



SKÅL INTERNATIONAL BRIGHTON, SUSSEX AND THE CHANNEL

President
Christine Ayers

Secretary
Edward Lewis

FEBRUARY 2019 Newsletter

Editor: Valerie Field

Your President writes:

WE'RE READY TO WELCOME PRESIDENT RON

What a colourful time was had in late January. Blue Monday and a Blood Moon. Lots of howling from wolfie minded friends. I don't know - depression apparently the order of the day for 21 January commencing with the coloured moon. Was quite a sight. Then I saw the layer of hard frost on my car, cleared it all as I thought, and drove off into the early morning gloom which even my full beam didn't seem to penetrate. When I came to a halt after a few yards in the freezing dark - minus 6deg - I found I hadn't cleaned the frost from my headlights. Was rather better after that.

Can't say that I noticed any depression on Blue Monday except perhaps in the sweet peas which really hadn't enjoyed the frosty night.

February isn't really my favourite month as it generally means decorating and mega cleaning in the cottages. Getting ready for the coming season, sorting the handprints and scuffs created by the guests. Some in places that make you wonder....

Sunday 24 February sees the Handover Lunch at Edward's hotel and I look forward to seeing you there to witness Ron Brooker taking on the President's mantle and guiding you through the coming months. I will descend to the 'Immediate Past' position and watch from the sidelines. Ron's been in discussion with Martin Haley, Events Organiser, as to what will be in his programme for the coming year. So I hope you find it interesting and support him and the club.

As I understand it the March meeting is on the 17th and will be a lunch held at the Cooden Beach Hotel. As it's St.Patrick's Day perhaps the urge to wear something green may come over you?

The big 'do' this year is the National Assembly over the weekend of 12-14 April and this will be at the Lansdowne Hotel in Eastbourne. The club's 80th birthday is on the Thursday and for those arriving early we will go, as before, to a local Italian (at own cost). It's just a short walk from the hotel. On the Saturday of the Assembly we'll have a birthday cake during the evening dinner. During January there has been a list of jobs issued for which volunteers are looked for. Please help out and please book your place for the April weekend NOW!!!

Cont'd...

The Assembly, wherever it is held, is always a great place to meet old friends and maybe make a few new ones. So get your gladrags dusted down, the biro warmed up and the cheque book open for your booking for a nice friendly Skål weekend.

Bit of sad note to enter my preamble, but the Guernsey Club has decided to call it a day. I believe the lovely Janie is transferring to the Paris club; she and Jeff spend quite a lot of their time in France nowadays so that makes sense. Don't know what others are doing. Such a shame as I recall many enjoyable Skål times on the island over the years.

The AGM in January saw the members of Council voted in once more for another term of office, Honorary Members re-elected and a further one added in the shape of Patricia Ketteridge, widow of the inimitable Derek. Welcome aboard Patricia. Later we had a good lunch which did indeed include haggis which Edward stabbed, and everyone yelped theatrically. My final throw as President was to award the Antony Gay memorial shield to Marianne Roland for all her efforts (with Bernard) in keeping the raffle going and bringing in much needed extra spondoolicks to the Club funds. Talking of which - we need raffle prizes for the National Assembly so any help you can muster will be much appreciated.

We voted to support Eric in his aim to serve a further term as National President; we also gave our support to the new aim of there being a Skål Europe. This is a business, friendship and networking aim Europe-wide. It is NOT political or anything to do with the EU.

So here I am sitting indoors in the warm and outside the Cumbrian weather is doing its worst and making everywhere white. Can't get to Kendal so make do and mend with lunch; burgers anyone? And there's wine stashed in the loft. Robin, we have a lovely (Somerset) Brie maturing nicely so all's well with the world.

Au revoir mes amies and Skål! And my spellchecker didn't like any of that!

Christine Ayers

FUTURE EVENTS

The Hand Over Lunch will be on Sunday, 24 February, again at Edward Lewis' Lansdowne Hotel. Ron Brooker will take over the Presidency from Christine Ayers. Lunch will be 12.30 for 1.00pm and will cost £27.50 pp.

The March meeting will be a lunch at James Kimber's Cooden Beach Hotel on Sunday, March 17 at 12.30 for 1.00pm. You will be able to choose your meal from the Sunday menu on the day and it will be £23.00 for two courses; coffee is not included. As this date is St Patrick's Day it is suggested that you wear something green in recognition.

The booking forms for both these events are at the end of this Newsletter.

YOUR COUNCIL DISCUSSED...

Philip Ayers ran through the completed programme for the National Assembly which is being held at Edward Lewis' Lansdowne Hotel, April 11-14. As this coincides with our club's 80th anniversary there will be a celebration on the Saturday evening. We still need raffle prizes for this event so please let Philip know if you can supply or organise any.

Christine Ayers announced that the Guernsey Club had folded and that Janie and Jeff Corbet were joining the Paris Club as they now spend a great deal of time in France. Christine also told us that unfortunately Graham Appleby had decided to resign from Skål.

Martin Haley listed the programme for the year which is included in this Newsletter.

It was agreed to make Patricia Ketteridge an Honorary member which would be confirmed at the AGM.

The next Council meeting will be held on February 24 prior to the Handover Lunch so if you have anything you would like discussed please notify any Council Member by then.

SAD FAREWELLS

David Goddard, who was Skål National Treasurer for many years and an early member of Newcastle upon Tyne club, has died following a long illness. There will be a private cremation followed by a wake on February 13 at Forest Hotel, Dorridge at 2.30pm. All Skålleagues are welcome but please notify Ailie Goddard at david.ailie@btinternet.com.

We are sad to report the passing of our former member Peter Adamou.

Peter briefly transferred to Skål International Brighton, Sussex and the Channel from the London club, where he had served as Treasurer. A true travel industry professional, Peter had dabbled in everything from tour operating to cruising, and had represented a number of Greek and Cyprus-based operations in the UK. Sadly, our members didn't really get a chance to know Peter because he became ill fairly soon after joining the club. But those who worked with him always enjoyed his wicked sense of humour, his delight in travel industry gossip, and a certain rebellious streak.

BIRTHDAY BLACKBOARD

Happy Birthday wishes this month go to Sylvia Grice and Laura Oliphant. Enjoy your special day.

Belated Birthday wishes to Judith Howard who was missed from the January listing.

OUTLINE PROGRAMME FOR 2019

- SUNDAY FEBRUARY 24** – President’s Handover Lunch
Lansdowne Hotel, Eastbourne
- SUNDAY MARCH 17** – St Patrick’s Lunch
Cooden Beach Hotel, Bexhill
- THURSDAY APRIL 11** – Skål Brighton 80th Birthday Dinner
Eastbourne
- FRIDAY-SUNDAY –
APRIL 12-14** – Skål National Assembly
Lansdowne Hotel, Eastbourne
- SUNDAY APRIL 28** – Skål International Day
Old Tollgate Hotel, Bramber
- FRIDAY MAY 31** – Afternoon/Evening visit to Bluebell Railway
Fish & Chip supper
- SUNDAY JULY 7** – President’s at home Patio party lunch
16 Beverington Road, Eastbourne
- THURSDAY AUGUST 8** – Skittles, Supper and Pub Quiz
Royal Oak, Barcombe
- WEEK
SEPTEMBER 14-20** – 65th Skål International Congress
Miami, USA
- TBA OCTOBER** – Visit to Cote d Opale
- SUNDAY NOVEMBER 3** – Lunch – Brighton arrival of London\
Brighton Car Run
- SATURDAY OR SUNDAY –
DECEMBER 7 OR 8** – Christmas Lunch
Cooden Beach Hotel, Bexhill

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- SUNDAY JANUARY 26** – AGM and Burns Lunch
Lansdowne Hotel, Eastbourne

To: Philip Ayers, The Old Rectory, Litlington, Polegate, East Sussex BN26 5RB

I/We will/will not be attending the Handover Lunch on Sunday 24 February 2019 at the Lansdowne Hotel, Eastbourne, East Sussex BN21 4EE. Tel: 01323 725174.

Time: 12.30 for 1.00pm lunch. Price: £27.50 per person.

My guest/s is/are

My cheque for £ is enclosed being £27.50 per person. *(Cheques should be made payable to Skål International Brighton)*

OR

Internet Transfer to Club Account:

Account Name: Skål International Brighton

Account No: 54205181

Sort Code: 09-01-55 (Santander)

NAME:

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I/We will/will not bring a raffle prize. **Replies and payment to Philip by 17 February please.**

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To: Philip Ayers, The Old Rectory, Litlington, Polegate, East Sussex BN26 5RB

I/We will/will not be attending the St Patrick's Day Lunch on Sunday 17 March 2019 at the Cooden Beach Hotel, Cooden Beach, Bexhill, East Sussex TN39 4TT. Tel: 01424 842281.

Time: 12.30 for 1.00pm lunch. Price: £23.00 per person two courses.

My guest/s is/are

My cheque for £ is enclosed being £23.00 per person. *(Cheques should be made payable to Skål International Brighton)*

OR

Internet Transfer to Club Account:

Account Name: Skål International Brighton

Account No: 54205181

Sort Code: 09-01-55 (Santander)

NAME:

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I/We will/will not bring a raffle prize. **Replies and payment to Philip by 10 March please.**