



The Brecon Rotary Club Newsletter

August 2004

President – Terry Dewan
Vice President – John Nancarrow

Michaelhouse Big Band

The Michaelhouse Big Band were a big success when they performed at Theatr Brycheiniog last month. About 200 Rotarians and guests were present and we understand that some £2000 was raised from the concert by the band for the relief of Aids in South Africa. The Club is grateful to the Army for providing accommodation for the majority of the band members during their stay with us although three

members, including Nelson Mandela’s granddaughter no less!, were put up by our immediate past President Gareth and his wife, Liz, at their home in Llangorse. Thanks also to Brecon Town Council for providing an official Mayoral Reception for the party and to the Brecon Town Band who also performed at the concert. District Governor, Mike Rye, who attended our concert, reported a higher attendance in Brecon than

for the concert performed by the Big Band in Cardiff. A big thank you to Gareth for handling most of the arrangements. Before leaving for the remainder of their UK tour our guests presented our President with a teddy bear and a hand made quilt as a memento of the occasion.



We extend our deepest sympathies to Jim Mellor on the sad loss of his wife, Gill.

Walk on the Wild Side

Mike Oxnard reports that it has been decided to bring forward the scheduled date for the Annual Walk on the Eppynt Ranges to Sunday 5th September. This year

we shall be starting from the Conservation Centre on the B4519. Tickets will be £10 each (children go free).

Beating the Retreat

A number of Rotarians and guests attended the cocktail party and Beating the Retreat ceremony at Sennybridge Camp on a rather cool July evening. On this occasion the ceremony was performed with the usual impeccable precision by some two dozen members of the Royal Marines Band based at

Plymouth under the direction of their bandmaster, WO1 Bdmr Martin. Luckily the rain held off during the ceremony itself and the occasion was enjoyed despite the unseasonable weather. Almost £200 was raised for club funds and thanks are once again due to the Camp Commandant,

Lt. Col. Pat Butler, for making it possible for Rotary members to attend, and to Mike Oxnard for organising the evening on behalf of the Club.



Ten Facts about Rotary (which you probably already knew!)

- ❖ The world's first Rotary club was founded in Chicago in 1905 by Paul P. Harris, a lawyer, with three friends: a merchant, a coal dealer and a mining engineer. He wanted to recapture in a professional club the same friendly spirit that he had felt in the small towns of his youth.
- ❖ The name "Rotary" derived from the early practice of rotating meetings among members' offices.
- ❖ The aim of the club was to pool the resources and talents of members to help communities in need.
- ❖ The club's principal motto is "Service above Self".
- ❖ Rotary's popularity spread throughout the US and then the world. By 1921 Rotary clubs had been formed on six continents and the organisation adopted the name Rotary International a year later.
- ❖ Today there are approximately 1.2 million Rotary club members in 30,000 clubs in 160 countries.
- ❖ Women were first admitted in 1987 and are the fastest-growing segment of its membership. There are about 2000 women club presidents.
- ❖ An endowment fund, set up by Rotarians in 1917 "for doing good in the world", became a not-for-profit corporation known as The Rotary Foundation in 1928.
- ❖ The foundation, which receives contributions of more than \$80 million (£43.7 million) annually, supports humanitarian and educational programmes. One is PolioPlus, a commitment begun in 1985 to eradicate polio by next year.
- ❖ The foundation also awards nearly 1000 scholarships a year for study in another land.

What's Brewin'

Our District Governor, Michael Rye, will be attending our meeting on Monday 16th August which will now be an evening dinner instead of a lunch meeting.

Eppynt Rally

Several Club Members attended the recent car rally on the Eppynt and helped out with car parking and the sale of programmes. Their efforts raised nearly £200 for club funds. We were asked to provide a similar service for the



Brecon Show but our President felt that the fee being offered by the organisers was inadequate considering the amount of work involved. We have said we don't rule out assisting in future years if a suitable inducement is offered.

B & R - first with the news?



Congratulations to the B & R who have excelled themselves yet again by running our piece drumming up support for the Young Musicians Final two months after the event took place!

Meetings this Month

Monday 2nd August
Lunch at the George

Monday 9th August
Bowls Match v Probus

Monday 16th August
NB Dinner at the George

Monday 23rd August
Dinner at the George
(Speaker - Keith Rofe)

Monday 30th August
No Rotary - Bank Holiday

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