



district 1150



The Brecon Rotary Club Newsletter

April 2008

President – John Hopkins
Vice President – Maurice Parry

Club lunches to go

27 of our 38 members attended the Special Meeting at the George Hotel last month to discuss various aspects of Brecon Rotary Club's modus operandi. Although widely differing opinions on a number of important issues were aired by members the meeting was deftly handled by our President and a consensus was achieved on several matters. In particular it was agreed that our lunchtime meetings will be abandoned and be replaced by a business meeting on the first Monday of each month when the Club will consider recommendations

Calling all golfers



Llandrindod Wells Rotary Club will be holding their 14th Annual Charity Golf Competition on Sunday 4th May. Application forms are now available and further details can be obtained from our Assistant Governor, Martyn Dean.

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of Club Council. It was also agreed that meetings will take place at the George and will commence at 6pm with the exception of our 8am breakfast meetings which will continue as before. Club Council is also proposing that the third Monday of each month becomes a breakfast meeting as well. Our regular dinner meetings will continue to take place on both the second and fourth Mondays of each month as at present but at the new time. The new 'regime' will be tried out for a period of six months starting in July to see how well it is received by members.

Alzheimer's Disease

The Club has agreed to donate £500 to the local Carers Association for Alzheimer Patients as the result of a lunchtime talk given to the Club recently by David Hales, their treasurer. The Association is currently looking after 9 patients with this terrible illness and they need to address a shortfall in funding caused by reductions in the assistance previously given by Powys County Council.

Question Time

Gwernyfed High School has won through to the last 12 UK schools in the BBC Schools Question Time Challenge and will be holding their own Question Time event in the school's brand new dining hall on the evening of Wednesday 16th April. Interest groups from the local community have been invited to attend and make up the audience for this event. The panel will include Kirsty Williams, Mark Kerr, chief executive of Powys County Council, and Peter Florence of the Hay Festival. If any club member would like to go along tickets are obtainable by telephoning 01497 847445 or via e-mail to questiontimeteam@gwernyfed-hs.powys.sch.uk.



**Grand Slam 2008
Well done Wales!**

Clive in India (continued)

Here is the next instalment of Clive & Lesley Lillywhite's report on their recent trip to India

We were met at Mumbai airport by a welcoming party of Rotarians and our first garlands. Our first impressions as we drove through the city were accompanied by feelings of terror as we had our first taste of driving on Indian roads. Dual carriageways are turned into 8 lane highways complete with herds of cows on roundabouts, dogs asleep in the road, and everyone swerving to avoid everyone else. We arrived at Umbergaon early evening after a four hour drive north up the west coast. On arrival we

received a traditional Indian welcome (the first of many) from our hosts Malay, Devang and Amaan and their families. The welcome, for each of us, consists of a red dot on the forehead dusted with coconut, and flowers or a garland, accompanied by a bow and 'Namaste' with hands together in a prayer gesture. After an Indian breakfast with our host we visited Rotary projects at three village schools, where the Umbergaon club had supplied fresh drinking water, desks, computers and lavatories. At each Rotary meeting we attended, we gave a presentation by our group, to give the Indian Rotarians a taste of Rotary in Wales. Navsari was our next stop

after travelling northwards up the coast again. Here we visited an exclusive private school, with the most amazing facilities - fees in the region of £1400 per year. Quite a contrast to the simple village schools we had seen the day before.

(to be continued)

Apologies for Meals

No, the headline is not a criticism of culinary standards at the George Hotel but refers to the suggestion that we should resume the former practice of tendering apologies with the management at the George if we do not propose to attend a scheduled Club meeting which includes a meal (even if it is only sandwiches). Our Vice President is concerned

lest we undermine the goodwill which we have built up with the George and there have been a number of instances recently where the staff have been expecting higher attendances for meals than were in fact realised. President Elect Maurice will be discussing this difficult issue with the George management and will report back on the best way of overcoming the problem.

Women in Rotary

The prospective arrival of our first woman member in nearly fifty years of existence precipitated a lively debate at the Special Meeting held last month. The majority of members present at the meeting recognised the need for

the Club to attract more and younger members if it is to survive in an increasingly competitive world. Rotary International in the 21st century is an organisation for business and professional persons of either gender.



Bear Facts No 10

Did you know that Rotary's first emblem was a simple wagon wheel (in motion with dust) representing civilisation and movement?

10 Pin Bowling

The long delayed challenge match against Crickhowell



Rotary Club will now take place on Monday 14th April at 6:30 pm followed by a meal at the George Hotel at 8 pm.

Bottle Rota



- 7th April – Howard Hoare
- 14th April – John Hopkins
- 21st April – Peter Jenkins
- 28th April – Cliff Jones
- 5th May – Gerald Jones
- 12th May – Christian Aid lunch
- 19th May – Clive Lillywhite
- 26th May – Bank Holiday
- 2nd June – John Mallon

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