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ROTARY CLUB OF BRAMHALL AND WOODFORD

BULLETIN

NO. 3 - JUNE 1987

EDITORIAL

First, I must begin with apologies and acknowledgements.

My apologies for the errors in last month's edition, undoubtedly due to the difficulty typists the world over have had in interpreting your editor's handwriting ("Handwriting !!" one was heard to mutter, "It looks as though a fly has crawled ink all over the page") and the immediacy between script and typing leaves little time for corrections.

My thanks to David Dewhurst and more particularly his secretary for typing last month's edition and to Geoff Brown and his young ladies (he has several I understand) for photocopying.

Since the last edition of bulletin we have passed one important landmark in the completion of our first AGM, which was most properly observed in the wearing of formal dress, and due regard to procedure. Thus are precepts and legends established. We now look forward to our first Club Assembly and subsequently to the first anniversary of the presentation of our charter. Such is the way in which the Rotary year is charted.

It is at this point that normally the Editorial gives way to a much higher, classier type of address in a discourse from your President but it is understood that he has left, somewhat hurriedly, for very distant shores. It is rumoured that he will return in about 3 weeks (presumably the heat will be off by then). We will have to wait and see. Meanwhile with the aid of luck and our favourite machete we have achieved another first

Henry

The Vice President writes:
(he can you know)

THE IDEFINITE ARTICLE

Henry is persuasive. The last time I wrote an essay of around 250 words was in my 'O' Level English exam. This is a similar situation, a hot summer's day, blank paper, and equally blank mind. Panic sets in. The deadline is looming, and I have not had an original thought. Should I give Rotary a message for the 80's? Decide that there is not many people in that age group in the Club anyway, so that is a non-starter.

What about writing an article on what I do best? Decide that I don't do anything well enough for anybody to be interested.

Inspiration! Write an article on a subject so erudite that no-one else in the Club will know anything about it. Equally, they won't be able to realise that I know nothing about it either. The realisation dawns that I don't know anything about any erudite subjects anyway.

Perhaps if I pleaded sickness, mordant relatives, pressure of work, overlooking the publication deadline, brilliant article has gone astray in the post, advance notice of my prior commitment to Lloyd Webber, Official Secrets Act, the theft of my papers by international literature thieves ... The realisation dawns that I have tried all these before anyway.

Perhaps, just perhaps, Henry will be overwhelmed by brilliant articles submitted by other members, and he won't want mine. If this wish is granted, I promise that I'll never again

David Dewhurst
Aged 46½.

LAST MONTH'S DIARY

On the 6th May our speaker was District Treasurer David Homer who brought greetings from Stretford and from District Governor Keith. Another guest was Jack Dodgeon who brought greetings from Manchester and at times it was difficult to decide which Rotarian was our official speaker. David did however manage to inform us that our subscription forms the basis for finance for three recipients:

1. Our own club
2. District
3. RIBI which also includes RI

The District sub for the ensuing year will be £8.50 and will finance such items as the magazine, the Directory, District Assembly, District Council meeting, Conference subsidy, various insurances, Group study exchange and Summer Camp.

Last Month's Diary : cont.

RIBI extract £18.48 per head and in addition to providing some money for RI also fund block grants to those Districts with far flung clubs (for instance North Scotland) to help District Officers with travel expense. Otherwise money is spent in a similar fashion to the way Districts spend.

He also said that only in the UK and Germany is a Paul Harris Fellowship awarded as an honour. In other countries a contribution of £1000 will buy such a fellowship.

A glassy eyed President called upon Ken Chadwick to give the vote of thanks.

Dennis Smith indicated that pupils at Bramhall High will be canvassed to deliver Polio-Plus envelopes but we must support this effort if possible with videos immediately after the summer holidays.

Ten couples indicated a desire to attend District Conference.

A somewhat livelier Sergeant at Arms took very effective action.

The AGM on May 13th is reported by Ron Martin.

BRAMHALL AND WOODFORD ROTARY CLUB FIRST A.G.M. - 13TH MAY 1987

A very dignified affair as all members (bar one) wore 'soup and fish' or D.J. - thought I that he played gramophone records !! No, seriously, several numbers expressed their acclamations of dressing for the A.G.M. and hoped this might become a recognised adjunct to the meeting.

El Presidente kept a firm hold on the proceedings and in spite of ribald comments from below the salt, and worthy of a Shakespearian comedy, the meeting proceeded at a pace, voting was taken 'on the nod' and the whole, well stage managed.

All club officers were confirmed in office for another year - who could better them!!

An interesting outcome of the A.G.M. was the rotating office of Sergeant at Arms passing weekly from member to member, a bit like pass the parcel, I think. I, for one, could not decide if Jonathan was getting embarrassed by fining people weekly - cries of NEVER - or was about to take a sabbatical on the proceeds of his nefarious activities !

Diary : cont

May 20th saw us removed to Edwardo's. An interesting innovation if slightly more expensive. Our speaker, Joe Smith, Director of Parks & Leisure Services for Stockport MBC gave an interesting and enlightening talk. He is in charge of 400 people and a multi-million pounds budget. He looks after all plants and nurseries and has the job of providing floral decorations at important Town Hall functions as well as looking after Parkhead Farm, trees in roads, running tracks and all the "countryside" in Stockport. So successful is his department that they are selling plants and flowers to other authorities - a useful source of income which will stand his department in good stead if ever they are privatised.

A most important feature of this evening was the introduction of John West into membership of this club. We congratulate and welcome John and hope tht he has a long and happy association with the Rotary movement.

John's personal details are given elsewhere in this Bulletin.

Committee Night on 27th May followed the usual format and highlights were:-

President: Our recent speaker Joanna Lowe is to give a recital at RNCM at 3.30 pm, 3rd June 1987. This means that few if any members can attend but it is nice to see that our erstwhile visitor is doing well. Perhaps Ron can go and give her a banner.

Secretary: 1. Letter received from R.I regarding nominations for high office.

2. Letter from Secretary RIBI regarding women membership of Rotary. Although discussion will be held at the Blackpool Conference it is also requested that the issue should be debated in clubs. It was decided to use July 8th to debate this question.

3. Final returns for District Conference on 9th/11th October to be handed to V.P. David by June 3rd.

There was no report from the Treasurer who is still in the wilds of Bangkok or somewhere.

House: Ron Malabon reported that the meeting at Edwardo's provided a pleasant meal and good value for money. He also reminded the club about introducing new members.

International: Doug and his committee are tossing ideas around for this year's project. Decisions in time for the Club Assembly.

Foundation: Dennis Smith and his cohorts are still awaiting ideas from Bramhall High Career's Master about the four children we are to assist. They are firming up on our future connection at Bramhall High.

Social Committee: Mike Drew reported that D.G. Jack Hewitt will be coming to President's Night.

The barbeque on 27th June will be £5.00 per head with a paid bar. Numbers are required by 3rd June and guests are welcome - particularly if they are potential members. The Cricket Match with Poynton will take place end June/Early July - probably at the Thieves Neck.

Social Night on 19th August will be a quiz or bowls.

Community Service: Noel Smethurst reported that the Cheadle Royal Fete on June 27th is now fully organised.

Bramhall Festival dates will now be 17th-19th June to take in the NSPCC Fun Run on the 19th. Other features will include a dance on 17th at which a beauty competition title of Miss Bramhall will be awarded. Round Table will be asked to organise Saturday side shows etc. Rotary will arrange other major events. Tentative approaches have been made to the Messenger about sponsorship. An impassioned plea for more meeting time from members of the committee ended with them talking themselves into meetings away from Rotary meeting nights. Ever helpful, the House Chairman offered a prompt 8.0 pm start on June 10th.

The floating office of Sergeant at Arms was this week undertaken by Alan Knight who rose full of meance and immediatley crawled at the President's feet. Nonetheless he raised a fair amount for real and imagined transgressions. He also balanced the books occasioned by a hole in Mike Drew's trouser pocket.

Incidentally, have you notice how this A. Knight seems to have a fixation about gents' clothes below the belt?

COMING SHORTLY

June 3rd	Since our last announcement Gatley have discovered a prior engagement and therefore will come to us in August. The man of the moment Alan Knight has stepped in to talk about Pest Control and Washing Hands.	Full meal
June 10th	Committee Night	Light meal
June 17th	Mrs. Shirley Cawthra JP will talk about Exotic Holidays.	Full meal

June 24th Club Assembly Light meal
June 27th Cheadle Royal Fete - all day
Bar-B Que - most of the night
July 1st Jack Dodgeon on the rise and fall of a Bank Manager
or A2 at Lloyds. Full meal.
July 8th Debate - Women in Rotary Light meal

ON THE MOVE

Having taken their Beechams, Simon and ^{Alison} ~~Caroline~~ Smith have moved to 19, Longmeadow, Cheadle Hulme. Telephone number will be announced when Simon can remember it. We hope that you will both be happy in your new home.

AND STAYING PUT

Mike Drew will be out of action over the two weeks from 2nd June as he is to enter hospital for a cartilage operation. Our best wishes for a speedy recovery Mike and while you're there can we have that report on the Hoe Down and possibly an article about life in hospital?

DISTRICT EVENTS

June 29th District 128. District Governors induction at Hopwood Hall.
June 30th District 105. Handover at Poynton Civic Hall.
October 9th/11th District Conference, Llandudno.

NEW MEMBER

Following John's induction on 20th May will you please note:

John West : Chief Design Engineer, George Dew & Co, Oldham.
Wife is Lucy
Home is : 14 Bramley Road, Bramhall
Telephone : Home: 439 1215 Business: 624 5631

EX R.T

Commisseration to Bruce Bissell and Mike Bailey on their enforced retirement from Round Table. It is true - their kicking out meeting went on until 2 a.m. Hanging on they were, to the bitter end.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Following the item headed Ooooh I say ... in last month's bulletin, this rather ilkiterate, ill-spelt letter has been received:

SUE GRABBIT & RUN

- in association with -

GOLDSTIEN & O'RILEY

(Offices in Tel Aviv and Dublin)

Solicitors, Commissioners for Oaths, Abortions arranged in confidence, Dogs doctored, Young Ladies "instructed", M.D.Ts arranged, Spot cash for house clearances, Pianos tuned, Appointments not always necessary, Mother of Pearl Ear Trumpets a speciality, No refunds under any circumstances.

V.A.T. REG: Unallocated TELEPHONE 25 lines Temporarily out of order

REGISTERED IN NEASDEN, ISLE OF MAN & CAYMAN ISLANDS: REG NO: (Mislaid)

Our Ref:

NS/AK/75698745621177650898765342345098/97867645313/ROT/BW/76764890089326
8674586753980867463635467989/0897864523497864/2475998803656/897867/64864

Please quote this reference in any communication

31st. May 1987

H.R.W. Barker Esq.,
Editor,
Bramhall & Woodford Rotary Club Bulletin,
13, Oak Drive,
Bramhall,
Stockport,
Cheshire

Dear Sir,

Yourself vs. Smethurst & Knight

We act for our clients the Reverend Noel Smethurst V.C., ARIBA, WVS, FRCS, FRCVS, ATS, MA, BSc., (Hons. Neasden) PHD Clarinet, Past President Inner Wheel (Zimbabwe) and Aloyious Kitchener Knight (Spinster of the Parish) in the matter of the totally unfounded and scurrilous attack made through the annals of your journal with regard to their respective underwear, from which multifarious unfortunate conclusions could be drawn by an innocent readership,

We are instructed by our clients to instigate immediate proceedings for significant damages under the laws of libel (1352, amended 1873, 1927 and 1987) and the Defamation of Character (Underwear) Act 1872, Section 1V., Codicil 573, Sub-Section 9, Para:1,278.

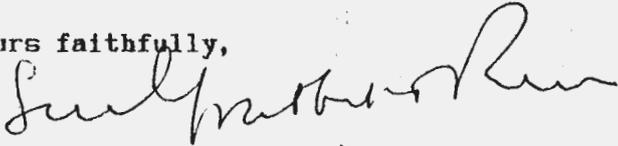
WITHOUT PREJUDICE our clients instruct us to inform you that the underwear in question under comparison as published in your journal was purchased by them in the true cause of charity, as is their wont,
... continued/2....

/continuation 2.

and serious note has been taken of the fact that the Editor of the Bramhall and Woodford Bulletin has been conspicuously dilatory in his personal support of this particular worthy endeavour, and accordingly we are instructed (again without prejudice) to suggest that the purchase by the Editor of three pairs of the most lurid examples of these articles from the Reverend Smethurst may go some way towards mitigating the extent of damages being pursued by our clients as detailed in the foregoing. Additionally, such action by the Editor will of necessity require him to wear said aforementioned apparel regularly for a period not exceeding six months and will be subject to the closest scrutiny by our clients on any given Wednesday evening at their absolute discretion and without notice.

In conclusion we are further instructed by our clients to draw to your attention that in pursuit of rightful damages for your unprovoked and mischievous attack on their integrity, probity and underpants a precedent exists in law for massive damages in such an action ie: Crown vs. McPuke before Mr. Justice Sendem-Down 1898 sitting at Penge which resulted not only in substantial damages and costs being awarded but also in the deportation of the Defendent.

Yours faithfully,



Sue Grabbit & Run in association with Goldstien & O'Riley.

ROTARIAN SPOTLIGHT

As envisaged last month a new monthly feature is introduced this month when we will give a potted history of one of our members. Having shuffled the cards and dealt from the bottom of the pack - having gone right down - the spotlight fell on who else but Alan Knight.

Alan was born in Rusholme, now Didsbury, in 1932 and was educated at Blackpool (to where he was evacuated) and also at Bristol Grammar School. He served his King for 2 years in the RASC principally with the Rhine Army at Luneberg Heath and Verden Allee.

On leaving the Forces he joined Berger as a trainee representative and by 1966 was General Manager of his company.

In the meantime he met and married Pat in 1957 and they have two daughters - the eldest at 25 is "in computers" and the 21 year old is at the University of Sheffield.

In 1971 Bergers were acquired by Hoescht GmbH and Alan left to become a partner and MD of a company offering financial services in Birmingham to where he commuted each day. This business was sold and in 1976 he started Industrial Hygiene Control, a successful local company manufacturing pest control equipment, warm hand driers and related equipment.

Alan has always been supported by Pat who helps to contribute to his knowledge by occasionally belting him over the head with all ten volumes of the Encyclopedia Britannica!

He does not drink beer or spirits - the only time he tried was on holiday in Spain. After the first San Miguel he wished he was home. After the second he wished his daughters were with them. After the third he found he had booked a day trip to Morocco at a cost of 10,000 pesetas.

There's the answer folks. Will somebody buy him 3 San Miguels at the next meeting.

NOTES FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING - JUNE 1ST

Held at David Dewhurst's and most of the discussion was amplification of the Committee Night and will also feature at Club Assembly. It should be noted.

The Bar B Que at David's on 27th June is now fully organised but, as last year, tables, chairs, umbrellas, etc. will be required to be delivered before the event.

Poynton v Bramhall Cricket Match will be at the ground at Offerton Hospital on the 9th August. This is a Sunday afternoon game of 20 overs per side and Social Committee hope to flog the odd burnt steak.

IN CONCLUSION:

New programmes will be published soon, taking us up to the end of October.

Who will the spotlight fall on next month?

Will the President come back?

Will you contribute to Bulletin?

Find out in next months issue. Copy by 5th July 1987 please.