



IRONBRIDGE AND SEVERN GORGE LIONS

NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2025

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Welcome to our first monthly newsletter for 2025. As usual, this is intended to update our community of friends on recent events and upcoming activities and to identify areas where we would welcome help or support. You can find more information about upcoming events and activities for the next few months on our website– <https://ironlions.org.uk> or our Facebook page (just go to www.facebook.com and type “Ironbridge and Severn Gorge Lions” in the search box.

For further information or to offer comments or suggestions contact Graham Powell (07887 638207 grahamj.powell@btinternet.com) or Colin Thompson (07970 417497 cthompson@bcs.org.uk)

Prostate Testing

Upcoming Events



📅 Saturday 08 Mar 2025

🕒 13:00-16:00

📍 TF7 5HX

IRONBRIDGE LIONS

PSA TESTING EVENT

Haberdashers' Abraham Darby Academy
Ironbridge Road
Ironbridge
TF7 5HX



📅 Saturday 28 Jun 2025

🕒 13:00-16:00

📍 TF7 5HX

IRONBRIDGE LIONS

PSA TESTING EVENT

Haberdashers' Abraham Darby Academy
Ironbridge Road
Ironbridge
TF7 5HX

The image to this item shows the two Ironbridge Lions prostate test events for 2025, both of which are currently open on the booking site <https://mypatests.org.uk>. At the time of writing this newsletter all 300 slots for the 8th March event are booked: we would expect cancellations before the event so please feel free to add your name to the wait list on the booking site.

The second event was opened for bookings only very recently and at present we have over 300 vacant slots.

around 15 minutes of your Saturday afternoon and it could just save your life. We make no charge for the test but we do invite donations towards the cost (approximately £27 per test). If you need further information, please contact Colin Thompson (See header above for contact details)

If you are over 40 and you have not had a recent PSA test why not book a slot? It will take

Supporting those in food poverty



We owe an enormous “thank you” to everyone who donated items to our Christmas food collection programme, whether that was the result of the door-to-door collections highlighted in our November newsletter, food donations made during our Santa and Sleigh supermarket visits or as a response to our “100 bag challenge programme”. The generosity of people in our community never ceases to amaze us and this year it enabled us to distribute 482 bags of food through a dozen local organisations.

Food poverty comes into much sharper focus at Christmas but, we recognise that it is now a year-round problem which needs year-round support. Over the past year we have given financial assistance to a number of organisations to help maintain their year-round food programmes and we will do so again in 2025

Ironbridge Lions Santa



As usual, December was a busy time for the Ironbridge Lions Santa. Indeed, so busy that, on at least one occasion, he could be seen in two local places at the same time!!

As in previous years, the Madeley Christmas Lights event was the first outing for Santa, and he spent much of the day in his Anstice grotto, before leading the parade, in his sleigh, up the hill to switch on the Christmas lights. And while all of this was going on our Lions members ran the ever popular, prize every time, Teddy Tombola stall.

Over the following 3 weeks our Santa and his sleigh was seen at various schools and residential homes around the town, both our Tesco superstores as well as Jules Convenience Store in Hadley. One of his final appearances for the year was at Lamledge School in Shifnal. Lamledge is an independent school for students aged 5-19 with social, emotional, and mental health issues, as well as additional learning needs. The picture shows Santa in the very impressive grotto the school created.

Continuing our support for PODs



Ironbridge Lions have for many years supported the POD children's charity and, at our January meeting, there was unanimous, and enthusiastic agreement to continuing that support for a further year.

POD provides children's entertainers to the children's wards in hospitals right across the UK and our donation funds a monthly visit to the local children's ward by children's entertainer David Oakley. The impact that this makes on the children can be gauged from the comments received from family members

"What a lovely thing to do for poorly children who are stuck in "hospital with nothing exciting to look forward to."

"It really distracted him and made him (and me) laugh. A lovely feeling after a hard week."

"It has brought smiles and laughter during a long wait for surgery. It was a lovely show and made my daughter so happy during a tricky time."

"David really cheered up Lily. She loved the magic show and especially being a helper! Lovely idea to take children's (and their parents) minds off everything that is happening in hospital. Really brightened up Lily's wait for surgery, thank you."

"Really worth its weight in gold. So needed whilst the children are going through a hard time and David Oakley was brilliant with them."

Support for Woodentops Day Nursery



Food support of a slightly different kind for our friends at the Woodentops Day nursery based in the Park Lane Centre at Woodside. The nursery is run on a “not for profit” basis and manager Sharon and her staff do an amazing job in the sometimes very challenging conditions.

The nursery provides the children with a hot meal at lunchtime, and for some this may be their only hot meal of the day. A decision was made to prepare these meals within their own facility, and to enable that to become a reality they needed to add a 9.5L Dual Drawer Air Fryer, a 6.5L slow cooker and a number of food storage containers, to their existing kitchen equipment. We were very happy to purchase these items and to provide them to Woodentops for as long as required.

Breaking Food News!!

Ironbridge & Severn Gorge Lions have very recently received £12,000 of National Lottery funding to help tackle local food insecurity. The two-year project, made possible by the generosity of National Lottery Players’, will focus on making a real difference to the life chances of children and young people across Telford and Wrekin.



And Finally

Ironbridge and Severn Gorge Lions Club is part of Lions Clubs International, the world’s largest service club organization with 1.35 million members in over 45,000 clubs in more than 200 countries and geographic areas. Our primary purpose is to work together in a spirit of friendship to serve the needs of our local community and every penny we raise is used to support our charitable Purpose. If that appeals to you and you think you might like to join us, why not come along to one of our monthly meetings? You would be most welcome and there would be no pressure to join if you felt that it wasn’t for you. We meet at Coalbrookdale Community Centre and if you are interested in attending just contact our Secretary Andy Pilsbury (07771-753855 or email Mullburyap@gmail.com)

If you need information about Ironbridge Lions’ activities in between these monthly bulletins, the best source is our Facebook Page. Just go to www.facebook.com and type Ironbridge and Severn Gorge Lions in the search box.



Ironbridge & Severn Gorge Lions

Learn More about us....

Website – <https://ironlions.org.uk>