tesco on 11th, Waitrose on 4th and 12th and Sainsbury's on 18th and 19th December. We also plan to accompany Father Christmas when he tours several residential areas in the run up to Christmas. Alongside the collections, we will arrange for the distribution of 300 supermarket gift vouchers to families and people in need across Guildford in time for Christmas, using the help of local schools and the GBC Wellbeing Team.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Races, 9th February

Guildford Wey Rotary Club have agreed to ensure this classic community event will continue and we have committed to provide an entry for the mascots' race and to help marshal the event.

High Street Classic Cars, 9th May

Planning is underway and Vic is obtaining interest from many other classic car gatherings so we can be assured of a very good display.