

Rotarian



**Bramhall and Woodford Rotary Club**

# ***Bulletin***

October 2009

Happy Birthday!



**Q: Who is 23 on  
24th September?**

**A: We are! Our club was Chartered on 24th  
July 1986 and had its first meeting on 24th  
September 1986**



## **BURSTOW'S BULLETIN**

By the time that you read this report it will be nearly 3 months into my Presidentship and Club Committees should have their programmes for the year well planned out. I must thank Graham Yule for standing in for me at the Club, Council and Zone Meetings whilst I am away.

At the moment I am sipping red wine by our caravan on a camp site in Vaison la Romaine in Provence at a comfortable temperature of 24°C under brilliant blue skies. It has been up to 32°C although we did have some torrential rain afterwards. This is quite blissful when compared to the reports of the weather in the North West. I do hope that it is improving.

Today we climbed Mont Ventoux by car It was only 6°C at the summit. Cars seem to have been outnumbered by the cyclists who wanted to scale the peak of some 1900m by trying to emulate those cyclists in the Tour de France. It is understood that some of the sadists amongst the cyclists do the climb three times in one day to join an elite Club and by the way that some of them passed us at over 40mph on the way down some may make it. Michael I can see a cycle challenge coming on.

We also saw the plaque to Tom Simpson, a great British Rider, who died many years ago doing the climb and many riders were still leaving flowers in his memory even today.

This year we have said farewell to Richard Spragg and hope that he joins a Rotary Club in Scotland. David Searson and Richard Taylor have both resigned but hope to rejoin the Club a later date. We must keep in touch with them. A special thank you goes to Richard Taylor who has given the Club a charity donation of £100. Mac has retired from the Club but hopes to come to events and meeting when possible.

We have one new member Bruce Farrow who I am certain will be a great contributor to the Club with his many contacts and new ideas and hopefully before I return Brian Dougal will have joined. I wish both of them well.

You will be aware from the programme that there are four main events before Christmas. These are Charter Night, the Theatre Evening, the Christmas Party and not forgetting the charity collection at Woodford Park. I do hope that you will support all of these events.

See you again towards the end of September.

David Burstow, President, 5 September 2009.

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## Secretary's soapbox

Recent Council Decisions:

From Council Meeting 10-8-09

- We satisfy the need for an external auditor in that we use David McKeith
- Jim to ensure Christmas collection OK with Woodford Park
- Bruce Farrow to investigate 'Race Nights' and links with Rugby clubs
- We will sell Bramhall calendars
- GJ to buy solar and wind up torches and radios for BHS link with Tanzania

I hope you like the changes to the white book. I would welcome any suggestions as to how to get better and more timely information to people. Not everyone is on e-mail and we still have a couple of members who are on dial-up so it still isn't viable to use this method for everything.

Things have been rather quiet on the District front with not many missives coming my way for a while. This may be due to the new Rotary year just having started and people settling into office.

Attendances have been mixed lately with some good weeks and some bad. No doubt this is due to the holiday season being in full swing. Our best night was for Laura Wigg-Bailey on Staircase House on the 19<sup>th</sup> August (83%) and our worst was unfortunately for Joe Fallowfield's job talk on the 22<sup>nd</sup> July (62%). Anyway, you missed an excellent job talk even if most of you were on holiday.

Gordon

# Meeting Reports



## Trekking in the Andes

There was a goodly gathering on 12th August, with several wives present and Geoff Hunt had his son from Baltimore with him. He was even taller than our Geoff!

President David gave us the good news that he was cleared to carry on as normal after his health scare. It was good to see David D in good form too. Graham announced that all subs had been paid and that we were relatively financially awash at present.

John K gave us yet another apt Grace which hopefully made some of us reflect on the blessings which are poured upon us. The meal was tasty as usual.

The speaker, Milton Pena, a Chilean medic and colleague of Gordon gave us a presentation of a trek he made in the Andes. With four Americans and several guides and porters they made for the summit of ACONCAGUA, the highest mountain in the western

hemisphere at 22,800 feet (6980 metres). The route took them up a long valley and then an ascent in stages to acclimatize to the rarified atmosphere. Milton showed us photographs of bare mountain slopes, snowfields and some amazing jagged peaks. He explained how the altitude brought on dizziness, headaches, fatigue, shortness of breath and various other unpleasantnesses. I'm sure that many of us wondered why people subject themselves to such suffering and Milton was asked why he wanted to do this climbing. He suggested it was to prove to himself that he could attain the heights.

Gordon then fiddled with the machinery and brought up photos of colleagues in the Lake District and Derbyshire which seemed quite tame compared with the Andes.

Michael as S of A was relatively kind to most of us but managed to extract fines from some unexpected sources.

All in all a very enjoyable meeting.

Sid

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## Staircase House

Our Vice Pres. Graham got things underway on August 19th until President David arriving a little late and flustered took over the helm. David

announced the memorial service for David Hopkins for the following week informing us that he would be representing the club at St Georges Church, Poynton. We were all well

aware of the passing of this great Rotarian who has served the movement with such distinction and dedication and several of our members went to the service.

Miscellaneous items were covered during the course of the meal including an announcement from Geoff of a membership drive event in the form of a sort of "Rotary Open Day" organised by and principally for the benefit of Cheadle.

After the coffee break Caroline introduced our speaker Laura Wigg-Bailey. Laura was briefed to condense a one hour presentation into 20 minutes or so, which she accomplished admirably. The history of "Staircase House" is both very interesting and lengthy as it's origins date back to 1460 when it was established as a simple "Cruck" frame building – substantial English Oak arches around which the rest of the building is developed and supported. The location was prime at the market place and then as now attracted premium clients following the three main criteria for property investment - location, location, location! The first owners were the aristocratic Shallcross family. Mary Shallcross of note and reputation, though we know not in what regard, organised the construction of the staircase for which the building subsequently derived its name and fame. Ownership appears to have remained in the Shallcross dynasty until acquired by Rev. Wright in 1732

(property Barons and Rev. Knowles and Rabone take note).

The place subsequently changed to other domestic and commercial use, ultimately falling into a derelict state aided by a number of fires. By the 1960's it was in a very poor state and was ultimately compulsorily purchased by Stockport Heritage Trust in 1995 for a statutory £1, followed by a lengthy period of restoration and refurbishment to open as a museum in 2005.

The restoration process involved quite a detective like investigative process as the layout was not easily determined and deduction of various clues led to the format exhibited today. Although the Cruck frame had become redundant early in the buildings life due to many extensions by the Shallcross dynasty, these features were retained to exemplify the core characteristics of the building. Great detail was followed on features such as use of wattle and daub, lead based paints, lime wash and horse hair with the most demanding feature being the recreation of the famous staircase. Reclaimed materials were used wherever possible.

The floor was awash with question, of which some were even sensible. Caroline gave a brief, but heartfelt vote of thanks and the meeting ended with Sid extracting 50 pence from all and sundry for both real and imagined misdemeanours. And yes we beat the clock again by twenty plus minutes.

Tony

### **A dental evening on 26<sup>th</sup> August**

The last meeting in August did not start well. Outside - torrential rain; inside - locked out of our room. However we were livened up by “the Alka Seltzer grace” followed by another excellent meal. The meeting was well attended with four visitors including prospective member Brian Dougal.

The President reported from the funeral that week of David Hopkins of Poynton Rotary , who was a former District Governor. Many from the club had attended the funeral at St George’s in Poynton and afterwards at the Deanwater. It was a very well attended, moving memorial to a man of huge energy and enthusiasm who will be much missed .

The guest speaker was Nigel D’Souza who was described as the Gordon Ramsay of Dentists, though not for any reason which was obvious from his talk

– the “f-word” count remained at zero throughout, even while Gordon was sorting out the technology!

Nigel has had a varied career in dentistry but started out in Hyde and has returned there to the role he enjoys most – as a practising NHS dentist. He is very passionate about dentistry and gave an interesting short talk on what it is like to be a dentist in the NHS – his practice has 30,000 patients including one ex-cabinet minister. This prompted a very good debate with contributions from a number of members.

Nigel also outlined to us what we should do if anyone, particularly a child, loses an adult tooth. The leaflet he provided gave some valuable advice on how to rescue the tooth.

Henry Barker thanked the speaker and Harry Hill justifiably fined most of us.

David McKeith

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### **Committee Night September 2<sup>nd</sup>**

With President David off lost somewhere in France, it was left to our young, thrusting (everything is relative) vice, Graham to run the meeting and he showed some early promise by at least remembering the order of events.

Ever enthusiastic John M. grabbed centre stage reminding us yet again that Charter night is on 9<sup>th</sup> October. He

then helped the kitchen staff by taking at least 5 minutes to ask us to fill out green Waitrose sponsor forms in favour of B&W Rotary charities. The more forms entered the better so ask spouses, offspring any anyone else you know to do likewise.

We had a fairly full house and Brian Dougal joined us again. Graham gave a dangerous display of leadership by

suggesting that the night was important as the cupboard was looking decidedly bare in terms of action and so some Committees better get their fingers out - no names mentioned.

John M. on his feet again told us 20% of theatre tickets had already been sold so place orders quickly as this night is in great danger of being successful. Our sales phenomenon Vida announced she had sold £5 worth of apples. Although the Club has already provided sponsorship, Gordon suggested we might like on an individual basis to sponsor Janet Salt who is walking (and rebuilding?) the Great Wall of China....amazing!

This emotion clearly wore Gordon out as he had nothing to say in his Secretary's report. Graham likewise had nothing to add to previous treasurer's report the monies being the same as last time with all accounts in surplus.

Jim had clearly been taking lessons as his introduction to the Ways and Means report was reminiscent of prime ministers question time. We heard of difficulties, something old and something new; the suspense built and he merited a fine later from SOA Ron. It transpired that the Xmas collection and the Duck race are on but the quiz probably not. A proposed race night may be held at the end of February but then, to the relief of all, Caroline offered

a night at Bramhall Hall just before Christmas when we could stage a musical night if musicians who would perform for free could be found.

The undersigned introduced the new pudding regime, one large traditional fattener and a large healthy salad. Members were urged to take either /or as a first helping. The request was followed by all except Bob who was duly fined. Dennis pleaded for bulletins for the forthcoming addition and Committee Chairman were asked for interesting articles on their area of responsibility during the year.

David Rabone reported that in the Community service field, laptops for MRI were postponed, paths requiring clearance were being explored and David Dewhurst has taken on the Village notice board. We will probably make a contribution to the new Bramhall community ambulance which will cost £30,000 and support Chrones disease.

David Rose implored us to watch the International space. While John M. had stolen his own thunder earlier in the evening and had nothing left to report. Ron obliged with a succinct SOA report which enable the fledgling Graham to finish on time.

Bruce the younger

## Foundation on 9-9-09

With President David still on vacation, VP Graham officiated once again on another good Rotary evening. With the absence of both our revs., Vida gave a brief grace in Latin, and few knew enough to question her translation! Lorraine-the-food once again excelled, with mussels one of the offerings for the first time!

Bits of business were slotted in during meal time, among which were

- reminders about our Charter evening (James Bond theme), our theatre evening and a possible track day for those who like to exceed the speed limit
- notice of a 2010 charity rugby match event with Stockport Rugby Club, and an October 4 collection for the Royal British Legion
- sale of apples at £1/bag by Vida
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Graham inducted Brian Dougal as our latest club member and we wish him a long and happy time with us. Brian comes from a Rotary family and brings video skills with him, which we will be sure to put to good use.

Our speaker was Derek Newman, District chairman of the Foundation Committee. Derek chose to introduce his topic briefly and then to give way to an interesting discussion period about individual and club donations to

our Rotary charity, polio eradication, Ambassadorial Scholars, Group Study Exchange visits and much else besides. As was to be expected there was much to applaud in Rotary Foundation, but also misgivings about Scholars and GSE visits. We were pleased to learn that these messages had been received loud and clear from many clubs and that the Rotary supertanker was slowly beginning to change course on these matters.

Geoff Hunt voiced our thanks to Derek for a useful evening.

David Rose went home triumphantly clutching the raffle prize, whilst Bob Batty surgically prised fines from many.

One last tit-bit – an additional lady from Bramhall will be joining the Blind Run to Walthew House on Tuesdays, so two cars per evening will be needed when all our passengers go.

Dennis



## **Europe Declared Free of Polio .. only 7 years ago ...**

By Matthew Beard - The Independent on Sunday, *Tuesday, 18 June 2002*

The polio virus, which crippled thousands of children in the industrialised world in the 1950s, has been eradicated from Europe.

A meeting of the World Health Organisation on Friday is expected to declare that after a decades-long vaccination programme 51 European nations are now officially free of the potentially fatal virus.

The WHO has declared the Americas and Western Pacific virus-free and Europe is likely to join the list because there has not been an outbreak of indigenous polio for more than three years. Certification will be a milestone for public health organisations that beat the virus through immunisation.

Polio most commonly affects children under three. Cases have decreased by 99.8 per cent since 1988, from an estimated 350,000 cases to 600 in 2001. Polio epidemics caused panic every summer during the 1940s and 50s in industrialised countries. At the time, people with polio affecting the respiratory muscles were immobilised inside "iron lungs", huge metal cylinders that operated like a pair of bellows to regulate their breathing and keep them alive.

Soon after the introduction of effective vaccines in the late 1950s and early 1960s, polio was brought under control, and almost eliminated as a public-health problem in industrialised countries.

It took longer for polio to be recognised as a severe problem in developing countries. However, "lameness surveys" during the 1970s revealed that the disease was frequent, crippling thousands of children every year. Routine immunisation was introduced worldwide, helping to control the disease. The only remaining reservoirs of virus transmission are in parts of Africa and south Asia.

The virus enters through the mouth and then multiplies in the throat and intestines. The initial symptoms include fever, fatigue, headaches, vomiting, constipation, or less commonly diarrhoea, stiffness in the neck and pain in the limbs.

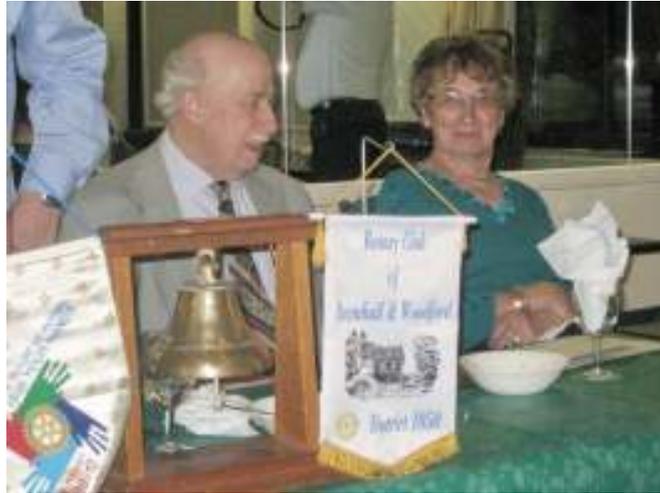
The latest case of indigenous polio was recorded in November 1998 in Turkey. Health workers were due to celebrate disease free status on the third anniversary of the outbreak last year when there were fears the virus had returned. But genetic tests on a polio-stricken child in a Romany community in Bulgaria proved the virus had been imported from the Indian sub-continent.

## THE OLD WAYS

Sing me a song of the old ways,  
Tell me a tale of the past,  
Of the time when England was mighty,  
And everyone thought it would last;  
When men raised their hats to the ladies,  
And ladies wore dresses and skirts,  
And children respected their elders,  
Or received a sharp tap where it hurts;  
When lovers were pleased to get married,  
And made do with the little they had,  
Kept out of debt and were happy,  
And the young ones knew their own dad.  
When parents showed by example,  
The ways and the means to get by,  
Through hard work and honest endeavour,  
And today, those rules still apply.  
Tell me the tale of the schoolroom.  
When the teachers were strict and upright,  
Where discipline ruled and we knew it.  
But we all learned to read and to write:  
Where they taught us the meaning of friendship.  
And to get stuck in with a grin.  
An esprit de corps that was solid.  
Working together to win.  
We listened and learned when they told us,  
That nothing was gained by a cheat.  
Played hard by the rules and triumphed,  
And stood on our own two feet.  
So sing me a song of the old ways,  
Of pride in the land of our birth,  
And tell the world of this England,  
The noblest place on God's Earth.

E A LAMPARD

Justified nostalgia - or is the Editor just showing his age?



Mac bows out on July 22nd after 23 years!



Seen near a Cornish beach. High technology is still alive and well in Cornwall - it is almost as accurate as the official weather reports!

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Sub-headline in New York newspaper;-

"Headless body found in topless bar"

### **District Report: New membership recruitment campaign update.**

Club members will recall that fees were adjusted to cover the cost of the above campaign by RIBI - £150,000 in total. Following presentations to RIBI General Council this week, four regions have been chosen for the pilot scheme. This includes the North-west of England - Manchester, Liverpool and the surrounding areas. This should include District 1050.

The RIBI Membership, Development and Retention Committee and the Marketing, PR & Communications Committee will continue to work closely together to help clubs and districts to bring this campaign to fruition over the coming weeks and I hope all clubs in Zone 3 will respond positively to this ongoing initiative to increase membership. More details will follow shortly.

Geoff. Hunt (Asst. Governor)

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### **Computer Tips 4**

Whenever you create a letter or save a picture or do your finances on the computer, you are creating a file which has a name (e.g. 'Computer tips' is the name of this document in my computer). Before the advent of Windows, no spaces were allowed in file names and even earlier than that, they were limited to 7 characters so you may still see old names like 'myfile1' hanging around. You may also see a three letter extension on file names like 'Computer tips.doc' which indicates to the computer that this is a Word document or 'finances.xls' indicating a spreadsheet. These extensions are added automatically by the programs concerned and others could be .mdb for an Access database, .jpg for a JPEG (Joint Photographic Experts Group) picture, .gif for a picture on the web and .pdf for an Adobe Portable Document File although there are many others. If you can't see these extensions and you would like to then try the following:

In windows XP select the Start menu, My Computer, Tools, Folder Options.

In Vista, go to Start, Computer, Organize, Folder and Search Options.

Select the View tab and scroll down until you see a line 'Hide extensions for known file types' and take the tick out of the box by clicking on it. Click OK at the bottom of the window and you should now be able to see the file extensions.

With the introduction of Microsoft Office 2007, the extensions had a fourth letter, an X added so if you receive a file labelled 'My great letter.docx' and you can't open it (because you have an earlier version) you can download a converter from [www.tinyurl.com/3xr4tt](http://www.tinyurl.com/3xr4tt) which will allow you to get at the file.

Gordon

## Job rota

<b>Date</b>	<b>Speaker host</b>	<b>Bulletin</b>	<b>S at A</b>
September 23	J Meeus	D Rabone	D Jenkins
September 30	No meeting - 5th Wednesday		
October 7	Charter Night		
October 14	J Sykes	D Rose	D Poizer
October 21	C Egan	J Knowles	C Monkhouse
October 28	T Burch	G Yule	V Chattington
November 4	Committees	T Sheppard	J Thomas
November 11	M Hurst	G Hunt	H Barker
November 18	D Allport	M Lacey	G Jackson
November 25	S Davies	R Malabon	J Thewlis
December 2	Committees	B Bissell	D McKeith
December 9	H Hill	B Batty	J Fallowfield
December 16	Christmas Dinner		
December 23	No meeting expected (to be confirmed)		
December 30	No meeting - 5th Wednesday		
<b>2010</b>			
January 6	Committees	A Newsome	J Meeus
January 13	D Rabone	D Jenkins	J Sykes
January 20	D Rose	D Poizer	C Egan
January 27	J Knowles	C Monkhouse	T Burch
February 3	T Sheppard	V Chattington	G Yule
February 10	N Loveland	J Thomas	M Hurst
February 17	G Hunt	M Lacey	B Stevenson
February 24	D Allport	G Jackson	H Barker
March 3	R Malabon	J Thewlis	S Davies

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

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### **The Pole Vaulter**

At the Olympic Games a reporter addressed an athlete “Are you a pole vaulter?” The athlete answered “No, I am actually German but how did you know my name?”

# Diary

September 2<sup>nd</sup> Committees  
September 9<sup>th</sup> Derek Newman - District Foundation Chairman  
September 16<sup>th</sup> Carole Souden - Bramhall Village Square  
September 23<sup>rd</sup> Speaker British Legion...  
September 25-27<sup>th</sup> District conference  
September 30<sup>th</sup> No meeting 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesday

October 7<sup>th</sup> No meeting  
October 9<sup>th</sup> Charter Night  
October 14<sup>th</sup> Committees  
October 21<sup>st</sup> Chrones disease (Rabone)  
October 28<sup>th</sup> Waitrose visit (Meeus)

November 4<sup>th</sup> Committees  
November 11<sup>th</sup> Newsome/Poiser  
November 18<sup>th</sup> Crematoria (Knowles) or Burstow speaker  
November 25<sup>th</sup> Peace Scholars (Hunt)

December 2<sup>nd</sup> EGM/Committees  
December 9<sup>th</sup> Stevenson/Sykes  
December 16<sup>th</sup> Christmas Dinner  
December 23<sup>rd</sup> No meeting?  
December 30<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesday

January 6<sup>th</sup> Committees  
January 13<sup>th</sup> Thewlis/Thomas  
January 20<sup>th</sup> Yule/Allport  
January 27<sup>th</sup> Barker/Batty

February 3<sup>rd</sup> Committees  
February 10<sup>th</sup> Bissell/Burch  
February 17<sup>th</sup> Chattington/Davies  
February 24<sup>th</sup> Egan/Fallowfield

Unallocated events:

- 1) Visit to Total Fitness (Meeus)
- 2) Crematoria (Knowles)
- 3) World agriculture (Bissell)
- 4) On the spot (Malabon)
- 5) Job talks - Bruce the older, Brian Dougal

## 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

**Cathy Denison**, 47 Chester Croft Rd., off Spath Lane East, Grove Lane, Bramhall

Tel: 439 7559

**Mrs Janet Salt**, (possibly also her blind daughter, Andrea) 40 Glossop Rd, Marple Bridge

Tel: 449 8679 Pick up at 7.05 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 or John Sykes know if you get stuck. Please swap with someone if you can't do your appointed run.

**Mrs Salt will notify us when she wishes to attend.** Ask for directions if you don't know where to go.

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.

<b>September 22</b>	<b>No Blind Run</b>	
<b>September 29</b>	<b>N Loveland</b>	<b>D Jenkins</b>
<b>October 6</b>	<b>J Meeus</b>	<b>M Lacey</b>
<b>October 13</b>	<b>A Newsome</b>	<b>R Malabon</b>
<b>October 20</b>	<b>D Rabone</b>	<b>C Monkhouse</b>
<b>October 27</b>	<b>D Rose</b>	<b>D Poizer</b>
<b>November 3</b>	<b>B Stevenson</b>	<b>T Sheppard</b>
<b>November 10</b>	<b>J Thomas</b>	<b>J Sykes</b>
<b>November 17</b>	<b>D Allport</b>	<b>G Yule</b>
<b>November 24</b>	<b>B Batty</b>	<b>B Bissell</b>
<b>December 1</b>	<b>D Burstow</b>	<b>V Chattington</b>
<b>December 8</b>	<b>S Davies</b>	<b>C Egan</b>
<b>December 15</b>	<b>J Fallowfield</b>	<b>G Hunt</b>
<b>December 22</b>	<b>M Hurst</b>	<b>G Jackson</b>
<b>December 29</b>	<b>No Blind Run expected</b>	
<b>2010</b>		
<b>January 5</b>	<b>D Jenkins</b>	<b>J Knowles</b>
<b>January 12</b>	<b>M Lacey</b>	<b>N Loveland</b>
<b>January 19</b>	<b>R Malabon</b>	<b>D McKeith</b>
<b>January 26</b>	<b>J Meeus</b>	<b>C Monkhouse</b>
<b>February 2</b>	<b>A Newsome</b>	<b>D Rose</b>
<b>February 9</b>	<b>D Poizer</b>	<b>D Rabone</b>
<b>February 16</b>	<b>D Rose</b>	<b>T Sheppard</b>
<b>February 23</b>	<b>B Stevenson</b>	<b>J Sykes</b>
<b>March 2</b>	<b>J Thomas</b>	<b>G Yule</b>



## ***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@bwrotary.org.uk](mailto:apologies@bwrotary.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)