

Lions District 410W Sight Newsletter



I have been asked by DG Charlie Flanagan to continue as the Sight Chairperson for the following year. I am passionate about Sight and the difference a pair of spectacles can make in a vision-impaired person's life.

One of my goals last year, when I became involved in this portfolio, was to increase the number of prescriptions the Clubs in District 410W were able to send to Brightsight. I am pleased to say that we had some success as the number of scripts increased from 214 in 2020/21 to 290 in 2021/22, an improvement of 76 prescriptions. The clubs who performed best were Knysna with 143 scripts, Uniondale with 64, Gordon's Bay with 22, Paarl with 21 and Eden with 17 scripts. Well done to all these Clubs.

How does a Lions Club become involved in Vision related projects? Probably the easiest way is the providing of spectacles to needy children and adults. Many optometrists would gladly help their local Lions Club with 2 or more free screenings a month as part of their so-called "social responsibility". The Club then needs to go to www.lionsbright.co.za on the web and click on the "Downloads" and print the prescription form, which can then be taken to the participating optometrist. The form has examples of frames that the patient can choose from. Once the form has been completed it can be scanned and emailed to manager@brightsight.co.za – the office manager is Kirsty McKenzie and she is very helpful. The spectacles, when ready, will then be sent to a business address in your town via Seabourne Couriers at no charge. The price of single vision spectacles is R200, bifocals cost R500 and multifocals are R800. Obviously, a tint would come with an extra cost. The turn around time for getting the spectacles to your Club is around about one week.



A reminder that LCIF has thought it fit to give \$10,000 (over R160 000) to provide needy school children with prescription spectacles. The Brightsight committee saw fit to allocate these funds to 410W. This is a great chance for Clubs who struggle financially to become involved in SIGHT PROJECTS at no financial cost to the Club. Please remember to mark the script as being for a school child and that it is part of the LCIF grant.



Many Clubs are collecting old frames for recycling and then sending these to the Brightsight office in Benoni. This is great, but if you send frames to Brightsight Office, I would ask you to please inform me as I need to keep track of the number of frames a Club has collected (I need these numbers for the District's Vision Award). The award also involves the number of scripts submitted to Brightsight.

I would encourage your Club to become involved in Sight related projects – it can be very rewarding! If I can be of any assistance, please feel free to contact me, my cell is 0832540437 and my email is peterdaniel@mweb.co.za

Peter Daniel
(DC Sight)