





Gift for Living Report to Convention 2022

PID Lion Phil Nathan MBE





MD105 British Isles

Our Patron, HRH The Countess of Wessex GCVO, fully supports the Gift for Living project and encourages the family of Lions to continue to fund this very worthwhile programme of saving vulnerable mothers and their babies.

Trustees

- Phil Nathan MBE- Grant Administrator Chairman
- MDO Linda Picton Correspondent Trustee Treasurer
- PDG John Bush Secretary
- PCC David Firth
- PCC Geoff Leeder
- PCC Philip Goodier
- PDG David Seager
- Charity Reg. No: 1070418
- PCC Stewart Sherman-Kahn
 - * Retired as a Trustee to avoid any conflict of interest following appointment as Chair of Trustees for MD105 Foundation.

We thank him for valued support and time given during his tenure as a Trustee.



Grateful thanks

to PDG Tony Clarkson for the development and maintenance of our website,

and to PDG Paul Martin for continuing to collect foreign currency, both coins and notes [which can also be delivered to our National HQ]























MD105 British Isles

A Gift for Living (GFL)Trust is Lions Clubs International-British Isles very own charity. GFL has been working successfully in the countries of the Balkans for 25 years following the series of violent conflicts that took place between 1991 and 2001. Thanks to the support given from Lions across the British Isles and Ireland, well-trained doctors and nurses are now successfully treating up to 500 babies and 400 children each year.

This project started to rebuild a devastated country, but it doesn't end there, much more needs to be done.

Due to the pandemic and global circumstances beyond all control projects have been more or less placed on hold. The impact of Covid-19 on charity work and people being served is immeasurable.

As previously reported, the Relaunch material was completed. There are 6 Roll-Up Banners in all (2 sets are available from MDHQ) shown in Appendix 1.

There are flyers also available from MDHQ to further promote the GFL project. Shown in appendix 2 and 3

Vision screening in Albania update -Appendix 4

Equipment Wish List – Appendix 5

I am pleased to report that The Charity 1070418 Lions Clubs International A Gift for Living, is now registered to claim Gift Aid on eligible donations.

The first ever virtual St Patrick's Day Event March 2021 proved to be great fun.

A second event in March 2022 was also popular and successful and again highlighted the plight of the pupils we are working to support in the school in Sarajevo. 200 children all with intellectual disabilities or special needs. Our thoughts were also with the refugees, displaced persons and everyone in Ukraine.

I am grateful to everyone who kindly donated on the day. The money raised is being used by the school to help to refurbish and repair the kitchen that has been condemned as being unfit for purpose (currently no hot food), try to imagine the effects this has where there are children with special needs, fleeing someone or something, all desperate for a chance of a better life in Western Europe. Local Lions Clubs have limited resources but are supporting where they can. Covid has been incredibly challenging to handle amongst these difficult areas.

Of course, the pandemic has had a significant impact on all projects.

Although nothing to do directly with A Gift for Living, LCIF and the MD105 Foundation both assisted the countries of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia during the difficult Pandemic period, helping with funds to allow the Lions to disseminate PPE and sanitising equipment, during what were dire circumstances. These funds enabled the Lions of both countries to help their peoples.



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Update -Dental equipment delivered

I am pleased to advise that delivery of the long-awaited dental surgery for Vladimir Nazor Centar in Sarajevo has at last happened.(images below)







Refurbished dental equipment has been purchased at cost of £4,377,50 via Dentaid through generous sponsorship and donations from some of our Clubs. An amount of £4950 was ringfenced for this dental surgery at end of June 2020. Shipping to Bosnia was eventually organised through Mission & Relief Logistics who specialise in shipments of this sort and are preferred agency for Dentaid.

In these difficult times Covid restrictions continue to affect our progress but the surgery is now being completely redecorated before the installation of this equipment.

Update Refugee Crisis

In 2021 there were an estimated 15,400 newly displaced individuals in Bosnia and Herzegovina fleeing someone or something, all desperate for a chance of a better life in Western Europe. LocalLions Clubs have limited resources but are supporting where they can. COVID has been incredibly challenging in these difficult areas.

https://youtu.be/PF1zwRp5gh4

Update Vision Screening.

In November 2018 A Gift for Living helped to co-ordinate a vision screening project in Albania. The target agreed with the Albanian Government was for 6,000 screenings. A total of 7,200 people, both old and young were screened. Two young girls were identified as being in need of surgical procedures and your Charity enabled these to be successfully carried out in Novi Sad, Serbia one year later in November 2019. Life changing results for these two young girls. Lions and Leos from several countries played an important part in the success of these surgeries. Fundraising for this treatment took almost a year and came from many donations, as mentioned, the results of the treatment were life changing and consequently rewarding to all donors.



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Early in 2022 vision screening was held at a school in Sarajevo with students aged 6-11 years. Parental consent was received to screen 93 students plus 20 teachers and parents. 12 students (approx. 12-13%) were referred for specialist testing by an optician.

One teacher was also referred, and we heard from the Principal the following week that severe blood circulation issues were found which would have resulted in total loss of vision. Following treatment, it was pronounced **'vision saved'**



ALL thanks to the vision camera screening project.

Update The Kitchen Project at The Vladimir Nazor Centar, Sarajevo Bosnia & Herzegovina

The Vladimir Nazor Centar, Sarajevo Bosnia & Herzegovina is a centre for learning and rehabilitation, providing education and developing skills for life for 200+ students many with challenging physical and learning disabilities. The reconstruction work and new upgraded equipment for the school kitchen will provide a safe environment and protect the health of the students by providing safe food and encourage healthy eating habits.

Reasons why this Kitchen project was crucial

The current Kitchen does not fulfil the basic hygiene standards. There have been no changes or renovations to the kitchen for 25 years and due to the extremely bad condition has been condemned as not fit for use until complete reconstruction and refitting can be achieved. Currently NO hot food provision is available. All work carried out will need to be certified by local authority inspectors at each stage to certify that the kitchen meets current standards for provision of food at this establishment.

1. Project Strategy and plan of action

The project to reconstruct and equip a safe and usable kitchen for the students of the Centre consists of several stages that are interconnected. Estimated 6 months to full completion. For the successful implementation of the project all stages will be carried out according to the anticipated plan of work and budget plan.

The estimated total project cost is £45,000 and local Lions in Sarajevo have received an LCIF Grant for 75% (£30,000). A Gift for Living will be helping with raising funds to complete this project.



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Stage 1: Reconstruction

The time period anticipated for the implementation of this part of the project is three (3) months and can be scheduled during school term breaks.

Stage 2: Equipment

Replacement of kitchen fixtures, fittings and appliances that are of a recognised standard and appropriate for use in a school environment (commercial) kitchen. Anticipated time period is one (1) month.

Stage 3: Implementation and Certification of HACCP

To obtain HACCP certification of the kitchen and all kitchen staff a recognised HACCP training programme will be followed with regular refresher courses to ensure that standards are continually met. Anticipated time scale one (1) month.

A Gift for Living, is now looking to raise £12,000 towards new kitchen equipment and has a wish list.

If your club is able to make a contribution towards this part of the project, please make donations via District Treasurer in the normal way endorsed 'A Gift for Living'.

Wish list to provide equipment - see Appendix 5

With your help and support we can continue with the work we have started

- THANK YOU.

For more information, please visit www.lionsclubsinternational-agiftforliving.org.uk





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Appendix 1: Roller Banners 1 & 2



The Lions Clubs International A Gift for Living Trust is 'our' charity and has been working successfully in the countries of the Balkans for 25 years. Its work started towards the end of what are now referred to as the Yugoslav Wars.

The Yugoslav Wars were a series of violent conflicts in the territory of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia that took place between 1991 and 2001.

During that period a savage civil war raged in Bosnia and Herzogovina, which tore the heart out of that beautiful area of Europe. Even before the sound of gunfire died down your charity was in there, bringing out babies and taking the first steps to help rebuild the medical infrastructure of this stricken society. Time passed, a kind of peace descended, and the local people began the

heartbreaking task of picking up the wreckage of their lives.

The medical infrastructure of the area had more or less been destroyed, with hospitals damaged beyond repair and doctors and nurses unable to train and work.



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Lions Clubs International

D105 British Isles Email: mdlq@flonsclubs.co www.lionaclubsinternational-agrifforfiving.org.uk Lenc Cubs International A 61-16 Uking Chanty, Pog. No. 107018



As ever in human conflicts, the most innocent bore the brunt; babies and small children were dying from lack of specialised care. 41 critically ill small children who would otherwise have had no hope of survival were snatched out of danger and 'medi-vacced' to hospitals in our Multiple District where they were able to receive life-saving care. Just two of those infants lost the battle - two too many.

Most of the children - and in some cases the relatives who travelled with them stayed with Lions' families to convalence. As soon as was humanly possible the charity, under the leadership of PID Phil Nathan, began working directly in the war zone, extending its activities by arranging for doctors and nurses from England, Ireland and elsewhere, all volunteers donating their own time to go to Bosnia and help train and re-train the local demoralised medical workforce, befriending and encouraging.



Work began in MOSTAR – a divided city with two separate hospitals, one in the east, one

in the west — and then moved on to SARAJEVO, where the former modern and well-equipped hospital had been reduced to a bombed out shell. In 2001 in a partnership between Lions and ALSG Manchester, the APLS (Advanced Paediatric Life Support) course was established. Thanks to the Lions of the Multiple District, well trained doctors and nurses are now successfully treating 400 to 500 babies and

successibility treating 400 to 500 bables and 300 to 400 children per year. A remarkable service given on behalf of and thanks to the support of the Lions of the British Isles. But, it doesn't end there, there is still much that needs to be done.



Lions Clubs International

05 British Isles Tel: 0345 803 5082 Email: mdhq@itonsclubsco www.lionsclubsinternational-ag/fitorliving.org.uk Lienz Clubs interhational A Einhar Lieng Charty, Reg. No. 1070018





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Appendix 1: Roller Banners 3 & 4



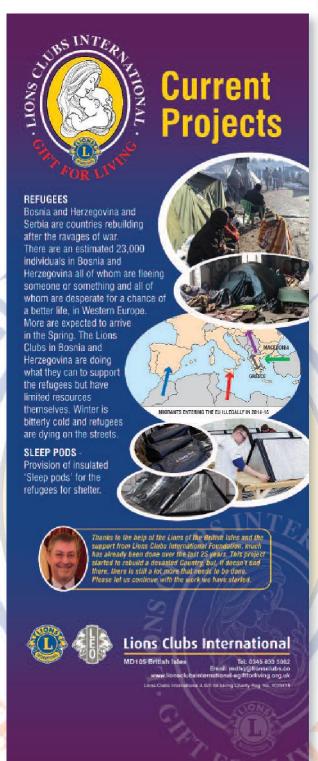






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Appendix 1: Roller Banners 5 & 6









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Projects





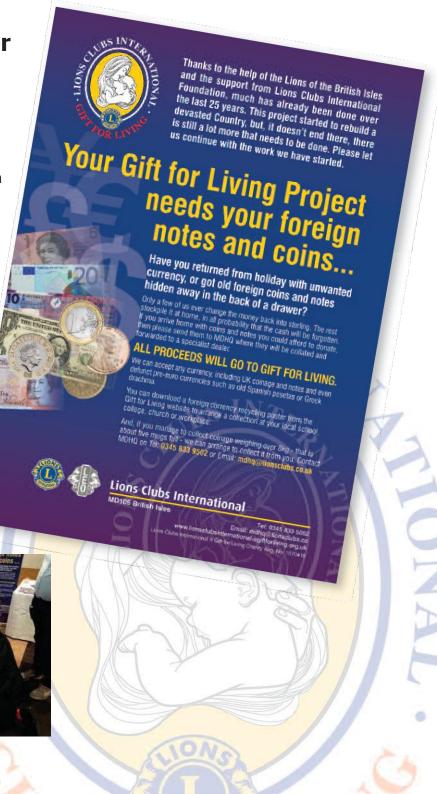
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Appendix 3: Promotional Flyer for collection of foreign coins

A tidy sum of currencies from everywhere including Sterling. Our thanks to PDG Paul Martin who is continues to support the collection for centralising collection via places such as MDHQ.

Although there has been little or probably no travelling, it is worth asking the public to check their drawers for coins brought home that will never be used.

We are looking to work with a business that supports the exchange back to Sterling for Gift for Living







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Appendix 4: Vision Screening in Albania

In November 2018, A Gift for Living co-ordinated a vision screening project in Albania. 34 Technicians and 15 Sight Doctors travelled from California at their own cost.

The target agreed with the Albanian Government was for 6,000 eye screenings. Ultimately 7,200 people, both old and young were screened.

The screenings identified two young girls 6-year-old Ajlina and 8 year old Paula as having strabismus, a condition that could not be corrected by spectacles alone and would require an operation to correct. In November 2019 after several months of discussion notification came that the operations could be carried out. The girls, their mothers and an interpreter travelled from Tirana, Albania to Novi Sad, Serbia.

This was an excellent example of European Lions working together, funding was provided by Lions in MD105 British Isles and D133 Ireland but could not have been achieved without the support of the Lions and Leos of Serbia.

November 2018

6 year old AJLINA



8 year old PAULA



November 2019 6-year-old AJLINA 8-y



8-year-old PAULA



December 2019A Thank You and A Christmas Kiss





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Appendix 4: Vision Screening in Albania

I record here, grateful thanks to 2nd Vice International President Brian and Lori Sheehan who donated \$500 from Bird Island Lions Club to A Gift for Living after visiting projects currently in hand.

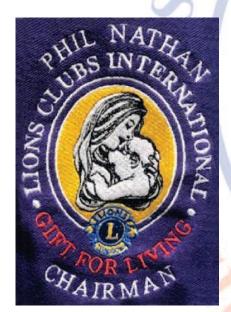
So there we are...

we continue, and the question is will your Clubs help your Charity?

A Gift for Living has been your hands on Charity for 25 years.

Still much to do, but it's in your hands.

Will your Clubs help?



Polo Shirts now available and window stickers will be available at Convention

TODAY AJLINA











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Appendix 5: Kitchen Equipment wish list



So there we are we will continue, and the question is will your club help our Charity please?

THANK YOU