

Bruin

District 1150



BRECON ROTARY UPDATE, INFORMATION, NEWS

December 2008

President Maurice wishes all club members and their families and friends a very HAPPY CHRISTMAS



Three fine young people whom we had sent on a Rotary Youth Leadership Activity Course (RYLA) came to our evening meeting of the 27th October to report on how it had been for them. Nicholas, Eleanor and Bethany took it in turns to recount their experiences including gorge walking, canoeing, and caving. Each had to lead an activity at times. All three said it had been spectacularly enjoyable.



HELP REQUIRED.....

AT THE Christmas Fayre on the 29th November Anyone who can, should put their names down to service the furry dog stall we have taken for that day. Children who win a dog are delighted and the proceeds go to a worthy charity each year. Those upset children who don't win are often given a soft toy saved from the Caledonian Market



MUSIC TO HANDEL'S EARS

Extraordinary was the only word for it. The net yield from the 2008 Caledonian Market was £8200 (an 18% increase on last year and one of 1000% since 1978!). Handel Davies, his family and friends together with some very supportive Rotarians collected a barn-full of items from hundreds of homes throughout the area for most of October. On the actual day, an army of Rotarians and their adherents joined, to man (or woman) the stalls to produce that mammoth total. Over 1000 people came into the Market Hall looking for a bargain, and lots of them went home satisfied. Even the clearing up the next day was highly organised. The event has become a Brecon institution. Good one, Handel, and many thanks for masterminding it once again.

Forthcoming Events

- Dec 1st AGM & business meeting at 7pm with the meal at 6pm
- Dec 8th time to be confirmed. Speaker meeting
- Dec 15th- Christmas Dinner 7.30pm at Tipple & Tiffin (book with Anthony Edwards)
- Dec 22nd-Xmas Lunch 1pm
- Dec 22nd Christmas Singalong at Cathedral at 7.30pm
- Dec 29th & Jan 5th-No meetings
- Jan 12th-tbc. Evening meeting
- Jan 14th- Young chef at High School
- Jan 15th-Young Musician at Gwernyfed (please support)
- Jan 19th-Breakfast at 8am
- Jan 26th-Evening meeting
- Prize scatter in March: (3rd week). Prizes for the furthest scatter, the most other clubs in the week, and the most original destination.

President MAURICE PARRY
Vice President ANTHONY EDWARDS

Bruin editor.
Peter Jenkins 018974-622606
peter.jenkins18@btinternet.com





Bottle Rota

December 1st-	Richard Doylend
December 8th	Anthony Edwards
December 15th	Ingrid Gallagher
December 22nd	Gareth Griffiths
January 5th	Denzil Hackford
January 12th	Howard Hoare
January 19th	John Hopkins
January 26th	Peter Jenkins

BACK TO THE FUTURE

At the Council meeting on November 20th, there was a review of the arrangements for Club Meetings. We don't have many rotarians in the club who have full-time jobs, but it was thought when we changed our hours to the 6pm kick-off, that this would help them, and that it would encourage new recruits to Rotary. However, those working rotarians consulted have found the new hours to be inconvenient, and would prefer to go back to the 7.30pm start. Council have agreed and the Club is to be asked to consider this as a matter of urgency. There is no plan to revert to lunch-time meetings, but the breakfast meeting on the third Monday will remain in place. If everyone agrees, the change can happen soon.



One of the Club's least well-known paid-up members, Pat Butler is back in Brecon more frequently these days. He says that his association with Brecon began 43 years ago, in 1965, when as a newly joined soldier he came here to do his basic field training. He was surprised to find himself many years later becoming the Chief Instructor at Dering Lines and settling down in this area. He finished his service in the army with the rank of Lt Colonel and since then has been in the private sector, visiting various theatres of war and risking his life from time to time. He comments that because of his long army career and subsequent trips abroad on duty, it is difficult to single out just one specific achievement, but he has enjoyed all the Derring-do (no pun intended). He has vivid mental pictures of the past, from helping to shape army training, to being in the Falklands War, and to running relief operations in Bangladesh. On a more local level, he is proud of being responsible for the creation of the Eppynt Way. About Brecon, Pat says that it is a lovely town in which to live. He never fails to be amazed by the countryside in which it sits and at how much of the old town still exists. In his words, you only have to look from the Usk bridge up at the rooftops to sense the history. However, Brecon these days lacks a theme on which to build an enduring future, and is still searching for it. Pat says that he has always admired Rotary right from the days when his grandfather was a Rotarian in Pudsey. He likes the mix of the camaraderie and the charity work for the community. As long as it raises his spirits, Pat's musical tastes are wide ranging from the stirring music of Wagner to the nasal tones of the Bee Gees. He is a Rugby fan, supporting England mainly, but also following Wales as well. As you might expect for a hands-on chap, his real passions are sailing and flying. In fact, he has aspirations of becoming Brecon's second flying rotarian. He has had some wonderful holiday opportunities, flying around Canada, sea fishing off Kenya and sailing off France and in the Mediterranean. He cites his best holiday experiences as being with Denise on a dhow in the Oman, in a game reserve in the Emirates, and in an unfinished Eco lodge in the Gambia. After all this excitement, it is good that Pat has come home to Brecon at last.

Price of a litre of petrol /diesel at 21st November	
Petrol 89.9 pence	Diesel 104.9 pence