

## Annual General Meeting 2006

The venue for this year's event was the Banstead Mobility Centre, a part of the Queen Elizabeth Foundation which enables disabled people to lead as normal a life as possible, especially in respect of mobility on four wheels.

Attendance for this event was unusually low which reflected the consistent pressure being exerted on all branch members in their professional work coupled with uncertainty within the public sector and new contracts being managed.



Billy Gooch, Branch Chairman outlined the number of events that has been organised throughout the past year – a total of 225 members or guests had attended 9 events which showed that the Branch was very active on behalf of its membership. He also outlined some events planned for



the near future including our Annual Seminar which, for the first time in its history, had to be postponed until September.

At the close of business, Billy made a presentation to a long standing retiring member, Graham Hodgson. In thanking him for his outstanding loyalty and contribution to the Branch's activities, Billy presented a cheque and framed certificate.

Following the AGM, the delegates were given an extremely informative and, at times, entertaining presentation by Sue Vernon, the Mobility Centre Manager who explained the role of the Centre in providing guidance, advice and training to all ages of people whose mobility was affected either through illness (strokes) trauma (accidents/road collisions) or simply that their condition resulted from birth.

It was evident that a lot of care and thought is given to clients to assess their various needs whether they merely wish to have an electronic wheelchair, facilities for loading wheelchairs into standard motor vehicles to suggesting modifications to mobility vehicles all of which enable disadvantaged people to lead a lifestyle many of us take for granted.

The site facilities include a modest sized test track that caters for pedestrian operated and full control vehicles.



The thoroughly fascinating and rewarding presentation. Further information on the work of the Mobility Centre can be found at [www.qefd.org/mobilitycentre](http://www.qefd.org/mobilitycentre)