

105SC JULY 2024 SENTINEL



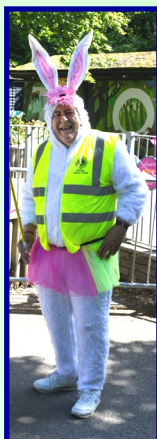
**Special!
Marwell
Zoo
Fun Day**

WE DID GO TO THE ZOO!



Sunday 9 June saw nearly 700 Lions and guests arrive at Marwell Zoo for a splendid day out!

It was a busy morning signing in groups and giving out wristbands. We also had Lion and Rabbit to welcome the guests. It was great to see children reacting to them and to see the fun they were having during the day. Animals to see and places to run and roll down slopes; just being children in a safe place.





DG Sandra (who donned the Lion costume to greet the guests) thoroughly enjoyed the day:

"Up early, made a packed lunch then Clive and I set off for the second District Fun Day to be held at Marwell Zoo. PDG Lion Judith Goodchild had taken over the lead role from me and did a wonderful job.

"To begin with I was incognito and having a great time engaging with the guests. I had to show some who were afraid of a big Lion that I wasn't real! It was absolutely brilliant to see the faces of the guests as they arrived. Luckily the

weather was not too hot but I was ably assisted by our Health and Safety Officer, Lion Brian Donovan, who kept me plied with water. I stayed at the front gate until midday and then went to the Hall to have my lunch and catch up with other Lions.

"After lunch I went hunting for Clive (the official photographer!) and found him by the tiger enclosure - the tiger was having a dip in the pond.

"We walked around the park stopping to look at the



meerkats (one on sentry duty), the penguins (waiting to be fed), the hippos (wallowing in the water) and the snow leopards. The weather stayed fine for us (last year it was boiling hot and then we had a torrential downpour and the roads became flooded) and because it was not

too hot lots of the animals came out. I think every Lion I saw and all the guests had big smiles on their faces. Lions serving at their best. Can't wait for next year's Fun Day!"

Hiya, just wanted to say a massive thank you for letting us join the experience.

The whole day was well organised, which really helped with my anxiety. We would definitely love to do it again and wouldn't change anything about the experience!

Many thanks again

Carla Gregory (one of Hook and Odiham guests)





"Thank you so much for organizing another brilliant event at Marwell Zoo.

"I was there with Michelle Moseley and her daughter Emma welcoming in all of our guests.

"I spoke to many families from all over our region, and they all said what a lovely time they were having. Some had never been to Marwell before and were thoroughly enjoying the whole experience! I was constantly bumping into a lovely young lad in a wheelchair, with his carer, and he was loving everything. Lion Lisa Rust, Acting DG Lion Sandra Manktelow and I were in the Mansion decorating our wooden discs when "R", the young lad in the wheelchair, came in and we coloured in a disc for him too. He was so happy to have one. All these smiling faces are what makes a Lions member's busy life worth it!

"Thank you."

Lion Net Cooper (Swanwick Lions)

"Thank you again for an amazing day out! Xxx'

"Thank you for a lovely day. We really enjoyed it.

Thank you so much Lions."

"The weather was very kind to us - dry but not too hot but very pleasant to sit near Marwell House and enjoy a chat."

"On behalf of Abingdon Lions Club can I thank the team for an excellent, outstanding Fun day yesterday at Marwell.

"We were delighted to be part of this event and also on behalf of our guests from 'Be Free Young Carer' and 'Oasis', thank you for a great day.

Lion Bill Russell (Abingdon Lions)



**Greeting the
Marwell guests,
Lions Net, Michelle
and Sandra with
the Acting DG, er,
acting the Lion...**



This was the second District Fun Day at Marwell and the team are already looking forward to planning the next one for 2025.

If you came this year please come again and if you did not come this year then think about it for next year. Young Carers, one parent families, those with mental and physical problems and anyone less fortunate than ourselves all deserve a day out.

Marwell Zoo provides an excellent place for everyone to enjoy a day out.

Lions Judith, Lisa and Di