BRUIN

Brecon Rotary Update Information News

The six RYLA students after their presentation by the Assistant DG

YOUTH EVENING AT THE GEORGE HOTEL

The Youth evening was devised to assemble as many of the young individuals, schools and organisations that Brecon Rotary club has sponsored or supported over the previous year, and has become a popular annual event in our calendar. *This* year a most enjoyable evening was had by those Rotarians, wives guests and friends attending the Rotary Youth Evening on 15th October at the George Hotel.

In attendance was the Mayor and Mayoress, Councillor Paul and Mrs Valmai Ashton, Assistant District Governor Christine Bayliss, Emma Taylor head of Christ College, Michael Morris head of Brecon High and Mark Bevan CCF Christ College.

After a brief welcome from our president Barry, Terry Dewan did a stirling job as MC for the night and the evening commenced with Power Point Presentations from the Rotary Youth Leadership Award students. David Jones and Thomas Gardiner from Gwernyfed High School, James Dale and James Mitchell from Christ College and Onwell Moyo and David Evans from Brecon High School. Each spoke about their initial apprehensions on attending RYLA before confirming how much they enjoyed the many challenges, the camaraderie between the students, and the opportunity to gain leadership skills. The students were presented with RYLA certificates by Assistant District Governor Christine.

Hannah Morgan from Ysgol Penmaes then gave an

Hannah Morgan giving a presentation on the Ysgol Penmaes D of E Gold Award

Dates for your Diary

Friday 2nd November
Caledonian build up

Saturday 3rd November
Caledonian Market

Sunday 4th November
Caledonian break down

Monday 5th November
Caledonian Dinner

Sunday 11th November
Remembrance Day Parade

Monday 12th November
Quiz Nigh

Saturday 17th November
Young Musician Club Round

Monday 19th November
Dinner Meeting - DG visit

Monday 26th November
Dinner - speaker

Bottle Rota

Monday 5th November - Caledonian Dinner
Geoff Wooltorton

Monday 12th November
Derek Adams

Monday 19th November
Pat Blake

Monday 26th November
Hywel Davies

Monday 3rd December
Terry Dewan

enlightening Power Point Presentation confirming how much the four young students and herself enjoyed the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award. Hannah together with the four students had travelled to Romania to work with disadvantaged children.

Paul & Pam Martin

Paul and Pam Martin from the Huntington House project then spoke enthusiastically about the young people that had attended Duke of Edinburgh Award Schemes Bronze, Silver and Gold. Five young students who had been supported by this project also spoke enthusiastically about their experiences during their endeavours to gain these awards.

Assistant District Governor Christine gave her congratulations to Brecon Rotary Club for a most enjoyable evening and for supporting such worthwhile events. In addition she presented Past President Derek Adams with the District governor's Citation award.

Derek receiving award from Christine

The 45 persons present enjoyed a buffet supper.

Terry Dewan

SPEAKERS CORNER

Our speaker in October was Sally Morris who gave us an update of the services provided by Usk House Day Hospice.

Usk House was started in 1993 after a suggestion by a District Nurse, where patients with long term illnesses could meet and be treated. It was decided to use Usk House, which was owned by the Surgery but had belonged to the Wool Board and was semi-derelict. A £60,000 loan was taken out to renovate it and was re-paid in 2 years due to enthusiastic support. Essential equipment was added over the years and a lottery grant was applied for, so that Macmillan nurses were available; another grant bought a bus for patients to be transported. A lympho-daema clinic (swelling of joints) was also set up and by 2008-09 there was a turnover of £180,000. However, there was a need for a "hospice at home" service which provides nursing care for terminally ill patients in their own homes. Because of this ambitious project, it was decided to merge with St David's Hospice Care who had this expertise and had begun in Newport in 1979. Up to 100 nurses are available and patient references were initially made by District Nurses as far as Builth, Llandrindod and Rhayader. This free service includes nurses from 10pm to 7am and Marie Curie nurses providing a 24 hour service for serious terminal cases in patients' homes.

In our area nurses have cared for 50 patients involving 2,500 hours since the service started. There is also a Unicorn Project in process for the education of children who have terminally ill parents.

The budget this year for Usk House and St David's Hospice is £5.8million, of which 20% comes from Health Boards; 40% from shops including Brecon, Hay and Crickhowell and further grants and fund raising projects such as their own lottery and bike rides.

Sally was thanked for her presentation and enthusiastic work and our Club would continue to support this worth while essential service.

Maurice Parry

EDITORS COMMENTS

This is issue number five and I am still filling 4 or 5 pages as pieces keep arriving in my e mail in box.

Thanks to everyone who is sending articles or reports. I feel this is a useful way to keep track of the clubs events without overloading the web site with information that is not applicable to casual surfers. Please keep the articles coming!!

After the much talked about competition I ran in my first (July) issue, you will all be pleased to hear that I am running another one next month! **Groans of horror I can already hear.** Don't despair everyone will be able to participate and it will only take a couple of minutes to complete!

Photo for the Month
from Bob Wood

This is a photograph I took of the Olympic Flame when I visited the Olympic Stadium in July this year. The flame was not far below my seat and the heat was very noticeable. I was very lucky to have obtained a ticket and very privileged to be present at a once in a lifetime event. The atmosphere was tremendous and the roar of the crowd unbelievable. Unfortunately, it was the only day Team GB didn't win a medal!

AMUSING ANECDOTE

When visiting another rotary club recently, the speaker slot for the evening was shared by two of their members, each giving a short talk on a topic of their choice.

As is usual in circumstances such as these, there was no collaboration between the two speakers, and the first member stood up and proceeded to give a talk about sailing, much to the alarm of the second speaker who had already rehearsed his talk in front of his wife on the very same subject. When it came to his turn, not wishing to bore the assembled audience by speaking on the same topic, he talked about the first thing that came into his head - SEX

Next day, his wife went shopping and bumped into one of the other members wives and they stated chatting.

I hear your husband gave a very interesting talk last night, said the other lady, all the members were talking about it. O really! came the reply, that is a surprise, it's a subject he knows very little about, in fact, he has only done it twice, the first time he was sick and the second time his hat blew off!

Ed

ANNUAL GOLF DAY

On October 8th the annual golf match against Crickhowell Rotary Club was played at Cradoc Golf Club course for the much coveted Usk Valley Shield, currently held by Crickhowell.

Brecon Club surprised everyone by playing a match in which it was reported "the standard of Brecon members play had to be seen to be believed" and they finished a well deserved second, whereas Crickhowell Club, who fielded a strong side, could only manage to come second from last!.

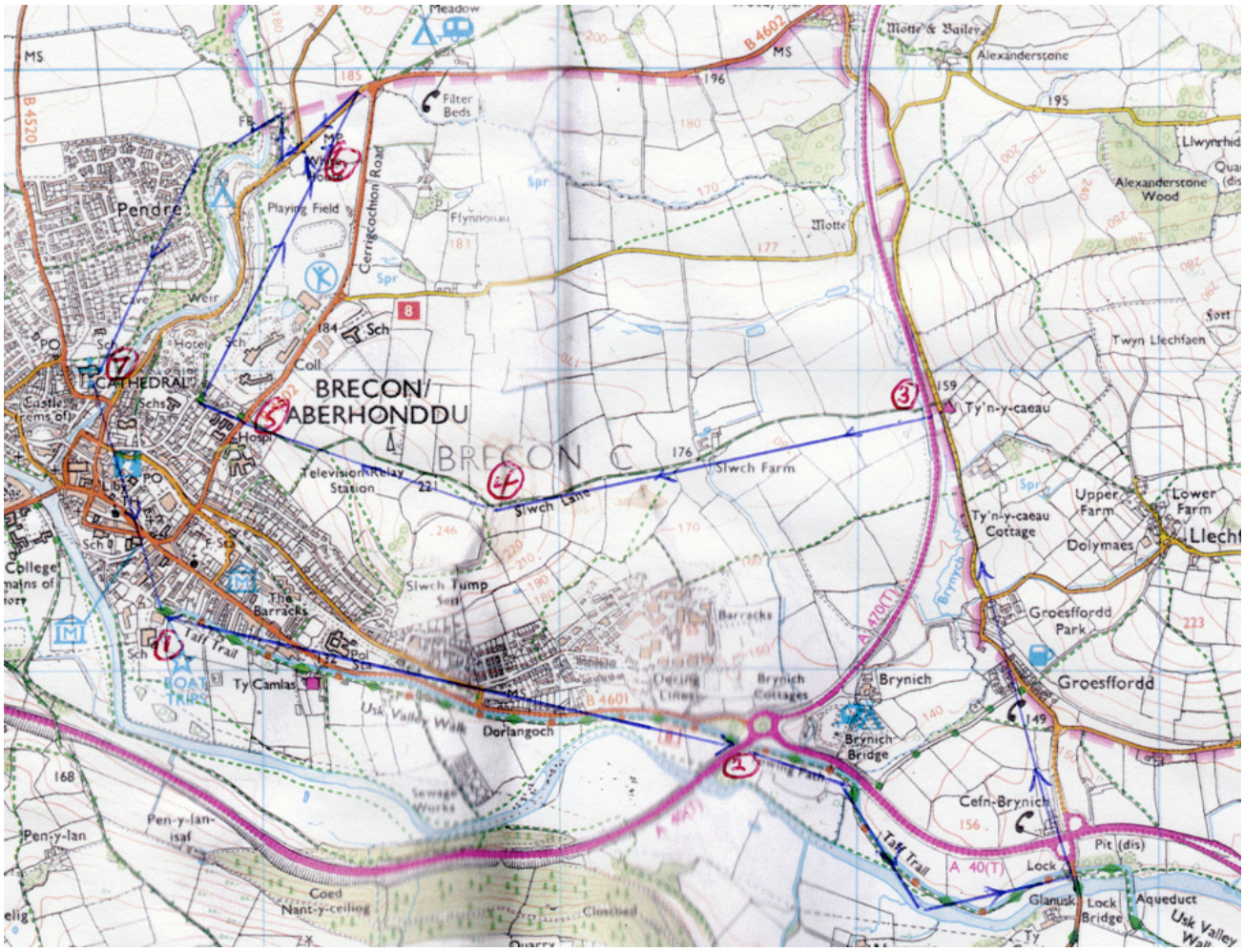
The match was played under threatening weather but thankfully nothing nasty materialised and it was finished dry and on time.

It was good to have 25 Rotarians present for a very decent meal provided by the Cradoc catering staff. Everyone agreed that it should be repeated again next year, same time, same place.

Brian Strawford (with interjections from Ed)

Our President presenting the Shield to Crickhowell - yet again!

WALK IN WALES NO2. - BRECON AND IT SURROUNDS - CIRCULAR 6 MILE WALK - THREE AND A HALF HOURS INCLUDING STOPS - ASCENT 100 MTRS.



A 6 mile walk of Brecon's environs, divided into two distinct parts. The first section leaves the town on the canal tow-path to reach Brynich lock and the village of Groesffordd. It returns along a bridleway over a hill to the north of the town, crowned by an ancient fort. This section ends at point 6, and you can return directly to the town centre should you prefer. The second section loops north to follow the wooded valley of the Honddu back into the centre via Brecon Cathedral.

Point 1. Start from Theatr Brycheiniog following the tow path to Brynich lock (point 2), a distance of 3,300 metres and taking approximately 45 minutes. Here you can watch canal boats going through the lock.

Point 2. Go through the gate onto the road (you may wish to go further along the canal to see the aqueduct and look at the view over the river and then return back to the road) and turn left up the road and under the trunk road. Follow this road past the village of Groesffordd (you may wish to call in at The Three Horseshoes for a drink) until you reach Ty'n-y-caeau Youth Hostel on the right (point 3). A distance of 1,500 metres from point 2 to 3 and taking approximately 20 minutes.

Point 3. Just past the youth hostel turn left to follow a bridleway sign and almost immediately you cross the A470 (take care here, as it is a busy main road). On the opposite side the bridleway continues across a wooden footbridge and into a green lane which is very often muddy and very wet. Continue along this sometimes overgrown lane until you reach Slwch Farm where the path improves. Go through the yard and continue along the lane on the opposite side. As the track climbs the views open out and towards its highest point (point 4) you can see the remains of Slwch Tump Hill Fort (possibly an Iron Age tribal centre). A distance of 1,500 metres from point 3 to 4 and taking approximately 40 minutes.

Brynich lock at point 2 on the walk

Point 4. Carry on passing a mast on your right and descend to a main road on the outskirts of Brecon near High School (point 5) . A distance of 900 metres from point 4 to 5 taking approximately 15 minutes.

Point 5. If you wish to go directly to town centre, turn left and follow road down to town centre past Brecon Hospital. Otherwise, cross the road and follow road opposite, keeping to the right hand side for 200 metres. Then bear right at Penlan Lodge Cottage and follow the lane past the High School grounds (on your right) and then bear left over the playing fields to a kissing gate by the main road (point 6) . A distance of 1,000 metres from point 5 to 6 taking approximately 15 minutes.

Point 6. Go through kissing gate and bear left down road for 50 metres. Then bear right down lane and follow this path over river Honddu bridge into Beech Groves. Again bear left and follow path alongside river towards Brecon and at end of path, turn right up to Brecon Cathedral (point 7). A distance of 1,200 metres from point 6 to 7 taking approximately 20 minutes.

Point 7. Leave Brecon Cathedral and return down path to a bridge over Honddu river and then turn right to Town centre and on to Theatr Brycheiniog (point 1). A distance of 900 metres taking approximately 10 minutes.

Brian Newman

Barry received this e mail via the web site and has asked me to advertise it in Bruin

Dear President

Introducing Rotarians Jennie and Euan Nicol

We are two New Zealand Rotarians looking for house sitting in your area in July and August 2013. We are planning to spend five months in Europe next year, initially in Spain walking the El Camino de Santiago, and then spending about 2-3 months in the UK with family and house-sitting or doing volunteer work to keep accommodation costs down and avoid imposing on UK family for extended periods.

We are in our mid-60's, physically very active, and happy to look after houses, gardens, cats, dogs, pigs, axolotyls, chooks, hamsters, probably not horses and cattle! Euan has managed vineyards for the past 12 years and can handle most horticultural tasks; Jennie is also a keen gardener. We have owned both dogs and cats.

We have been Rotarians for 12 years. We are both past presidents of our club (Rotary Club of Cromwell in District 9980), and until recently have been involved with our District Rotary Youth Exchange (RYE) Committee, Jennie as District Chair for four years. Both of us are have Paul Harris Fellowships awarded by our club or District for our involvement with RYE.

We are approaching a small number of Rotary clubs in your District as we are looking for areas where we can have easy access to local rural walking, and also because Jennie's sister lives in Bromyard which would allow us to keep in touch.

Access to a vehicle would be handy but not essential provided we can access a small supermarket or similar and a butcher within 20-30 minutes walking. We would also be happy to look after large (or small) energetic dogs!

If this sounds like any of your club members, please contact us on cluanbeag@xtra.co.nz. We are happy to provide Rotary referees and more personal details if wanted. Early replies would be appreciated.

Euan and Jennie Nicol Rotary Club of Cromwell D9980 New Zealand

P.S. Pleased to see you have broken the standard mould and have a very classy website of your own!

Thanks to our Contributors

Terry Dewan
for youth evening report

Maurice Parry
for speaker report

Brian Strawford
for Golf night report

Brian Newman
for Walk in Wales No2.

In Next Months Issue

Brian Matthews
Photo for the Month

Gareth Griffiths
The Caledonian experience

The Editor
Not another competition!