

Rotarian



**Bramhall and Woodford Rotary Club**

# ***Bulletin***

February 2010



Seen on the walk on  
December 29th.

(we DID see it then - even if this pic. was  
taken by Michael two weeks before!)



## ***BURSTOW'S BULLETIN***

Christmas and the New Year has come and gone and we are well into the latter part of my Presidential Year. We have had some successful events with Charter Night and the Christmas Dinner and of course the Halle Concert at Bramall Hall. Many thanks to all that were involved. The Christmas collection at Woodford Park raised some £2700, a little down on last year, but the weather on the last day with the snow was atrocious and I am surprised we collected anything at all. We also tried to collect money for returned Christmas trees, not a particular success, but well worth a try. At least we did not have to get rid of the 700 unsold Christmas trees from the garden centre!

Many thank to those who came to my President's at Home and braved the elements. Of course most of my thanks must go to my wife and son who did the cooking and also to my very pregnant daughter who helped my wife with the washing up afterwards.

Some of you will have had problems with the weather with frozen pipes, I hope that you have either got over your problems or are well on your way to sorting them out. Some of you will know that we also had problems with our condensing boiler on the Thursday before The President's at Home and we thought that we would have to cancel it. Although we have an agreement with British Gas to fix the problem they could not come until the Saturday I was extremely worried about frozen possibility of frozen pipes. With a bit of persuasion they said that they could come Friday.

I thought about the problem as when I attempted to relight the boiler there was a gurgling sound. I immediately thought that the heat exchanger had failed but then I thought about the condensate pipe as it went under a ventilated floor and was unsupported. I drilled a hole in this pipe and water came out and fortunately stopped. After 2 or 3 minutes I was able relight

the boiler. So the problem was temporally solved. I have heard of many people having the same problem. But enough of our problems.

Turning again to Rotary matters, as you will be aware there has been a severe earthquake in Haiti with up to 200,000 killed and up to 3 million of the 10 million population homeless. Rotary has helped with Shelter Boxes and through our collection at Christmas and our January collections at Woodford Park and at the Village Centre we have added to the total. Our members have also contributed generously towards further emergency boxes which will be enhanced by Gift Aid. I understand that Shelter Boxes have already arrived in Haiti.

Looking forward to the remaining part of the year, we will be having a race night at the end of February and President's Night in March followed up in May by the Duck Race and the President's Barbecue in July. We hope to also to be involved in an Easter event at Bramall Hall.

David Burstow (President)

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### **Christmas walk**

December 29th was very cold and a lot of ice and some snow remained. Despite this, 14 valiant souls (only 5 of these Rotarians) ventured on a great walk in New Mills. It should have been 21 in total but some arrived at the car park too late and missed us! The paths were extremely slippery in parts, which meant that the adjacent fences and walls were in great demand to hold on to! If you haven't been to the Millennium Walkway you have missed a treat. It is splendid and the nearby buildings are very interesting for industrial historians. There are even llamas in a nearby field, and if you're

lucky you might see a heron – Michael did on our recce. two weeks earlier.

Our car park presented a few challenges as it sloped and had plenty of icy patches. Ron M thoughtfully brought a spade which came in useful to allow his car to get a grip. The rest of us managed by careful driving, with a few helpful shoves in some cases, to get out safely.

At lunch in the Red Lion we were joined by the Batty's and my sister, and a good lunch ended a good outing. Try and join us next time – you will enjoy it!

Dennis

# Secretary's soapbox

From Council Meeting 7/12/09

- We will pay for 2 Netbooks for MRI with a possibility of more if they are used correctly
- GJ to contact DG to see if any more response needed in Cumbria
- We will attempt Xmas tree recycling at Woodford Park
- We will have the large room each week at the club from January
- Gifts have been purchased for the club staff

From Council Meeting 19/1/10

- We will not host the GSE send-off dinner as it is too close to President's night
- Bob Stevenson is our next VP
- The Race Night on 26<sup>th</sup> Feb will be run by us
- We will be collecting for the Haiti appeal in Bramhall and Woodford Park the following weekend. We hope to send 4 Shelter Boxes

Attendances have been a little sporadic lately with Brian Dougal's great talk attracting the highest. The 25<sup>th</sup> November saw the lowest ever with the police taking extreme measures to prevent our subversive organisation from meeting. Christmas and New Year intervened and the weather (together with an injury to our chef) prevented our first meeting of 2010. On the other hand, membership numbers are looking very healthy.

Meanwhile, some of us helped out at Bramall Hall for the Halle concert (which was excellent) and as Santa (which was quite something to be part of the wonderful entertainment laid on during a blizzard). The tree collection at Woodford Park produced frostbite and a few quid.

I have been offered the chance to go to Tanzania to help repair medical equipment in rural hospitals during May 2010. I will certainly be investigating the possibilities of this.

Onward and upward for 2010.

Gordon

# Meeting Reports



## Waitrose visit – 18<sup>th</sup> November 2009

According to the Telegraph Magazine Shop Awards yesterday, Waitrose was named Food and Drink Retailer of the Year. This was about the only fact which Rob. Tooth, duty manager at the Cheadle Hulme branch, didn't know about his company when he gave 40 of us (Rotarians and partners) a comprehensive tour of the store's facilities to "see how it all works"... and very impressed we were too.

This was Rob's first "tour group" but we were a friendly and receptive audience because we have a strong relationship locally with Waitrose who have involved themselves with us on several occasions recently in our attempts to raise money, notably in Bramhall Park for our Duck Race and even now including the club in its charity collections within the store. For their continuing support the club has presented the store with our Community Service Award.

The evening started with wine and canapés – and finished with Beaujolais nouveau and mince pies. How's that for organisation! Rob gave us some background about how Waitrose had grown within the John Lewis Partnership and is growing rapidly still –

83 new branches in the last 5 years - our nearest new store being built in Poynton as I write this report. Now owned entirely by the partners, conditions of service are excellent and they even have a final salary pension scheme, a rarity in this day and age AND 25% discounts in all John Lewis stores. (By the way, John Lewis also won the National Home Products prize at the same Telegraph Awards ceremony).

The Cheadle Hulme store is now two years old and has gone from strength to strength with a few minor hiccups on the way. Because of several break-ins and some vandalism, security has been tightened so they have no need of an elderly nightwatchman – although I did volunteer when I heard of the perks of the job! The site is owned by the Merchant Navy Benevolent Fund (Sid. Davies awoke at that point) and Waitrose is aware of its social responsibilities and does everything it can to ensure peace, love and harmony in the Cheadle Hulme area.

Our tour of the store, both at the front and back of house, only served to reinforce the message that the aim is to provide quality goods and services to discerning customers – that's you and me of course. We were surprised to

learn that, in all, the store has about 160 staff working throughout the week.

Rob, ably supported by three of his senior staff, gave us all a fascinating and informative evening. He was duly

thanked by president David on behalf of us all..... and a special thank you goes to John Meeus for arranging things with his usual consummate skill.

Geoff. Hunt.

### **Biography of Bruce the Elder on December 9th**

To mark the start of the festive season crackers were on the tables. Some 25 hungry members and Nina, wife of Bruce, tucked into a choice of turkey or the ever popular lasagne. (Vida graciously gave up her usual place in the queue to the lady guest). President David presented a bouquet to Lorraine and chocolates to her helpers (with cheques) for their ever delightful services during the past year. However, returning to our tables after coffee John T was devastated (his word not mine) to find they had swept away his cracker prize notebook.!

Bruce started his talk with a photo of himself aged about 6 months. He explained that as a boy his grandfather was the biggest influence in his life. Bruce became a pupil at Manchester College of Architecture and then did his National Service under the beady eye of RSM Brittain. (as did our former member Alan Knight). Bruce worked in London and then for a very avant-garde firm in New York. Unable to afford further study he worked in Canada before joining MetroVickers in Old Trafford..

During this period he became interested in politics and heckled Hugh Gaitskill at the hustings. He also became a Manchester City councillor.

Leaving MV he joined Seiferts, Architects for the iconic Gateway House on Piccadilly and explained the problems of setting out an S-shaped building. Later he joined the Property Services Agency and was involved with Stockport Post Office. Eventually he became a Project Manager and Account Director for a number of PFI projects before finally joining his wife in her Interior Decorating business in Marple.

VP Graham announced we would run a trial Christmas tree disposal project at Woodford Grange. Purchasers of trees would be asked to return them during weekend 9th & 10th January and for a donation we would transport them to a "muncher" at Bramall Park. Michael Lacey extorted penances and Sid somehow persuaded Nina to draw his raffle ticket.

By the time you read this it will be 2010 - where has the decade gone? Happy New Year.

Bob Batty

## Seattle Christmas Boat Parade

As some member will know, Mary and I spent Christmas in Seattle area with our daughter and family. Preceding that, we spent ten days in my beloved Arizona – who knows, perhaps a talk on that State sometime?

They live to the North East of the Greater Seattle area in a ‘city’ called Kirkland. A lot of internationally known businesses are based in Greater Seattle – Costco in Kirkland, Boeing Aircraft in neighbouring Everett, Starbucks Coffee, Amazon and of course Microsoft in Redmond, next to Kirkland and the reason my son-in-law relocated to the US. Andrew has now moved to Amazon. Microsoft, or rather its founder Bill Gates, has special significance to Rotary with his simply massive support for Polio Plus.

One of Andrew’s former colleagues at Microsoft and close friend, has a brother-in-law to be, Kuhrt (pronounced ‘Cort’) who owns a boat. Nothing particularly unusual in that I hear you think, but this is a rather special boat. It was designed by Ted Geary and commissioned in the early 1930’s by Howard Marlin, of Marlin Firearms – a big competitor of Winchester in the early twentieth century. The Marlin name however did not become the stuff of legend as in the case of Winchester – “He raised his trusty Winchester ....” does not quite sound the same if you substitute ‘Marlin’ – a bit fishy really.

The 78’ ‘Linmar’ was built in New York in 1933 with a double planked Port Orford cedar hull and teak superstructure, oozing New York City wealth, sophistication and Art Deco extravagance. Later in its life, then in Florida, it became ‘Seaplay’ before coming up to the Pacific North West and plying charters up the Washington, British Columbia and Alaska coastlines.



She is now once more, ‘Linmar’ having been restored by our acquaintance from a burnt out shell and again back in the charter business. She was for sale at the time of the fire in 2006 for \$2.5m. The standard of the restoration is, quite simply,

stunning. But enough history, our trip was as guests, to witness a local spectacle, the Argosy Christmas Ship Festival, led by the local cruise ship Argosy.

The Argosy Christmas Ship Festival is a holiday celebration that has been a Northwest tradition for 60 years. Its main purpose is to bring communities together to celebrate the holiday season. From the flotilla of ships to the crowds of people who gather onshore, this celebration is one of the gems of the holiday season.

Each night, from late November, through to December 23rd the Argosy, absolutely covered in Christmas lights, sails to different Puget Sound waterfront communities, over 45 in total. Choirs onboard sing 20-minute performances to these communities, all broadcast via state-of-the-art speaker system.

On shore, thousands of people gather around roaring bonfires anticipating the arrival of the Christmas Ship. Hundreds of other craft, including 'Linmar' follow, all lit up like Christmas trees. These range from ocean going yachts to kayaks whose paddlers wear just a head light! Unfortunately the deficiencies of a tiny pocket digital camera meant no usable photographs.

The forty or so of us on board, eating, drinking, standing on deck on a cool but clear winter night, had a truly memorable evening. As you may imagine, hundreds of boats, all wanting to be as close to Argosy and her music and choirs as possible, meant close proximity – far, far closer that I would have been happy with, had Linmar been mine! Captain Kuhrt however, exhibited the best boat handling skills I have ever witnessed in my life, and all carried out in a calm, relaxed and good humoured way. As for the tiny kayaks so low and almost invisible in the water – they must have had a death wish!

Chris Monkhouse

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### **Cricket: a partial explanation**

Cricket is a game of two sides. The off side and the on side. The on side is also called the leg side. The on (or leg) side is side to the batsman's left. Or right, if he is left-handed. The fielding side is made up of eleven players, two of whom are bowler and the wicket-keeper. The other nine can be either short, long, fine, wide, deep, square, backward, forward or silly.

And now, the lbw rule...

## Janet Salt Trek along History

Sixty two kilometres of loose stones, crumbling steps and steep ascents and descents through numerous watchtowers. This was the challenge set before me during a recent visit to China. On the 14<sup>th</sup> of September 2009, twenty able-bodied people, plus my guide Glynis Howard from Henshaws and myself set out at 8 o'clock in the morning to start our trek. The Great Wall of China meanders along mountain crests amidst a backdrop of green undulating valleys and hills, cut across by a light breeze which sighs a lament of a past era beneath a gentle blue sky. Not for us smooth tarmac or neatly paved walkways, but a great monument worn rough by time and neglect. Every step I took demanded mental concentration as well as physical endurance to negotiate the steep climbs, firstly onto a wall and then up into numerous towers in various states of dilapidation. After a brief rest there was a steep descent to negotiate, then onto the next tower, it was hot hard work.

On the fourth day we trekked through thirty towers, no mean feat, and to add to the drama Glynis hurt her leg. A local Chinese woman took over as my guide and despite no previous experience of guiding a blind person, and a language barrier, she did brilliantly, and I raced ahead after the leaders. On the last day we retired to Beijing and strode the 300 steps to a reconstructed section of the wall, through nine watchtowers which brought us to the base of the almost vertical "stairway to heaven". From the dizzy heights, Beijing nestled below and beyond of the distant mountains.

As a reward for our hard work, we ended the stay with a visit to Tiananmen Square, where I alone seemed to experience echoes from the past. The Imperial Palace with its elaborate style and ornate decoration was extremely interesting to the touch, The next day a short flight to Xian included a visit to an empress's burial tomb and also to the world famous Terra Cotta army. I was, of course, unable to touch the original terra cotta statues but I was fortunate enough to visit a factory where life size replicas were made which I was allowed to touch.

After a celebratory dinner the time had come for us to leave China. As our plane speeded towards England, I had plenty of time to reflect about the trekking, the people we had met, and the places we had visited. The adventure had been a good experience but as I stepped into the airport, my challenge achieved, I thought, "It's good to be home".

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Comment – Janet walked up to 12 miles per day in 9 hour stretches. She raised more than £5000 for Henshaws.

## **Charity Concert at Bramall Hall**

from our non-musical correspondent

'Twas a cold and frosty December evening when some 90 Rotarians and their friends gathered at Bramall Hall to listen to a concert performed by the Halle Brass Quintet. But first we were invited to see the Christmas decorations in the Hall rooms based on the very appropriate theme of "Winter wonderland". The decorations had been provided by various local flower arrangement groups and whilst very clever in their use of materials, a little variation in colour from silver and white would have added interest and warmth. Nevertheless it was interesting to see some of the improvements made to the rooms and their contents in recent years and those who have not been recently should go round the Hall again.

The quintet played in the Great Hall downstairs grouped in front of the huge fireplace. They were led by Ewan Easton whose charismatic introduction to each item was a major factor in the success of the evening.

The first period was mainly well known items of music written for brass instruments from Mozart to the modern day. After an interval when we enjoyed mulled wine and mince pies in the old kitchen, the pieces were of a more festive style and we were encouraged to join in. Firstly David McKeith as Chairman of the Halle Society took part in Jingle Bells then we were asked to get out our keys and shake them in time with the music. Tony Burch could not resist the temptation to ask what key are we to play in ?. The youngest member of the quintet then handed out chime bars to members of the audience, but one lady thought he was collecting the ladies' house keys so he could visit them which led her to remark that he would make a lovely "toy-boy"! The evening continued in this happy vein, and with the ambience of the Hall added to the music, was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

President David thanked the audience for their attendance, Halle Brass for their performance and Caroline Egan for the idea of the concert and arrangements at the Hall. Thanks are also due to members of the Ways & Means committee for manning the doors and selling raffle tickets and to Vida for packing the hamper prizes.

The evening raised about £1000 for our charity account, half of which will be donated to a charity of the musicians' choice as they had generously waived their fees for the evening.

Bob Batty

## Computer tips 6

No-one sent me any questions to answer last month so I'll tell you what I've been up to.

I loaded an operating system called Linux onto my desktop machine as I had heard quite a bit about it (and it was free). This is an alternative to Windows and comes with all sorts of software like a word processor, spreadsheet, photo editor, e-mail, games and, did I mention, it's free? It is reasonably compatible with Microsoft Office programs and if you are considering building a computer as a spare, it's a good way of reducing costs. I don't think I'd use it as my first choice machine but it was interesting to play with. All attempts to delve into the background by asking for help on the internet were met with a completely different world of super-geeks who speak in tongues. I can talk technic when I like but these people are on a vastly different plane. The simplest request was met with reams of stuff I couldn't translate like the following - 'If you can't edit the Grub on the MBR simply open a terminal and use Gnu editor to look at the root'. Of course, it's so easy really. Even when I asked for simple step by step instructions on something, I met a barrage of geekspeak. For once, I had to give up on something technical. Oh the shame.

Anyway, a little bit about pdf files this month. PDF stands for Portable Document File and was started by Adobe as a way of enabling different computers to read documents produced by different programs in a common way. So a document produced using an Apple computer running PageMaker can be read on a PC and will look the same as when it was written. As an added bonus, the pdf document can't be modified (without some serious software) and so tends to be used for 'final' versions of things like company policies and the like.

There are two parts to pdf files. Firstly to produce one you need the pdf writer which, if you buy it from Adobe will cost you an arm, a leg and your first-born child as down payment or you can get one free. I use one called Cute PDF which you can get from the Internet by searching in Google. It comes as two programs which are downloaded and installed separately. Another one which was recommended by Dennis (I think it was Dennis) is Primo PDF which allows you to determine how big the final file size is depending on what it is to be used for. The pdf writer acts as another printer so that if you wish to save (say) a letter as a pdf file, you go to the File menu, select Print and then choose the pdf writer instead of your usual printer. It then asks you where you want to save the resulting file.

The other part to pdf files is the reader and this is always free. You can download Adobe pdf reader from the Internet or find it on most discs given free with computer magazines. I always recommend that all computers have this installed as, sooner or later, someone is going to send you a pdf file and you can't do anything with them unless you have this. You may not want to produce pdf files but you will certainly need to read them at some point.

Gordon

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### **Predictions, predictions....**

As we approached the Millennium many people made predictions about the future. Amongst them was Arthur C Clarke, the late science fiction author, who made several accurate past predictions, including stationery space satellites. So how did he get on in 1999?

2002: the first commercial device producing clean, safe power by low temperature nuclear reactions goes on sale, heralding the end of the fossil fuel age. (If only this had happened, the global warming scare and petrol prices would be a thing of the past!).

2004: the first human clone publicly admitted. (Could have been true were it not for legislation and everyone's horror at its implications).

2009: A city in a Third World country is devastated by the accidental explosion of an A-bomb in its armoury. After a brief debate in the UN, all nuclear weapons are destroyed.

2010: The first Quantum Generators (tapping space energy) are developed. Available in portable and household units from a few kilowatts upwards, they can produce energy indefinitely. Central power stations close down, the age of pylons ends as grid systems are dismantled.

In spite of 'Big Brother' protests, electronic monitoring virtually removes professional criminals from society. (If only!).

2016: All existing currencies are abolished. The megawatt-hour becomes the unit of exchange.

2017: December 16. On his 100th birthday, Sir Arthur Clarke is one of the first guests at the Hilton Orbiter (He certainly got this one wrong as well!).

continued on next page.....

## Job rota

Date	Speaker host	Bulletin	S at A
January 27	J Knowles	C Monkhouse	T Burch
February 3	Committees	V Chattington	G Yule
February 10	T Sheppard	J Thomas	M Hurst
February 17	N Loveland	M Lacey	B Stevenson
February 24	G Hunt	G Jackson	H Barker
March 3	Committees	J Thewlis	S Davies
March 10	D Rabone	R Malabon	H Hill
March 17	B Bissell	D McKeith	B Batty
March 24	G Fallowfield	J Fallowfield	B Farrow
March 31	No meeting - 5th Wednesday		
April 7	Committees	J Meeus	D Rabone
April 14	A Newsome	J Sykes	D Jenkins
April 21	D Poizer	C Egan	D Rose
April 28	C Monkhouse	T Burch	J Knowles
May 5	Committees	V Chattington	T Sheppard
May 12	G Yule	D Allport	J Thomas
May 19	M Hurst	G Hunt	M Lacey
May 26	B Stevenson	N Loveland	G Jackson
June 2	Committees	H Barker	R Malabon
June 9	S Davies	J Thewlsis	B Bissell
June 16	H Hill	B Batty	D McKeith
June 23	G Fallowfield	J Fallowfield	B Farrow
June 30	5th Wednesday, but possible Handover/Assembly		
July 7	Committees	J Meeus	A Newsome
July 14	D Jenkins	D Rabone	J Sykes

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

.....from previous page

2021: The first humans land on Mars, and have some unpleasant surprises (not specified!).

... and last, but not least...

2090: Large scale burning of fossil fuels is resumed to replace the carbon dioxide 'mined' from the air and, hopefully, to postpone the next Ice Age by promoting global warming. (Our troubles never cease, it seems – but none reading this will need to worry about this particular problem!).

# Diary

February 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Committees
February 10 <sup>th</sup>	Governors for Schools - Libby Evans (Rabone)
February 17 <sup>th</sup>	Chattington/Davies
February 24 <sup>th</sup> (Egan)	The Mellor dig and community archaeology-Marie Widger
February 26 <sup>th</sup>	Race night
March 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Committees
March 10 <sup>th</sup>	Open Forum 2010 (Farrow)
March 17 <sup>th</sup>	Hunt/Hurst
March 24 <sup>th</sup>	no meeting- President's night March 26 <sup>th</sup>
March 26 <sup>th</sup>	President's night
March 31 <sup>st</sup>	No meeting - 5 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday
April 7 <sup>th</sup>	Committees
April 14 <sup>th</sup>	Jackson/Jenkins
April 21 <sup>st</sup>	Cremation and Crematoria (Knowles)
April 28 <sup>th</sup>	Loveland/Malabon
May 5 <sup>th</sup>	Committees
May 12 <sup>th</sup>	Theatre Night "Beauty and the Beast"
May 16 <sup>th</sup>	Duck Race
May 19 <sup>th</sup>	Monkhouse/Newsome
May 26 <sup>th</sup>	Palmer/Poizr

## Unallocated events:

- 1) Visit to Total Fitness (Meeus)
- 2) Feeding the world (Bissell)
- 3) Job talk (G. Fallowfield)

## Forthcoming events:

4<sup>th</sup> July - Rotary Barbeque

21/01

## BLIND RUN

**Mrs Janet Salt**, (possibly also her blind daughter, Andrea) 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 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 go.** Ask for directions (Bob, John S. or Dennis) if needed.

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.

January 26	J Meeus	C Monkhouse
February 2	J Sykes	D Rose
February 9	D Poizer	B Stevenson
February 16	J Sykes	J Thomas
February 23	G Yule	D Allport
March 2	B Batty	B Bissell
March 9	D Burstow	V Chattington
March 16	C Egan	J Fallowfield
March 23	G Fallowfield	B Farrow
March 30	G Hunt	M Hurst
April 6	G Jackson	D Poizer
April 13	J Knowles	M Lacey
April 20	N Loveland	R Malabon
April 27	D McKeith	J Meeus
May 4	C Monkhouse	A Newsome
May 11	D Jenkins	D Rose
May 18	B Stevenson	D Allport
May 25	J Thomas	G Yule
June 1	J Sykes	B Batty
June 8	B Bissell	D Burstow
June 15	V Chattington	C Egan
June 22	G Fallowfield	J Fallowfield
June 29	B Farrow	G Hunt

**Note: the rota has changed in detail since the last issue of the Bulletin!**

## Shelter Box bonanza!

The people of Bramhall and Woodford and the members of our own club have been saddened and moved by the suffering in Haiti. We were already collecting over Christmas for funds to buy some more Shelter boxes, and the club responded quickly after the earthquake to get more boxes. Club members personally donated over £1000 and collections were organised for the weekend of 23 - 24th January in Bramhall and at Woodford Park garden centre. Schools are involved as well and the picture shows VP Graham at Lady Barn House School, where pupils and their families raised almost £2000, sufficient to buy four Shelter boxes. What a terrific response.

All this magnificent effort will result in at least ten additional Shelter boxes. Boxes were among the first aid deliveries to Haiti and we know that some of the large tents that Shelter boxes contain have been used as temporary hospitals.

Rotary at its best! Well done to all.

