



## **Factsheet: Lions Youth Camp and Exchange Programme 2018**

### **Who are we?**

The Lions Club of Ringwood & Fordingbridge is part of Lions Clubs International, one of the largest service organisations in the world. Lions internationally are dedicated to working with young people in the community, corresponding to International, National and Local requests for assistance in times of need.

### **What is it all about?**

The scheme enables you to attend a residential youth camp (usually 1-2 weeks) in a country of your choosing, and also to experience life in that country by staying with a host family for 1-3 weeks. It happens generally in the summer holidays, and there are usually over 100 camps to choose from in up to 40 different countries

### **What does it represent?**

The scheme is dedicated to:-

- Helping to improve International understanding
- Allowing everyone to learn about other countries and cultures
- Providing an insight into everyday life in that country by placing you with a host family in your country of choice
- Helping you make international friends for life
- Enabling you to make contacts abroad
- Empowering our youth to be excellent Ambassadors for the UK, their town and the Lions Club of Ringwood & Fordingbridge

### **How can I apply?**

If you live or attend school in the Ringwood or Fordingbridge area and are aged between 16 and 20 you can apply by downloading an application form from [www.randflions.org.uk](http://www.randflions.org.uk). All applications must be received by **Friday 20 October 2017**.

### **What happens next?**

Ringwood & Fordingbridge Lions will review your application. All short listed applicants will be invited to attend a short interview with their parent(s)/guardian(s). Everyone will find out the outcome of his/her application by the end of November 2017 and then shown how to apply for a place at the camp of their choosing.

### **What will happen at the Youth Camps?**

- You will be living, mixing and communicating with other young people from different parts of the world.
- Visiting local places of interest - cultural, commercial and tourist.
- Possibly attending functions
- Meeting civic dignitaries
- Having fun
- Participating in activities and exchanging ideas
- Shopping and socialising

### **Will I need to know a foreign language?**

English is spoken at most camps however some insist on their native language- notably France. It would be useful for you to know a little of the local language particularly when you stay with the host family. However, when you choose an international camp it will be clear if you need a good knowledge of the local language.

### **How much does it cost?**

You will be expected to fund your own travel arrangements to and from the country of choice, have in place adequate travel insurance and sufficient spending money. You will also need a valid passport and any international visas for your travel. All internal travel in the camp country, accommodation, food etc... is all provided by the Lions Organisation. Additionally, most international youth camps have no fee but some do which often cover the cost of any activities you will be involved in. Any camp fees are clearly identifiable in advance and if there is a fee you will be expected to meet the cost of this.

### **What if I have any questions?**

Further information is available from our website ([www.randflions.org.uk](http://www.randflions.org.uk)) or alternatively please call us on 0845 8335819 and we will do our best to help.