

district 1150

Bruin

The Brecon Rotary Club Newsletter

April 2007

President – Andrew Wakley
Vice President – John Hopkins

How's your Prostate?

Dr David Johnson came along to our meeting on 26th March to talk to us about our prostate glands. David has been our guest speaker on previous occasions when he has talked about his great passions of diving and sailing but this time it was a subject closer to our hearts (or rather bladders). Benign prostatic hypertrophy (enlarged prostates) affects about 8% of men in their 60s (probably the average age now for a young Rotarian!) and prostate cancer will affect a similar proportion of the male

population. The good news however is that only about 1 in 4 of the latter suffer from the aggressive form of the disease which requires immediate treatment, the first step of which is a PSA (prostate specific antigen) test. David outlined the treatment methods used to treat prostate conditions and also told us about the various treatments (including Viagra) that are now available on the NHS for treating erectile dysfunction (but didn't bring any samples with him!). To lighten the mood our

speaker interspersed his slides which a selection of underwater pictures he had taken during a recent diving trip in the Caribbean and told us a bit about the various species of fish (including sharks and rays) he had encountered there. He was thanked for his address by Terry Stephens.

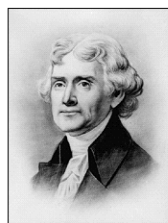


Another illustration was to have appeared at this point but it has been censored by the Committee on Standards of Public Decency.

The Welsh in America

Jonathan Morgan, a member of the Board of the Welsh/American Foundation, was our speaker on 12th March on the subject of the Welsh in America. It turns out that nearly everyone of importance in the United States is of Welsh descent including the greatest American President of them all (according to our speaker), Thomas Jefferson. The first benefactor of Yale College in Connecticut, Elihu Yale, was also a Welshman who lived in Wrexham. Jonathan regaled us in

stentorian tones with a full litany of famous Welsh/Americans, and some notorious ones like Jesse James. He concluded with an appeal on behalf of the little known Foundation which he was representing which seeks to award bursaries to Welsh students wishing to study at American Universities.



Thomas Jefferson, the greatest American President



Bear Facts

Did you know that RI's new slogan "humanity in motion" was designed to show that Rotarians are members of the public who are working to create a better world? It was thought up by consultants to replace the former slogan "Service Above Self" which is no longer used.

St David's Day Dinner by Peter Jenkins

The evening at the Barracks was splendiferous, with Rotarians and their wives dressed to kill. The meal was a very well balanced one, and its quality first class, particularly the fillet steak. Wine seemed plentiful, and the harpist delighted us with her melodies, mainly Welsh, which engendered a bit of a patriotic sing song. Charles Morgan, a young man working on a project of his own devising, told us about it. It aims to entice farmers to plant in a manner friendly to wildlife, and have their animals grazing at

Drama Festival



The first Rotary Schools Drama Festival to be organised by our Club will take place at Theatr Brycheiniog on Thursday 26th April. Some 120 young performers will be taking part from the three High Schools in our area together with Christ College. Each school will put on a show of about 30 minutes duration designed to

Keith Rofe resigns

Keith Rofe who has had to resign unexpectedly from Rotary on health grounds has been a major asset to our Club despite being a relative newcomer. Always the perfectionist he has put in a tremendous amount of effort for us over the past three or four years and, particularly, more recently as Chairman of the Youth Committee in organising and expanding the

sensible times for a similar reason. The evening finished at nearly eleven pm with some of the stragglers having further drinks. Handel and Sue Davies were marvellous organisers, having paid attention to every possible detail. We can't wait until 2008.

Thanks very much for this note, Peter. I like the idea of animals grazing at sensible times and would like to propose, say, 9am to 5pm which would allow them time in the evenings for leisure activities - Ed.

showcase the range of talent available in each school. The performances will feature drama, dance and musical theatre. After the show, local theatre director Phil Clark will 'review' the performances. Tickets will cost £6 each (concessions £4). The show is likely to be a sell-out so if you want to be sure of a seat book now!

Youth Competitions. He was also instrumental in establishing our presence at the Christmas Fayre which is now an important fund raising event for the Club. Keith carried a very full work load and will be very difficult to replace. We wish him a full recovery and very much hope that he will feel able to rejoin the Club as a less active member in the near future when he is feeling better.

Bottle Rota

9th April – No Rotary
16th April – Andrew Wakley
23rd April – Bob Wood
30th April – Mervyn Woodward
7th May – No Rotary
14th May – No Rotary
(Christian Aid)
21st May – Geoff Woollorton
28th May – No Rotary
4th June – Handel Davies

Maurice does NZ

The lunch meeting on 19th March was poorly attended with only a dozen Rotarians present but at the instigation of our Acting President, John Nancarrow, we were entertained with an impromptu talk by Maurice Parry on his recent trip to New Zealand.



BRUIN

Recent issues of Bruin have contained several articles contributed by Club Members for which your Editor is most grateful as it means he doesn't have to write the whole thing himself. If any other members of the Club would like to become 'staff writers' on an occasional basis your contributions (on any topics!) would be gratefully received. You can e-mail them directly to me at the address given at the foot of this and every issue.

Bruin Editor – Richard Doylend

 **01874 658692**

e-mail: richard.doylend@btinternet.com