



We Serve

Jungle Jottings

THE NEWSLETTER OF BRIGHTON LIONS CLUB
TWINNED WITH FREEDOM DISTRICT LIONS CLUB

ORDINARY PEOPLE - AMAZING THINGS

MARCH 2007

MISSION STATEMENTS & MOTTOES

Few Lions can be unaware that Lions Clubs worldwide share the same motto: "We Serve". The Lions' objects and code of ethics are also reasonably well known. At the very least, Lions know they exist even if very few of us (if any) can repeat them word for word. But how many of us are aware of the mission statement of Lions Clubs International? This is:

"To create and foster a spirit of understanding among all people for humanitarian needs by providing voluntary services through community involvement and international cooperation."

Then there is the MD105 'strapline': Ordinary People - Amazing Things. And every year the International President provides us with his personal motto, as does our own District Governor.

Confused? Not to worry: most of it can be summed up in only two words –

"We Serve"

MARCH DINNER MEETING

A reminder to all members that the above meeting - which takes place on Wednesday, 7 March - will be held at the Brighton & Hove Golf Club. Time - 7.15 for 7.45. Cost - £15.

Unless Lion Ron is notified accordingly it will be assumed that members will be accompanied by their partners, where applicable.

The golf club likes to know the numbers by the Monday prior to the meeting so please contact Lion Ron no later than Friday 2 March 2007.

Members are also reminded that dinners booked must be paid for. If you fail to apologise in time, and don't turn up, you will be charged for the wasted meal.

We have used our investigative powers (ie the editor phoned Pat) to ascertain the menu, which is:

Potted shrimps

Bangers and mash, with onion gravy in Yorkshire pudding, and vegetables

Fresh fruit salad

Coffee/tea and mints



FEBRUARY BUSINESS MEETING

This meeting was the occasion of the official visit of the Region Chairman, Lions John Wilkinson, who was accompanied by the District Lioness Chair, Lioness Chris Clements.

A report on the District convention was presented by the secretary, and various fund-raising dates were agreed. The club will enter a team in the International Toad in the Hole Competition to be held at Lewes Town Hall.

The club approved a payments of £50 for Spikeys (see page 7) and £250 to District to assist with the transport costs for the Shoebox Appeal for Gomel. It was also agreed to donate £1000 to Downsview Special School to assist in various projects that they have under way.

It pains us to report that the Region Chairman was blackmailed into paying a fine by the Zone Chairman (Pete Dilloway) over a compromising photograph taken at the Guys & Dolls Night at convention. We regret that we have been unable to obtain a copy of the photograph for general publication.

CLUB DIARY

- 2 March Book fair preparation, Lions Dene, 8.00pm
- 3 March Book fair, Lions Dene, 10.00am till 1.00pm.
- 4 March Zone Project - It's a Knockout, Longhill School, Rottingdean, from 10.30am.
- 7 March Dinner meeting - Ladies' Night, Brighton & Hove Golf Club, 7.15 for 7.45pm. Nominations close.
- 9 March Bingo, Evelyn Glennie, 7.30pm.
- 13 March Blind club transport - Ron Fowler
- 14 March Bingo, Lions Dene, 7.30pm.
- 20 March Stroke club transport - Hugh Barron.
- 21 March Board & business meeting, Lions Dene, 8.00pm.
- 23 March Bingo, Evelyn Glennie, 7.30pm.
- 25 March Hove Charter Lunch, Imperial Hotel, Hove. £16.
- 28 March Bingo, Lions Dene, 7.30pm.
- 3 April Zone meeting, Lions Dene, 8.00pm.
- 4 April Potential members evening. Elections.
- 6 April ? Book fair preparation, Lions Dene, 8.00pm
- 7 April ? Book fair, Lions Dene, 10.00am till 1.00pm.
- 10 April Blind club transport - Hugh Barron.
- 11 April Bingo, Lions Dene, 7.30pm.
- 15 April Adur East Charter Lunch, Charmandean Centre, Worthing.
- 17 April Stroke club transport.
- 18 April Board & business meeting, Lions Dene, 8.00pm.
- 20 April Bingo, Evelyn Glennie, 7.30pm.
- 25 April Bingo, Lions Dene, 7.30pm.
- 25 April Toad in the Hole Competition, Lewes Town Hall, 7.00pm.



CSFII TO RAISE US\$150 MILLION

US\$69m RAISED TO DATE

It's a stark fact. By the time you finish reading this page, one child somewhere in the world will have gone blind. One goes blind every minute. Half-a-million will have lost their sight by the end of the year.

Childhood blindness is only one part of the global vision crisis. If nothing is done, experts say that the world's blind population could double from 37 million to 74 million by 2020.

But Lions will not allow "nothing to be done." True to their commitment to be "knights of the blind," Lions have launched Campaign SightFirst II to prevent this tragedy. CSFII has set out to raise at least US\$150 million to continue and expand the extraordinary work of SightFirst, Lions worldwide program to combat preventable blindness.

I appeal to you Lions, you who have your sight, your hearing, you who are strong and brave and kind. Will you not constitute yourselves Knights of the Blind in this crusade against darkness?

From Helen Keller's speech to the Lions International Convention in 1925.

So how is this money to be raised? All Lions Clubs were asked to conduct one additional fund-raising event in 2005-2006 with proceeds designated for Campaign SightFirst II. All gifts to CSFII are eligible for Melvin Jones Fellowship Recognition and will count toward the Club's total at the conclusion of the Campaign.

In the first six months of the Campaign, Model Clubs raised US\$1.5 million. All Model Clubs have set fundraising goals of at least US\$400 per member. "Per member averages are a key measuring tool for the Campaign," points out Past International President J. Frank Moore III, the Campaign's vice chairperson. "They make it possible to compare small and large clubs in a proportionate way." The CSFII plan recommends that clubs envision their goals as a "per-member average." How are Lions achieving these impressive results?

< The Bonita Springs, Florida, Lions Club expects enough income from the charity shop it operates to commit to raising US\$100,000 for Campaign SightFirst II.

< To demonstrate dramatically the reality of blindness, Lions in Rockville Centre, New York, are planning a "blind dinner" in which the entire meal and activities will be experienced in total darkness. Proceeds from ticket sales and gifts from community members will go to CSFII.

< The Istanbul Faith Lions Club is planning a benefit concert featuring some of Turkey's most famous entertainers.

< In northern California, Vice District Governor Skip O'Brien (a regular contributor to these pages) obtained sponsorship to shave off his beard and raised US\$3,000.

And what contribution is being made by Brighton Lions Club? Apart from Peter Bennett's offer of memorabilia from RMS Queen Mary to be offered for sale - nothing. Is that really good enough for a club that claims to be one of the leading clubs not just in District 105SE, but in MD105?

DISTRICT CONVENTION 2007

SIX LIONS from Brighton were at the convention - Hugh Barron, Jason Bristow, Pete Dilloway, Sheridan Lynch, Brian Slater and George Wood.

DISTRICT DUES for the year 2007-08 were fixed at £9.50 per Lion.

RESOLUTIONS concerning the annual review of District accounts, the District reserve fund, conduct of elections for DG & VDG and future amendments to the District constitution proved uncontroversial and were carried.

ROBIN BLAKE was elected to serve as District Governor for 2007-08, with Jacquie Prebble as Vice District Governor.

CODE OF ETHICS. The resolution asking the International board to consider re-wording the Lions Code of Ethics was passed unanimously and will now be put to the Multiple District convention in May.

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP. The resolution to extend the family membership rebate scheme to cover District dues was defeated by a substantial majority. Delegates were concerned that there was no estimate of the possible cost to District funds, and it was considered that the scheme, as proposed, would be unfair to families where second marriages (or none) were involved.

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP. Convention approved a 50% discount in District dues for full-time students under 25 years of age.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION DRAW. This was won by Crowborough Lions, with NPS in reserve.

PID LION SID SCRUGGS III gave a memorable address to convention on putting the 'wow factor' into Lions. We understand that he proposes to offer himself for election as International Vice President (and subsequently President) and on the evidence of his address he should make a success of the job.

MD105 CONVENTION

There are six resolutions to be debated at the MD convention at Torquay in May. The following is a summary of those resolutions.

MD DUES. It is proposed that MD dues for 2007/08 be £18.50 per Lion.

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP. Two resolutions, one to amend the MD constitution to define student membership, the second to allow

student members a discount on MD dues.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE. No appointment to be made without prior approval of two-thirds of Districts at their conventions and approval of MD convention.

EUROPE FORUM. Lions to be encouraged to donate 50p per year into a fund to assist with the costs of Europa Forum.

CODE OF ETHICS. The resolution as passed at our District convention.

BINGO ROTA

An asterisk (*) indicates the Lion responsible for collecting the equipment from me and returning it to me after the session.

I understand that fellow Brighton Lions Club members are all busy people with other commitments, but it would be helpful if you would make the rota a priority, giving me as much notice as possible if you are unable to help on the evenings listed below.

I have tried to reflect members' preferences as to time and place, but if there are any others, please let me know.

Tony Crapnell

LIONS DENE Contact: Brian Sivier (caretaker)		EVELYN GLENNIE Somerset Street Contact: Mrs Johnson (manager)	
28/2	Jason Bristow *, Alan Pratt, Joe Matthews	9/3	Pete Dilloway *, Guy Butterworth
14/3	Ron Fowler *, Clare Elliott, Joe Matthews	23/3	Tom Novis *, David Sawyer
28/3	A N Other *, Richard Lintott, Joe Matthews	6/4	Good Friday - no bingo
11/4	George Wood *, David Bryant, Joe Matthews	20/4	Alan Pratt *, Bruce Nunn
25/4	Hugh Barron *, Allen Bryan, Joe Matthews	4/5	Brian Slater *, Clare Elliott

BLIND CLUB TRANSPORT

A rota has been established to transport members of the East Sussex Association for the Blind Tuesday Club to their meetings for the remainder of this year as follows:

13 March - Ron Fowler

14 August - Brian Slater

10 April - Hugh Barron

11 September - Ron Fowler

8 May - Jason Bristow

9 October - Hugh Barron

12 June - Richard Lintott

13 November - Doug Taylor

10 July - Doug Taylor

18 December - Richard Lintott

Anybody unable to attend on their allocated date is asked to contact Hugh Barron as early as possible so that a replacement can be arranged.

THE MANISON LEGACY

Some who have joined Brighton Lions Club during the last few years might not be entirely clear about what are shown in our accounts as restricted funds and what is referred to at meetings as the Manison legacy.

It was several years ago that, out of the blue, a firm of solicitors wrote saying that we had been left the residue of the estate of a Mr Manison on condition that it be used for the benefit of elderly gentlemen from Brighton. Nobody in the club had ever heard of Mr Manison, but it transpired that his legacy would be in the region of £500,000.

The club felt that the condition was unduly restrictive and we approached the executors and the Charity Commissioner suggesting that the money should be used for elderly people of either sex. This was agreed, and in due course we received a cheque for a little more than half a million pounds. (As this money is for restricted use it is shown in the club's annual accounts under 'restricted funds'.)

Now we had another problem: what to do with the money. At that time the Housing Society had completed the Lions Dene development and, with a

healthy bank balance as well as a large mortgage, were looking for the next opportunity. If the club lent money to the Housing Society at an interest rate which was lower than the banks would charge, another development would be much more manageable - and the money would be used to benefit elderly people. It was therefore agreed that £500,000 would be lent to the Housing Society at the same rate of interest as we would have received had we put the money on deposit with the Charities Official Investment Fund.

The interest we receive on this loan is currently running at more than £20,000 a year, and this still has to be used for the benefit of elderly people in Brighton. Over the years we have made substantial donations to Martlets Hospice, Partridge House (a day centre for Alzheimers sufferers), WRVS Meals on Wheels and numerous other beneficiaries.

And we still don't know who Mr Manison was or why he left the money to us.

SERIOUS HEALTH WARNING

There is a dangerous virus being passed around electronically, orally, and by hand. This virus is called Worm-Overload-Recreational-Killer (WORK).

If you receive WORK from any of your colleagues, your boss, or anyone else via any means DO NOT TOUCH IT. This virus will wipe out your private life. Completely.

If you should come into contact with WORK put your jacket on and take two good friends to the nearest off-licence. Purchase the antidote known as Work-Isolating-Neutralizer-Extract (WINE) or the equally effective Bothersome-Employer-Elimination-Rebooter (BEER).

Take the antidote repeatedly until WORK has been completely eliminated from your system.

(We are advised that Pete Dilloway is immune to the virus as he is a civil servant.)

With thanks to Lion Sheridan Lynch.

BE CREATIVE

Creativity is not reserved just for those who engage in artistic pursuits. In every life, in every situation, there are opportunities to be creative.

Being creative means acknowledging that there are many possibilities beyond the obvious. Being creative means having the courage to consider doing things in a way that's different than the way they've always been done.

Creativity gives you the ability to solve multiple problems with a single course of action. Creativity transforms weakness into strength, and builds value where there was none before.

Imagine the possibility of a connection between things that don't appear to be connected, and creativity will start to take hold. Look at life from a new perspective, and it will further nourish your creativity.

Creativity refuses to accept limits. And as such, with sufficient creativity you can move beyond any obstacle.

There is always room for improvement, and there is always a place for beauty, for achievement, for fulfilment. Be creative, and you'll continue to add richness to life.

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SPIKEYS

When a drink is spiked it means that alcohol or drugs (illicit or prescription) have been added to the drink without the persons knowledge or approval. Drink spiking is often done with sexual abuse in mind. The substance can be added to any drink including soft drinks, juice, water or alcohol. The practice is illegal and potentially deadly to the person whose drink is spiked.



Spikey® helps prevent

drinks from being spiked in pubs, bars and at parties. It is a brightly coloured plastic "use once only" stopper that glows in UV light so everyone can see that the drink has been protected.

Once inserted into the neck of a bottle Spikey® cannot be easily removed, creating a seal that helps stop pills and illicit substances (Rohypnol, GHB, more alcohol etc) being slipped into the drink. A hole in the top of the device is just big enough for a straw to pass through. Again the straw cannot be easily tampered with.

The club has placed an order for 10,000 Spikeys. Once received, we will have a grand opportunity for publicity by liaising with the police etc and presenting these gadgets to a night club.

AND FINALLY . . .

A DRINKER'S FAULT-FINDING GUIDE

SYMPTOM	FAULT	REMEDY
Drinking fails to give satisfaction and taste; shirt front wet	Mouth not open while drinking, or glass being applied to wrong part of face.	Buy another pint and practise in front of mirror. Continue with as many pints as necessary until drinking technique has been perfected.
Drinking fails to give satisfaction and taste; beer unusually pale and clear.	Glass empty.	Find someone who will buy you another pint.
Feet cold and wet.	Glass being held at incorrect angle.	Turn glass the other way up so that the open end is pointing towards the ceiling.
Feet warm and wet.	Loss of self control.	Go and stand next to the nearest dog - after a while complain to its owner about its lack of house training and demand a pint in compensation.
Bar blurred.	You are looking through the bottom of your empty glass.	Find someone who will buy you another pint.
Bar swaying.	Air turbulence unusually high, may be due to darts match in progress.	Insert a broom handle down back of jacket.
Bar moving.	You are being carried out.	Find out if you are being taken to another pub - if not, complain loudly that you are being hijacked.
You notice that the wall opposite is covered with ceiling tiles, and has a fluorescent light strip across it.	You have fallen over backwards.	If glass is still full and no-one is standing on your drinking arm, stay put. If not, get someone to help you up and lash yourself to the bar.
Everything has gone dim, and you have a mouthful of dog-ends and teeth.	You have fallen over forwards.	As for falling over backwards.
You wake up to find your bed hard, cold and wet. You cannot see your bedroom walls or ceiling.	You have spent the night in the gutter.	Check your watch to see if it is opening time - if not, treat yourself to a lie-in.
Everything has gone dark.	The pub is closing.	Panic.

With thanks to Lion Allen Bryan

That's all, folks!