



Issue 11

March 2017

Welcome to the latest edition of Dragon Tales from HASSRA Wales. We've been absent for a while but hope you will be pleased to see the return of your newsletter. Meantime our Facebook page is thriving and keeping members across Wales up to date with what's going on in HASSRA Wales!

If you haven't liked us yet please visit us at

<https://www.facebook.com/hassra.wales>

And, as usual, don't forget to keep an eye out for offers events and competitions on the HASSRA website at

<http://www.hassra.org.uk/>

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## 1. HASSRA Wales AGM and awards

The HASSRA Wales AGM & Awards Ceremony will take place at 10.00am at the Park Inn, Cardiff on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017. All members are invited to attend.

Our awards ceremony is our opportunity to recognise all the hard work put in by our volunteers and say a massive thank you to them. The following award winners for 2016 will be announced following the AGM.

Bibbings Cup for best large club (150+)  
Office Shield for best small club  
Linda Badman Trophy  
Edgar Evans Trophy Volunteer of the year  
Best Contributor  
Sportsperson of the year  
Wellbeing Champion  
Geoff Griffiths Trophy, Best Team

## 2. HASSRA Wales Sports Day 2017



HASSRA Wales Sports Day is a fantastic way for members across Wales to meet up, put faces to names and forge stronger working relationships across DWP.



This year Sports day will take place at Tal y Bont Sports Village Cardiff on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2017.

Entry packs have been circulated but for more information contact your club secretary or organiser.



## 3. Facebook



HASSRA Wales Facebook page is up to 428 "Likes". If you haven't already done so, check us out and don't forget to "Like" us!

<https://www.facebook.com/hassra.wales>

One lucky "Liker" will win a prize when we hit 500 "Likes"

While you're there don't forget to check out our friends at CSSC Wales and "Like" them too!

<https://www.facebook.com/csscswales/?fref=ts>

If you choose to comment on anything posted, do remember to follow the Department's Social Media guidance to avoid causing any issues at work.

#### 4. HASSRA Online Shop



If you want to take advantage of some of the fantastic benefits available to members over the coming summer, such as discounted theme park entry tickets and cinema tickets don't forget these are now only available via the on-line shop. If you haven't yet registered you need to bear in mind that authentication of your HASSRA membership takes a few days so save yourself the last minute rush and get yourself registered in plenty of time!

#### 5. HASSRA Wales London Theatre Trip



Join HASSRA Wales for a sightseeing and shopping weekend to London on Saturday 11th to Sunday 12th November!

Staying at a 4 star Central London hotel you will enjoy a perfect location for anything you have planned to do and see over two days.



What's included:-

Executive coach pick up from your local area

One nights' accommodation at a centrally located 4 star hotel

Full English Buffet Breakfast

Free time in London

The price is £99.00 for HASSRA members and £129.00 for non-members (per person), based on two people sharing a twin/double room, with a single supplement of £70.00.

For more information contact: [eryl.jones@dwp.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:eryl.jones@dwp.gsi.gov.uk)

**Please note** – *this offer is provisional on sufficient numbers applying. In the event of insufficient interest it may not go ahead.*



#### 6. HASSRA Wales Quiz Night



HASSRA Wales Pop Quiz, General Knowledge Quiz and Mini Sports Quiz will take place on Friday 9th June at the Park Inn Cardiff, registration at 7.00 p.m. for a 7.30 start. The winners of the General Knowledge Quiz will represent HASSRA Wales at the September Festival, University of Warwick 8th - 9th September. Winners of the Pop quiz will Represent HASSRA Wales at the July Festival, University of Warwick 7th – 8th July. For more information, or to enter, contact [NIGEL.WILLIAMS@DWP.GSI.GOV.UK](mailto:NIGEL.WILLIAMS@DWP.GSI.GOV.UK). If you will require accommodation to attend this event contact [tina.street@dwp.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:tina.street@dwp.gsi.gov.uk)

## 7. HASSRA Wales Darts

The HASSRA Wales Darts Competition will be held on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June at Rhydyfelin Non Pol Club from 10.00am. – Men's singles, Ladies singles, open mixed pairs and teams of 3. The winners of the team and both singles competitions will represent HASSRA Wales at the National Finals in September at the University of Warwick September 8<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup>. For more information contact [NIGEL.WILLIAMS@DWP.GSI.GOV.UK](mailto:NIGEL.WILLIAMS@DWP.GSI.GOV.UK)



## 8. HASSRA Festivals 2017

The 2017 HASSRA Festivals will take place at University of Warwick over the weekends of Friday 7<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2017 and Friday 8<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2017. The following events are scheduled to take place at each Festival. If you are interested in taking part keep an eye out for qualifying events or contact [tina.street@dup.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:tina.street@dup.gsi.gov.uk)

### July Festival

Archery  
Badminton  
Coarse Angling  
Craft Workshop  
Drama  
Flat green bowls  
Fly angling  
Give us a clue  
Men's 5 a side Football  
Mixed Rounders  
Pop Quiz  
Tennis  
Ten KM Race



### September Festival

Art  
Chess  
Crown Green Bowls  
Darts  
Gaming  
General Knowledge Quiz  
Golf  
Mixed Touch Rugby  
Music  
Netball  
Photography  
Pool  
Table Tennis  
Ten Pin Bowling



## 9. Deep Sea Fishing



### Deep Sea Fishing Qualifying Event

This year's event will be held on Friday 2 June.

Meeting in Penarth Marina for 6.30am.

Rods & bait are supplied.

There is limited space available so first come, first served!

This is a qualifying event with the top 3 anglers going forward to represent Wales in the National Finals later in the year.

For more information email:

[george.sansome@dwp.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:george.sansome@dwp.gsi.gov.uk)

## 10. Doug Honey Sponsorship Scheme

The Doug Honey Sponsorship scheme was set up to provide financial assistance to individual members of HASSRA (not teams) based in Wales to pursue their chosen sport, pastime or recreational activity. So if you've a skill or a talent and just need that little bit of extra financial help to progress, check the scheme out and maybe HASSRA Wales can help.

For full details of the scheme, the qualifying criteria and how to apply contact

[HASSRA.WALESWEBSITE@DWP.GSI.GOV.UK](mailto:HASSRA.WALESWEBSITE@DWP.GSI.GOV.UK)

## 11. A Right Royal Offer

Another great benefit of your HASSRA membership. From 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017 HASSRA members and up to three guests can get FREE entry to [Historic Royal Palaces](#)

And since late 2016, HASSRA members (plus one adult guest and up to 3 children) are entitled to 10% off entry at most CADW sites. For a list of CADW sites where discount applies visit

[http://www.hassra.org.uk/members/DWP\\_T888244.asp#TopOfPage](http://www.hassra.org.uk/members/DWP_T888244.asp#TopOfPage)

This offer requires production of a current HASSRA membership card and photographic ID.

For more information about CADW locations visit <http://cadw.gov.wales/?lang=en>

One HASSRA Wales member, Claire Penny, took advantage of another HASSRA offer giving free entry to English Heritage sites when visiting England last summer.

*"Our summer holiday 2016 was spent exploring the county of Kent. We based ourselves in Herne Bay and being castle freaks and history lovers we were spoilt for choice. Within easy driving distances were Dover, Walmer and Rochester castles, all them English Heritage sites. By using my HASSRA card I saved £73.40 on full price tickets and got 10% off in the castle shops. Great value for my £1.99 per month HASSRA subscription!"*



## 12. Regional Sports Reports

### Ten Pin Bowling

Congratulations to Mark Wisden & Julie Wisden on retaining their titles at this year's competition on 3<sup>rd</sup> March.

The runners-up were Andrew Smith & Sharron Uncles.

All 4 will be invited to represent Wales at the National Finals in Warwick in September.

Well done all!



### Darts - HASSRA Wales v DTSL MOD Salisbury

Rhydyfelin Non Pol Club on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2017.

*Men's squad*

*Jason Ettridge, Mark Galloway, Dave Yeomans, Andy Phillips, Mark Copp, Gareth Edwards, Paul Adams, George Sansome, Jeremy Thomas & Rocky*

*Ladies squad*

*Donna Watkins, Cath Edwards, Helen Briscoe, Theresa Fowler & Beth Parry*



HASSRA Wales took an early lead in both the Ladies and Mens matches and were 5 – 0 and 7 – 1 up respectively after the morning's play. The final scores after the afternoon session were 9 – 0 to HASSRA Wales Ladies and 17 – 3 to HASSRA Wales Men.

George Sansome summed the day up in his own, special style!

*A Darts Poem – by George*

The Non Pol was warm and outside was chilly  
Some of the opposition were lost in Caerphilly  
HASSRA came from North, South, East & West

To battle with Bart and Salisbury's best  
We were the odds and they were evens  
We had 2 Mark's and they had 2 Stevens  
The buffet was out and it looked proper lush  
As the matches were drawn, Rocky asked for some hush

Men's team were first with no nerves on show  
HASSRA won both with the game scores two zero

Donna & Helen won the first of the pairs  
With Cath & Theresa soon winning theirs  
Jason & Gareth won for the men  
Then Dave & Mark G said 2 nil again  
Mark C & Andy won the 3<sup>rd</sup> pairs

So Paul & George just had to win theirs.  
Next in the pairs were Andy & Rocky  
Another 2 nil but we didn't get cocky  
Andy & Mark were drawn out again  
Against 2 of the lost in Caerphilly men  
Mark said 'Andy it's a close one matey'  
Andy then scored his first ever 180.  
The HASSRA lads were soon in trouble  
With the MOD hitting their first winning double.

It was buffet time before the singles  
With proper music and not just the jingles  
Walk on music was the order of the day  
With only an occasional time delay.  
Our Ladies & Gents all gave their best  
Playing after the sun had set in the west.  
By 7 o'clock it was over and done  
With HASSRA having finally won

### 13. Rocky's Reviews

To buy discounted cinema tickets visit the HASSRA Wales online shop at [www.hassrashop.org.uk](http://www.hassrashop.org.uk)

**Top 10 Films of 2016** – If you didn't get to see them on the big screen catch them on your TV movie subscription or DVD!

- |                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 1 SPOTLIGHT      | 6 SULLY           |
| 2 ROOM           | 7 CREED           |
| 3 EYE IN THE SKY | 8 THE DANISH GIRL |
| 4 ARRIVAL        | 9 THE REVENANT    |
| 5 JUNGLE BOOK    | 10 BLEED FOR THIS |

**Best of 2017 so far** – Catch them if you still can



**A Monster Calls** - a 12A cert but not really a family film due to the subject matter (a bullied boy, whose mother is dying of cancer, gets visited by a tree who tells him 3 stories)

**Split** – James McAvoy plays somebody suffering from DID (the new term for multiple personality disorder) who kidnaps 3 teenage girls.

**Loving** –based on the true story of Richard & Mildred Loving, a couple in the late 1950s who fell in love and married in Washington but were arrested when they returned home to Virginia. Their crime? He was white, she was black.

**Out now or coming soon**

**Lion** - based on the true story of Saroo Brierley's search for his family

**Patriot's Day** – Based on the Boston Marathon Bombing of 2013 and the hunt for those responsible - stay for the credits and interviews with the survivors

**John Wick Chapter 2** – more revenge & mayhem starring Keanu Reeves, some plot elements need you to have seen the first film - sit back & enjoy the ride

**Sing** – not just a cartoon for the kids

**Hidden Figures** – based on the true story of 3 African American Women and the roles they played in the early days of NASA

**Fences**- Good performances.

**Kong Skull Island**

**Beauty & the Beast**

**Best new DVD releases**

**Dr Strange** - a worthy addition to the marvel Universe

**A Street Cat Named Bob** - based on the true story of a recovering drug addict in London and the effect a ginger tom has on his life



*Nigel "Rocky" Williams*

#### 14. Dates for your Diary

The current calendar of events can be found by going to [www.hassra.org.uk](http://www.hassra.org.uk) and then going to the Wales Regional Pages. Some events to look out for are:

31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 – HASSRA Wales AGM and Awards, Park Inn, Cardiff

28<sup>th</sup> April 2017 – HASSRA Wales Sports Day – Tal Y Bont, Cardiff

2<sup>nd</sup> June 2017 – Deep Sea Fishing, Penarth

9<sup>th</sup> June 2017 – HASSRA Wales Quiz Night – Park Inn, Cardiff

9<sup>th</sup> June 2017 – HASSRA Wales Darts - Rhydyfelin Non Pol Club

9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> July – HASSRA Festival, University of Warwick

8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> September - HASSRA Festival, University of Warwick



#### 15. Competition Corner

Your chance to win £20 Shopping vouchers just by answering the following question

Q. Easter Island is a territory of which South American country?



Send your answer, by e-mail, to [HASSRA.WALESWEBSITE@DWP.GSI.GOV.UK](mailto:HASSRA.WALESWEBSITE@DWP.GSI.GOV.UK)

Don't forget to include your name, your location, your HASSRA membership number and a daytime contact number. Please use "DG Easter competition" in the subject bar. The winner will be drawn from all correct entries received by 30/04/17. Good Luck!

Don't forget to "Like" our Facebook page if you haven't already done so!

<https://www.facebook.com/hassra.wales>

There will be a prize for one lucky "liker" when we hit 500 "Likes"



16. And Finally.....

Well that's all for now. Hopefully something has caught your eye and inspired you to get involved. Don't forget, if you, or your club, or members of your club are doing anything that you think other HASSRA members might like to hear about get in touch and let us know at [rjbhassra@sky.com](mailto:rjbhassra@sky.com)



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If you have any comments about this issue of Dragon Tales or, if you want to contribute to future issues please e-mail [HASSRA.WALESWEBSITE@DWP.GSI.GOV.UK](mailto:HASSRA.WALESWEBSITE@DWP.GSI.GOV.UK)  
Or the Dragon Tales editor [rjbhassra@sky.com](mailto:rjbhassra@sky.com)

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+++++Don't forget to complete the Fundraising Template at <http://www.hassra.org.uk/fundraising/index.asp> whenever your club holds a charity event+++++