

Rotarian



Bramhall and Woodford Rotary Club

Bulletin

April 2009



I'm racing on May 10 -
don't forget!

Tony talking.



Firstly, I will kick off with an apology to all of you for such a long report from me in the February bulletin and I will try to compensate for this with a far more erudite edition now. However there is some justification for the previous diatribe in that it did contain a half year review. The other incentive for brevity, being my desire to get away for the weekend to Wales and still meet the deadline of Dennis for this bulletin.

I am sure you all agree with me in congratulating Michael and Harry on their excellent address to us on their “India Experience”. The interest was obvious from both the record attendance level of members, spouses and guests and the great attentiveness exhibited. As I have remarked before our own “home spun” (note the India connection, you historians of Ghandi) presentations generally of the highest standard - I was sorry to miss Chris with his history of firearms. When meeting in committees in March we were treated to a “Two Ronnie’s” style of presentation from Jim and David D. What would be appropriate for Harry and Michael – I thought of “Little and Large” but was unable to spot a “Little! Maybe “Mutt & Jeff”, “Sonny & Cher”, or “Laurel and Hardy” – bu*\$er! - same girth problem again! – no Laurel. Suggestions on back of a £10 note to me at home. Winner judged by me wins a fiver!

I do have a concern I feel I must share with you. A concern that I fear may also be attributable to Michael and Harry. Is it possible that they have inadvertently infected the club with some unidentified devilish Indian bug that induces apathy

and uncertainty amongst those infected? The symptoms have manifested themselves with the debacle of our trip to London incorporating the long organised visit with our MP to the Houses of Parliament. At the original suggestion of the visit almost all the club expressed an interest, the list initially circulated caused 36 to enrol, dropping early to 32 then progressively dissipating to 16 and then sliding to less than 10! This has obliged John to cancel the whole thing. As I am sure all appreciate a great deal of work and re-work has been put into this – all to come to nought! I believe, we should however view it as a postponement, rather than a cancellation and perhaps make it a day trip.

Good news is the success of the quiz with final numbers yet to be “crunched”, but looking good. Sincere thanks to Jim for stepping in and heading the project so effectively whilst David was unwell. Also thanks to all the members who took part in this event both selling individually and at Woodford Park and the Precinct. It is marvellous to see David back with us in his old fighting form. The club is now preparing itself for our next “Biggie” – the Duck Race, which is being considerably expanded to include various stalls and other attractions. There is no doubt a full whole hearted effort is required by the whole club to not only sell ducks in advance but also fully man the various elements on the day. We are most fortunate to receive the opportunity to sell ducks at Waitrose and Woodford Park, both companies having recently received CS awards from B & W for their past help.

Finally (that was not too bad was it?), as I write these concluding words, Presidents Night is fast approaching. I very much look forward to the evening and am confident it will be a super occasion with an anticipated high attendance by the club members and partners. Don't forget - best “Bib & Tucker”.

Tony

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 10-3-09

- We will donate £250 to the Jubilee sailing trust
- Possible community service award to xx to be deferred until after duck race

From Council Meeting 9-2-09

- We will sell quiz sheets in Bramhall Precinct on two Saturdays and at Woodford Park on three weekends. Membership to be asked for volunteers
- We will investigate links with the Speakers' Club regarding Youth Speaks competitions.
- Linda Tunnard to be given a £1000 cheque and community service award when she speaks to us.
- John Th to form links with Daar Es Salaam Rotary Club to assist delivery of container to Kitivo.

Frequency of emails to whole club

	<i>Jan</i>	<i>Feb</i>	<i>Mar</i>	<i>Apr</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>Jun</i>	<i>Jul</i>	<i>Aug</i>	<i>Sep</i>	<i>Oct</i>	<i>Nov</i>	<i>Dec</i>
<i>2009</i>	<i>47</i>	<i>35</i>	<i>24</i>									
<i>2008</i>	<i>31</i>	<i>36</i>	<i>42</i>	<i>55</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>38</i>	<i>48</i>	<i>66</i>	<i>66</i>
<i>2007</i>	<i>36</i>	<i>48</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>34</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>47</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>33</i>	<i>47</i>	<i>46</i>	<i>35</i>
<i>2006</i>					<i>5</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>33</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>36</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>54</i>	<i>36</i>

Frequency of emails to humour group

	<i>Jan</i>	<i>Feb</i>	<i>Mar</i>	<i>Apr</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>Jun</i>	<i>Jul</i>	<i>Aug</i>	<i>Sep</i>	<i>Oct</i>	<i>Nov</i>	<i>Dec</i>
<i>2009</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>37</i>	<i>6</i>									
<i>2008</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>34</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>2007</i>								<i>4</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>13</i>

Michael 14.03.09

Meeting Reports



28th January 2009: History of Firearms - Chris Monkhouse

Guns Antique Rotary Show.

Vice president decided to give 2 vocal calls to order to little effect, and later rang the gong and remained silent. What next a phone call from Michael L!

Dev as speaker's host returned good wishes from 2 clubs in Calcutta where he advised in a mother and child clinic.

Chris's powerpoint began with an eclectic series of images which made sense later. Topics under discussion are propellant, ignition, military/sporting/target, artillery(canon), rifles, pistols and shotguns.

Can you believe 50years ago his dad bought him a Diana air rifle and pellets so he could practise down the garden? On Saturdays they visited an old curiosity shop in Manchester that sold pistols, muskets and because they were a rising investment his collection on view tonight started. Chris had a passion for chemistry and experimented with red phosphorus, pot chloride and matched to investigate ignition. Prof. Jim T beware!

At 14 years, he gained a certificate and he joined the Cheadle club to gain target practice, however 3 years later his preference was for pistols. He described various early makes like Hammerli and Luger (easy to hold but unreliable, like women!)

The Chinese invented gunpowder centuries ago for fireworks and military use. The earliest depiction of a firearm dates to 1100's. Chris gave a short talk on this subject.

He then continued with the history of hand guns, using words like, Matchlock in 1400's; Wheellock in 15-1600's; Flintlock in 1630 – 1830, and probably wedlock in 1970's!

For his 40th birthday, he received a Mortimer, a well- engraved hand gun, just what every man reaching this milestone would die for! More explaining of mechanisms, ignition given in mathematical engineering details along with a fantastic Powerpoint presentation was aided with our military advisor Captain Thewlis.

On a sad point, the Dunblane disaster ruined the gun industry and yet they are used abroad and even in the Olympics. In conclusion of Chris's half century

romance with these priceless objects. Yes, a surprise as Chris has such a benign, warm character, but his interests of precision, craftsmanship, engineering skills and sportiness (an advert) have fired his passion for these works of art. Thanks for your time.

The blind run is suspended at the moment and on another sad note the loss of Mike Salt shocked the members. S of A John Knowles managed to fine himself and the posh tie-wearers. Bob Batty managed to win the raffle.

David Rose 426 words

Finally, Dev's vote of thanks triggered his appetite!

RE-Action on 11th February

The 18 Members, 2 Guests and 1 Visitor (Rtn. Tony Yates) attended a male only affair with neither ladies nor flags.

The Secretary promoted the White Book as it contained loads of new stuff. The meal was again excellent in both choice and quantity.

Tony Yates delivered a very interesting presentation on "RE-Action" - Rotary Emergency Action. This has been set up within RIBI to assist localised emergency services in dealing with and helping relatives of disaster victims. It is a consequence of the Civil Contingency Act 2004.

Every local authority, (through their County Emergency Planning Department), maintains a Local Emergency Plan to cater for almost every type of disaster or foreseeable emergency. Rotary makes itself available under these plans to assist with the arrival and befriending of the friends

and/or relatives of the victims - who will start arriving in the locality shortly after the event.

The main function of Re-Action is to "Befriend" these people and try to make their stay in the locality as comfortable and bearable as possible under the tragic circumstances. Other agencies such as WVRS, Red Cross, Salvation Army, RSPA also have parts to play. Further information is available from David Rabone and Henry Barker, who are members of this project.

Gordon promoted the forthcoming International Evening

David Rose promoted Quiz Sheet selling in lieu of Jim Thomas.

John Meeus promoted the forthcoming Houses of Parliament visit.

Henry, in lieu of John Thewlis, gave no report

In AOB, Bob Batty update the meeting on the Blind Run situation. Sergeant at arms, Bruce Bissell fined everyone.

Graham Yule

Meeting, February 18th

What an interesting meeting this was! Our intrepid travelers were back – from the East and West and from the South and North. Michael and Harry from far off India and President Tony from even further – the Antipodes! Geoff also was back from sunny Barbados and presented us with a banner from there. Michael showed great keenness in attending having only arrived back a few hours previously. There was wine on each table – courtesy of John Sykes who is a grandfather yet again. It was good to see our resident joke teller and cheerleader David Dewhurst back on form.

We had delightful guests; Carol Egan came as a guest and left as a fully fledged member sporting a wonderful Rotary badge. With our very own Vida, she will no doubt bring a breath of fresh air to our male fortress, whose walls are fast crumbling – thankfully!

Jena Fawcett was presented with a cheque for £2750 for Stockport Young Carers – the proceeds of our efforts at Woodford Park. This princely sum would not have been possible without the co-operation of another distinguished guest – David Cooper, the manager of Woodford Park who has so kindly allows us to collect there. He was presented with a well deserved

Community Service Certificate. And last but not least there was the great news that the lovely Pippa who waits upon us has been accepted to study medicine at Manchester Medical School.

To cap it all we then had a presentation from two young men – Andrew and Matt, friends of Bob Stevenson who described their thrilling drive from Hyde Park to Outer Mongolia, a 46 day journey through a variety of countries. Their Daihatsu car had large roof rack welded onto it which eventually helped to roll the car over. They had flat tyres, holes in the chassis and exhausts falling off but despite it all they arrived more or less intact. They described their long ferry ride across the Caspian and their hairy drive across barren wastes. Food seemed very varied and included mare's milk which sounded quite horrible. They raised £2000 for charities and the whole rally raised a total of £300K.

Their photographs unfortunately seemed to have been taken at night but it did not detract greatly from the interest.

Sergeant at Arms Chris extracted the usual fines and we departed more or less on time.

Sid Davies

International Evening 25th February

What a pity this evening was somewhat spoiled by technical shortcomings (especially background noise) as the subjects behind the presentations were so important and deserving of our full attention. The number of attendees appeared to be less than usual, perhaps reflecting the continued choice of Stockport College and its limited evening car parking facilities. The evening was further marred by the failure of one of the principal speakers to turn up as a consequence of which the chairman, Tom Protheroe, made a valiant attempt to cover the section on “Health & Hunger” himself.

Tom began by congratulating all the clubs who presented – and have fulfilled – the International Service projects presented last year. Notable among these, of course, was our own “Bikes 4 Africa” project which gave us all so much satisfaction. As we had made this evening a Club Event, attended by some 18 members and partners, we were pleased to hear that our effort last year was recognised throughout the District.

The presentations on Literacy, Health & Hunger and Water & Sanitation reflected R.I. President D.K. Lee’s wish to encourage projects to help children worldwide and “Make Dreams Real”.

Mavis Gormley (Hyde) gave us a clear insight into how we can progress

international literacy particularly in South Africa where primary schools have very limited resources. For example, Hyde club has facilitated a travelling library in Johannesburg which provides multi-cultural understanding opportunities for many children – with the result that school attendance has soared.

Ian Watson (Dukinfield) told us about how their club is raising money to provide clean water for both drinking and sanitation in Nepal. He produced a series of challenging statistics in support of this and showed a video on WaterAid.

Finally, Diane Ritherdon (Leonard Cheshire) told us about their joint project with Rotary International in Africa – “Schools 4 All” – to help disabled children to attend mainstream schools. The object is to “Make Dreams Come True” by creating 20 schools for disabled children as its estimated that 90% of disabled students don’t currently go to school in Africa. £500,000 will transform 20 schools and communities in Uganda over 2 years. A fantastic project for Rotary to support through this joint venture.

Perhaps next year, the organisers could find a new venue to increase attendance, and most importantly, enable the individual presenters to get their important messages across more meaningfully.

Geoff Hunt

Committees on March 4th

Around 30 of us including three guests enjoyed a full evening. It was good to see Steve Fowler again for the second time, and to welcome Sheila and Iain Lumsden, both of whom were invited following quiz selling by David McKeith. I understand that the Lumsdens both come from Rotary families, so hopefully we will be seeing more of them in the future.

Michael Lacey showed us the beta version (computer illiterates please ask Michael what this means!) of our membership task force's Powerpoint presentation intended to inform and excite potential new members. A great start! Our guests were asked to critique the slide show, which they did most constructively. Geoff Hunt followed up by distributing a new handout for potential members – again excellent. All we have to do now is to find groups and individuals to interest and excite. Ideas to Geoff please.

The slide presentation was projected on to a brand new screen, which Gordon J. had obtained free of charge via Freecycle – many thanks to Gordon and to the donor. We can now pension off our old dysfunctional screen into an honourable retirement, aka the tip.

The quiz had so far raised about £1300 excluding proceeds from club member's personal sales. All monies

were now required. Our relations with Woodford Park Garden Centre are coming along nicely – we have been given permission to sell ducks for our duck race and to collect over the Christmas period. A large 'thank you' display has been prepared to thank their customers for their continued help.

Mike Palmer presented final audited accounts for the year to June 2008. Most had forgotten about things, so the questions were few and the accounts were presumably agreed without the formality of a vote.

Graham Yule wondered if all members should have the discretion to allocate £50 of charity funds without prior club approval – Council will recommend our course of action.

The numbers actually intending to go to London over Easter has dwindled to the mid teens - John Meeus was no longer sure what group travel deals he could arrange.

John Thewlis won the raffled bottle of wine that he had brought and promptly returned it for a future (President's Evening?) raffle. Bob Stevenson confused most as S @ A by 'finally' finishing then starting up in full flow once again! Can't keep a good S @ A down, can you?

Dennis

11th March 2009: Michael, Pam, Harry & Maggie go to India

A huge turnout of 45 including several guests and wives (who Rev. John failed to welcome by name) started their evening with an excellent meal. During this, John Meeus promoted the President's Night and Harry issued a pre-emptive strike by circulating a couple of albums of prints from his India trip.

After the break, President Tony presented Waitrose Cheadle Hulme, who was represented by Rob Tooth, with a Community Service award in recognition of their help in our fundraising.



Rob Tooth receiving his award certificate on behalf of Waitrose, Cheadle Hulme

Tony then introduced Michael and Harry with a summary of the Polio Plus programme.

Michael, assisted by Harry, delivered a very well prepared and presented talk, backed by some excellent photos and entertaining video. From their rescheduled outbound flights to Michael & Pam's Kathmandu add-on, we were kept enthralled. Of course, the focus of the trip was to assist in Polio immunisation in Lucknow and this was amply described.

David Dewhurst proposed a vote of thanks, Ron Malabon was the Sergeant at Arms and the meeting closed at 10:30pm.

Graham Yule



Our PolioPlus people in working uniforms!



Delivering polio vaccinations



Now in its 5th successful year, Dennis and Graham are proud to announce that the Snaphappy Awards 2009 will be hosted by the Rotary Club of Bramhall & Woodford at the Ladybridge Club on June 10th.

Snaphappy 2009 is a 20 minute long festival of photography, which celebrates the **creativity** of amateur photographers world-wide.

The only entry criterion is that you must be a member of the Rotary Club of Bramhall & Woodford.

This event always attracts attention from the world's media (e.g. The Bulletin) so winners can be assured their work will be widely publicised.

The evening will start at 8pm with a drinks reception, followed by a glamorous Gala Dinner. After a short interval, the voting and awards will take place, concluding with a small number of speakers. Any resemblance to an ordinary Club meeting will be purely coincidental.

Categories: 'The Magnificent Seven'

1. Best Photo of Bramhall
2. Most unusual position of a Rotarian
3. Where in Bramhall is this?
4. Best photo featuring a duck.
5. What I did on my holidays
6. Best entry by a non-member
7. Best entry received after the closing date.

Entries will be voted on by the meeting on the night, in the event of a tie, Graham & Dennis will decide. A certificate will be presented to each winning entrant, with a **prestigious trophy** being awarded to the most outstanding photograph of the night!

The competition has already started and the closing date is Midnight Sunday June 7th. Please give prints or email your entries to mail@grahamyule.co.uk.

Computer Tips

1. When buying items from web sites, always check that when you are entering your credit card details, the address at the top of the page begins https: instead of the more usual http:. This indicates a secure site for financial information. Incidentally, http stands for Hypertext Transfer Protocol which is a good phrase to throw into conversation if you want to win friends and influence people (or send them to sleep).
2. The right mouse button will bring up a menu of items to do with whatever you are pointing at on the screen. So if you are in Word and there is a red squiggly line under a word, right clicking on it will bring up spelling suggestions; if you have no programs running, right clicking on the picture on the screen (the desktop) will bring up a menu offering options to change the picture or adjust the screen saver; if you right click on a folder, you will be offered options to open it or change its name (amongst other things).
3. In Word, if the cursor is at the start of a blank line, press the minus key three times and then the enter key. A line will be drawn right across the document. Pressing the equals key three times gives you a double line. This is good for separating parts of a document. Try # and ~ for other effects.

Gordon





Poster by Alex Fitton - aged 14

Job rota

Date	Speaker host	Bulletin	S at A
March 25	No meeting - Preident's Night on 28th March		
April 1	Committees	D Dewhurst	J Fallowfield
April 8	J Sykes	B Bissell	D Rose
April 15	D Poizer	J Knowles	T Sheppard
April 22	V Chattington	J Thomas	G Yule
April 29	No meeting - 5th Wednesday		
May 6	Committees	M Lacey	G Jackson
May 13	N Loveland	M Hurst	G Hunt
May 20	D Allport	R Spragg	D Searson
May 27	R Malabon	S Davies	D Burstow
June 3	H Hill	M Palmer	J Thewlis
June 10	Committees	A Newsome	D Dewhurst
June 17	Walking tour	J Meeus	
June 24	J Sykes	D Jenkins	R Taylor
July 1	Assembly	D Rose	B Bissell
July 8	D Rabone	D Poizer	J Knowles
July 15	B Batty	T Burch	T Sheppard
July 22	V Chattington	G Yule	N Loveland
August 5	Committees	D Dev	B Stevenson
August 12	R Spragg	D Allport	M Lacey
August 19	H Barker	G Jackson	D Searson
August 26	J Thewlis	S Davies	R Malabon
September 2	Committees	B Bissell	H Hill
September 9	M Palmer	D McKeith	B Batty
September 16	J Fallowfield	D Dewhurst	A Newsome
September 23	J Meeus	D Rabone	D Jenkins
September 30	No meeting - 5th Wednesday		
October 7	Committees	J Sykes	D Rose

If you cannot attend, please find a replacement!

BLIND RUN

Mrs Salt, (possibly also her blind daughter) 40 Glossop Rd, Marple Bridge
Tel: 449 8679 **Pick up at 6.45 so that they are there just after 7.00.**
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 Geoff Hunt know if you get stuck. Please swap with someone if you can't do your appointed run.

Mrs Salt uses a back entrance from Cote Green Road. Follow A626 to 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 Howe and leads into their back garden with door facing you. To turn round carry on for another 100 yards 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.

Please be at Walthew House by 9.25 for return trips. If possible drivers should have their mobiles and other driver's number in case of any delays.

March 31	N Loveland	C Monkhouse
April 7	J Meeus	D Poizer
April 14	A Newsome	D Searson
April 28	D Rose	B Stevenson
May 5	T Sheppard	J Thomas
May 12	J Sykes	B Batty
May 19	G Yule	B Bissell
May 26	D Allport	D Burstow
June 2	V Chattington	S Davies
June 9	J Fallowfield	G Hunt
June 16	M Hurst	G Jackson
June 23	D Jenkins	J Knowles
June 30	M Lacey	N Loveland
July 7	R Malabon	J Meeus
July 14	C Monkhouse	A Newsome
July 21	D Poizer	D Rose
July 28	D Searson	T Sheppard
August 4	R Spragg	B Stevenson
August 11	J Sykes	J Thomas
August 18	G Yule	D Allport
August 25	H Barker	B Batty
September 1	B Bissell	D Burstow

Diary

March 28	President's Evening Bramhall Park Golf Club
April 1	Committees
April 8*	Leslie Hunter "My life as an illustrator and designer"
April 15	Annie Birtwistle: Orangutangs and Bears in Boneo
April 22*	Ken Downs: The Enigmatic Tutankamun
April 29	No meeting: 5th Wednesday
May 6*	Committees
May 7	Visit to Stockport Air Raid Shelters – Actual date tbc
May 10	Family Fun and Duck Race Day
May 13*	Tori Longdon
May 20*	George Ellis?: Aeronautical Matters
May 27*	Club Services
June 3*	Committees
June 10*	SnapHappy Awards 2009
June 17*	Walking Tour of Stockport
June 24*	Club Services
July 1*	Assembly and Handover
July 5*	President's Summer barbecue
July 8*	DG Chris Welton's visit
July 15*	Bissell/Chattington
July 22*	Club Services
July 29	No meeting: 5 th Wednesday
August 12*	Davies/Dev
August 19*	Egan/Fallowfield
August 26*	Club Services
September 2	Committees
September 9*	Hill/Hunt
September 16	Hurst/Jackson
September 23*	Jenkins/Knowles
September 30	No meeting: 5th Wednesday

* indicates that we have the large function room