

# Bruin



## BRECON ROTARY UPDATE, INFORMATION, NEWS

October 2010

President **BOB WOOD**  
Vice President **DEREK ADAMS**



Bron y Gaer, Aberyscir



Bob & Barbara

On September 12th, President Bob invited all Rotarians and their wives to a summer picnic at their impressive home at Aberyscir. The rain cleared away just in time and a good time was had by all, Barbara had prepared for us an absolute feast, and the liquid refreshments were plentiful too.

**CALLY BECKONS**  
Remember, remember the **6th** of November! We have a three line whip out in for preparing and operating the Caledonian Market, our major fund raising effort in the year. Gareth Griffiths is leading what he hopes is a fully committed team comprising everyone plus relatives and friends. The first job is to distribute leaflets .. Ask GG what YOU can do to help.

**VISIT TO CRICKHOWELL**  
Instead of a breakfast meeting in September, there was a visit to Crickhowell Rotary Club. Twelve Brecon Rotarians attended. It was a convivial occasion and there was the added benefit of hearing about the planned merger of Usk House and St David's Hospice, Newport which has a budget of £4.5m and 104 Macmillan nurses. The work of St David's goes well beyond Newport and spreads along the Usk Valley corridor. The object of the merger is to provide palliative care to Brecon and District people in their homes.

### Forthcoming Events

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO TELL THE GEORGE HOTEL IF YOU ARE NOT COMING TO A MEETING (01874-623422)**

**October 4th- Business meeting at 7.30pm**

**October 11th-Dinner at 7.30pm**  
Speaker- David Brockwell, Sec Brecon Chamber of Trade

**October 18th Golf at Cradoc. Our team versus Crickhowell Rotary Club, followed by a dinner in the club house at 7pm.**

**October 25th Dinner at 7.30pm**  
Visit by the District Governor., Donna Wallbank (Brynmawr). {p.s we used to play her at bowls}

**November 1st-Business meeting at 7.30pm**

**November 8th-Caledonian Market Dinner at 7.30pm. Fellow helpers invited at their own cost. Note Dec 2nd Young Chef Comp.**



## Bottle Rota

4th October Ian Richards  
 11th October Terry Stephens  
 18th October– Brian Strawford  
 25th October--Barry Tomlinson  
 2nd Nov- Mike Tompkinson

### FILIPINOS COME TO TOWN

On Monday 27th September, this Club hosted the Group Study Exchange Presentation by five very able and amusing young people from the Philippines. They cracked a few jokes about everyone present except themselves being terribly old, which we gamely enjoyed, but they were also fairly self-deprecating. One thing that emerged from the separate speeches that each of them gave was how impressed they were with Wales, both by its beauty and its friendliness. Apparently, their experiences here in the visits they have made have been rewarding. At home, where incidentally most of the 119 million people speak English which makes it the third largest English speaking country in the world, one is a doctor, one a lawyer, one a pepsicola marketeer, one a television presenter, and the leader a top notch rotarian. There was an excellent powerpoint presentation to accompany their speeches. All in all, the visit underlined the value of GSE, and as John Hopkins said in his vote of thanks, this is the sixth group we have hosted in the last few years.



Price of a litre of petrol /diesel at 1st October  
 Petrol 114.9 Diesel 117.9 pence

### Rotarian of the Month –26



P J

Aka Editor

The compilers of Who's Who would have been disappointed that Margaret Thatcher abolished Metropolitan County Councils because once in the book, you stay there until you die or murder some-one. Peter Jenkins left Merseyside CC and joined pre-privatised Welsh Water 26 years ago, and lo and behold, the 'Great MT' abolished that public sector body too. Consequently, faced with having to leave Brecon or taking early retirement he chose the latter, lucky boy. Finding something to do in Brecon if you are prepared to separate work from pay is not difficult as we all know, and it was thanks to Brecon that he was able to add something at last to his entry in Who's Who. Rotary has been a part of that scene, and one of his proudest moments was when Powys CC agreed after much nagging to make a path from Llanfaes Bridge to Captains Walk. It is a well used route nowadays. Rotary is all about enabling good things to happen, and it is a pity that its image as a butt of comedian's jokes should be so prevalent. Maybe this is what puts people off joining a Rotary Club, but here at any rate being in the Rotary Club of Brecon, it is possible to have some excellent fellowship, make good friends, raise money for worthy causes and put something back into society. Peter thinks that there is nowhere better to live in than Brecon. It has an interesting history, its street pattern is basically the same as shown in Speed's map of 1536, it is an ideal size for getting to know people, it has excellent facilities, and you don't have to explain where it is when you are asked where you live. Peter's favourite piece of music has been that melancholy bit in Mahler's 5th Symphony, but he is veering more towards Mozart these days. Being Welsh (although no-one would know it), his favourite sport is rugby and of course he supports Wales. Although he has travelled a lot since leaving paid work, his most memorable holiday was one taken at Easter years ago, when his son and daughter were young, and the family enjoyed a magical time in Corfu in perfect weather. Nostalgia is a bittersweet thing!.