

Rotarian

Rotary Club
of Bramhall and Woodford



BULLETIN

June 2003



Presidential pearls

The uncertainty about our future meeting place has now been resolved as has the date on which we leave Millington Hall. Our last meeting there will be on June 18th, which will be a party night with Maurice promising a special meal. Thereafter, our weekly gatherings will be at the Cheadle Hulme, which topped our poll by a substantial margin.

Also decided at our AGM was the shape of the future team which will be working with President John, and no doubt they will collectively be planning our future programme as we read this edition of the Bulletin.

Since our editor is again about to retire to the delights of North Cornwall (and no doubt the culinary delights of the Rotary Club of Padstow) this will be the last opportunity for me to thank you all for your support during my year in office. It has been a tremendous experience to serve the Club as President and to have been to places one would probably not have been, including the seat of a high speed wheelchair on President's Night! Highlights have been many, not least the visit of Liddie and Jane (General Manager and Marketing Manager of Barton Grange respectively), and the award of a Community Service Certificate to that organisation. My one regret is that no new member has been inducted this year. No doubt this omission will be doubly corrected next year. Won't it?

In closing, I would wish very happy and successful year to John as he takes a second bite at the cherry.

Henry

Council Capers – a summary of meetings in April and May

The funds are still strong. See AGM accounts for year end (March 31st).

Voting was to take place on our future venue (Ed: The Cheadle Hulme pub won, so that's where we will meet from mid June).

There is a new system for making meeting apologies (see back cover).

£300 has been given to the Norbrook Club, and a total of £1900 other donations were agreed.

A further £1500 was to go to the polio eradication campaign.

Social events are as listed in the club diary.

Six Emergency Boxes have been completed.

Council is to advise District that the District mag. be sent electronically and printed locally.

A 'Farmers market' is being considered as a Ways & Means project.

The Stroke Awareness day was a success.

An inter-club referral form has been prepared and will be introduced at District Assembly.

AGM reports – highlights

Community Service: The Neuromuscular centre was supported by our Christmas collection. Charities supported by donations included Adswold Family Care, Communicare, Valley School, The Mill and Beechwood Cancer Care. Members of the public (126) had their blood pressure checked on Stroke Awareness day – some were urgently referred to their doctors.

Intenational: Nearly 200 shoe boxes were filled with the help of Bramhall HS and Heaton Moor United Reform Church. Six emergency Boxes were completed. Members not sending Christmas cards to each other raised £295 for Sight-savers. We heard about mine clearance and made a donation. The Rotary polio eradication campaign has been sent £2000 in total, fully meeting our 3 year target set by RI.

Club Services: A difficult year organisationally, but now on track again! The venue search has been completed, and a regular flow of speakers has been arranged. There is a real need to consider attracting new members – we have lost one member and further losses are possible.

Ways & Means: A total of £5953 has been raised so far from the Cheadle Golf Club dance, the Barton Grange Christmas collection and Grotto and the Blues Evening.

Annual General Meeting

Following the AGM on 7th May, and the elections at the EGM last November, your Council for the Rotary year 2003 - 2004 will be:

President:	John Meeus
Secretary:	David Rabone
Treasurer:	Ron Malabon
Ways and Means:	John Sykes
Community Service, Vocation, Youth:	Kelvin Death
International, Foundation:	Tim Sheppard
Social:	Paul Ridgway
Club Services, Membership:	Tony Burch
PRO:	Henry Barker

Other officers are:

Sales:	Graham Yule
Bulletin:	Dennis Allport
Auditor:	Malcolm Hurst
District representatives:	David Rabone, John Sykes, Henry Barker, Herb Boyes (two of these as needed)

Congratulations to all!

P.S. The subs will be £80.00, payable from July 2nd.

Some ridiculous labels!

On Nytol Sleep Aid: 'Warning; may cause drowsiness.'

On Tesco's Tiramisu dessert: 'Do not turn upside down.' (printed on bottom of box).

On a bar of soap: 'Directions: Use like regular soap.'

Meeting at Millington Hall 5th March 2003.... Ron was there with his pen

We had a return visit of Eikio Sakai who we first met in August 2001 when she was a Rotary International scholar. Having obtained her Masters degree she returned to Japan in time for the homecoming of 60 Japanese who had been captured by the North Koreans and held prisoner for many years. She thought it was bad enough to be away from family for only one year. She worked for a time in a jewellery store before coming back to Manchester just after Christmas although as a Buddhist her celebrations are different. The vast range of ethnic groups here is totally different from Japan. She is now studying for her Doctorate in Russian poetry – particularly the works of Alexander Kushner who lived in St Petersburg. Eventually she wants to teach Russian at a Japanese university.

David Rabone announced that the AGM would be on 7th May and that Assembly and handover would be on 2nd July.

Social. Lists were circulated for President's evening and the Brewery trip. Both events were well supported.

PRO. Vice President John said there would be a cheque handover ceremony at Barton Grange for the Neuromuscular Centre. GSE in 2004 would be with Holland so now was the time to think about our involvement.

Raffle. Won by Dennis Allport

SAA. Geoff Hunt did his best to reduce next year's subscriptions by fining just about everyone present.

More ridiculous labels!

On an American Airlines packet of nuts: 'Instructions: open packet, eat nuts.'

On Marks & Spencer Bread Pudding: 'product will be hot after heating.'

On a packet of peanuts: 'warning: contains peanuts.'

Location, location by Simon Smith

The 'Club' had agreed to meet at the Deanwater Hotel on March 26th.

Would it be a suitable new permanent venue for 'Bramhall & Woodford'?

As I pulled into the car park it brought back memories of over 15 years ago when the 'Club' was in its infancy. This was where a great deal of enthusiasm and effort had help create a progressive and successful Rotary Club.

I walked into the hotel ... Yes ... This was where Noel had first suggested the resurrection of the 'Bramhall Festival...the venue where Henry made that memorable speech on steel tubing and where David Dewhurst proved it was possible to wear something red every week.

I reflected on absent friends and felt a little sad. 'Bramhall & Woodford' had achieved a great deal over the years, not least of which was the creation of some good friendships.

I was disappointed to discover the evening had been designated a 'Committee Night'. As the evening progressed it became very apparent to me that, whilst my personal efforts within Rotary had not been very high in recent years, the Clubs' commitment to service remained as strong as ever.

As I got into my car to drive home, I felt optimistic about the future... A 'Committee Night' which had been fun!

As for the Deanwater as a venue...Nothing will come close to the hospitality we have received at Millington Hall but I am confident that 'Bramhall & Woodford' will continue to move forward wherever it decides to meet.

Yet more labels!

On a Sainsbury's salmon loin : 'Warning: Contains fish.'

On a range of frozen dinners: 'Serving suggestion: defrost.'

On Christmas lights: 'For indoor or outdoor use only.'

**Antarctica - Michael Lacey went there.
Report on Meeting of April 2nd**

Same faces; same chef; different venue,. So where were we?

In the search for a new meeting place our House Committee invited us to visit the Woodford Community Centre with food provided by Maurice. President Henry and Secretary David sat alone on the top table; they could have moved the table closer to the body of the meeting, but preferred splendid isolation. The room was a little sparse but pleasant enough; the food was up to Maurice's usual standard in spite of him being away from his own kitchen. Whether the arrangements appeal to members will wait for the voting to take place.

Michael used a video projector to show photographs of his recent visit to Antarctica. Photographs of icebergs and ice covered cliffs initially failed to convey the sheer scale of size until Michael used the power of the PC to enlarge a section of photograph to reveal that what at first looked like a small navigation buoy was in fact a significant sized vessel. A fascinating area to visit and as Michael outlined also a dangerous one; much of the area is not fully charted as they found out when the ship scraped an underwater rock projection and cut a hole in its hull. Ouch, what do you do in these circumstances? Not being in a position to check the damage and also very aware that Antarctica is covered by International Treaty regarding pollution the Captain had to vacate the area asap and head back to Chile where the ship could be examined. The former Soviet vessel was built for duty in icy waters and had a double skinned hull, however the Captain was fully aware that parts of the double skin was used for fuel oil storage. Therefore head for safe waters as quickly as possible. Obviously a holiday to remember.

David Rabone as S at Arms managed to extract fines from most people present although how he concludes that because I changed my car I can therefore afford the fine is beyond me. I need the money for petrol !

An enjoyable evening with good fellowship and very pleasant discussion around the table and the bar.

Oh, yes, the vessel was able to continue the holiday after repairs to a 1.5metre long gash in the hull.

Reported by John Sykes

Scattering on 30 April– but not too far by Dennis

My scatter visit to RC Padstow on 22 April (a distance of 332 miles from Bramhall) having been declared invalid, the obvious thing to do was to allow others to see if they could better this! In the meantime, I would provide no real competition by visiting RC Stockport (2 miles). David Poizer kindly acted as chauffeur, thereby doubling our scatter points from 2 to 4.

As it turned out, this was an excellent choice. Stockport had decided to have a special trip to Stockport Art Gallery and War Memorial. The War memorial is in the heart of the Art Gallery and very impressive it is too. The memorial contains the names of over 2000 men and women from Stockport killed in various conflicts since WW2. Its centrepiece is a magnificent marble sculpture. The curator, John Sculley, explained the memorial and its history.

The visit was open to ladies as well and included viewing of the collection of traditional pictures (good – a Lowry included), modern art (ugh!) and some sculptures. A super buffet supper was laid on with unlimited wine and very warm welcomes from Stockport. An excellent evening and marvellous value at £7.

Bob Batty, believe it or not, has an almost complete collection of club Bulletins from the year dot. Bob has provided us with glimpses of what we were doing then – those of us around at the time, that is!

What were we doing ? 14 years ago

President David had lost his pencil so couldn't write for the bulletin! Douglas filled in explaining he had been taking typing lessons - but apparently with limited success (but enough for him to become our prize winning editor a few years later).

We held our President's Night at The Hunting Lodge for the first time and it appears to have been a hilarious evening. The President wore his white tuxedo and red shirt causing comments that he looked liked a cross between a Mafia Godfather and an ice cream salesman.

..... continued

A total of 30 members had spent an enjoyable if hectic weekend in skiing in Scotland. Don swore that next time he would pay attention to the directions and save three hours travel time.

Note In those days the bulletin ran to 17 pages of A4, even if 4 were copies of letters and 3 were time wasters from the present editor.

10 years ago

President Jonathan said that Mary was definitely now fatter than him.

There had again been a skiing weekend and a wine tasting evening at the Majestic.

Herb was now ensconced in his corner seat whilst Kelvin was grumbling about a lack of hundreds and thousands on his trifle. He got little sympathy because his first course had been a slimmer's salad.

Douglas was made the Club's second Paul Harris Fellow and Hugh Thompson had his photo taken talking to Princess Anne.

Rotary wives in action once again!

On Wednesday evening, the 26th of March, Pam Malabon set out to instruct 12 Rotary Wives in the art of the making of greeting cards. Pam has rarely had to control such a noisy, chattering class of ladies but she coped well, although, once or twice, she was seen to be rattling rulers! Everyone was pleased with their efforts and left with two beautifully crafted cards. We all enjoyed the evening so much that most of us got home later than our husbands. Thanks to Cathy for her hospitality and to Pam for her tuition.

Mary Meeus

Job Rota

<i>Date</i>	<i>Speaker host</i>	<i>Bulletin</i>	<i>S at A</i>
May 21	A Newsome	P Ridgway	D Rabone
May 28	J Sheard	T Sheppard	S Smith
June 4	N Smethurst	B Stevenson	J Sykes
June 11	R Taylor	J Thewlis	M Wolverson
June 18	committee	G Yule	D Allport
June 25	B Batty	H Boyes	T Burch
July 2	Assembly	R Malabon	S Davies
July 9	K Death	D Dewhurst	S Day
July 16	M Hurst	G Hunt	S Kennedy
July 23	M Lacey	M McLeod	H Barker
July 30	5th Wed.	A Newsome	5th Wed.
August 6	D Rabone	T Sheppard	P Ridgway
August 13	S Smith	N Smethurst	B Stevenson
August 20	J Sykes	R Taylor	J Thewlis
August 27	M Wolverson	D Allport	G Yule
September 3	J Mould	D Poizer	B Batty
September 10	H Boyes	T Burch	S Davies
September 17	S Day	K Death	D Dewhurst
September 24	G Hunt	S Kennedy	R Malabon

If you cannot attend, please find a replacement!

Club Diary

May 21	Committee night
May 28	Janet Kaminski - interesting topic
June 4	Visit to Chester races
June 11	Motor fun night - karting, skid, smooth driving
June 18	Committee night
June 25	John Meeus - "Being a Consul"
July 2	Club Assembly and Handover
July 6	President's barbecue at the home of Michael Lacey
July 9	TBA
July 16	Committee Night
July 20	Morecambe Bay walk for Sightsavers
July 23	Sam Kennedy "Home Grown Entertainment"
July 30	Outside visit

BLIND RUN

Mrs Joan Kuroski, 13 Hulme Hall Cres., Cheadle Hulme
 Tel: 485 6729 Pick up 7.00 pm
Mrs Phyllis Bell, Flat 19B, York Close, Cheadle Hulme
 Tel: 428 8008 Pick up 7.15 pm
Bernard Sharp, 6 Woodbury Rd., Birdhall Lane, Cheadle Hulme
 Tel: 428 6506 Pick up 7.20 pm

Mrs Dorothy Birch, 53 Mill Lane, Woodley
 Tel: 355 3252 Pick up 7.00 pm
Mrs Joan Goodall, 3 Poise Brook Drive, Offerton
 Tel: 456 2076 Pick up 7.15 pm
Mrs Edith Fidler, 18 Old Hall Drive, Offerton
 Tel: 483 2286 Pick up 7.15 pm

Make sure that you know where to find them. Ring up Sunday or Monday to check that your passengers still need a lift. If you can't get through, go round anyway at the appointed time. Let Geoff Hunt know if you get stuck. Please swap with someone if you can't do your appointed run. During holiday periods, Walthew House may be closed. Cancellations will be announced at club meetings.

May 20	D Poizer	D Rabone
May 27	T Sheppard	P Ridgway
June 3	S Smith	N Smethurst
June 9	B Stevenson	J Sykes
June 23	J THewlis	M Wolverson
June 30	G Yule	H Barker
July 1	B Batty	H Boyes
July 8	T Burch	S Davies
July 15	D Allport	S Day
July 22	K Death	D Dewhurst
July 29	G Hunt	M Hurst
August	presumably no Blind run in August	
September 2	S Kennedy	R Malabon
September 9	M Lacey	J Meeus
September 16	J Mould	A Newsome
September 23	D Poizer	D Rabone
September 30	P Ridgway	T Sheppard
October 7	S Smith	N Smethurst



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LOVE'**

Meal Apologies

Don't forget that all meal apologies must be made either

by phoning 07005 964 624

or

emailing to

Apologies@bramhall-woodford-rotary.org.uk

before midday on Tuesday

**Meetings from 18th June will be at the Cheadle
Hulme pub. This is subject to confirmation, so be sure
to check first!**

Please send all copy for the bulletin to Dennis Allport, preferably
as a Word attachment to an e-mail

dennis-allport@supanet.com