



Brewin

The bear behind

The Brecon Rotary Club Newsletter

October 2005

President – John Nancarrow
Vice President – Andrew Wakley

Caledonian Market

The time of our annual monster jumble rapidly approaches so now is the opportunity to be getting all your contributions together. After our tremendous effort last year when over £5000 was raised the target has now been raised to £6000! Handel will once again be masterminding the fund-

raiser for us and, as usual, plenty of help will be needed not only with setting up and on the day itself (Saturday 5th November) but also with clearing up on the following day.



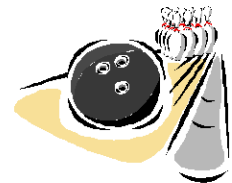
Quiz Night

The first match of the new season is to be held on Monday 24th October when we play Ebbw Vale at the Rhyd y Blew. If anyone would like to join the team please let our President know.



WHAT'S BREWIN'?

Wednesday 23rd November – We take on Crickhowell Rotary Club at 10 pin bowling. Lets hope we can beat them at this even if we can't at golf (see elsewhere in this issue for the golf match result).



For those of you who are organised enough to maintain diaries many months in advance you may also care to note that the next Stroke Awareness Day will take place at the Guildhall on Friday 7th April 2006 and the Final of the 2006 Young Musician of the Year competition will be held at Theatr Brycheiniog on Saturday 13th May 2006. Denzil is anticipating that this latter event will attract over 500 entrants across the District next year.

Speakers Corner

Speaker Secretary Brian Strawford has been lining up some interesting speakers for us so do please turn up to hear what they have to say and show them what a lively club we are! Here's the current line-up

10th October - Brigadier Cholerton who is the top army officer in Wales based at HQ Wales in the Barracks at Brecon will be our guest

speaker at this dinner.

7th November - Stephen Perks, Head Teacher, Brecon High School, who is a well known athletics coach, will be coming along to talk to us about the current state of athletics in England and Wales.

Brian will be advising us of other speakers in due course.

District Governor Visit

Our DG David Wiltshire came along to our dinner meeting on 22nd August . Answering a query David reminded us that all clubs are considered to be autonomous by RIBI and District and it is up to each individual club to decide what proportion of the funds it raises it wishes to devote to international, national or local causes.

Botticelli's Bonfire



For their latest production the National Youth Theatre of Wales chose a very different theme from Whispers in the Woods, last year's production at the Sherman. Botticelli's Bonfire was set against the turbulent background of Renaissance Florence at the time of the Medici. The play's anti hero, Niccolo Machiavelli, whose name has become a byword for political intrigue, relives through a series of flashbacks the rise and fall of the Dominican friar, Savonarola. Seen by some as a saint and by others as a dangerous revolutionary he dared to challenge the power of the Medici, and even the Pope himself, a challenge which

culminated in the famous 'Bonfire of the Vanities' when he and his followers ordered the burning of the finery of the rich and privileged rulers of Florence in his quest to recreate Florence as 'the City of God'. (I hope you're following all this chaps as Peter will probably be including it in one of his quizzes at some stage!) In the play Machiavelli undertakes one last mission - to find with the help of the now blind painter Sandro Botticelli his famous painting, the Primavera, condemned as profane but rescued from the flames, and restore it to the resurgent Medici after the fall of Savonarola. Although set in 15th C Italy the play deals with themes of religious fanaticism and political intrigue and the lust for power and influence which

are still relevant to our own times. The large cast put on a lively performance which was very well played by the principal characters. We are grateful to Andrew for organising the visit for us and the meal at Tipple 'n' Tiffin beforehand.

Golf Match

For some inexplicable reason considering the number of members we have playing off low handicaps we lost the recent golf match at Cradoc against our Crickhowell colleagues. The trophy, having been retrieved from a dusty corner of Brian Strawford's office where it had apparently been languishing for some time, was presented by our President to the Crickhowell captain, Stuart Bradley, at a very enjoyable and convivial post match dinner at the George.

Bottle Rota

10th October - Bob Wood
17th October - Mervyn Woodward
25th October (GSE night) - Geoff Wooltorton
31st October - Bert Banning
7th November - Pat Butler
14th November - Eddie Coates



Cuba

John Hopkins and Peter Jenkins did a double act on Cuba for us on 12th September taking us to a strange but beautiful time warp country where horse drawn transport is still prevalent and the fortunate drive around in immaculately maintained American cars dating from the 1950s. The sound of salsa music is everywhere and the poverty of the country's people contrasts

with new tourist developments. Education is free and of a high standard but all families have ration books and the economy is still rigidly controlled as befits one of the world's last surviving communist states.



Flying Visit

Our intrepid aviator Brian "Biggles" Strawford recently joined a Rotary 'Fly-In' at Norwich Airport when he and his colleagues were entertained by members of Norwich Rotary Club. He brought greetings and best wishes to President John from the President and Members of the host club. Brecon Members will recall we hosted a similar event several years ago when a number of Rotarians from all over the country flew in to Shobdon.

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