

Rotary Club of Blythe Bridge.

R.I.B.I. Charter No. (1988)

District:- 121.

President:- John Hilton.

BULLETIN No. 1.

OCTOBER, 1988.

EDITORIAL.

This bulletin marks another step for the club and I am pleased to accept the challenge to produce your monthly news-sheet. This bulletin is intended to provide items of interest and news for our Rotary Club members. Its success depends on the co-operation of all members and in particular, the Club Service Chairman who should use the bulletin to inform members of their activities and to seek help from the club when required.

The aim will be to publish the bulletin for the first meeting of each month. Your contributions are therefore required by the 20th of the previous month.

PRESIDENTS REPORT.

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

I have the honour of writing the first President's report in this our first bulletin for the Blythe Bridge and District Rotary Club.

Yet another "first" chalked up in this young but rapidly emerging group of fellas.

We have come a long way since those first meetings in the summer of 1987 when we were just simply a group of individuals, all strangers to one another. I'm happy to say that from the reports I have had from others, both Rotarians and guests, who have visited the club all have been impressed by the friendly and jovial atmosphere which is evident. It is that indecipherable "atmosphere" in the club which is so obvious which in other circumstances is often so difficult to achieve. Thanks too to Bob Pickington and his shaff in producing, so consistently, such excellent fare.

As I have said before Rotary meetings need to be enjoyable and fun otherwise those who are already members will soon lose interest and we will have the greatest difficulty in attracting new members. It is a fact that people are more prepared to put themselves out and work harder if they do so in a happy and contented environment than otherwise. This is probably the reason for our success to date in getting along together as a group, as we now most certainly are, and not as a number of individuals.

PRESIDENTS REPORT.

The "three wise men" of Longton gave us a firm foundation and did a great job.

Thinking back over the nine months or so since the inaugural in November of last year some meetings and functions stand out particularly in my mind: who can forget the visit of the young Japanese lady for instance: the interesting talk on drugs given by Joe Cumberbatch, the Beetle drive at the Fellowship meeting at the Blackfriars Club, the Ladies Nights and one particularly raucous quiz night not forgetting Charter Night at Keele.

Of course we have not been simply enjoying ourselves, much good work has been done already by various committees - remember the 1,500.00p raised for Polio Plus from the Beaujolais run well before we were Chartered, the Sponsored Swim effort which I understand should bring in about 1,900.00p and the on-going work of all the members of the club - each one of us is involved in some capacity or other in the running of the club and the Service Committees.

As you know we are holding the club's very first President's Night at the Stakis Grand Hotel in Hanley on Saturday 4th March 1989. I hope this will be a sell-out and an evening where we can show ourselves off to our friends and guests and ladies and have a really good "blow out". It is hoped that all tickets can be sold (I think Keith said the maximum number was 120) so that we shall thoroughly enjoy this special evening and make it one to remember.

Keith Houlston is doing an excellent job as Club Service Chairman and he and his committee are doing all they can to make that forthcoming Rotary year as varied and as interesting as possible with unusual events and speakers lined up during the year.

I'm sure there must be many others who would be eligible for membership and who would enjoy joining Rotary and sharing with us the fun we most certainly have had during the past twelve months or so and which will only improve in the future.

J.F. Hilton.

PROGRAMME.

10th	October.	My job talk Peter Herward.
17th	"	Visit of District Govenor Brian Ball.
24th	"	Speaker. <i>Leslie Hensand</i>
31st	"	Ladies Night. Meal out. Speaker Vicky Jennings.
<i>See</i> 7th	November.	Business Meeting to Elect Officers.
14th	"	Speaker Eye camp in India.
21st	"	Seciat. - visit Jack.

28.11.88 Eye Camp → *Speaker. Joel Cooper*
Dec 5th *12-12. Architect* *Speaker +* *Chair*

STEWARDS.

10th	October.	Alan Austin.	Jeremy Billington.
17th	"	Geoff Clay.	Peter Cooke.
24th	"	David Cooper.	Carl Dale.
31st	"	Peter Dale.	John Davies.
7th	November.	Michael Deaville.	Phillip Ellis.
14th	"	Paul Fisher.	Geoff Gascoigne.
21st	"	✓ Jim Greig.	Peter Herwood. ✓

Vice President Keith is concerned that the stewards are not carrying out their duties properly.

The duties of the Stewards are as follows:-

1. To arrive ideally at 7.00pm certainly not later than 7.10pm.
2. One Steward should ensure that the money for the meal is collected as each member arrives.
3. The other Steward should greet any visitors in particular the speaker and entertain before the meal. Make sure they sign the visitors book and that they are passed on to another club member, who ideally has a similar job or profession to the visitor.
4. One Steward should say Grace at the start of the meeting.
5. One Steward should propose a vote of thanks to the guest speaker.

If for any reason you are unable to carry out your duties on the listed date it is your responsibility to arrange with another member to cover for you.

NEW VENUE.

As most of you will already know, Bob Pilkington will shortly be leaving the White Cock and planned building extensions mean that we have to find a new venue for our meetings.

From Monday 31st October, our meetings will be held at The Coach House, Draycott Road, Blythe Bridge.

The Host at The Coach House is Neil Scott.