

Rotarian



Bramhall and Woodford Rotary Club

Bulletin

February 2011



A wintry day
An entry from our SnapHappy
competition in 2010

Yule's tidings

When I last wrote, I reflected on what we had achieved so far this Rotary year.

Since then, both Sue & I have enjoyed the Charter Night and District Conference as well as hosting the traditional President's New Year Drinks. All are important events on the Rotary social calendar.

However, as a Service oriented club, can we look back on further successes? I think we can.

- Ways and Means Rocktoberfest was a very enjoyable event, which was reasonably well supported (including a group from Jumpspace.) and made a good profit (£688)
- We supported the Stockport Lamplighters' walk both as participants and marshalls (£344)
- We held a bucket collection at Stockport Rugby Club in aid of British Legion (£175)
- Our Christmas collections at Woodford Park were again lucrative (£2412) and well organized by W&M and supported by members.
- Our Christmas party was enjoyed by all and raised £374.
- Donations in lieu of Christmas cards raised £450

...which adds up to the best part of £4500. Well done everyone! Please also pass on my thanks to partners, friends and relatives who helped.

...and that's just the fundraising!

Coming up in February there are Thanks for Life related activities including a Classical concert and the flowering of the Crocuses.

In May there is the family day on 8th May, which we are doing in conjunction with the Manchester Children's Hospital. There is a lot of work being done on this already, and as we get closer the whole club will be involved. Please make sure this day is in your diary.

So plenty to still look forward to... enjoy it!

Graham

Secretary's soapbox

Now into the second half of the Rotary year and things are good and quiet for secretarial stuff. I am sure that will change towards June but hopefully not before Easter !

My main activity for Rotary right now is not Secretarial, but rather Membership. I feel we have a unique opportunity this year to recruit from the large pool of people who have latterly been associated with Round Table & (Ladies) Circle. I am the youngest of that group (or oldest depending how you look at it !?) to have joined Rotary and I got kicked out of Table 17 years ago. My social circle however still revolves around the friends I made in RT – i.e. the group of hangers-on from the past 17 years. The enhanced opportunity to recruit arises because of two coincident RT events. Firstly this year is RT's 50th Charter. This will be a huge get together of all the ex-Bramhall RT members, many of the older ones are now in Rotary of course and are leading the event planning. Secondly RT will be down to 2 members soon and will thus cease to exist as a formal club. This impacts the Christmas float and we could well be joint owners of it this December.

But to those Rotarians who have not in their past embraced to the casual, unruly & anarchist world of Table I can only apologise, for if I am successful it will lower the tone of the club even more than my joining did ...

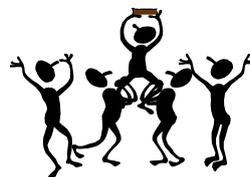
I trust everyone is still happy with the web site. I have just started to include Duck Race info and of course there will be much more over the coming months.

On a personal note Jan & I have been spending every minute we can with our new toy – our narrowboat “Augurs Well”. It has been a wonderful experience and it still amazes us how we relax and unwind as soon as we are on the canal at Victoria Pit, Higher Poynton. Somehow everything gets very peaceful once surrounded by the ducks and the countryside there. Which is just as well as we have been trapped at that exact spot in the ice since the end of November !!!

Lastly a bit of advanced warning, I am scheduled to organise the meeting for 18 May which will be a talk on the Macclesfield canal (literally – with that word used correctly for once !).

Brian.

Meeting Reports



NW Air Ambulance

Our president arrived on 24th November with only seconds to spare confessing that he was busy watching TV or something. We believe him, we really do.

David Rabone was congratulated for making his introduction to the grace, longer than the verse itself but the excellent (and plentiful) food was worth saying thanks for.

Our speaker, Bryn Butler explained that he became a volunteer after being rescued from Lyme Park by air ambulance whilst out on a walk and that his wife's concern for his plight was somewhat mitigated by her desire to get the car keys from his pocket before he was whisked away.

Founded in 1999, the NW air ambulance service has flown over 10,000 missions in their two helicopters based at Blackpool and Barton. They have staff in emergency centres and when a call comes in for an ambulance, the staff make the decision whether a normal land ambulance or a helicopter is most suited to the type of accident and the terrain. The speed of response is also a critical factor as the first 60 minutes of an incident can be vital if the

chance of recovery is to be assured. The majority of calls are to traffic incidents on motorways with walking accidents coming second.

Each crew consists of one pilot and two paramedics with only the salaries of the latter being met by government. The remainder of the 4 million annual running costs are met by donations from the public and industry. They currently have 3 crews but would like 4 to give greater cover. Donations and offers of help can be given through their website www.nwaa.net which is well worth a visit.

Vida, standing in for Henry, gave the vote of thanks and Michael announced that we can now accept donations via our website, which now looks great thanks to Brian.

The raffle tickets weren't ready so Bryn got the wine and Sid fined all those not wearing a tie (including himself) and then because we should be relaxed about it, all those who were wearing a tie. The ladies and John Knowles (in his clerical collar) were left undecided as to whether to pay or not.

Gordon

It is not often that your Editor gets too much copy! However, I received two reports on our meeting of 1st December, and it would be a shame not to include both!

Committees: 1st December

December arrived and presented us with one of the coldest nights for many a year. An unwelcome herald of what was to proceed in the week that followed. However, it did not dissuade those hardy stalwarts who braved the conditions to do service to the Committee meeting.

First pre dinner report was from Vida on the subject of one of our 'sight challenged', who sustained a fall in Lyme Park and was air ambulated to Wythenshaw hospital, where she received far less than satisfactory treatment which was exacerbated by that of the paramedics who took her home and left her to her own abilities at the front door. Your reporter suggested that some further enquiries should be made and an offer of assistance in providing a letter of complaint. Vida then 'swapped hats' to sale offering large hold bags from her market stall.

Following dinner your President asked for brief but concise reports in order to take cognisance of the inclement weather. We broke with tradition and continued with the meeting delaying coffee to the end for those who wanted to stay. (Not a bad idea for adoption!! Shush! This place is for reporting not for opining)

Ways & Means gave a reminder for those collecting at Morrison the following day and that Woodford Park collection was going well but that committee was having difficulty in counting the money!! Something for 'Tres' Michael to look forward to on his return from visiting a Gaelic neighbours across the water. Another meeting has been held with Manchester Children's Hospital regarding the Duck Race

Sec Brian said that Round Table had offered the 'Take Over' of their Christmas float, now in its fortieth year and raises some £6000 a year. A meeting, with the remaining five members of RT, is to be arranged for February next year for consideration of the take over, following a debate in B & W Rotary. If not accepted it would be handed to the Scouts.

A reprise by Vida that Red Cross and McMillan had offered speakers to attend the Club. Similarly your reporter handed an offer from the Manager at HSBC, to whom we donated £250 for his cause, about climbing Mt Kilimanjaro. (Spelling!?).

International had nothing to report. However Gordon (Trekker) Jackson announced that following his trip, sixteen mechanics from Rwanda are furthering his cause in the maintenance and repair of hospital equipment.

Social requested menus and cheques for the Christmas Dinner and reminded members of the cut off date for the event Monday 13 Dec . No menu No cheque – No show.

dressed i.e. sweaters, snow shoes, balaclavas and thermal underwear {Vida turned her head in case there was a ‘showing’) and then fined all those properly dressed in showing off.

A.O.B. Gordon announced that the Slow Cooker had been sold (Thereby lies another story).

Rotary toast was called at 9.08 which must have a record. Some stayed for coffee. possibly cold coffee methinks.

Sgt @ Arms Bruce did a very quick round and fined all those improperly

John Meeus

Committees in the snow

Seventeen members of the Club braved snow to attend Committee night on 1st December. Following some discussion and a somewhat shortened grace given by the Prez., we sat down to enjoy a suitably warming meal including chilled beef or (or and for some) poached salmon followed by apple pie and rice pudding. Committee deliberations were somewhat muted but Ways and Means confirmed that May 8th would feature the Grand Duck Race and we were asked to provide suggestions of potential side shows and for any other ideas to boost this occasion. The intention is to make this Duck Race our big event for the year and so all members are asked to prepare themselves for busy period leading up to it.

The second topic discussed concerned taking over or helping out with the Round Table’s Christmas Float in Cheadle Hulme and Bramhall with

effect from 2011. This has raised £6K or so in the past but a somewhat reduced membership means that the Round Table is having great difficulty in running it. This proposal is to be considered by Council and may be presented to the Club again.

Apart from these topics, the meeting was rather quiet apart from Vida selling, this time computer bags, best not to ask where from. Finally, not content with fining absentees who had failed to give the due notification, Bruce the younger eagerly volunteered to be a stand-in S. at A., and ruthlessly fined all attendees with flippant references to members’ sartorial elegance (or lack thereof).

The meeting finished at 9.15 so members could make their way home in the snow – that is apart from the few who stayed behind for a quick snorter.

Jim Thomas

'Professor Malabon' in action!

Twenty seven brave members plus a guest of John Meeus, Ian Loutit, a former Tabler, braved the artic conditions on 9th December to hear Professor Malabon's talk - more of that later.

President Graham read a letter of thanks from Mac for the taxi service provided by Club members over the past couple of months. Mac included a cheque for £100, thanks indeed from a Scotsman! Jumpspace have also written a letter of thanks for our recent support and donation. Geoff reminded Club members of the protocol for introducing prospective members to the Club which can be summarised as, speak to Geoff.

A veritable feast awaited and an empty Harry, thanks to his recent trip to India, won the charge to the food. Lorraine had pulled out the stops as it was our last visit to the Ladybridge before Christmas. The usual culprits needed little encouragement to gorge themselves on the fair which included a cheese board and mince pies as well as the usual puds.

After coffee Professor Malabon took to the floor to give a talk on nuclear physics. As he dismembered the atom, fortunately without any bangs, it was noted that he had broken all records for sending Club members to sleep - perhaps he should have included a little nuclear explosion. He was beginning to

lose those still awake particularly when he informed us quarks came from ducks (most thought it was quacks), then, all of a sudden, he introduced a really dodgy particle, Tony Blair. At this point the professor threw in the towel and suggested we talk about education.

Those members experienced in education and John Thewlis entered a lively debate. There was strong support for the 3Rs and a general agreement that the intervention of politicians of all colours, none of whom were in office long enough to see the damage caused by their short termist policies, were to blame for the reduction in standards. Vocational education received strong support and we were all shocked by Tony's stories of the workshy attitudes of the indigenous youth. Conclusion: the country has gone to the dogs and thank god for Polish plumbers.

President Graham presented flowers to Lorraine who looked pleased with them, less with his kiss. Michael announced the new web donation system was working and had turned his trial donation of £10 into £12.50.

Then followed the EGM which broke all records for its length, at least two minutes long, the second broken record of the night. Bob was elected President in waiting, Michael Treasurer, and Brian Secretary - all unanimously. The post of VP for next year has yet to be filled but we were informed there was tons of time to find someone. To roars

of approval (or was it groans of dismay) Bob Batty asked why we had not been shown the accounts. Graham told us they were in his brief case, unsigned as yet by auditor David, who was last seen fiddling at the Halle. We were promised them for the first meeting in January.

To everyone's surprise, none more than Gordon, who incidentally became a granddad a few hours later, he was presented with a Paul Harris Fellow award. This was very warmly applauded by everyone present, leaving Gordon,

speechless for once, to mutter his thanks.

Brian won the raffle and refused to give the wine to the speaker. Harry, SOA, did his best to draw attention to his trip to India by fining everyone who had shown interest as well as those who had ignored his return.

Final toast was taken at 10.30pm.

Bruce the younger

17th December –Christmas Dinner @ Bramhall Golf Club

John Meeus opened the meeting asking the Rev John Knowles to say Grace.

John then introduced President Graham, who thanked the 60+ members and guests present. The President also thanked:

- John for organising the event
- His wife, Sue, for sponsoring the meeting (as a member of BGC)
- The raffle prize donors
- The caterers in anticipation of a good meal.

Graham then asked a seemingly random selection of member to stand. It transpired that these were the Club's Paul Harris Fellows (minus Bob Batty &

Gordon). He then explained that it was this group that elected new Fellows, such as Gordon, who the President had the honour of inducting at the previous week's meeting. Without further ado, the President announced that John Sykes had also been so chosen. John was as surprised as Gordon had been. John is a Past President and continues to be a stalwart of the Club and District, organising the Blind Run the annual District Young Entrepreneur completion.

It was then time to eat, and we were served, what most diners considered, an excellent meal in very convivial surroundings.

As we ate our Christmas pud, we were treated to some background keyboard music from our guest entertainer.

Most of the diners were familiar with Tori Longden from either her performance in Little Voice at Chads or her subsequent visit to the Club. She is

a very talented musician and singer, and after dinner treaded us to a number of seasonal numbers, culminating in a rendition of 'The Twelve Days of Christmas' led by 12 Rotarian volunteers complete with props. Dr. Harry claims not to have provided the latex glove that Secretary Brian (wearing a milkmaid's hat and pigtails) inflated to resemble a cow's udder. Everyone is looking forward to seeing the photos of this part of the evening!

Tori then involved the whole audience in a singing a couple of traditional

carols, before proceedings were brought to a close at about 11pm.

Oops – I nearly forgot to mention the Raffle, which raised £162. This was all profit as the prizes had been donated. Two sets of Green tickets with the same numbers caused some confusion (thanks Vida!).

Everyone left the building full of Christmas Cheer, which was complemented by the inch of snow that had fallen whilst we were inside.

Graham Yule

The People's History Museum

The speaker at the meeting on 12th January was Phil Dunn, curator and registrar of the People's History Museum based in Spinningfields Manchester (www.phm.org.uk). It concerns itself with the development of democracy in the UK and the move towards universal suffrage since 1832. Unsurprisingly it was set up by a group of Marxists in London in 1935 and moved to Manchester in 1989. In 2007 it got a Heritage Lottery grant to establish the rather splendid premises it occupies today. It is an independent, non party political(!) charity funded by the grant the city council, trade unions, the Coop and others. It generates revenue by staging exhibitions, corporate events and by charging a pound to get in. Its prize exhibits are a large collection of marching banners used at demos, processions and rallies,

plus pamphlets leaflets and photos used for largely political purposes. The banners are very good examples of the genre, the oldest dating to 1832. They have great expertise in the conservation of these objects. We got an extensive viewing on the screen of the best examples. Having thanked Phil for his efforts via Bruce the Elder we moved on.

Michael admitted we do not know how much we give to Foundation and he needs more info. from donors and non donors.

Sadly the resignations of the Davids McKeith and Jenkins were announced. Less sadly that District 1050 will be merged with another in two years time. (Ed: if District membership does not reach a set threshold by 2013).

£250 has been donated to the Nepal Trust and we have received £144 from the MBC for our work in Bramhall Park at Christmas.

John Meeus fined a few people. David B. won the wine and gave it to the speaker. Alan Newsome

Sixth Form and Bramhall High

Once the regalia of office (Bell and pennants) arrived together with Harry the evening began with Grace on January 19th. As usual, a fine meal was made available to all and enjoyed to the full, more by some than others.

The evening business began with Apologies, with the unusual event of two apologies' being present. Brian advised of updates to the web site which includes a count down clock to the Duck race meet. He also confirmed the meeting of 2nd Feb would host members from Round Table to discuss the future of the Christmas float and how it may be able to continue with the reduction of their members. David Rose (with apologies for short notice) advised of a 'Free Food, music and cultural evening' at the International Society in Manchester on the evening of Monday 24th January. John Sykes requested a volunteer to help with the next 'blind run' and one was found. Harry advised the Rossi Quartet, part of the Hallé, are to perform at Bramhall Methodist Church on the 11th February – tickets available at various outlets. John Meeus advised about an alternative menu for Burns night and circulated a list for members to confirm their preferences. No further committee reports were offered.

Then main speaker of the evening was Scott Thomas from Bramhall High School who gave an impassioned talk on the subject of 6th form academic education. It would seem the major issue is that Aquinas College is the preferred 6th form college for the Stockport area and selection to it is something of a lottery unless one is of the Catholic faith or has siblings already there. To get to an interview it is necessary to be among the first X number of applicants to telephone after a given time on a given day without consideration to academic ability or effort – one the allocation of places is reached no further names are taken. Other 'better' 6th form colleges such as Wilmslow and Poynton operate on a geographical basis so people from central Stockport are severely disadvantaged.

To overcome this, a proposal has been made to Stockport Education committee to open a 6th form at Bramhall High School. This has been rejected by Stockport and the new proposal is to change the school to academy status and start the 6th form as part of this change. Seemingly there is adequate class room space available at present to accommodate the additional students although longer term replacement

buildings will be required. It is thought the cost of the teaching element will be self funding as each student attracts funding which increases with age. The proposal is to be discussed by the Student Council and put to the school board for further discussion.

A short discussion followed with members broadly in favour of an academic college although it was pointed out that the reason for 6th form colleges in their present format was to provide a broader education opportunity than a pure academic one.

John Meeus proposed a vote of thanks to Scott for an informative talk and referenced a 16 year old student who once spoke equally eloquently at the Conservative conference but could not recall what happened to him.

Final clear up business included advice that 4 members had had basic training by the fire brigade and further 'on the job' training would follow in February. After a round of pass the parcel it was agreed the District report would be held over to the next meeting.

Sergeant at Arms John Sykes fined various people for 'looking like they arrived by Harley'; copious wine consumption (may be a touch if jealousy here), apologising for absence and then turning up and all people in employment 'because they can afford it'. Finally the meeting closed after President Graham explained the reason for the Scots having the Thistle as their emblem.

Trevor Saville



Tanzania update

On my return from Tanzania, I stated that there was little point in pouring money into a situation that would result in very little of it reaching the intended recipients and that is still my view. The initial aim was to set up an educational system whereby technicians could be trained in the repair of hospital equipment and perhaps set up a single point of entry for the hospitals in the region to receive machinery that was in working order complete with manuals and correct voltage settings. It soon became clear that the prevailing culture was one that did not reward technicians for their skills or even want to encourage the repair of equipment when replacements could be obtained for free or simply done without. As I stated at the time – the will does not exist in the country to develop this further.

We did however, send a Rotary toolbox to the Usa River Children's Centre and this, despite the best attempts of the customs officials, has now got there and is in use.

In an attempt to develop some kind of support network for those people working in the country in some kind of technical role, I set up a Yahoo group called Africafix along the lines of our bwrotary, to encourage people to share problems and possible solutions. There are some members of Engineering World Health in this group and they have been helpful in getting technicians from Tanzania and Rwanda to join. So far, there have been only two requests for information, one of which I was able to help with, but when the next cohort of students are sent out to Tanzania, we should see an increase in use.

One of the students in Tanzania was Rebecca Souder who loved the country so much that she has gone back there of her own accord to work in her original profession of chemical engineer with a company who develop water filters to remove some of the very high levels of fluoride which occur naturally in the area and cause bone deformities. Her original trip was funded by a Rotary club in America and she has made contact with one of the clubs I visited in order to act as an intermediary to further the aims of the engineering group. My attempts to involve the local Rotary clubs in Tanzania have not met with the success I hoped. In fact, I have been quite disappointed with their lack of response. Each club I visited stated that they were very keen to investigate links with us in order to develop a support programme but they have failed to respond to emails asking for further contact. I hope Rebecca can reverse this.

I continue to hope that we can offer support the work going on in Africa but on a practical rather than a monetary basis.

Gordon

Some ideas about living in 2011

Go placidly amid the noise and haste, and remember what peace there may be in silence. As far as possible without surrender be on good terms with all persons. Speak your truth quietly and clearly; and listen to others, even the dull and ignorant; they too have their story. Avoid loud and aggressive persons, they are vexations to the spirit. If you compare yourself with others, you may become vain and bitter; for always there will be greater and lesser persons than yourself. Enjoy your achievements as well as your plans. Keep interested in your own career, however humble; it is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time. Exercise caution in your business affairs; for the world is full of trickery. But let this not blind you to what virtue there is; many persons strive for high ideals; and everywhere life is full of heroism. Be yourself. Especially, do not feign affection. Neither be cynical about love; for in the face of all aridity and disenchantment it is as perennial as the grass. Take kindly the counsel of the years, gracefully surrendering the things of youth. Nurture strength of spirit to shield you in sudden misfortune. Do not distress yourself with imaginings. Many fears are born of fatigue and loneliness. Beyond a wholesome discipline, be gentle with yourself. You are a child of the universe, no less than the trees and the stars; you have a right to be here. And whether or not it is clear to you, no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should. Therefore be at peace with God, whatever you conceive Him to be, and whatever your labors and aspirations, in the noisy confusion of life keep peace with your soul. With all its sham, drudgery and broken dreams, it is still a beautiful world.

Be careful. Strive to be happy.

from a church in Baltimore, dated 1692.

Recommended Tradespeople

(15 November 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 Bevers, (0161 612 6605). These 2 young brothers do fantastic work, and tidy. [Rose,Sykes]

Electricians:

C & H Electric, 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]

Party/outside Catering

Coco Deli, Gill or Emma, 86 Station Road, Cheadle Hulme SK8 5AE. 01614858143 [Saville]

2000 B.C. - Here, eat this root.
1000 A.D. - That root is heathen. Here, say this prayer.
1850 A.D. - That prayer is superstition. Here, drink this potion.
1940 A.D. - That potion is snake oil. Here, swallow this pill.
1985 A.D. - That pill is ineffective. Here, take this antibiotic.
2000 A.D. - That antibiotic is artificial. Here, eat this root.

43% of all statistics are worthless.

7/5th of all people do not understand fractions

90% of men kiss their wife goodbye when they leave the house.
The rest kiss their house goodbye when they leave the wife.

A baby sitter is a teenager acting like an adult while the adults are out acting like teenagers.

A banker is someone who lends you an umbrella when the sun is shining, and who asks for it back when it start to rain.

A bargain is something you don't need at a price you can't resist.

A beautiful relationship does not depend upon how good we understand someone but on how well we avoid misunderstandings.

A bicycle can't stand on its own because it's two-tired.

Ability can take you to the top, but it takes character to keep you there.

Ability is what you're capable of doing...
Motivation determines what you do...
Attitude determines how well you do it.

A bird does not sing because it has an answer -- it sings because it has a song.

A boy, frustrated with all the rules he had to follow, asked his father, "Dad, how soon will I be old enough to do as I please?"
The father answered immediately, "I don't know. Nobody has lived that long yet."

Did you know?

The Washington Post has published the winning submissions to its yearly contest, in which readers are asked to supply alternate meanings for common and great words.

And the winners are:

- 1 . coffee, n. the person upon whom one coughs.
- 2 . flabbergasted, adj. appalled by discovering how much weight one has gained.
- 3 . abdicate, v. to give up all hope of ever having a flat stomach.
- 4 . esplanade, v. to attempt an explanation while drunk.
- 5 . willy-nilly, adj. impotent.
- 6 . negligent, adj. absentmindedly answering the door when wearing only a nightgown.
- 7 . lymph, v. to walk with a lisp.
- 8 . sarcasm, n. the gulf between the author of sarcastic wit and the person who doesn't get it
- 9 . flatulence, n. emergency vehicle that picks up someone who has been run over by a steamroller.
- 10 . balderdash, n. a rapidly receding hairline,
- 11 . testicle, n. a humorous question on an exam.
- 12 . rectitude, n. the formal, dignified bearing adopted by proctologists.

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.

January 31	B Batty	J Sykes
February 7	V Chattington	D Allport
February 14	B Farrow	D Burstow
February 21	G Hunt	N Loveland
February 28	G Jackson	J Meeus
March 7	R Malabon	D Rose
March 14	D Poizer	J Sykes
March 21	B Stevenson	B Batty
March 28	D Allport	V Chattington
April 4	D Burstow	G Hunt
April 11	B Farrow	N Loveland
April 18	G Jackson	J Meeus
April 25	R Malabon	D Rose
May 2	D Poizer	J Sykes
May 9	B Stevenson	B Batty
May 16	D Burstow	V Chattington
May 23	B Farrow	D Allport
May 30	G Hunt	N Loveland
June 6	R Malabon	J Meeus
June 13	D Poizer	D Rose
June 20	B Stevenson	J Sykes
June 27	D Allport	B Batty
July 4	D Burstow	V Chattington
July 11	B Farrow	G Hunt

Job rota

Date	Speaker host	Bulletin	S at A
January 26	Burns Night	D Poizer	C Monkhouse
February 2	Committees	J Knowles	V Chattington
February 9	T Burch	T Sheppard	J Thomas
February 16	D Schofield	I Dobson	M Lacey
February 23	G Hunt	B Stevenson	N Loveland
March 2	No meeting: President's Night on March 4th		
March 9	Committees	D Allport	G Jackson
March 16	H Barker	S Preece	R Malabon
March 23	B Preece	S Davies	J Thewlis
March 30	No meeting: 5th Wednesday		
April 6	Committees	D Burstow	H Hill
April 13	B Bissell	G Fallowfield	B Dougal
April 20	B Batty	B Farrow	C Egan
April 27	J Fallowfield	J Meeus	A Newsome
May 4	Committees	D Rabone	T Saville
May 11	J Sykes	D Rose	D Poizer
May 18	J Knowles	T Burch	T Sheppard
May 25	V Chattington	D Walker	I Dobson
June 1	Committees	D Schofield	G Hunt
June 8	J Thomas	M Lacey	B Stevenson
June 15	N Loveland	G Jackson	S Preece
June 22	Handover mtg.	D Allport	B Preece
June 29	No meeting: 5th Wednesday		
July 6	Committees	B Batty	H Barker
July 20	S Davies	R Malabon	D Burstow

If you cannot attend, please find a replacement!

Diary

January	26 th	Burns supper
February	2 nd	Committees / Round Table - float discussion
February	9 th	Elevator speech preparation (Yule)
February	16 th	James Harper - Beacon (Bissell)
February	23 rd	Ashley Ekelund Canadian Ambass. Scholar (Poizer)
March	4 th	President's night - Deanwater
March	9 th	Committees
March	16 th	Sykes/Thewlis
March	23 rd	Accidental Scientific Discoveries, Jean Layton (Allport)
April	6 th	AGM/Committees
April	13 th	Thomas/Walker
April	20 th	Batty/Burch
April	27 th	Burstow/Chattington
May	4 th	Committees
May	8 th	Duck Race
May	11 th	Davies/Dev
May	18 th	Dobson/Dougal
May	25 th	Egan/ G. Fallowfield
June	1 st	New Committees
June	8 th	J. Fallowfield/ B. Farrow
June	15 th	Hill/ Hunt
June	22 nd	Hand-over meeting
June	29 th	no meeting - 5 th Wednesday

Unallocated events:

- 1) Visit to Total Fitness (Meeus)
- 2) Job talks (G. Fallowfield)(D Walker)(T. Saville)(D. Schofield)(Bob, Sue Preece)
- 3) Social Quiz (Meeus)
- 4) Curry night with Hazel Grove?? (Yule)



We have two new Paul Harris Fellows in the Club! Here are Gordon and John receiving their awards. Congratulations to both!



Our Christmas walk on December 30th thankfully avoided snow and ice. Once again we visited the Millennium Bridge in New Mills - a splendid walk. Gordon took the pic.