



North Laine Traders A.G.M.

On the windy wet evening of Tuesday 11th March over thirty traders and guests braved the elements to attend the 2008 NLTA AGM at Komedia.

The evening started off at 6.10 by Chair, Sharon Thomas welcoming everyone and Peter Stocker giving the secretary's yearly review. Peter mentioned the successful launch of the 100% North Laine sustainable bag and the many other achievements over the last twelve months.

Peter also thanked our many partners including Brighton and Hove council, cllr Ian Davey, David Lepper M.P. the Brighton Business Forum, NLCA and all the North Laine street reps.

Soozie Campbell then gave a report on the BID, (business improvement district) which included Christmas lights, Unique Brighton website, various promotions and an idea for central cardboard recycling for city centre traders. The three BID representatives for North Laine are Andrew Fisher, Richard Calman and Gren Nation.

Treasurer David Hall then presented the 2007 treasurer's report plus accounts and discussed membership levels and expenditure so far this year.

We then held elections of officers and Sharon Thomas was again elected as Chair, David Hall as treasurer and as Peter Stocker is moving those present voted to retain Peter as a paid co-ordinator for six months. Street reps were also elected. There then followed a report on the North Laine website which has recorded over 276,000 individual hits since its launch. Quarterly results show strong growth, quarter 1. 2007 = 24,300 hits and quarter 1. 2008 over 56,000 hits. Brian Pedley also reported that he would be working on a member's message board and has added Fire Assessment information to the members section. Brian was thanked for all his hard and effective work.

Any other business included the NLTA adopting Jubilee Street. Helen from MyHotel thanked us and reported that they will be opening on the 18th of March. City in Bloom have asked the NLTA to arrange a best commercial frontage competition and Lynette from Revamp asked about more maps/signs around North Laine, Councillor Davey offered to assist us.

Sharon thanked Colin Grainger for the use of Komedia and then introduced our guest speaker Jonathan Love from Business Link who talked and answered small business questions until the meeting finished at 7.30.

Full minutes and accounts are available on www.northlaine.co.uk as well as information on how to join the NLTA.

News in Brief.....

North Laine lost a good friend when former head of planning for Brighton council, **Ken Fines** sadly died on Easter Monday. Ken created the North Laine as a conservation area in the mid seventies when it was under threat of mass demolition for a major road system. He realised that the area worked well in its small scale and probably set the seeds of the successful area we have become. Ken retired many years ago but has never ceased to take an interest in North Laine and has been very active challenging planning applications and producing a book, “a history of Brighton”.

Members are reminded that they can advertise themselves and their special offers and events on their member’s page of the North Laine website. You can also provide news items of interest to other NL traders. The website is www.northlaine.co.uk

City College recently unveiled their £90 million redevelopment plans at an exhibition at Brighthelm. Details of their plans are available from the development team on 667788.

The NLTA have been asked to nominate “best commercial frontage in North Laine” as part of this year’s **City in Bloom** competition. Why not spruce up your frontage with some tubs or hanging baskets this year. You never know you might win!

It is now nearly two years since the **BID** started in central Brighton and the officers of North Laine Traders would be interested to know how members feel it is working. The NLTA supported the BID as the only way to provide Christmas lighting and extra security in North Laine. (The BID also provides PR/advertising as part of its package). Please contact Sharon Thomas or Peter Stocker through northlaine.co.uk with your thoughts.

The Planning and strategy projects group of Brighton and Hove City Council have invited a representative of NLTA to attend a **London Road master plan** consultation in June. We will report back to a future meeting.

North Laine Cllr Keith Taylor held a non party-political meeting to discuss the St James Investments emerging proposals for **London Road** and consider alternative viewpoints and priorities for the area. Hopefully ideas from this meeting will be fed into the June council consultations.

Southern water

Southern water are slowly working their way through North Laine and we know have provisional dates for the next six months. Kensington Gardens is now just about finished with Clancy Docwra working from 8 till 11am to cause as little disruption as possible.

- Robert Street – 5.5.08 until 6.6.08
- Winsor Street – 2.6.08 until 27.6.08
- Vine Street – 9.6.08 until 11.7.08
- Portland Street – 30.6.08 until 18.7.08
- North Road – 20.7.08 until 31.10.08
- Pavilion Buildings – 28.7.08 until 15.8.08
- Bond Street – 1.9.08 until 19.9.08

Southern have agreed that the works in North Road will be probably the most difficult part to the mains renewal in our area and they will try to keep road closures to small sections. Information will be sent to affected roads.

Making green waves

Sustainability by the sea now comes in the form of Brighton's new, ground-breaking festival Green Wave – where all the fun of the fair will have an ecological twist. Seriously ethical local companies and organisations are working together in producing this amazing festival – but the message is clear: you're not invited to the party unless you are green! The event will be designed around 10 themed Zones and located in Preston Park on 5th and 6th July 2008. Maddy Carr, Assistant City Centre Manager at the Business Forum, and Frank Jay, of New Era Associates are running the event.

"The Green Wave event is designed to help local organisations showcase their green products and services at the same time as educating and entertaining the public." says Maddy. "It will also provide visitors from outside the city with another good reason to visit Brighton in their leisure time and so increase the visitor spend."

Juice FM will be broadcasting live from the event on Saturday and the crowds will enjoy dancing with Juicy Crew and local schools and groups. The plastic bag will be banned, solar power will be the main source of energy, and all entertainment and produce on sale will be sustainable or have an environmentally friendly theme.

To find out more about having a presence at the festival, contact Maddy: maddy.carr@btconnect.com or Frank Jay: frank@neweraassociates.co.uk

Member's website pages.

Brian, our web master will be removing web pages from the NLTA website at the end of May for traders who are not currently 2008 members.

To retain your extra members page and details please ensure David Hall receives your subscription as soon as possible.



The Foyer is ten!

Congratulations to the Foyer in Pelham Street which celebrated its 10th birthday on the 20th of May with an awards ceremony. The Foyer was built on City College land to provide a place for homeless or disadvantaged teenagers to live whilst taking further education courses.

NORTH LAINE TRADERS ASSOC. 2008 SUBSCRIPTION FORM

I would like to be a member of the N.L.T.A. and enclose my subscription fee of £30/£20 (£30 Bond St, Gardner St, Kensington Gardens, Sydney St. All other areas of North Laine £20).

Business.....
Address.....
Telephone No.....
Contact.....
E-mail.....

Please return the completed form & fee to

North Laine Traders

C/O; David Hall, Marks & Co.

100 Church St. Brighton, BN1 1UJ

COMMITTEE

Chair

Sharon Thomas, Off Beat Coffee,
37 Sydney Street, Tel; 604206

Co ordinator

Peter Stocker, Workshop Pottery
94 Trafalgar Street. Tel: 601641

Treasurer

David Hall, Marks and Co.
100 Church Street Tel: 685965

Street Reps

Bond Street

Pat Mernagh, The Animal House
12 Bond Street. Tel; 206836

New Road

David Sewell, Pavilion Gdns Café,
Pavilion Gardens, Tel; 730712

Church Street

David Hall, Marks and Co.
100 Church Street. Tel: 685965

Gardner Street

Colin Grainger, Komedia
Gardner Street, Tel: 647101
Donna & Michael Hell's Kitchen,
4 Gardner Street, Tel; 604925

North Road

Patricia Hawker, Cocovino
32 North Road, Tel 604317

Kensington Gardens

Offers please

Gloucester Road

Lyn, Covet
16 Gloucester Road, Tel:609515

Offers please

Sydney Street

Steve Pypus, Dirty Harry,
6 Sydney Street. Tel; 607527

Trafalgar Street

Eddie Start, Open Spaces
69 Trafalgar Street, Tel: 600897

All information is given in good faith. No liability can be accepted by the NLTA, its officers or members.