



Brecon Rotary Update Information News

2011-2012 President DEREK ADAMS Vice President BARRY TOMLINSON

SEPTEMBER NEWS

On 19th and 20th September we welcomed six visitors from St Neot's St Mary's Rotary Club. Thanks to Brian Newman who on a cloudy Monday led us all on one of his legendary walks from the mountain centre after we had enjoyed a quick lunch there. Good fellowship was enjoyed by all during dinner in the evening at the George. Great hilarity and repartee prevailed. Unfortunately Tuesday brought cloud and rain which caused four of our six visitors to wimp out of golf. The match with our visitors therefore consisted of one fourball with Craig Edwards and Mike Truswell of St Neot's taking on President Derek and editor Andrew. The match was honourably halved after President Derek birdied the 18th(as well as the 2nd - not bad for his first game in two and a half years! Don't ask about the other holes!) Clive entertained the non-golfers with a trip to Big Pit in Blaenavon. An overall success. When are we going to St Neot's again? Thanks to Geoff Woollorton who organised the golf and also to Anstie Blackham from Crickhowell who made up our team of six. He and Geoff enjoyed 18 holes followed by lunch in the clubhouse.

QUIZ

Abergavenny conceded the first round due to their inability to arrange a match. Details from Bob Wood. Next round v Brynmawr in the George on Tuesday 25th October followed by a buffet. Wives invited.

YOUTH PRESENTATION OPEN EVENING

In the back room of the George on Monday 10th October Please support this open evening. There will be presentations by RYLA attendees and other young people who have received our support. Also by Mike Stratford. See page 2.

NOVEMBER DATES

- 7th Caledonian Market Dinner
- 13th (Sunday) Remembrance Sunday Lunch at the Castle Hotel for Rotarians and Wives. 12.30 for 13.00.
- 14th No meeting. Change to programme.
- 18th Bag Packing at the Co-op
- 21st Dinner Meeting
- 28th Dinner with Speaker

FUTURE EVENTS

- Young Musician at Christ's College by 11th November
- Carol Concert in Cathedral on 19th December at 7.30 pm.
- Ten pin bowling with ladies in January.
- Visit to Gurkha Restaurant in the Bulwark in February.
- Visit to Film Club on 2nd April to see "The Guard".

BOTTLE ROTA

- 3/10 Peter Jenkins
- 10/10 Gerald Jones
- 17/10 Clive Lillywhite
- 24/10 John Mallon
- 31/10 Brian Matthews
- 7/11 Nick Morrell
- 14/11 Brian Newman

OCTOBER DATES

- 1st Raffle ticket sale in Guildhall
- 3rd Dinner at Cradoc Golf Club See below!!
- 10th Youth Presentation Evening
- 17th **Breakfast** Changed programme
- 24th Dinner with speaker
- 25th Quiz v Brynmawr + buffet
- 31st Treasure Hunt 6.30 start then dinner at Tipple & Tiffin

OCTOBER GOLF at Cradoc Monday 3rd. Match v Crickhowell Three course dinner for £11 at 7 p.m. in the clubhouse. 25 needed!! Please sign up!!

ADVANCE NOTICE!!!

Bag packing in the Co-op from 10 am to 6 pm on Friday 18 November In aid of CHILDREN in NEED VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

It's Thursday 14.09.11 at 4.30 p.m. Budapest airport waiting for a plane back home.

Tired –no exhausted, just want to get back now and have a proper cup of tea and put my slippers on, after a good long shower.

So why was I in Budapest Airport?

It's not a long story but I believe if an opportunity presents itself in life, a door opens, you have to have a good reason not to go through it. After all, our life is so often enriched by our experiences, both good and bad.

Andy said, did I fancy doing some repairs to houses belonging to people in need –my answer was, quite simply, yes, I do. So often as an Architect I am increasing the value of peoples assets by careful and sound design, making them, in effect ,more wealthy.

This was an opportunity to do something just because I could, with no monetary gain. I asked where we were going to work, expecting the answer to be some of the poorer parts of Wales. The answer I got was Hungary!

Now my geography is not great but I guess that was not by Ebbw Vale! Looking on the map I was right, it was east of Ebbw Vale. However, as I said before, if an opportunity presents itself and you do not have a good reason not to go, then go. The whole point of Rotary, to me, is to be exposed to the opportunity of doing good things, I was therefore cornered -no option –I'm off.

Work never seemed busier leading up to the trip but we made a window where work and clients could wait. We went, we saw, we did, we were challenged, we were confronted with the harshness of poverty, we were exposed beyond our comfort zone, facing the reality that effects most people that have little. We were presented with unbelievable community and individual kindness. We came back and like all good adventures ,we were positively changed.

I believe change can be a friend, just think what we could do if we all welcomed the opportunity of change and with that lived a richer life by positively engaging more with communities and people with the aim of doing what is right.

I hope to say more on Monday 10thOctober at The George and look forward to seeing you there. Mike



Dinner Meeting on Monday 27th September

Unfortunately our expected speaker Laura Gillow of Powys Carers was ill and unable to attend.

However we had five visitors - two prospective members, Ian Roberts and Mervyn Bramley, together with three Crickhowell Rotarians on a Scatter Week.

The evening was brightened by Senior Vice Barry Tomlinson who delivered an off-the-cuff talk on the history of bowls. First played by the Egyptians about 5000BC it was recorded in Southampton in 1197 but Chesterfield is trying to claim 1195! Bias was introduced accidentally in the 1300's by the Duke of Norfolk. Bowls was banned in the era of CharlesII and is still illegal today. Despite this the Brecon club has been flouting the law for 60 years and currently has 82 members including 22 women. Llandod, however, has been going for longer having been founded in 1901 and has excellent greens where championships are held.

Our Sergeant at Arms Peter Jenkins continued our education with a brief biography of Barnes Wallis of dambusters fame. Educated at Christ's Hospital in Horsham he designed the Wellington bomber, was bad at latin, made redundant by Vickers in 1914. He had poor eyesight but designed the airship R100. Knighted in 1968 he always ate 3 spoonfuls of porridge and 8 prunes for breakfast. All of which allowed Peter to collect lots of 20p's for the Pig!!