

***SERVICE Above Self***

**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](mailto:Apologies@bramhall-woodford-rotary.org.uk)

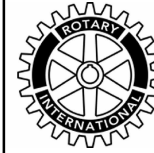
**before midday on Tuesday**

**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.

[dennisallport@waitrose.com](mailto:dennisallport@waitrose.com)

Rotarian



**Bramhall and Woodford Rotary Club**

# Bulletin

August 2007



**Geoff. Hunt**

**President 2007- 8**

## *Meanderings of an Ex-Colonial*

Here we go - a new Rotary year! Quite a challenge for us all.

Since 1991 Rotary has been a major part of my life, as indeed it has been for many of you. You will all have your own memorable experiences of a job well done in the name of Rotary.

Some sixteen years have passed since I first became involved. It was the time of Bramhall Festival in the park involving the club in much hard work to raise funds and at the same time provide a valuable community service. I was ready to get involved... and waiting to be asked to give something of value back to the community. Fortunately, David Dewhurst did the asking ... and here I am now serving the club as president all these many years later. How many people are out there just waiting to be asked - and what a responsibility for us all to do the asking. Let your enthusiasm shine! New members bring fresh ideas and a new impetus. If we are to go forward to reflect "Humanity in Action" we need people who recognise the value of putting Service to others at the top of their list. Our club is made up of such people and we need more to join us. They are all around us just waiting to be involved. It is up to us to let them know what we are all about and just what we are able to achieve as an organisation. After all, 1.2million Rotarians worldwide can't be wrong!

Regrettably, we have lost several members at the start of the new Rotary year, in particular John Mould, Sam Kennedy and Jonathan Sheard - all past presidents - who now find themselves with other obligations. Other members have moved away and, sadly, Herb Boyes passed away last year ..... they will all be missed. We hope that our Rotary widows will remain friends of the club and continue to be involved in all we seek to achieve. We really value their contribution in so many ways.

## Diary

August 1*	Committees
August 8*	Sue Shore, Stockport Lamplighter
August 15*	TBA
August 22*	DG Mike Payne. MP Mark Hunter present
August 29	No meeting – 5 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday: Clay Pigeon Shoot
September 5*	Committees
September 12*	Michael Lacey :One of my recent expeditions!
September 14-16	Trip to Antwerp, Bruges
September 19*	John Young: NW Agent Bank of England
September 26*	Garth Aspinall: Editor <i>Inside Bramhall</i>
September 28-30	District Conference: Southport
October 3	Committees
October 10*	Meeus/Monkhouse
October 13	possible date for the Fun Run
October 17	Dr Garry Hambleton: Care for the elderly
October 19	Charter Night
October 24*	Club Services
October 28	Collection day: Bikes for Africa
October 31	No meeting - 5 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday
November 7	Committees
November 14*	Poizer/Rabone
November 21	Rose/Sheppard
November 28*	Club Services
December 5	Committees
December 12*	Stevenson/Sykes
December 19	Christmas Dinner: Davenport Golf Club
December 26	No meeting
<b>2008</b>	
January 2	Committees
January 9*	Taylor/Thewlis
January 16	Thomas/Yule
January 23*	Club Services
January 30	No meeting. 5 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday
February 6	Committees
February 13*	Allport/Barker
February 20	Batty/Burch
February 27*	Club Services

\* indicates that we have the large function room

## Job rota

Date	Speaker host	Bulletin	S at A
August 1	Committees	D Allport	D Rose
August 8	D Poizer	J Knowles	C Monkhouse
August 15	T Sheppard	S Kennedy	T Burch
August 22	V Chattington	N Loveland	G Yule
August 29	No meeting: 5th Wednesday		
September 5	Committees	J Thomas	M Hurst
September 12	B Stevenson	G Vine	D Dev
September 19	M Lacey	D Allport	H Barker
September 26	G Jackson	S Davies	R Malabon
October 3	Committees	D Burstow	J Thewlis
October 10	H Hill	M Palmer	D McKeith
October 17	D Dewhurst	B Batty	A Newsome
October 24	J Meeus	D Rabone	D Poizer
October 31	No meeting: 5th Wednesday		
November 7	Committees	J Sykes	T Burch
November 14	J Knowles	T Sheppard	V Chattington
November 21	G Yule	M Hurst	N Loveland
November 28	J Thomas	B Stevenson	G Vine
December 5	Committees	D Dev	M Lacey
December 12	D Allport	H Barker	G Jackson
December 19	Christmas Dinner: Davenport GC		
December 26	No meeting		
<b>2008</b>			
January 2	Committees		
January 9	S Davies	R Malabon	D Burstow
January 16	J Thewlis	B Batty	H Hill
January 23	M Palmer	D Searson	D Dewhurst
January 30	No meeting: 5th Wednesday		
February 6	Committees	A Newsome	J Meeus

**If you cannot attend, please find a replacement!**

Life must move on, however, and I know we have the strength of dedicated committees with motivated chairmen. The future for the club looks bright and I remain highly optimistic that we can achieve a great deal together in this new Rotary year. We must all be involved in the club's achievements.

The motto for this year is "Rotary Shares". Let us all ensure that we can share the Rotary spirit with those so much less fortunate than ourselves.

The sun is down over the yard-arm. Time to splice the mainbrace – cheers!

Geoff.



'Captain' Hunt receives his chain of office!

# Secretary's Soapbox

## Booklets

I have copies of the RIBI and RI directories (lists of clubs with details of where they meet, who is the President etc).

I also have the RIBI and club constitutions and the "Insurance and the Rotary Club" booklets.

## Recent Council Meeting decisions

From Council Meeting 9-7-07

- We will decommit the Bikes for Africa £2000 on the charity account as the money can be replaced from the Lands End John O Groats bike ride
- Mark Hunter will be invited to become an honorary member when he visits
- We will not pursue the idea of twinning any further

From Council Meeting 21-5-07

- Council approved draft accounts and proposal to keep club subscription unchanged
- Council approved proposal convert the £600 loan to the charity account into a donation
- Council approved £500 donation to Indian "sewing group".

From Council Meeting 23-4-07

- The uncashed and expired £105 cheque re emergency boxes will be brought back into the accounts.
- Council gratefully accepted TB's offer to use his premises as the club's storage point.

## Attendance

Just a reminder that the club policy is to be totally relaxed when members cannot attend, but to ask that members do attend when they can!

Q2	2005	69.20%	16.5.07	19	Wateraid
Q3	2005	69.50%	23.5.07	21	AGM
Q4	2005	76.10%	6.6.07	21	ctees
Q1	2006	73.10%	13.6.07	21	Sue Ryder Care
Q2	2006	62.10%	20.6.07	17	Friends of B Park
Q3	2006	67.70%	27.6.07	19	Handover, Assembly
Q4	2006	74.10%	4.7.07	21	ctees
Q1	2007	71.00%	11.7.07	18	distributed chp
Q2	2007	67.10%	18.7.07	24	job talk

The left hand table shows attendance trends over the last couple of years, and the right hand table recent actual member attendance at meetings

Michael 25.7.07

## BLIND RUN

**Mrs Joan Goodall**, 3 Poise Brook Drive, Offerton

Tel: 456 2076

Pick up 7.15 pm

**Wyn and Harold Lawson**, 170 Ben Davies Court, Romiley

Tel: 406 9213

Pick up at 7.00 pm

**Mrs Dorothy Birch**, 53 Mill Lane, Woodley

Tel: 355 3252

Pick up 7.10 pm

Ring the four above 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 Bob Batty 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. To reach the Lawsons from Stockport go under the railway bridge by Romily railway station. The first on the left is Guywood Lane. Go up and take the second left. There is a passage leading to Ben Davies Court; they live in the downstairs flat.

### August

September 4

September 11

September 18

September 25

October 2

October 9

October 16

October 23

October 30

November 6

November 13

November 20

November 27

December 4

December 11

December 18

### 2008

January 8

January 15

January 22

### No blind run in August

R Malabon

M Lacey

R Malabon

J Meeus

A Newsome

D Poizer

D Rose

B Stevenson

J Thomas

G Yule

B Batty

V Chattington

D Dewhurst

G Jackson

M Lacey

R Malabon

D Rabone

N Loveland

D McKeith

C Monkhouse

M Palmer

G Hunt

T Sheppard

J Sykes

G Vine

D Allport

D Burstow

S Davies

M Hurst

J Knowles

N Loveland

D McKeith

C Monkhouse

M Palmer

D Rabone

## Energy efficiency or Baby, it's not cold outside

Climate change is here, but how far it goes is up to us.

The only way the government can act is by taxation, on fuels and vehicles. Without this imposition there are many things that you can do to reduce your carbon footprint, starting in your home.

The following facts come from Government sources, the periods are how long it will take to recoup the cost. Compare those periods with the interest you receive on savings. How far you go depends on what sort of world we want to leave for our grandchildren. You decide.

- 1) Draughtproof your home, windows, doors, where pipes go through outside walls, keyholes, gaps between timber ground floors and skirtings. Costs are minimal, savings are great, most being recouped in less than 1 year.
- 2) Effective insulation of your hot water cylinder..6 months for bonded foam insulation, 1 year for a fixed jacket
- 3) Cavity wall insulation 2.6 years
- 4) Loft insulation (10" of mineral wool) 2.7 years
- 5) Improved heating controls 3.4 years
- 6) 'A' rated boiler (condensing type) 8.9 years
- 7) Micro wind generator 10.5 years
- 8) Solar water heating 54.7 years!
- 9) Double glazing 97.6 years!( but you get a more comfortable house)

(Contributed by one who wants to keep Bramhall cool, man!).

# Meeting Reports



## To accrue or not to accrue

The AGM was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> May with an excellent attendance because, no doubt, television for the evening was dominated by the European Cup final between AC Milan and Liverpool. The senior Dev was a very welcome guest.

The meal was a fairly quiet affair featuring a healthy chicken and mushroom fricassie or the more popular, rich and cheesy, lasagne, quiet that is until AC Milan edged into the lead, against the run of play, of course, with an undeserved free kick shortly before half time.

Following the coffee break, Mike Palmer, the incoming Club treasurer, featured with his presentation of the accounts, or not, since the Club financial year is to change and so the accounts will not be completed for this year, or more accurately for this fifteen months, or thereabouts, until later in the year. Moreover different accounting systems were presented with those based on accrued income or expenditure managing to confuse many of the attendees, including yours truly. Following Mike's confident handling of a few naïve questions, various chairmen or alternates (I would prefer alternatives but there you are) presented reports on the year's activities. Fund raising for the

year was down because of the change of venue of the Christmas Grotto, but nevertheless was reasonably healthy, and all members were thanked for their hard work during the year. The pre-Christmas collection at Woodford Park turned out to be a pretty efficient way to raise dosh and we have been invited back pre Christmas this year, so members were asked take note and keep diaries clear.

The curiously named Fun run, an oxymoron to me, how can running be fun, but never mind, is to take place in the autumn and various dates were discussed. Late September or early October commanded most support but the details have yet to evolve since a sponsor is still sought although Woodford Park is likely to be the venue. However, not all the discussion was serious and lighter moments prevailed, thank goodness, although modesty prevents a written account of the more indelicate comments. However, AC Milan scored a second and, despite a late goal, Liverpool were unable to repeat their performance of two years ago, and lost, so helping to sustain the cheerful tone of the evening.

Important news leaked out that Michael Lacey, of age 61 and a cyclist for only a year or so, is to cycle from Lands End to John O'Groats to raise funds for charity. Apart from feeling concerned

for Michael's sense of judgement, cycling uphill and all that, and his target of averaging at least fifty miles per day, members were genuinely impressed by this brave example of Rotary derring-do and volunteered to a person to raise funds to make the feat worthwhile. However, there were no volunteers to accompany Michael on the trip.

The raffle had a worthy winner in John Sykes who was able to keep the splendid bottle of wine to himself since there wasn't an external speaker and the S A fined us all quite ruthlessly.

Jim Thomas

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### Committee Night – 6<sup>th</sup> June 2007

End of term?

Do you remember the feeling? Exams over ... can't wait for end of term. Time to idle gently to D Day. Well, end of term was definitely in the air – the last committee night of the year ... new committees chewing the fat, getting a few ideas together for the forthcoming year but nothing concrete at this stage. Chairmen all very wary and non-committal at this stage but throwing a few ideas into the arena nonetheless.

The meeting started gently, rolled on steadily and meandered to an early close.

John Thewlis reported that many members were vacationing around the world – he had little idea where, but Mac appeared to have all the answers. Tim Sheppard, however, was looking after his wife, Judith, and we all take this opportunity to wish her well.

Although committees were distinctly thin, valuable contributions were made

by the few chairmen in attendance – and by other members who were intoxicated by the glamour of the evening. Dennis Allport (Club Services), who is again off to Allport Towers for an extended stay, asked members to fulfill their obligations to find speakers/ events on their due dates in the new Rotary year. John Sykes (Community Service) had a number of ideas but was keeping his cards very close to his chest. He did, however, mumble something about getting “youth opportunities” off the ground.

Bob Stevenson suggested we should have a FOWL (or was it FOUL) evening, and went on to describe how it worked, much to the bemusement of all present. Bob works in a different dimension. I think he would make a fantastic Dr. Who!

Harry Hill made several useful suggestions for fundraising in the new Rotary year. However it transpired that these were not original thoughts but inspired by his wife, Maggie. What a

And one thing I haven't escaped, and that's the Welsh. We don't have a mad Master Mariner Locksmith who writes daily to the Telegraph, but we do have a Secretary called David Jones, who, when he stands up to read notices, always has his quote of the week. We don't have a Sergeant at Arms, or a raffle, either, but we do have a couple of architects (one, retired and at 75 has taught himself computer programming, and runs all the club administration, including the website – [www.cambridgerotary.org.uk](http://www.cambridgerotary.org.uk) - and his jokes are better than those DD has been circulating recently!). We also have some cricket fanatics (but Alan take note) they are more Essex than Lancashire. Then we have the layabouts like me – the ‘management consultants’ which is a euphemism for those of us whose pensions have kicked in (the novelty of someone paying me to do nothing still hasn't worn off) and who are just keeping their hands in three or four days a week ‘helping out’.

For me this means I can keep Tuesdays free for Rotary, but still keep out of the way when the likelihood of having to deal with something domestic rears its head. At the moment I'm working with an Art Gallery in Colchester. It's a charity, and has just got £16.5 million from the Arts Council, the Lottery, the East of England Development Agency and the local councils to build a new cultural centre as part of the regeneration of Colchester. Lovely people, but can't add up, so I've been brought in to sort out the finances, deal with HR (you wouldn't believe how badly – but not deliberately – charities treat their staff in terms of salary and conditions), and write a business plan. Look them up on [www.firstsite.uk.net](http://www.firstsite.uk.net). A whole new world and a cultural shock for them as well as for me. We've got to the Mr Micawber stage where they now know that on an income of £20-0s-0d per annum, expenditure of £19-19s-6d results in happiness, but expenditure of £20-0s-6d results in misery. My only problem is that most of them are so young they've never heard of pounds, shillings and pence, never mind Charles Dickens.

If any of you are in the area, do come and visit us. You will be made most welcome. Thank you all for your friendship and fellowship in the time I was with you. Since I joined Rotary in 1988 I have been a member of five different Rotary Clubs, and B&W is up there at the top. One of these days, when I'm in the north-west I shall come and inflict myself on you, and remind you how some of us had to twist Gordon's arm to persuade him to stand for vice, and then President – and what a good year he made of it.

With best wishes to you all

John Holme

# Letter to the editor



## Goodbye to all that

Well I've gone. 'At long last!' I hear the Rev Rabone cry. Yes, it's true, after nearly two years I've finally found a Rotary Club that's willing to take on the challenge. I am now a fully paid up (£110 per year!!) member of the Rotary Club of Cambridge (District 1080; RIBI No 94; Founded 1922 etc etc) with all of its 62 members, six honorary members and eight honorary life members.

In some ways very different from B&W, but very similar in others. We meet on Tuesday lunchtime at the University Arms hotel in Cambridge, with a monthly breakfast meeting and an evening meeting with guests four or five times a year. Both men and women, and all ages, even though it's lunchtime. Cambridge is not a big city, and Rotary has always been prominent in the town (though not so much with the University) so there's a lot of us still working go to it.

Even though it's a big club, it's very friendly, and is working hard to adapt to changing work and life circumstances. They were still very formal about my transfer, which took about four months, by the time I had written my application, been interviewed by two members of the membership committee, had their recommendations go to their committee, had the committee recommendations go to council, had the ten day circulation rule applied, and then been invited to transfer. Of course I was still joining them as a Rotary visitor during all this....

At the other extreme they are now concerned about the casualness of attendance, so as the newest member I've been given the job that is the ultimate in Rotary popularity stakes, that of Attendance Officer. It's not so much that they are trying to enforce the 60% rule, and crack the whip – but just to get people valuing Rotary membership more and turning up regularly rather than when they feel like it. We all know the fine line between enjoyment and chore in these circumstances. Fortunately I don't have to chase people, just play with the excel spreadsheet in the background. It's the immediate Past President who is going to wield the stick. More of a problem is the relationship with the hotel, and getting the numbers right. Lunch is £12, on which the hotel say they make nothing, (of course), and we get moved round rooms if there's a big function on, but like Ladybridge, it's got good facilities and is very central (and they've been going there for years and years) so there's no likelihood of change.

great addition to the club SHE would be.

Vida ( Social committee) aided and abetted by John Meeus appears to have already sorted out all the dates for the fun events of the new year...although she was thrown into a bit of a tizz when she learned that President Gordon had chosen 1<sup>st</sup> July for the President's barbecue. Don't worry, Vida, it will all fall into place as usual.

Gordon Jackson confirmed that £500 had been sent by the club to the Karaikudi Ladies club in India to help girls learn tailoring and embroidery. As a result of the withdrawal of Indian government support these job opportunities would otherwise have been lost. Our help is on a one-off basis and we have sought assurances that the money will be put to good use.

John Meeus reported that we had been well publicised in the local papers in regard to spin-a-wheel activities in support of Bramhall Hall – but that the articles had been mixed up in the

printing. Nothing new there then! However, our Belgium trip in September is all organised for 32 of us to spend a fun weekend in the company of the venerable Belgian consul.

Sid Davies reminded everyone that he is shortly to visit the Neuromuscular Unit at Winsford to meet Leigh Lawson, the young man going with members on the sailing ship, Tenacious, in August. Sid will be accompanied on the ship by Tony Burch, Chris. Monkhouse, Graham Vine and David Dewhurst .. the "B&WRC Intrepids"!

John Thewlis was roped in as Sgt.@ Arms on the evening and managed to get us all – even the few "boring" ones like me who had been impeccably behaved on the evening. Our latest potential recruit, David Searson, was invited to draw the raffle and inevitably drew his own ticket. A good quality white wine too. We shall clearly have to keep an eye on him!

Geoff. Hunt.

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## Friends of Bram(h)all Park 20 July

This evening was attended by a small but perfectly formed subset of the club. The buffet meal was one of the very best offering a choice of Steak and Kidney Pudding, Fried Fish Fillets, Salmon Pasta, Peppered Pork and Chicken Pie to die for. The desserts were equally numerous and scrumptious.

Between courses the club decided to take part in next year's district quiz even though we have no chance of winning. Vida's very interesting talk covered a brief history of Bramall Hall (including it not being sold to the USA) and the development of the Friends of the Hall in 1946 and then the Friends of the Park in 2000 only for them to merge into the Friends of the Hall and Park in 2006. Once a month on a Saturday the

friends work on various projects. These have included a picnic area, bulb garden and shrub garden. There were lots of Q & As which highlighted a massive vandalism problem in the park.

Committee reports were minimal (typical in the last month of a Rotary

year). Michael blabbed on about a bike ride, Bob Batty won the raffle and donated the wine to the Friends of he Hall and Park, and Henry fined everybody for trivial and incomprehensible reasons

Michael

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### Handover meeting 27<sup>th</sup> June

The task of bulletin reporter was mostly unnecessary for this meeting as we had all been provided with an excellent ringbounded set of reports from the various committee chairmen who read them out.

We had David Searson with us once more and hopefully we shall see him inducted officially soon. Doctor Harry had brought Terry Speake to suffer what would appear to an outsider a boring evening. However I was pleased to hear him remark afterwards that the lighthearted atmosphere made it better than his usual fishing club meetings. Dev's father-in-law was also present and Michael Yates our Assistant Governer had some comments about our efforts over the past year. He suggested that larger donations to fewer recipients brought more kudos to Rotary than many small ones. Bob Batty disagreed pointing out that the

smaller donations were usually to very local causes and brought more publicity for our Club than the larger ones to national causes.

The handover from President Gordon followed the brevity of his predecessors and incoming President Geoff's address stressed that we all must pull together to achieve our goals.

Vida cajoled the owners of barbeques, garden furniture and collapsible tables for the Presidents BBQ. You could sense the headmistress coming out in her.

Chris really excelled herself with a very tasty meal. Neil Loveland appeared minus his crutch: Ron as SAA extracted the usual.

All in all a meeting unique to B&W Rotary Club.

Sid

Pigeon shoot. Could these events be combined into a single spectacular night?

David D reported that donations/promises had been received for more than £3,600 for the Bicycles for Africa project and that 28th October had been set as the day for the bike collection from the public.

Bob Batty is now OIC Blind Run, but there are no collections/deliveries until 4th September.

John Sykes is such a gentleman that it was almost, but not quite, a pleasure to pay his SaA fines.

David D

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A fleeing Taliban fighter, desperate for a drink, was plodding through the Afghan desert when he came across a little man at a stall selling ties.

"Do you have water?" the Taliban rebel asked.

"No, but would like to buy a tie? Fifty pounds."

"Fool!" shouted the fighter. "I don't need an overpriced tie. I should kill you, but I must find water first."

"OK," said the stallholder. "It does not matter that you do not want my ties and that you hate me. I will show you I am a bigger man than that. If you continue over that hill for about four miles, you will find a lovely restaurant. It has all the ice-cold water you need."

Muttering, the fighter staggered over the hill. Several hours later, he staggered back.

"Your filthy swine of a brother won't let me in without a tie,"

This drunk sidles up to a man who is looking under the bonnet of his car.

"Whash the matter, mate? he asks.

"Piston broke," says the driver.

"Yeah?" replies the drunk, wandering off. "Me too."

One day, a man came home and was greeted by his wife dressed in a very sexy nightie. "Tie me up," she purred, "and you can do anything you want." So he tied her up and went golfing.



the Club will benefit from such an arrangement.

At 9.40 the President introduced the speaker, Abigail Pound from Greenpeace. Abigail played a 20 minute DVD on de-centralised energy and CHP (combined heat & power). The DVD provoked a great deal of interest and debate. It was clear from the questions put to Abigail that members have a healthy interest in this subject even if the DVD did give a rather prejudiced view of the UK's energy position. David Dewhurst, as Speaker's Host, and an admitted Greenpeace contributor, responded.

AOB- The President mentioned the Dragon Boat race at Salford Quays at which Rotary will be represented on 27

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## Meeting 18 July

It is always good to see more than one female face at a Club meeting and last week we had seven, plus two visitors.

I had a deja vue moment last week. I am sure that Mike Barker had already told us all about Rotary Foundation on a previous occasion, but it was still very interesting, in particular that now we would appear to be in line to benefit from match funding for the Bicycles for Africa project. The figures are amazing. \$100million per year in grants. The first contribution was \$26 left over from an

July and the Club purchasing new members name badges @£5 per head to be paid out of the Club's general funds as recommended by Council. Graham Yule put forward an amendment that the badges not be bought and that subscriptions instead be reduced by £5 to £85. The amendment failed and the meeting carried the President's motion.

After some confusion regarding the winner of the raffle Michael Lacey claimed the prize which he graciously gave to the speaker. Graham Yule acted as Sergeant at Arms and extracted fines from those members he had not exempted.

Mike Palmer

early District Assembly. Since then Polio Plus has removed that terrible disease from all except four of the countries in the world. The war in Angola stopped on 3 occasions for 3 days so that inoculations could take place (can someone tell me what the difference is between inoculation and immunisation).

Committee reports were minimal, so many of the members being away on vacation and business. This didn't stop Vida from announcing that we now have a Club quiz team and some members had signed up for the Clay

## Committees on 4 July

President Geoff opened his first full meeting as President with the words that he had folders for each committee.

We wondered what the largess was with crisps on our plates. This was explained by Vida, in her full Uncle Sam Regalia, that these were from the Past President's Barbeque and that as they were not on a sale or return basis the Club should have the benefit.

The Treasurer or was it the past treasurer said that there was some £2085.90 in the Charity Account with £2009 in the General Account with £230 in advance payments. This year the accounts would be on a 15 month basis to align with the Rotary Year and the Club would be changing from the current basis of a cash account. He reminded members that the Subs for this year were £90 and that they should be sent to Mike Palmer, the new Treasurer as soon as possible as District had already sent an invoice for the capitation fee that had to be paid by the end of July 2007.

Tony Burch in his role of Guardian of the Club's equipment said that a lot of the equipment was still missing and he asked members to look in their garages, lofts and sheds to try and locate it.

The President thanked the Club on behalf of the immediate past President Gordon who as customarily stayed away on the first evening after

Handover for there attendance at the barbeque and for the food. In this respect he thanked David Rabone and his gang.

Graham Yule in the absence of John Thewlis gave apologies for absence and indicated that there were two persons absent without permission. They would be duly fined.

After the meal committees met and true to his word the President came to every committee with folders in hand but also made some helpful suggestions about what the committee might do during the year. This did not always coincide with what the committee were proposing.

Reports back from the committee coincided mainly with the proposals in the 2007-2008 Programme which had been issued to Members.

In summary

Ways and Means

Woodford Grange – There was to be a meeting with the High Sheriff of Cheshire, who had some responsibility for Woodford Grange about the Grotto. They would report back on any progress.

It was hoped that the Fun Run would be in Bramhall Park as Woodford Grange could be too dangerous because of the vehicle entry and exit. They thought that company sponsorship was unlikely.

Chris Monkhouse was approaching Waitrose about a possible collection there.

There were possibilities of a theatre visit and a race night..

#### House and Membership

There were ongoing discussions about the cost of the room at the Ladybridge Club and they would report back at some future date.

They were to induct a new member on the 18 July.

Mark Hunter, MP would be visiting the Club on 15 August and it was proposed that he should be asked to become an Honorary member of the Club.

The diary for the year was well advanced. On 15 August IPDG Michael Barker was to speak about Foundation. Wives would be invited to attend..

#### Community Service and Vocation

Footpath – The clearing was not urgent and would be postponed due to the wet weather.

There would be visits to Primary Schools rather than Bramhall High School to discuss Junior Youth Speaks.

#### International

Bicycles for Africa – This would be funded from Michael Lacey's cycle ride. The Matching Grant application was very slow but it was approaching holiday time and they were still hopeful.

#### Foundation

Henry said that President Geoff and Immediate Past President Gordon and he had attended the District Council

Meeting the previous Friday and that there were to be 5 Zones instead of 4 and the District Governor Nominee would be the Chairman for the 5<sup>th</sup> Zone. There had been some changes under the Council of Legislation. The attendance rule would now be 50% and Group Study Exchange could include people between 40 and 50.

The most important aspect was that the meeting finished on time at 9.00pm.

#### Social

There would be a Clay Pigeon Shoot on 25 August (5<sup>th</sup> Wednesday) Approximate cost £55. Information would be circulated by Email.

Antwerp Trip It was essential that the air fare must be paid in full by the end of July. Cheques to Mike Palmer.

Charter Night would be a Caribbean Theme and it was proposed that it be at Bramhall Park Golf Club.

PRO John said that he still had labels for books.

The raffle was won by the author of this report possibly as a bribe to get the Bulletin report in early.

Vida acted as Sergeant at Arms in place of John Thewlis. She swelled the Clubs coffers by fining everyone she could.

Finally President Geoff reminded Club Officers, Chairmen of Committees and Members that there was a Council Meeting at 8pm on Monday 9 July.

David Burstow

## Greenpeace: 11 July

The President opened the meeting by inducting Davis Searson who was warmly welcomed by all. Michael Lacey circulated The White Book which he has weeded and now contains numerous pictures of his Lands End to John O'Groats cycle ride including a detailed map of his route. Chris once again produced an excellent meal with a starter of French Onion soup, a choice of main courses between sweet & sour chicken and seafood Lasagne. Desert was fresh strawberry meringue or ice cream.

Immediately after coffee the following reports were made:-

Secretary – Michael Lacey mentioned that certain members were failing to attend on a regular basis and these members have been contacted by the President.

Treasurer – Mike Palmer mentioned that the handover from Tony Burch has not been completed because the accounts for the 15 months ended 30 June 2007 have yet to be audited. He gave details of the effective balances on the General Account £2010 and the Charity Account £2086 and asked members to let him have the 2007 subscriptions of £90 per head and the Antwerp flight costs of £95 per head as soon as possible. Sponsorship forms and sponsorship money for Michael's cycle ride are to be passed to David Dewhurst.

Sales – Graham Yule reminded new members in particular of the range of goods he has for sale.

Ways & Means – David Rabone mentioned The Fun Run and Christmas Grotto as the club's main fundraisers and his Committee is meeting regularly to progress these matters.

Club Services – Gordon Jackson confirmed the £510 to the Indian Sewing Club had been sent and receipt acknowledged.

Community Service – John Sykes had nothing to add to the report he made the previous week.

Social – Vida Chattington mentioned the Clay Pigeon shoot and Chris Monkhouse agreed to circulate his e-mail again as, to date, only a few expressions of interest have been received.

PRO – John Meeus mentioned the publicity regarding Michael's cycle ride and the Antwerp trip costs, details of which he has e-mailed members.

International - David Dewhurst mentioned Bicycles for Africa and reminded members that sponsorship forms an sponsorship money for Michael's cycle ride are now due and should be sent to him. The intention to "twin" with another Club will not now be pursued as it is considered unlikely