

ICU Photographic Society – Claim for use of CSB contingency funds

March 2011

In January of this year, PhotoSoc had one of its most valuable and regularly used pieces of equipment stolen from our darkroom. After two months of appealing for its return and exhaustive searching of second-hand outlets across London and the UK for an item matching its description (with unique cosmetic damage), we have had no luck in locating it or having it returned. It is highly likely that the individual who has taken this item intended it for their own use, and as such we are unlikely to see it again.

The item is a telephoto lens (70-200mm). There is no question of the need to obtain a replacement, as this really was the 'flagship' piece of equipment in our inventory, and had many uses, not least of which was sports photography. As such, this year's coverage of the Varsity day will be impacted by the loss, not to mention other events throughout the year.

A replacement lens would cost £1589 including VAT, so **£1325 excluding VAT**. We have searched extensively, and can guarantee that this is the lowest price in the UK. Having already discussed a possible contingency claim with Media Group, it was decided that the remainder of this year's Media Contingency budget (**£800**) would be allocated to this purchase, **which leaves us £525 short**.

As such, we wish to apply to CSB for the remaining amount. Though we do have £525 available in our SGI, we would point out that this sum is equivalent to 75% of our equipment grant for the year, and spending such a sum on repairing the damage inflicted by one selfish, not to mention criminal, individual would certainly be felt by the rest of our 170 members, since it would mean putting off further spending on equipment for at least another 6 months.

PhotoSoc