

# Cardiff Breakfast News



1st July is the start of the new Rotary year. At the Whitchurch Golf Club, members and their guests were entertained by James and Rebecca on trumpet and baritone, before enjoying dinner. Retiring Summer President Heather (left) reviewed the past year (*see below*), before handing the badge of office over to Sheelagh Lloyd Jones. Sheelagh then reminded us of her aspirations for the coming year. We wish her well.

## Review of the Rotary Year 2015-16

At the start of the year, there was some concern as to how things would turn out with four Presidents each taking office for three months. At the end of the year, all agreed that we have had a good year. This was largely due to the efforts of all four Presidents, the Secretary and the previous President getting together before the year began to agree on the key issues and to coordinate their ideas. Now at the end of the year, the Presidents look back and report on what has happened.



Summer President Steve Finch started his time with the Club helping at the Whitchurch & Tongwynlais Festival, by organising the Grand Rotary & Traders Festival Draw, and displaying a Shelterbox at the Fete. At our meetings we had speakers from the Wales Air Ambulance, the Presidents' chosen charity for the year, Shelterbox, an update on the Llanishen and Lisvane reservoirs and a talk on Italian family history.

A major event was a visit by District Governor Chris Williams to charter a new RotaKids club in Whitchurch Primary school.

With Steve in the chair, a number of wise words were spoken.

A highlight of Tony Edwards's time as Autumn President was a visit by the Lord Mayor of Cardiff, Councillor David Walker, who talked about the history of the mayoralty, his duties and to promote his charity for the year, Velindre Charity Care. We had a talks about the sand, lost towns and orchids of Kenfig Burrows, and from Prostate Cymru, when we presented a cheque for the proceeds of the Bike Ride held earlier in the year. We again assisted the Round Table with stewarding at the Fireworks Evening at Coopers Field.



Socially, the Hallowe'en Murder Mystery evening in October was a sell-out, and our thanks to our friends from the Lisvane Drama Group for helping our International Committee to put on such an excellent show. The evening was to be enjoyed and not to make money, but a bucket collection for *School in a Bag* raised £261. The President and Jean also welcomed the club to a buffet lunch in the run up to Christmas.

In December we had the usual visit to breakfast by the Interactors, enlivened this time by the presence of some of the RotaKids, when the Christmas Chocolate Quiz was again a big success. We held two bucket collections at Sainsbury's Colchester Avenue, one featuring a brass trio and the other our RCCB "choir" singing carols, again in aid of Wales Air Ambulance and other charities supported by the club.

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The three months of the Winter Presidency under Mark Worwood were probably the busiest in the Rotary year. Events included the Charter Dinner when Professor Howard Young spoke on the topical subject of drug testing in sport. Paul Harris Fellowships were awarded to Sue Hewardine and Michael Brooke. The Big St David's Day Breakfast was attended by 96 people with a harpist and excellent entertainment by the Whitchurch Primary School Choir. The concert by the Cardiff County and Vale Youth Orchestra sponsored by the club was a great success and raised £1400 for the Orchestra and £1000 for club charities. The International Committee's Quiz Night was a sell-out! Over £1350 was raised for the club's charities.

Speakers at breakfast included Tim Rhys-Evans of Only Men/Boys Aloud; we also heard about public health in Wales and music therapy. All the youth competitions took place with RCCB sponsored candidates taking all three top places in the District Young Interviewer Competition.

After years of patient fundraising and dealing with the necessary administration, we heard that the Mbale water project had been completed - a great credit to the International Committee. A first attempt at using Music Magpie to dispose of old CDs and electronic equipment supplemented the funds invested in the KIVA microfinancing project.

Summer President Heather Guy reports that the first highlight of the summer quarter was the Interact Breakfast. This was attended by Interactors from The Cathedral School, Howells School and Whitchurch High School who each gave thorough and often amusing accounts of their past year. Individuals nominated by their fellow Interactors for having made a significant contribution to their club were presented with their Paul Spencer Awards. In addition Eric Phillips, conductor of the Cardiff County and Vale of Glamorgan Youth Orchestra was presented with a cheque from the recent concert.

Our speakers' told us about travels around the empire, advances in modern genetics, the Soldiers', Sailors' and Air Force's Families Association (SSAFA), and wheel-chair tennis in Sao Paulo.



We were delighted to hear that each of our Interact clubs had been awarded a Presidential Citation by the President of RI, and that RotaKids had received a Citation from our District Governor; all deserved recognition of their efforts and activities throughout the year.

The year finished with the club organising its contribution to the Rotary Bike Ride for Prostate Cancer, with the support of Tom Prichard Contracting.

Throughout the year members provided reading assistance at Grangetown and Bryn Celyn Primary Schools. The work on the garden at Bryn Celyn was completed, and we continued to maintain the Rotary garden at Whitchurch Library. We continued to make regular contributions of foodstuffs to Northlands and the Paradise Run, and other goods needed by the Huggard Centre.

### **Rotary Club of Cardiff Breakfast**

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## Courtyard Garden at Bryn Celyn Primary School

Last year a working party from the club overhauled the courtyard garden at Bryn Celyn Primary School, one of the schools where club members and friends help by listening to children reading. This year, after breakfast on 18th May, it was planting time. The morning was spent weeding, mulching and planting for the summer. We are pleased that District 1150 has donated a Matching Grant of £125 to help pay for the materials.



## Interact and the Paul Spencer Awards

At breakfast on 4th May we enjoyed the company of members of our Interact clubs and their teachers. The occasion was the presentation of the Paul Spencer Awards. These are given to the person chosen by each Interact club who is thought to have contributed most to the club's activities in the past year. Professor Paul Spencer was a Founder Member and Past President of the club and the awards are given in his memory. We were delighted that Mrs Avril Spencer was able to be with us to make the presentations.



We were also able to present Mr Eric Phillips, the Musical Director of the Cardiff County & Vale of Glamorgan Youth Orchestra, with a cheque for £1400 for the orchestra funds, as a result of the concert sponsored by the club on March 24th.

L to R Izzie Morgan (The Cathedral School), Mrs Avril Spencer, Joshua Lewis (Whitchurch High School), Abigail Cooper (Howell's School)

## Wednesday Breakfast Meetings (7.30 am at the Whitchurch Golf Club)

- 6 July Committees and collection of goods for the Huggard Centre
- 13 July Speaker: DGE Maggie Hughes "Dementia Friendly Community"
- 20 July Club Progress Meeting
- 27 July Fellowship *or* Speaker from Rotaract
- 3 Aug Speaker from Rotaract *or* Fellowship and collection for Paradise Run
- 11 Aug Speaker: *tba*
- 17 Aug Speaker: *tba*
- 24 Aug Committees

## Rotary Bike Ride for Prostate Cancer



Registration

Rotary clubs across the country organise bike rides in aid of prostate cancer research. Cardiff Breakfast has taken on the responsibility for the ride in Cardiff, and this was held on Sunday 26th June.

We were based at the Whitchurch Rugby Sports & Social Club, and the route started by using the Taff Trail, and then eventually reached to Ewenny and back, a distance of 46 miles. Registration opened at 8.30 am and the cyclists set off at 9.15 am, on a cool overcast morning, but without rain.

The event was again sponsored by Tom Prichard Contracting, who not only covered all the costs, such as printing and providing cover by St John Ambulance, but also provided marshals to supplement the marshalling along the route provided by members of the club. As a result of this support, all the registration fees and sponsorship



The first contingent sets off



go to the charity Prostate Cymru.

To date £550 has been raised, and tax reclaimed through Gift Aid will increase this to £677.50, with some sponsorship moneys still to come.

Our thanks to everyone who took part or helped.

Turning onto the Taff Trail near the Melingriffith Waterwheel

## News of our Honorary Member Danielle Treharne



Back in 2006, Danielle was the first Ambassadorial Scholar to be sponsored by the club, when she went to the University of Lyon for post-graduate studies in French Literature. Since then she has worked as a business consultant and has managed a UK government-funded project in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

She is now the Country Manager in Uganda for BIMA. BIMA pioneers the use of mobile technology to provide affordable insurance to low income families and works in developing countries across the world. In places where infrastructure is poor or even non-existent, the mobile phone is the only form of communication or means of carrying out financial transactions. Danielle is responsible for overall strategy and the company's operations in Uganda.

Of particular interest to us in Cardiff Breakfast is the fact that Danielle had previously spent five years as a volunteer with KIVA, an organisation which arranges micro-financing of small loans, again in the developing world, since we have been subscribing to KIVA for the last 12 months. So far we have been involved in 25 loans in 17 countries.