

# DOWNPATRICK LIONS CLUB

Newsletter No.01 June 2020

## Welcome

Hello fellow Lions and welcome to the first newsletter for club members. As we cannot hold club meetings for the foreseeable future, Lion Andrew of the Forward Planning Group thought this would be a good way to keep in touch.

This is your space, so we want to hear from you – your news, your views and even your worst jokes! Send them to the Editor-in-Chief, Lion Robin.

I'll start the ball rolling with my news. During the good weather I managed to paint all the rear garden walls, tidy up the shed (making thousands of spiders homeless in the process) and get ahead with the seasonal gardening jobs. I'm delighted to say that the lawn now resembles a green quilt and every day I wage war on any daisy or dandelion that dares to put its head above the parapet!

I'll leave you with a joke. *I'd like to start with the chimney jokes – I've got a stack of them. The first one is on the house.*

I look forward to reading the next newsletter and in the meantime I hope you and your families are keeping safe and well – hopefully it won't be long before we can meet up again in person.

President John 😊

## LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL

Responding to the Coronavirus  
Lions Clubs International is actively working with our clubs around the world and monitoring the ongoing coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, which is changing the way we live, work and serve. This Response Center is your central source for news and resources impacting Lions and our efforts to serve the world during this challenging time. Check back frequently for updates since

this is a rapidly evolving situation. Let's continue to put our kindness in action by putting the health and safety of our communities first.

Recommend that club members go online and check out what LCIF are doing in relation to Covid 19

## Give to Disaster Relief Fund

LCIF is giving priority consideration to support regions with extreme rates of confirmed COVID-19 cases. The focus will be on addressing those frontline needs that exist within local medical and emergency management systems that are coordinating efforts with the World Health Organization (WHO) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDD) guidelines. Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) is working with local Lions as they identify areas of need within their communities.

## A Day in Virtual Life

I start the day with exercises before 7am. This is a new 'treat' as I'm normally in the car by 6.30am and my wife has taken an interest by saying 'are you sure you're Ok doing that? I then head-off with coffee in hand to Minerstown Beach for my daily walk. At that time of the day there are, at most, three of us on the beach and I'm enjoying the Oyster Catchers, Storks and other species and the different looks of the Mournes depending on how the light catches them. After a healthy breakfast I get to work for the day. A change is good as a rest as they say.

Andrew Stevenson



## Directors 2020/2021

**President:**  
Raymond Crea

**Vice President:**  
Neil Hamilton

**Treasurer:**  
John Orr

**Secretary:**  
Robin Kilpatrick

**Past President:**  
John Dennis

**Club Meetings:**  
Lakeside Inn  
Ballyduggan Downpatrick  
Twice per month at 8pm

**NewsLetter:**  
Robin Kilpatrick  
[robinkilpatrick@msn.com](mailto:robinkilpatrick@msn.com)  
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## Mission Statement

**To empower volunteers to serve their community, meet humanitarian needs, encourage peace and promote international understanding through Lions Clubs**

# DOWNPATRICK LIONS CLUB

## Just Giving Page

To enable the public to donate to our funds and the charities that we support we are looking into setting up a 'Just Giving' page. This will be linked directly to the events that we are running.

## Charity Status

Lion Bill Osborne has accepted the challenge to take the lead in progressing our application to be recognised as a Charity with the Charities Commission. We will endeavour to give Bill all the support he needs on this critical endeavour.

## Paypal Account

To enable those who wish to make a donation to Downpatrick Lions Club thus helping many of the worthy causes we support, we are setting up a PAYPAL account which is available on both our Facebook and web pages.

## What did you Say?

"I am enclosing two tickets to the first night of my new play; bring a friend.... if you have one." - \_George Bernard Shaw to Winston Churchill\_ "Cannot possibly attend first night, will attend second... if there is one." - \_Winston Churchill, in response\_.

## Home Baking

Having lived in France for eight years we really enjoyed the fresh crusty baguette in the morning with butter and some strawberry jam along with a fresh cup of coffee. However after being there for a few years and missing home made wheaten, soda bread and potato bread, not forgetting a fresh granary loaf I decided to do something..

I managed to source some coarse wheaten flour from a mill in the south of England whilst on a family trip back to UK, and with some buttermilk (Lait Ribot) and Bicarb

from E Leclerc supermarche, we were good to go!



The granary loaf was more of a challenge. Eventually I found some mixed seed bread flour in France and then with a mix of 1/3 seeded grains flour 2/3 strong bread flour and tablespoon of Malt Extract from Holland and Barrett we were set to go. The breadmaker made the dough which I then put into proper bread tins for baking.

Having a garden with plenty of soft fruit along with a couple of Cherry trees that we had planted home baking and jam making was never sooooo good. Robin Kilpatrick

## Talking Newspaper

The Downsound team have been looking into making a recording for their listeners, however due to current restrictions SHE&SCT at the Downshire are unable to grant access to the facility. The team are hoping to prepare a podcast which will enable their listeners to receive current news items. They eventually hope to enhance the podcast with interviews and members recollections.

## Recollections

One of the rare wet days during the lockdown "she who must be obeyed" issued a decree that certain boxes in the roof space were to be cleared out- couldn't really see why since they had only been there for fifty odd years or so! After an hour, I was still in the roof space lost in memories of my long ago youth, of the times of hope and promise. My wife thought I had fallen asleep! Anyway, as I worked slowly I came

upon a scribbled note from a university friend dated June 1970. It read "Thursday 18th Hurray - last day of the Finals. ascent of Devil's Bit arranged with picnic at the top" (The Devil's Bit is a small mountain in Co Tipperary) Oh the sense of joy, of freedom, of hope. Our 21 year old selves could do anything and we did climb that mountain and since it was also General Election Day in the UK we had a passionate debate as we munched our sandwiches as to the suitability and the merits of Edward Heath and Harold Wilson as PM.

When I came down to earth from my personal reverie, I began to think what else was going on that summer of 50 years ago

England were playing in the World Cup in Mexico

Margaret Court and John Newcombe won the titles at Wimbledon

Chelsea won the FA cup after a replay against Leeds

We were listening to Mungo Jerry singing "In the Summertime"

We were watching comedy shows like Dads Army, Steptoe and Son, Till Death us do Part, Monty Python I remember 1970 as a very happy few summer months exams over;

few real cares. Fun weekends with friends in Donegal and Dublin till all too soon I was London about to start the serious business of work.

That's some of my memories of 1970. Raymond Crea

## From around the area

Newcastle Lions recently teamed up with Tesco who match funded their £300 so the club could provide a number of care packages to local care home staff members.