



# Bruin

The bear behind

## The Brecon Rotary Club Newsletter

June 2005

President – Terry Dewan  
Vice President – John Nancarrow

### The 'X' Factor

The word 'xylophone' seldom appears in the pages of Bruin but young Rhys Matthews from Bassaleg Comprehensive School played that instrument with great skill and evident enthusiasm before an appreciative audience at Theatr Brycheiniog on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May to win this year's District 1150 Rotary Young Musician of the Year Competition. Rhys who was sponsored by Machen Rotary Club clearly demonstrated his mastery of his chosen instrument in four varied pieces which included George Botsford's Black and White Rag. Runner up in the competition was

trombonist, George Davison, from Radyr Comprehensive School. Compère for the evening was Jeannette Massocchi and the chairman of the judging panel was Helena Braithwaite, a former principal cellist with the National Youth Orchestra of Wales, who delivered a comprehensive analysis of the performance of each of the finalists. Our District Governor, Michael Rye, was unable to attend as he was representing the District at a Rotary conference in Bulgaria so his place was taken by Immediate Past Governor Howard Griffiths who presented the prizes and thanked our Club for once again organising this important annual event.

### Brass with strings

Sam Rowe, a young member of Brecon Town Band, has approached the Club for financial assistance towards the purchase of his own trumpet. Club Council has agreed to contribute £250 providing Sam can demonstrate that he has raised the remainder of the cost by his own efforts.



### Terry's All Gold!

Congratulations, Terry, on a very successful and active twelve months as our President. Now you can relax for a bit and return to the back benches for a well-earned rest.

### More Tea, Vicar?

Taylor's of Harrogate, makers of the famous Yorkshire Tea, in association with the Rotary Club of Harrogate have generously donated a large number of tea caddies each containing 80 tea bags to RIBI to celebrate the work of Rotary International as it enters its second century. Each caddy plus contents

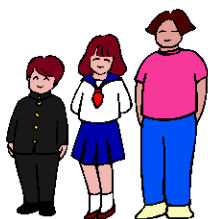
is worth £4. Our President Elect, John Nancarrow, returned from his attendance at the District Assembly in Swansea last month bearing enough caddies for each club member which he is selling at a suggested price of £5 per caddy. This represents a modest premium on the normal retail price but all

funds go to support the work of the Rotary Foundation which is RI's own charity so if you haven't purchased your caddy yet please see John now.



## Young Carers in Powys

Sue Hitch, an outreach support worker for young carers, came along to our evening meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> May to tell us all about her work with young carers in our area. She is one of three outreach workers covering Powys and each has some 50/60 young carers on file. Some of the carers for whom Sue provides much needed support virtually run the whole household themselves being responsible for such things as cooking and cleaning for parents and siblings, looking



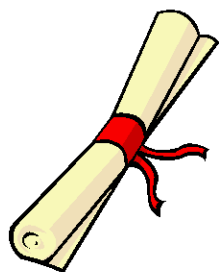
after the family finances and much else besides. Some of her charges are as young as 12. Some young carers find it difficult to cope with the demands of their families as well as those of school and Sue is often called on to intercede on their behalf with teachers as well as with their own family members. The provision of respite for the young carers is another very important part of her work and Sue organises a regular weekly group providing mutual support at Brecon Leisure Centre where they can come to relax and unburden themselves. She is also hoping to start a 'drop in' centre

for them at Brecon High School. Annual weekend breaks away from home are also organised. Walford Morgan thanked Sue for performing a stressful but important job and informed members that another charity providing relief for carers is one of the charities selected for support by our Rotary District next year. Two places have also been secured on the next RYLA Camp specifically for young carers through the auspices of Crickhowell Rotary Club.

## Scholarship Fund

The Club's Scholarship Fund is to be wound up. Club Council has been concerned for some time that the Scholarship Fund was no longer fulfilling its original purpose and with only some £1300 in the fund and little prospect of significant increase there are insufficient monies available to provide scholarships for young persons as originally envisaged. Accordingly, with the support of the Council, the Fund's Trustees led by John Mallon

have arranged for the remaining monies in the Fund to be dispersed between five worthy young people from the Brecon area to assist them in undertaking planned educational trips to foreign locations. The total amount available for distribution will be rounded up to £1500 by transfer from the charity account. John has reported to Club Council on the five applications submitted and they have each been approved by members of Council.



## What's Brewin'?

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June - Kids Out  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June - Club Assembly  
Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> June - Up the Crug  
Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June - Bowls v Probus  
Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June - Charter Night

## Eleanor Rhys

The Club extends its sincere condolences to Sylvan Rhys on the recent loss of his wife Eleanor.

## Bottle Rota

13<sup>th</sup> June - Jim Mellor  
20<sup>th</sup> June - Walford Morgan  
27<sup>th</sup> June - Nick Morrell  
4<sup>th</sup> July - John Nancarrow  
11<sup>th</sup> July - Brian Newman

## Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June

Please note that this will now be an evening meeting as we shall be entertaining members of the Rotary Caravan Club who will be paying another visit to our area. Spouses are welcome to join us at this dinner.

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