

Bramhall & Woodford Rotary Club



Bulletin

There are changes to the blind run. See page 37 .

*Happy Christmas
and all good wishes
for 2014
from your
Bulletin Team*



Full colour Christmas edition.





Abi, Chris & Gill having bravely zip-wired across the Ship Canal



Harry's and Maggie's son-in-law, Chris (but was he pushed?).



www.bwrotary.org



Sue Speaking

I thought being President of B&W Rotary Club was an easy job but recently there was quite a noisy meeting, and with so many able people having strong ideas I have revised my opinion! Decisions cannot be based on who shouts the loudest, but this is a happy friendly club so fortunately there are no problems, just the odd hiccup. Members can easily make their views known in committees, to anyone on council and so influence decisions, or indeed attend council meetings.

I am very aware of the heavy work load on club members with the Woodford collections and the Christmas float and unfortunately none of us are getting any younger! However, all support for these events is very much appreciated. It has been very heartening to see that support that has been offered to long standing member Henry. He appears to be content living in Sunrise and is certainly being well looked after.

We have lots to look forward to in the next few weeks and I do hope that you will all be able to join us for President's drinks on Sunday January 5th at 2pm.

President Sue

"I do not rule Russia, 10,000 clerks do."— Czar Nicholas of Russia

"Everybody gets so much information all day long they lose their common sense."— Gertrude Stein, American author

"Few things are more irritating than when someone who is wrong is also very effective in making his point."— Mark Twain, American author, humourist

"A healthy male consumes one and a half times his own weight in other people's patience."— John Updike, American author

How To Become A New Man (or Woman) - 25th Sep



Our speaker host was Bruce F. who had previously informed most of us that the speaker had transformed his life. In fact he brought along two speakers, Dr. Siddiq Pulakal and Mr. David Russell Jones, two lead figures at Wythenshawe Sleep Clinic.

During the meal John K who was taken by surprise, read apologies from several members either holidaying or suffering sniffles and introduced us to our speakers and five other guests: Nina Farrow, Julia Trevor, Graham Reid, Keith Lomax (Rotary Club of Gatley) and Manuel Cabrejas, a prospective member.

Bob P thanked everyone who had helped with our very successful fashion show and suggested that we had made about £1100 profit.

Thanks were given to John S for organising a very popular and enjoyable Charter Night at Amans Restaurant.

In Trevor's absence Harry reported on the less than amazing support for bag packing at Sainsbury's, supporting Walthew House. He conceded that it had been at very short notice but pointed out that members would be able to redeem themselves by turning up at events in Oct. and Nov.

Geoff encouraged us to get involved in a drop in centre for Alzheimer's sufferers and their carers, run by Cheadle Rotary Club. Finally Sue told us that she would not be able to attend the District Conference but she was looking for members to accompany her to the National Conference in Birmingham.

All went well until the coffee break when an air somewhere between embarrassment and despair spread amongst us, as everyone realised that as Gordon was at home with his sniffles, so was his laptop ,necessary for our speaker to present his talk. Thank goodness our own super girl Pippa was on hand to run home and come back with her laptop for us to borrow before the coffee was cold.

Dr.Pulakal's clinic deals with a variety of sleep problems but he confined his talk to the condition sleep apnoea or obstruction of the windpipe during sleep. Symptoms range from the most common, snoring,

which often causes couples to sleep apart, to daytime sleepiness, morning headaches, nocturnal choking, restless sleep, and even impotence, depression and intellectual impairment. He suggested that 30 percent of snorers have sleep apnoea.

When a sufferer falls asleep the muscles at the back of the throat relax and close the airway. There is a pause in their breathing until they wake up briefly in order to breathe again. This can happen up to 800 times a night. Of course this can be annoying to both the snorer and their partner but it can have far more serious effects.

Sleep apnoea patients are 12 times more likely to have accidents. A fifth of motorway accidents are caused by sleepiness and half of all lorry drivers admit to falling asleep at the wheel. Other potential problems are a greater risk of cardiac events, stroke and diabetes.

The good news is that diagnosis is simple. Sleep apnoea can be detected by a small, wrist watch like device, worn as you sleep at home.

We were advised that although sleep apnoea can be found in any type of person it is most common in obese males. To avoid the condition we should aim to lose excess weight, not drink alcohol during the four hours before sleep, stop smoking, try not to sleep on our back and refrain from taking sedatives.

The clinic treats patients suffering from sleep apnoea by supplying either a Mandibular Repositioning Device (MAD) in mild cases. This is a device held in the mouth to prevent the airway closing. In serious cases a CPAP machine (Continuous Positive Airway Pressure) is used, which involves blowing air through a mask during sleep to keep the airway open.

Mr. Russell Jones explained to us that there was often great resistance to using the mask and much of his work is in slowly persuading people to get used to it as the advantages by far outweigh the disadvantages. However patients who learned to use it love the effects so much that they can never be persuaded to give it up. He now uses Cognitive Behavioural Therapy

and group therapy to help patients accept the machine.

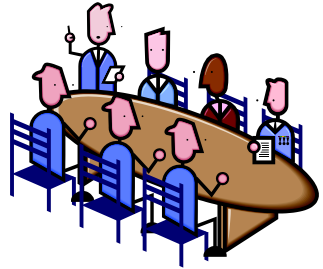
The talk concluded with a demonstration of the amazingly quiet CPAP machine before Bruce thanked our speakers and once more stressed that CPAP had made a new man of him.

The evening ended a little later than usual with John Thewlis adeptly fining everyone for the second week running. How does he do it. He's such a pro!

Maggie

Committees 2nd October

Our trainee President, Harry, opened the meeting and looking lost found John Knowles and asked him to say the Grace. True to form John looked in his carrier bag and found the book open at a relevant page.



Harry then asked one side table to go first and the other side table though that he had asked them to go second so four got up and joined the queue before Harry intervened and said that he meant that the top table should go second. Harry you should not mumble!

During the meal Michael Lacy gave the International Toast to the Rotary Club of Ludwigshafen-Rheinschanze. Apparently one of their members, Robert Zinzer, now 85 initiated a five year \$3 million pilot project to reduce infant and maternal mortality in Nigeria and reduced it by 60%. (Michael did give me the crib sheet).

Gordon spoke about the use of audio visual equipment and the need to request it well in advance as otherwise it might not be brought. The speaker must be asked what equipment he/she might require. Gordon gave out a sheet indicating what was available.

John Thewlis said that the Christmas collection at Woodford Park would start on 17 November and would be over 5 weeks. He circulated a list indicating that it was based on last year's collection but had some omissions. Note a list has since been circulated by John by Email. He also mentioned that as last year there would be the Christmas Float and that Stockport MBC had asked if we could provide Santa on the 21 and 22 December in the shopping centre in Stockport.

There was an AOB which David Poizer raised about a recent U3A meeting. He warned Sid not to go to Chester as an old ordinance allowed an Englishman to use a bow and arrow to kill a Welshman.

Finishing before the loyal toast Harry said that it was a sad

day as Pippa and her mum would not be serving at the Lady-bridge Club in future.

Following the break for coffee or tea the main business of the evening commenced.

Membership

He said that he was hoping that Manuel who had come the previous week would come gain as he would be a great benefit to the club through his activities at Walthew House.

Secretary

Jan was absent but Michael stood into the breach and said that there was nothing to report

Treasurer

Gill reported that the fashion show would bring in £1125 and that the Charity Account had some £4800 . Some £500 had been paid for Genie and there was some £500 to be paid to Parkside Community Centre from the £4800. There was a discussion about Charter Night in that at present there was a deficit but there had been promises to pay from those who did not attend on the night. If these were paid then there would be a surplus of £25 which would go into the Charity Account. All the subscription were now in and subs to RIBI would be paid

Ways and Means

Bob was not present but John Thewlis said that Trevor was to collect Santa's Float on 17 October and some work was to be carried out to improve the ventilation for the generator by putting in an extractor fan. He reiterated what he had said previously about manning Woodford and the Float.

Community Service

Trevor mentioned that the Christmas Collection would be in aid of Millies Trust which was a Charity which provided training for nurseries staff for first aid to children and resuscitation where necessary.

Abi was to do a Zip Wire Experience and was looking for sponsors. The experience itself cost £45.

He was collecting redundant IT equipment including flat screen TVs and asked that any equipment should be brought to him by the end of the weekend.

Continued



International

Michael said the concert might happen on 23 November but it still was very much in the planning and he was hoping to arrange a cheese and wine evening in December.

Communications

Ian said that at present the web page was having a revamp so watch this space.

Club Services

John Knowles said that the Christmas Dinner had moved from 4 December to 18 December. And therefore there would be no meeting at the Club on that date nor would there be on 25 December or 1 January 2014.

John Meeus said that the Christmas Dinner would be at the **Bramhall Park Golf Club** and that he was hopefully arranging a Theatre evening at Chads in the early New Year

The Sergeant at Arms relieved members as usual of their hard earned cash.

Harry closed the meeting at 10.20p with the final toast to Rotary

David Burstow



How did women become a part of Rotary?



B&W Rotary now has its first lady President, which in itself is of historic importance to the club and this made me wonder when it was that women first joined an all male organisation and how it all came about? Was it an easy and seamless transition, or was it full of delays, problems and disagreements?

Women, of course, were not part of the original formation of Rotary in 1905. The first “men’s club” was initiated entirely for professional men who at that time would never have dreamed that women would even want to join - let alone be welcomed - into most of the Rotary Clubs operating in the world today. The original equivalent of Rotary was the “Inner Wheel” which started in the UK in 1923 and which was open to rotary wives. The very first interest in actually admitting women was shown in the newly started Irish clubs in 1912 but the proposal floundered over issues of “social class”. It took until 1950 before the first faint murmurings of female inclusion were heard when a Rotary Club in India proposed an enactment to delete the word **male** from the Standard Rotary Club Constitution. Whether this was acted upon remains a mystery but I presume nothing came of it.

During the next 20 years or so, as more women began reaching higher professional positions, many more clubs around

the world began lobbying for female members. Many agendas on Council of Legislation meetings over these years contained proposals to permit the admission of women, but they were either decisively withdrawn or voted down. However, in 1977 a Brazilian club made an historic and different proposal to admit women as honorary members and in the same year the RC of Duarte in California, decided to admit 3 women members in violation of the Rotary International Constitution. Consequently, as punishment for this dastardly deed the club's membership in Rotary was dramatically terminated in 1978, only to be surprisingly reinstated in 1986.

Several lawsuits followed during the next few years and eventually the California Court ruled in favour of upholding "gender-based qualification" for rotary clubs in that state and then interestingly the Appeals Court reversed this decision! Lawsuit followed lawsuit – feelings were certainly running high! Eventually, in 1987 the Supreme Court ruled that "**Rotary clubs may not exclude women from membership on the basis of gender**" and RI issued its own policy statement that "**encouraged all clubs in the U.S. to give fair and equal consideration to candidates for membership without regard to gender**". That same year Sylvia Whitlock of the RC of Duarte, California, celebrated by becoming the very first female club President.

By 1989 Canada followed suit and began admitting women into rotary and the following year ladies were slowly starting to be welcomed into clubs around the world. In 2004 the second Rotarian motto was changed from "He profits most who serves best" to "They profit most who serve best". It took 99 years to make that change.

During the 1990s many clubs throughout the world had

annual heated discussions about the pros and cons of admitting women into their own club and even today there continues to be a few clubs which resist the admission of women. However, it is now a legal requirement that if a woman applies to join a club that club is obliged to admit her.

Today, women currently account for 15% of the international Rotary membership (22% in North America) and this year (2013) Anne L. Matthews, from South Carolina, began her term as the first lady Vice President of Rotary International. Also this year, Nan McCreadie was appointed first female President of RIBI.

In District 1050 there are now a considerable number of lady Rotarians who serve their clubs and district with distinction. Many of them have progressed to President of their own club, or have served at District level, one of these ladies is Margaret Hutchinson who in 2010/11 was the first 1050 lady District Governor. She tells me that when she attended San Diego for District Governor training a few years ago she was very surprised at the large number of women there on the same programme and that there is now a lady who serves as a Rotary International Trustee. I also learned from her that in March this year Rotary organised an International Women's Day in five UK cities (London, Edinburgh, Cardiff, Belfast and Dublin) to raise the profile of Rotary, particularly within the business community.

So I suppose the answer to my question at the beginning of this article.... it was **NOT** an easy process for women to be admitted and accepted into an all male domain.

The huge challenge took very many years with considerable obstacles along the way.



Olive

Bramall Hall 9th October



President Sue called the meeting to order shortly after 8pm and asked David Rabone to say a Grace. He had prepared for this and offered a Jewish one that if it had been any shorter would have started with Amen.

The international Toast of the week was offered by

David Rose to the Rotary Club of Stonetown, Zanzibar and his contact there, Sjani Mueggernburg.

John Knowles welcomed Kay Poizer as a guest and then read out the apologies.

Sponsorship was requested for our 3 intrepid Zip wire enthusiasts – monies either to Sue, Maggie or the Walthew House donate web site.

Gordon spoke briefly about a new printer owned by the club to enable easier access to prompt delivery of printed docs as required.

Ian appealed for pictures of last years Christmas float for an article on Rotary to go into the Cheshire life magazine

David Rose spoke of a concert on the 23rd of November at the Methodist Church in aid of 'End Polio now' campaign.

After the normal excellent dinner we were given an interesting talk about Bramall Hall, its history and current condition, by Peter Richardson who has been a guide there for 20+ years.

The first reference to the site dates back to the Doomsday Book in 1086 but really only started as a home in the early 1300's when a Saxon Family married into the local Davenport family with the resultant generations living there for over 500 years. The first dwelling was a 1 room dwelling which expanded over the years.

Peter gave a brief description of most of the rooms with photos and interesting historical information about them. Without going into detail about each one suffice it say that any visit would be full of interesting facts for any discerning visitor and a good day out to boot.

The property fell into disrepair with the loss of monies by the Davenport's and was sold to the Neville family in 1870 when it was refurbished with the fireplaces being a major point of attention. In 1926 the house was sold again this time to John Henry Davies who sadly only lived a short time to enjoy its pleasures – the family selling it on to Stockport Council in 1935 with the proviso that it should be open to the public in perpetuity.

Little snippets of associated information slipped out from the talk e.g.:

- A pair of statues of criminals awaiting execution, which once adorned the entry gate, now reside beside a main fireplace. One of these is replicated on the sign of the Davenport Arms in Woodford leading to its preferred name 'The Thieves Neck'
- Large salt pots were on prominent display in early times as a show of wealth – Roman soldiers were paid in salt, which they could barter, which lead to the name of payment being 'Salary'.
- The Banqueting room was used for filming part of the 'Last Tango in Halifax'.

Caroline spoke about the various attractions in Stockport open to the public run by the Council and indicated the 2for1 offer circulated. She explained the difference in approach between National Trust and local authority to Grade 1 buildings.

President Sue offered a thank you to the speakers which was supported in the normal manner by the members and Sid piped up to say he had heard every word from the speakers, a rare occurrence!!

S@A Brian, somewhat waspishly, fined everybody for various spurious reasons.

The meeting closed with the final toast at 10.20

Trevor

THE 89TH ANNUAL RIBI CONFERENCE 2014



From 11-13 April 2014 the RIBI Conference will be held in **The International Convention Centre** in Birmingham. All Rotarians and partners are welcome to attend this event. The Centre is situated right in the

heart of the city within easy walking distance of your chosen accommodation and local attractions.

Birmingham has a lot to offer visitors with stunning modern developments like the Cube and restored industrial heritage buildings to enjoy. You can visit the Botanical Gardens, the National Sea Life Centre, Birmingham Royal Ballet, Cadbury World, the Thinktank Science Museum and the historic Jewellery Quarter. There are also guided walking tours around the pedestrian friendly city centre and open top bus trips.

A couple of evening entertainment highlights will be The Backbeat Beatles Tribute Band performing at the Centre on the Saturday evening and also the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra and the Treorchy Male Voice Choir performing at the Symphony Hall on the Friday evening for the "Last Night of the Rotary Proms" which will be a special event to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the British Association of Rotary Clubs. Why not join RIBI President Nan McCreadie for a weekend of fun, fellowship and inspirational speakers.

To find out more go to: www.ribi.org/2014Conference

Avro Heritage Centre, Woodford 16th Oct



Madam President kicked off events LATE!!! So we were straight into the delicious grub offered by Lorraine and her crew.

This week's International Toast was offered by **Mr**

Hunt and was for the first and only English-speaking Rotary Club in Poland which was chartered in 1930. 'Cheers' to The Rotary Club of Warsaw Wilanov.

Guests and absentees were ably delivered by **Mr Knowles**. We welcomed Mr Kevin Whittaker and his wife Mrs Mandy. ELEVEN members offered apologies.

There was a lengthy list of Other Business undertaken before pud.

Mr Stevenson mentioned a Together Trust event on Nov 22nd with Elvis

Mr Lacey did a resumé of the RC Hazel Grove's quiz and carried out a rainbow poll for the date of his Cheese and Wine gathering to raise some monies for 'End Polio Now'. Make a note – Saturday 7th December (after LUB)

Ms Critchley relived her zip-wire adventure for Walthew House. Well done to all three involved.

Mdm President requested responses to her mail about attending the National Conference.

Mr Thewlis said the float had been successfully removed to Mr Liuttit's 'shed' and requested a working party of scrubbers.

Ms Egan sorted the volunteers for her Bramall Hall event next Tuesday.

Mr Hill mentioned the bag packing for Walthew house. They know who they are.

Mr Dobson mentioned Bramhall's Got Talent request for help.

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Phew.....then pud and the Loyal Toast and tea, coffee and a chat.

At 9.25 **Mr Hunt** introduced our guests from the Avro Heritage Centre at Woodford.

Mr Kevin Whittaker started by saying that Woodford Airfield is world renowned. The centre is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays but when they move to new premises next year they hope to be open longer.

We were treated to an interesting potted history of both A V Roe and his AVRO company. Aliot Verdon Roe worked on the Lancs & Yorks Railway for 5 years then tried the sea, travelling between Southampton and South Africa. Watching the sea birds triggered his passion for flying.

We saw pictures of his first design shown at Brooklands and there then followed a pictorial journey through time showing the development of the AVRO aircraft. From his first triplane to the last NIMROD MRA4 the famous names kept coming – the 502 (12974 made), Saunders Roe flying boats, Blenheim, Lancaster, Shackleton, Canberra (made under licence from English Electric Co), Vulcan. Plus many more.

His links to Roy Chadwick (draughtsman and designer) and Sir Roy Dobson were described plus a graphic account of the unfortunate demise of Chadwick in 1945. AV was knighted in 1929 and died in 1958 when Dobson took over (he died in 1968). During the lull in the 1920's the company turned their hand to making billiard tables, rocking horses, dolls houses and coffins along with a saloon car which was soon taken over by Crossley.

In 2004 22 NIMRODs were ordered. This reduced to 15, then 12, then 9 and fifteen months later they were scrapped costing us £7.3b !!!!

Kevin then showed us some pictures of the memorabilia



the centre currently has on show.

Mr Richardson, being an ex-employee gave a sincere vote of thanks

Mr Farrow fined everyone. (By the way...fines are now a £1) and **Mdm President** swiftly closed just on 10.30.

PS A couple of weeks ago the writer was told about a Facebook page:- The Official Woodford Farewell Group. It's FAB

Ian

Digging into the past, 23rd October



Our President, Sue, had written her very own grace which was so good I print it here for all to digest:- Prosperity enables us to give of our material wealth. Freedom enables us to work together on projects. Patience, hard work and generosity enable us to achieve amazing success and make a difference. Strong comradeship enables us to promote 'service above self' whilst also having

fun. Long may all of this continue and flourish among all the members of Bramhall and Woodford Rotary Club! (And so say all of us)

Sue then donged her bell very loudly but still some rude people continued to talk!!! When silence was procured Sue told us about the international toast she was giving. She had chosen Kabarole Rotary Club in Uganda. They also have a female president name of Angella Bahensire. They are linked with a club in California who help with the running of an orphanage. Help is also given from the Kampala club. The toast duly took place and was followed by John Knowles reading out all

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the excuses for not being with us at the meeting.

Vida offered to take orders for the purchase of apples at a very reasonable sum which will be brought to the club at the meeting in two weeks time. She also told the club that Cheadle Round Table were organising a bonfire and firework display on Saturday 2nd November.

Wellspring have written asking for help and Bob Stevenson mentioned a concert by Elvis to be held at the Together Trust. He is going to put out an E-mail concerning this.

We were very adequately fed and watered and returned to hear what Ian had to say about genealogy. He managed to connect with the Internet and revealed all sorts of hidden facts about Sue's family history. There are a number of sites to which one can delve if you want to find out about your own personal background. Please ask Ian if you wish to know how to go about it. He first gave us some information about his family including the fact that his father had served in the Australian army during the war in Greece and Crete. He was captured in 1941 and imprisoned at Stalag 18 in Austria. Ian found all this information on the internet. through Ancestry com.uk, a good site.

Sue was taken on a trip down memory lane and was introduced to aunts, uncles, great grandfathers and grandmothers and Bob did not escape some delving into his family history.

Ian had found connections with over seventy people connected with the Preeces and the former Miss Sue Costello.

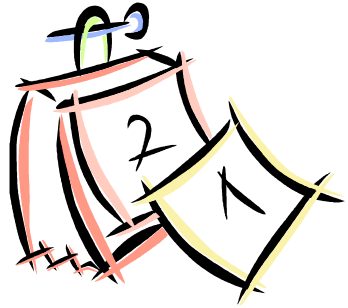
Sue thanked Ian for his considerable time researching all this information.

Time for the Sergeant at Arms in the name of Peter who fined everyone with great glee including himself.

Vida

25 years ago

Picking up the threads again since the April/May 2013 bulletin I have looked through Bulletins for July, September, October, November and December 1988. Our first attempt at a Bramhall Festival, a four day event, was deemed a success. There was a fashion show, beauty contest, gentleman's evening, procession from the village to the park, stalls (bric-a-brac raised £239.61) on Saturday and Sunday and finally an Ecumenical service. Rotary worldwide had raised US\$219,350,449 for the Polio Plus campaign. Dennis Allport started his first of many trivia quizzes (called time wasters). A Scottish skiing weekend was proposed. Lists were published to remind members of upcoming Birthdays and Anniversaries. November 16th saw three lively debates – Women in Rotary, scrapping RIBI and Membership. On the first topic, points for included the fact that women were becoming leaders in industry, many retail businesses were run by women, women offer good ideas and are enthusiastic and understanding. Against this it was suggested that women would destroy the repartee, maybe have a separate Rotary for women, a danger of splinter groups forming, membership was by invitation. The vote showed 9 for, 17 against with 2 abstentions. On the second topic, it was pointed out that we join Rotary International not just RIBI, any major changes in RIBI already have to be approved by RI, elimination of one level of bureaucracy may be a good thing. If scrapped we may become more remote from decision making, enjoy a unique position, no penalty from higher capitation fees. When put to the vote 16 wanted to retain RIBI, 5 were against and 7 abstained. On the third topic, an increase in membership would bring in new ideas and widen the classification. Against this it was thought that the present level (I think we then had 30 members) was ideal, quality is more important than quantity, too large a club would be difficult to organise. On the vote there were no votes to increase membership, 26 wanted to maintain the status quo and 2 abstained. How things change over a quarter of a century.



Ron Malabon

A Brilliant International Musical Evening



Photos by Harry

SOME JAW DROPPING FACTS.....

The offspring of a polar bear and a grizzly is called a pizzly bear.

There is enough carbon in your body to make 9,000 pencils.

On an average day, Britons spend over 14 hours sitting down.

Americans eat 10 billion doughnuts every year.

The moon is shaped like an egg, it only looks round because the big end points towards Earth.

In Britain, spiders outnumber people by more than 500,000 to 1.

Since 1990 more people have been killed by sandcastles than by sharks.

A group of kittens is called "a kindle".

The Arabic word for hamster translates as "Mr. Saddlebags".

Rodents prefer peanut butter to cheese.

Eaton was founded to provide free schooling for poor boys.

Earthworms have five hearts.

Your eyebrows renew themselves every 64 days.

In the film Titanic, the location for the ship's engine room was a pumping station in Cricklewood.

Science students who wear white lab coats perform better in tests.

Air trapped inside hedgehogs can make them blow up like a balloon. They should be carefully deflated with a syringe before they burst.

Twice as many forks as knives are sold in the UK.

Sliced bread was originally marketed as "the greatest forward step since bread was wrapped".

The average woman spends 16 months of her life crying.

80% of men born in the Soviet Union in 1923 were dead by 1945.

The Marianas Trench in the Pacific is so deep that a coin dropped into it would take more than an hour to reach the bottom.

The most read publication in the UK is Tesco magazine.

Chewing gum costs 3p a stick to buy, but 10p a blob to remove from the pavement.

Plants grow more quickly if you talk to them in a Geordie accent.

Only one dog has ever been to both North and South Poles.

Shark Bay in Australia is now called Safety Beach.

A New Challenge



The local press has published figures from the borough fire service (GMFRS) that domestic fires in the Manchester region cost £2m in the year to March 2013. There were 209 such blazes in the year; 62% cooking related, 20% electrical faults; 5% smoking related and 3% involving candles. One such incident occurred because a man had left candles

in his greenhouse to keep bonsai tress warm when one tipped over and the greenhouse was destroyed. Distraction is one of the main causes of accidental cooking fires; never leave cooking unattended. The fire service target is to reduce the number of accidental fires to 187 this year.

Your four volunteers from the Club, Trevor, Ron, David W and I, are part of the effort to achieving this target together with members of other Rotary Clubs in the District. We have recently all signed onto a new initiative – The Ward Activity. - using the local political Ward boundaries to define location GMFRS have used a data base filter to identify those people most at risk. Each Rotary volunteer group have then taken on responsibility to target these addresses, carry out a Home Risk Assessment and install free smoke alarms where needed. This activity is solely a Rotary activity which demonstrates our standing with the fire service.

To provide some idea of the task we are currently working through Bramhall North Ward where there are 260 such addresses listed, we then have Bramhall South, Stepping Hill and Hazel Grove Wards to tackle. This is not a short term activity, GMFRS would like to see this completed “within 3 years”. Other Rotary Clubs involved include Bolton, Gatley, Marple and Stockport Lamplighters.

Properties visited so far have tended to be flats with one elderly occupant, so you can visualise the possible risk element involved. The HRA includes advice on what to do in the event of a fire; how do you discuss exiting the property with an elderly infirm occupant?

We need a few more volunteers to improve our activity, training provided as they say. This activity is not confined to men; ladies would be more than welcome and would be a positive benefit since the majority of single people we are seeing are elderly ladies - Protection for Vulnerable People etc. If you are interested then talk to one of us for more details

John Sykes

Rotary Peace Seminar – 26 October 2013

This year we again attended the annual Peace Seminar at Bradford University celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Peace



programme and which was themed “Effecting Positive Change” in the world. The speakers were the Peace Scholars themselves, supplemented with a keynote speaker, and each student gave a personal profile together with details of the often harrowing background which

had brought them to Rotary-sponsored study for a Master’s Degree in Peace and Reconciliation.

We were introduced to the concept of **Transitional Justice**, coined in 1995 as a possible response for a society moving from repression and/or conflict, to democracy and the application of human rights. This involves criminal prosecution of responsible perpetrators, reparations for victims – either financially or through the provision of public services. Truth Commissions are

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designed to establish the causes and report on systematic patterns of abuse. Institutional reform helps to disband and retrain armies, police and judicial systems. Victims can also be remembered in the form of museums and memorials etc.

The students gave us an insight into a wide range of peace keeping measures where they expect to be involved. Examples are West African Youth Work, local mediation and community action (in tribal situations), and the interface between indigenous peoples, government and international institutions.

If this sounds boring – it certainly wasn't! For example, Esther King (a Kiwi) told us that half the prison population in New Zealand is Maori and we are probably already familiar with the way the criminal justice system works against ethnic minorities!

Finally, here are a couple of interesting facts:

A Polio team managed to stop the Tamil War in Sri Lanka by persuading the leaders to stop fighting while they carried out vaccinations. A possible way to continue End Polio Now in a war zone?

The International Commission on Missing Persons is using advanced DNA techniques to identify bodies found in mass graves in Bosnia by analysing samples of blood and bone cells. This success story enables human remains to be returned to their relatives to give closure and this technique will also, hopefully, be a deterrent to warlords in the future.

Overall the standard of presentations was first class and one can only admire the enthusiasm and dedication of these young people who, in true Rotary fashion, seek to make a real difference in areas of conflict around the world.

David Rose & Geoff Hunt

The above article has now been published in the RI District 1050 North West England Newsletter

What became of the Peace Scholars?

Following on from the **Bill Huntley Peace Seminar** at the University of Bradford. From the programme that was produced for this seminar I was interested to see what had happened to past students since their graduation. The very first class of Peace Fellows graduated in 2004 and there are now a total of 782 alumni. Rotary Foundation has followed their careers since to see if their studies have led to an eventual career in peace and conflict resolution. 95% of past students have reported their current position at least once since they completed their fellowship and here are the statistics:

- 38% work for NGO's (eg: OXFAM, Red Cross, etc.) or other peace-related organisations
- 15% work for a government agency or the military
- 9% are teachers or professors
- 8% are pursuing additional advanced degrees in the field
- 7% work in research or academic support positions
- 5% work for the United Nations agencies
- 3% work for the police or are involved in law enforcement
- 2% are lawyers
- 2% are journalists
- 1% work for the World Bank
- 6% are bankers, human resource professionals, business owners, etc.
- 3% are actively looking for work in this field.

The Fellows are chosen from countries and cultures around the globe based on their potential as leaders in government, business, education, media and other professional areas. Rotary alumni have demonstrated their ability to further world understanding and peace in their work for United Nations, the World Bank, the European Parliament, the Organization of American States and other nongovernmental organisations, along with national governments and international businesses.



(statistics are accurate as of 1 October 2013)

Olive

Committees 6th Nov

A well-attended Committee Meeting with 29 members present. As ever an excellent menu by Lorraine including no less than four main courses including Lasagne , Battered Fish, Chili Con Carni and Chicken Sati. Followed by Chocolate Gateau, Fruit Salad and Ice cream. I defy any Club in the district to say they get better!

The International toast was to Davenport North, Tasmania.



Between courses there were announcements as follows:

Cheese & Wine at Michael & Pam's house on 7th of Dec. This a charity function so give generously. If I am right Michael does not quote a price it is up to us to donate. Michael can clarify this, if he wants to, that is.

International Concert on Nov 23rd at 7.30.p.m at the Methodist Church, Bramhall. £6 inc refreshments. Tickets at the Church, Church Thrift Shop & Simply Books or at the door.

Treasurer Gill gave an update on Our Enery. Supreme efforts were being made to try and better Henry's standard of life and introduce him to Sunrise in Bramhall, where he would get all the care and attention needed. (Subsequent to this bulletin It has been established that Henry will be moving into Sunrise on Monday 11th . Enquiries are being made to make this a permanent accommodation)

Tony Burch presented the Club with a Piggy Bank donated by Malcolm Hurst who is visiting next week and maybe returning to the fold eventually.

Bob Stephenson announced a function for Together Trust on Fri 22nd of November. Bob Morris performing in his Elvis role.

Following Committee Meetings:

Membership. V.P. Harry said that the two ladies who visited a few weeks ago have gone off the radar but there are others being pursued in Harry's own inimitable style.

Secretary: No report

Treasurer: Charity Acct £4700 but major part of this allocated. Gen Acct £2200 earmarked for second instalment to District in the New Year.

Ways & Means: The Float was receiving a working party the following day. Flyers to be handed to scouts on Wed 13th. Tennis Club for storage of Float during operations in Dec. Round Table contacted for help. Drivers are still required. Float commences Sunday 7th.

Community Service: Little to report in fact so little your writer cannot remember what was said but a Dragons Den was mentioned. (Maybe Editor Gordon can help me out here).
[Sorry, I can't (G)]

International & Foundation: See above re Concert.

Communications: Little to report but 'Our own Reporter' said there was a new website opening in Bramhall entitled 'I Love Bramhall' in which he will get publicity.

Club Services: Next week the speaker will be an Undertaker recounting on his complete change of life from living in the South and commencing an Undertakers practise in Macclesfield.

Social: Christmas Dinner at **Bramhall Park Golf Club**, Fri 23 December. Attendance list and menus to be circulated. Theatre Night at Chads 24 Jan. 'Brassed Off' with live music.

AOB: Harry highly commended the Bradford Peace Conference which he stated was an interesting and impressive experience.

Sgt at Arms. Alan Newsome extracted money from the majority of members in true Yorkshire style. (Make what you will of that).

Meeting concluded at 10.30

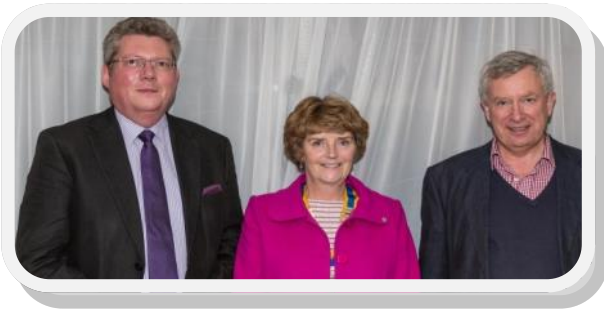
John Meeus

Two local charities in partnership

Walthew House (Stockport's headquarters for the visually impaired) and **Beacon Counselling** (whose head office is located in Bramhall), both organisations having been supported past and present by funding and working volunteers from B&WRC, have recently joined together to offer a free one to one counselling service to people who are visually impaired. An independent counsellor, who previously worked with Action for Blind People, is providing the visual awareness training for the counsellors and Beacon will be meeting new clients initially to discuss their needs. The counselling will be done at Walthew House and Beacon will provide the counsellors and ensure they receive appropriate support and supervision. This new initiative is being funded by The Zochonis Charitable Trust.

Olive

A funeral interview 13th November 2013



A lively meeting with much discussion and following the grace Bruce B announced that Beacon have moved into new premises in Stockport more in keeping with their clientele.

They urgently need an additional £50,000 to add to Lottery funding to continue their excellent work. Bruce also announced that Beacon recently won first prize at the NCVO conference. He reminded members that over 50 children a year go missing in Stockport and Beacon provides counselling to many youngsters in the area. They are seeking volunteers to act as receptionist at the centre one evening per week.

Gill gave us an update re Henry who is now comfortably ensconced in Sunrise where he has his own room with bath-

room and kitchen. He is embracing the social scene there. Bob Morris the local solicitor is to organise Power of Attorney so that his affairs can be easily handled. She reminded members that he would welcome visitors and there are no set visiting times. He is in room 005.

The International toast was given by David Burstow to Ypres following his recent visit to commemorate Armistice Day.

Vida, standing in for John Knowles, welcomed our guest speaker, Andrew Smith as well as wives and friends of club members.

Michael reported on the Avro trip which whilst lengthy was very interesting. He warned members who were planning on attending the next visit that it will take up the whole morning and lasts until 1.30pm approximately.

John Thewlis reminded members that Christmas starts next Sunday with the first Woodford collection.

Sid, on a light note, asked members to support the battered husbands' society. Always guaranteed to raise a laugh.

Michael confirmed the date of his cheese and wine event (and much more by the sounds of it) at his house on 7th December. £10 a head buys you more cheese and wine than most normal people could consume.

There was some heated discussion regarding the recipients of the Woodford collection this year. Sue felt the discussion should be reopened next week as we were eating in to the time allotted to our speaker.

After our usual excellent dinner we were given a very interesting talk by Andrew Smith, a local funeral director based in Macclesfield. The talk took on a Michael Parkinson-esque style with John K interviewing Andrew about his experiences within his business. It would appear that being a funeral director requires talents in many areas from hairdresser to psychologist as well as a good business head.

He told us that he had always been interested and it had been a longstanding ambition of his to become a funeral director, starting with a stint with work experience as a teenager. He said that it had taken a long time to realise the ambition but

Continued 

finally he achieved it by purchasing premises in Macclesfield and starting from scratch. He said that every day was interesting and that there was no part of the business that he did not enjoy but adding that the most difficult part was the relentlessness of it, as a funeral director must be on call 24 hours a day. This fact was a surprise to most as it is the funeral director who is called upon in the middle of the night to transport the deceased, following sudden death, to hospital. He was asked why was an ambulance not used for this purpose and he explained that ambulances are for the living not the dead.

Since starting his business he has seen many changes including the cost of funerals which has doubled – the average cost being £3500. He told us about the different coffins now available from wicker to picture coffins where the bereaved can choose the coffin to be covered in images of the deceased in life.

Over the years he has managed many multi-cultural funerals and has had to deal with difficult situations such as a 40 stone body requiring a coffin 31 inches wide and added to which the deceased was 7ft tall.

These days mourners can ask for some very strange funeral arrangements such as the ashes of the deceased being fired into the atmosphere in a rocket or some of the ash remains being compressed over years into a diamond with can be fashioned into a piece of jewellery – for those interested in this concept the cost is around £10,000 for a one carat diamond.

Sue thanked our speaker for a most interesting insight into his world. The meeting finished on time.

Jan

What's New with the Web ? [www.bwrotary.org]

Our web site has seen some major changes of late. There is a new address (URL), the public content looks new, and a password secured “Members Only” area now exists. The old web site was hosted by Tim Sheppard’s company and the new ad-

dress (ending .org vs .org.uk) is mainly to help make the transition user-invisible.

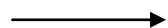
The main site now has a more modern, understated and less fussy look. When the web was new, web designers regarded it as necessary to make the navigation elements (= big buttons down the side) very prominent. Now designers assume users will expect additional content. So navigation takes less space. At the same time all the main pages content is being updated, such as putting a Google map on how-to-find-us, photo viewers with full-screen mode etc etc.

However the major change for most members will be the capabilities offered by having a password secured area. This

allows our web site to be used as a general look-up resource for all sorts of items we would not want on a public site. The most obvious of these is the list of names, addresses & phone numbers. What is available is a copy of the bulletin centre pages. Note that all the email addresses are hyperlinked, meaning that clicking on one will start a new email automatically, with the persons email address already (correctly!) filled in. Other information will also be made available, such as currently the rotas for the Xmas Float & Woodford collections. A photo gallery where people could upload their photos has existed for some time. Many people however were concerned about what photos were on the public web. So that page is now in the secure area (and your embarrassment is more limited!)

Finally, for now, is the inclusion of archive material. My aim is to

Continued



get every Bulletin we have, back to Henry's first in April 1987, made available. However for the earlier ones, that means a considerable job of scanning, collating, saving as pdf's etc. Much is there now and it is expected to be completed early 2014. Another archive already available is the Council meeting minutes for the past 4 years.

My aim is to make our public web site as good as possible at a) helping our fundraising efforts, b) attracting any potential new members who view it.

The internal secured web is there to be a useful day to day resource for us all. Somewhere you can find: what is happening at upcoming meetings, what social events are when & where, when the W&M's committee is expecting you to be rattling a tin, finding what was being said in 199x when you first joined ...

Please let me know how it is working for YOU, and especially anything else which could usefully be included.

Brian.

Not a 'mere' housewife! – 20th November



Another well-attended meeting (around thirty members) so few absentees – probably in anticipations of startling revelations by “newish” member Abida (her preferred name) – but known as Abi to us all.

President Sue prefaced the meeting with a short presidential statement on the previous week's discussions about our financial support for the disaster in the Philippines.

Whilst grateful for members input, she clarified that the £1200 donated following last month's Council decision would be reviewed at the next Council meeting to be held on 9th December.

Club members can of course make their views known to appointed Council members – indeed they are entitled to attend the meeting to be held at Sunrise Senior Living – where Henry Barker appears to be comfortably ensconced. Support for Henry is ongoing.

Bob Preece (Ways & Means) added that it had been agreed that the Christmas collection at Woodford Park had been dedicated to the Philippines DisasterAid and other Rotary charities. This change of emphasis had significantly increased the takings on the first day of collection! Bob circulated a list for the Christmas float and said that he had received good support from the ex-Round Tablers.

Sid Davies then gave a short but rhythmical Grace before Brian Dougal proposed an International toast (somewhat tongue in cheek) to the Scots and other foreigners???. Dennis Allport reported that the annual Christmas walk will be discontinued due to lack of support and Vida Chattington chatted us up for more apple sales – with limited success as we are generally “appled out”. David Rose again reminded us about the International Concert at the Bramhall Methodist church next Saturday and Bob Stevenson spoke briefly about the Together Trust evening with ex-Tabler Bob Morris as Elvis. Gordon Jackson said that the recently acquired printer had proved to be better than expected and is now actually making us money. Tony Burch mentioned Flora’s garden centre in Macclesfield as a splendid Christmas attraction for grandchildren (and others) and suggested the club consider another cycling event in the New Year at the Velodrome with perhaps some member participation on the track itself. Michael Lacey thought the Christmas Float leaflet was excellent, I mentioned the Drop-In Café run by Cheadle RC at the Governor’s House in conjunction with the Alzheimers Society and Brian Dougal asked for any additions to the website.

By the time we had waded through that lot, Lorraine was champing at the bit to get dinner served but it just serves to show what a lot is going on at Bramhall & Woodford.

The main attraction of the evening of course was a presentation by Abi Jenkins who started by describing herself as a “mere housewife” (for which she was taken to task by President Sue) but in fact she went on to describe a fascinating life. Abi has only been with us for twelve months and has already contributed immensely to the work of the club. Her parents came to England from India (The Punjab) after Partition in 1947 following the border troubles between India and Pakistan. However, she was born in Manchester and has seven sisters and four brothers – all professional people. She met her husband Peter in Sheffield when training in chemical engineering, then moved around the Midlands as a chemical engineer before ending up in Milton Keynes where she and Peter had the first three of their four children.

She worked there for the Prince’s Trust, then acquired a fabric shop – and then they moved to Stirling where they had baby number four. She has been a Guide leader, was a hospital radio presenter for three years, a breast-feeding counsellor and has set up a school at a local mosque in Cheadle. She is presently taking piano lessons, learning French and loves gardening. She likes rock music and cars – oh, and by the way, she speaks Punjabi and Arabic. Just a housewife eh? Finally, it is worth knowing that Abida means “to serve God” in Islamic so perhaps we should all call her by that name in future. Abi finished by telling us all how much she enjoyed her Rotary among such friendly Rotarians. Abida, the pleasure is entirely ours!

Geoff. Hunt

Rotary Wives

Rotary Wives met on Wednesday 9 October at Mary Meeus' house to have an evening about Body Shop products. Debbie gave a short talk and handed out catalogues before giving Gail a facial. 12 ladies enjoyed the evening, several having hand massages before looking at the product range to see if we could find anything which would stop the ageing process. (No such luck). The evening, organised by Gail Burstow and Mary Meeus finished with coffee and delicious home made cakes (so much for the diet, once again).

We met again on 20 November to see a production of "Quartet" at Woodford Community Centre. This was organised by Sylvia Rains and Pauleen Newsome and ten of us enjoyed the play. It was extremely well done, but some of the comments on stage were a bit near the bone! If you don't know the story it is about four elderly people in an Old People's Home!

We don't meet in December but look forward to seeing many of you in January when Pam Lacey and Susan Handley will be organising something interesting/entertaining/stimulating for us all to do.

Pam Malabon

Whiz Kids 27th November



Meeting started at 8.00 prompt. David Rose was introduced to give grace with a difference. He explained that it was first night of Hanukkah and he there is a procedure for giving Grace. A light-ened candle was involved in the process giving a sense of occasion to the evening.

Bruce the Elder was asked to speak and he advised that with the support of the Avro Centre, Peter and himself were to write a small book which could then be purchased by others. One of the chief aims was to try and get younger people to attend the unit to see the history.

David Rose in between the main and dessert course advised

Continued →

about the excellent evening at the Methodist centre last Friday and he was thanked by Harry for the Chinese, Indian and Russian music.

Bob Stevenson advised that the event organised at the Together Trust had raised £1,300 and Elvis was very much appreciated.

As always when Gordon is not there – there is a slight delay with the IT equipment but Michael did his best to help. This week's speaker was Emma Jones from Wrexham who made a presentation on behalf of Whizz Kids.

She started her talk off by showing a film that demonstrated that every disabled child should be presented with an opportunity for the best possible life that they can have. Grace has estimated there are 70,000 children outside the NHS which need support.

A few facts:-

- Three times as much money is required to raise a disabled child.
- More than 2 times likely that the child will not be educated, employed or trained as well.

Whizz Kids started 26 years ago – man in a bike shop asked to help someone since then 13,000 people and youngsters have been helped.

A mobility piece of equipment has been developed which can be bespoke depending on the disability. Manual wheelchairs cost between £3,000 and £10,000 each. They all are individually measured and tailored with preferences provided.

What can our money do? £50 to £1,000 various levels of support. There is a waiting list and funding is needed. Child in a chair - in a day simple needs others can wait up to 6 months.

Income to date £5.6 million. Warburton's example donates £30,000 a year and they have 8 regional teams and an employee team of 50 in the UK split between grant teams and individual giving.

There are 2 (men) in vans who maintain the chairs in the UK between them.

A number of good questions were asked at the end of the meeting and an arousing applause was given to Emma for her very articulate presentation. We need to think about supporting this?

John Meeus finished the evening as Sergeant Arms by getting his own back on Harry for calling him a simple lad. There were other fines - everybody was fined who didn't have a demeanour for being a goody goody.

Bob Stevenson

Blind Run

Mrs Joan Goodall, 3 Poise Brook Drive, Offerton, SK2 5JG Tel: 456 2076

Cathy Denison, 47 Chester Croft Rd, Off Spath Lane East, Grove Lane, Bramhall., Tel: 439 7559

Mr & Mrs Marshall, **62** Countess St., Heaviley, SK2 6HD. Tel. 482 4944. Allow plenty of time for Mr Marshall to get in your car.

Saturday prior to the Blind Run – Phone Cathy Dennison (just in case), Joan Goodall, Mrs Marshall and confirm they are going – Doing this on Saturday allows time to organise a second car if necessary.

Monday – Collect passengers in the order, Cathy, Joan, the Marshalls, to arrive at WH before 1.30pm then on to Our Ladies if required.

Pickup – 3pm at Our Ladies if appropriate, 3.30pm at WH
Let John Sykes know if you get stuck.

If you cannot do your appointed duty, it is up to you to find a replacement.

Please carry your mobile phone in case of problems.

Date	Driver
02/12/2013	V Chattington
09/12/2013	R Malabon
16/12/2013	D Burstow
23/12/2013	WH Closed
30/12/2013	WH Closed
06/01/2014	H Hill
13/01/2014	G Hunt
20/01/2014	J Meeus
27/01/2014	T Burch
03/02/2014	J Sykes
10/02/2014	D Rose
17/02/2014	D Allport

Cathy may not attend very often so we are attempting to organise the run with one driver.

Mr & Mrs Marshall want to go to Walthew House on alternate weeks, the other week they want to go to Our Ladies & the Apostles which is located near Greek Street, so is only a stones throw from WH. The activity at Our Ladies finishes at 3pm, it is run by volunteers and at 3pm all must leave and doors are locked so they must be picked up at 3pm.

Diary & Job Rota

If you are unable to attend, please nominate a replacement.

Date	Diary	Bulletin	Sgt @ Arms
04/12/2013	Millie's Trust	D Poizer	S Davies
11/12/2013	Genie Networks (Partners invited)	V Chattington	H Hill
18/12/2013	No Meeting due to Christmas dinner		
20/12/2013	Christmas Dinner at Bramhall Park Golf Club		
25/12/2013	No meeting		
01/01/2014	No meeting		
05/01/2014	President's drinks at Sue's		
08/01/2014	Committees	B Bissell	M Hill
15/01/2014	Saville/Stevenson	B Dougal	G Critchley
22/01/2014	Sykes/Thewlis	J Edmonds	I Dobson
29/01/2014	No meeting		
05/02/2014	Committees	C Egan	B Farrow
12/02/2014			
19/02/2014			
26/02/2014			
05/03/2014			
14/03/2014	President's Night, Adlington Hall Hunting Lodge		
29/06/2014	BBQ at Sue's		



Ian demonstrating his passion for genealogy



Staff of Walthew House were helped by our members bag packing at Sainsbury's



Just wanted to let you know we raised a magnificent £685.50 on Saturday!!! Well done everyone!

Was really great to see such an amazing turnout – Walthew House is really lucky to have such fantastic support.

Hope everyone is really proud of such an amazing result!

Kathryn



Our electronic coin sorter will (hopefully) be heavily used this Christmas.

And our colour laser is already producing lots of promotional material





Braving the extremes of weather at Woodford Park Garden Centre

The latest collaboration between France and England to build another Concord



Geoff sits in Winston Churchill's chair with an AVRO York transport aircraft hovering over him



"The higher we soar the smaller we appear to those who cannot fly."

— [Friedrich Nietzsche](#), [Thus Spoke Zarathustra](#)