



BRUIN



NEWSLETTER OF BRECON ROTARY CLUB

Forthcoming events

**Happy New Year to
all members of
Brecon Rotary and
their Partners**

Monday 25 January 2021

Speaker meeting:-

Kim Brook - 'Keira
Knightley is my mother'

Monday 1 February

Business meeting

Monday 8 February

Ordinary meeting

Monday 15 February

Fun night

Monday 22 February

Speaker meeting

Brecon Rotary displays artwork

Brecon Rotary has taken over an empty shop in Bethal Square to display artwork produced by local school children. Seven local primary schools have contributed to the display which parents and members of the public can view since they are cannot go into the schools at present. Thanks to Roger and Gareth for organising such a lovely display.



Recent donations

President Anne presented a cheque for £2,000 to Powys Social Services team for their Christmas Santa Appeal, which was used to provide Christmas presents for children who would otherwise have nothing to open on Christmas Day.

The Autumn round of the Community Chest resulted in 3 local organisations being chosen to receive funds. Cheques will be presented shortly.



A mini caledonian market

The Covid restrictions meant we had to cancel our annual Caledonian Market but President Anne still managed to organise a stall in the market hall, selling various items which raised just over £200 for Rotary.

Roger organised a special meeting on 9 November involving a commemoration to people's lives in war. There were personal stories related by Peter, Maurice & Brian Birtles, together with an illustrated talk by Pat Blake about a member of his family involved in the 1st WW, who served in both France & Palestine.

Brecon Rotary Club has earned the Rotary Citation, the most significant award a Rotary club can achieve. On presenting the award, Julia Donohoe of R.I. said that 'the Club had demonstrated a commitment to achieve its goals.'

Member spotlight - Pat Blake

Pat attended school in Surrey, leaving at 15; his first job was working in a factory renovating large machine tools used by industry.

Pat spent time in the Scouts where he learnt how to carry out Artificial Resuscitation, which came in very useful when he was on holiday in Majorca. A young girl drowned in the hotel pool and Pat saved her life by applying Artificial Resuscitation. (A moving story and good to hear that someone has actually used this in practice! Ed.)

Pat & Margaret bought their home in Llanfihangel Nant Bran in 2004, using it initially as a holiday home usually visiting weekly for 24 hours when Margaret had her day off, so she could type her sermon and get away from the telephone at the Rectory.

Pat worked for 50 years in the property business and ended up with his own estate agency; for his last 10 years he concentrated on property management, dealing mainly with one client who would not allow him to retire until she no longer wished to let property! Pat loves fishing (fly and coarse) and gardening; his favourite places to travel are Canada, Egypt and on safari.

