



The Brecon Rotary Club Newsletter

November 2007

Young Chef

The Club Round of this year's Competition will be held at Brecon High School on Monday 12th November replacing the dinner at the George originally scheduled for that evening. The competition begins for the 8 participants at 5pm and Club Members and guests are invited to come along at 7pm when there will be a cooking demonstration by Janet Williams of Pilgrims Restaurant followed by a buffet at 8pm. The



adjudicator, as last year, will be professional chef Ivan Langford.



Xmas Fayre

As the Brecon Xmas Fayre proved to be such a useful fund raiser for the Club last year we have decided to take a stall once again offering chances to win a variety of soft toys. The Fayre will be taking place on Saturday 24th November and prizes have been ordered and the pitch booked. A list seeking help with setting up, selling and taking down has been circulating and Club members who are able to help on the day are encouraged to sign it.

Weekly Bottle Raffle



There have been a number of instances recently where Club Members have forgotten to bring along a bottle to be raffled when it is their turn to do so. Club Council are asking that all Members check the bottle rota in Bruin carefully each month and remember to bring their bottle along to the appropriate meeting. The weekly raffle is a useful fund-raiser for the Club and produces about £600 annually.

Paul Harris Celebration Dinner

Monday 3rd December at 7.15 for 7.30, cost £11.00 per head.

At this dinner the District Governor, Roy Blacker, and Assistant District Governor, Martyn Dean, will be attending to present Paul Harris Fellowships to the 21 former Club Presidents who remain members of Brecon Rotary Club.

The presentation to each of the Past Presidents is given as a celebration and recognition of the achievements of the whole Club during their year of office.

Each will be presented with a commemorative certificate, a pin and a medallion.

All members are invited to bring wives to this auspicious occasion and those receiving the fellowships may bring such other guests as they feel appropriate.

The occasion should provide a significant opportunity to publicise the work that the club has done in the community.

NOTE For those recipients who are unable to attend the formal presentation on 3rd December there will be an informal presentation during the Christmas Lunch on 17th December when guests will also be welcome to attend.

Speaker Report - Mrs Ingrid Gallagher

Once again I am grateful to Peter Jenkins for contributing this article - Ed.

Ingrid Gallagher, the Head of Brecon High School, came to speak to the club, armed with an excellent computer-driven series of pictures and film clips. She has been in post in Brecon since the Spring, after having been at Perry Beeches School, Birmingham for seven years previously. She described the conditions at this school in a multi racial part of Birmingham, and how she had improved the academic results

there from terrible to average against the background of the difficult life styles of many of the pupils. Compared with that, her Brecon High School pupils were 'diamonds.' She said that her aim was to make them well-rounded (nothing to do with eating) citizens, and the school, a part of the community. What you needed as a headteacher was humour, strength of character and helicopter vision, she added. Teachers could build somebody up or pull somebody down, and Ingrid's aim was to employ inspirational staff wherever possible. In terms of good

citizenship, she said that Rotary might well be able to provide role models for pupils in practical ways not elaborated upon. .John, our President, echoed her remarks about the poor financial settlement schools in Powys were receiving, both Welsh Assembly Government and Powys CC milking the per capita amounts recommended by UK Government. Altogether, Ingrid showed vibrancy and enthusiasm during her presentation and was well received by the Club: she seemed to enjoy herself too!.

Xmas Puds

John Nancarrow is collecting orders for Xmas Puddings which are sold in support of Adopt a Minefield (sounds dangerous! - Ed). Those who tried the puddings last year pronounced them excellent so please let John know if you would like one - they cost £10, which includes the charitable contribution.

Bottle Rota

5th November – Brian Newman 12th November – Morlais Owens 19th November – Maurice Parry 26th November – Ian Richards 3rd December – Peter Scott 10th December – Terry Stephens 17th December – Brian Strawford 24th December – No Rotary 31st December – No Rotary 7th January – Barry Tomlinson

Cally Market

Although the final result wasn't known at time of going to press preliminary indications are that another record has been broken with this year's final figure likely to exceed an incredible

£7000!

Well done Handel and family and thanks once again to all his hardworking team members.

A Taste of Japan

The Zone Presentation by our Japanese visitors from the Osaka region took place at the George on Monday 15th October. There was a good attendance from other clubs in our Zone and the evening was hosted by our own President John and Assistant District Governor, Martyn Dean. The delegates clad in their colourful

yukata told us about themselves and their interests and described the area of Japan which they were representing. They concluded with a demonstration of the Japanese Tea Ceremony when we were all given an opportunity to try some authentic Japanese green tea which was served in traditional wooden bowls. We also learned

how to do calligraphy. A letter has subsequently been received from the Assistant Governor thanking our President for the Club's contribution to a successful evening and in particular thanking our member John Wiggins for kindly entertaining the delegation on 17th October.

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