



Lions oil the wheels

THE cycling facility at The Abbey School is a unique and hugely successful feature of the exciting curriculum, now into its fourth year.

The school has 14 mountain bikes, trikes and learning balance bikes of varying sizes, and a long wheelbase van in which to transport them. Two groups of students all with learning difficulties and additional needs cycle each week at Alice Holt using the many different trails depending on their ability.

The bikes and safety equipment need constant maintenance and the school were delighted when the

Farnham Lions agreed to support them with some of the costs. A new 16" mountain bike, 12 new helmets, a big box of inner tubes (they get a lot of punctures!) and new high visibility jackets featuring the Lions and Abbey logos were all generously supplied.

Headteacher Chris Gardiner commented: "We are very grateful to the Farnham Lions. They have certainly enabled us to continue to give students the opportunity to learn an important life skill.

"Our cycling facility helps our students to meet new people and devel-

op social skills, make great health and safety choices and enjoy our local countryside".

Lions' president Keith Harris and his wife, made the formal presentation on behalf of The Lions during the school Christmas lunch which has become something of a tradition.

It is an opportunity to say thank you to many of the people who help the students throughout the year including therapists, specialists, volunteers and representatives of charities and other organisations who do so much to enhance The Abbey experience for students.