

Rotarian

Rotary Club
of Bramhall and Woodford

BULLETIN

December 2004

Happy Christmas

Presidential prattle

I am writing this the morning after the wine tasting evening! It was a great night with 56 present from 4 clubs but just maybe it was unwise to go to the bar afterwards and have a couple of glasses of wine to finish off!

In the last few weeks we have had speakers from the David Lewis centre, a pub games evening at Ladybridge and two “away trips” at Gatley to hear the GSE team just back from Chicago and to the Neuromuscular centre at Winsford (this followed by an excellent Indian meal in an otherwise empty restaurant). The away trips were, as ever, poorly attended with 14 and 11 members respectively.

Only a month to go and we will be half way through the Rotary year. Hopefully by the time you read this we will have nominated a Vice President to follow John Thewlis and a new Secretary and Treasurer for next year – just now we have none of these vital posts filled.

The Grotto is underway and the first weekend went smoothly. Although the numbers of visitors were a bit down on last year, maybe due to the weather, the takings and “profit” (i.e.

charity donation) are well up. Our target of £10,000 looks tough but just about achievable. The photographs have gone down really well and are a real parent and grandparent pleaser.

Yet another prompt - please put the date, 11th March, for President’s night into your 2005 diary.

The induction loops are in and working at the health centre. The Centenary Roses have been delivered and I have received some quite touching thank you letters from the widows of our past members. We have changed committee nights to a buffet format, and have planned the scatter nights and “days off” as discussed at the open forum.

Although we have one or two in the pipeline for new members we must keep our efforts up. Do bring prospects along – so far no one has been other than pleased to have visited us – and some will join in due course.

Here’s looking to the shortest day being behind us, and a successful second half of the Rotary year!

President Michael

Council capers

October

Money Only one outstanding sub! Was it you? General account: £1815, Charity account: £1502.

LOA for Marc Wolverson following his move to High Lane.

International & Foundation: three Disaster boxes have been provided by John Holme and his staff.

Stroke Awareness Day will be on 2 April 2005.

Ways & Means A Fun Run and possible Golf Day are being considered.

Club Services President's drink party on 9 January. Two/three possible new members. Relationships with the Speakers Club are being followed up.

Community Service The loop hearing system is being installed at the Health Centre, Excitement of Science will be on 23 June 2005.

November

Money Still one outstanding sub (tut, tut). General account £1622, Charity account £1957. Detailed discussion on provisions for the charity account, bearing in mind that we are already over committed. All Christmas Grotto proceeds go to the Neuromuscular Centre and the induction hearing loop accounts for all our remaining funds. We also have other commitments.

Club Services Quarterly attendance averaged 72%. Possible new members discussed.

Social Christmas Dinner planned. Possible visit to Chester races, Ladies Day on 5 May.

International & Foundation Members will be given a form for **optional**, regular contributions to Foundation.

Community Services Updated progress. Coping with life CD to be introduced to the club on 23 February. Bramhall High are to fill some shoe boxes.

PRO Good coverage in *Citizen*.

AOB John Meeus to look into twinning possibilities.

Meeting Reports

Spies (and worse) on

15 September

Guests: Cliff, from USA, Dave McKeith and speaker Rod Devereaux (Special Branch). Cliff spoke and discussed the theft of his banners. Felt quite at home with us and hoped to come back again to present one.

Tim Shepherd spoke about cancer back-up fund raising - Gift day 26th September. Stepson John/ sponsorship sheet passed round the meeting.

£1100 raised for the induction loop hearing system at Bramhall Health centre, from the Musical Evening last Wednesday.

Local Group of Barton Grange discussed in detail ideas for the Christmas event. It needs to be more dynamic, and it was suggested that the amount to be collected should be a minimum of £5 including an immediate photograph.

At the end of the main course, Geoff Hunt advised that he had ordered 28 Rotary roses commemorating our

Centennial. Roses from Fryers-orange/red £6.95 (£1.50 donated to Rotary Foundation). The six Rotary widows will each be given a rose.

Speech Time

Roger, a copper for 30 years, started with jokes, and told us that he has done amazing things at the Airport! He advised that he was very pleased to be sitting alongside the full cast of "Last of the Summer Wine" and he had listened to Michael Eaton. He advised me that we are very intelligent in this club.

He joined the Police in 1964 November 1969 and joined the police - Vice Squad, spending 3 years in Moss Side. Then he was in the CID in Moss Side. Following this he was involved in the Moors Murders. Lastly, Ripper Officer. Body at Southern Cemetery. (Jean Royle). Serial killers are normally caught by accident not design. Sutcliffe was interviewed on number of occasions, his wife protecting him.

Later Roger joined the Special Branch at Chester (1980-1999). All about terrorism. Mike Benting, spying for the Russians. Got 12 years for his

trouble. Roger was interested in Middle East and from 1980 to 2000 he ran 14 agents, mostly Libyans and Turks, one of whom was a drugs carrier in his spare time. The various agents had to be sorted with police, and if appropriate he helped them out if they got into trouble. Ran 5-a-side football team. All agents played, but none of them knew the others were agents! Roger had to deport people, and had to look after people, such as the Pope. He took care of Royalty - Lady Di twice, as well as Ted Heath, Billy Connolly, Max Boyce and Barry Manilow.

Questions

Cliff, the American, asked about identifying bodies, and the feelings behind it. Steven Day asked for views on the Good Friday Agreement.

John Sykes was Sergeant at Arms and, among others, fined the Bulletin Writer for enjoying his chilli longer than the others.

Bob Stevenson

Committees on 6 October

Revolutionary changes were in the air! A hot buffet meal with flexible meeting times for committees. Can't get much more radical than that at our age, can you? That went down reasonably well with the 26 present; some did not like self-service – though others took full advantage by stuffing two helpings down! Hannah, one of our waitresses, distinguished herself by being 18 the very next day. This feat earned her a meal for two at the Beluga, and a kiss from our President. He's never kissed me, but then I'm not as pretty as Hannah. I was not invited to Hannah's 18th party bash either, though I understand that one of our members was, and tactfully declined. I'm getting full of jealousy!

Committee feedback was dominated by the Club Services and Membership report, which was hijacked by a splendid example of 'Directors discussing the bike sheds' syndrome. This is where seemingly gifted individuals, who have made their way in the world, can't find a way to decide how to get to the Robin Hood at Rainow! Mini bus or car? What would it cost? Surely we can find a cheaper bus? If we drove ourselves, who would be prepared to drive? Where is Rainow anyway? Etc, etc. The really laughable part is that, after most had gone home, a deal was done not to go to Rainow after all, but instead to play pub games at the Ladybridge! Organising a piss-up in a brewery had nothing on this.

David Dewhurst was to host a house party on 13th November. The

Christmas party on 15th December is for us, partners and friends, and will incorporate innovative and entertaining diversions. More than that, I'm not free to say.

There were two bottles of wine in the raffle, reflecting the good attendance. However, this was spoiled by Sid, who penalised almost everyone for being

scruffily dressed, over-dressed or obnoxious. President Michael, still apparently reeling from kissing Hannah, shouldn't have asked Sid to be S @ A at all, having messaged Bob Batty earlier to ask him to do it! As I said earlier, a piss-up in a brewery has nothing on this lot!!

Dennis Allport

Committee night, 13th October

The business end of the meeting started with a report from the last two Council meetings. Since the good old days of the Bramhall festival we have struggled to meet our charity commitment. Successive Ways and Means Chairmen have run Race Nights, dances, raffles, Celebrity Concerts etc; each has raised in the region £500 to £1500 and taken a lot of work. With a few notable exceptions, we are not very good at selling tickets of any sort. At the end of the day the Ways and Means Chairman has a nervous breakdown and all or most of the members feel very guilty. For that reason the Council has decided in the foreseeable future to stop this type of fund raiser and concentrate on three major events per year. Members will be asked to donate four days time per year, but no-one will be asked to sell tickets. On a full year with all three events in place we would have a target of

£25,000 to £30,000 with this increasing year on year. At present we raise well short of £10,000.

The first event was presented by Malcolm Hurst. I doubt if the club has ever had such a professional PowerPoint presentation. The event will be Santa's Grotto at Barton Grange, with a subsidiary 'welcome' presentation. BG will donate all gifts and 'welcome' drinks. Their theme will be Cinderella with all the staff in appropriate costume, and whilst our budget will not go to that, we will be dressed in white shirt, black trousers and we will all have a long waistcoat – panto Principal Boy type of thing, with perhaps some type of head gear. Each day will have a leader to coordinate the team and each team will do two days over Christmas with appropriate breaks during the day.

Barton Grange are really enthusiastic about this one and are publicising that they have a target of £10,000 for charity. They think and we hope it will

be more. Admission price will be £5, which will include a photo in a commemorative folder. As most people who attended the meeting are aware, Malcolm has put a lot of work into this one and if we all act as professionally as Malcolm, this event will be a worthwhile fund raiser.

The meeting continued in its normal way with two very unworthy members getting the raffle wine and not even thanking me for my generous contribution every week. Someone (Ed: Graham Vine) passed around an open bottle of malt whisky, but there was no sign of glasses or ice

so we got the message - look/smell/ but don't drink!

The Welsh have very enquiring minds and Sid is no exception. Over the years, over sea or land, he has made a study of flatulence, and was proud to show off his remote controlled simulator. Time did not allow Sid to go into detail about his study but no doubt this will follow on another evening.

The President brought to an end a most enjoyable evening.

Herb Boyes

Meeting, 20th October 2004

In 1942 when I was a cadet on HMS Conway, the English tutor gave our class a "reading lesson" where we could read anything that was not salacious, whilst he got on with some paper work. Ten minutes into the lesson he caught a cadet reading a risqué book called "No orchids for Miss Blandish" and confiscated the book. He instructed the lad to write an essay on the subject, which he chalked on the blackboard – "Mammoth Ships".

Five minutes before the end of the lesson he took the paper from the culprit cadet and became apoplectic.

He read out the two lines on the sheet of paper and they read:-

"I understand that Mammoths were extinct many thousands of years ago and I am unaware of any ships which were built to carry mammoths. Hence I am unable to write an essay on them."

I now find myself in a similar quandary after a reminder from our bulletin editor that he was awaiting a report on the October 20th meeting. I am somewhat handicapped in providing this as I was not there. However from hearsay I believe that the games evening organised by Kelvin and David was a great success

and several have expressed a wish to repeat it.

big cigars and ushering in their clients inside to be fleeced.

I wonder if this is the thin end of the wedge. Are we to see a massive Las Vegas type casino and games palace here in Stockport? I can see it now with the name KELDEW emblazoned in neon lights on the front. I can see them both in their tuxedos smoking

A most enjoyable evening was had by all (so I believe).

Sid Davies
Chairman of the Temperance and Anti-gambling league, Northwest Branch.

**DAVID LEWIS CENTRE
(27th November)**

district functions, David D invited everyone to his place for a drink - so no change there.

At one time the apologies were just that - pathetic! With the advent and rise of Bob, they have developed into an art form, each excuse relished and considered.

John Murdock of the David Lewis Centre impressed everyone by its history and achievements. Just when we all thought it was over, up popped Gordon as Master of Arms. I can remember when Johnny come latelyst respected the more senior members and did not fine them, when buses ran on time, Woodbines were five-a-penny, and beer

The ubiquitous David McKath was there, immediately being informed that forthwith he was a member of the Grotto Team but not yet of the Club.

David Dewhurst

A rather eventless evening, Herb cheered on the troops, Michael chivvied all and sundry to attend

WORK HARDER!... Millions on the dole depend on YOU!

How do you keep an idiot in suspense? TELL YOU LATER!!!

GSE evening, 10th November

A goodly crowd of members from RCs Cheadle, Gatley and Bramhall, some with wives, gathered at Gatley Golf Club to hear from our local GSE 'students' (too old to be students, really) on their return from Chicago. Three of the four on the team were there, plus the Rotarian leader, David Armstrong. All three were in the police, so we heard a lot about the Chicago cops – guns and all. The GSE team obviously had had a great time,

and all said it was 'a life changing' experience. The logistics of the evening left a bit to be desired. Most of Bramhall and Woodford were at the back of the room and could hear little, and the computer presentation was probably the first run and it took them some time to sort out the three individual presentations. The Chicago team comes to Manchester next April. I hope that they leave their guns back home.

Rotide

Committees 3rd November

Committee nights are not necessarily full of excitement, but this was an exception. The first announcement by our president was that there is now a plaque on the bridge. Cheers and applause erupted from longer-serving members but newbies such as myself needed telling that it has taken four and a half years to fix a plaque to a bridge in Bramhall Park. We trust it was worth the wait. (Tony Burch was to be fined later for making a tasteless dental joke about plaque on David Dewhurst's bridge.)

We were then treated to Mouldy's announcement of guests, apologies and non-apologies. In fact we had no guests, but we did have a visitor from far-flung India, Dr. Banerjee. Sadly

he seemed less impressed by our discussions than the food, for he left after the pudding. The international nature of Rotary was further demonstrated by President Michael who displayed a banner from the Rotary club of West Kavala, which he cadged from an unsuspecting guest of Ari Tsalikis (President of Hazel Grove club).

Secretary David reminded us of the meeting at Gatley Golf Club which looked unlikely to be well attended, at least partly because our ladies had something on – and there's an odd phrase if you think about it! David also had news of the conference on the Isle of Man next Sept/Oct. It is possible there may be a club trip, but only if we can find better accommodation than that on offer.

Treasurer Ron is clearly not used to dropping bombshells, because without any preamble he told the assembled throng that the charity account is pretty much cleaned out. Although this is not the first time this has happened several members were clearly discomfited by the news. Spirited discussions ensued, with John Meeus and David Rabone narrowly avoiding a “pistols at dawn” situation. President Michael poured oil on troubled waters by saying that steps were being taken to rectify the situation (shuffling funds from one account to another, in essence), but it seems likely that an extra event early next year will be required to settle things properly.

We have a rather perverse situation where the club will give more money than ever this year, but to fewer good causes. There seems to be little or no “petty cash” for the small requests that arise fairly frequently. Perhaps we can learn from this.

Malcolm spoke about the grotto at Barton Grange, which he and Herb have masterminded with great professionalism. I was confused by his reference to “nine rotating beards” but mention of two Father Christmas outfits made more sense. We should know whether their hard work has paid off by the time you read this.

Henry reported on Mark Wolverson’s induction at High Lane – I hope he likes snow!

Mouldy pleaded for members to ring the apology number, not his own (for those wishing to apologise). Presumably those misguided individuals who wish to speak to Mouldy should ring his personal number as before.

Finally, Kelvin was a masterly Sergeant-at-arms, justifiably fining anything that moved, particularly Tim for being “first for seconds”. No wonder he’s a growing lad!

Harry Hill

I've used up all my sick days, so I'm calling in dead!

I'm always late. My ancestors arrived on the Juneflower.

Beer will be the urination of me!

NMC, Winsford

It is something like three years since members of the Club first visited the Neuromuscular Centre at Winsford. This year the Centre is the sole recipient of the money to be raised during the Christmas Grotto and therefore it was appropriate that a further visit was made.

Eleven intrepid soles made the journey on an evening of foul weather, but the warmth of the welcome made up for the poor weather.

Muscular dystrophy (md) is a devastating muscle wasting condition. NMC was founded in 1990 and is a unique charity offering a range of services to people with md and allied neuromuscular conditions in the North West of England and beyond. There is nothing else like it in the UK. Although based in Cheshire, people with md travel from all over the region to the Centre – North Wales, West Midlands, Staffordshire, Lancashire and even from Yorkshire. Some clients use the Centre on a regular basis where they have the facility for physiotherapy and hydrotherapy, as well as providing vital emotional and practical support. Clients from further a field make

occasional visits backed up by telephone support. The Centre also runs NMC Design which undertakes computer design work for organisations. There were several posters and design samples available during the visit. Herb was sizing up posters for the Fun Run next year.

First impression of the centre is the warmth of the welcome we received, the second impression is that the centre is not that large a building. It may not be large but around 130 people currently visit the centre for physio from the team of physios, which incidentally is lead by the wife of our District Governor.

The Centre needs to raise in excess of £500,000 a year to ensure that its vital services can continue. The majority of the Centre's income is not Government funded, the money has to be raised from Trusts, Companies, Groups, events which NMC run, and events such as our Christmas Grotto. The visit highlights why it is so important that our Grotto is a success.

The evening was rounded off with a visit to an Indian Restaurant for an excellent meal; without us the couple at the other table would have been eating alone.

John Sykes

ROTARY CENTENNIAL ROSE

Fryers Rose Nurseries in Knutsford have specially bred a new hybrid tea rose, called "Rotary Centennial", in celebration of 100 years of Rotary. This was the idea of Mr. Fryer (senior), who we understand is a Paul Harris Fellow and has been a member of Knutsford Rotary Club for the past 50 years! A donation is made to Rotary Foundation for every rose purchased.

We felt it would be a nice gesture to present this new rose to each of the widows of past members of our own club in memory of their late husbands for whom we have had such great affection. The ladies concerned are: Dorothy (Ralph) Boardman, Joyce (Doug) Murphy, Sylvia (Tim) Rains, Sue (John) Handley, Linda (Don) Brisbane and Carmel (Paul) Ridgway.

The rose plants have all now been personally delivered and were much appreciated by the recipients. Each rose was accompanied by a letter from President Michael on behalf of the club (see below). In all 28 rose plants were purchased from Fryers as many members wanted their own memento of this special occasion.

Geoff Hunt.

The members of Bramhall and Woodford Rotary Club would like to give you a Rotary Centennial Rose in memory of your husband.

The rose has been bred by Fryers Nurseries in celebration of 100 years of Rotary International (the exact day is February 23rd 2005). It is a lovely rose and it is described in the catalogue as:

"This top notch variety is probably the best hybrid tea introduction of the new century and deservedly takes pride of place on the front cover of the catalogue. Its colour is spectacular with beautifully formed scented blooms of brilliant golden orange, which intensifies towards the outer edges of the petal to form a bright circle of orange around each flower. Most impressive is its sheer stamina and all round ability to produce a quality display on an easy growing plant that has a remarkable resistance to disease".

I hope you enjoy the rose for years to come.

Yours in Rotary,

Michael Lacey, President.

Seasonal Stuff

The Real Santa ...

December sixth is the festival of St. Nicholas, and many European countries celebrate his arrival on this date. The real St. Nicholas was a bishop in Asia Minor, now Turkey, who died about 342 A.D. He became the patron saint of Russia and of children, sailors, merchants, and those in sudden danger. The story goes that one day he heard a man and his three daughters had run out of money and

would have to go out and beg to be able to buy food. Nicholas had three bags of gold, and two of these he put secretly, on two successive nights, through the window of the man's home. The man thought that the gold had come from God. On the third night he saw Nicholas put in the third bag of gold and fell at his feet. Bishop Nicholas told him to give thanks to God. "It was He who sent me to you," he said.

Poinsettias, mistletoe & holly - their associations with Christmas...

Poinsettias are native to Mexico. They were named after America's first ambassador to Mexico, Joel Poinsett. He took the plants to America in 1828. The Mexicans in the eighteenth century thought the plants were symbolic of the Star of Bethlehem and therefore became associated with the Christmas season. The actual flower of the poinsettia is small and yellow. But surrounding the flower are large, bright red leaves, often mistaken for petals.

Two hundred years before the birth of Christ, the Druids celebrated the coming of winter with **mistletoe** using it to decorate their homes. Scandinavians associated mistletoe with their goddess of love, Frigga. The custom of kissing under the mistletoe probably derived from this association. The early church banned the use of mistletoe in Christmas celebrations because of its pagan origins. Instead, church fathers suggested the use of **holly** as an appropriate substitute for Christmas greenery.

Time to engage brains!

World's Easiest Quiz?

How long did the hundred Years War last?
Which country makes Panama hats?
From which animal do we get catgut?
In which month do Russians celebrate the October Revolution?
What is a camel's-hair brush made of?
The Canary Islands in the Pacific are named after what animal?
What was King George VI's first name?
What colour is purple finch?
Where are Chinese gooseberries from?
What is the colour of the 'black box' in a commercial aircraft?

All done? Then check your answers below!

No cheating!

How long did the hundred Years War last, ' 116 years
Which country makes Panama Hats? Ecuador
From which animal do we get catgut' Sheep and horses.
In which month do Russians celebrate the October Revolution? November.
What is a camel hair brush made of? Squirrel fur.
The Canary Islands in the Pacific are named after what animal? Dogs.
What was King George VI's first name ? Albert
What colour is a purple finch? Crimson.
Where are Chinese gooseberries from? New Zealand
What is the colour of the black box - in a commercial aircraft? Orange.

Mirror, mirror on the wall
Ain't you got no tact at all?

First...?

If number one goes with *primary*, and number two with *secondary*, what words go with the numbers 3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10?

A: 3 = tertiary, 4 = quaternary, 5 = quinary, 6 = senary, 7 = septenary, 8 = octonary, 9 = nonary, 10 = denary.

Where are your ancestors?

Each generation back doubles the number of ancestors we have – we all have 2 parents, 4 grandparents etc. Ten generations back gives us theoretically 1024 great, great etc. grandparents (actually gt gt gt gt gt gt gt gt). If a generation is 30 years, then in 1700 we all had – in theory – 1000 ancestors.

Go back another 10 generations, and each of our 1000 ancestors in turn had a thousand ancestors, making a theoretical total of one million ancestors in 1400. Take it back a further 300 years to – let's say – 1066 – each of those million ancestors each has a thousand ancestors. So, at the time Harold fought William the Conqueror at Hastings, we each had a billion (1,000,000,000) ancestors.

How come, when the total population of the UK at that time was only 1.5 million?

Answers on a £10 note please!

Two peanuts walk down a dark street and one was a salted.

A jumper cable walks into a bar. The bartender says "I'll serve you, but don't start anything."

A sandwich walks into a bar. The bartender says, "Sorry we don't serve food in here."

A dyslexic drunk staggered into a bra.

Another Round?

In 1923 in the US, (long before any of us were born?) who was:

1. President of the largest steel company?
2. President of the largest gas company?
3. President of the New York Stock Exchange?
4. Greatest wheat speculator?
5. President of the Bank of International Settlement?
6. Great Bear of Wall Street?

These men were considered some of the worlds most successful of their days. Now, 80 years later, the history book asks us, if we know what ultimately became of them.

The Answers:

1. The President of the largest steel company. Charles Schwab, died a pauper.
2. The President of the largest gas company, Edward Hopson, went insane.
3. The President of the NYSE, Richard Whitney, was released from prison to die at home.
4. The greatest wheat speculator, Arthur Cooger, died abroad, penniless.
5. The President of the Bank of International Settlement, shot himself.
6. The Great Bear of Wall Street, Cosabee Livermore, also committed suicide.

However, in that same year, 1923, the PGA Champion and the winner of the most important US golf tournament, the US Open, was Gene Sarazen.

What became of him? He played golf until he was 92, died in 1999 at the age of 95. He was financially secure at the time of his death.

And the morale: Stop working and take up golf !!

It gets worse...

Gonna be a bear – a female's lament

In this life I am a woman. In my next life, I'd like to come back as a bear. When you're a bear, you get to hibernate. You do nothing but sleep for six months. I could deal with that.

Before you hibernate, you're supposed to eat yourself stupid. I could deal with that, too.

When you're a girl bear, you bear your children (who are the size of a walnut) while you are sleeping, and you wake to partially grown, cute, cuddly cubs. I could definitely deal with that!

If you are a Mama Bear, everyone knows you mean business. You swat anyone who gets in your way. You swat anyone who bothers your cubs. If your cubs get out of line, you swat them too. I could deal with that.

If you're a bear, your mate EXPECTS you to wake up growling. He EXPECTS that you will have hairy legs and excess body fat.

Yup! Gonna be a bear!

Church signs

Don't let worry kill you. Let the church help.

Thursday night - potluck supper. Prayer and medication to follow.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

This afternoon there will be a meeting in the south and north ends of the church. Children will be baptized at both ends.

Wednesday, the Ladies Liturgy Society will meet. Mrs Jones will sing Put Me In My Little Bed accompanied by the pastor.

Thursday at 5.00 pm there will be a meeting of the Little Mothers Club. All wishing to become little mothers, please see the minister in his study.

Never chuck it out!
Even if it's rusty,
Smelling rather musty.
Never chuck it out.
Put it in the shed.

Anyone who glues things,
Bodges things and screws things,
Finds that he can use things.
Put it in the shed.

When the shed is full,
You may have enough stuff,
Even if it's rough stuff,
To make another shed!

These may bring a smile.....These are from a book called Disorder in the Court, and are things people actually said in court, word for word, taken down and now published by court reporters - who had the torment of staying calm while these exchanges were actually taking place.

Q: Are you sexually active?

A: No, I just lie there.

Q: What is your date of birth?

A: July 15th.

Q: What year?

A: Every year.

Q: This myasthenia gravis, does it affect your memory at all?

A: Yes.

Q: And in what ways does it affect your memory?

A: I forget.

Q: You forget. Can you give us an example of something that you've forgotten?

Letters to the editor

Dear Bulletin Editor

I must protest most vigorously about the sentiments expressed at a recent meeting. After all where are we? And who are we? And why not indeed!

The racist remarks about my nationality, which has been exacerbated by the EU's attempt to wipe Wales off the map altogether, prompts me to make the following observations:-

- Wales was before England never was.
- As can be seen from certain members of our Club, many are thinly disguised Germans whose ancestors were among the heathen hordes who swarmed across the North Sea and drove us into the hills. Whereas my ancestors were Welsh Princes, reared on goats milk and honey and educated by Druids in ancient Celtic arts such as billiards, many Club members are a living proof of Darwin's theory.
- Lloyd George knew my father and father knew Lloyd George.
- My uncle, Caradog Davies, was educated at a theological college in Aberystwyth and was sent as a missionary to Barnsley in 1926. The poor man was eaten by the natives.

Disgusted of Patch Lane

To the Editor

Bramhall and Woodford Rotary Club

24th November 2004

Dear Sir

I have been somewhat baffled at the choice of charities chosen for our largesse in the last few years and would like to make a suggestion. Could we not be the prime mover in establishing a BATTERED HUSBANDS HOME here in Bramhall?

There are now three such Homes in the United Kingdom but none are in the Northwest. I have been a regular subscriber to the BHS (Battered Husbands Society) for some years now but unfortunately most of the Society's income has gone into a law suit to stop Sir Phillip Green from using BHS to mean British Home Stores.

This very worthwhile charity would have a direct benefit to our members. After all there have been several occasions where members have appeared at our meetings bearing cuts and bruises and given some feeble and unlikely explanations.

Our family security business would gladly provide secure fencing, razor wire and such things at cost because, believe me, battered husbands need protection.

Yours truly

SID DAVIES

The Editor always welcomes letters and other contributions on equally important topics that deserve to be brought to the attention of members.

You're never too old to learn something stupid.

Absorbing midfield battle: A goalless draw.

Skydiving! Good till the last drop...

The Hernia Society needs your support.

>>>> Warning: There are no lifeguards in the gene pool! <<

Diary

| | |
|-------------|--|
| December 1 | Committee night; election of Officers 2005/6 |
| December 8 | 'The Apprentice' |
| December 15 | Christmas dinner at Bramhall Park Golf Club |
| December 22 | No meeting |
| December 29 | No meeting |

2005

| | |
|--------------|--|
| January 5 | Committee night |
| January 9 | President's drinks party |
| *January 12 | Pam Malabon, 'Mentoring' |
| January 19 | Dr Garry Hambleton: Working in Romania |
| *January 22 | Burns Night Dinner at the Ladybridge Club |
| *January 26 | PDG Derek de Belder: Foundation |
| February 2 | Committee night |
| *February 9 | McLeod/Meeus |
| February 16 | Centennial Dinner/Party |
| *February 23 | 'Coping with life', (John Sykes) |
| March 2 | Committee night |
| March 9 | No meeting (President's Night on 11 March) |
| March 11 | President's Night at Adlington Hall |
| March 16 | Poizer/Rabone |
| *March 23 | Club Services |
| March 30 | No meeting (Easter Week & 5th Wednesday) |
| April 6 | Committee night |
| April 13 | Rose/Sheard |
| April 14-17 | National Conference in Manchester |
| July 3 | End of year barbecue at Michael and Pam's home |

Please note that the programme above is subject to change. Please keep Dennis Allport and David Poizer informed of intended speakers or visits.

*** indicates that we will have the function room.**

Job rota

| Date | Speaker host | Bulletin | S at A |
|-------------|---|-----------------|---------------|
| December 1 | Committees | D Rose | D Rabone |
| December 8 | B Stevenson | J Sykes | J Sheard |
| 2005 | | | |
| January 5 | Committees | G Vine | R Taylor |
| January 12 | J Thewlis | G Yule | H Barker |
| January 19 | D Allport | B Batty | H Boyes |
| January 26 | S Davies | T Burch | K Death |
| February 2 | Committees | S Day | D Dewhurst |
| February 9 | H Hill | N Hogben | G Hunt |
| February 16 | M Hurst | G Jackson | R Malabon |
| February 23 | S Kennedy | J Meeus | M McLeod |
| March 2 | Committees | A Newsome | J Mould |
| March 9 | No meeting - President's Night 11 March | | |
| March 16 | D Rabone | D Rose | D Poizer |
| March 23 | J Sheard | T Sheppard | B Stevenson |
| March 30 | No meeting - 5th Wednesday | | |
| April 6 | Committees | R Taylor | J Sykes |
| April 13 | J Thewlis | G Vine | G Yule |

If you cannot attend, please find a replacement!

BLIND RUN

Mrs Joan Kuroski, 13 Hulme Hall Cres., Cheadle Hulme

Tel: 485 6729 Pick up 7.00 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.

| | | |
|-------------|-------------|----------|
| December 7 | D Poizer | D Rabone |
| December 14 | D Rose | J Sheard |
| December 21 | B Stevenson | J Sykes |

2005

| | | |
|-------------|------------|-----------|
| January 4 | R Taylor | D Allport |
| January 11 | G Vine | G Yule |
| January 18 | B Batty | H Boyes |
| January 25 | T Burch | S Davies |
| February 1 | S Day | K Death |
| February 8 | D Dewhurst | H Hill |
| February 15 | N Hogben | J Holme |
| February 22 | G Hunt | M Hurst |
| March 1 | G Jackson | S Kennedy |
| March 8 | M Lacey | R Malabon |
| March 15 | J Meeus | J Mould |
| March 22 | A Newsome | D Poizer |
| March 29 | D Rabone | D Rose |



Celebrate in Rotary

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

**We meet at the the Ladybridge Park Resident's Club,
Edenbridge Road, Cheadle Hulme.**

Please send all copy for the bulletin to Dennis Allport, preferably as an attachment to an e-mail **in Rich Text Format (not Word)** - more resistant to virus attack.

dennis-allport@supanet.com