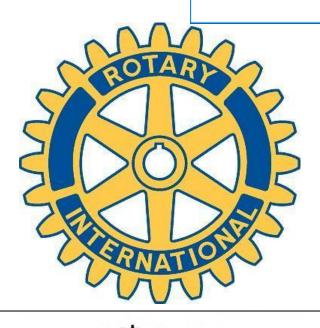
March 2023



1st January to 31st March

Pat's Prattle - March 2023

Hello Prattle time Winter, Spring.

With optimism we started the 2023 New Year with meetings at the "Lady Bridge Club". Our first Speaker was Sue Few along with daughter Kelsey, who had been selected to attend the World Scout Jamboree. Hopefully we will hear how it went later in the year. Sadly our club found out Jackie who has provided us with excellent meals over the years was retiring and we would have to meet at a new venue in a few weeks time.

Still with a little bit of Christmas in our thoughts we hosted a quiz night for all organisations that made up teams for our Santa float. It was a music quiz, stretching memories of young and slightly older quizzers.

Our last meal and farewell to Jacki and "The Lady Bridge Club" was well supported by club members.

In February. we found our new venue "The Crown and Conspirator " with meetings taking place Monday evenings . Anyone who may be interested please come along.

Our first Speaker Mark Hunter spoke about 10 years as an MP for Cheadle. A very interesting and informative insight into life as an MP.

Our new member Lesley entertained us with her life journey "This is Me " Thank you Lesley and it was very interesting.

Along with our busy calendar "Presidents Drinks" went well. Thanks to all who could come. Although February is a short month we Rotarians know how to make the most of it and had a Social evening at Rainbow 88.

Although I have not mentioned a lot about our fund raising, it certainly goes on. In Bramhall village we raised a significant amount for the Earthquake in Turkey and Syria.

Now in the month of March we have had another new member join us . Dale, already a Rotarian, is made very welcome to our club..

A few of us ventured to The Monastery at Gorton along with fellow Rotarians from Worsley Rotary Club for a guided tour and talk. Very informative .

Presidents Night at the Pine Wood Hotel was a great success and we enjoyed our speaker Simon Michael - a barrister and author who gave a talk on his experiences in London. A fun evening .

This month the fashion show was a huge hit among all the ladies that came to support us . With Maggie being a star super model.

I have not included all that we do . The only way to find out is please come and join.

President Pat

Wed 4th January - Committees and EGM

1st meeting for Year 2023 of B & W Rotary was held at Ladybridge Residents Club, Cheadle Hulme on 4th January 2023.

13 Members & a Visitor Rotarian Dale Worthington belonging to Southport Links Club who had moved to reside in Romiley last year.

Apologies were from Bruce (in Switzerland), David Rose (in Caribbean), Bob Cryer, Sue, Ashok, Ari & John Sykes who is undergoing treatment. Denise Geary & John Thewlis attended the Meeting after the tea/Coffee interval.

Committee Meetings were preceded by EGM Chaired by Michael Lacey to elect officers for 2023/2024.

President: Pat Holmes
Vice-president: Lesley Buckley
Secretary: Michael Lacey
Treasurer: Steve Littlewood

Following the EGM, President Pat asked respective Committees to meet & report in 1/2 hour.

Ways & Means Maggie

- 1) Maggie reported that Santa's float rounds were almost uneventful with collections being a little down from previous years. However, they were fortunate to have a free Van with free insurance, lent by George Cox and Son resulting in £500 for each of groups helping. Another surprise being that, for the first time ever, a lady taking role of SANTA, which caused some confusion amongst some of the children.
- 2) Unfortunately the next fund event, THE FASHION SHOW will not take place as Caro Boutique who had provided the Catwalk show had closed down and another shop What Lyes Beneath has had all its stock stolen over Christmas.
- 3) THE DUCK RACE event is to take place on Sunday 14th May at BRAMHALL PARK. Maggie is overwhelmed by responsibility of jobs needing sorting over many years & looking for Members to share some of these. Ian is already forging ahead with sponsorships & contractors. Maggie & Ian to forward separate lists of their requirements to Michael for forwarding to whole MEMBERSHIP.

Maggie, however, is forging ahead to arrange meetings with other possible sources of help with DUCK RACE DAY. Thanks to Maggie for this report.

Treasurer

Steve informed of Financial Balances

Current Account: £1982.00 Charity Account: £2500.00

Long discussion took place on use of Card Reader Payment as public were keen to pay by this method because of "No Cash". This will be looked into and announced. Steve will issue detailed report to Council following which this will be circulated to members after the Council Meeting.

•Club Service:

- 1) Dennis informed the members present that he had an email from Jakki which states that she & her husband Harry are retiring at the end of January 2023 & he had forwarded it to members of B&W Rotary.
- 2) Next week's SPEAKER is SUSAN FEW & her Daughter Kelsey on FUNDRAISING. Bob Preece will circulate membership & Past Members in order to improve on greater attendances at the meetings.

•International:

Harry reported to Committee members present, namely Satish, Chris & Visitor Dale 1) LEND with CARE has had 1 defaulter who is unable to pay back. The Committee has lent over 10 years approximately £2000 & there had only 1 other defaulter several years back (Total 1-2%)

- 2) Winchester Club has 3 Members visiting Uganda & awaits news
- 3) New Set Up of School in Uganda near to Fort Portal, Update not available as Richard Bircher had not provided a report.

Community

Sarah reported on extracts from David Rose's email on the following:

- 1) Donation to local Bramhall Village Club for HEARING LOOP SYSTEM in their one Meeting Room £500.00 if Council agrees
- 2) SIGN POST for CARERS Charity to be considered for DONATION from THE DUCK RACE Funds
- 3) Kate from Stockport NHS Charity has thanked David for acquiring a slot for Santa Float rounds for 8 volunteers

Satish reported on No Developments at BHS regarding YOUTH SPEAKS ENTRY for 2024.

- Social Michael & Denise:
- 1) CHADS Visit Friday 27th January 2023
- 2) President's Drinks 15th February2023
- 3) President's Night 17th March 2023
- 4) Social Meal Event at The Aviator TBA
- Ian Publicity, Facebook and Currency (COINS & NOTES GURU) & Duck Race

lan is greatly involved in THE DUCK RACE PROJECT with Maggie & has a list like Maggie's which requires lot of input and thus will pass it on to Michael for member circulation. He is already in touch with would be Sponsors & Contractors. There is already an entry in Facebook about DUCK Race

After a very busy COMMITTEE'S NIGHT, President Pat thanked Members present & visitor Dale for Final Toast at 9:45pm

Hope all entries are accurate and if there are any incorrections, I apologise. Satish

Wed 11th January – Susan Few: Jamboree, Eggs and Fundraising

Bob announced that next Wednesday there will be the Santa Float quiz. There will be a small buffet halfway through the quiz and we need apologies by 12 noon on the Monday to give time for Jackie to organise the food. The charge is £5 per person.

Maggie announced that the Duck Race has been moved to the 21st May as the Hall have a 2 day event booked the previous week.

The speaker was Sue Few and her daughter Kelsey. Kelsey has been selected to attend the World Scout Jamboree in South Korea this Summer and has been actively fund raising to be able to attend this event. To date she has raised over £3000 from a variety of fund-raising activities such as a paper round and selling and delivering eggs that she buys at cost price from a local farmer.

Sue grew up in Zimbabwe and when younger also attended an international guide camp in Canada. Sue is a teacher and is a great believer in encouraging children to have resilience and to make the most of opportunities available to them. She has taken children on various activities such as Kayaking and to watch the sunrise over Snowdon. Sue left Zimbabwe some years ago and when she recently returned to her birth country, she was impressed with how resilient people were coping with food shortages and power cuts. Sue came over as someone with boundless energy and great enthusiasm for the outdoors.

Bob Preece





Wed 18th January - Float Quiz

THE LAST SUPPER

All good things come to an end. It was a lovely way to leave the Ladybridge with a quiz and visitors from groups who took part in Santa's collections. After Bob P instructed us to fetch chairs from the dining room to the bar area President Pat welcomed everybody and hand over to Sue and her 21st sound technology.

Representatives from the organisations included The Mill, Bramhall 4 Scouts, Walthew House and James from Beacon, Oriane and Rotarians in 8 teams a total of 40 persons. Pre-Buffet there were 52 Questions on the following headings, TV Soaps, TV Film sound tracks and General Knowledge around 2022 (for folk with good memories). The buffet was excellent value for £5.00. Pres Pat then thanked Jackie for all her delicious cooking over the years and presented her with a signed card and flowers on her retirement.

The second part and harder 40 questions on Hit Songs through the decades and TV's Greatest Hits and finally a picture quiz of 28 TV Shows. After exhausting our mental capacities the winning team was The Mill with 102 points. They received a large box of Swiss Chocolates (M& S of course) from Sue. Pres Pat appeared again to thank Sue and Bob for all their hard work and received a standing and sitting ovation. The meeting ended quite late at 10.30.

Sadly, this was the end of many happy years at the Ladybridge Club. We now have to find a new venue.

David Rose



Fri 27th January - CHADS



CHADS theatre evening £12pp (includes a £3 drinks voucher) Friday January 27th 2023. The play is Round and Round the Garden by Alan Ayckbourn, which the CHADS website describes as "Annie has second thoughts about spending the weekend with brother-in-law Norman as the dysfunctional family tries to come to terms with itself." This is our annual event where we book the whole theatre for the final dress rehearsal and you can get to meet the cast in the bar afterwards.

Mon 6th February – Committees

B&W Rotary Club Bulletin 6th February 2023

After many years at the Ladybridge club, this was our first meeting at our new (temporary?) venue the Crown and Conspirator, the other change being that meetings will be held on Mondays which unfortunately does not suit a few members. We had exclusive use of the large back room so plenty of room for new members. The 16 members present grouped in a corner and enjoyed a decent meal for the price although those with slimming regimes need not worry about overeating except if on bangers and mash. We had very friendly service from Colette. Michael has installed a meals booking system on our website which will make organisation easier. We will get instructions from Michael.

Apologies were received from Sarah, on leave of absence, Chris who is in New Zealand, Ashok in Scotland and Ari who is on holiday.

Committee reports followed the meal.

<u>Treasurer</u> – Steve reported the general account balance is £1921 and the charity account £1721. Ian's coin project has contributed £170 of which £25 was from his dance group, ring fenced for Ukraine. In total the group has sent £265 to Ukraine. Ian said that among the miscellaneous coinage collected during the float he had spotted an Iranian coin dated 1975 which is a half Pahlavi made of gold and worth £200 on a weight basis.

<u>Services</u> – Bob commented that he thought the room nice and that in 2 months we would move upstairs to the smaller room used by the vegan restaurant. Mark Hunter is coming to speak next week. It was noted the room had much better acoustics than at the Ladybridge club.

<u>Social</u> – Michael reported that the next social event would be pyramid bowling on February 22nd which was being organised by Sue – numbers please. Presidents drinks will be held on 19th February at Michael's house. Presidents night, our only formal event of the year, will be held at the Pinewood hotel on 17th March, cost £30.

<u>Ways and Means</u>- Maggie said she had arranged a fashion show for 21st March to be held in the Crown and Conspirator.

The duck race has been approved by the area committee. The scouts and Bellvue buses had confirmed their availability and Peter Crossen a new politician on the scene had offered help with advertising in Woodford Garden Village. One concern was that the van we had use of last year will not be available. It was noted that large ducks are much more expensive and in short supply this year.

<u>Community Service</u> – David reported thanks from Kate of the NHS Charity and that the hearing loop we had part funded had been installed in the village club.

His committee was firmly of the view that, in the current climate, the proceeds from the duck race should go to a local charity. He was proposing after some research Signpost for Young Carers should be the beneficiary. At the end of the meeting John Meeus questioned if the counter proposal from Harry had been debated at council. He was assured it had been but no decision had been taken. John further commented that if council decides in favour of Harry's proposal, it should be put to the club.

<u>International</u>- Harry reported that the loan scheme was still going but he was waiting till the kitty was a bit larger before making new loans. He raised the tragic earthquake in Turkey and said he would recommend a donation of £1000 to council.

<u>Publicity</u> – Ian commented that Richard Bircher would help with graphics. He had received promises of sponsorship for the duck race of £1000 from Leighton Snow, £500 from Lynx and he was hoping the Vernon would agree an amount.

The final toast was taken at 9.45 pm.

Bruce



Mon 13th February – Mark Hunter: A reflection on Ten Years in Parliament.

Venue the Crown and Conspirator's back room

This was our first speaker meeting in our current location. Colette was alone in serving us and things were a little slower than last week.

Apologies were received from the usual suspects including Chris, who is avoiding the USA after their recent awful wet weather: instead he is in New Zealand which just happens to be suffering a typhoon!

We had a goodly number of guests to make up for the absentees. Pam Malabon and Orianne Stevenson we know well, but it was good to meet Papa from Lamplighters and Peter Crossen from Woodford. Peter is a candidate in the forthcoming local elections and is busy volunteering in all sorts of places, from Bramhall Park to the Mill. If he ever gets five minutes' peace I shall try to sign him up as a member.

Our speaker was Mark Hunter who is also well known to us. He told us about his 10 years as MP for Cheadle and his insights into Westminster life. He's a local lad, born in St.Mary's Hospital and living for a while in Droylesden. He has always been drawn to local politics and was elected to Tameside Council in 1996 at the age of 22.

His chance to enter Westminster came with the death in 2005 of Patsy Calton, one of my favourite patients.

Mark referred to the two-fold nature of the job of MP, spending Monday to Thursday in London and then returning to "real people" in his constituency. He was not unduly critical of any of his fellow MPs but did pull a face when referring to those who felt that going to their own constituency was a chore. There may be an inverse relationship between the size of an MP's majority and his or her eagerness to visit it.

His second term was in the coalition government. Even though it did no favours for the Lib-Dems ultimately, Mark feels that it was a privilege to be part of it. He became a Whip and describes the Whips' Office as the "engine room" of Parliament. It seems that Whips do more than rounding up MPs for important votes: they spend much of their time making sure that MPs are ready for meetings at the right time and in the right place.

On a more human note Mark told us that friendships flourish across the chamber and that an MP's public face may be very different from his private one. Ian Paisley for example was apparently a very affable chap!

After finishing his talk he was assailed by questions from many members and Michael reminded us that of all our recent MPs, all of whom have been Hon Members of BWRotary, Mark has been most consistently involved with us.

Just before the final toast Bob told us that the next meeting in the Crown will be on February 27th when Lesley will spill the beans on her background. Next week there will be a social event: an informal meal at Linda Lam's Rainbow 88.

Harry

Sun 19th February

President Pat celebrated her year with a drinks party at Michael and Pam's. Lovely atmosphere.

Wed 22nd February – A pleasant meal at Rainbow 88.



Mon 27th February

Bulletin 27 Feb. 2023

There were 16 members and 2 guests, Philip Morris and Dale Worthington, who attended to hear Lesley's 'This Is Me Talk'. Before the talk Bob explained that he had spoken with Paula from the Crown & Conspirator regarding the very slow service of the dinner last week, this is a problem if we have a guest speaker. After amicable discussions various changes were agreed with Paula but unfortunately the changes did not meet with universal approval, particularly the loss of the free glass of wine! Bob is to have a further meeting with Paula. Lesley gave us an amusing talk on her varied successful working life and many interesting travels. Her family had moved out from Gorton to Bramhall when she was a child as part of the Manchester Council overspill programme. Lesley regaled us with stories of her many careers! She left school in the 70s without any qualifications as her family's focus was on her ability to earn money. She worked in a hat factory making collars and cuffs, and later worked at the Coop. At the age of 20 Lesley emigrated, with her husband, to Vancouver. She got a job at Granada Television Rentals as a receptionist partly because they liked her English accent. She became homesick and returned to the UK where they started a family. Lesley then worked at an estate agent for a while but became restless and all the family went to New Zealand. After returning to the UK Lesley worked at Amplivox Hearing Aids. The family then went on their travels, yet again, and lived for a short spell in Ireland. On returning to the UK she and her husband bought a guest house, Spring Cottage, opposite the Hesketh on Hulme Hall Road. Lesley enjoyed meeting new people and successfully ran this B&B for 14 years before retiring.

Bob Preece



Mon 6th March - Committees

President Pat broke new ground on Monday evening by persuading a visitor to do the bulletin report. Dale Worthington agreed and his report is below- well done Dale

A very lively meeting with 14 members dining and an additional 2 joining in after the meal. Apologies given for those absent.

The general opinion that service at the Crown & Conspirator has improved its service and might even be able to handle members ordering 3 courses! A tad chilly at first, but soon warmed up.

Treasurer

Steve reported £1800 in the general account and about £3300 in the charity account – all of which has been allocated in the latter.

Programme

In addition to the published programme, Michael proposed a cheese and wine do on May 27th. Cheese and wine to be procured by Michael. It was also mentioned there would be a BBQ in June organised by President Pat at The Hills.

All were encouraged to submit numbers and menu choices for President's Night on the 17 March.

Ways and Means

The next big event will be the Fashion Show on 21st March. Maggie appealed to all to get selling tickets as only 30 sold so far! It has always been a great success and a fun night – please get beavering!

The next big thing is the Duck Race on 21st May and arrangements are progressing. The big ducks are roosting in John's garage, ready to get quacking.

Community Service

David briefed on the hearing loop for the Village Club and assisting the local Scout group with replacing the hut flooring. The Scouts had raised £4k towards the overall cost of £6k – well done!

The Treetops facility for children in Stepping Hill hospital will be dedicating a Rotary Room as a result of support given by the club.

A concert – choir + orchestra is being organised by David; planned for 24th October.

International

Harry reported that the response to the earthquake in Turkey had been magnificent – a total of £4k donated.

Keen to re-visit Uganda to support the various ongoing projects – and, maybe, take some time out to visit some of the wildlife! The planned dates are last week in July and first two weeks in August.

Publicity

Ian emphasised the need to get selling tickets for the fashion show. Also a mention for the same effort regarding the Duck Race.

Club Services

A very succinct and urbane report by Bob Cryer that everything was fine, with little effort required from himself.

Other Business

There followed a brief discussion on the merits of Guest Speakers arriving for the meal or afterwards. It was generally agreed that it would be more sociable to have the speakers dine with us and club funds would foot their bill.

The meeting closed around 2158.

Dale Worthington.

Fri 17th March - Presidents Night



Our only formal event of the year was attended by 47 rotarians, spouses , friends and guests including Zone Co-ordinator Paul Scullion and his wife Annette, District Governor Eric and his

wife Irene and our guest speaker Simon Michael. We celebrated Pat's first year as president at the Pinewood hotel.

After welcome by Pat we enjoyed a meal which for the most part was thought good although those who had steak needed especially sharp gnashers. There were complaints from my table that the Pinewood must have supplied wine in smaller bottles as they emptied very quickly! There were toasts offered to the guests and ladies during the proceedings.

President Pat rose to make her speech when she was interrupted by Michael who introduced the Abba look a like, Lesley, who entertained us with a rendition of Dancing Queen which perhaps would have benefitted from some rehearsal. However there is clearly hidden talent there – could we see a possible contender for Xfactor? - but I would advise a change of management.

With her speech completed Pat introduced the speaker Simon Michael – barrister and author took to the floor and gave us a most fascinating talk based on his experiences as a London barrister having achieved that from a very modest background unlike the vast majority. He was also fairly unique in coming from a Jewish background which also made it tough for him. Nonetheless he succeeded and had clearly enjoyed his career. He continued by enthralling us with tales from the court in what he said was part 1 of his talk. There was a lively Q&A and more stories, all in all a most interesting speaker. A number of those present suggested we book him for next year to hear part 2.

My hazy recollection is that we all departed by 11,00pm after the loyal toast to the king.

Bruce

Mon 20th March - G Scargill on The People's Parks

Tonight, was attended by 16 Rotarians, Visitors, Dale, and Peter Crossen both very welcome. The guest Speaker was Mr G Scargill on The People's Parks from the 1800s till now. Apologies given for not attending were T Johnston, Steve, and Chris, and other club members. Satish gave a warm thanks for his Paul Harris Fellowship Award given to him at the president's eve. Michael jovially pointed out any objections to Dale joining our club must be given ASAP. (Dale will be an absolute asset to our club and looking forward to not being the new girl.) Lots of welcomed gifts for the raffle prizes for the fashion show were gratefully received thank you for your support.

The talk by Geoffrey Scargill was wonderful, he brought to life the timeline of the creation of our public parks for the well being of the United Kingdom residents to enjoy. These were born out of the Edwardians' realization that the working classes were very sickly and downhearted, due to living in the industrial towns, working long hours, and living in appalling housing. There was nowhere for them to go to breathe clean air, and enjoy clean water. The waterways and rivers were full of human waste. A sickly work force was not productive, and as the industrial revolution was in full swing workers were needed more than ever. The first royal park was at Greenwich London, but before long the first public park was done in Birkenhead which continues to thrive today. Two parks Geoffrey centred on were Fletcher Moss bequeathed in perpetuity to the public, and has another claim to fame. A ladies group campaigned from the Café there against the feathers of the Egret bird pushing it towards extinction all to adorn ladies' hats. These campaigners went on to establish the RSPB; what an accolade. Then Wythenshawe Park and its wonderful hall. I think we can all agree the establishment of public parks is one of the greatest ideas ever known, and there's not a summer that goes by without several visits to our wonderful parks I am sure by us all.

Great night had by all Signing off Lesley

Mon 27th March - Family history

As always there were some minor matters to discuss before the serious matter of eating. Treasurer Steve told us that last week's Fashion Show made the excellent sum of £943 at the same time as entertaining almost 100 guests. Satish suggested a rota of drivers to take John S for his radiotherapy sessions and there has been a flurry of offers already. I raised the much more mundane topic of our emblem on the planter in the Precinct which we bought for Bramhall in bloom last year. It has space on each of its four sides and it currently has a temporary simple roundel. I've cobbled together a new sign which includes our name as well as the roundel. The work will be done at no cost to us.

After dinner Dennis introduced his evening's entertainment. Members had been invited to tell us a true tale about themselves or their forebears. Here are those tales, albeit somewhat reduced by the scribe. Sue set the ball rolling. Her family roots are in Co. Down, and in 1860 many of the family emigrated to Liverpool, which was a stepping stone on the way to America. Her great grandfather Eddie decided to stay in Liverpool and married Kate, while other members of the family sailed to the USA. Sue's father John received a very fancy certificate and a medal for stopping a runaway horse. Coincidentally another example of the certificate was shown on Antiques Roadshow this weekend. Eventually Sue went with her parents to America too, and she returned at the age of 15 with an American accent.

Next to speak was Lesley who told us of her Christmas holiday in Sri Lanka in 2004. After touring the island she and her husband went by coach to the southern point for a beach holiday, but as they reached the resort they found everyone running uphill away from it. It was of course the notorious tsunami which led to a huge loss of life in Indonesia, India and Sri Lanka. Fortunately the coach was able to turn and return to Colombo whence they were flown home.

Not to be outdone in the disaster stakes, John M told us of his visit to South America and Mexico City. Minor tremors are commonplace in Mexico City but at about 7am, while he and Mary were enjoying a cup of tea the hotel began to shake. Looking out of the window John saw a neighbouring building collapse down on itself and he told Mary that this was no minor tremor. Their hotel was built to withstand earthquakes so it swayed rather than cracked, but it had a swimming pool on the roof: when the building stopped swaying the water didn't, and cascaded down the lift shafts preventing escape that way. Later he was interviewed by a Time journalist who portrayed him as showing the typical sang-froid of the British abroad by completely mis-quoting his comment to Mary as "It's just a tremor"!

Peter told us of his childhood in Moston where his father installed a decommissioned tram in the back garden to act as a playground for the children and a workroom for himself. Access to the garden was limited and the tram had to be manoeuvred through the car park of a neighbouring pub. The original seats had been removed but it acquired chairs and tables and had electricity for light and heat. An ideal party venue!

Dennis then gave us a brief but illuminating insight into the character of his paternal grandfather, who cycled to Manchester in search of a job. The one he found involved packing ox tongues into cans but he eventually patented a process which automated at least part of the job. At retirement he moved to Heaton Moor where parking his car (one of very few at the time) involved a lot of reversing. One day he called his son (Dennis's dad) to say the car's clutch had gone. Closer examination of the car found that a bumper had wrapped round a lamp post while reversing and was thoroughly jammed, hence the lack of progress.

Maggie's tale involved her five times great grandfather who was a driver of Wylam Dilly, the much improved successor to Puffing Billy, and only the second rail steam engine in the world. It was used to carry coal from Wylam Colliery to the nearby river where the cargo was loaded onto "dillys". During a strike of the boatmen Wylam Dilly's owner had it loaded onto one of the dillys where it successfully propelled the coal down the river. Maggie also had a small wooden puzzle made by her grandfather which involves trying to snag an elastic band which crosses a hole drilled in the wood. Easy when you have the knack, but a devil when you don't. Finally, because there's no show without Punch, Ian took centre stage. He introduced us to his father through photos and press cuttings. We learned that he was in Australia at the onset of WW2 and joined the ANZAC forces. He fought in Greece where he was captured and then interned in Austria. After the end of the war he was sent back to Australia where he clearly enjoyed playing cricket. Ian has a pennant listing the players of a successful team, including his father. When he returned to the UK he joined a team in Stafford and rapidly gained a place in the first team and was mentioned in glowing terms in the local press.

There are surely enough similar reminiscences left to repeat the exercise, and I for one look forward to it.

The next meeting is on April 3 rd and is the monthly committee meeting. Harry