

Rotarian



Bramhall and Woodford Rotary Club

Bulletin

August 2010



Graham Yule

President 2010 - 2011

Yule's tidings

It is nearly 2 years since I decided to stand for Vice-President, and started on the path that has led me to holding the office of President.

I have learned a lot during this period, and I would like to thank those who have helped and encouraged me on the way. I am sure that I will continue to seek advice from experienced Club & council members and, in particular, Assistant Governor, Geoff.

However, the ultimate responsibility is mine, and I will do my best to move the Club forward. I felt we got off to a good start when I inducted Trevor Saville at the 1st meeting of the Year.

The committee meetings on that night started to implement the plans that the Chairmen (and woman) had put forward at the Club Assembly. However, with only half the club present it was difficult to get everybody's ideas. I hope not too many members are on holiday on August 4th.

I am looking forward to working with the new Council and by the time you read this, we will have met at least once. One of the first things we will have to discuss are the proposals to streamline RIBI. This will be voted on at the next District Council meeting on 20th September. Henry, John Sykes and I all get a vote.

In preparation for this, I will ask District Governor Margaret to explain the hierarchy when she visits the Club on 28th July. We are also considering setting up a working party to create a more radical proposal for eventual submission in order to further reduce administrative overheads. We paid nearly £3000 in capitation fees in 2009/10....

Charter Night will be held at Bramhall Park Golf Club on Wednesday September 22nd. Your new Social Committee has arranged what promises to be an excellent event – with a difference! I hope you will be able to come and bring along your other halves.

The dates of the other social events have also been published and our first Ways & Means event is planned for August 28th – plenty of helpers will be required.

So, Club members have a lot to look forward to this year both socially and in service, but let's not forget to have fun along the way.

Graham

Secretary's soapbox

Wow, what a title, "soapbox" eh? Well that is certainly very tempting. So let me tell you what I think about Stockport's road-worsening schemes and other anti-motorist stupidities ... But NO, perhaps not. In fact I am absolutely sure that is not what this column is about !!! OK, normal service resumed:

Fulfilling the actual Secretary's job is one which is making me very nervous, in the sense that Gordon performed it so effortlessly and was such a font of knowledge on all things Rotary. Now be it known that Graham was (and hopefully will remain) keen to bring "new blood" into the club including as council officers. Well you and he have got that in me – just please be tolerant and realise that with new-blood comes inevitable inexperience.

I have taken the liberty of making some changes to the White Book. Over the past few months I have been watching its progress around at meetings. My conclusion was that most people don't even open it and certainly I hardly ever saw anyone read anything at length. So I have made the following changes:

- Less stuff – including by removing the empty plastic sleeves!
- New front page – contents listed in order it appears, and
- New front page – meeting info included, previously 1st inside page
- Member info included – an opportunity for all to correct our databases
- I will only very exceptionally be including invites etc already distributed via email.

As a general rule my motto will be "If in doubt – leave it out". All this is done with the aim of making the White Book as useful for everyone as possible. Please do let me know what you think.

Over the summer I aim to get some time to work on our club web site. More on this as the week's progress. However two things would help me now. Firstly I need photographs to include, particularly very old ones please. Secondly, any ideas of information you would like included? My primary aim is to make the site a better "sales aid" for recruitment.

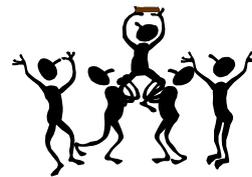
Finally thank you to all who have entered the debate on reducing Rotary district and national bureaucracy, started by the forwarded email re RIBI structure. What a can of worms and vested interests that has bought out? That's what we need, more controversy ...

Brian

Thought for the day:

Effective communication is not measured by what you have said, but rather by what your audience have heard. (Typically, something different!)

Meeting Reports



The Haiti Earthquake Disaster – meeting of 19th May

Seventy three people turned up at Cheadle Golf Club where the Rotary Club of Gatley & District were hosting a visit from members of the Greater Manchester Fire Service Urban Search & Rescue team. The purpose of the exercise was to hear a presentation from those firefighters who are part of the UK International Search & Rescue (UKISAR) on their visit to Haiti following the recent earthquake disaster there. This was an “out meeting” for our own club and, as we made up a quarter of the visitors, we put in a very good attendance. Together with five other local clubs and Inner Wheel we were a lively lot.

Following an excellent buffet supper, we were informed that after 9/11 the British Government had injected more cash and resources so that the thirteen brigades who make up UKISAR could respond to three simultaneous major incidents at any one time. The 64

members around the UK now have access to fantastic heavy rescue equipment and are deployed by the United Nations. The UK is just one of the ten heavy rescue teams around the world and can only be involved at the request of the country concerned. Quick deployment is obviously the key and the rescuers are distinguished by wearing orange work suits.

A few facts:

- The Haiti earthquake had a magnitude of 7 on the Richter Scale with other aftershocks reaching 6.1.
- It occurred 13 kilometres below the surface some 10 miles south-west of the capital, Port au Prince.
- 9,000 peacekeepers were already in Haiti – the largest response to any disaster so far.
- Haiti has a population of 9 million and is the poorest country in the western hemisphere. 300,000 actually died in the disaster and £100

million has been donated by the UK. **Mind blowing figures!**

The UK team was there purely to find live casualties and was guided by local people in the streets. They were not there to recover bodies although, of course, it was very difficult to just walk away. They had special cameras and acoustic listening devices to aid them in their work in intolerable heat.

We watched a graphic 5 minute slide presentation of events on the ground – it was unbelievable and very saddening. One can only imagine the emotional effects on these valiant responders, who are simply normal firefighters, when they return home from their two weeks tour of duty. We owe them our admiration and a deep sense of gratitude.

Geoff. Hunt

Parkinsons on 26th May

John Thewlis was acting president in the absence of David and Graham. Five late apologies reduced the attendance to twenty five people, no doubt Bruce will assess the merits of the late excuses and extract the appropriate sum at their next attendance.

David Walker was again welcomed for his third visit, Trevor Saville for his second and Philip Powell for his first; all potential new members. Lorraine's usual high standard of food will I'm sure, be an incentive for them to join. David Shepherd introduced two guests, John Sinley from Peterborough and Neil Seering from Southampton; (he had told them that they were going clubbing - well said, Tony Burch!). Gordon drew our attention to the article in the White Book

that David Dewhurst's daughter Rachel, together with her friends Alison ,Kate and Amy were running the UK Race for Life to raise money for her Father's charity, Re-Cycle.

The speakers, introduced by Bob Stevenson, were Joanne Dobie, North West area Chairman of Parkinsons UK and the volunteer manager of the Stockport branch, Ian Anderson. Joanne said that Parkinsons Disease touches the lives of seven million people across the UK; the people with the disease and consequently their families. One in twenty sufferers are under forty years of age and there is no known cure.

The group was founded in 1969 and now has 30,000 members. They are a charitable organisation and have spent £40 million on research since inception.

In 2009 they spent £4million. Funds are allocated for two nurse specialist for two years at a cost of £100,000, also for training within the NHS, Nursing Homes and GP Surgeries as diagnosis can be difficult. Ian Anderson said there were 1,100 people with the disease in the Stockport area. He is a full time carer for his wife who has the disease. His first hand experience enables him to help others cope with their problems. Ian said that getting people to admit they had the disease was the first barrier to overcome. The group have had a variety of social events; a visit to Chatsworth, a 5 day holiday, (which may have been their first holiday for years), coffee mornings and barbeques aid fundraising.

There are medicines which help to halt the progress of the disease but these are costly and as it is a burden for sufferers not exempt from prescription charges the group are campaigning to have the charges removed for sufferers. Three out of five committee members of the Stockport Branch of Parkinsons UK are sufferers. This seems to be a charity worthy of our support as was proposed by Bob Batty.

Bruce Farrow announced that the total raised for the Duck Race was £3,562.00 . Well done everyone! Barclay's Bank have

agreed to enhance this figure once they have received the final accounts. Barclays propose that two of their people bring the cheque to our meeting on June 9th.

Bruce recommended our support in attending Stockport Rugby Club on 5th August when Roy Wood and his Jazz Band are performing. The following week there is a dinner at £35 per head when Dan Richards is the speaker.

Tony said that the initial enthusiasm for the Safari Supper had waned, the numbers having dropped from 42 to 28. They are still short of three main meal providers, without these the event may have to be rescheduled.

Sergeant at Arms, Gordon fined David Poizer and Bruce Farrow for not wearing ducks on the photograph, Vida for harassing her husband, John Thewlis for forgetting Rotary grace, Bob Stevenson for being early, David Sheppard for having **Two** friends and Ian Dobson for putting Gordon on Face book! Finally ,Michael won the raffle and as he is temporarily tea total he donated the prize to Joanne.

Neil **Loveland**

Snaphappy Award on 16 June

A select group of approximately twenty Rotarians was very efficiently 'booked in' by new member, David Walker, who was suitably applauded during the meeting..

John Thewlis reported on the Stockport Rugby Club's Sportsman's Dinner where Rotary leaflets were distributed and a number of forms inviting people to sign up as Friends of Rotary were put out. Unfortunately there was no response.

Rotary will be providing a stall at the Rugby Family Fun Day on August Bank Holiday supporting the Armed Forces. The highlight of the day will be an exhibition rugby game.

Geoff had visited Chris Monkhouse who is quite cheerful considering his condition after the serious accident. He will be out of action for two months. Mary had been a real heroine. In spite of her own injuries, she had driven their huge mobile home around Cornwall and back to Poynton where decorating continues after their recent flood!

Sid said that he had seen Mac McLeod recently and found him cheerful with the good news that his daughter is improving. He sends his regards to the Club.

Tony Burch checked on potential attendees for the President's BBQ on 4 July – including the President himself!

Vida (on behalf of Henry) asked for four Rotarians to act as stewards for the Meadway Car Park at the forthcoming Bramhall Festival on 9 June. After some hesitation, the names were forthcoming.

After the usual delicious meal, Graham Yule presented a slide show on the entries for the Snaphappy award. Voting slips were handed out inviting choices in the following categories: Ducks, Bramhall, Holiday, Rotarians in unusual positions, Late Entry.

Graham also showed us this year's trophy, a small model of what he said was a Blue Footed Booby from the Galapagos Islands. The effect was somewhat spoilt by Gordon offering last year's trophy which he had won for reuse. This had been a dolphin in a snow storm but due to leakage the dolphin was now high and dry! The winning snap was of a small child kissing a pig, entered by Sid. Who else!

Vida advised the meeting that the new Blind Run on Monday afternoon started next week.

As there was nothing organised for next week's meeting, Ian Dobson was deputed to arrange something.

Sid then drew the raffle and at the second attempt, John Thewlis won the bottle.

Sergeant at Arms, Harry Hill, fined everyone for the usual spurious reasons although Sid deserved his fine as he had somehow got hold of an NHS form concerning patient health and habits and filled it in as insultingly as possible on behalf of Harry.

David Poizer

Our Flag Of Convenience

The Union Jack is one of the most recognizable symbols of Britain. But it's only been our flag for 200 years. Here's why.

The Union flag, or Union Jack as we all call it, has appeared just about everywhere, whether it's fluttering from a flagpole atop Windsor Castle, or stretched to bursting point across Spice Girl Geri Halliwell's ample bosom. But our national flag is a fairly new invention. And if you thought it was red, white and blue because someone liked the colours, think again.

Cross References

England's flag has always been a red cross of St. George on a white background. This derived from the legend that when George slew the dragon, he used the beast's blood to draw a cross on his white shield. In 1603, James VI of Scotland became James I of England. To symbolize the union of the two kingdoms, the cross of St. Andrew was added to the flag. This was a white diagonal cross on a blue background, in honour of the fact that St. Andrew was crucified on an X-shaped cross.

When Ireland was dragged into the Union in 1801, the cross of St. Patrick (a diagonal red cross on a white background), came too. This cross wasn't really a national symbol at all: it was part of the coat of arms of a noble Anglo-Irish family, the Fitzgeralds.

This new flag caused a real stink. The Scots and Irish complained that their crosses lay beneath the English one, the Welsh were upset at not being included at all, and even the English joined in, saying that their simple red-on-white flag had been ruined. But in the end everyone accepted the new flag - grudgingly.

And why is it called a Union Jack? Well, the jack is the end of the ship over which its flag is flown, so a Union flag flown over a jack became known as a Union Jack. The name caught on and was used informally for years, until in 1903 parliament passed a law saying it was officially OK to call our flag a Union Jack.

Oh, dear me!

The following questions were set in last year's GCSE examination in Swindon , Wiltshire (U.K.). These are genuine answers (from 16 year olds)

Q. Name the four seasons.

A. Salt, pepper, mustard and vinegar.

Q. Explain one of the processes by which water can be made safe to drink

A. Flirtation makes water safe to drink because it removes large pollutants like grit, sand, dead sheep and canoeists.

Q. How is dew formed?

A. The sun shines down on the leaves and makes them perspire.

Q. What causes the tides in the oceans?

A. The tides are a fight between the earth and the moon. All water tends to flow towards the moon, because there is no water on the moon, and nature abhors a vacuum. I forget where the sun joins the fight.

Q. What guarantees may a mortgage company insist on?

A. If you are buying a house they will insist that you are well endowed.

Q. In a democratic society, how important are elections?

A. Very important. Sex can only happen when a male gets an election.

Q. What are steroids?

A. Things for keeping carpets still on the stairs.....(Shoot yourself now , there is little hope)

Q. What happens to your body as you age?

A. When you get old, so do your bowels and you get intercontinental.

Q. What happens to a boy when he reaches puberty?

A. He says goodbye to his boyhood and looks forward to his adultery
(So true)

Q. Name a major disease associated with cigarettes.

A. Premature death.

Recommended Tradespeople

(July 2010)

This list is provided for the use of members of the Rotary Club of Bramhall and Woodford. Naturally, neither the Club nor any member can be responsible for any problems that may arise. Please send any further recommendations to Dennis Allport.

Decorators:

J Ratcliffe & Sons, 465 Buxton Rd, Heavily, Stockport (0161 483 3227) [Hurst & Kennedy]
A & S Beeners, (0161 612 6605). These 2 young brothers do fantastic work, and tidy. [Rose,Sykes]

Electricians:

C & H Electrics, 1st Floor, 198 Wilmslow Rd., Heald Green, SK8 3BH (0161 437 5718) [Batty]
Andrew Thompson, (0161 485 2735) [Death]
Dave McGuinness, (07977 326 942) [Death]
Mike Shanley, (0780 1329 173 and 0161 449 9794) [Allport]

Plumbing:

Ken Davies, (07831 183 018) [Allport]

Building:

Mark Davenport, 12 Ladythorn Crescent, Bramhall. (0161 439 4051)
Also does **Joinery**. [Hill]
Simon Robinson, Tie-Dry, 60 Werneth Rd, Woodley, Stockport, SK6 1HR (0161 494 5285, 07940 010017) [Dewhurst]
Kevin Wright, ACE Guttering & Drainage Services, (490 1789, 07860 820414). Handyman, gutter cleaning [Hunt]

Joinery:

Mark Smethurst, 3 Garthland Rd., Hazel Grove, SK7 4PD (0161 483 9690) [Batty]
Andy Dixon, 07715 926741 [Dewhurst]

Flooring:

Stockport Flooring Co., Stanley Green Trading Estate, Cheadle Hulme [Hurst]

Tree Surgeon:

Rod Barnes, Tree Services Poynton, 141 London Rd., Poynton, SK12 1 LG
(01625 878 116) [Allport]

Carpet Cleaner:

Rainbow Carpets, Mark Egerton (01663 765445) [Mould]

Refrigerator and cooker repairs:

Mike Clegg, (07773 090876 and 0161 449 7050) [Allport]

TV Aerials:

Teleaerials, 49 St John's St, Lees, Oldham (0161 624 6681) [Allport]

Plastering:

Alan Lawrie, 20 Conway Drive, Hazel Grove SK7 5NB (0161 484 0298, 07749 060 988) [Lacey]
Sean(aka Liam) Kelly, 41 Westwood Rd, Heald Green, Cheadle, SK8 3JW (0787 346 4642) [Dewhurst, Lacey]

Ground work/drains/returfing:

Mark Scholze, (07833 694781) [Dewhurst]

Computing help

Nick (0800 612 4565), PCSOS24-7. HELP@PCSOS247.com [Davies]

TUESDAY EVENING BLIND RUN

The first journey taking blind people to the Tuesday evening dance at Walthew House was in September 1989. I had volunteered to be an occasional driver for Social Services and a young lady came to "vet me" as a suitable person. She was looking for drivers for this type of trip and so the idea of a Rotary drivers' rota was born.

The first passengers were Edith Stanier from a not very salubrious part of Brinnington, (one wondered about the safety of your car as you walked up the cul-de-sac where she lived), Bert and Edna Brown from Millbrook Tower and Mary Brown from Bredbury. For a while we also drove the organisers (Mr & Mrs Devoy) home afterwards.

Dorothy Birch joined in 1992 and came for 15 years whilst Harry Birch (off Birdhall Lane) started a year later and travelled until 2006. Joan Goodall has been coming since 1999. In all we have had 24 different passengers.

Although a Community Service venture, Geoff Hunt was the organiser for many years, followed more recently by John Sykes. Rumour has it that some drivers have been persuaded to have a dance before leaving and even purchasing some chips on the way home.!

New drivers are often surprised at the chatter from the passengers such as comments on TV programmes they have "watched", or in the case of Dorothy Birch, the gardening she has been doing. Dorothy had an uncanny knack of knowing exactly where the car was and woe betide the driver who took a wrong turn!. More recently Janet Salt talked about sight-seeing in New York and walking on the Great Wall of China.

In nearly 21 years there must have been about 940 dances, so members will have made some 1600 double round trips, probably totalling about 30,000 miles! Those who have been on the rota since 1989 will have given up part of about 80 Tuesday evenings. Not a bad "hands-on" effort.!

Bob Batty, June 2010

Now that the Blind Run has switched to Monday afternoons, there are fewer Rotarians available to participate. In fact, we now have 16 volunteers, and an extra 3 will join in when their leave-of-absences are finished. So simple mathematics shows that an individual member is on the rota every eight weeks.

Computer Tips

Most of us use Google to search the Internet for items we wish to view but there are other search engines that offer different items. For instance, www.Yahoo.co.uk offers a summation of the latest news stories from the web, The Guardian, The Telegraph and the Daily Mail which change over the course of the day.



A search engine which uses Google as its base but which gives donations to charities each time you click on a link is the Australian site www.ripple.org on which you can opt to search Australian sites or the rest of the world. At the moment, there are four charities benefitting from them:

Water Aid, Oxfam, Oaktree Foundation (Education) and Grameen Foundation (loans to 3rd World businesses). Another site that Rotary use is Careclicks but the returns from this for individual clubs has been small so Foundation now have replaced set up the link

<http://www.careclicks.co.uk/group/therotaryfoundation>

to replace these. If your particular interest is on the Thanks for Life project, an alternative is <http://www.careclicks.co.uk/group/endpolionow>

A useful site for free introductory computer training is from the BBC at www.bbc.co.uk/raw/computers which offers a simple and effective way of learning the basics of computers at a pace to suit you. You will need a broadband connection though.

If you would like to really make changes to your garden but are at a loss as to how it might look, you can use the BBC's virtual garden design feature on www.bbc.co.uk/gardening/design/ although you may be prompted to install an extra program called Shockwave in order to use it and I failed to get it working so I can't say how good it is. The BBC gardening site does contain a lot of useful planting tips though.

Gordon

Job rota

Date	Speaker host	Bulletin	S at A
July 28	C Egan	C Monkhouse	T Burch
August 4	Committees	D Schofield	V Chattington
August 11	I Dobson	J Thomas	N Loveland
August 18	M Hurst	G Hunt	B Stevenson
August 25	M Lacey	J Meeus	H Barker
September 1	Committees	G Jackson	S Davies
September 8	R Malabon	D Burstow	J Thewlis
September 15	H Hill	B Bissell	B Batty
September 22	D McKeith	B Farrow	A Newsome
September 29	No meeting: 5th Wednesday		
October 6	Committees	D Allport	D Rabone
October 13	D Jenkins	J Sykes	D Rose
October 20	G Fallowfield	J Fallowfield	D Poizer
October 27	J Knowles	V Chattington	D Schofield
November 3	Committees	I Dobson	J Thomas
November 10	M Hurst	G Hunt	B Stevenson
November 17	D Allport	M Lacey	N Loveland
November 24	H Barker	G Jackson	S Davies
December 1	Committees	R Malabon	D Burstow
December 8	J Thewlis	B Bissell	H Hill
December 15	D McKeith	B Batty	G Fallowfield
December 22	Christmas Dinner?		
December 29	No meeting: 5th Wednesday		
January 5	Committees	J Fallowfield	B Dougal
January 12	B Farrow	A Newsome	J Meeus

If you cannot attend, please find a replacement!

Diary

July	21 st	Ian Dobson, job talk
July	28 th	Margaret Hutchinson, District Governor
August	4 th	Committees
August	11 th	Farrow, Stockport Rugby Club etc.
August	18 th	An outdoor evening – a short ramble and a pub meal.
August	25 th	Barker - a well kept secret
Sept.	1 st	Committees
Sept.	8 th	Burch/Burstow
Sept.	15 th	Barclay's Bank (Farrow)
Sept.	22 nd	Charter night - Bramall Park Golf Club
Sept.	29 th	5 th Wednesday - no meeting (but dine with Meeus?)
October	6 th	Committees
October	8-10 th	District Conference
October	13 th	Diane Schofield job talk
October	20 th	Fallowfields
October	27 th	Hill/Hunt
November	3 rd	Committees
November	10 th	Hurst/Jackson
November	17 th	Jenkins/Knowles
November	19 th	Theatre night
November	24 th	Lacey/Loveland

Forthcoming events:

- 1) Christmas dinner - 17th December- Bramhall Golf Club
- 2) Presidents drinks - Sunday 9th January
- 3) President's night - 4th March - Deanwater
- 4) Thanks for life - 3rd week February
- 5) Christmas concert - Bramall Hall- December?

Unallocated events:

- 1) Visit to Total Fitness (Meeus)
- 2) Feeding the world (Bissell)
- 3) Job talks (G. Fallowfield)(D Walker)T. Saville)
- 4) Social Quiz (Meeus)

08/07

BLIND RUN

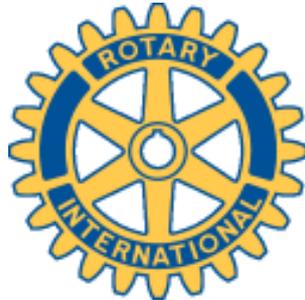
Note that the **Blind Run** is now on **Monday** afternoons, with a pick up in time to arrive at **Walthew House** by **1.30 pm** and returning to pick up the passengers at **3.30pm**

Mrs Joan Goodall, 3 Poise Brook Drive, Offerton
Tel: 456 2076 Pick up 1.15 pm

Cathy Denison, 47 Chester Croft Rd., off Spath Lane East, Grove Lane, Bramhall
Tel: 439 7559 Pick up 1.15pm

Ring the above up Saturday or Sunday 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. If possible drivers should have their mobiles and other driver's number in case of any delays.

July 26	D Poizer	D Rose
August 5	B Stevenson	J Sykes
August 10	J Thomas	G Yule
August 17	D Allport	B Batty
August 24	B Bissell	D Burstow
August 31	V Chattington	B Farrow
September 6	M Lacey	N Loveland
September 13	R Malabon	D McKeith
September 20	J Meeus	D Poizer
September 27	D Rose	B Stevenson
October 4	J Sykes	D Walker
October 11	D Allport	B Batty
October 18	B Bissell	D Burstow
October 25	B Farrow	V Chattington
November 1	N Loveland	M Lacey
November 8	D McKeith	R Malabon
November 15	D Poizer	J Meeus
November 22	B Stevenson	D Rose
November 29	J Sykes	D Walker
December 6	D Allport	B Batty
December 13	B Bissell	D Burstow
December 20	V Chattington	B Farrow
December 27	No Blind Run expected	



SERVICE Above Self

A very warm Bramhall and Woodford
welcome to our new members

Trevor Saville
&
David Walker

We wish them many years of enjoyable
membership!

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