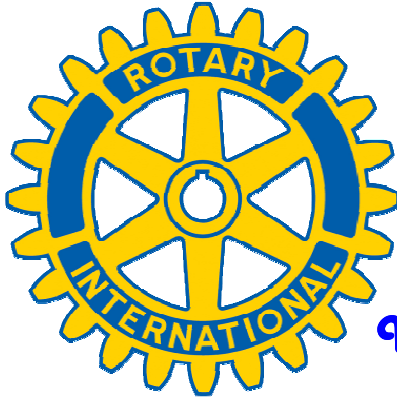


Bramhall & Woodford Rotary Club



Bulletin

Visit of the DG



A well-attended
charter night





Supervising at Hillbrook Grange whilst Peter did all the work



Dennis attempting to feed one of the locals during footpath clearing

David was a worthy winner of our X-Factor evening



www.bwrotary.org.uk



Sue Speaking

I have been in good 'first' company recently, not only being the 'first' lady president of B&W but having the privilege of opening the 'first' fashion show for the club and the 'first' ever 27th Charter night to be held in such an informal setting as Aman's Indian Restaurant. Both of these events were highly successful and will hopefully be repeated again in the future. One of the distinctive features of our club is a willingness to be flexible and responsive to a changing society and with these attitudes we will have a much more rosy future! I am enjoying my presidential position but do feel anxious if I am unable to attend (rarely, I hope!). However, it may encourage others to come forward and accept the role in the future if they think they can have a 'little leeway' with attendance.



My two week absence in August was due to previously booked holiday in the Greek Islands and, as usual, the highlight for me was renting a quad bike, a poor attempt to regain my long lost youth!

I was sorry for not being able to attend the District Conference in October but am determined to attend the RIBI Conference in Birmingham from 11th-13th April 2014. I hope lots of you will

also come! The guest speakers look good and the stage is set for a very special performance of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra who will perform for the 'Last Night of the Rotary Proms'. Once known as the 'city of a thousand trades' due to its historical industrial heritage, Birmingham is now a thriving modern city with a range of visitor attractions which I am sure we can all enjoy.

Sue

10th. July 2013 **Marian Surgenor - “The Something More”**



After a deft and efficient opening of proceedings by our new President Sue, David Rabone was invited to lead us in grace which turned out to be more like a sermon! However the content was most thought provoking and delivered with aplomb! The

bulletin reporter was originally specified as Jim Thomas but due to his very recent resignation from the club caused Gordon to be the nominated substitute, but he was unable to attend this meeting. Breaking my Dad’s “Golden Rule – Don’t volunteer for anything!” which he adopted through his experiences of many years including the full term of the War in the RAF, I put myself forward and soon realised my mistake when President Sue, Vida and others failed in correctly pronouncing the surname of our Scottish speaker. I do not see the problem –look the name is “Surgenor”, which as you can see I just pronounced perfectly! President Sue then proceeded to cause further consternation amongst our more conservative members with restating (apparently first stated in the previous meeting) that fines were increased to £1 and there would be no raffle, hence no wine!!! To some this latter item was a relief as the “prize” wine had never been noted for its “prize” quality. Normal procedures followed; apologies, guests and visitors, threats with menaces for subs from our Gruppenfuhrer treasurer, international toast, announcements etc.

Following our hearty meal David Rose introduced our speaker Marian Surgenor most fluently, getting her surname pronounced almost as good as I did above. It transpired that Marian is a qualified nurse and midwife with many years under her belt with our very own NHS and was head of clinical care at UHSM (University Hospital of South Manchester). The subject “Something More” relates to the establishment by Marian with co founder Steve Hawks of a pioneering health facility set in Gulu, a town in Northern Uganda and one that had been subject

to many years of conflict. The backcloth of genocide, atrocities and child soldiers chilled the heart and made our speaker not only very impressive in her social conscience, but also with her great courage and determination. Effectively the project evaluation got underway in 2006 and resulted in the final project being rubber stamped and fully underway in 2009.

The audience benefitted from a very full presentation as although the speaker spoke most eloquently it was delivered with great gusto and with lots of acronyms and to boot in a fairly strong Glaswegian accent. The paper on which I was pouring these words of wisdom and education nearly “caught fire” on several occasions and any mistakes I now make is due to these scorch marks! The essence of the project was to establish a pioneering health education facility in the Gulu Referral Hospital and Gulu University by use of medical students on placements and participation and involvement of a wide range of people with applicable skills, experience and qualifications to meet the diverse needs. The core of this takes place at Gulu Hospital which is a 500 bed hospital, but not as we would visualise, demonstrated by the closing video presentation. The Gulu programme included but was not restricted to: pioneering training courses, maternal and child care, HIV/AIDs, mental health and research projects. Participation to date has been from 172 volunteers from several parts of the world, many from Manchester, but also from countries as far afield as New Zealand where some very keen doctors remained for 6 months, freely giving of their time and expertise . All who participate are responsible for their own funding so costs are kept under control at circa £120,000 per year, but with a wide group of partners to share the burden. Surprisingly the Health Trust linked with UHMS contributed £25,000 and one wonders what true UK foreign aid contribution actually results, as health trust help overseas is likely to be accounted for within the domestic NHS budget, as would be the case with any other government department, thus disguising the true overseas aid budget. Who is brave enough to ask the question?

Several members, me included, were left a little exhausted by

the bombardment of facts and nomenclature and the galloping pace of delivery, but impressed by the energy, belief and commitment of our speaker. Almost entirely intelligent questions were posed by Harry and Dev with David Rose giving an excellent vote of thanks and he rightly acknowledged how much had been achieved in a relatively short time.

Proceedings were closed following no draw and the 100% inflation indexed revised fines for misdemeanours, both real and imaginary were scrupulously exercised by Vida. President Sue drew the night to finality with the normal duty rota for the coming meeting and a warm toast to “Rotary and Peace the World Over”.

Tony

17th July Lorraine Fitzpatrick, Sunrise Homes

It's July and the sun is shining! It's not raining or snowing or blowing a gale. I suspect it was something to do with our occasional visitor Dr Bannerjee bringing warm weather and warm greetings from the Rotary Club of Calcutta. This is his third visit and this time he brought his club flag to exchange with ours.



Harry took the role of President in waiting as Sue was off sunning herself in Wales with relatives from Australia.

Geoff toasted the RC of Baltimore which holds its meetings at the Hyatt Hotel in Chesapeake Bay.

The toast was combined with one to Geoff's son who had undergone back

surgery that day. We wish him well.

Michael gave a rendition of how one club he had visited (the name mercifully escapes me) had sung their welcome to visi-

tors. Not something we would wish to adopt although Sid suggested Land of My Fathers as being more appropriate.

Brian gave 3 extra photo mugs out to council members he had missed at Handover. He also complimented the club on the excellent work done on our stretch of the canal bank as it is now resplendent in wild flowers.

Our speaker, Lorraine Fitzpatrick is director of community relations at Sunrise Homes in Bramhall. She was chaperoned by Henry, a resident who spoke eloquently about the facilities there.



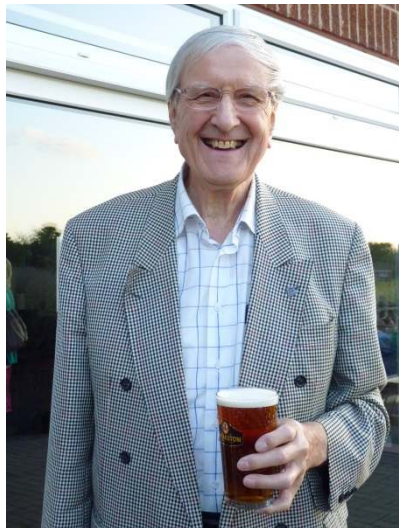
Sunrise Homes began in the US as an alternative to the usual kind of 'Old People's Homes' in order to offer assisted living with a care option (up to palliative care if needed). There are 300 homes in the US and Canada with 27 in the UK. Ninety nine residents occupy Bramhall in different sized rooms from small to complete suites. Pets are allowed with the resident dog, Basil, providing entertainment and companionship for many.

More importantly for us, they have rooms available for us to use with free tea and coffee provided. We can use them for training or just meetings as part of their community involvement. They offered help with our future IT equipment collection by giving us space to store equipment until the buyers arrive to value it.

There is no raffle any more. It's gone. The fees demanded by Sergeant at Arms have also doubled to a quid. There was much dark muttering and mumbling but we all paid up to John Thewlis's demands.

Gordon

Reminiscent therapy – c/o David Poizer 24th July



This was a Bramhall & Woodford evening. No outside speakers, no charities seeking support, no formalities – just us enjoying a summer evening of fellowship – and a chance to reflect on interesting times as we older members were “growing up” during and around the 2nd World War years – introduced by one of our elder statesman, David Poizer.

There were 27 attendees which included three Rotary wives. John Knowles took the money and outlined legitimate apologies from absentees and, to everyone’s surprise, Henry Barker made a rare appearance courtesy of the Bramhall Enterprise Ambulance ably driven by Gill Critchley. Great to see you, Henry. You have been sorely missed.

Wine on the table was provided by Peter Richardson to celebrate his 80th birthday, much appreciated Peter and well done on your longevity!

Harry Hill reported that the club had received a big Thank You letter from Hillbrook Grange for our recent support. It had been a hugely successful day so well done to all those who gave up their time to help.

David Walker mentioned the Bowls Evening next week and Trevor Saville reminded those who had committed to the footpath clearance on Friday. Bob Preece is arranging a Fashion Show at the Deanwater on Thursday 19th September. Step forward any “James Bond” members to accompany the models down the walkway!

Chris. Monkhouse invited the club to toast the Rotary Club of North Shore, Seattle – a hospitable and fun loving club of 45 members which he had visited. The International Toast is to become a regular feature of our meetings this year.

The Main Event

After coffee, David Poizer gave us a fascinating insight into his own upbringing and the amazing changes which we have all seen since he was born in 1935. David retired from electrical engineering in 2000. Having attended Cheadle Hulme School, David entered National Service in 1954 via the RAF but was invalided out having had pneumonia and rheumatic fever – so he undertook a 5 year apprenticeship at Salford Tech. before joining AEI Industries. His first paid employment was for 28shillings a week (but beer was only a mere 5p a pint). He set a picture of his formative years when he was a delivery boy at a local grocery store (open all hours?) and we had to face the evil of smog. However, he was at pains to describe how the simplest of pleasures when growing up led to a very happy upbringing with a strong community spirit during the War years. He does seem to have been somewhat accident prone though when he had an air pellet lodged in his eye (which is still there). An interesting and informative talk which raised many memories for quite a few of us.

Dennis Allport, acting as host for the evening, said many of us had similar memories and such talks from “senior” members of the club helped us all to learn a lot about individual backgrounds which often become lost with the march of time. The whole club gave David a very warm vote of thanks.

President Sue then offered congratulations to David Rose and yours truly on reaching the grand age of 75 more or less together – and to Trevor Saville who managed to get the new Prince George of Cambridge born on his birthday. In retaliation, as Sgt. @ Arms Trevor fined various miscreants for totally innocuous misdemeanours, designed mainly to get his own back for having been caught out so often throughout the previous Rotary year.

Altogether, a most enjoyable evening in the relaxing company of Rotary friends.

Geoff. Hunt.

Footpath Clearing (again) 26th July



A group of stalwart adventurers assembled in Woodford ready to hack their way through the undergrowth and clear a path to freedom. Little did we know how over-

grown parts of it had become and Harry's power hedge trimmer and Brian's strimmer were used to the full. They even ran out of petrol so a return visit may be needed to fulfil the task.

But the weather was great and the banter as always, rude.

Gordon

Footnote: We inadvertently annoyed one of the residents by tipping hedge clippings onto his land but President Sue smoothed the waters and he offered to help us next year. We can't say better than that.

The 'stuffers' strike again.

Trevor exhorted a few hardy souls to tackle the envelope stuffing at Walthew House on the 30th August. We have now become so adept at this process that, although we didn't beat our previous record of just over an hour, we weren't far off and we certainly saved the staff a great deal of time. Well done to all those who volunteered.

Gordon

The Ladybridge Club have asked us to remind members that only drinks and food bought on the premises may be consumed there.



Gordon has recently been wondering *“what do other organisations like Rotary do, and why do they do it?”* Perhaps you’ve asked yourself the same question. Here is a whistle stop tour of a few things I’ve discovered about four of them – and some of these stories and facts you might find surprising.....

Soroptimist International

“Women inspiring action, transforming lives”



Interestingly, the name Soroptimist was coined from the Latin “soror” (meaning sister) and “optima” (meaning best) and interpreted as “the best for women”.

This is an international association of professional and executive business women who are devoted to welfare work. It was founded in the USA in 1921 and now has 352 clubs in 27 countries.

Their first large project during the 1930’s in the UK was befriending motherless girls and supporting the Children’s Society and projects during and after the war years were organising housing for the disadvantaged, assistance for the sick and disabled, concern for local areas and caring for refugees.

Nowadays they are committed to a world where women and girls together achieve their individual and collective potential, realising aspirations, and have an equal voice in creating strong, peaceful communities worldwide. All their clubs worldwide take part in their chosen projects and some of the recent ones have been:

Raising £1million in 2007-2011 to help women and children rebuild their lives in war-torn Sierra Leone.

Raising \$2.2 million for “Women Survivors of War” to fund programmes helping women in Afghanistan, Bosnia and Rwanda.

Another £1million for victims of landmines.

Organising occupational training and scholarships for women in Thailand so that they don't have to enter the commercial sex trade.

Helping the poorest women in the highlands of Peru.

Providing safe water for many villages in Senegal.

A global organisation, run by women for the benefit of women

Toc H

The Toc H lamp



This is an international Christian movement. The mysterious name is an abbreviation of the name “Talbot House” - “Toc” signifying the letter T in the signals-spelling alphabet used by the British Army in the First World War . In 1915 the Rev. Tubby Clayton founded a soldiers’ rest and recreation centre named Talbot House in the town of Poperinge in Belgium just a few miles from the trenches around Ypres. All soldiers were welcomed, regardless of rank, and the house was made deliberately inviting

and cosy with soft furnishings, rugs and vases of flowers. There was a library of books, concerts and debates were organised, and it also had a peaceful chapel in an upstairs room. For most of the Great War Talbot House offered an oasis of sanity to the men passing through Poperinge and it promoted a special feeling of fellowship to those who rested there.

When peace came, the fellowship that existed in Talbot House was still strong in Tubby's heart and his dream was to open another one in England. Many of the men who had passed through Poperinge volunteered to help and Toc H was started in London in 1919. It proved to be extremely popular and Toc H clubs quickly spread around the country and eventually the world. Their main principles were:

- To focus on easing the burdens of others through acts of service.

- To promote reconciliation, and work to bring disparate sections of society together.

- To organise local activities such as hospital visits, entertainment for the residents of care homes and arrange residential holidays for special groups.

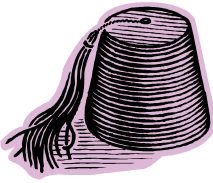
As well as working to these principles, historically, the Toc H movement has been responsible for starting or collaborating in some of the most innovative forms of social service - such as sending men to work in the leprosy colonies of Africa, being one of the key organisations involved in the birth of the National Blood Transfusion Service and responsible for the first ever Talking Newspaper for the Blind. During the 2nd World War those too old to fight started the very popular Service Men's Clubs as well as helping to form The League of Women Helpers. This Christian based movement welcomed those of others, and of no religion into its fold, and chose to promote Christianity

through deed and example rather than by preaching. Founder Tubby Clayton is still remembered, especially on his birthday each December, with the World Chain of Light which unites branches around the world.

By the end of the 20th century the organisation had suffered a progressive decline in membership but in 2008 the continued operation was ensured by the sale of an extensive property portfolio and all paid staff were made redundant. Toc H is now run by dedicated volunteers with passion and determination to ensure that it overcomes its problems, and now with their centenary year in 2015 not far off, the trustees have planned for it to become a stronger voluntary movement still guided by the ethos of the original Talbot House.



Shriners International



Its exotic original name - Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine - is now known simply as The Shriners and was founded in 1872 as an offshoot of the Masonic movement and it's based almost entirely in the US. Members have to

become a Mason first and then a Shriner. Their principles are fun, fellowship, love and truth. Today, Members focus their work entirely on the 22 Shriners Children Hospitals throughout the US by fundraising, working voluntarily at the hospitals and assisting the patients' families with transport, etc. They also help to identify children who might benefit from the expert medical care provided. These hospitals offer expert speciality care for children with spinal cord injuries, congenital and acquired orthopaedic conditions, burns, cleft lip and palate deformities, and many more medical issues. Some of these hospitals are engaged in medical research

and are also affiliated with the top academic medical institutions in North America.

The Shriners originally chose to wear Near Eastern regalia to serve as the fraternity's theme and their red fezzes (hats) and the costumes they sometimes wear in parades certainly makes them stand out in the crowd.

A few quick facts:

Today there are about 411,000 Shriners

They have helped over 800,000 children

In most cases the hospital care and services are provided free to the patient

Funding comes from corporate donations, gifts, bequests, income from an endowment fund, fundraising and an annual assessment paid by every Shriner.

They have however been feeling the pinch financially in recent years due to the US spluttering economy and in 2010 started to accept third party insurance for some patients, although they will still fund many children in real need.

This is a huge charitable organisation that does wonderful work for children in the US however on further research I find that there are actually 3 Shriners clubs in the UK!

Lions Clubs International

“We Serve”



It seems to me that the Lions organisation is probably the most similar to Rotary. Founded in 1917 in Chicago by businessman Melvin Jones whose personal motto was “you can’t get very far until you start doing something for somebody else”. It has over 1,300,000 members, in 46,000 clubs in 205 countries. Their main aim is to

fundraise for worthy causes which include programmes on sight, hearing and speech conservation, diabetes awareness, youth outreach, international relations and environmental issues etc. They donate to hospices and organise community campaigns such as the highly successful “Message in a Bottle” - a UK initiative which places a plastic bottle with critical medical information inside the refrigerators of vulnerable people. Money is also raised to support international campaigns such as the 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake and the Lions World Sight Day which raises awareness of the plight of sight loss in the third world. The Lions Clubs International, like Rotary, has supported the work of the United Nations since that organisation’s inception in 1945. Women became members in 1986 and their numbers continue to grow throughout the world.

Like Rotary’s Rotoract and Interact clubs, the Lions also have their Lioness Clubs, and for younger people there are the Leo Clubs, Campus Lions Clubs and Lion cubs. These divisions are an important part of the organisation as they allow younger service-minded individuals the opportunity to build better communities at school, college or university level.

Since 1968 the International Foundation has awarded \$700 million in grants to support community projects around the world.

They are proud to say “we’ve earned high marks for both integrity and transparency. We’re a well-run organisation with a steady vision, a clear mission, and a long and proud history”.

Four organisations that perhaps you didn’t know too much about. Each one in their own way making a difference in their local and wider communities and at the same time enjoying the fellowship that goes along with helping others. They remind me of another organisation – oh yes it must be Rotary!

Olive

B&W Rotary Club's own

Artist in Residence - Peter Richardson



Most of us are familiar with Peter's wonderful portfolio of celebrity portraits but how did this talent develop?

Born in Moston in 1933 he's spent most of his 80 years with a pencil or a paint brush in his hand - drawing cartoons as a child - but as he grew older and wanted to actually "paint pictures with real paint" he frustratingly found difficulties developing this medium and readily admits "it just didn't work". However, soon after he was married and came to live in Bramhall a fateful visit to a local Craft Fair saw him meet up with a local artist displaying his pictures. Peter immediately knew these were just the sort of paintings he had always wanted to achieve. This man explained that he used an "oil wash" (which apparently is thinly diluted oil paints that dry very quickly which enables you to paint several layers quickly to achieve the effect Peter had always dreamed of). The painter also showed him another artistic technique he used, and Peter paints this way today to achieve the accurate reproduction of each of his celebrity and scenic pictures. As Peter told me modestly "anyone can paint like me". But I'm not so sure!

His first pictures were of animals, primarily dogs, mainly because of the 2 well loved pets that for many years had shared their lives with his family. Later he went on to paint high profile people, interesting buildings and beautiful scenery. He always signs each picture with the name **Pierre** and when I asked him

why, he told me “my wife always encouraged me to use that name”.

He worked at BA as a draftsman (drawing again!) and all through his life has been able to turn his hand at many things..... DIY projects in the house and garden - there's a pretty good rather large duck pond that he built in his back garden. He's enjoyed writing poetry and also did a bit of magic in his spare time. Peter and Thelma were married for 51 years and I was privileged to see many of his collection of affectionate wedding anniversary cards that he had painted for her. They were wonderful, usually depicting in an amusing way, something that had been happening in their lives during that year. She must have loved them.

When Peter became a widower in 2007 he knew he needed to be busy, so nowadays his days are filled by working as a guide in Bramall Hall (where many of his paintings are sold in the shop), and leading an art group for the local U3A for about 10 budding artists – one of them being our very own Sid Davies! He tells me that they all meet in his house, have a good natter and then eventually get down to painting, and he helps them when help is needed. He is a proud grandfather of 4 grandsons, two of them have recently graduated from university and one of them has an art degree – so the talent continues in the family. Of course Rotary also plays an important part in his life too. He joined B&W on the invitation of Caroline and says he's never regretted his decision.

His house is filled with paintings, family photographs and happy memories but there was a new addition on his lounge wall that he was especially delighted with..... a framed letter, photograph and card from the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge thanking him for sending such a lovely portrait of Kate to them last year. **Pierre** was justly proud.

Olive

A beautiful summer day for the Rotary Wives AGM



On Monday 8 July, Rotary Wives held their mini AGM, organised by the “2 Pams” and held in the Malabon’s garden. The weather was gorgeous and 12 of us sat under the shade of umbrellas and enjoyed a glass of bub-

bly followed by afternoon tea.

We conducted the usual business of drawing names out of the hat to see who would be organising the meeting each month and also amended addresses and emails as appropriate. It was felt that we should continue with the same format for meetings, namely using different days of the month and sometimes having daytime as well as evening meetings.

As there will not be a wife of the President this year, we have had the Paul Harris Fellow medal returned to us, and we agreed that Wendy Sykes should be the holder (and the wearer when appropriate) as it was awarded to Rotary Wives the year John was President and received by Wendy as an acknowledgement of all the hard work we had put into the Bramhall Festival during those early years. If we have in the future a President’s wife who is a member of our group, Wendy will present it to her at that time.

Our next meeting will be in September and will take the form of a charity coffee/tea event to be organised by Barbara Death and Jackie Rabone. Further details to follow. Meeting organisers for October are Mary Meeus and Gail Burstow and in November by Sylvia Raines and Pauleen Newsome. We do not have a December meeting.

Pam Malabon

Visit of the District Governor 7th August



A warm evening was enjoyed by the DG and 24 club members. Grace was by John Knowles and we then partook of the usual excellent meal. President Sue had provided wine to celebrate the recent wedding and birth of twins (unrelated events!). John Sykes reminded us that Charter was to be at Amans on 20th September (a Friday despite the mention of Wed in his email on the subject).

David Burstow proposed a toast to the Rotary Club of Vaison La

Romaine in France.

After the break our DG spoke. He, Derek Newman, is a member of Manchester Breakfast club and has been in Rotary for 16 years. He passed on the message from RI President, Ron Burton and RIBI President Nan McCreadie. The annual theme is “Engage Rotary – Change Lives”.

Derek encouraged us to go to the District conference in Llandudno (joint with 1280) and the RIBI conference in the centre of Birmingham as well as the International conference in Sydney (8 miles out from centre).

President Sue reminded people about the council meeting on Monday 12th August at Jan’s.

Meeting closed at 10.13ish (a record early close?)

Michael

Committee Night - 14 Aug

The evening began with an extremely short grace by John K. John said that there were 13 absences with various apologies including Sid who was looking after geese and hens. Geoff H reported he had visited Stockport Lamplighters and had listened to a very interesting talk by a group who supported young carers. He thought that the club might like to consider inviting them to our club. Michael L proposed an international toast to a club suggested by Sid, namely Penmaenmawr & Llanfairfechan. As it was a committee night the following reports were made.

Treasurer's report - Gill reported that the accounts were very healthy with no outstanding bills to be paid.

Ways & Means - Bob P reported that arrangements for the fashion show were well advanced. The posters and tickets were printed thanks to Brian and Gordon. The sale of tickets is being handled by John M. The participating shops would hopefully sell a large number of tickets but to make a reasonable profit on the night we need the help of members to sell all 200 tickets. We had obtained raffle prizes from Clarins through a contact of Abi's. Some more prizes were needed. Contact had been made with the Scouts to deliver the fliers for the Xmas float.

Community & Vocation – Trevor said that a resident had complained that the cuttings from the footpath clearance had been dumped on his land. Fortunately the situation had been resolved as President Sue had sweet talked the resident into removing the cuttings himself and he had even offered to help next time with the footpath clearance. The photo competition 'Bramhall Through Your Lens' will be judged in November. There will be another envelope stuffing for Walthew House shortly.

International – Michael plans to organise an international speaker to talk about a particular country. He would like to encourage members to visit other clubs when they are on holiday by offering a prize of three bottles of **good** wine. International plan to organise a concert to raise money for 'End Polio'.

Communications – Ian said there was a paragraph in Inside Bramhall referring to the club.

Cub Services – John K said that there were still some members who were not sending their apologies in on time which meant the club was wasting money as their meals still had to be paid for. He asked if members could organise the event for their allocated evening as soon as possible.

Social – Gill said that there were 29 members and guests who had so far put their name down for the Charter Night at Amans on 20th September. They were trying to agree dates for the Xmas party at Bramhall Golf club.

Sergeant @ Arms was Bob S who managed to invent reasons to fine most members.

Bob Preece

The Z Factor 21st August



The silly season was well under way. First find a president for the evening, Sue in Greece, Harry in France (no apology) the VP twice removed stepped in! 21 members managed to attend and Bruce and Nina came later. D. Rabone gave a “sermon-like” grace. Lorraine’s summer menu was good, however the desserts were late because she had brought fresh blackberries all the way from Lincoln.

D. Poizer read out the roll of honour of apologies and re-welcomed Ian Loutit.

I arranged the International Toast to the RC of Phnom Penh Metro, Cambodia, who had already toasted us the previous Monday midday (local time).

The so-called talent competition began around 9.25pm when Impresario Tony Burch, armed with a stop-watch introduced the performance to a chorus of “cat-calls” as he was the sole judge. He only allowed 2-3 minutes for each act and with reluctance a short introduction. The cast of 13 odd individuals appeared in no particular order.

1-Dennis-read two poems, John Betjeman’s “Seaside Golf” about his golf club in Cornwall, close to Dennis’ patch.

2- Bruce B, armed with a guitar had the nerve to sing a Beatle’s number “Norwegian Wood” vaguely accompanied by John T another aspiring guitarist.

3- Gill, the sole ladette recited from memory “the Sad Story of Motor Man”.

4- Sid in unusual intellectual mood, read a Robbie Burns poem followed by a biblical extract from Luke 12.

5-Brian D. invited us to name the two book titles from his readings. The first came from Margaret Thatcher’s biography in which her father noted that in 1936 Hitler banned Rotary, and the second sounded like a page from the Oxford Dictionary, but was from “G-d Delusion“ by Dawkins.

6-Amazing Geoff rattled off by memory, Stanley Holloway’s “Sam’s Medal” without a hitch. Well done for a man of our age!

7-VVP John read an amusing piece about the side effects of strong cheese entitled “1889 Lime St. Stn to Crewe”

8-Chris- managed to obtain ? via Wikileaks, a copy letter by the Duke of Wellington (1812) to the Treasury to explain his trifling expenses.

9-D.Rabone sang, unaccompanied, Andrew Lloyd Webber’s “Love Changes Everything” a real tenner’s worth!

10- Peter R. gave two funny examples on advice on public speaking.

11- John T. again led communal singing with guitar “Me and Bobby McGee” and Bruce B as a backup guitarist.

12- Bob S. with the help of a torch recited another Stanley Holloway piece “Return of Albert”.

13-Yours truly read an article about cross phone lines with

a French dial-a-sex expert and an English gardener. A cucumbaire will never be the same again!

Tony selected three possible candidates D.Rabone, Gill and John T but our

Un-impresario needed to find the winner using his decibel clapometer.

Eventually, David Rabone, the Pavarotti of Bramhall, won and was presented with a bottle of real champagne.

Two reports were: £250 sent to Ghana "Little Villages Project" and Michael had just received completed accounts from Kasese.

S@A - Dennis had a fetish about VVP's socks, Sid accused of breaking John Thewlis's tambourine before the concert. He then fined all the non performers.

Many thanks to Tony for arranging, at short notice, an excellent evening and to the 13 extroverts who took part.

For those fortunate absentees the production was videoed (suggested by elder Bruce) by Gordon and Michael and will be available in the shops sometime later. Perhaps it will win another RI award. The Rotary Toast concluded the night at 10.25pm.

David Rose.

What's Up Doc? 28th Aug



Gill gave us, not a job talk but a talk that was her job. She runs a company specialising in medical terminology and her enthusiasm for the subject came to the fore in an interesting journey through the derivation of terms. Harry and David were meant to be gagged for the evening but David could not

resist diving in to help when the rest of us were stumped resulting him nearly getting a Liverpool kiss.

Medical terms are based on Latin and Greek and consists of 4 parts. The root is a noun (which part of the body); the prefix describes more about the body part (inside, outside etc); the suffix describes what is to be done to that part and the fourth bit is the letter o which can be omitted in certain circumstances (if it precedes a vowel).

Examples:

Poly – many

Neur/o – nerves

Itis – inflammation

En – inside

Cephal/o – head

Gram – X ray or picture of some kind

Some confusion can arise in dictation between Hypo (low) and Hyper (high)

We were treated to the derivation of many medical terms including diarrhoea (Harry thought it was spelt dire rear).

The choice of Latin or Greek parts is not consistent and has simply grown with time until an acceptable format has taken root. There were too many word combinations to list here but I certainly learned a lot about the words I had heard in my employment but knew nothing about where they came from. Gill's main target audience is medical secretaries (surprisingly, not nurses). Harry said that some doctors hide behind terminology by describing the symptoms but not the treatment when they don't know what to do.

Quite a few questions ensued including one about drug names but these are not subject to the same rigour as they change so often.

Abi should have been S@A but Michael stood in and got most of us for all sorts of made-up stuff.

On a slightly different note, Gill's use of PowerPoint was exemplary and I shall pinch some of her techniques for my future lessons.

Gordon

Committees September 4th

The meeting chaired by a bronzed Sue newly returned from a Greek island got off to a pleasant start with the announcement that the wine was courtesy of our lovely Treasurer Gill whose birthday it was. Harry's medical protégé Pippa was also found to have her birthday tomorrow so "Happy Birthday " was sung twice in a short space of time. All were pleased to have Abi back with us again as we had missed her bubbly personality. After the usual tasty meal the various committees deliberated and then reported to the assembled members. In the meantime Geoff had proposed a toast to the Rotary Club of Barbados and related some statistic which, being aurally challenged, I missed.

Membership

Harry spoke about a Nan McReady's survey of Clubs and how to attract new members. He suggested open meetings once or twice a year and banged on about something else too which I missed.

Treasurer

£4K in Charity account £3K in General account . Only £26 received for the Fashion Show.

Ways and Means

Bob reported slow sales of tickets for the Fashion Show and urged members to get selling – only 50 sold – need at least 200. Bob Stevenson volunteered for something or other.

Community Service

Genial Trev thanked those who helped at Walthew House and asked for help on 28/29th for their fund raising event. Canal Trust had asked if members were up for a weekends canal clearance. Photographic competition being arranged. Recycling of computer junk being arranged also.

International

Chris M said they were looking for a suitable speaker and Bruce the Elder suggested that we contact the Institute of Directors. Members should be encouraged to arrange the toast of overseas Clubs. Mention was made of Michael's offer of a

bottle of wine for members' visits to foreign Clubs.
Cheese and Wine coming up at Michael's sometime.

Communications

Ian said they were working on an article for the Rotary Magazine. He read something that David Rose had written about his Uganda visit but here again my aural deformity precluded me from having the slightest idea of what it was about.

Club Services

John K urged members to e-mail him in plenty of time when they have a planned speaker etc.

Mention was made of Charter Night and Sue said half of committee chairpersons were AWOL. David Poizer (Shorty) was S of A and adeptly extracted a pound from nearly everyone.

The meeting closed at 10.30 on the nose.

Sid

**The Rotary Wives Fundraising Coffee Day
for MacMillan Nurses
held on the 18th September**

Jackie Rabone, Barbara Death and Kate Dewhurst all send their sincere thanks to everyone who helped on the day, and to all those who came along. Also to everyone who made cakes, brought cakes and ate cakes – and then at the end of the day bought the left-over cakes! It was a huge success and a lovely way to make £300 for a fantastic organisation.

THANK YOU!

Rainbow evening - 11th September. John Knowles

The evening was opened with a grace, read very quietly by Bob Preece so I didn't quite catch where it came from!

Chris Monkhouse proposed an International Toast to the Rotary Club of Pinnacle Peak in Arizona, which he has visited on his American adventures.

John Knowles welcomed two potential club members - Janice Carter and Denise Bradley and they were well looked after during the evening ,although both declined to eat having dined previously. The most amusing absentee note came from John Meeus who wasn't sure if he was in Norfolk or Suffolk!

Vida announced there would be the annual quiz held at Hazel Grove Conservative club on 15th October . As she wasn't able to attend this one she asked for a volunteer and Michael stepped up to the plate, further details to follow from Michael.

Michael was pleased to announce that the club had received its first online donation from Just Giving , the princely sum of £6.25 (to include Gift aid) was received although we don't actually know who donated it!

Ian pointed out a letter he had pinned up from Harrow Estates re the proposed development of Woodford Aerodrome.

Sue also pointed to the details of future jobs i.e. Bulletin writer etc. which she had pinned on the board and would continue to do so at each meeting so there could be no excuse for not knowing one's duties!

John Sykes asked for final menu choices and payment for Charter night on 20th September.

Sue mentioned there would be a memorial service for Mark Hunter's wife who sadly passed away last week, this would be on the same day as the private cremation service , yet to be announced.

Bob Preece again appealed for the selling of tickets for the fashion show and also asked that the “escorts “ and helpers be there at 6.45 on the night (19th September) .



John Knowles was our “speaker “ for the evening and introduced a concept which is new to the club. It is called Human Rainbows and basically is a forum for peoples’ views on a given subject. To demonstrate John asked for members to position themselves in order of the month of their birth in a rainbow shape. This was a good icebreaker designed to get people talking. Next he mooted the question of whether the speed limit should be raised from 70 to 80

mph and asked people to position themselves on where they stood on this topic from the ones who wholeheartedly agreed to the raising of the speed limit on one end of the spectrum to those at the other end who were against it. John conducted a lively debate and people were encouraged to move if their opinions changed following the debate. Other topics up for debate were “ Should the meetings be run fortnightly” and “should the meetings start earlier” Again people sorted themselves out into strongly agreeing or strongly disagreeing and every opinion in between. Although nothing was decided it did open up a good discussion with everyone able to have a say. It did allow people to see the other side of things.

John Thewlis fined pretty much everyone for misdemeanours and the meeting closed at the record time of 10.10pm!

Gill

BWROTARY Goes Glam.

By 6.30 on Thursday 19th September the Balmoral Suite in The Deanwater Hotel was resplendent in gauzy white drapes with twinkling lights and a luscious red carpet. While the stall holders in the bar area put the finishing touches to their Aladdin's cave of stalls the first of the models slipped behind the curtains, accompanied by hair dressers, make up artists, and rack upon rack of the new season's finest attire.

A whole flock of debonair gents, (don't know who they were), strolled nervously around the room, anticipating the arrival of our guests. Collars, cuffs and bow ties were finally adjusted as they eyed the catwalk where they would launch their modelling careers as Bond lookalikes within the hour.

Finally the guests began to arrive, to be greeted at the door by our suave gents and escorted to a complimentary glass of wine before perusing the stalls at their leisure. The rousing music from the main hall soon led them to their seats where lovely Clarins goody bags awaited them.



A hush fell over the well-filled room while President Sue welcomed everyone, thanked those who were giving their time and goods free of charge in order to boost our charity funds and explained a little about how our club works and how our fund is used.

Next the familiar strains of James Bond filled the air and the Rotary gents strutted their stuff on the catwalk - a memorable moment. Did anyone take a photo ?

The show began in earnest with a display put on by Sue from Modiste. The hair and make up artists had added the finishing touches to make the models look superb in a wide selection of gorgeous Autumn clothes which made the passing of Summer seem less harsh. Sue's highly professional show was equalled only by Ian's amazingly good commentary. (Should we worry about his ability to describe female fashion?)



Next came Kamran 's models, picking up the pace with another stunning display including a few more quirky pieces. He showed a dazzling stream of the new season's fashion set to music.

During the interval which followed the lovely ladies from Clarins gave a facial to the lucky winner of our ticket number draw and there was another opportunity to buy from the stalls.

Our second half began with Erica from What Lies Beneath telling us about her aims to provide a service for ladies of all shapes, sizes and ages. She went on to present a fabulous, fun show with underwear, swimwear and sleepwear all worn by volunteer models of all sizes who certainly proved that under Erica's guidance everyone can look brilliant.

The final show was by Amina who brought a more unusual end to our evening by giving us an amazing display of beautifully embroidered and sequined saris and Asian dresses made from silks and chiffon.

Ian wound up what had appeared to be a highly enjoyable evening for everyone by suggesting a repeat performance next year.

Maggie.



Charter Night at Aman's Restaurant 20th September

In a departure from the normal form of Charter Night, 51 members, friends and relatives assembled at Aman's in Bramhall for a night of great food and friendly banter. Olive and I were even presented with certificates of appreciation for work on the bulletin. A really pleasant surprise for both of us.

President Sue opened the proceedings by welcoming everyone and by Peter reading the charter (for the second year running)). It soon became evident that the supply of so many different meals to so many people had created a problem for the staff but they cheerfully did their best and the great organisation by John Sykes eventually won through (and the food was very good). Should we repeat this, there would be a smaller choice of dishes.

I spoke to the manager afterwards and he was asking me about Rotary so with luck, we may have another potential member.

Gordon

A sad loss

A number of us attended a very moving memorial service at Bramhall Methodist Church for Lesley Hunter who died in St. Ann's Hospice on the 8th of September after a relatively short illness.

Lesley once gave us a talk on her work in greeting card manufacture and many will remember her sense of fun and modest nature.

Our thoughts are with Mark, Frankie and Rob.

Blind Run

The blind run is on Monday afternoons with a pick-up time to arrive at Walthew House (112 Shaw Heath, Stockport SK2 6QS) by 1.30pm and returning to pick up passengers at 3.30pm

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, 61 Countess St., Heaviley, SK2 6HD. Tel. 482 4944

Ring the above to check that your passengers still need a lift. If you can't get an answer, go round anyway at the appointed time. Let John Sykes know if you get stuck.

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

If you have a mobile phone, please carry it with you together with the other driver's number in case of delays.

Date	Driver
30/09/2013	T Burch*
07/10/2013	J Hubbard
14/10/2013	J Sykes *
21/10/2013	D Rose
28/10/2013	D Allport *
04/11/2013	A Jenkins
11/11/2013	D Poizer *
18/11/2013	S Preece
25/11/2013	B Preece *
02/12/2013	V Chattington *
09/12/2013	R Malabon
16/12/2013	H Hill *

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

Mr & Mrs Marshall attend every other week (marked *)

Diary & Job Rota

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

Date	Diary	Bulletin	Sgt @ Arms
25/09/2013	Edmonds/Farrow	M Hill	J Thewlis
02/10/2013	Committees	G Critchley	B Bissell
09/10/2013	Egan/H.Hill	J Edmonds	B Dougal
16/10/2013	M Hill/Hunt	I Dobson	B Farrow
23/10/2013	Social Media on the web (Gordon & Abi)	C Egan	P Richardson
30/10/2013	No meeting		
06/11/2013	Committees	J Meeus	A Newsome
13/11/2013	Knowles/Lacey	T Saville	D Rabone
20/11/2013	Loveland/Malabon	G Hunt	B Stevenson
27/11/2013	Meeus/Newsome	J Knowles	C Monkhouse
04/12/2013	Prob no meeting due to Xmas dinner		
11/12/2013	Monkhouse/Poizer	D Poizer	S Davies
18/12/2013	B Preece/Rabone	V Chattington	H Hill
25/12/2013	No meeting		
05/01/2014	President's drinks at Sue's		
14/03/2014	President's Night, Adlington Hall Hunting Lodge		
29/06/2014	BBQ at Sue's		



Fine weather for the DG's visit saw two horses cantering happily outside the club.

Walthew House staff prepare to throw themselves out of a plane



The four of us were up in Lancaster very early on Sunday morning. They briefed us and got us up in the plane very quickly (which I was pleased about). At about 8,000ft I started to panic and watching the others shuffle over to the edge of the tiny plane then disappear out of the door was absolutely terrifying! But before I knew it I was out and it was amazing! I got a chance to steer the chute and do a few spins and it was a beautiful morning. Thank you so much to everyone for all of the support and sponsorship – nearly at £900 – the support has been overwhelming!!!

Kathryn



Was Bond ever so suave as our smooth operators?



Harry chatting the ladies up again.



Some of the creations modelled so expertly at our fashion evening



Charter Night