

District 1150



July 2018

# BRUIN

## Brecon Rotary Update, Information & News



Charter Night 2018

*The old order changeth yielding place to new*

During the Club's annual Charter Night, held in the Castle Hotel on 7 July, **Owen** passed the reins of government to **Hayley**.



**Owen** with **Hayley** and the Mayor of Brecon, Cllr Manny Trailor

The guest speaker was Sally Morris of Usk House Hospice in Brecon, part of St David's Hospice Care. She described how rewarding a job it was to raise funds for this cause, and how important it was that they were now also offering a hospice-at-home service—with teams of nurses enabling patients to remain in their own homes.

- **Glyn**



## Outgoing President on the year past

They said it would fly by and indeed it has. Being Club President has been an enjoyable experience despite the regular bouts of impostor syndrome and just when I am getting used to responding when people say “You had better speak to the President about that,” it’s over.

During the year, the Club has completed (at least) 20 projects, raised £16,000, and 16,000 volunteer hours have been contributed to the community under the Rotary banner. I think this is a truly fantastic figure and when people are talking about age profiles and dropping membership numbers we only need to look at that number to know that Rotary is alive and well in Brecon. I know other clubs look on with a hint of envy. It is because we are willing to embrace new ideas, flex with the times and reinvent ourselves a little with every passing year that we continue to thrive, so I hope we continue to do so and be the sort of organisation that people really want to join in order to really live the motto of service above self.

The joy of Rotary is that its strength comes from team work and every single member has played a part in making the Club the success it is. Never more is this evident than during the period around the Caledonian Market. **Anne** marshalled a crack team this year and, while there is always a little anxiety about all the things that could go wrong, the generosity of the people of Brecon and a willingness to get stuck in really pull it all together in the end.

The year has, of course, had sad moments. The loss of two of our number has been felt keenly and although I did not have the opportunity to get to know either Wyndham or Jim very well it has reminded me to make the most of life as you never know what is around the corner, and to be grateful for the friendships and fellowship that we have. I hope their souls rest in peace.

While I have said there is much to be grateful for, my particular thanks go to the committee chairs and council members who have made council meetings so enjoyable. I would also like to thank **Clive** and others for all the hours that have gone into installing and maintaining the wishing well. I suspect that the volunteer hours total above doesn’t really do justice to the number of hours that have gone into planning and preparing it. It is already proving its worth and before we know it I hope we will have recouped our initial expenditure.

One of the things that makes our club unique is the pig. **Peter** has an uncanny way of extracting information from us and I have often found myself telling him things that I perhaps should have kept to myself. He does it with such a kind smile that I really do think the security services are missing a trick. Never a week goes by without the pig teaching me something, so thank you, Peter, and please keep up the good work.

Finally, and most importantly, I would like to express my thanks to **Hayley**. The Rotary edict says family and work come first and during my year as President they have both meant that I have not been as present as much as perhaps I would have liked, but whenever I was away I always knew that Hayley would be there to take up the reins and keep the club going from strength to strength. I know Hayley is going to be an excellent President and will certainly be a hard act to follow so I am glad I got in there first. Thank you, Hayley, and I wish you the very best in your year as President.

- **Owen**



## Incoming President on the year ahead

With less than a week since **Owen** handed over the baton of a very engaged and active club, I hope I can do you proud by taking us forward, and making sure that we continue to have fun and fellowship along the way.



I was asked what I wanted to achieve during my year as President. A very good question indeed, and one which didn't have me thinking for too long. The Public Image team have got off to a great start, thank you, with an article and photograph in the *Brecon & Radnor* about the Charter Night, which I hope those of you who attended enjoyed, and my sincere thanks must go to Sally Morris for giving us a very informative talk about Usk House and how it has grown over the years. Sally was also presented with her Paul Harris Fellowship by Past President Owen, and I think it is fair to say that she was slightly shell shocked, but a very deserving recipient.

My year starts with a fundraiser this weekend when we are supporting the Nicky Grist Rally up on the Epynt. Hopefully the weather will be on our side; it isn't always the case as I am sure **Anne** will testify!

As a club we cover a wide geographical area, and I would like us to take 'Rotary on the Road' into some of the more rural communities we serve, to show them what Rotary does and hopefully encourage a few people to join at the same time.

We will be attending some of the local agricultural shows, and we would like to encourage local organisations to share our tent with us on these occasions, showing Rotary is here to support others. We will continue and expand our support to the younger members of our community, and forge new relationships with other support organisations to ensure we are reaching as wide an audience as possible to participate in our youth activities.

I would like us to explore, and hopefully start, a water or sanitation project overseas, possibly with Under the Mango Tree as a partner. Water, and clean hands, are basic needs that we take for granted, but not everyone is as lucky as we are. I also want us to continue to work towards eradicating polio by continuing to support the End Polio and Purple for Polio campaigns by raising awareness, fundraising, lighting up Brecon and planting 10,000 crocus corms, eek!

Before I get too carried away and frighten everyone, I would like to finish by thanking all the members of Brecon Rotary Club for their support, fellowship and friendship, and I very much look forward to working with you over the coming year.

- Hayley



## Members out and about



supporting ShelterBox at the All Wales Scout Camp at Llanelwedd



presenting the Club's cheque to the Head Coach of Brecon & District Amateur Swimming Club



enjoying Summer Solstice on the Crug



earning promotion to ADG



socialising with HRH



## Tales from the shed – part 5



### Transport

We are indebted to all Rotarians for providing transport for collections and deliveries, although larger items require vans and trailers for collections rather than the usual back of the car. Transporting to the Market Hall on the Friday night involves a fleet of trailers loaded to capacity by a team of volunteers in the shed. Clive has a very useful large trailer with canvas sides which is used for the bulky electrical items. However, in the early days, Clive's reversing skills meant it

sometimes took him almost as long to get his trailer into the shed as it took to load it up. At the Market Hall, our dutiful traffic attendants have to ensure that the yard is clear of cars to allow him room to back the trailer into the limited space to unload. Now, after several years at the job, Clive's reversing skills have noticeably improved!!

### Difficult Deliveries

A feature of the Caledonian Market is the offer to deliver larger items within the town. A lady purchased a rather nice three-seater settee and asked if we could deliver to her house in The Struet. No problem, except that when we got there we found that it was an older style house with narrow doors. We got the settee in through the front door but got stuck trying to get through the inner door. "Never mind," said the lady, "I want it in the basement and you can get it down the old coal chute in the roadside pavement." Off we went and tried to get it down the chute but the problem arose when the settee got stuck half way in and it started to pour with rain. Eventually, after half an hour of pushing and shoving, the settee was pulled out and left on the pavement for the family to decide how to get it inside the house, and we made a quick getaway.

- Gareth



### Dates for the diary

14 July	Nicky Grist Rally	4 August	Brecon Show
16 July	DG visit	6 August	Business meeting
23 July	Speaker meeting	13 August	Speaker meeting
30 July	Breakfast meeting	20 August	Fun night: Bowls

## Speakers

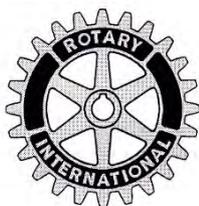
23 July	Misha Pedersen, Wye and Usk Foundation
13 August	John Gibbs, Chairman, Brecknock Society & Museum Friends
10 September	Louis Mahendra, Lotus Fund
15 October	Mary Adams, Public Image Chair, Rotary Southern Wales

## Bottle Rota

16 July	Cath Quarrell	20 August	Paul Tambling
23 July	Roger Reese	3 September	Barry Tomlinson
30 July	Hayley Ridge-Evans	17 September	Andrew Wakley
6 August	Neil Sandford	24 September	Brian Birtles
13 August	Terry Stephens		



**From the archives**



# BRUIN

November 1999

**PRESIDENT:** James Mellor

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Peter Jenkins

Club meets Mondays 2nd &  
4th Evenings at 7:15pm  
1st & 3rd lunchtimes at 1pm  
5th Breakfast at 7:30am

**FOR THE DIARY**

20th December 1999  
Special General Meeting at George  
Hotel for the election of officers



## NEWS

### District Millennium Project – “Walk for Maputo”

This walk was very successful, the weather for the weekend being particularly kind. Twelve Rotarians with wives and friends completed the walk. Those Rotarians that walked and other Rotarians have already handed sponsorship money and/or donations to Mike Oxnard. Will those Rotarians who have not yet made a donation and intend to do so please see Mike within the next few days.

### Young Musician District Final

Members will be aware that the club is again to host this final on 19th May 2000 at Theatr Brycheiniog. Please make sure that this date is noted in your diaries.

### Luncheon Meeting January 3rd 2000

Although this date is a Bank Holiday The George Hotel is open and will be happy to accommodate us. Will we have had enough of the seasons festivities and look forward to a meeting on this date? Please give your preference to Peter Jenkins to allow him to make the necessary arrangements.

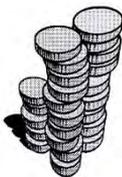
### **Raffle Bottles**

22/11 Gerald Jones  
29/11 John Morrell (Breakfast)  
06/11 John Nancarrow  
13/12 Morlais Owens  
20/12 Mike Tompkinson  
03/01 Terry Stephens  
10/01 Howard Vaughan  
17/01 John Parry  
24/01 Maurice Parry



### **Bottle Raffle Proceeds**

So far in November  
(including 10th) £59  
has been collected  
from the bottle raffle.



### Millennium Dinner

The Dinner will be held at Coleg Powys on Monday 10th January at 7:30pm. The college can cater for the first 45 people to put their names forward and the cost will be £12.50 per person. The menu will consist of:

Salmon Mousse with Spiced Pears or  
Chestnut Soup with Bacon and Thyme

•  
Seared Monkfish or  
Beef on a Cushion

•  
Plus desserts and coffee.

by courtesy of **Brian** Matthews, newly appointed Honorary Member of the Club