



BRUIN

Brecon Rotary Update Information News



DG David with Brecon sponsored RYLA students 2013

BRECON YOUNGSTERS IN THE LIMELIGHT

On 14th October 2013, Brecon Rotary Club held their 3rd Young Speakers Evening. The event was attended by the DG, David Curtis, the AG, Christine Bayliss, the Mayor of Brecon, and the 3 Head Teachers from the surrounding High Schools and College.

The evening got underway with 6 students the Club sponsored to attend RYLA, David Robinson and Ffion Davies from Brecon High School, Patrick Dempsey and Jake Brockwell from Christ College and Ben Dunster and Lucia Jones from Gwernyfed High School. The students gave presentations in their pairs, giving the audience a flavour of their experiences (both good and bad), and what they had learnt during their week at Dolygaer. Both Patrick and Jake were able to use this week at RYLA as their Residential Module towards their Gold DofE Award.

We then heard from Huntingdon House, a Community Interest Company that inspires young people to participate in the DofE Awards. Last year the Club donated money for the purchase of kit and equipment for expeditions, and this year a donation was given to help offset travel costs. The scheme has become so popular that this year they have over 60 students who want to participate in all 3 D ofE Standards (Bronze, Silver and Gold).

Our next speaker was Chloe Williams, who had a few weeks earlier given the Club a presentation on her experiences in India whilst working with the charity, International Citizen Service (ISC). Chloe, had been sponsored by Newport RC to go on this trip, and on her return wanted to spread the word about ISC. Her presentation was so enthusiastic that we asked her to come back and speak at the Young Speakers Evening, where she could inform the students in the audience of some of the opportunities available to them.

Our final speaker was Eric Blackwell, the District Youth Exchange Officer who gave a very informative talk on Rotary Youth Exchange, during which the 3 Head Teachers were seen to be scribbling notes furiously, let's hope there are some takers from the Brecon Area next year.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 23rd December
Christmas Lunch

Monday 30th December
No meeting

2014

Monday 6th January
Dinner - Speaker

Monday 13th January
Dinner Meeting

Monday 20th January
Film Night - Zulu

Wednesday 22nd January
Burns Night at the George

Monday 27th January
Dinner - Speaker

Wednesday 29th January
Council meeting

Saturday 1st February
Young Musician - Area final

Monday 3rd February
Business Meeting

Thursday 6th February
*Young Chef - Area final
Brecon High School*

Monday 10th February
Vision Meeting

Monday 17th February
Fun night - tba

Monday 24th February
Dinner - Speaker

Wednesday 26th February
Council Meeting

Monday 3rd March
St. David's Day Dinner



A special mention was given to those who the Club has sponsored this year, but were unable to attend this evening.

Penmaes School: We are in our 2nd year of a 3 year promise of £1,000 a year. Last year the 4 students we supported gained their Gold DofE Awards. This year the school is revisiting Romania with a new group of students who are trying to gain their Gold Award.

Lowri Davies went to Peru with the charity Childreach International for which the Club contributed £250 to her costs.

A contribution of £300 was donated to Ellie Davies who went to Burkina Faso in West Africa with International Service.

And finally £300 was donated to Ella Hogg who went to Uganda with East Africa Playgrounds,

We have yet to hear from Lowri, Ellie & Ella, but it is hoped that they will come along to the Club in the not to distant future to tell us of their experiences.

Derek Adams

Bottle Rota



Monday 23rd December

Paul Tambling

Monday 30th December

No meeting

2014

Monday 5th January

Barry Tomlinson

Monday 13th January

Barbara Traverts

Monday 20th January

No Bottle

Wednesday 22nd January

Andrew Wakley

Monday 27th January

Markus Warwick

Monday 3rd February

Geoff Woollorton

Monday 10th February

Derek Adams

Monday 17th February

Brian Birtles

Monday 24th February

Pat Blake

Monday 3rd March

Hywel Davies

Monday 10th March

Terry Dewan

Monday 17th March

Anthony Edwards

WORLD TRADE FAIR



Part of the sales team. Not many shoppes escaped the net in the Coop.

The Caledonian journey started at the Guild Hall on the 5th October selling raffle tickets, continuing at the Coop on 26th. It is the third year Rotary have attended the World Fair Trade event, with the challenge to sell more tickets than last year. The second prize, rotary hamper, was on display which drew a lot of interest. Barry was crowned raffle seller of the day, but we feel a head to head with Peter is on the cards.

Overall it was a very successful day with 240 tickets being sold, and another opportunity to engage with the community, and to introduce a new member to the Caledonian experience.

Mike Evans



Photo for the Month from Wyndham Jones



I have a photo of my dog "Snowy", so called because when I was discussing with a local farmer about buying one of his pups It started to snow. Having bought him and not long afterwards I was called to Cardiff for a triple by-pass, but had no one in Pentrebach to look after him. A daughter of a big friend of mine in Scunthorpe said that she would look after him as it would be company for her own young dog. I took Snowy up to her about a week before I went into hospital. Unfortunately as I was being prepared for my operation a Nurse came in and told me to go home as they didn't have a recovery bed for me. I was told to go back 2 weeks later, which I did, but the same thing happened again. I was sent home and told to go back two weeks later again. This I did and had my op.

It was 5 or 6 weeks later that I would have been strong enough to drive up to Scunthorpe, but by that time Snowy had made such a strong bond with the other dog that I didn't have the heart to break them up so I left him there permanently. He is a firm favourite of the family and friends and is loved by all who come into contact with him.

GOLF WITH CRICKHOWELL

The annual match for the Usk Valley Shield was once again played at Cradoc Golf Club on Oct 7th, the weather was excellent with all of us in shirt sleeve order. Crickhowell fielded 7 well seasoned golfers whilst we could only manage 4, 2 of whom were very much unseasoned, that showed in

the result. Crickhowell won 26 points to our 19, a thorough trouncing. However, undaunted we accepted their challenge to do it again next year. A convivial evening was had by all at the George where we were joined by 9 Crickhowell rotarians.
Brian Strawford





FUN NIGHT

Fun Monday on 21st October consisted of the second bout of progressive whist that the Club had experienced. This time there were 25 players, but unfortunately (or fortunately) for Mike Stratford, his slightly late arrival meant that he remained a spectator throughout the hour of play. We were dealt six hands during the hour, and the points earned ranged between 32 and 44. New boy Paul and his wife, Angela, scored the highest, and newish boy Markus and his wife, Sam, the lowest. Prizes were awarded accordingly to both couples. Thanks go to Clive for his persistent E mails resulting in the good turn-out, and Les, the Hotel Manager, for rearranging the room after the game, and providing the fish and chips which followed. Meanwhile, the ceiling of the bar in the George fell down, and other meals were being served to other groups in other rooms. Hopefully, most of us thought that Fun Monday had lived up to its name again.

Peter Jenkins

Editor's note: Thank you to Peter for again organising the Whist Drive Fun Night.

NEW MEMBERS

On October 28th Pat inducted two new members to Rotary. This totals 3 to date and he is only half way through his year! Congratulations must go to the membership committee led by our stalwart Peter Jenkins. Rumour has it there will be another shortly!

Barbara Travers



Barbara was born and brought up in Cardiff, attending Cardiff High School for Girls.

She served for 6½ years in Gwent, Gloucestershire and Bermuda Police Forces.

After joining the WRNS she served for 12 months as an administrator in the largest Naval Air Station. This was followed by 16 years in Naval Family Services where she was part of a team providing counselling and social work support to Naval and Royal Marine personnel and their families.

Drafted to the Royal Naval Hospital, Haslar she was departmental manager in the Property Manager's office for 5 years and worked closely with hospital staff, maintenance engineers and contractors.

Retiring from the WRNS/RN she temped and was placed in many prestigious companies. At the same time she qualified to teach Basic Skills and English as a Foreign Language.

After teaching part time at local colleges these qualifications took her to The Gambia with Voluntary Services Overseas (VSO) to teach Remedial English and then on to Poland to teach in a Language School.

She has served on a range of committees including riding clubs, conservation volunteers and the RBL Women's Section. She organised the Cleveland Bay Horse Society's National Show for 4 years and was assistant organiser for the Dressage at Windsor Park Equestrian Club.

For the last 9 years she has been involved with Visual Impairment Breconshire, initially as secretary and latterly as Audio Newsletter Editor. She also coordinates their Friendly Phone Service.

She is a Trustee of Hay and District Dial-a-Ride and Line Manager for the office staff in addition to being a volunteer Community Car driver.

For the last 3 years she has been a volunteer Room Guide at the National Trust's Berrington Hall and more recently became a Taster Tour Guide.

Interests include the Arts, history, gardening and horses.

Paul Tambling



Paul is proud to say that he was born in the Valleys town of Merthyr Tydfil in that part of the 20th. century that saw the arrival of long hair, loud music and bell bottom trousers. After taking his A levels at Merthyr County Grammar School he went on to study architecture at the Architectural Association School of Architecture in London from where he graduated in 1977. During this period Paul met and married his long suffering, wonderful wife Angela.

After such a long course, which included for a gap year working for a firm of architects in Cardiff, Paul felt that he needed a break from architecture. He bought a potters wheel, taught himself how to throw pots, learned how to run a pottery business, the hard way - from bitter experience, and moved to Brecon to set up a ceramics



workshop in a tall thin house in the Struet.

For the next 8 years, Paul and Angela developed a successful business producing a range of over 100 different wheel thrown and hand built items of kitchenware which they fired in an electric kiln in the basement, sold from the shop at street level and also sold to many other craft shops throughout Wales. Paul, Angela and their 3 sons lived on the 1st and second floors of the building above the shop. Life for the Tamblings was always very busy and the three boys were all expected to take part in the business. Ben, the youngest, must be one of the few infants who was expected to throw pots and mix glazes before he could crawl. Paul says that he is sure that the local Struet Breconians thought the Tambling family to be a bunch of odd bods, as they probably still do.

In 1985 Paul decided that the family could no longer live on a

staple diet of clay and glazes and left ceramics behind, moved to 12 Alexandra Road, and returned to architecture. For a short time Paul worked for a Brecon architect who offered a basic design & build package which, although quite an innovation at the time, was in Paul's opinion quite badly run. Paul decided that he could do the whole thing a lot better and with little knowledge of on site construction but a lot of youthful enthusiasm he set up his own Design & Build Company. Over the next 20 years Paul's Company successfully carried out a good number of projects including conversions of large & small buildings, construction of individual houses and small housing developments, and also speculative building projects which included the purchase of a parcel of land and the construction, and sale of, a terrace of houses to the Housing Association. Paul is a member of the NHBC.

Paul is greatly interested in the construction process and with his 'hands on' approach, he often worked alongside the tradesmen he employed and is quite confident that he now possesses all of the skills necessary to build a house from scratch

With the stifling introduction of Health and Safety which, in Paul's opinion has hindered rather than helped the forward progress of the building industry, with the changing attitude of the workforce and the general reduction in skill levels throughout the construction industry, Paul decided in 2000 to concentrate solely on architecture and currently runs a busy and successful architectural practice with his partner Angela from their home office at 12 Alexandra Road.

Paul is proud to say that he has 2 beautiful grand-daughters, an allotment and a recently acquired white van.

CALEDONIAN MARKET

The Caledonian Market had another record year due to the generosity of the community giving items to the market and the public attending to buy the vast array of articles on sale.

This year the raffle was drawn by Roger Williams our local MP.

Below is a copy of the article submitted to the B&R which, surprise surprise did not get published:

Brecon Rotary-Caledonian market

I would like to express my thanks to all of our volunteers (some 80 people) from Brecon and surrounds who have yet again supported Brecon Rotary in making this annual event such a resounding success.

This year we again exceeded last years record and over £11,000 has been raised- this money enables Rotary to support local individuals and charities, in addition to National &



Roger drawing the tickets in this years raffle.

International help. We have already purchased another Shelterbox and a donation to the disaster appeal for the Phillipines.

The generosity of local people in giving us their unwanted items to sell is just incredible. Almost all of unsold items are re-cycled through the commu-

nity, charity shops and organisations which enables them raise additional monies. If you would like to know more about joining Rotary go to our web site www.breconrotary.com

Thank you once again people of Brecon for your support.

Patrick Blake, President of Brecon Rotary club.

DISTRICT QUIZ

The first round of the district quiz held by Crickhowell RC on Wednesday 6th November at The Bear Hotel, passed uneventfully with six rotarians and guests attending from Brecon. (This included the team of 4.)

We managed an acceptable second place and there the story ends for this year!

TEN PIN BOWLING - FUN NIGHT

The fun night on Monday 18th November started at the Leisure Centre with 22 members and partners playing one game and then retiring to the George for a supper of sausages, beans and chips.

The presentation of certificates for the highest ladies and gents score followed with Liz Griffiths a new winner scoring 87 and Derek Adams retaining his title with a score of 157.

Lets hope this will not be last time we bowl in the Leisure Centre!

The scores for all participants were as follows:



The Fun Night winners

Ladies

Liz	87
Hayley	77
Pippa	63
Barbara	61
Anne	60
Sam	47
Angela	43
Tess	32

Gents

Derek	157
Mike S	96
Markus	87
Paul	85
Gareth	80
Brian B	72
Brian S	72
Maurice	71
Clive	71
Peter	62
Nick	60
Pat	56
Mike E	53
Wyndham	51

EDITORS NOTE

I make no apology for any errors in content, accuracy, spelling, grammar, photo quality, layout or length. It has been a long time since the last Bruin and I had intended producing two smaller editions, but time passed very quickly and before I realised it Christmas has arrived, or nearly arrived and I thought it would be better to try and circulate this before the Christmas Lunch.

I will be contacting members early in January asking for articles for the January edition.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Pat and Margaret would like to wish all members, wives and partners a very happy and peaceful Christmas and good health and prosperity for 2014 and look forward to seeing you again in the new year



SPEAKER EVENING

The speaker evening on 28th October was a talk about the Royal British Legion, the charity providing help and welfare to the serving and ex-Service communities and their families.

Apologies for not having a detailed report on this evening



YOUNG CHEF COMPETITION

Thursday 21st November saw the first round of Young Chef.

9 entries, 4 from Brecon and 5 from Gwernyfed were received.

This year Ivan Langford was unable to adjudicate with Cherry Jones, so we were joined by Jill Blud.

Derek, Pat, Terry and Clive collected the Brecon High School students at 1:00 pm and transported them to Gwernyfed ready for the competition to start at 2:00pm.

The adjudication took place about 5:30pm with the winner going forward to the area final being held at Brecon High School on Thursday 6th February. start time to be advised.

Photos of the table settings will be available on the Brecon Rotary web site in the near future.



Gwernyfed High School young chefs and helpers.



Brecon High School young chefs and helpers.

YOUNG MUSICIAN COMPETITION

The Brecon round of Young Musician took place at the rebuilt Memorial hall at Christ College on Saturday 23rd November. There should have been ten entries to the competition but due to a local Eisteddfod being held earlier in the day only seven competitors were able to make the allotted time.

Tim Cronin again adjudicated the competition and this year he was joined by Mark Duthie, Brecon Cathedral Organist and Master of the Choristers.

The competition was again divided into Vocal and Instrumental. The winner of the vocal section was Sophie Rudge and Lois Flower was awarded first in the instrumental playing the cello with Joseph Walker playing bassoon coming second.



Sophie Rudge receiving her certificate



Lois Flower receiving her certificate



Joseph Walker receiving his certificate



SPEAKERS CORNER 25TH NOVEMBER

Beating Blood Cancers

A talk given by Mr Tom Jones

Lymphoma and Leukaemia Research was started in Middlesbrough about 55 years ago when a couple lost their daughter to cancer. They found out that there was no specific research being carried out on Blood Cancers, so they decided to do something about it. They initiated a charity.

Nearly 30 thousand new cases are now diagnosed every year and with the publicity emanating from the first Branch, funds quickly escalated, so that just a few years ago there were well over 150 branches - each generating funds which were put into a central fund for Research. In addition to the Branches considerable funds are raised by very active Fund-raising groups. (£7 million from Legacies, Sir Ian Botham walks raise over £1m., Alister Campbell raised over £1m. from 1 marathon, and Calendar Girls raised many millions. The total Fund raising is now £20 to 25 million per year.

So how do we spend those funds? In supporting Research and , a newer activity, undertaking clinical trials. LLR has a Scientific Team of about 50 specialists that vets all applications for Research . The research must be expected to yield meaningful information. If a research grant is approved it is of 5 years duration or more, but is reviewed after 3 Years to ensure it is on track.

In addition to basic Scientific Research, the scope of the Trust has been added to include clinical trials, which can take up to 10 years to

complete. LLR has formed 13 Centres across the UK to coordinate the trials, including new drugs coming on to the Market. Specialists in the teams keep themselves au fait with other research activities in the world to avoid duplication of effort.

The UK punches above its weight in the world in trying to beat blood cancers. This is done by funding Research, Clinical Trials, and communications /booklets to patients.

The cure rate 40 years ago was about 5%, and last year was up to 90% in children. We will not stop till we get to 100% In all blood cancers.

Wyndham Jones

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

After a years break the Christmas Tree Festival took place in the Cathedral from Thursday 5th to Monday 9th December.



There were fifty organisations taking part and thanks to Mike and Alison Stratford, Brecon Rotary exhibited a Christmas

tree again. I am led to believe the tree belongs to Nick Morrell and is very heavy.

Our thanks to Mike and Alison for decorating the tree and giving pride of place to the Fairy President Pat on the top of the tree.

Mike commented to the President elect that it would be his (the editors) turn to be the Fairy next time. I politely reminded Mike that it would in fact be Mike himself being the Fairy next time as the festival is only held every second year!

CAROL CONCERT

The Rotary Carol Concert or Sing-along was held on the evening of the 9th December the last day of the Christmas Tree Festival. This year the Cathedral Choir sang and proceeds went to the cathedral.

Mince pies and mulled wine were again available at Pilgrims

THE NUTCRACKER FUN NIGHT

The December fun night was this month held on Wednesday 11th December with a trip to Theatr Brycheiniog.

Twenty members partners and friends started the evening by eating at Tipple'n'Tiffin and were then joined by 12 others to enjoy a production of The Nutcracker performed by Ballet UK.



CAPTION COMPETITION NO. 12

Rules:

All you have to do is write a caption to the photograph below and either e mail it to captioncompetition@breconrotary.com or give it to the editor before the closing date.

The entries will be judged at the next Council meeting, and the caption thought to be the best (amusing or otherwise) will be announced in the next edition of Bruin. Should a council meeting not be planned for a particular month, the result for that month and the following month will be announced at the same time.

Entry to the competition is limited to Brecon Rotary members, their wives or partners and their children. Only one entry per person will be allowed.

Closing date for Caption Competition No.12 is Monday 27th January 2014



CAPTION COMPETITION NO. 10 WINNER

Pippa Adams



Not going to Harley's again after a Club Meeting

CAPTION COMPETITION NO. 11 WINNER

Brian Newman



Brian, looking at your front door, who in their right mind, is going to insure your property!!



2013