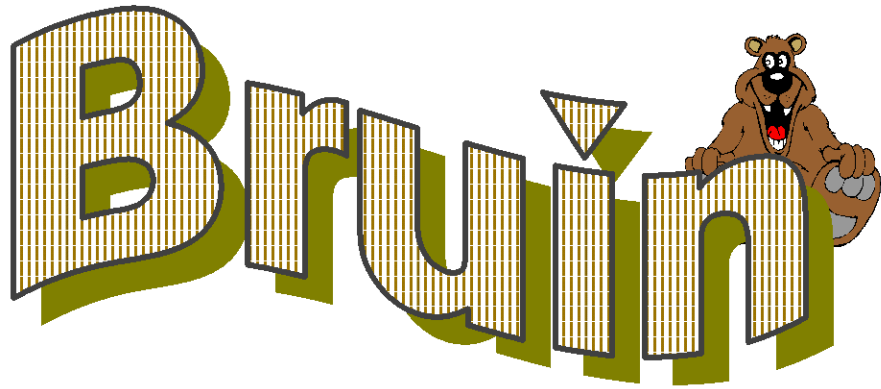


district 1150



The Brecon Rotary Club Newsletter

June 2007

President – Andrew Wakley
Vice President – John Hopkins

The Rotary Young Musician (not a) Competition

The District 1150 Final of this popular event organised by our Club was held once again at Theatr Brycheiniog on Thursday 12th May. Seven young finalists who were selected by the seven zones in District 1150 took part including our own entrant, 16 year old Ben Evans, from Brecon playing the cello. The winner (oh whisper it quietly because in this politically correct age no-one is allowed to be better than anyone else!) was Catrin Price who, having just turned 13, was the youngest competitor in

the Final. Catrin goes to Ysgol Gyfun Bro Myrddin in Carmarthen and was representing the Rotary Club of Carmarthen Tywi. She is a flautist and played a beautiful Schubert sonata arranged for flute and piano and a sonata for flute and piano by Jules Mouquet as her two pieces. Both pieces were played superbly, the second piece from memory, and the three judges lost little time in declaring her the winner. The runner up was Sebastian Pennar from Llandaff who played three

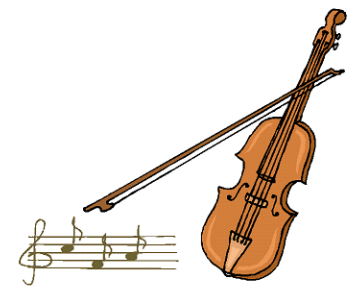
pieces for us on the double bass, an instrument seldom heard as a solo instrument. He was accompanied by an excellent young pianist who would doubtless have made a splendid finalist in his own right. The Club's thanks go to Terry Dewan and his team for organising yet another successful final. Next year the Final is to be organised at Theatr Brycheiniog by the Cardiff Breakfast R C.

Quiz News

One of the quarter finals of the annual District quiz competition took place on Tuesday 29th May at the George when we played Merthyr Tydfil. It was a slightly unusual occasion since one of the semi-finals was played first on the same evening and we weren't allowed to watch as the same questions were to be used for the other semi-final. Our team consisted of Richard Doylend, Peter Jenkins and President Andrew.

After a very shaky start which resulted in us scoring 'nul points' for the first two rounds we recovered to a fairly respectable final score of 44/40 to Merthyr.

Although the match took place on our home turf there were more supporters present from Aberystwyth, one of the other teams competing, than from our club, so a special 'thank you' goes to the two Club Members and two spouses who turned up to give us their support.



Bottle Rota

- 11th June – Hywel Davies
- 18th June – Terry Dewan
- 25th June – Richard Doylend
- 2nd July – Anthony Edwards
- 9th July – Gareth Griffiths
- 16th July – Denzil Hackford
- 23rd July – Howard Hoare
- 30th July – John Hopkins
- 6th August – Peter Jenkins

Car Park Watch

The guest speaker on Monday 21st May was Ian Penn who is the organiser of the very successful Car Park Watch scheme promoted by the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority in conjunction with Dyfed/Powys Police. Ian explained the work of Car Park Watch to us and showed us what the 30 or so volunteers do. The scheme has been described as a sort of 'Neighbourhood Watch on wheels'. Volunteers patrol the various car parks in the National Park using a high visibility marked van to deter



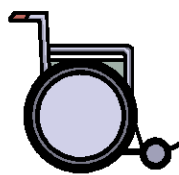
car crime and report any suspicious activities. Since the scheme began in 2003 there has been a 90% drop in thefts from cars. Much effort has also been expended in removing eyesores such as dumped cars - over 100 cars were removed from one quarry alone! Volunteers also give visitors to the Park general advice on places to visit and remove litter from the car parks. The speaker was introduced and thanked for his talk by Richard Doylend who is one of the scheme's volunteers.

New Senior Vice

Maurice Parry has agreed to step into the shoes of our former member Keith Rofe and become our next Senior Vice President at our AGM this month and Bob Wood, who is off on his travels again, will drop back a year and become our next Junior Vice.

Fairtrade Raffle

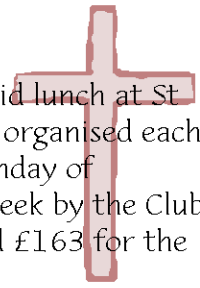
Richard's raffle on behalf of the Club's International Committee raised £400 with most of the tickets being sold to Handel's friends and relations (or so it seemed!). Thanks go to all those who helped Richard sell tickets outside the Co-op on the two days of the sale. Largely due to Handel's efforts on the second day we had sold all 500 tickets by the Friday afternoon so did not need to use the Saturday slot which we had reserved with the Co-op. The proceeds will be



going to support the Wheelchair Foundation, an RIBI preferred charity, who will match the monies raised. The first prize of a £100 hamper of 'fairly traded' groceries was won by a lady from Talgarth. Besides allowing us the 'pitch' outside their store the Co-op generously donated groceries worth £50 towards the prize.

Christian Aid

The Christian Aid lunch at St Mary's which is organised each year on the Monday of Christian Aid Week by the Club President raised £163 for the charity.



Bear Facts

No. 4. Did you know that Bill Gates' dad, a retired attorney, is an honorary member of the Rotary Club of Seattle?

Car Boot Sale

The first of this year's two car boot sales organised by Handel raised an impressive £773 which included £140 generously donated by Terry and Linda from the proceeds of their stall.

Membership Crisis?

With so many of our members unable to attend regularly because of illness or disability, or for other reasons, we are now finding it difficult to maintain the momentum of previous years and it may be necessary to scale back our activities unless we can recruit more active members. If any of you know of any potential members who would be interested in becoming Rotarians and, hopefully, taking on an active rôle in our various activities please pass their details on to our Membership Chairman, Peter Jenkins. We now have a total of 36 members on the books including our two honorary members.

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