

Bramhall & Woodford Rotary Club



Charity No. 1025767
District 1050
Chartered 24/9/1986

Bulletin



*A fantastic
duck race*



With great
cakes and
impressive
entertainment



Our intrepid team at
the National Conference
in Birmingham



www.bwrotary.org



Sue Speaking

This will be my last entry to the bulletin as your first lady President so it seemed an appropriate time for reflection. The world is changing rapidly and in the future I do hope that we can attract many more female members, especially those from the younger generation. Originally I was a little apprehensive about accepting the honour as Rotary President but in the absence of competition I decided to go for it. My fears were ill founded! I have had tremendous support, interspersed with usual hiccups and lots of fun along the way. The Rotary spirit of friendship and service has been well and truly present and I would like to say a very big 'thank you' to you all and especially to the Rotary Council members who have been superb and made my job so much easier! Without them nothing could have been achieved and I am very aware of all the hard work that takes place, out of sight, but which makes us a very successful group of like-minded people. I believe that B&W is a great club and I want to see it flourish and grow further. I have enjoyed all the social and fundraising events, and the club meetings are something I look forward to attending. Attending a Rotary meeting should never be thought of as in any way a 'duty'. However, I will not miss having to think about colour coordinating my clothes to ensure they do not clash with my presidential chain of office, but I am sure Harry won't be too bothered about that! I am confident that I come to the end of my presidency in the knowledge that the incoming President Harry, and new Rotary Council, will be excellent and develop the club further.

Thank you.

Sue

Committees 2nd April

Harry gave an update on Henry, who was on a strong antibiotic drip. Henry was not able to communicate properly on Tuesday, but had improved on Thursday. Harry will see if he can get more information.

John Meeus brought a projector screen in, this was claimed by Michael and will be kept as a spare for the club.

Vida listed the absentees and in particular mentioned the reason for Abi's non attendance:-evidently her Dog Daisy is on heat and will meet Duke who will do his best to accommodate her. No doubt Abi will update us later.

Ron Malabon circulated the list for duck race ticket sales, half the slots remain unfilled. It was suggested that each member should do three sessions.

David Burstow gave an International toast from the Rotary club of Waikato, New Zealand.

Trevor said he had received thanks from Walthew House for envelope stuffing and also our participation in the ten pin bowling event.

Dennis updated us on Olive's condition, following her successful spinal surgery she was admitted to SHH with blood clots which had caused problems in her liver and spleen. It was suggested that the club send a card and flowers. Vida offered to do this.

John Sykes said the next social event is the barbecue on June 29th at Sue's house, he also mentioned the possibility of indoor bowls at the club at a date to be decided.

Membership: Harry has tried to recruit two former members without success. Two people have been in touch via Friends of Rotary and will receive further information via email.

Ways and Means: Bob said Barclay's have so far offered £1,000. Bob is hoping for a further £2,000. Nine duck races have been sponsored at £100 each and 90 Corporate ducks have already been sold.

Community Service: Trevor said collectors would be required on Wednesday July 23rd afternoon and evening to collect for the Mercian Regiment. The Woodford footpath needs clearing again -volunteers needed for Fri am in 2 weeks time.

Michael Lacey said that on the 11th June there would be an International evening with a Syrian speaker. Wives and partners are invited. Michael also suggested an evening concert with a small number of musicians possibly at Ego's on 25th of September.

Vida asked if we were attending Bramhall Park on Easter Sunday to man the bouncy castle and provide games. Suggested times 11.00am- 1.00pm and 1.00pm-3.00pm. Volunteers needed. Bob said it was an excellent opportunity to sell Duck Race tickets.

Finally, Tony Burch suggested a Race track day either on 25th June at Oulton Park or 30th May at Donnington Park. Cost £200 -250 to drive or £10 to be a spectator.

Neil.

Holiday in Heaven and a Holiday in Hell. April 9th



The evening began with a short grace by Dennis. Twenty three people attended including a prospective lady member, Debbie Hodgkinson, a HR Director for Manchester Mental Health.

Vida read out the usual apologies and advised us to behave. She had visited the Hunt household and spoke to Olive while Geoff was recuperating upstairs. Henry's mind is fluctuating but he quickly responded to Gills' Liquorice Allsort wrappers. Brian commented that most of the ladies

were on the top table, and thanked Maggie for being normal and sitting with the boys. Bob P sent umpteen sheets to fill in for Bramhall Easter Sunday event and Duck race rotas. There was a lot of social chat because of lack of reports and delay in the arrival of desserts.

After the break, President Sue introduced our speaker Gill whose topic was a Holiday in Heaven and a Holiday in Hell. When her marriage broke up in 2002, she decided to learn new skills and do challenging activities. She joined SPICE UK and her first trip was to go rafting down the Colorado Rapids for a week. Yes, Gill is certainly one of the Spice Girls viz, SCARY SPICE after hearing her adventure. She showed photos of the two motorised rafts, each carrying 14 people including the highly trained leaders. They were allocated 3 bags each for minimum clothing and bedding, no electrical gear. All the food and drink was stored in the underneath so the freezing water maintained freshness. The hygiene for the cooks was meticulous to prevent infection and the meals were excellent. The temperature was hot during the day but sleeping out at night in the cold under the stars was amazing even with the company of non-biting scorpions. There was humour about toilet drill. One cannot do No 1's on the sand and three portable toilet were provided for no 2's.

They set off at 4am when light and went to bed at 8pm when dark. Gill showed pictures of trekking in side canyons and showering in freezing cold waterfalls. At the end, they returned from a week of serenity to the brashness of Las Vegas. The mind boggles how in 1869 Wesley Powell navigated 280 miles over a hundred rapids with less equipment!

The second holiday, a year later with Spice, subcontracted through Mark Warner in Sardinia, was unbelievable. A day excursion to Corsica started by wading out to the so-called ferry. The company had totally under booked for the large group. 8 including Gill piled into the 2 seat speed boat and the rest into the rigid inflatable. Gill elected to go to the front to level the boat, the pilot was eyeing the girls and playing in the wake of a

passing cargo ship when Gill was flipped up and came down on her back causing an injury. The situation became serious and she was transferred to another boat to the harbour where she was strapped to a stretcher and suffered severe pain as she was taken to the ambulance up a steep hill.

She was driven for over 2 hours to an orthopaedic hospital in the middle of the island, still in her swim costume. A doctor said her back was broken and only seemed interested in her insurance. She was put in a horrible room, apart from a catheter and IV drip whilst the nursing care was nil. Nobody spoke English and she even had problem with getting food. Fortunately she still had her mobile and called her daughter in Majorca. There was a delay in getting a nurse out from England due to broken fax machine and illness. Gill spent one week here, odd visits from Spice friends and a daily one from a Priest who insisted on covering her hot feet, saying a prayer and giving her little presents. There was a funny side, when she tried to communicate to the nurse by waving her arms that a bat was flying around. They didn't understand. It reminds me of Fawlty Towers.

Dressed in a T-shirt and gown over the body brace, she had to be lifted with difficulty on to a plane for Rome. The accompanying nurse only had 8 boarding cards for 9 seats which caused delays. Gill was examined in the Med Centre at the airport and eventually flew to Heathrow. A waiting ambulance whisked her to Macclesfield Hospital. Thankfully she had no spinal damage, just a wedge fracture of a vertebra.

Even her efforts to gain compensation through useless English lawyers and devious and procrastinating Italian injustice, Gill gave up after 5 years without compensation.

S@A Tony wanted to fine Sid 23 times for some reason. He fined Gill for saying she was "lucky" to be OK and other strange reasons including me for writing notes.

David Rose

From The Friends of Parkside

I just wanted to write to say thank you so much for your very generous cheque of £500 which will go towards new equipment for the Park. We have been very fortunate to have been awarded grants totalling £30,000 plus which have enabled us to buy 3 new pieces of equipment for the children, but as soon as we have allocated the £500 then I will let you know and we will of course acknowledge Rotary's donation.

With many thanks.

Alanna Vine

Councillor for Bramhall North and Co-Founder of the Friends of Parkside committee

An Ayuverda Experience April 16

The evening began with Gordon saying a Rotary Grace and as usual an excellent dinner and fellowship. President Sue produced a suggested meeting schedule for away days to other Rotary Clubs. Everyone was encouraged to put their name on the list which had been printed on bright yellow paper in keeping with the seasonal colours. There were numerous apologies with members being spread across Yorkshire, Switzerland and Wales. Our guests, Ron Emerson of Stockport U3A and Kay Poizer were warmly welcomed to the club. Sue gave a summary of the Rotary national conference held in Birmingham the previous weekend. She, Bob, Harry & Maggie and Bob and Oriane had enjoyed the event – a full report will follow in the bulletin. Harry shared the good news that Henry is improving and so will be discharged from Stepping Hill to return to Sunrise very soon.



After coffee our guest speaker, Ron Emerson, was introduced by Dennis Allport. Dennis had been amazed at the vast improvement that Ron had made with several of his medical problems after having extensive Ayurveda treatments in Kerela India. Ron had originally been in constant pain; he had spinal stenosis which made life difficult for him and prevented him from taking part in the

U3A walking group of which Dennis was also a member. Ron had consulted many doctors, taken several drugs, had scans & x-rays, and received much physiotherapy but his very painful condition had not improved. By chance he met an Indian lady doctor who suggested that he consider alternative therapies as western medicine was not working. She suggested this specialist traditional Ayurveda clinic in Kerela, southern India. Ron flew out to India and stayed in the clinic for a month receiving a very intensive daily regime which included a host of treatments such as hot oil massages, complementary medicines, eye washes and herbal poultices on his head. He also had four enemas of oil. At the end of the four weeks his range of medical conditions, which also included regular and very painful bouts of gout, were all significantly improved. The whole Ayurveda treatment cost him £500 and this included drugs, oils and herbs to take home. The whole experience was a resounding success for Ron and he now enjoys a much better quality of life with significantly less pain and he can now resume his walking with the U3A. He is thinking of going to the clinic again as it was suggested he has two follow up visits.

Gordon, S@A fined all those who did not turn up for the video shoot in Bramhall Park to publicise the Duck Race with 'I Love Bramhall' and the meeting ended slightly later at 10:30pm.

Bob Preece

Rotary National Conference Report



Boasting more miles of canal than in Venice, this year's RIBI national conference was held in the city of Birmingham on 11-13 April 2014. Once known as the 'city of a thousand trades' due to its historical industrial

heritage, Birmingham is now a thriving modern city and the International Conference centre was a good venue choice. Bob & I, Harry & Maggie and Bob & Oriane arrived very early on the Saturday morning. Bob S had had minor surgery on his knee and foot a couple of days earlier so he was on crutches which proved to be a great help for the rest of us in not having to queue for the lift etc..!

Contrary to popular belief the conference was not in the least bit boring, in fact nearly all the speakers were lively and engaging. They had been carefully selected for their commitment to changing things for the better and this message was well communicated to all present. Our day began with Maj. Gen, Martin Rutledge, CEO ABF telling us about 'The Soldiers Charity', which has an excellent working partnership with Rotary. Next was Charlene White, ITN Newsreader, talking about Bowel Cancer UK. Although difficult subject matter, Charlene's talk was informative and humorous. She came over as a very likeable warm and bubbly personality. I especially enjoyed the presentation by Lord Digby Jones of Birmingham. He was candid and forthright about the importance of generating wealth in

Britain and in doing so creating jobs, fighting illiteracy and innu-meracy. He made the point that we cannot hope to have a safer and healthier society if people lack respect and aspirations. Other speakers also included James Lovatt, 2013/14 Rotaract in Great Britain & Ireland Chairman, Martin Bell OBE, UNICEF, and Jane Walker MBE, Philippine Community Fund whose talk about the poor Philippino children who scour rubbish dumps was particularly poignant in parts but also very uplifting and revealing about the impact and successes that charities such as this can achieve. Several awards were distributed, the most fascinating being the Rotary Young Citizen Award won by Bethany Eason from the Wirral. Despite being profoundly deaf from birth Bethany loved dancing and music and chatting with her many friends. Her successful cochlea implant had enabled her to become an excellent advocate and campaigner on behalf of deaf people.

After a particularly good evening dinner and wine we all enjoyed the concert by the Backbeat Beatles Tribute Band. Even Bob S was able to get up and dance despite being on crutches, which was a most interesting sight and he proved himself to be a great sport!

I think that RIBI had saved the best until last. On the Sunday morning we were entertained by Sarah Brown, Educational Advocate who told us of her work with UNICEF, then introduced

one of the youngest and bravest campaigners of our time, Malala Yousafzai, who was shot in the head by the Taliban but survived. Malala's story and incredible poise and determination received a well-deserved standing ovation.



No one could help but be moved by her strength of mind and character to bring the fight for the education for all girls to world attention.

Dallas Campbell, had the final say. He is a well-known British TV Presenter whose work includes Supersized Earth, BBC One, a BAFTA-nominated series that examined the scale and pace with which humans have transformed the Earth in a generation. He was a witty speaker and told an amazing story of the behind-the-scenes adventures of a TV presenter.

Sue Preece

I love Bramhall 23 April

President Sue opened the meeting with a Grace for St Georges Day at 8pm and welcomed our guest speaker, Wendy Green.

The meal was somewhat later than usual, but with no surprise: the club was presented with a delectable selection of wonderful meals to choose from. Vida announced the evening's apologies and again, welcomed Wendy.

President Sue reported that having emailed 6 Rotary Clubs in nearby areas, invitations to visit were forthcoming and that she and Bob would be visiting Wilmslow Dean club on a Tuesday, if anyone wanted to join them. Poynton RC reminded Sue of the "Party in the Park" on Saturday 14 June and Northwich RC had booked a Barn Dance on Saturday 17 May. Anyone who would like to visit any of the clubs please let Sue know.

Harry reported that Henry had been re-admitted into hospital on Easter Sunday so he and Sue visited Henry on the Tuesday; Henry seemed bright and alert, however, Ralph, Henry's attorney, had concerns about Henry's condition. Harry said he will continue to visit Henry and as he is being relocated to Dev's area, he will ask Dev to look in on Henry too.

Caroline updated the club about the Easter Festival at Bramall Hall and thanked the volunteers who helped on the day. Maggie's Biscuits raised £100 and venison burgers were served. Overall, it was a successful event.

Bob P discussed the ticket sales duties and where to return monies and ticket stubs. An email will be circulated a folder containing these duties (where to return tickets, money equipment etc.) and a list of contacts and other relevant information will be made part of the equipment used at the sales.

Michael, for International toast, celebrated today as the day on which William Shakespeare was both born and then many years later, died. An incredibly clever man (Shakespeare as well as Michael) deserved an incredibly clever toast, which will not be served well here if summarised. (Please see following).

After Coffee, Harry introduced his guest, Wendy Green, who runs a series of networking clubs and hosts marketing and social networking sites to promote businesses in Bramhall. Wendy spoke of her love of Bramhall,; born upstairs in her parents bedroom on Ashley Drive, Wendy has always lived in Bramhall, and unsurprisingly has set up an "I Love Bramhall" website covering a 3mile radius of Bramhall. Wendy promotes every event that she hears of, from coffee mornings to Duck Races on her site, for no cost. Wendy has spent over a year preparing the website, making it perfect for the locality and is building momentum with the number of advertisers and promoters using her services.

S@A, David P., with 'one fell swoop' fined all for misdemeanors and President Sue finished early, at 10.22pm



Abi

Two celebrations in one

Today is obviously St George's day but it is also a great day to celebrate Shakespeare. He was born (probably) on 23rd April 1564 and died (definitely) on 23rd April 1616 at the age of 52.

His works consist of 38 plays, 154 sonnets, two long narrative poems and several other poems. His plays have been translated into every major living language, and are performed more often than those of any other playwright.

He was the third child of eight and the eldest surviving son. At the age of 18, Shakespeare married the 26-year-old Anne Hathaway (who was pregnant at the time) quite the barefaced lad really.

But it is the enormous impact on our language that most impresses me. Not only do virtually all later English authors, playwrights and poets admit their inspiration in Shakespeare's originality, but also we use his words on a monumental, indeed almost countless scale day by day.

Shakespeare is said to have used 17,677 words in all his writings. One tenth of these had never been used before!!! So, expressions such as "with bated breath", "backing a horse", "one fell swoop", "foul play", "in my mind's eye" and "a foregone conclusion" have found their way into everyday English speech.

Also words such as barefaced, critical, leapfrog, monumental, majestic, obscene, frugal, countless, hint, hurry, lonely, summit, excellent, pedant, aggravate and forefathers – altogether about 1,700 words like that!!!

What a debt we all owe the man.

So in one fell swoop and with bated breath, be not critical of this pedant, be like our forefathers, see in your mind's eye, and join me in a foregone conclusion and raise your glasses to our greatest ever word-smith..... to William Shakespeare.

Committee Night 30th April

John Knowles gave us a grace with great dignity and verisimilitude. Followed by reports of visits to other clubs by Sue and Harry. They visited Wilmslow Dean and Hazel Grove both of whom meet at the Deanwater Hotel. Apparently, they are going to stick with our club. We are pleased about this.

We then toasted our new grandfather in the shape of Bob Stevenson and thanked him for providing us with such lovely wine with which to toast the new arrival. Welcome Holly!

David Rose then proposed a toast to the club of Kasese as it was just a year since Albert and Millie visited us.

Harry then reported on Henry's health which does not seem too good as he has difficulty breathing.

I should perhaps mention we did eat our usual excellent meal provided by Lorraine.

The Committee Chairmen gave their reports. Bob Preece told us about the jobs we were to do at the Duck Race. WE had to be careful not to let the Boy Scouts stay in the water too long as it might be deemed that they were enjoying themselves and not doing it as their duty! John Meeus must have the ticket stubs back by at least the Monday before the actual Race Day. Vice-President, Harry said there were no new members in prospect at the moment but he was glad he was in our club.

Secretary reported on who were to be Chairpeople next session: President Harry Hill, Vice-President Gill Critchley, Secretary Trevor Saville, Treasurer Michael Lacey, Ways and Means Bob Preece, Community Service Ron Malabon, Club Services John Knowles, International John Thewlis, Social Brian Dougal, Communications Ian Dobson and Membership Gill Crichtley. Other odd jobs would remain with the odd people doing them at the moment.

Treasurer reported that the duck sales so far were down on last year but the big ducks were sold out. £3,000 has been put on one side to pay for the Dragon's Den extravaganza in July.

Community Services Trevor reported that the tins had gone with the pubs for the Mercian Regiment thanks to Bruce Farrow. Canal Grass cutting and the Woodford footpath were going to receive treatment in the near future.

International David Rose reported that the International Evening would take-place in June with students coming from Manchester University to join our jolly band for the evening.

Ian Dobson reported that publicity for the Duck Race was to be seen in many different locations including Google.

John Knowles for Club Services said the -programme of our evenings were planned into August and he will send an E-mail around so we know what is what.

The big social event to come in the President's BBQ which may prove to be slightly different this year -----watch this space it is on 29th June at Sue and Bob's.

Sergeant at Arms in the guise of Ron told us all to shut up and pay up so we did.

Vida

More Nee Gulls

I was recently given around 200 children's hypodermic needles (or hyperdeemic nurdles or even hypodermic nee gulls) and tasked with getting these to a country that needed them. Some of you may remember that the last time this happened, Geoff and Olive negotiated with a charity and they were distributed accordingly. Unfortunately, this time, the charity were slow to respond and weren't very interested. The good news is that Peter and Tricia Dunlop who gave us a talk a while back (on Alzheimers), have taken them to their daughter who is working in Uganda so a happy ending at last.

Gordon

Ian's Press Release

Bramhall & Woodford Rotary Club Duck Race and Family Fun Day

Sponsored by Mosley Jarman

Blimey! Crikey! WOW! Another beautiful Sunday in the middle of May brought out thousands of people to visit Bramhall Park for the annual Duck Race and Family Fun Day organised by the Bramhall & Woodford Rotary Club. Everywhere you looked there were people smiling and having a great time watching the ducks racing down the Ladybrook river, picnicking on the Terrace, browsing the craft stalls or being entertained by a variety of local talent ranging from dancers to a jazz band. There was particular interest in the inaugural Schools Choir Competition won by Pownall Green School. Everyone who took part was brilliant - Well Done.

There were 4080 ducks in nine different races fighting beak to beak to get to the line first. There were some close finishes that got everyone watching very excited, cheering their ducks on to the line.. And some of the decorated ducks from local businesses looked absolutely fabulous. Congratulation to all who won a prize.

This year's event was sponsored by Mosley Jarman and supported by Barclays Bank. The money raised will go to Walthew House (for the Deaf and Blind), Beacon Counselling and other Rotary supported charities.

The Club wishes to thank everyone who came this year for supporting the event and hope to be back next year even though the Hall is having a makeover.

There are lots more pictures on either the Facebook pages of I love Bramhall or Bramhall and Woodford Rotary or you can see a video clip on www.bwrotary.org.

Ian Dobson

Also: I have just (30/5/14) received my free copy of Stockport Times West and we have the front page together with an article and photos on page 2. Well done Ian.

Gordon

Members' Pages

June 2014

The next 4 pages are not present in the email version

Apologies

Please let us know if you are unable to attend a meeting.
There are two ways of notifying us:

1. If you have enough notice, please fill in the apologies book which is available at every meeting
2. Send a short email to apologies@bwrotary.org.uk

Notification must be by midday on Tuesday or we are charged for the meal and must now pass this cost on.

Please notify Jan Edmonds and Gordon of any changes to these details

Website: www.bwrotary.org

Email to all members (who have email):
bwrotary@yahoogroups.com

Other email addresses:

Council members (and Gordon): bwccouncil@yahoogroups.com

Ways & Means Committee: waysgp@bwrotary.org.uk

Items for inclusion in the Bulletin to Gordon
(Accompanied by large amounts of cash)

Proposed Club Officers and Committees

2014—2015

President—Harry Hill

Vice President—Gill Critchley

Secretary—Trevor Saville

Treasurer—Michael Lacey

Club Services—John Knowles

Jan Edmonds, Vida Chattington, David Burstow

International—John Thewlis

Sid Davies, Chris Monkhouse, David Rose

Community Service— Ron Malabon

Sue Preece, Abi Jenkins, John Sykes, Neil Loveland, Bruce Farrow, Tony Burch, Alan Newsome

Ways and Means – Bob Preece

Maggie Hill, Bob Stevenson, Dennis Allport, Peter Richardson, Pat Holmes, David Poizer, David Rabone, Bruce Bissell,

Social— Brian Dougal

John Meeus, Caroline Egan, Dev Dev

Communications—Ian Dobson

Gordon Jackson

Membership—Gill Critchley

Geoff Hunt

Foundation— Michael Lacey

District Representatives— John Sykes

H&S—David Burstow

Child Protection—David Rose

Bulletin—Gordon Jackson

Over the last couple of years I have been pleased to see that the rather rigid approach to committee membership has relaxed somewhat. For instance, envelope stuffing has been done by anyone who is free, rather than by members of the Comm Serv cttee only. I would very much like to see this flexibility continue, and I would ask all chairmen not to be shy if they feel they need more manpower for a particular project than they have on their own committee.

Harry

The Rotary Club of Winchester 7th May



This was a special meeting when members of the Rotary Club of Winchester came to our Club to discuss their experiences with the Rotary Club of Kasese, Uganda. Surprisingly there were some spare seats. Our President Sue suggested that to improve discussions that the visitors from Winchester should mix with the Club during the meal. There was some cajoling with some members not wishing to join the top table but peace was soon restored.

As usual our President decided which table was the naughty table and for once the table on the left of her had been quiet so they followed the top table.

During the meal apologies were read out by David Poizer with several members not giving a reason for failure to attend.

The President then introduced the guests. These were Rotarians John Sweeting and John Wilkinson. Mary Sweeting was ac-

companying her husband. The President explained that through her education activities she had known them for many years. The two Johns introduced themselves and spoke about Albert and Millie and about the visit to the hospital by Bob Preece and David Rose.

Bob Preece said that duck race sales were not as good as last year but he was not despondent as the larger sponsored ducks had sold well.

Harry had got his seaweed out and was giving out a weather forecast of 17°C and sunny for the Sunday..

After coffee the two Winchester Rotarians gave a presentation. They explained that the Winchester Club was in District 1110 and had 88 members mainly in the 55-65 age group. They had realised that the club was aging and had arranged a breakfast meeting once a month where potential new members would come and discuss Rotary. About half of those present were Rotarians. They had recently inducted 3 new members and at present had 20 lady members. If requested they would give our Club advice as to how it might be possible to recruit new members.

Originally there was a non Rotarian project called "Books for Schools". The Rotary Club of Kasere had become involved with the local Anglican Diocese in Uganda. Initially 20 lead primary schools had been selected. The Winchester Rotary Club has provided 100,000 writing slates for 550 schools and also paying for books most of which are published locally in Uganda with many in their own language. Libraries have been established in schools with the help of Winchester and Kasere Clubs with all of the books catalogued and are now freely available in the schools where the project is fully established..

To support this project Winchester has raised some £57,000

since 2011 from gifts including bequests, local grants and matching grants.

The object overall was to make the schools in the area self sufficient by involving the local population where possible and spreading training from the initial 20 schools to all the primary schools in the area.

The presentation closed with some slides showing the damage caused by flooding in the area and a building which had been funded by our club. There had been problems with getting accounts for the work carried out and they had to be regularly harassed however they felt that there had been no corruption.

They hoped that our club could assist them in the future.

The Sergeant at Arms prevented us from leaving until he had extorted £1 from each of us even though of course no one was guilty.

The meeting closed at the later time than usual at 10.45pm

David Burstow

Once more unto the stuffing dear friends

A group of us responded to Harry's rallying call to help Waltham House fill their envelopes with the latest edition of their new sheet. We managed to break our previous record by a healthy margin and also saved their staff a three-day job by doing the task in 50 minutes.

Gordon

Duck stuff 14th May

The meeting was the now traditional pre-Duck Race "Is everything in place and why not?" session. Bob Preece led proceedings and after about 45 minutes it seemed to this observer that most issues had been resolved. Ian Dobson then rattled through his spiel before subsiding after ten minutes.

I will not go into details of the multitude of decisions and instructions that were meted out, since they will be irrelevant within three days, but the stand-out points to my ears were as follows:

If you are one of those helping with the set up, be at the lower field (Bramhall Lane South end of the park) at 9 am. If you're not involved, you'd better have a good excuse!

Please don't disappear at 4pm, even though it's been a long day, since what went up must come down. It's unfair to leave four tired Rotarians and a volunteer from the Golf Club to clear up.

There should be a sufficiency of helpers (particularly volunteers from the two charities) to allow everyone a break from their allotted tasks.

Here are some other little bits and bobs:

A lollipop man with a stop/go board will stop traffic on BLS to allow the fairground in and out. Sadly for those of us who have always wanted to wreak havoc with Bramhall's traffic we will not be allowed to play with the board.

There will be a dozen walkie-talkies available to the upper echelons of the club, so communication won't be a problem. (Fat chance! When I used one a year or two ago it was easier and more effective to shout! Probably me not pressing the right button though...)

We must try to ensure the Scouts don't spend too long in the stream. Bruce Bissel's retort was that last year he couldn't persuade the little blisters to leave the water!

The Mayor will open the day at 11 up at the hall, and if he doesn't spend too much time shaking hands with the assembled throng he'll start the first race at 11.30.

Finally, I see from my notes that Scouts will be under Neil on the car park. This may come as a nasty shock to Brenda!

The meeting ended with Maggie, though pressed for time, fining everyone for sins committed not only on the night, but also in the quite distant past. I'm not saying she's one to hold a grudge, but...

Harry

The logo consists of the letters 'M' and 'EN' stacked vertically. The 'M' is large and bold, and the 'EN' is smaller and also bold. They are both in a black, serif font. The entire logo is set against a bright yellow rectangular background.

Thousands of ducks take to the water for the annual Bramhall Duck Race

Thousands of plastic ducks helped to raise thousands of pounds for charity at the annual Bramhall and Woodford Rotary Club's Duck Race.

Over 4,000 ducks were floated down the Ladybook River in Bramhall Park on Sunday.

The event raised money for Walthew House Stockport, Beacon Counselling and other charities supported by the Rotary Club.

Rotary's Ian Dobson said this year's event was on track to beat the £12,000 raised last year.

He said: "It was bigger and better than previous years and many more people attended.

"It was a great day all round and the sunshine certainly helped. We raised £12,000 last year and I am confident we get more than that this time around."

Ducks were sold for £1 to punters while local businesses decorated giant ducks for five special races.

The event also saw the first junior schools' choir competition won by Bramhall's Pownall Green Primary School.

Bob Batty kept a record of our charity giving and this has now passed to Michael who announced that, not including this year, The total for UK charities is £141,743 and Overseas £70,086 giving a grand total of £211,829.

With this year's additions we can certainly say "approaching a quarter of a million pounds"!

Our Facebook page generated a huge amount of interest prior to and after the duck race. Here, Abi analyses the passing traffic.

This week, we reached viewers 5.2k times directly through our own page ie our posts have appeared on screens 5.2k times. The total page views is actually 7.3k "Engagement post clicks", which includes those people who have looked at our posts via other sites. This means that of the 7.3k views to our site, 5.2k were directly from our Facebook page and 2.2k came from people who clicked a link that directed them to our Facebook page, possibly from another medium, eg our bwrotary website.

Under the heading 'Engagement', we have graphs showing how 897 of these visits to the page have progressed. Not all of the 7.3k views will prompt any other reaction from a reach than to simply scroll up the page and view the next bit of information in their own 'newsfeed'. Posts and pictures prompted 203 likes this week and 80 comments. Lots of people won't 'like' or 'comment' on a page so these numbers are somewhat irrelevant to us.

It's the 'shares' we should be interested in. If we post some good stuff on our page, we will get people sharing this information to others, prompting people returning to our page and website.

This is important for the sustainability and growth of our membership. We include Rotary news and club information on our Facebook and Website and we want this shared far and wide.

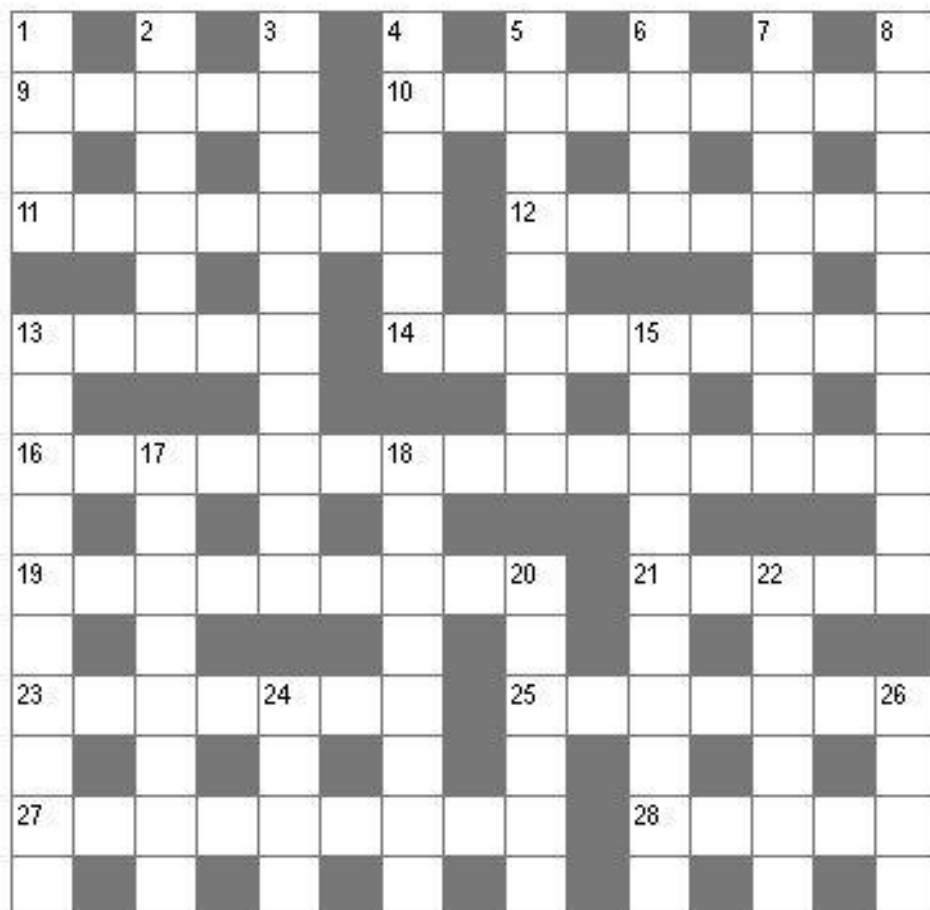
Putting information out to the wider community and not on our home sites first is partially self destructive. You will find people will want to join for the wrong reasons and you will find a high turnover of members, something a great club like Bramhall and Woodford Club does not want to introduce. Being desperate for members does not mean take measures not thought through properly

I would like to encourage members to send information out to Brian and myself, however, if anyone feels that I am not capable of running a coherent page, due to poor literacy skills, then I would propose I add pre written articles to the Facebook page. My concern is only to make this a stronger, more successful club, if only for people in need.

Abi

Michael's Cryptic Crossword

Here is my first ever attempt at compiling a cryptic crossword. It is not brilliant but it is specific to our Rotary club! Enjoy. Small prize for first correct answer delivered to me. Solution in next bulletin



Scribble area

Clues

- 9a Compiler point, you and I giving founder president (5)
10a Confused Stevenson? Daughters are not allowed in this. (4,5)
11a Hot line went awry giving old stone implement (7)
12a Going forward and backward, and in French after tenth month for group
- 13a Sandbank this former member with his own accounting firm (5)
14a Our newest member, when deranged, is nearly with it! (6,3)
16a At school and in life we have to do this (5,3,7)
19a Chess player stands before vestibule for London thoroughfare (9)
21a Is mother inside these prayer leaders? (5)
23a While at her door, look inside for tanned animal hide (7)
25a David and Kay are these. (7)
27a Troubled coons died in this Californian town. (9)
28a World organisation before the German is not over (5)
- 1d Last word from Grace (4)
2d Medical member before belonging to us will eat greedily (6)
3d One below fool and over attitude gives help (10)
4d A simple trick he may apply initially to this respiratory disorder (6)
5d Our club runs like this! (8)
6d Sid is one of these (4)
7d Threw ton around and passed by (4,3)
8d Random slope tests for strong supporters (5,5)
13d Harry and past member and bowler David make travelling climber (10)
15d Distrustful (10)
17d Our youngest member caught in quarter provides conformity (8)
18d To rid fauna badly, without fear (8)
20d No doubt Gordon has at least one of these! (6)
22d Aim in cooker for this list (6)
24d Geoff is looking for you (4)
26d One of our many Davids, when ruffled is tender (4)

David Ellis—RIBI 21st May



The meeting started on a sombre note as we bade farewell to Henry, but we did toast his life of which I'm sure Henry would have thoroughly approved.

With Sue having been sent out to earn a few pennies by

Bob, Vice President Harry was at the helm, well sort of. Bob relayed Sue's thanks to members for all their hard work in achieving a hugely successful duck race on Sunday. Ian commented that the choir event had gone well and perhaps more could be made of it in future years. Harry speculated that the event will have made a minimum of £10,000 profit and when pressed I think he undertook to underwrite that sum. If I misheard, it is valuable lesson for him that he needs to keep better control of the meeting! The commercial stalls were lucrative, for example the fairground giving us £915 and the ice cream vans £200 each. Harry then proceeded to deliver a lecture on economics but despite a compliment from Tony, the consensus was that he knew as much about economics as he does about posting photos on Dropbox.

The meal was excellent as usual but Harry, in trouble again, ensured he would be getting no dinner tonight by starting proceedings by inviting the table on his right....and where was Maggie sitting?

John K gave the report on guests and visitors, starting by welcoming David Ellis from RIBI. Overall a good attendance with only four on holiday and Sid poorly, temporarily I hope.

Abi introduced David Ellis by listing his three lengthy RIBI roles, the most relevant to the evening being Chairman of RIBI Marketing, advertising and communications committee. David explained that his objective was to make our life easier by changing public perception of Rotary. He showed some new materials including a video which we all should have seen, but hadn't, and announcing the creation of an excellent new website. He also showed some old generic materials on marketing which I certainly had seen in a past life and lectured us on the value of marketing. He displayed the new RI corporate image involving a modification of the rotary wheel, which had cost only \$4million!

There followed a very lively Q&A session in which David was challenged to defend the value of his work and the associated costs. Michael in particular opined that the Rotary wheel should be left alone as it has served us well. David responded by praising the latest iteration, criticising what had gone before and assuring us that the present version would last forever.....watch this space!!

The presentation had the benefit of stimulating a few members to get their brains out of cold storage and ask some testing questions, a first this year I think.

John Meeus clearly had left his brain in its usual place as he proceeded to fine everyone for their good works at the duck race.

The meeting closed at 10.33pm, room for improvement here Harry.(Fortunately we will have Trevor as secretary next year who will use his size tens to tap Harry on the ankle when he forgets he is supposed to be running a meeting rather than chatting to all and sundry.)

Bruce (The Younger)

25 years ago

The activities for April and May 1989 are recorded in Bulletins Vol 2 No 13 and Vol 3 No 1. A visit by the District Governor (Bernard Needham) resulted in two members writing reports, one covering two pages of foolscap the other more succinctly just over half a page. Points raised included idea of identification in the community as a service club, Foundation, the need for younger members and a shake up at RIBI HQ with the appointment of a permanent professional Secretary and a Public Relations Officer. The discussion which followed covered weekly attendance, women in Rotary and support for District Conference.

In those days the AGM followed the timing of the financial year rather than the Rotary year so we had election of committee chairmen as well as the annual report. Subscriptions were raised to £50.

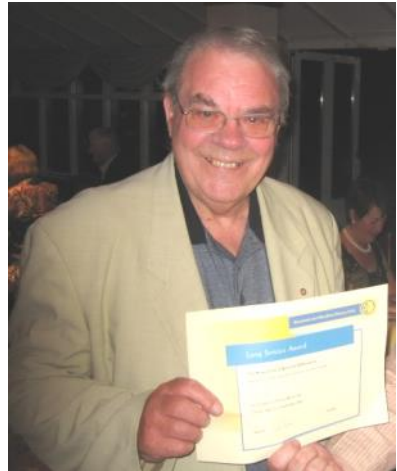
Plans for Bramhall Festival in June were well under way. Volunteers were needed to sell programmes in Bramhall and Cheadle Hulme precincts (sounds familiar) and on the streets in Bramhall. Last year we had sold 2500 and the new target was 3000. There would be a festival dance and a Miss Bramhall contest, a teenage disco, a parachute landing by a Royal Artillery team and a procession for which we built an 8 man dragon. (I think we had a police escort but no traffic management by Stockport MBC)

It must have been warm on 10th May as it was recorded that 40 shirtsleeves and a jacketed VP sat down to dinner. The reporter wondered if the VP only wore a shirt front as he kept his coat on!! The speaker was an etymologist and it would appear that the Common People are right – it is LUNCH mid morning, Dinner at lunch time and SUPPER at dinner time.

Ron

Henry Barker 4/4/1929—19/5/2014

Henry—Paul Harris Fellow, choir member, chair of many committees (particularly International), Past President and tireless worker for Rotary. So many plaudits for a man who truly lived the motto 'Service Above Self'.



MAKING FRIENDS WITH UGANDA



I presented our Fellowship Exchange video with RC Kasese in Uganda “Pearl of Africa” to the RC of Ambleside “the Jewel in Lakeland” on May 15th 2014.

I was invited by treasurer Brian James to a lovely lunch at Rothay Manor Hotel followed by my photographic journey in Kasese District.

I had the pleasure of presenting our banner to their President Jim Wilson in return for their banner handed over at our last open meeting. They meet here at Thursday lunchtime eleven months of the year and the Salutation Hotel in January.

There are two clubs in Ambleside who have no intentions of joining! The 18 members attending-most of the club were extremely friendly and totally fascinated with Sue and Brian’s video and my short talk. Only one person came close to nodding off!

The Club provides an annual coffee morning for over 60’s in the area, fundraise for a children’s hospice and Air Ambulance.

Ambleside RC have bowling matches with the other club Ambleside-Kirkstone RC with a younger membership and the proceeds go to the Bowling Club.

President Jim said they frequently have visitors from all over and a Lanarkshire Rotarian appeared at my talk and invited me to Scotland. As expected he quickly told me they would not pay expenses! The referendum can’t come quick enough!

There is an open invitation to our members, who holiday in the Lakes to attend their meetings. The home made food is excellent.

David Rose

A missing child at the duck race

A frantic parent appeared in front of the two Pauls of ImagineFM saying that their child was lost. Paul Willetts immediately put out a call on the PA system for people to search for the young girl aged four and wearing an orange top with a heart on it. She had been around the stalls on Market St. and it was thought that her interest in tadpoles had taken her off towards the river.

The PA appeal brought no responses even though it went out four times. Exchanges on the radios provided by Delta Sound Systems took place again with little result.

I was about to start a race when the mother appeared in front of me quite obviously extremely distressed. I had a call out from Caroline at the Hall saying she had the father with her. Mother talked to father over the radios.

Caroline then overheard an incoming message to the police in the Courtyard area who were in radio contact with another officer who was picking the child up from Nevill road! The mother then left me and went to the Hall. At one point the mother and father were both up at the Hall where they had confirmation that the child had been found but unfortunately Caroline did not see them reunited!

The whole thing appeared to take about half an hour although I am sure that it felt much longer than that to mum and dad.

So, how on earth did one so young get all the way from the Park to where she was found? Crossing busy roads and with so many people around? It doesn't bear thinking about.

And it goes to prove that mobile radio communications are invaluable.

Ian

Scams and how to protect yourself — 1

A reported 'fall' in levels of crime has been offset by a huge increase in the number of people falling prey to scams that often go unreported or ignored by the police because of the difficulty of tracing the perpetrator, There are 10 golden rules concerning scams:

1. Be suspicious of all 'Too good to be true' offers and deals. There are no guaranteed get rich quick schemes. Since the dawn of the Internet, a very common Spam email contains the subject line 'Make Money Fast'!
2. Do not agree to offers or deals immediately. Insist on time to obtain independent/legal advice before making a decision. A very common ploy is for the scammer to insist that the deal is time limited and you must sign up now or lose it. A large furniture supply chain was caught out recently using this tactic.
3. Do not hand over any money until you have checked the credentials of the company/individual.
4. Never send money to anyone you do not know or trust or use methods of payment you are not comfortable with.
5. NEVER give banking or personal details to anyone you do not know or trust.
6. Always log onto a website directly rather than clicking on a link in an email.
7. Do not rely solely on glowing testimonials. Get evidence of a company's success.
8. Get independent/legal advice if an offer involves money, time or commitment.
9. If you get scammed, contact ActionFraud on 0300 123 2040 or at actionfraud.org.uk
10. Don't be embarrassed to report a scam There is no shame in being deceived by liars and thieves.

Gordon (Modified text from 'The Little Book of Big Scams')





Harry in serious mood

