

Rotarian



**Bramhall and Woodford Rotary Club**

# ***Bulletin***

October 2007



'Tenacious' under full sail  
(if you look very carefully you may be able to see Sid Davies on the port side!)

# *Geoff's Jottings ....*

Hi Everyone,

A quarter of the way through the Rotary year and what have we achieved? Well, quite a lot actually ..... and good publicity for the club in the local press. Well done PRO John.

Michael Lacey and friends successfully completed their momentous Lands End to John O'Groats cycle ride, despite appalling weather, and raised a substantial sum of money towards our Bikes for Africa project. Together with sponsorship raised via club members and the benefit of Matching Grant approval from Rotary International this project is now largely funded and we are ready to begin collecting the bikes for Namibia later this month.

Our "B&WRC Intrepids" accompanied Leigh Lawson from the Neuromuscular Unit on the sailing ship, Tenacious in August, and despite some atrocious weather at sea, found the whole experience uplifting. Certainly, Leigh enjoyed the trip immensely so many thanks to Tony, Sid, David, Chris, Graham, John and Michael.

Together with other zone presidents, and in the company of District Governor Mike Payne, I visited Stockport Town Hall and met with the Lady Mayor to raise the profile of Rotary in our area. As an honorary member of Stockport Club she was clearly very receptive and has pledged her support. Her chosen charity is Beechwood Cancer Care and, on the recommendation of our Community Service Committee, we have now donated £500 to that worthy cause.

On the membership front, we have inducted David Searson as a new member. Welcome David – we all hope you enjoy your time in Rotary as much as we do. We have also brought Mark Hunter MP for Cheadle into our club as an honorary member. Mark is very keen to support us in all our activities, subject of course to his considerable parliamentary duties.

- Everyone now has a name badge. Lose it at your peril!
- We have cleared the Woodford footpath again. David Rose and Harry Hill wielding strimmer and hedge trimmer made a dangerous medical combination. We would do well to steer clear of this medical duo who delighted in hacking down all before them.
- Vida and I visited the Rotary Club of Manchester to listen to the Prime Minister of Jammu and Kashmir. His subject “Peace the World Over Not Terrorism” was the magnet. It promised much but delivered little as nobody could hear or understand a word! Still, it was a good networking experience.

Finally, a big thank you to John Meeus for organising a splendid long weekend in Belgium. Antwerp and Bruges were both fascinating to visit. A wonderful trip in great company with lovely weather as a bonus.

Quite a first quarter – not to mention the District Quiz, the newly extended Blind Run and a series of excellent speakers. I also send special thanks to Maggie and Harry for their fun evening to raise funds – clearly enjoyed by everyone.

We have the momentum and lots of interesting activities planned in the next quarter. Can we keep it up? You betcha!!

Geoff.



# 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 10-9-07

- Club will buy badges for all new members including honorary members
- .At the decision and discretion of club services committee the bulletin will be sent (in paper form) to recent leavers who live locally. (e.g. John, Sam, Jonathan)
- Club Services will brief the holders of the apology telephone line that it may also be a more general number used to contact the club. Our policy of not putting members' addresses or telephone numbers in the general public domain (e.g. in the press or on the web) continues
- We will continue, for a while at least, with the electronic version of the bulletin. We will keep the paper version indefinitely
- We will donate £500 to Beechwood Cancer Care
- The Fun Run and Duck Race will be postponed – probably until spring 2008.

From Council Meeting 6-8-07

- If we do not soon find our wooden Rotary roundel we will buy a new one
- The club will offer to host the incoming Dallas GSE team for a day.
- We will seek volunteers from the club to do home hosting for a few days for the incoming GSE team from Dallas
- In principle a well thought out and costed Duck Race would be supported by council
- Club will pay for meals for Leigh Lawson and both his parents when they visit on Wednesday.

## 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!

You can all have a rest from attendance statistics this issue!

It will soon be time to let me know about your make-ups for missed meeting for July/August/September. Make up attendances can be by community service projects (e.g. blind run, footpath clearance, stroke awareness, xmas grotto, fun run, tin rattling etc.), visits to another Rotary club, club council meetings, District conference or meetings, or any club event approved by council. This includes social events organised by the club. They can be up to 14 days either side of a missed club meeting.

Michael 18.9.07

# Meeting Reports



## Committee Night – August 1st 2007

Eleven out of the twelve astronauts who walked on the moon had been one. There are 450,000 of them in the UK at this moment. This was just some of the data offered by the President in proposing an opening toast to the Scout Movement celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> birthday that day.

John Meeus then traced the rather briefer history of Rotary name badges, outlining the various merits and drawbacks of the various models. The selection of his favoured design was trumped by an interjection from the President indicating that he had, in fact, already organised new badges.

The Poynton Club had sent a cheque for £250 in recognition of the support given by our club on the evening of their Brass & Beatles event, which we were reliably informed had raised altogether something in excess of £17,000. Dennis Allport topped this with news that the Padstow Club had raised £19,000 from a recent open air concert.

John Thewlis reported that there were no guests but his update on the “sick, lame & lazy” was described by the President as his highlight of the evening.

This did not augur well for the committee reports that were destined to follow.

The Secretary had “nothing significant to report”. In the absence of the Treasurer, the ex-treasurer urged paid a plea to those recalcitrants who, to their shame, had not yet paid an annual subscription.

**Ways and Means** David Rabone confirmed that the Fun Run is to proceed on 13<sup>th</sup> October. Stockport MBC has accepted outline plans and a further application with risk assessments will now be made. Harry Hill is arranging a Soirée (aka “Bring a fiver (or more) Evening”) at his home on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> August, a joint event for the Club and the staff of the Health Centre.

**Membership & Club Service** Dennis Allport reminded us that the Club has lost three members recently and with another loss likely in the near future, the onus is on all members to seek out possible new members. The next Bulletin is almost ready. There was then some discussion on whether this should be made available electronically as well as, or in stead of, hard copy. A straw poll indicated little enthusiasm for this move.

**Community Service** John Sykes reported that Bob Battye is to assume responsibility for the organisation of the blind Run. There is the possibility that two additional people might like to be transported. The duty rota is being revised and members, who for reasons of the unsuitability of their car or the unavailability of its driver, wished to be removed from the list, were asked to indicate this to Bob without delay. A working party will be attacking the footpath on Friday 17th August beginning at the Hall Moss Road end at 10am. An invitation from a Rotarian in Cali, Colombia to take responsibility for his 18 year old daughter for a year had not been taken up.

**International** "I appeal to you" was David Dewhurst's opening remark. £4,200 has been raised thus far for the Bicycle project and the eventual destination of the bicycles is likely to be a remote area close to the Angolan border. It is a very spread out community. There is a short growing season but the local speciality is the catching, drying and eating of toad. There is to be a Group Study Exchange with Dallas in April 2008. Participants

aged between 25 and 40 are sought but with the limitation that they can't be related to a Rotary member. Selection takes place in September. There is also a need for house hosts and day hosts when the return group come to England in May and early June.

**Social** Vida Chattington indicated that the Club is entering two teams for the District Quiz on September 11<sup>th</sup>. Arrangements are in hand for the Charter Night on 19<sup>th</sup> October and the Christmas Party on 19<sup>th</sup> December.

**PRO** John Meeus drew attention to the positive publicity that had emerged from Michael Lacey's bicycle marathon.

The president indicated that in future, when a speaker has been invited by a member, then that member will automatically be the Speaker's Host for the evening.

John Knowles

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## Getting older according to Bob Hope

At age 20, we worry about what others think about us; at 40 we don't care what they think of us; at 60 we discover they haven't been thinking of us at all.

I don't feel old. In fact I don't feel anything until noon. Then it's time for my nap.

## **Meeting August 8<sup>th</sup> – Sue Shore – Stockport Lamplighter**

This report is being written for very few readers. This meeting boasted the highest percentage attendance since (Michael Lacey's) records began. We had 30 out of 35 members, the speaker plus three guests, Terry Speak (guest of Harry Hill) and Glyn and Lee Lawson (guest of Sid Davies – Lee was to sail with our members on the Tenacious the following week). This was five more people than we had catered for. Tim Sheppard rose well to this challenge in his new role and Chris managed to provide meals for all of us (the fish pie was excellent), with seconds available for the usual suspects.

President Geoff had a little trouble keeping us all in order and resorted to issuing name badges. There was a short debate about whether we could be trusted to take the badges home and remember to bring them back for each meeting. After an inconclusive vote (proof for Tony Burch that “democracy doesn't work”) President Geoff made an executive decision and the badges went home in members' pockets. A rich source of future fines for the Sergeant-at-Arms!

At the start of the meeting, you would have been forgiven for thinking you were in an extremely disorganised Waterstone's store with both Vida and John Thewlis selling books – both for very good causes!

Things settled down after the meal for our speaker – Sue Shore, who is Immediate Past-President of Stockport Lamplighters. Sue gave an excellent and honest appraisal on successes and failures for her club in attracting and retaining members and in fund raising. Stockport Lamplighters has 40 members now and has never had less than 35. The average age is just over 60. Members include one married couple and four other women members.

Ideas to think about:

- They have had great success from SINning! For their Special Invitation Night they attracted nine potential new members, nine of whom have since joined. The key to success was probably the careful preparation (eg sending them the Rotary International CD Rom before the evening) and persistent follow-up.
- Sue put a very strong emphasis on the social and active theme for the club. This is a key factor in recruiting and retaining members.
- They changed the approach to the Christmas float last year. Fewer street collections in the evenings and more emphasis on collecting in shops (eg Tesco) meant all Rotarians could participate. They raised £7,000 and 35 Rotarians were involved. It also allowed Sue to dress up as a polar bear!
- The Swimathon was redesigned as well. The key change was to allow the 16 teams who entered to take

50% of what they raised for their own nominated charities. Total funds raised were over £4,000.

- They ran a Duck Race – as much for the community involvement as the fund raising (£1,200). It also gave Sue the opportunity to indulge in her animal costume obsession – this time as a duck.
- At meetings Lamplighters use named table settings to deliberately mix up members. (I think we are mixed up enough already).

In the question and answer session, Dev asked the obvious question for many of us – “what are Lamplighters”? It seems that as a daughter club of Stockport Rotary they wanted something a bit more interesting as a name. This

reflects the fact that they meet in the evenings and the Stockport club meets at lunchtime. There was also a healthy debate amongst B&W members about the merits or otherwise of guest/membership evenings.

A short business session followed with various date announcements and reminders.

President Geoff forgot about the Sergeant-at-Arms for the second week in a row. When Chris Monkhouse eventually got his chance, he fined everyone in the club. This included fining himself – for some transgression that he refused to reveal!

David McKeith

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### **DNA to the rescue!**

With seven members sailing the high seas on Tenacious on 15<sup>th</sup> August, an attendance of 21 was pretty good. The seven missed a very good evening. For starters, Chris once again presented us with a splendid buffet meal, allowing the gluttons second helpings.

Then our speaker, John Creer gave a most interesting talk on his ‘obsession’ with genealogy (his words, not mine). John is ex-ICI and worked overseas with Alan Newsome many years ago. Since retirement John followed his family tree with great determination. All Creers apparently originate from the Isle of Man. John’s antecedents

were poor people, farming and fishing, with some emigrating to find better lives in USA and Australia. John ran out of formal records of his family line and decided to look at all Creers wherever he could find them – a so-called one-name study. The question that faced him was ‘which of all these people came from the same common ancestor?’ Well, a peek at their DNA will tell you that! So John contacted carefully selected Creers and persuaded members of 13 family groups with an 8 generation documented history to have DNA tests. This test is simple and costs up to £100. The sample who agreed to the test (22 people in all) represented about 50% of all living Creers. Of these 17 were closely related, whilst the

remainder were not. This could have been for a variety of reasons such as illegitimacy, adoption, name change etc. So John was able to construct a genetic family tree going back to the 1300's! It seemed that all these Creers had a common ancestor in the Isle of Man! A fascinating talk. John is writing a book about his story.

Business was mercifully brief. Mark Hunter, MP, will become an Honorary Member on 22 August in the presence of our DG. We hope to establish a new

telephone number for enquiries to the club (ie. not meal apologies), and our membership list will be removed before copies of the Bulletin are given to guests in future. Dates to remember include the Fun Run on 13 October, and the Caribbean Charter Night party on 19 October.

Both Gordon and Bob B won bottles of wine, and Harry was in a determinedly fining mood as [S@A](#).

Dennis Allport

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### **Our DG visits**

The meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> August was opened by Geoff who welcomed the District Governor, Mike Payne and Mark Hunter, our local M.P. Mark was given Honorary Membership of our Club; he gave a short speech of thanks and stated that he would attend meetings as frequently as Parliamentary duties allowed.

Mike Payne then commenced his talk with a review of aims and the current status of Rotary. Membership has been falling over the past 15 years, particularly in the West. The President of Rotary worldwide is a Canadian W.J Wilkinson, elected for his work organizing the Centennial Convention in Chicago.

The new Logo is 'Rotary Shares.' The main objectives are Health, Literacy and to supply water using the latest

technologies. A special objective was to aid Millennium villages in sub-Saharan Africa. The policy of supporting local charities, particularly Cancer related, has not changed. New membership development is a priority. A Presidential citation is awarded to the club for any new members enrolled. This address reinforced the message from Sue Shore, Stockport Lamplighters on August 8th. At major events a Road Show stand is available and Geoff Skelmersdale is the contact for this.

Communication between clubs regarding successful fundraising was to be promoted.

The Christmas Collection can be taken at Woodford Park Garden Centre again this year.

John Meeus then summarised the voyage of our 'Intrepid Mariners'

aboard Tenacious. They set sail from Southampton to Benbridge. Deteriorating weather conditions, with a force 10 imminent resulted in mal de mer affecting some of our members.

On Tuesday they sailed into Cherbourg and had a welcome meal and several glasses ashore. Wednesday, they departed for Swanick. Unfortunately they did not make it to the Channel Islands. The scheduled time back to Southampton was doubled to 12 hours due to high winds. Tony Birch was thanked for all his tireless assistance to

Lee. John stated that none of the disabled complained in spite of the conditions. All in all it was an exhilarating and worthwhile trip.

The meeting closed with Gordon, as Sgt. at Arms, revenging himself for previous fines, and Harry was fined for 'waving his large chopper in the undergrowth!'

Neil Loveland

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### Rotary Clay Shoot

On Wednesday afternoon 29<sup>th</sup> August, Chris, Mary & Peter Monkhouse, David & Mary McKeith, David & Kate Dewhurst, Ron, Michael, Neil, John Meeus and Chris's friend Barry went along to the Manchester Clay Shooting Club at Worsley.

I had received an email from a recent Past President, expressing grave concern over this flagrant ill treatment of poor defenceless clays. It was so impassioned that I feel it appropriate to reprint it in full and thank him for this, vain, attempt to make us psychopaths see the error of our ways –

On behalf of all clay pigeons, could I raise a voice in protest for those who have no voice. These poor flighty creatures have only a brief life span before being so

cruelly despatched by deranged psychopaths wearing Rotary sweatshirts (get yours for only £15 from Graham). The last thing these wretched beings hear is PULL!!! followed by a loud bang and then oblivion. However, I understand that Rotarians, being such rotten shots, do offer a sporting chance and some escape to live fulfilling lives as a discus for Tamara Press.

Could I offer an alternative to this cruel pastime by replacing the 'birds' with parking attendants or, even better, wheel clampers. I believe that this simple change will turn this horrible 'sport' into a national pastime for the whole family.

Alas, to no avail, for by definition a psychopath behaves "without empathy or remorse" and we just couldn't wait to blast 'em to bits with huge guns.

After a dusty two mile drive into Botany Bay Woods we were met by the Clubs Andrew Chadwick, and split up into three groups, each with an experienced instructor and kit was provided in the form of a shooting vest, and (H&S Officer David Rose please note) safety glasses and ear defenders. I was delighted to discover that my group had as instructor, Phil Howarth. Phil and I go back some 35 years or more, when we were both pistol shooters – Phil represented GB and I was County Coach for Cheshire.

The Clubhouse was very impressive indeed, all pretty new with café area, locker room, conference room and wooden decked patio. The shooting stands are all close by and linked by good gravel paths.

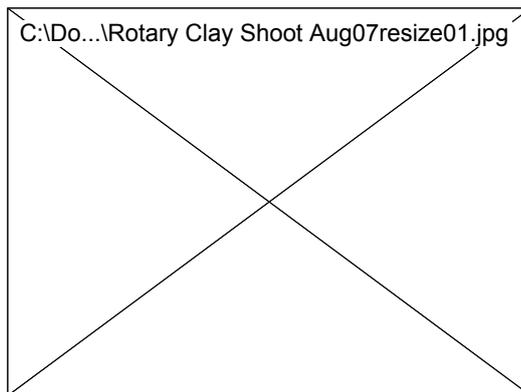
Now properly equipped, we made our way to the first stand and Phil said “this gun has a 28” barrel, which is why I am never going to be more than 28” from you ...!” Some excellent tuition ensured that everyone ‘busted clays’. We moved from stand to stand as

electronically controlled fully automatic clay launchers, or ‘traps’ as they are known, fired clays in a variety of trajectories, to mimic sporting birds – ‘springing teal’ was one. As a long time shooter, Phil made sure that I was well and truly ‘handicapped’ throwing some fiendishly difficult doubles for me – that’s two in the air at once, heading in different directions!

After a many rounds of practice, time for ‘The competition’, from which I was disqualified! John Meeus shot like a natural and scooped the trophy with an excellent score of 15 out of 25. So, after some fifty or sixty rounds of 12 bore pounding, we retired at 7:30pm battered and bruised (literally!), to the John Gilbert Pub where a table awaited us and a good meal was had, eventually, by all.

The Club took a group photograph and printed a superb A4 size copy which was also presented to John.

Chris Monkhouse



### **The biker's report: 12<sup>th</sup> September**

Tim welcomed guests and visitors with special mention for Michael's co-bikers Tony Hoy and Tom Martin & their intrepid "ground crew Clare and Pam. Michael, Tony and Tom were sporting "End-to-End-Done It! T shirts as final and incontrovertible proof that they had indeed Done-It, rather than sitting at home faking digital photos from Tourist Board websites.

On personal notes, David McKeith admitted to being in the Doghouse for failing to inform Mary that wives were invited until it was too late to invite her! Michael seems to have become so bonded with his bike that he not merely brought it to Dinner with him, but took it for a coffee as well It is not known to your scribe whether the bike takes sugar; at least Michael did bring Pam as well.

It was explained to us during the presentation that the total ride was 969.3 miles ( Michel being keen that the .3 not be forgotten) . An average of 70 miles per day @ a mounted average speed of 12 mph despite atrocious weather including the wettest day for 50 years and homicidal White Van Drivers.

Over £10,700 was raised including Gift Aid for Bikes for Africa and Motor Neurone Disease.

On moving to Reports:

Michael L. was all reported-out and had nothing further to report.

Mike P was away on holiday and had not flown back to report.

Graham Yule reported that he had bargain new members packs @ only £499 each and Sweatshirts for a slightly more modest 15 quid, 'though he did not appear in any danger of being killed in a rush for either.

Community Service , John Sykes reported that £500 had been donated to Beechwood Cancer Care.

Ways & Means, David Raybone reported that the Duck race and Fun Run had been deferred until Spring 2008 to avoid the ducks being wrecked on icebergs.

Vida reported that Blond Birdbrain had allowed Gatley to beat them in the quiz to avoid Gatley suffering terminal embarrassment, nevertheless still finishing 6 out of 19.

Gordon Jackson informed members that he was prepared to flog spare stuff on E Bay on behalf of Rotary funds and details of anything floggable should be passed to him.

Henry Barker won the raffle.

Richard Taylor was Sergeant @ Arms and after a long winge about not having got any Steak Pie, fined all and sundry even if he did not know who they were.

Graham Vine

**Committee night – 5<sup>th</sup> September**  
**“I will have more to say next week”**

It's fair to say that the attendance at September's Committee night was thin, not that the attendees were thin, far from it, but many members and their WAGs were taking advantage of the end of school holidays to take a break in some steamy, foreign hot spot or were working abroad - quite. Proceedings, such as they were, were presided over by our ex-, deputy, vice, pro-president of yesteryear, the Honourable Gordon and, indeed, by common consent, he did an excellent job this time.

The meal featured lasagne for the cheese freaks or the more healthy chicken with peppers for the health freaks, with plenty of seconds or more for the less reticent members. The main business should have been reports from committees, but as most committee chairpersons were gallivanting in some distant clime, full reports were rather thin on the ground. (I hope you don't get the feeling that your raconteur wishes he too had been off on some sort of jolly.) Nevertheless spirits rose during the course of the evening, perhaps due to diligent service from the bar staff, and much jocularly, albeit with a little business, ensued.

Plans were revealed for some pretty intensive fund raising for the next few months, with the Fun Run, Bicycles for Africa, and Christmas collections at Woodford Park and possibly Waitrose being on the agenda. Although since this meeting the Fun Run has been postponed, the date of collection of bicycles for the Bicycles for Africa project has been confirmed for 28<sup>th</sup> October and members with strong arms and a mechanical turn of mind, which means everybody, will be asked to help to remove pedals, bend handlebars and load bikes, or make cups of tea and chat up the punters, in the venue, the car park outside Bramhall library/health centre, on the day. Indeed, perhaps donors will feel able to donate the £10 each to pay for their bikes to go to Africa. Volunteers are required to put this point across. Who are the most persuasive members?

It has to be said that the Bicycles for Africa project is a really outstanding one. The more you learn about what is going on in some parts of Africa the more you realise that anything we can do we simply have to. In this case, it isn't just a case of giving bikes and that is the end of it; this is just the beginning. The idea is to set up an organisation, a not-for-profits business if you like, which will be able to accept,

repair and modify bikes for years to come. This will have a long term impact on the local communities in Namibia. On the 28<sup>th</sup> October, we simply don't know how many bikes to expect. There must be many unused bikes in Bramhall and the second hand market is virtually moribund but will the gentry of Bramhall spare the time during a possibly wet Sunday in October to help. We'll just have to wait and see. My guess is that we will easily get 50-100 bikes but, at the moment, this is very big uncertainty. So informal publicity before the big day from members spreading the word will be very helpful.

Apart from discussions about projects, brainy members were asked to

volunteer for the quiz to be held the following week. It was pointed out that the club had not covered itself with glory on previous occasions. This was possibly due to the wrong questions being asked since we undoubtedly had the right answers but the wine consumed by our teams may have had some small influence on the outcomes. Nevertheless volunteers were recruited and apparently excelled this year.

Finally, when asked to report on sales, Graham Yule, who was also S at A made the remark at the head of this report. The meeting finished early at 10.15 p.m.

Jim Mitchell, nee Thomas

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### **The bank of last resort**

It was opportune that David McKeith had asked John Young, an agent of the Bank of England, to come to speak to us on 19<sup>th</sup> September amidst the financial turmoil of Northern Rock and the day before the Governor of the BoE was 'up before' the Parliamentary committee scrutinising his activities. If we were expecting some insider information or an opinion of the wisdom of a particular action we were to be disappointed! The bank's role is to maintain financial stability and meet an inflation target by controlling

interest rates. It is not to pander to the likes of us by rocking the boat!

John's role is to talk to a wide cross section of local businesses and banks to see how they are affected by and are coping with the pressures of the moment, and from this mass of details to distil trends, changes and sentiment to help his masters in London take more meaningful decisions on interest rates, liquidity and other critical parameters of our nation's monetary health. John's small team has about 1000 meetings a year in the North West (that's a lot when you think of it) and

we were one of them! We even gave him a certificate to prove that he wasn't having a jolly!

So if this talk was a rather scholarly exposition of the nuts and bolts of the BoE's system of dealing with events, we certainly got the feeling that they go to a lot of trouble to keep their banking ears to the ground on our behalf. Some very intelligent questions did not manage to elicit any impropriety, nor would we expect any, but it was fun trying anyway.

Michael, who once was solicited by a Scottish BoE agent for his opinion, felt justified that his views (at least once) might have been taken into account in the highest echelons of financial decision taking. This alone was sufficient for Michael to express our thanks to John for his interesting talk.

Following this, there were few reports from the club. John Meeus was warmly

thanked for arranging a superb trip to Antwerp and Bruges, Sid's attempt to tarnish our President's unblemished reputation (so he tells us, and I for one believe him) by issuing a scurrilous letter full of falsehoods was rumbled and a strong plea was made for much more support for our Charter Evening on October 19<sup>th</sup>. Gordon is arranging a 'Bikes for Africa'/'get to know Rotary' evening at his home on 17<sup>th</sup> November for residents in his locality. Helpers would be called for in due course. This is a splendid effort to recruit and inform and to help our major project.

John Thewlis won a bottle of the very wine he had bought for the raffle and Henry took exception to many innocuous goings-on that Rotarians are prone to, and fined many, but not all, mercilessly.

Dennis Allport



## **Naomi is on model behaviour for flood relief charity appeal**

By John Walsh (abstracted from the Independent newspaper published on 19 September 2007)

They are hardly obvious bedfellows. One is a 37-year-old catwalk beauty with a hair-trigger temper and a habit of hurling mobile phones at underlings; the other is a venerable, 102-year-old organisation of do-gooding professionals devoted to understanding, goodwill and peace. One divides her time between lucrative photo-shoots, post-rehab therapy and court appearances; the other devotes its energy to funding literacy and hunger projects and giving young people university scholarships. Until recently, they were barely aware of each other's existence. Now they are inseparable.

Naomi Campbell and the Rotary club - the odd couple of modern British charity - are collaborating to raise money for victims of this summer's floods in Yorkshire, Worcestershire, Gloucestershire and the Thames Valley. "What really got to me was that kids couldn't go to school at the start of the term and were herded into a gymnasium," she said yesterday. "I thought, 'What can we do?' A friend said, 'Do what you did in New York!'" The South London-born model founded the charity Fashion for Relief, which last year raised millions of dollars for the Hurricane Katrina appeal with a catwalk show during New York Fashion Week.

Ms Campbell has now set up a similar event for London Fashion Week, with all proceeds going to the Rotary's flood disaster appeal. Everyone in her capacious address book has been invited. Tomorrow night in the British Fashion Council's tent at the Natural History Museum, a glamorous throng of supermodels, designers, actors, footballers, socialites and freelance celebrities will strut down the runway.

Warily surveying this circus of froth is Allan Jagger, the president of Rotary International's Great Britain and Ireland chapter. The straight-talking, no-nonsense engineer from Leeds is a seasoned fundraiser and donor, supporter of Scouting and fan of caravanning. "We are just not properly set up for dealing with disasters in this country," he says, "But, from the start, Rotary has been raising money, getting an appeal before the public and replacing community projects that were damaged."

"When the money comes in," said Mr Jagger, "Rotarians will be on the ground in local communities, putting forward the projects that need funding. Then the committee will meet in London, Naomi will come along, we'll look at them together and decide which funds should go where."

***Seven 'Sailors' on the High Seas  
Tenacious Log Sunday 12 to Saturday 18 2007***

*Sunday 12*

*The day had finally arrived for the beginning of the great voyage and after an uneventful flight from Manchester the group of seven sailors including Leigh from the NeuroMuscular Centre arrived at Southampton and taxied to the ship. Tenacious was moored up alongside Dock 4 an awe-inspiring sight to us all. I am sure we had all seen the Cutty Sark close up but this ship was alive and floating and it was to be our, we intrepid few, home for the next six days.*

*Once on board we all signed on, in accordance with merchant seamen's regulations, given a schedule of watch duties and allocated bunks. Wet weather kit issue followed this. And deck boots. We all hoped we would not have to use them. How wrong were our hopes. Next were the captain's introduction and a briefing about dos and don'ts on board, fire drill, emergency evacuation and other rules and regulations. We had been sailing, under power, for a while when "All hands on deck" was called for a quick introduction to the 'ropes' and to change the Yards to the Port tack which took 12 hearty seamen, and sea women to complete.*

*We dropped anchor for the night off Bembridge, Isle of Wight and with the Yards set, those not on watch, retired to the bar to get to know one another a bit better.*

*Monday 13 Off Bembridge*

*A brilliant sunrise, an excellent breakfast and further instruction and learnt that ropes can be called a brace, brail, buntline halyard, clewline or a sheet, depending what it does, but, never it seems, a rope unless it is lying on the deck attached to nothing. Some of us put on full harness and went aloft to various heights and some even went high up in wheel chairs!!!*

*Up anchor and with a fair wind set sail for France. However the weather deteriorated towards the end of the day and the captain decided we would be better anchored in the lee of the Cherbourg peninsular as a deep depression was coming in from the West. We dropped anchor at 19.00hrs off Barfleur some 20 miles North of Omaha Beach and reminisced on the happenings of a June night some 63 years ago.*

*Tuesday 14 Off Barfleur*

*A watery sunrise high wind and a deepening depression. We were informed that going to the Channel Islands was not possible in the Force 8 S.W. gale so we sailed round the peninsular to make a 5 hour run for Cherbourg harbour. A rough trip, everything in the bunk areas had to be secure and watertight doors closed. We moored up about*

*5.30 in the Cunard berth in Cherbourg and were given 'shore leave'. We all got very wet inside and outside!!!*

*Wednesday 15 Cherbourg*

*A fine but blustery morning. More going aloft and setting yards. About a hundred spectators on the quayside saw us off when we set sail for England about 15.00 hrs with the intention of reaching Swanage by midnight. The storm had not abated that much and those on night watches had a night to remember. We made Swanage and a calm anchorage 5.30 the following morning!!*

*Thursday 16 Swanage*

*A fine morning and we all, except the watch, went ashore in the dinghies including those in wheel chairs! A fine day in town walking on terra firma made a change back to the ship for early dinner and a Race Night, which raised some £400.00 for the Tenacious charity.*

*Friday 17*

*Set sail for Cowes on a good tide bright skies and fair S.W. wind. More sailing duties and again a change of yards for the run up the Solent or was it the Spithead. A lot of boats came alongside to view this magnificent ship, and the crew of course. Overnight in Cowes roads offshore.*

*Saturday 18*

*Set sail for Southampton on a grey, rainy day. Took in all sails and many, including some of the intrepid seven, went aloft. Came alongside about midday. Said our sad farewells and reflected on a great adventure which left us all on a high.*

*If you want to see the trip in glorious Technicolor then watch out for the next announcement. Coming soon somewhere near you!*



*from an old sea-dog*

## Rotary eBay trading

I am now selling items on eBay to raise funds for the club and in particular, the Bikes for Africa scheme so here's how it works:



Until we get clearance from Mike Palmer that we can register an account in the name of the club and not have to pay tax, I can trade as myself and give the club the money. I have already done this with a laptop donated by Michael Lacey and we got over £100.00 for the parts.

If you can donate items that you no longer need, please ring me to find out whether they will sell or not. For instance, DVD players are so cheap now that they don't sell second hand, nor do VCRs. Video tapes will not sell but DVDs provided they are a recent film, might. CDs sometimes sell provided they are popular. Clothing sells if it has the original labels attached. The guide is 'would I pay money for this?' If the answer is no, then it probably won't go on eBay either. On the other hand, I have seen some pretty awful pottery go for lots of money provided it is a known and collectable make. Jewellery generally, does not raise much. Anything old (apart from Rotary members) will usually sell. I recently sold a cake storage tin from the 1950s for around £10. I even sold a faulty washing machine because it was not very old and possibly repairable for less than a new one cost.

Original packing, instruction books, approximate age, history of the item (e.g. diamond encrusted Faberge egg from the court of the tsarina, bought from a car boot sale for 20p) all help to sell the item.

1. Ring me to discuss what you have. Please don't be offended if I won't take that second hand filofax that was chewed by your dog and try to get £1000 for it.
2. Please find out what it will cost to post within the UK otherwise I will be running to the post office every day asking them to weigh stuff. Small items (up to 750g) go 1<sup>st</sup> class for £1.42. Items up to 1.25Kg go packet at £2.92 for 1Kg and £4.25 for 1.25Kg. 'Standard parcels' is very slow but takes from 1Kg at £3.85 up to 20Kg at £13.33. Enhanced compensation is available for valuable items. International postage is stupidly expensive.
3. Please supply secure packaging for posting your item. I can get some boxes from the hospital but not many. Padded bags can be re-used provided the old address label can be removed or covered. I have learned

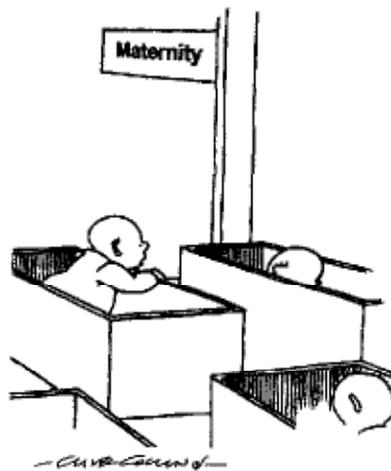
that the Post Office can smash anything that is not encased in armour plating. Huge 'Fragile' stickers just attract their attention.

4. Items not sold will be returned to you for disposal or submission to the 'Recycle Stockport' website where they can be offered for free.
5. I will be initially using my eBay account to sell these items and feedback is generated by buyers who rate the goods and the ease of transaction so accuracy is vital. If something is sold as working, it must be working and fully tested. If it has marks on it, these must be pointed out. I currently have 100% positive feedback but I'd hate that to be spoiled if we, for instance, sell something as solid silver when it is in fact, silver plated.
6. Items will initially be offered to members who then can make a mutually agreed donation to the funds.

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**Graham Vine** has now moved to Nairn in Scotland. He plans to join the Rotary Club of Nairn in the near future. Graham can still be reached by his email address. His new postal address is held by our Secretary and by the Bulletin Editor. We wish Graham and Helen a long and happy retirement in Nairn.

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'Mass breakout after dinner - pass it on.'

## BLIND RUN

**Mr and Mrs Salt**, (possibly also their blind daughter) 40 Glossop Rd, Marple Bridge

Tel: 449 8679 Pick up at 7.05 pm

**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

Ring the 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.

Mrs Salt is also deaf and does not always hear the phone during the daytime when her husband is out. Because of parking difficulties the Salts use a back entrance from Cote Green Road. Follow A626 to Marple and fork left for Marple Bridge. Remain on A626 towards Glossop swinging right up the hill by the Windsor Arms at the Compstall Road junction. Cote Green Road is about 100 yards up on the left. About 50 yards up on the right there are two gates/doors built into a high wall. The second gate is marked 40 and Windy Haw and leads into their back garden with door facing you. To turn round carry on for another 100yards to junction.

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.

<b>September 25</b>	<b>J Meeus</b>	<b>C Monkhouse</b>
<b>October 2</b>	<b>A Newsome</b>	<b>M Palmer</b>
<b>October 9</b>	<b>D Poizer</b>	<b>G Hunt</b>
<b>October 16</b>	<b>D Rose</b>	<b>T Sheppard</b>
<b>October 23</b>	<b>B Stevenson</b>	<b>J Sykes</b>
<b>October 30</b>	<b>J Thomas</b>	<b>G Vine</b>
<b>November 6</b>	<b>G Yule</b>	<b>D Allport</b>
<b>November 13</b>	<b>B Batty</b>	<b>D Burstow</b>
<b>November 20</b>	<b>V Chattington</b>	<b>S Davies</b>
<b>November 27</b>	<b>D Dewhurst</b>	<b>M Hurst</b>
<b>December 4</b>	<b>G Jackson</b>	<b>J Knowles</b>
<b>December 11</b>	<b>M Lacey</b>	<b>N Loveland</b>
<b>December 18</b>	<b>R Malabon</b>	<b>D McKeith</b>
<b>2008</b>		
<b>January 8</b>	<b>J Meeus</b>	<b>C Monkhouse</b>
<b>January 15</b>	<b>A Newsome</b>	<b>M Palmer</b>
<b>January 22</b>	<b>D Poizer</b>	<b>D Rabone</b>
<b>January 29</b>	<b>DRose</b>	<b>T Sheppard</b>
<b>February 5</b>	<b>B Stevenson</b>	<b>J Sykes</b>
<b>February 12</b>	<b>J Thomas</b>	<b>G Yule</b>

## Job rota

<b>Date</b>	<b>Speaker host</b>	<b>Bulletin</b>	<b>S at A</b>
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	S Davies
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		
2008			
January 2	Committees	D Searson	D Rabone
January 9	S Davies	R Malabon	D Burstow
January 16	B Batty	J Thewlis	H Hill
January 23	M Palmer	D Allport	D Dewhurst
January 30	No meeting: 5th Wednesday		
February 6	Committees	A Newsome	J Meeus
February 13	J Sykes	D Rose	R Taylor
February 20	D Poizer	C Monkhouse	J Knowles
February 27	T Sheppard	T Burch	G Yule
March 5	Committees	V Chatterton	J Thomas
March 12	N Loveland	M Hurst	B Stevenson
March 19	D Dev	M Lacey	H Barker
March 26	G Jackson	D Allport	S Davies

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

## Diary

September 26*	Garth Aspinall: Editor <i>Inside Bramhall</i>
September 28-30	District Conference: Southport
October 3	Committees
October 10*	Meeus/Monkhouse
October 17	Dr Garry Hambleton: Care for the elderly
October 19	Charter Night: Carribean Evenig, Bramhall Park GC
October 24*	Bill Ashberry: Hypnotherapy
October 28	Collection day: Bikes for Africa
October 31	No meeting - 5 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday
November 7	Committees
November 14*	Leslie Newton: Himself!
November 21	Prof. Anthony Redmond: Delivering medical aid in conflict & disaster
November 28*	Steve Peet: Hospital security
December 5	Committees and EGM to elect Officer's for 2008/9
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
March 5	Committees
March 12*	Burstow/Chatterton
March 19	Davies/Dev
March 26*	No meeting
March 28	President's Night: Adlington Hall
April 2	Committees
April 9*	Dewhurst/Hill
April 16	Hurst/Jackson
April 23*	Club Services
April 30	No meeting: 5 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday

\* indicates that we have the large function room



***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** - more resistant to virus attack.

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