



The Brecon Rotary Club Newsletter

August 2005

President – John Nancarrow
Vice President – Andrew Wakley

Brecon Christmas Market

The club has been offered a stall at the Christmas Market that will be taking place in Brecon Town Centre on Saturday 26th November. Keith Rofe has agreed to convene a small sub-committee to consider any ideas put forward on how best to use the space allocated to the club so please put your thinking

caps on and come up with some ideas that will raise the profile of the club in the town and, hopefully, bring in some funds as well.



Notice Board & Wishing Well

The application submitted on behalf of the club by Andrew Wakley to site a notice board in the entrance to the Market Hall has been approved by Powys County Council and the Club has been offered two alternative positions for the board. A site visit is to be made to select which of the two should be

chosen. Mike Oxnard and Eddie Coates have also been investigating a proposal to turn the well in Bethel Square into a wishing well to raise money for the club. The problem they are pondering at the moment is how to stop unauthorised persons from fishing out any coins that have been thrown in!

Car Rally

A big thank you to the two Rotarians who turned out on a Saturday morning at short notice last month to sell programmes to spectators attending the car rally on the Epynt Ranges. £150 was raised for club funds. I have no details of the cars taking part but I understand that

two red kites and a wheatear were spotted (see illustration).



Spotted wheatear in breeding plumage

District Governor Visit

Our meeting on 22nd August will be attended by our old friend David Wiltshire from Dinas Powis RC who is now our District Governor, so a good turnout would be appreciated please.

Attendance Statistics

An analysis of last year's attendance figures has revealed that only 14 of the 39 Rotarians who were members of our club for the whole year achieved 60% attendance or better. Members will be aware that 60% attendance is supposed to be the minimum attendance required. Three of our members (who shall be nameless) achieved the remarkable feat of scoring 'nul points' by attending none of our meetings during the year!



Bottle Rota

- 8th August - Ian Richards
- 15th August - Keith Rofe
- 22nd August - Peter Scott
- 29th August - Bank Holiday
- 5th September - Terry Stephens
- 12th September - Brian Strawford

Hywel Down Under

Club member Hywel Davies regaled us as guest speaker last month with a comprehensive account of his trip to New Zealand to support the British and Irish Lions on their recent tour. He and his three companions used the opportunity to take a once-in-a-lifetime tour around the country seeing as many of the sights as they could cram in to a five week tour as well as watching as many of the Lions matches as they could manage. It sounds as though they all had a memorable holiday which started with a couple of days in Singapore before flying on to Christchurch where they picked up their self-drive 4WD hire car. This was to carry them all over the impressive scenery of South Island during the space

of the following three weeks before moving on to North Island where Hywel's sister and her family live. Alongside many highlights Hywel went fishing (and caught a six pound trout!), visited the home of bungee jumping (but didn't have a go!) and experienced chance encounters at unlikely places with numerous friends and acquaintances from South Wales many of whom were also over for the rugby. He said that the natives were friendly and the estimated 25,000 supporters from the UK and Ireland (probably a good half of them from Wales) were extremely well behaved - oh, and the rugby was enjoyable too despite having to pay £100 a ticket to watch the All Blacks beat us!

Charter Night

Our Treasurer discovered a small shortfall (after allowing for guests) on the monies collected at our Charter Night. If any member recollects not paying perhaps they would let Nick have their contribution of £18 per head as soon as possible. To avoid embarrassment in the future Nick would prefer it if everyone paid by cheque rather than with cash at this and similar events, and Club Council has endorsed this proposal.

Speakers wanted

Speakers secretary Brian Strawford would welcome suggestions from members for speakers so that he can put an interesting programme together for this year. He is aiming to invite one speaker each month to address us, usually on the second dinner evening of each month. Modest travelling expenses can be reimbursed if speakers so require.

Operation Firestorm

Unfortunately it proved necessary to cancel this year's event through lack of support. Club Council has decided that the event has probably run its course as a fund-raiser for the club and other alternatives are to be investigated.



WHAT'S BREWIN'?

Wednesday 7th September - Botticelli's Bonfire. This is a performance by the National Youth Theatre of Wales of Greg Cullen's latest play. It will be performed at Theatr Brycheiniog and the performance will be preceded by a meal at the Tipple 'n' Tiffin Restaurant - Andrew Wakley is organising and the inclusive cost will be about £21 per head.

Sunday 11th September - A Walk on the Wild Side. Our popular annual ramble on the Epynt Ranges which this year is being organised for us by Eddie Coates.

Floating Rotarians

When our President enquired recently if any members had attended meetings of other clubs Brian Strawford was able to inform us that he had attended a meeting of Rotarians on the QE2.

Regrettably only three Rotarians were present at the meeting but our members agreed that it was, nevertheless, a very impressive way of maintaining one's attendance record!

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