

## BULLETIN

NO. 7 : OCTOBER 1987

### EDITORIAL

So here we are again then, back from the hols, all fit and tanned well, tanned anyway. In the Editorial absence various members have turned themselves into reporters for your journal and I look forward to reading their contributions.

By the time that this edition hits the streets most of our members will be retiring somewhat footsore from doing just that for the Polio Plus collection. Whether it will have been worthwhile from the money point of view remains to be seen at the count on October 13th, but it will have certainly improved fellowship and, in some cases, marital relations. It is understood that in one case a chap even bought his wife flowers because she helped - but then there is always one that goes over the top!

Having given our all for Polio Plus we can now relax a little until the long big build up to the Bramhall Festival. And Doug Murphy is threatening something on the International Front. And then we've got the Xmas thing and President's Night .....

Ah me. Will it never stop?

Let's hope not.

Henry.

### A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

It isn't actually.  
I haven't heard from him. Not a bleep.  
Frantic phone calls haven't helped. Not an answer.  
Never mind. We can have a double helping next month.  
Lord luv us.

### LAST MONTH IN BRAMHALL

2nd September - Reported by Mike Barr

#### Parrots, Queensland and Tales from McCafferty's Bus

We had a remarkable exhibition from David Torrens who showed us that even a complete non-Rotarian can learn the Rotary Grace. Six weeks in Australia on Group Study Exchange had taught him not only the Rotary grace which unlike most of us he can recite word perfect without hesitation, deviation or repetition but it had also taught him the Australian National Anthem and a number of obscene Australian songs that he declined to sing in public for fear of offending our "pommie" ears.

In fact, David as one of the best visiting speakers for some time, kept us highly entertained for the best part of an hour, leaving us all with a much clearer idea of what Group Study Exchange is all about. His clear enthusiasm for the Exchange was put over amongst a steady stream of wild stories about the adventures of the team as foreigners in a strange land. Few who were there can have forgotten the tale of the quest for the "white pointers" at Surfers Paradise, with its saga-like series of set backs before the final glorious achievement of the goal. Or the poignant story of the horse riding and the melons with its tender undertones. And those who were not there will have to ask those who were about the strange tales of McCafferty's bus (who thought it was a train) and the Queensland parrots (which left everyone in confusion or worse)

9th Septmeber 1987 - Sailor Sid reports:

Flying the Flag

This evening saw a good crowd of us listening to Fred Donnan of British Airways. He gave us a light hearted and informative potted history of the airline followed by an insight into the present day workings of this major company. Three short videos added to the enjoyment.

Question time had Doug Murphy on his feet recounting boarding Imperial Airways Flight 2 from Calcutta in 1893 to take turns at stoking the boilers. Roy Banks then asked why he had been kicked off some flight recently - (overbooked he reckoned - but we all know it was because he was paralytic drunk - AGAIN - and was making improper suggestions to the No.1 Stewardess).

We learnt that SABENA stands for - Such a Blooming Awful Experience - Never - Again, and other gems.

Vice President David rigged the raffle so the speaker won the prize, Treasurer Ken sobbed silently into his beer all night because Secretary Geoff had hinted he might be taking the meeting as he had heard that David was in jail.

All in all a good meeting.

16th Septmebr 1987 - Ron Malbon reports:

Committee Night

Ken Chadwick gave a presentation on Polio Plus with the help of a series of slides and sound tracks from Rotary International.

The next half hour was taken up in earnest discussions by small huddled groups trying to imitate committees. When President John reconvened the meeting the treasurer had nothing to report, the secretary had nothing to report, house and membership had nothing to report. *Internationals* had nothing to report. Dennis decided to break the monotony by announcing that we were too late to nominate anyone this year for Group Study Exchange but thought we should consider in the near future participating in the Youth Exchange scheme for next year.

Vice President David deputising for the elusive Mike Drew announced that there would be a Jazz Night at Woodford Community Centre on 31st October, Price £5 per tickets. We have entered the District Quiz and the first round had to be played before the end of October.

For once Noel had, as he put it, B... All to report. This obviously sent him into a state of shock as there was no joke to follow. Being in a serious mood he suggested that in future committee meetings should not be announced in advance. This would prevent members from apologising in advance.

President John read a letter from a Rev Arthur Knight on Temperance and brought greetings from Poynton and Gatley.

Dennis Smith acting as a last minute stand in for Ken Chadwick as Sergeant at Arms helped to swell club funds by extracting cash from various members for misdemeanours committed during the evening.

23rd September 1987

Globe Trotting Dennis Allport touched down to report our Charter Anniversary

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO US

It sometimes seems a lot longer than one year since September 1986, when you think of all the Rotary dinners we have consumed, all the raffle tickets we've bought and all the activities we've become involved with, But, nevertheless, September 23rd was our first Charter Anniversary, as 108 witnesses will testify. The organising barons did a magnificent job, even if you did need sunglasses to contemplate the red shirt and the white tie contrasting the yellow ribbon of baronial office.

Don Brisbane read our Charter with great aplomb, and wished us a very happy evening - which we straight away went on and had. Don's position as our newest member didn't last long, as Richard Taylor was inducted into Rotary almost immediately afterwards. I noticed that Richard wisely did not offer to buy a round of celebrating drinks!

Doug Murphy toasted Rotary International in a highly commendable 2 minutes and 45 seconds, a welcome trend to clearer communication and brevity which most of the other speakers also followed. Nice one, Doug!

District Governor Jack Hewitt responded to Doug, and reminded us in very moving terms of the significance of Rotary's ideals and of world peace as our aim. Jack was in reminiscent mood, recalling some of his illustrious predecessors in office and meetings in that very room in the Deanwater.

Bryn Owen then ably proposed the birthday toast to our Club, despite apparent dental problems which prevented words longer than 17 syllables coming out clearly. (I put it all down to wind actually). President John's achievements were described as "gargantuan" - bit over the top, that, don't you think? "Pretty good" - or - "not bad for a beginner" might be more to our taste for understatement. Can't get him big headed! Big John then sensibly recognised that our achievements were a team effort (even though the team at cricket has not really been a big achiever). After that, I felt (as part of the team you understand) that John was perhaps gargantuan after all. Certain parts of him most certainly are! What does the word mean anyway?

David Dewhurst then rose like a tropical bird from the dull background of orthodox black and white around him and proposed the toast to our guests and visitors with a few very well chosen and cogent phrases. Another nice one, David.

And then it was the turn of our main speaker, Harry Pilling, ex Lancashire CCL, who regaled us with anecdotes of his 27 years at Old Trafford for 45 minutes. Harry is Lancashire through and through with an accent to match. We heard about many of the great and famous in English cricket, about stern coaches who forbid young recruits to have sherry trifle (too potent), about captains good and bad, about the racial sensitivities of some selectors and much, much more.

It all came to an end at 11.35 pm. If that is the way Charter Anniversaries are to be, I might consider going to the one next year. Henry might come, as well.

30th September 1987 : Bob Batty Reports

Q1. Where was Question Master Mike Drew?

Answers please on a blank cheque to the Master at Arms.

Pending late arrival of President John, Vice-President David took the chair. He declined an invitation to give a job talk (Q2, Why) and organized an impromptu business meeting.

Bob reported on a useful meeting with Mr. Pendlebury at Bramhall Hall, who was keen that the Hall should feature in the Festival. Stockport Council are organizing an Edwardian evening on the Saturday evening for which they will sell the tickets. If any Rotarian knows of local musical groups who would like to play in the Hall during the weekend, please contact Bob Batty. Similarly, if they know of any local flower arrangement groups please let Bob have details.

Treasurer Ken was then prevailed upon to give figures to show the Club is "in the black". He also reported there were still some outstanding subscriptions (Q3. Should they pay interest to the M at A?).

Ken then reported on the Polio Plus finances. The enjoyable and successful Ooh-La-La Night had raised £372 (still open for donations) but that left a shortfall of £128 on cost of PP envelopes, printing etc (Q4 Why were Hazel Grove Francophiles not in costume?)

Money will be counted at a joint meeting on Tuesday October 13th with Hazel Grove. "7 till late" at the Deanwater. There will be a sweep on the total figure.

Members discussed experiences so far with collecting. The school pupils seem to have done a reasonable job delivering envelopes although some roads had been missed. The problem of clashing with the National Children's Home collection was mentioned (Q5 Why had Stockport licensed overlapping weeks?) and also the time available as the nights draw in.

Sid was the only member to admit being challenged as to his identity. But Q6 - Who was "the Gentleman" who accompanied the President's lady distributing envelopes?

House Chairman Ron had attended a District Meeting. His offer to read all the Minutes was politely rejected.

District have a fleet of buses for sale £5 each - for Polio Plus. Whilst supporting individual purchases (for children or grand-children!) the club disagreed with the idea that each club should have to bulk purchase 8 vehicles.

Secretary Geoff reported that Stockport are organising a train to London on Saturday 14th November, 8 am out, 7 pm return, cost £15.

A Vote of Thanks was given to Vice President David for his efforts in organising a most successful Charter Night. It was, however, mentioned that the amount of support in future from other clubs will partly depend on how many of their functions and meetings we support.

After an early toast to RI, members had time for some fellowship - for once in the Gold Room.

Answers to questions on a post card please to the editor - who will use them to light his Nov. 5 bonfire.

NEW MEMBER

Bulletin is very pleased to welcome yet another new member. His details are:-

Name	Richard Binns
Address	6 Vicarage Avenue <sup>1</sup> Cheadle Hulme
Telephone	485 4590
Classification	Textile Printing
Business Phone	0457 63297
Wife	Susan

We all hope you have many enjoyable years with us in Bramhall & Woodford Richard.

DISTRICT COUNCIL MEETING

Ron Malabon was our fly on the wall at the District Council Meeting on 22nd September. Here is his report.

The Meeting was held at Brooklands County Primary School, Sale. Forty three out of forty four clubs in District 105 were represented.

District Summer Camp

There had been poor support in 1987 so it was proposed to cancel 1988 camp and try to re-establish in 1989 with a new chairman.

Youth Exchange

Scheme needs more support. Adrian Baxter willing to visit clubs and give talk. (He will pay for own meal).

Polio Plus

Eddie Arstall still trying to get rid of 330 toy buses. Hopes each club would take 8 at £5 each. He asked everyone to make 13-15th May a special weekend for collections and get publicity on Radio Manchester.

International

Zone meetings would be held on 16th November at Alderley Edge and in January at Congleton. Of the 1309 disaster boxes in stock 1000 had been offered to Bangladesh therefore there was a need to fill more.

Community Service (Frank Ward)

Could do with more feed-back from clubs and wanted more members to serve on District Committee which meets on Tuesday at the Friends Meeting House.

Club Service (Peter Jeffries)

Asked for club handbooks to be sent in. He was compiling list of speakers and had issued a booklet on membership development. November is Foundation month. There are five visiting scholars, 2 girls from USA, 1 man from Australia, 1 from Dar-es-Salam and 1 from India.

Foundation Reward Scheme

After considering various options it was agreed that for 1989-90 the money should go to an outgoing scholar.

Interact (Richard Bevan)

There are two clubs hosted by one Rotary Club, therefore, it would appear that 43 clubs are not interested.

Vocational Service (Gordon Lewis)

Looking for members on District Committee. 22 out of 44 clubs seemed to have no programme as reported by Vice Presidents at assembly meetings. Youth Speaks and Youth Music competitions will be held again this year. There will be a meeting for the North of District at Northenden on 13th October and at Crewe on 8th December for the South.

October is Vocational Service Month. week commencing 12th October there will be a mobile exhibition on N.W. Industry.

District Extension Officer (Mac Chatton)

No new clubs being formed at present. Bramhall handover meeting 28th October. He feels there is room for 6 more clubs in District 105

Conference

There are 559 registrations for Llandudno.

Editor

New format for magazine. Will try to include Club Page if each Club submits 40-50 words. The RIBI club bulletin is based on editions published July-Feb, excluding Christmas edition. The method of marking has changed. A new post has been created - District Information Co-ordinator - to be the immediate Past District Governor (in this case Keith Malyon)

Notices

Next Council Meeting, Saturday, 16th January 1988 at 2.30 pm at Winsford.

Assembly will be held at Bramhall High School - Saturday, 23rd April 1988.

NEXT MONTH

October 7th	John Bissell on Youth Exchange
October 13th	Polio Plus Count Up (No meeting on 14th)
October 21st	Committee Night
October 28th	Handover Night

NEXT BULLETIN

That's all for now folks. Several features have been held over until next time - well one anyway.

Copy for November is required by 30th October please.

PRESIDENT PLEASE NOTE!

Ooh La La Night ... A report on this follows

A Gallimaufry of Gallic Gals and Guys gathered at the Parish Hall, Bramhall on Saturday. To support the Polio Plus campaign, we were promised "Fun, Food and Frolics" and the organizers surpassed themselves.

On arrival we were treated to free wine (for some that lasted all night!), Pate, Coq au Vin, Meringue, Cheese and biscuits and coffee (filtered) followed. This epicurean delight was produced by Hazel Grove Club members - all credit to them, the food was delicious and plentiful. Everyone later complained they were "too pogged" to join in the disco - 'though some did!

The excellent choice of wines was left to our own sommelier, Alan Knight, who dispensed booze with his brand of Bonhomie reminding us of a rather young, sophisticated Baron de Rothschild!

Before the meal a few choice words of encouragement and Rotary Grace were spoken by our leader - President John.

The disco was most ably organized and presented by David Torens of "1986 Down Under" fame. David surprisingly tried to remain incognito by changing his headgear every few minutes. (We were waiting for the hat with trailing corks David).

Once again your Club surpassed themselves by appearing at 'Le Do' in Anglophile or Francophile (take your pick) costumes. President John arrived in his usual suave, debonair manner as Maurice (every little breeze) Chevalier but left after midnight looking distinctly like a defrocked Dracula. Was he looking for nubile young maidens or Mary's false moustache we ask ourselves?

Your V. Peep David couldn't make up his mind whether he came as Frank Spencer, a French fisherman or peasant. Kate managed to rescue him from senility by producing the trawling net!

Geoff Brown, looking extremely Gallic, was suitably attired in beret, (Elaine's) striped shirt, (Paul's) and neckerchief (his uncle Bert's). Are you quite sure you were born in Lancashire of Anglo Saxon parentage Geoff? His very fetching moustache was whirling flamboyantly all night, at the ladies. (He did go home with Elaine 'though).

Why did Mike Barr change his trousers during the evening? Will those who already know the answer please let the editor into the secret. For those with other ideas - suggestions on a postcard please - the best contribution wins a bottle of vintage pomagne.

Ex-Deanwater waiter, Ron, was constantly berated by the management for not attending to his table duties. All was forgiven when he won a prize. His impression of a French Policeman's greeting "Ullo, Ullo, Ullo" was met with gasps of astonishment by club members who previously had never heard him speak without the back of his chair!



Modesty prevents your roving reporter from naming the winner of the Fancy? Dress competition.

Bob and Kath Batty as realistic Peasants du Breton, indicated where they will be spending their time now that Bob has retired from Le Board de l'eau.

Those of you who left early missed the impromptu strip tease with a display of the latest designs in French lingerie. The collection from late night voyeurs (towards polio plus) netted 5/3½d.

Rumours are circulating that our Club is forming a Rugby team - colours - dark blue and white hooped shirts. We also understand that John Handley will be the Club's hooker.

Hazel Grove's President, Peter, closed the evening with warm words of thanks to everyone who had worked so hard to make the evening a success. We encore his thanks and extend them to all Club members and their lovely ladies who attended.

In conclusion the evening was a grand success full of fun and fellowship, held to support a very worthy cause, Rotary's Polio Plus Campaign. It was disappointing that more members did not or could not attend - come next time - we missed you (et votre d'argent).

E & OE.

*Cassandra*