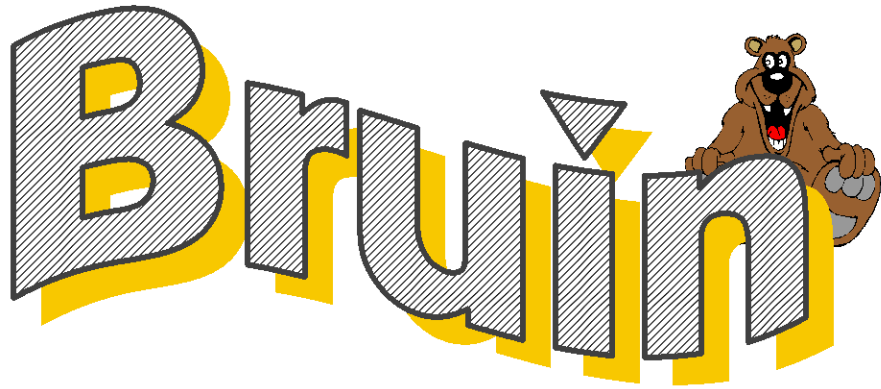


district 1150



The Brecon Rotary Club Newsletter

May 2007

President – Andrew Wakley
Vice President – John Hopkins

The Rotary Schools Drama Festival



The first Rotary sponsored Festival of Drama took place at Theatr

Brycheiniog on Thursday 27th May. As predicted the event was a sell-out with over 400 friends, relatives and Rotarians turning up to be entertained for nearly three hours with an eclectic mix of all aspects of the dramatic arts ranging from pure drama to music theatre. 160 pupils from the three high schools, Brecon, Gwernyfed and Crickhowell,

together with Christ College had put together a total of six presentations including extracts from West End productions, musicals and an eco-ballet as well as pieces devised by the performers themselves. All of the schools had worked hard to produce their contributions but the polished performance of extracts from Lionel Bart's popular musical Oliver! staged by Gwernyfed High School was a particular delight. The Festival was the original brainchild of former Rotarian Keith Rofe and

special thanks are due to Clive Lillywhite who picked up the reins on the arrangements for the Festival after Keith left the Club, and to all the other club members who helped make the evening a success. Although Phil Clark who was originally lined up to 'appraise' the performances had to drop out at short notice we were fortunate to obtain the services of local thespian Ian Milton as compère for the evening.

Fairtrade Raffle

Richard Doylend is organising a raffle at the Co-op to raise funds for the International Committee. It will be taking place during the week before the Whitsun Bank Holiday at the end of May. A hamper of 'fairly traded' groceries which the Co-op have kindly offered to donate to us will be the main prize and Richard is seeking the support of club members to help him sell tickets. Proceeds will go to the Wheelchair Foundation, which is a Rotary preferred project, and other international charities.



Bottle Rota



7th May – No Rotary
 14th May – No Rotary (Christian Aid)
 21st May – Geoff Wooltorton
 28th May – No Rotary
 4th June – Handel Davies
 11th June – Hywel Davies
 18th June – Terry Dewan
 25th June – Richard Doylend



Car Boot Sales



Handel stands ready and willing to repeat his expertly organised car boot sales with two sales, the first on Sunday 20th May and the second on Sunday 3rd June, both at the Army Playing Field. These sales have proved excellent fund-raisers in past years and the support of club members who can attend on these days would be much appreciated. Proceeds from one of the events will be going to Cancer Research Wales.

'A' Board Promotion

Clive Lillywhite has produced an 'A' board for the Club which lists all the organisations and individuals who have received financial assistance from us over the past year. In excess of £10,000 has been donated to a wide variety of causes with the biggest recipient being Ysgol Penmaes who were selected to be our principal beneficiary in Rotary Centenary Year two years ago. The board will be on display at future events and had its first outing at the recent Drama Festival. Clive has in addition made available to us a very professional looking

display board which was also in use at the Drama Festival displaying photographs of the various school drama productions being performed at the Festival.



New Officers

Following the resignation of Keith Rofe it has been decided that Brian Newman will take over the role of Club Protection Officer while Walford Morgan will become our Health and Safety Officer.

Brecon Club wins Award

Former District Governor Michael Rye of Llanishen RC, accompanied by his wife Jan, joined us at our dinner meeting at the George Hotel, Brecon on 23rd April. He surprised us all by presenting a Paul Harris Club Award to President Andrew at the conclusion of his address. The Award is in appreciation of our Club's efforts over the

years in furthering the aims and ideals of Rotary and in recognition of our fund-raising activities. Michael informed us that although Paul Harris Fellowships to recognise individual effort were often given our Club was the first club in the District to receive a Club Award.

Honorary Rotarian Tony Elston

Honorary Rotarian Tony Elston who died last month having suffered for some time from Parkinson's disease was a very prominent Breconian who, together with his wife Liz, was largely responsible for establishing the Town's long running Jazz Festival in the 1980s. Tony owned and ran the Ford car dealership in Brecon under the name Elston

of Brecon at its former site in the Struet until a few years ago and was an enthusiastic supporter of numerous organisations in the Town including the Theatre and the Rugby Club. He was a former Mayor of Brecknock Borough Council and an Honorary Alderman of the Borough. Tony's passing will leave a large gap in the life of our Town.



Bear Facts

No. 3. Did you know that 43.5% of your annual subscription goes to meet the running costs of RIBI, the only territorial administrative unit in Rotary?

Young Musician Competition

The winner of the Zone 7 Young Musician Final held earlier this year at Abergavenny was our own Ben Evans of Christ College who will now be competing in the District Final. The Final will take place once again at Theatr Brycheiniog on Saturday 12th May when it is hoped as many club members as possible will turn up in support. The evening will follow a similar format to previous years and will be adjudicated by three judges, Catherine Handley, Rachel Podger and Hugh Thomas.

Stop Press

The Stroke Awareness event at the Guildhall last Saturday saw 360 'patients' have their blood pressure checked - a rate of about one per minute! Thanks again to Handel who organised the event for us and spent the whole day enthusiastically drumming up business, and to our President who donated the tea, coffee and biscuits. Visitors included local Assembly Member Kirsty Williams who was taking a break from her campaigning for the elections. Over £100 was raised in donations.

Bruin Editor - Richard Doylend

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