

# BRUIN

## Brecon Rotary Update Information News



### WHO SAYS THE NUMBER THIRTEEN IS UNLUCKY!

Friday 25th April saw the start of the second set of six computer courses for the over 50's organised by Brecon Rotary Club, held in The George Hotel Brecon.

The courses run by Danielle and Emily Jones with support from Welsh Bacalaureate students got off to a flying start with 13 over 50's signing on for the course, with the possibility of more in the next week.



The course runs until May 30th and all of the equipment is provided by The Pontio'r Powys project (never too old to learn - never too young to teach).



### Dates for your Diary

**Monday 5th May**

*No Meeting*

**Sunday 11th May**

*District Assembly*

**Monday 12th May**

*Business Meeting*

**Tuesday 20th May**

*Fun Night - Christ College*

**Monday 26th May**

*No Meeting*

**Wednesday 28th May**

*Council Meeting*

**Monday 2nd June**

*Business Meeting*

**Monday 9th June**

*AGM / Club Assembly*

**Monday 16th June**

*Fun Night*

**Wednesday 18th June**

*Council Dinner*

**Sunday 22nd June**

*Mid Summer Solstice - The Crug*

**Monday 23rd June**

*Dinner Meeting - Speaker John Clifford - The Epynt Way*

**Saturday 28th June**

*Charter Night*

**Monday 7th July**

*Business Meeting*

**Monday 14th July**

*Dinner Meeting*

**Monday 21st July**

*Fun Night*



## HARP CONCERT



The fun night on 13th March saw some 12 members and wives attend an evening of culture at St Mary's Church Brecon to enjoy a concert of Harp Music performed by a very talented young lady Martha Powell together with Paul Sweeting (her tutor) who also conducts the Talgarth Male Voice Choir.

Martha is a pupil at Brecon High school and after learning about the Philippines hurricane from school felt she would like to raise monies for the Haiyan/

Yolanda survivors and the other beneficiary would be the Rotary flood appeal in this country.

Via Gareth An approach was made by and we have been able to have Brecon Rotary acknowledged on the posters.

The first part of the concert was Martha playing various Jazz type harp music- the 2nd was Classical and 3rd Welsh Traditional. In the 4th section - Contemporary music, the final piece was "Fantasy of Sea Life" composed by Martha herself, she is a very accomplished musician.

Martha's younger sister also played one piece on the clarinet accompanied by Paul.

After an interval Paul Sweeting entertained us with his harp playing and then we had 3 duets with Martha & Paul.

The Finale was a further piece called "Haiyan for Harp" composed and played by Martha.

In total the evening raised £1000 which was split between the two charities.

*Pat Blake*

## Bottle Rota



**Monday 12th May**  
*Gareth Griffiths*

**Monday 2nd June**  
*John Hopkins*

**Monday 9th June**  
*Anne Ingham*

**Monday 16th June**  
*Peter Jenkins*

**Monday 23 June**  
*Wyndham Jones*

**Saturday 28th June**  
*Clive Lillywhite*

**Monday 7th July**  
*John Mallon*

**Monday 14th July**  
*Brian Matthews*

**Monday 21st July**  
*Nick Morrell*

**Monday 28th July**  
*Brian Newman*

## YOUNG MUSICIAN DISTRICT FINAL

The district final of Young Musician was attended by Barbara and Clive plus Lesley on 8th March at Ebbw Vale in the Ebbw Fawr Learning Community (second phase campus).

Our entrant Sophie Rudge although giving her usual moving vocal performance was un lucky not to be placed in the first two.

The winner was Manon Ogwen Parry sponsored by Cardiff Bay RC with runner up Caris Haf Evans sponsored by Llandovery.

The instrumental competition was won by Mari Kelly with Nia Williams runner up.

## SPEAKERS' CORNER 1

On 24th March our speaker Sue Davies talked about Disability Powys, a support organisation for disabled people living, working and studying in Powys, and for organisations and businesses operating in Powys. Their aim is to make changes in society that have a positive impact on the lives of disabled people.

Disability Powys offer a number of services to individuals, groups, businesses and organisations (both large and small) which include, support to access disability & welfare related benefits, representation at tribunal and appeal hearings, providing access audits and

surveys to ensure compliance with the Disability Discrimination Act and offering information, advice and support in cases of discrimination.

## URGENT REQUEST FROM THE EDITOR

This is the penultimate edition of Bruin that the current editor will be producing. This is the last appeal for a rotarian to take on the role of editor. If there is no response to this request then he can see no alternative than to stop the newsletter that has been produced for the last umpteen years. It also acts as a good archive of club functions on the web site.



## Photo for the Month from Anne Ingham

They say that the temperature is warming up over the world and I'm sure it is true. This photo was taken eight years ago in the month of April! The same time as now.

The snow was about a foot deep and we were snow bound at home! That is probably nothing strange living here in the Brecon Beacons but we lived in a village with no hills in the South of England. Everything ground to a complete halt!

The snow started at lunchtime and it was coming

down fast, those of us that took note left work straight away and I got home after 2 hours very scary driving! Others waited and never made it home, even though it was only a few miles for some. There were cars abandoned everywhere and people had to walk. The snow continued all night and it was so quiet. It was surreal. Not a sound could be heard outside and it was incredibly still.

Nobody could go to work or school the next day so people came out of their homes and trudged through the snow, as the only traffic around were tractors. We had a wonderful day playing in the snow, throwing snowballs and building a lifesize snowman! It was a chance to be a big kid again! The dog didn't quite understand what had happened but he loved it too.

It only lasted a couple of days but it was special.

## SPEAKERS' CORNER 2

Our speaker in April was Lindsey Doyle accompanied by colleague John Jones from Ty Hafan Children's Hospice. Ty Hafan is in Sully near Barry and is the only one in Wales which provides care for life-limited children and young people and also provides respite for their families.

It was established in 1999 at a cost of £3million and since then has helped over 550 families. Children with these life-threatening conditions may not reach the age of 18 and they might suffer from various conditions such as muscular dystrophy, cystic fibrosis and cerebral palsy. The hospital is completely

free of charge and its support extends out of the hospice and reaches into the family home.

Ty Hafan is not part of the health service and receives just 10% statutory funding towards the £3million per year needed to provide the care and support necessary. In addition to possessing sophisticated equipment it has a hydrotherapy pool which close family can share with their children. Ty Hafan accommodates up to 10 families at any one time and referrals can be made by GPs or applications come from the families themselves. Special rooms are available to the families of the young people in their final days. Ty Hafan

relies on the generosity of the public, its corporate sponsors and volunteers. Tours are available to small groups by prior arrangement

President Pat thanked Lindsey for informing the club of this very worthy establishment.

*Maurice Parry*

## CURRY FUN NIGHT

On Monday April 14th, after a quick drink at the George, a group of 24 made their way on foot to the Zeera Curry Restaurant to partake of a pre ordered meal consisting of some 20 different main dishes. The evening I hope was enjoyed by all apart from one person who was sitting by the door to the WC!



### ST DAVIDS DAY DINNER

'Last years leeks were not very big', said one of last years Leek Eaters (who shall remain nameless). So this year they were a tad bigger, and if it wasn't for Pippa looking over my shoulder when I was preparing them, they would have been a lot bigger.

Four Rotarians were selected from a cast of thousands, they were, Nick Morrell, Markus Warwick, Barbara Travers and Senior Vice Clive Lillywhite. Unfortunately (or fortunately for him), the Mayor, Mattew Dorrance was unable to attend, as he was to be the 5<sup>th</sup> member of the Eating Party.

The Leek Eating Party were drummed in by 19 year old Geraint Evans who is training to be an Adult Instructor with the Army Cadet Force. Once in position the Leeks were offered to the individuals. As the drum roll started, the intrepid Leek Eaters started to gnaw their way through the slightly bigger than last year leeks. First to finish was Barbara, closely followed by Nick and Markus. Clive however, seemed to be enjoying his leek too much, and if it wasn't for the long life Duracell batteries being used by the Drummer, I'm sure he would have given up before Clive.

The Eaters then in turn toasted St David and drunk from the loving cup. President Pat then presented each with a certificate to acknowledge the fact that they had eaten the leek in *commememmoration* (oops sorry Clive, thought that's how you spelt it) of St David.

Thank you to all the Leek Eaters, next year you can just relax and watch another party of Leek Eaters suffer, I mean enjoy their leek.

PS. Andrew, I promise not to tell anyone that it was your suggestion to have bigger leeks, it will be our secret.

*Derek Adams*

#### *Special note by the editor's barrister:*

My client is quite prepared to accept the fact that there was a spelling mistake in the above mentioned certificates. The word was "commeremorate" which incidentally his spell chucker has just highlighted. (The programme used to produce these certificates did not have this facility turned on at the time). However, in his defence, the original artwork was submitted to the writer of the above article on 16th February 2013 by e mail, to which a reply was received the very same day with the words and I quote "Clive, really good (as always). Many thanks, Derek".

It should also be noted that one of the initial 6 leek eaters noticed the mistake after he had displayed it on his wall and did not have the courage to inform my client until some 12 months later. Further more, one of the last 4 leek eaters returned his certificate because of the said error, only to have the very same certificate presented back to him in the same state by the president on another evening.

My client has assured me that the offending word will be changed for the 2015 ceremony.

I rest my case.

On the positive side, like postage stamps that have a printing flaw, the 10 faulty certificates now in public circulation will be much sought after and worth a fortune in years to come!



### CAPTION COMPETITION NO. 14

**Rules:**

All you have to do is write a caption to the photograph above and either e mail it to [captioncompetition@breconrotary.com](mailto: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 at the Club Assembly together with the overall winner of the competition. 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.14 is Monday 26th May 2014*

### CAPTION COMPETITION NO. 13 WINNER

Brian Birtles again



*They did say that Brecon was good for camping.*

### In Next Months Issue

**Derek Adams & Team**  
The ups & downs on a WAAT4 Challenge

**Pat Blake**  
A year as President

**Mike Stratford**  
Up the Crug

**Markus Warick**  
Photo for the Month

**Brian Newman**  
Dunnottar Report

### Thanks to our Contributors



**Anne Ingham**  
for Photo of the month



**Maurice Parry**  
for Speaker's Corner 2 Report



**Pat Blake**  
for Harp Concert Report



**Derek Adams**  
for St David's Day Report