

# Spectacle Recycling

District 133

Ireland



## Information Booklet



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## Spectacle Recycling Process. A to Z

Lions Clubs Ireland are encouraging people to donate unwanted spectacles, which can be recycled to third world countries, helping people with poor eyesight who normally could not afford to purchase spectacles.

Spectacles, including cases in good condition, are collected by Lions throughout our District 133.

Then carefully following the “Spectacle Shipping Procedure” they are boxed and despatched via DPD couriers to MEDICO LIONS CLUBS de FRANCE in Le Havre.



The Medico Lions facility was created in February 1978. In the first year 5,000 pairs of glasses were processed; today 3 million are accepted annually. MEDICO is the international humanitarian arm of the Lions Clubs of France. Its activities are in 56 countries on 5 continents. In Le Havre the spectacles are sorted and washed. Using a Frontofocometer the power of the lenses is measured.

They are labelled and packed ready for shipment to a country in Africa, Asia, South America ... and Europe, to restore sight to lifeless eyes.

Each delivery relies on our international network of LIONS CLUBS, and our partners who ensure they arrive at their destination safely, thus avoiding losses...

Doctors in their dispensaries and health centres, as well as French ophthalmologists during their screenings on surgical missions determine the needs of their patients and send their requests to Medico in Le Havre.

The imperfect glasses are dismantled and the component parts are sold to reputable and trusted companies. The funds raised help to fund the operation.

People making enquiries about spectacle recycling, through our District 133 website will email us at [spectacles@lionsclubs.ie](mailto:spectacles@lionsclubs.ie) stating their name and location. We respond giving details of the meeting place of the Lions Club closest to them. They are instructed to leave the spectacles including the cases at reception marking them for the attention of the secretary of the local club and this email is copied to the club secretary.

We work on the information in the District 133 Directory which gives the meeting place for each club and the name and email address of the secretary.

To date, many clubs have made alternative or special arrangements, which we are informed of, so that we can direct donors accordingly.

Typical examples of alternative or special arrangements are as follows: -

- **Dublin LC** - direct the donor to leave the spectacles at a solicitors office on Northumberland Road or at any one of the opticians on a specific list in the Dublin area.
- **Clontarf LC** - have a collection box in Nolan's Supermarket in Clontarf and at the Library in Raheny and donors are directed to these.
- **Wexford LC** - have the email address for their Sight Officer and copy their replies to that address along with the original email. Wexford LC responds to the donor.
- **Carlow LC** - has collection bins at Specsavers, Potato Market, at the Customer Services desk Fairgreen Shopping Centre and at Jennings Opticians, Dublin Street. Donors are directed to these locations.
- **Newcastle LC** (Co Down) now have collection boxes in all four BCC Recycling Centres (Resulting from Dan O'Reilly of Newcastle LC responding to an enquiry from Belfast City Council re Spectacle Recycling). Newcastle LC also have collection boxes at local opticians and Newcastle Library. –

Clubs are encouraged to adapt to these examples because it spreads our network across the country more evenly and hotel receptionists are not being bothered with packages of spectacles being deposited with them. Please keep us informed of any new alternative or special arrangements so that we can direct donors to use these and also make other club aware of what can be done.

Specsavers stopped recycling themselves during COVID and are delighted to do business with us now. They have 86 stores throughout the island of Ireland, 53 in the South and 23 in the North.

We encourage all clubs to set up their own collection network locally and we will help them as much help as we can.

John O'Donovan,  
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[spectacles@lionsclubs.ie](mailto:spectacles@lionsclubs.ie)  
+353 (0)87 288 6310

Dan O'Reilly,  
Sight Officer NI,  
[spectaclesNI@lionsclubs.ie](mailto:spectaclesNI@lionsclubs.ie)  
+44 7725 725932



## Shipping Procedure

1. Pack the specs loose in a strong cardboard box. No need to wrap the specs individually or put in shredded paper or polystyrene chips.
2. **Keep a record of the total number of spectacles and email that information to [spectacles@lionsclubs.ie](mailto:spectacles@lionsclubs.ie)**
3. **Spectacle cases in good condition are acceptable.**
4. Seal the box well. Maximum weight 20kgs. Multiple boxes are in order.
5. Record the number of spectacles enclosed, your Email address, Club name and Date of dispatch on a sheet of paper and place inside the box. MEDICO Lions Club will acknowledge receipt of goods by Email.
6. Address each box as follows:  
MEDICO LIONS CLUBS DE FRANCE  
455/457 rue des Chantiers  
76600 LE HAVRE  
FRANCE
7. Parcels can be collected from your address or from your local DPD Depot.

**It is essential that a collection is booked using one of the following two options.**

### **Booking for collection at your address;-**

- Email [international.escalations@dpd.ie](mailto:international.escalations@dpd.ie) with the collection details.
- The collection details are the number of parcels, the weight, collection address (your address) and delivery address, (French address above).
- Please quote the collection reference “**Lions**” when booking the collection.

**Booking for collection at your local DPD Depot;-**

- Email [international.escalations@dpd.ie](mailto:international.escalations@dpd.ie) with the collection details.
  - The collection details are the number of parcels, the weight, collection address (address of the DPD depot) and delivery address, (French address above).
  - Provide details on the collection request of when the goods will be dropped by you to the DPD depot.
  - To find your local DPD depot go to <https://dpd.ie/About-DPD/DPD-Depot-Finder>
8. You will be provided with a **collection reference number (CR101-xxxxxx)** and you will quote this number at the depot when you drop the goods off.
9. Approved by **Jen Maiers** International Trade and Logistics Manager DPD Ireland  
Tel: 090 6420 500.

Bring a copy of these procedures with you to the DPD depot to avoid any misunderstanding.

This service is “**Free of Charge**”

John O'Donovan,  
087 288 6310  
[spectacles@lionsclubs.ie](mailto:spectacles@lionsclubs.ie)





Collection Bin, Carlow – front view



Collection Bin, Carlow – rear view



Collection Bin, Ashbourne



Collection Bin, Lions Clubs International

Lions Club Carlow

Lid

Lions Club Ireland

WE'RE LOOKING FOR USED EYEGLASSES

WE ACCEPT:


✓ adults glasses


✓ children's glasses

✓ all sunglasses

✓ all prescriptions

✓ all reading glasses






spectacles@lionsclubs.ie

www.lionsclubs.ie

Front



Club Contact

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Back

Bin label example

## Useful Links

- District 133 Spectacle Recycling  
<https://lionsclubs.ie/service/spectacle-recycling/>
- District 133 Shipping Procedure  
<https://lionsclubs.ie/spectacles-shipping-procedure/>
- Lions Clubs International (LCI) Global Causes  
<https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/start-our-global-causes/vision>
- LCI Recycle Eyeglasses  
<https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/resources-for-members/resource-center/recycle-eyeglasses>
- LCI Focus on Vision  
<https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/give-our-focus-areas/vision>
- World Sight Day  
<https://www.iapb.org/world-sight-day/>
- Irish Guide Dogs  
<https://www.guidedogs.ie/>



## World Sight Day

World Sight Day, observed annually on the second Thursday of October, is a global event meant to draw attention on blindness and vision impairment. It was originally initiated by the SightFirstCampaign of Lions Club International Foundation in 2000. [Wikipedia](#)

**Also called:** WSD

**Date:** Thursday, October 12, 2023