



NATIONAL COUNCIL REPORT  
JULY 2011 MEETING  
LANSDOWNE PLACE HOTEL - BRIGHTON

**NATIONAL PRESIDENT – VAUGHAN HARRIS**

I cannot believe almost 3 months (a quarter of my year in office!) will have gone by the time we meet in Brighton. It has been extremely busy, but it has been very enjoyable.

Round Table Children's' Wish appears to have been well received by the membership and I am encouraged that clubs appear to be supporting the charity. I hope to update everyone in Brighton, but so far we have collected approximately £1500.00. The training for the Great South Run has started, albeit very slowly. Several articles have appeared in the Newsletter and the "Links", so by now the membership should know about my Charity.

Functions have been very varied from attending International AGM's, 41 Club AGM's, Regional Golf Days, Snooker Evenings as well as the more formal Dinner and Charter Evenings.....and even on one occasion "cook your own food BBQ". Please keep the invitations coming and I would love to be there if I can, any visits you are making where you would like some company let me know and if I can I will come along to support your regions clubs; I am more than happy to attend any type of meeting no matter how small, to me visiting a club with 3 members is just as important as one with 20 .

I also attended the Round Table AGM in Blackpool. It was a really enjoyable weekend and approximately 200 attended their AGM. If you are not aware by now, Jason Thompson was elected the new Vice-President and amongst the various Resolutions to be voted on, the capitation fee for the coming year was agreed at £99.70, after (it must be admitted) not too much discussion. It is a good event to attend and next year will be held in Torquay (AGM – 12th May 2012).

The Executive has got off to a quick start this year and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for all their hard work to date. We had an Executive meeting in May to lay the foundations for this weekend and they are putting in the hard work to make this a successful year for them. Please read their reports, not only to see the amount of work that they have already done, but also to read about their plans for the coming year, including active involvement of the Councillors in committees. I would take this opportunity to thank all the Councillors for the amount of work that is being put into the committees and the visits being made and all the work being put into the Regions.

Also to be discussed is the Structure Plan, being presented by David Smith. Those of you that attended the AGM in Ipswich will be aware of the discussions/decisions that we as a Council will have to make this year. Please take time to read David's report and time has been set aside to discuss the issue and give David plenty of guidance in order to formulate "draft propositions" for our October meeting, which will then have to be finalised for our February meeting in order to meet the deadlines for the Jersey AGM.

I would also like to extend my welcome to all the new National Councillors. I wish them an enjoyable time on Council and I am sure that you will make them very welcome.

Finally, may I welcome you to Brighton here on the South Coast. I would like to take this opportunity to thank both Dave Campbell and Mike Turner for organising the weekend. I know they have worked very hard to put on an enjoyable weekend and hopefully the weather will be sunny enough for you to enjoy the odd pint on the seafront and that you will be lucky enough to win back some of the money at the "dogs" on Saturday night!

**Vaughan Harris**  
[president@41club.org](mailto:president@41club.org)



## **NATIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT – DAVID SMITH**

My responsibilities this year fall under two headings – Forward Planning and Vice Presidential.

### **1. Vice Presidential**

As I see it, the Year involves deputising for President Vaughan where necessary – unnecessary so far! – and planning for 2012-13, although I am booked to attend a number of functions around the country in the next few months as well. If you require my attendance at a regional or indeed club event this year or next, please either use the booking form on the website or contact me directly.

I am pleased to have the foundations of a Liaison Committee in place to assist me next year with individual 41ers looking after the portfolios of Transport, Council Weekend and Sponsorship under the overall control of a Chairman. We intend to appoint a Press and Publicity Officer and perhaps a RT Family Liaison Officer in the next few weeks. We propose to meet monthly. I'm not sure if such a Committee has been created before but having seen several presidents coming under pressure towards the end of their tenure the scheme is designed to relieve him of a great deal of mundane organisation and paperwork. We shall see!!

### **2. Forward Planning**

The FP Committee's year will inevitably be dominated by the review of this Council's structure. Those who were at Ipswich will have seen a somewhat incautious and throwaway remark latched onto by a vociferous minority who made it clear that whilst they would vote in favour of the proposed capitation fee for 2012, they expected to hear proposals in Jersey for reducing the Association's expenses. I am unsure whether these are the opinions of the majority but nevertheless feel we will need to demonstrate that we have carefully looked at our own structure with a view to creating savings without sacrificing effectiveness and efficiency. That may not be possible, but at least we will be able to say we have exhaustively debated the options.

The Executive met in May and using the valuable work that had taken place last year in Forward Planning and at the February Council Meeting, have assembled a proposal for a new National Council for your consideration.

### **National Executive**

All posts on the Executive have been considered and the suggested new structure is as follows:

- National President
- Vice-President
- Immediate Past President
- National Secretary
- National Treasurer
- Communications Officer
- Fellowship Officer
- Membership and RT Liaison Officer
- International Officer
- Operations Officer (a new name may be required)



Notes:

- 'Fellowship' includes the current Sales and Conference responsibilities and is in line with the committees agreed last year.
- A new position of Operations Officer would be introduced to work closely with the National Councillors. The post will replace the current National Councillors' Representative – who currently also has a region of his own. This will allow a more focussed approach and provide someone who can devote more time to work closely with and mentor the Councillors.
- The community service aspect of our work would be overseen by the Operations Officer. This may develop further and may need further examination.
- The Immediate Past President will also cease responsibility for mentoring National Councillors. It was felt that such a key role was 'too much' for someone who had just endured a very heavy year as National President. The IPP should act as the 'elder statesman' giving support and advice wherever it was needed.
- All posts (except President, IPP and VP) would be electable for three year terms to ensure more continuity. These would be phased to ensure Officers did not all change together.
- The term 'Executive' would be removed and in line with Round Table and 41 International would be renamed the '41 Club Board'.

### **National Councillors**

It is proposed to radically change the role of the Councillors:

- Regions will be larger
- There will no longer be a requirement to visit all clubs in the region as that will in most cases be impossible. Visits should just be made to those clubs needing support and if and when invited. Regular contact should be by phone/e-mail.
- Councillors should have 'deputies' preferably in a different geographic area of the region to assist in coverage
- Some help with expenses could be given to the deputies for club visits – but they would not attend Council Weekends unless deputising for the Councillor if he cannot attend.
- Where possible regions should have local committees to coincide with and reflect the roles of officers on the National Executive.

Regions would reduce by seven but they should be considered in context with the above.

The new regions would be set up to coincide with the new Round Table regions.

It is proposed to introduce the new regional structure immediately after the 2013 AGM to ensure that most existing Councillors complete their term of office (either three or five years, as the case may be).

Some clubs will need to move region and in some cases will move to a different Councillor.



The following table shows the proposed new Regional structure along with that of Round Table. Effective from AGM 2013.

RT Area's	41 Club Regions	New Region	Clubs per Region	Councillor Term Ends
13, 38, 39, 44, 47, 49, 51	1 & 2	<b>1</b>	55	D. Watson 2013 K, Donald 2014
10,20,21	4 & Part 5	<b>2</b>	48	C Steen 2014 R Pattinson 2014
8,34,46	7 & 8 and Part 5	<b>3</b>	63	M. Garner 2013 D Yardley 2014
9.15,32	6	<b>4</b>	45	A Waite 2014
36, 53	12	<b>5</b>	22	Caretaker
14, 22	11 & Part 10	<b>6</b>	63	R11 Vacant P. Good 2013
7, 30	9 & Part 10	<b>7</b>	25	R9 Vacant P.Good 2013
5, 35, 45	14 & 15	<b>8</b>	67	T. Wells 2013 R15 Vacant
6, 24, 41	16 & 17	<b>9</b>	44	N .Davies 2013 S. McCormick 2014
43, 4	13	<b>10</b>	34	D. Kennedy 2012
12, 23	21	<b>11</b>	39	R. Jones 2013
50, 54	19 & Part 20	<b>12</b>	68	R. Browning 2013 F. Venables 2013
17, 33	18 (excl. LOTS)	<b>13</b>	30	J. Sage 2014
19, 31	22	<b>14</b>	32	M. Fairchild 2012
1, 37, 48	23	<b>15</b>	46	D. Brown 2014
2, 16, 26	25 and Part 24 (+ LOTS)	<b>16</b>	49	P. Douce 2014 M. Martins 2013
3, 18, 25	20 & Part 24	<b>17</b>	43	F. Venables 2013 M. Martins 2013
11, 29, 52	3	<b>18</b>	16	P. Ellis 2013

It is proposed there will be no change to the existing role of the 3 honorary members.

The result of these changes will reduce the National Council to 31 members from the existing 38 – a reduction of 18% and an estimated cost saving of £[TBA] a year.

It should be noted that changes to the number of regions do not need AGM approval. These can be decided by National Council.

Changes to the National Officers do require AGM approval. It is proposed to put forward the complete change to the Executive as one Resolution and to seek nominees for the new roles – subject to the approval of the membership of the changes.



### May I emphasise:

- these proposals are designed merely as a template for discussion over the next few weeks
- there is an FPC meeting the day before the forthcoming Council Meeting and these proposals may change
- the FPC is not looking for a knee jerk reaction to the proposals
- Councillors will not be expected to form a view on them at the Council Meeting
- Councillors will be asked to consider the proposals carefully over a few weeks and give their thoughts and comments by a given date.

Other topics for consideration by the FPC during the course of this year will include

- a reduction in the number of Council meetings
- the removal of proxy voting altogether
- the awards criteria

Time may not allow the FPC to look at these subjects before the next Council Meeting.

**David Smith**

[vice-president@41club.org](mailto:vice-president@41club.org)

### IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT – MALCOLM LOCKEY

May I take this opportunity of thanking members of Council for the generous gifts of a miners lamp and an iPod which were given to me at my last Council meeting as National President. The lamp now has pride of place in our sitting room and reminds me not only of my year as National President and all that we achieved together but also serves to remind me of my roots and upbringing in County Durham mining communities. The iPod is regularly used and is a great way to collect together my very catholic tastes in music!!

Since the AGM I have been meeting regularly with representatives of my chosen charity last year OYT to finalise our accounts. I'm pleased to say that the final tally is just short of 45,000 GBP. I'm typing this in Spain on a Spanish computer!! Along with the 50,000 GBP we helped OYT Scotland raise, we greatly helped OYT in its work with young people. 95,000GBP in cash and kind isn't a bad result for such a small charity, especially after our magnificent support for two very high profile charities in the previous two years. I'm also pleased that so many members of the Association enjoyed sailing with them and I know that some have since volunteered as seagoing support staff. I also know that as a result of their 41 Clubs efforts, Hartlepool Round Table are to support OYT [North] along with a number of other local and national charities.

Since the AGM I have attended the Round Table Conference. It was good to see the energy, commitment and enthusiasm in Table at the moment and their commitment to growth. I was very taken with the presentation by their CEO who took a fascinating overview of social trends and interests among different generations concluding that the coming generation may be more than ready for an organisation such as Round Table. This strategic



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overview coupled with the many other initiatives of the Round Table teams – most especially the membership team and the future could look very bright for RTBI. I was particularly pleased by the way some recently retired Tablers approached me and endorsed the new sense of purpose and vision within 41 Club .

Along with the new National Councillor for Region 4 – Colin Steen, I had the pleasure of visiting **Saltburn 41 Club** and **Hartlepool 41 Club** where the incoming Chairmen had not long been out of Round Table. They both brought a great sense of energy to their roles and they also clearly articulated a sense of purpose and direction. All credit to the older members who were mostly happy to have fresh energy at the helm. I have to commend Colin on the commitment and professionalism that he has shown since taking over as National Councillor for the Region.

Working with Martin Green and Jim Smith we have together formulated a 'regional club health checklist proforma' which if completed fully and properly by Councillors, should provide us with an easily collatable overview of clubs within regions showing in particular those clubs that are giving cause for concern. This will be an invaluable aid to strategic planning. I am asking that Councillors reports be as detailed as possible. They will be held on file and will be used in follow up discussions between members of the Operations Team and individual Councillors.

Reports must also inform Councillors follow up work within their Regions and help them use their time to good effect. I must add however that the Councillors' role is not simply to be a 'fire fighter' dealing with problem clubs. It is equally important, as we saw last year, to support, praise and encourage those clubs that are doing some good and interesting things and to share that good practice more widely. Some clubs – like York Ebor – think that what they are doing is the norm and when they are told that what they are doing is way ahead of the field, they are encouraged to go on and do even better things and even get involved in national events. York will be with us in force in Jersey – simply as a result of being told how good they were.

I also need to know of all community service and or fund raising initiatives so that I can either support or offer help in what is being done. I also want to celebrate initiatives through our communications links. Remember 'community service' is firmly enshrined within our Objects and we received a clear indication at the AGM that members feel this should be part and parcel of what we are about. I will comment on this first round of reports at the Council meeting when I've been able to read them in detail and discuss them with members of the Operations team.

Although I was not able to attend the International AGM in Toulouse, I understand that the only resolution that was passed was ours which encouraged all members Associations to give consideration to supporting 'Shelter Box' in its work to help those who are stricken by natural disaster. It had been agreed that Shelter Box would make a presentation to the AGM but for a number of practical reasons – mainly a lack of information from the International Secretary – they pulled out at the last minute. Shelter Box have however expressed a strong willingness to attend the international HYM in Italy in October. I see that it will be down to us to promote this and to help International as a whole, develop a united sense of purpose and go beyond where we are at present.

Since the AGM the committee structures have been revised but members of the Op's Committee are endeavouring to get up and running with 'Skype' so that we can be in regular contact. I am proposing that members of the OP's Team take responsibility for a group of Regions so that they can follow up issues identified in reports and also offer support to Councillors who I have always seen as being the key to the success of Council and its work.



Finally, my thanks to everyone who helped make Ipswich the great success that it was. The AGM was one of the best attended for many years and I was pleased that there was such a constructive atmosphere within the body of the meeting.

**Malcolm Lockey**

[past-president@41club.org](mailto:past-president@41club.org)

## **NATIONAL SECRETARY – MARTIN GREEN**

The few months after the AGM is a very busy time for the Secretary with all the changes needed to Officers, Councillors Etc. on the system including those for all the other members of the 'family'. My thanks go to Andy Waite who, having found himself after the AGM 'without portfolio', did a sterling job in helping me sort this out.

Now all the AGM's are out of the way, I should in the next few weeks be able to produce a proper Directory and Handbook.

### IT UPDATE

Since April we have implemented the updates to the Mailing List System. To say this was problematic would be an understatement, but what is clear, is that although the system appears to be working correctly, there is a lot of lack of understanding on how to use it. The President has agreed for me to have time at Brighton to carry out a training session which may prove what an effective tool we have for our communication.

At the time of writing I am about to start the Office 365 project. I will report to Executive and Council an update at the meetings.

### CLUB RISK REPORT

I have spent a large amount of time devising the Club Grading Report with Jim and Malcolm. Thank you to those who have taken the time to complete it and I have been pleased to hear that some Councillors actually found it had merit!

### COUNCILLORS REPORTS

This is an 'old chestnut' that raises itself every meeting. This time the response rate has been the very worst it has ever been. I did give everyone 5 weeks' notice and a reminder the week before. I set that date to enable me to collate these reports and get them issued back to you in good time to read before the meeting. Similarly I prepare the President's Meeting File with all the reports which is posted to him the week before. The deadline date is not set at a whim – it allows me adequate time to do this and to fit it in with everything else I do.

If anyone else fancies taking this on – I would love to give it to them! Then you would know why I gripe so much about it! We have planned to pass this task over to Marchesi House, but while we continue to behave this way with reports this will never happen. By the way – is 'Arial 11 point fully justified' so very difficult? Far be it for me to be sarcastic!

### TRADE MARK LAWYER

We have been advised by Alan Venner our Trade Mark Lawyer that he is leaving Groom Wilkes & Wright LLP and moving to his own firm - Oakleigh IP Services, Alan has given us sterling service for many years and I shall be recommending to the Executive and Council to move our business to his new practice.

### STANDING ORDERS

Donald Watson has proposed the following change to National Council Standing Orders:

10.4 Each Committee should meet to transact the business assigned to it by Council and the National Executive having due regard to the annual budget. Such meetings shall



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as far as is practical be held to coincide with meetings of Council.

be amended to:-

10.4 Each Committee should meet to transact the business assigned to it by Council and the National Executive having due regard to the annual budget and the effective use of modern conferencing technologies. Such meetings shall as far as is practical to be concluded prior to meetings of Council.

I feel this is a reasonable proposal and will be recommending it to Executive and Council for approval.

#### ARBORETUM

I will report to Council the details and plans for the Dedication on 17<sup>th</sup> July.

#### HOLIDAY COVER

My thanks to President Vaughan and Jill for covering the Secretary's role whilst I was on holiday.

**Martin Green**

[secretary@41club.org](mailto:secretary@41club.org)

### **NATIONAL TREASURER – MIKE TURNER**

**Mike Turner**

[treasurer@41club.org](mailto:treasurer@41club.org)

### **NATIONAL COUNCILLORS REPRESENTATIVE – DONALD WATSON**

1. The first item causing concern has been the imposition of the Risk Report. The National Councillors were requested to collate information essentially from CAS. Of the eight items required 6 could have been collected directly from CAS via a new report and further analysed via a spreadsheet. One heading about email bouncing does not have data available as the report has not been finalised.

I have received several comments about this data and the unnecessary work involved and comment about the utility of the analysis, comments that I endorse.

2. I do not regard National Councillors Meetings as the opportunity 3 or 4 times a year to discuss matters of common interest, but I consider that communication among Councillors should be a continuing process during the year. I have attempted to communicate since taking office and in general terms find my efforts essentially have been one sided. Barry Durman, arranging his last NC Meeting requested items for the Agenda and had 1 response; my similar request has raised two responses. I know that NC's have been appointed to committees and will feedback regarding their involvement and effectiveness of their inclusion in the committees.



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3. It was somewhat disquieting to note the query from Barry Durman about his exclusion from communication for a period.
4. I recently took delivery of “a sales box” and note that it includes a two versions of a black tie. I acknowledge that I have a colour deficiency in my vision, but even “normal” sighted people found it incredulous that these two items should be included in the merchandise selection. It was acknowledged at Ipswich that the “golf umbrella” was not fit for purpose and that it could be sold as a ladies umbrella. I hope that the selection panel for the new “quality items” will include NC’s who are on the firing line.
5. It is my intention to circulate this report to the NC’s, as I do not recollect being in receipt of similar submissions from previous office-holders, I thought I should advise accordingly.

**Donald Watson**

[councillorsrep@41club.org](mailto:councillorsrep@41club.org)

## **NATIONAL SALES & MARKETING OFFICER – HUGH MILWARD**

Firstly, my apologies for not being with you in Brighton, but I trust my report will partly make up for my absence and I will raise a glass to you all over the weekend from a sunny spot on the Continent!

### **41 Club Sales**

Following on from the Executive meeting in May, new items for the sales range continue to be focused on quality items as per the agreed strategy.

I wore a sample of a smart white shirt with our logo on the collar at the International 41 Club AGM in Toulouse in early June. This proved very popular with GB&I 41er’s attending but it was felt the logo on the collar was too big. This has now been reduced in size as well as the option to personalise on the front pocket. The shirts will be available in White, Black and corporate Blue and retail at £30 – not personalised, £31.50 personalised.

It was noted at the International AGM that the French Sales Shop had a vast range of sales items, including items aimed at the ladies. A lot of stock was quite expensive being branded designer label items. I made a note of what was on offer and purchased a number of items in the clothes line. I will now look to see what lessons we can learn.

The request for a larger car sticker similar to that offered by Round Table for the back window of the car has been auctioned and will retail at £0.99.

The Executive request for an alternative Club Association Award to replace the glass gavel has been followed up along with a special Name Bar for the Chairman’s Jewel. Details of cost and options are still awaited as I write, but should be available at the National Council Weekend.

Another area where a request has been made is for formal Club/meeting attendance books. This again is being followed up and Club stationary items such as these may be re-introduced.



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Past Chairman's Jewels continue to be the most popular item ordered with 273 ordered for the first five months of this year. The Name Bars that accompany the jewels no longer have the "pins" that in some instances broke. All Name bars have closed clasp fixings now.

Despite our new logo being around for nearly two years now, the sale of normal Club Pin Badges is increasing with 275 being sold over the same period.

Our Sales Commission for the first five months of 2011 is as follows:

January	1,184.37
February	1,499.32
March	931.45
April	554.26
May	244.06
<b>Total</b>	<b>£4,413.46</b>

I still receive per month, on average two incorrect/out of date orders for jewels and other sales items forwarded to me from Marchesi House. Following a telephone call, I then action a personal letter informing the Club of our new arrangements and offering to assist in any way I can. I see this as an important part of the job as we have a range of clubs in age and modern communication ability.

#### **41 Club Sales Boxes**

All 14 Sales Boxes have now been sorted and redistributed to National Councillors as per the following list:-

<b>Box Number</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Region</b>
1	Donald Watson	1
2	Sean McCormick	17
3	Colin Steen	4
4	David Yardley	8
5	David Brown	23
6	Manny Martins	24
7	Peter Good	10
8	Duncan Kennedy	13
9	Barry Durman (Caretaker)	15
10	Richard Pattison	5
11	Frank Venables	20



12	Ray Jones	21
13	Mark Fairchild	22
14	Spare Stock Box	Sales Officer

A full stock take was undertaken and existing boxes signed off in respect of sales and monies due to the Treasurer as from 1<sup>st</sup> January to 15<sup>th</sup> April 2011 when a number of Councillors retired. All 14 Boxes were stocked consistently (bar a few exceptions!) for re-allocation.

New guide lines for the use and management of a Sales Box have been issued along with a new spreadsheet asking for three returns during the remainder of 2011, being the National Council meetings in July and October with a final one at the end of the year.

As the return for the July National Council is not due until the 2<sup>nd</sup> July, the amount of Box sales to date will be tabled at the meeting.

This exercise has taken some time to complete, but I trust that the end of year reconciliation will be less stressed for all than last year!

### **Platinum Privileges**

I propose that we have two types of Platinum Privileges in the future where members can offer their products and services to other members. These Platinum Privileges will be offered only through the "Links" magazine and not through the "Newsletter" which will remain for news only.

This is the direction I would wish to take Platinum Privileges and therefore a proposal is with the Executive for discussion. One such proposal is to charge a reduced rate for Small Adds if a member offers a discount.

In the same vein, at the 41 Club Whiskey is progressing; this may include a commission for 41 Club that can be put to charity.

So our Platinum Privileges may in the future consist of products and services offered to members at a discount or on a commission basis with money going to charity.

**Hugh Milward**

[sales@41club.org](mailto:sales@41club.org)

## **NATIONAL CONFERENCE OFFICER – DICK STANLEY**

### **Jersey 2012**

A full report on the current situation will be published in the next Links magazine so I will not repeat it here. However, it is pleasing to report that 296 people have already booked at the Hotel De France with a further 10 at the Merton. It is interesting to note that the maximum capacity for functions in the Great Hall of the Hotel De France is 588 persons and they are, therefore, 50% full!

They do have a slight problem in that of those only 88 have actually registered for the conference. As we all know they have requested full payment on registration and this has



caused some concern among delegates. As I have previously mentioned their rationale is to try and avoid problems where subsequent changes in people's credit card details can cause difficulties when balances are requested. I understand that they have accepted deposits from some delegates and will continue to do so but would not wish that this be universally advertised.

### **Llandudno 2013**

Although several meetings have taken place over the last few months the first official Committee Meeting was held recently and the allocation of roles was made. I am pleased to say that common sense has prevailed and Dave Barker has stood down as Chairman due to his long periods of absence. Mike Garner, National Councillor for Region 7, has now assumed the role. I am now more confident that the Conference will be well organised, brought within budget and be a great success. The Association's first event in North Wales.

### **2014**

By the time this report is read I will have visited the beautiful city of Bath to investigate the hotel and conference facilities that this venue can provide. I have the support of Ray Jones, National Councillor for Region 21, and, although I have not yet approached them, I am confident that we can put together a very willing and capable group of local 41ers to organise the Conference.

### **National Council Weekends**

I recently had a meeting with Anthony Cleckner, Association Sales Manager, Barceló UK with a view to reaching an understanding with Barceló Hotels for future National Council Weekends. Barceló have 21 locations throughout the UK, each one is unique and reflects the characteristics of the area. We will be using a Barceló hotel for our Council weekend in October when we visit the Angel Hotel in Cardiff which will give us a great opportunity to experience their quality of service and type of package at first hand. Should this be favourable then I intend to present to Council a report promoting the use of this chain for future Council Weekends and other events such as Cluster Meetings and Ladies' Nights etc.

### **Conference Manual**

Nothing to report!!

**Dick Stanley**

[conference@41club.org](mailto:conference@41club.org)

### **INTERNATIONAL OFFICER – DAVE CAMPBELL**

Less than a week after our National Conference in Ipswich we held our first International meeting. This was a joint meeting between Region 25 ( South East England ) and Region 1 ( North West France ). The meeting was held on board a Sea France cross channel ferry and was attended by 50 French 41 club members including the Region 1 IRO. From the UK there were the National President, International officers ( past & present ) National councillors from regions 24 & 25 plus members of West Kent & Vigo village 41 club. Everyone enjoyed the meeting and we hope to make this an annual event.



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I attended the German AGM in Coberg ( 20<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> May ), the French AGM / International AGM in Toulouse ( 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> June ) and the Austrian AGM in Hall, Tirol (17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> June ). There are no overseas AGM's in July and August, the next being in September and October.

I am pleased to have Robert Browning, Frank Venables and Peter Good as members of my committee and we are in the process of updating the existing information available relating to overseas club information, twinning and the international calendar.

I have written to the International secretary, Denis Beck, expressing our interests for the positions of International Treasurer ( 2012-2013) and post of International Vice-President (2014-2015).

There have been several requests to find twin clubs for overseas members, one of the International committee will be taking on the task of how we take this forward in an organised and efficient way.

I am currently working alongside David Hewitt to improve and update the International content on the 41 Club website.

Dates of future Overseas events :-

16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> September : Indian AGM

30<sup>th</sup> September – 2<sup>nd</sup> October : Romania AGM

30<sup>th</sup> September – 2<sup>nd</sup> October : Zambia AGM

7<sup>th</sup> October – 9<sup>th</sup> October : Belgian AGM

14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> October : International Half Yearly Meeting, Italy

21<sup>st</sup> -23<sup>rd</sup> October : Swiss AGM

**Dave Campbell**

[international@41club.org](mailto:international@41club.org)

**NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER – RAY HILL**

A great deal has happened in communications since the Ipswich Conference, and the results will begin to become apparent to the membership in July.

Having recognised the importance of communications for the future of the Club the Executive have allocated eight councillors and honorary members to this committee, which is now responsible for the Links magazine, the monthly newsletter, the Club website, use of the social media, marketing and PR. A committee weekend was held at my house in early June and it proved to be very useful. We have a very dedicated group who are keen to promote the association. Debate was very open and no idea was ruled out of court. We now have a much clearer view of the way we wish to develop communications and specific jobs have been allocated to each member.

We are aware of the opposition from some quarters to the continuation of the Links magazine. We analysed recent copies and compared them with other 'house' magazines, (all of which have much higher membership fees). The general feeling was that Links is too much like a 'high quality sales brochure' than a house magazine and that it restricted itself to



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officer's reports and photos of men in penguin suits, surrounding the National President. One member counted the number of pages in a random issue that contained photos of the President, and he appeared in 8 of the 28 pages. He further described it as 'a President's diary' rather than a Club magazine. We agreed that the magazine has therefore limited interest to many members, mainly to those who had contributed to it or appeared in the photos.

A full summary of the proposals made at the meeting are available on request, but the main decisions regarding the magazine were:

1. The Links magazine is to become a more outward looking publication with articles of interest to members which are not necessarily 41 Club related. To make it a magazine of interest to others, not just 41ers.
2. A reduction in the number of officer's reports, to be replaced by articles of wider interest.
3. No correspondence in the magazine as it is much better handled in the monthly newsletter. The four-month gap between magazines completely removes the immediacy that is required.
4. A vast reduction in the number of photos of 'men wearing gongs' and 'men in penguin suits'. They have far less relevance in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, and are not the image that we want to convey to our future potential members, current Round Tablers. Instead we want more photographs of members doing active things, visiting places and of officers in more casual family mode.
5. We must keep control of the cost of producing the magazine. The last magazine was 24 pages and just over 100 grams in weight, the cut-off point for the lower postal charges. I have investigated combinations of different paper sizes and weights, and the myriad of postal services available. The results are:
  - Future magazines will be printed on 90 gram paper (instead of 130 gram) which means that a 32 page magazine will always be under 100 grams, therefore reducing both production and postal costs.
  - 32 pages is the optimum magazine for us. Because of the way they are printed there is no cost reduction for 24 or 28 pages.
  - The back page is now to be used for an advertisement. Until a 'paid for' advert can be found it will be used for the Club sales. Hopefully this result in more sales and hence revenue for the club. This will require the address being printed on the packaging rather than on the magazine itself, a small increase in cost, but well worth it.
  - With the weight under control we can now move to cheaper postal rates, and we are currently investigating a new Royal Mail service that is even cheaper.

Therefore despite recent increases in VAT, postal rates and other costs we should be able to deliver a magazine at costs below the previous rate.

Additionally there are around 1,000 copies that are printed and sent to Marchesi House. (This is because of the way they are printed.) I am looking for ways of getting these spares to potential members, rather than ending up in the skip.



(Possibly distributed in Tabler's new members kits or sent to Tablers in their last 5 years, both of which would require RT approval, or given to our councillors to leave in suitable locations.)

The newsletter is to become more the tool for reporting individual club activity and for dealing with controversial matters appertaining to the Club. It has far more immediacy and is better for this category of items.

I have also decided to promote the Round Table Family image consistently on all means of communications. All four logos will begin to appear on publications, starting with the magazine and newsletter. (My contact at Tangent has also agreed to a reciprocal arrangement.)

We have identified the need for a full marketing plan for the future of the Association. The comms committee will be holding a meeting at Brighton immediately following the council meeting, to start working on this. Phil Douce and Barry Durman will be responsible for creating and implementing the market plan, which hopefully will be in draft by the October council meeting. They will also be responsible for managing the social media used by 41 Club to promote itself to our current and, more importantly, potential membership.

It was decided at the May Executive meeting to terminate our contract with Avid PR and two months notice was duly given. The contract therefore terminates at the end of July. It was agreed that Avid had performed everything that we had asked of them, but that the membership is just not prepared to use the services that we were paying for.

The Club website is fine as an internal looking facility and provides members with answers to many of their problems, however it is not thought to be very inviting to potential members. Ideally we should be creating a new, separate, outward facing website of interest to all potential members. This would be similar to what has been achieved by Round Table, unfortunately there is no budget for this exercise, and therefore we will have to make some changes to our existing site. Webmaster David Hewitt is looking at ways to improve the appeal to potential members, including the use of interactive maps to help locate clubs.

Improving the service whilst at the same time cutting the costs is not the easiest of tasks but is something that my 'team' is working on. I look forward to hearing your comments on the July Links magazine that, I hope, will be available at the council meeting.

**Ray Hill**  
[comms@41club.org](mailto:comms@41club.org)

## **NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP & EXTENSION OFFICER – JIM SMITH**

As promised I will continue to update Council each meeting on the numbers position. The current position to include the proposed disaffiliations and affiliations below is that there are 806 clubs with 17,911 members. I have adjusted the spreadsheet information sent to all councillors to reflect these changes. I have also updated the spreadsheet as at 20<sup>th</sup> June to include changes made by clubs this year as they have paid their capitation. This accounts for the fall in numbers despite the fact that the number of clubs is holding up quite well. We also have to bear in mind that if a club is going to vote on disaffiliation it usually will happen at the time of the AGM. Analysis of this information provides some interesting stuff and I believe shows that the work we are all doing is helping to keep clubs going and in some



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instances increasing their number. We are also undoubtedly attracting back more new ex-tablers than before, hence the number of new affiliations.

Clubs Disaffiliating	1 <sup>st</sup> 6 months 09/10	1 <sup>st</sup> 6 months 10/11	1 <sup>st</sup> 3 months 11/12
Own Volition	17	10	5
Non Payment of Capitation	4	3	0
New Clubs Affiliating or new members re-affiliating clubs	3	7	4

I have also attached another document showing the variance in numbers by Region since the capitation requests went out as at 1<sup>st</sup> January. This shows that the numbers have fallen by a net 138 since then which has a negative impact on the budget of £1,380. It does show the importance of maintaining CAS throughout the year and encouraging clubs to make changes as they happen rather than just the once a year. There are some positives here though and it shows that 8 Regions have actually increased their numbers. If we exclude International clubs which have increased membership by nearly 6% (15) Region 13 comes out on top with an increase of nearly 5% (30) whereas there are 4 Regions which fell by over 5%. The positive is that the budget for 2012 was struck for 2012 at a membership of 17,500 a projected fall of 3% currently the fall is less than 1%.

The new Membership Committee are all working on independent tasks as shown below:

David Yardley (Region 8) – Attraction of Retiring Tablers  
 Nigel Davies (Region 16) – Retention and Disaffiliation  
 Sean McCormick (Region 17) – Recruitment and Affiliations  
 Manny Martins (Region 24) – Publicity and Promotions

They will be reporting on their area of activity at the Council meeting.

John Kilshaw and myself are working on Round Table Liaison and Special projects. One of the special projects we will be working on this year is special assistance to Ireland. Round Table and 41 Club membership in Ireland have fallen to very low numbers. Round Table is down to 65 members across 9 clubs and 41 club is down to 16 clubs with 265 members. Only 5 of the Round Tables have affiliated 41 clubs attached. I will report at the Council meeting on initial activity. John and I are also looking at the role of honoraries in Round Table and their potential switch to 41 club.

I have established contact with Steve Glaister (Recruitment) and Nick Ormerod (Retention) the 2 Round Table board members responsible for Membership. I understand that they are working on some more new clubs including 2 where they are getting assistance from 41 clubs under Phoenix. Stratford (Region 15) and Baldock (Region 19).

### **Club Risk/Grading report**

This is a report developed by Malcolm, Martin and myself and presented to the Executive in May. We have tried to obtain information on our clubs in various guises over the past 2 years without a great deal of success. A significant part of the report is static information that can be gleaned from CAS and it includes some of the things I've been saying for the past year on indicators of clubs who are more likely to disaffiliate. Completing the report gives good reasons for making contact with clubs firstly those at a perceived high risk. The probability is that you will find those clubs have little or no communication so they don't know what is



happening. They probably don't get newsletters, many don't receive magazines and often one man runs the club on his own. There is a good likelihood that they will close in the near future and we need to be prepared. A visit or discussion with them will make it clear and we can then decide on our options in the area. Secondly there are those with a low or no risk. These are almost certainly good clubs where we should continue to support them and learn from them.

This document is a very important ongoing report which, if used properly, will enable us to focus our National and Regional strategies for the future and I can assure you it will be used.

### **A challenge**

One of our key objectives is to support Round Table. I have been to 3 or 4 meetings in different parts of the country over the past couple of months to clubs who do have a Round Table. I have been issuing a simple challenge to them to introduce potential people to Round Table. I start off by asking how many people in the room know someone aged between 20 and 35. Based on the numbers a challenge is then issued to them to introduce their contacts based on a 1 in 3 success rate. Don't ask them to try and explain what Round Table is just ask them to find out if they like having fun and trying something a bit different. Leave Round Table to do the rest. Simple? Yes it is but it does need a bit of a follow up afterwards.

### **Membership Strategy**

As part of our membership strategy Manny will report on a new brochure in the course of design. We have made some minor tweaks to the strategy document but the membership committee are now satisfied on the strategy for the next 3 years.

### **Disaffiliations**

Club	Region	Numbers	
Arbroath	2	16	
Corstophine	2	2	ND to report on activity
Biddulph	11	8	
Chester	12	23	
Willenhall	14	11	

Non Payment of Capitation. I'm pleased to report that Jon Sage (18) has managed to get a payment from Dengie for 2010 and 2011. Torquay club is still under discussion and Mark will be visiting on 29<sup>th</sup> June and will report to the Council.

### **Affiliations**

Club	Region	Members	Comment
Richmond & District	4	10	Re-affiliation. Cap'n for 2010 & 11 paid
Bollin Valley	7	6	New club linked to Wilmslow Table
Vale of Evesham	21	10	New members forming re-affiliated club
Locksbottom	25	7	New club Farnborough (Kent)

There are some other potential new clubs we are expecting affiliation forms for before the Council meeting. Launceston Active (Region 22), Poulton Progress (Region 5) and Sean will report at the meeting.



### Membership changes 12/10 to 06/11

Region	Clubs	Members 12/10	Members 06/11	Numbers gained/lost	% change	Comment
26	18	215	230	15	6.98	
13	34	602	632	30	4.98	
17	31	685	714	29	4.23	
9	15	339	351	12	3.54	
21	41	1020	1039	19	1.86	*inc 20 members Droitwich moved from Region 15
25	35	666	678	12	1.80	
19	48	1050	1065	15	1.43	
6	45	945	947	2	0.21	
8	20	485	485	0	0.00	
4	35	676	676	0	0.00	
22	32	599	594	-5	-0.83	
23	46	1406	1392	-14	-1.00	
7	29	470	465	-5	-1.06	
11	27	601	594	-7	-1.16	
20	32	893	882	-11	-1.23	
14	28	695	686	-9	-1.29	
24	45	961	947	-14	-1.46	
18	31	769	756	-13	-1.69	
15	37	956	939	-17	-1.78	*inc 20 members Droitwich moved to Region 21
5	29	712	693	-19	-2.67	
10	45	1288	1248	-40	-3.11	
3	16	278	265	-13	-4.68	
1	22	355	336	-19	-5.35	
2	31	705	666	-39	-5.53	inc. Corstophine disaffiliated with 27 members
16	13	270	255	-15	-5.56	
12	21	408	376	-32	-7.84	inc. Chester disaffiliated with 23 members
<b>Totals</b>	<b>806</b>	<b>18049</b>	<b>17911</b>	<b>-138</b>	<b>-0.76</b>	

Jim Smith

[membership@41club.org](mailto:membership@41club.org)



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## REGION 1 – DONALD WATSON

### 1. Clubs identified for further visits/follow up (please state reasons)

None – Hopefully all essential matters can be covered during a telephone call

### 2. Clubs you are aware of that might give notice of disaffiliation (please state reasons and any intervention by you to date)

None

### 3. Notable Community Service Initiatives by Clubs.

Troon Live – Music Festival in Troon organised by an ex-Round Tabler and members of Troon 41 Club

### 4. How many of this year's Round Table Retirees have joined or are joining 41 Club?

Region 1 saw 17 RT's leaving RT so far as far as I can see there has been a zero uptake for 41 Club, 6 of those are eligible for non-affiliated 41 Clubs. Perhaps we should be investigating methods by which non-affiliated Clubs might establish a relationship.

### 5. Any other relevant information you wish to report

As a member of the Operations Committee I wonder if that Committee is operational. Surely a committee with most of the senior members of the Executive should be playing a leading role in the way that the Association will develop over the next planning period.

Airdrie Round Table held a Small Grants Evening, reported in Facebook as "[Gordon McRae](#)

Good Small Grants Fund event tonight... also 1st Scottish Table visit for Chief Exec Cait Allen (thanks Cait) and from Donald Watson from 41 Club... hope you enjoyed the night"

Probably the most inspirational meeting that I have attended in the last year or so. Inspirational for the way that RT connects with the community, they presented 8 cheques ranging between £100 and £250, they presented a RTCW wish and all of this in the presence of the Provost of North Lanark. For those of you on Facebook why not follow their activities. Aged



between 23 and 50 something (their Hon President 2<sup>nd</sup> from the right in the photograph). The Club includes a father and son, and twin brothers. The busiest person on the night was Cait taking notes on the breadth of their activities. Members have been Area Chairman for 7 out of the past 9 years. One member has just retired from National Council and another has been appointed to the National Council.



Three members are going to move from RT to 41 Club en bloc as there has been no Rt's joining 41 Club for at least 10 years. They hope that this will reinvigorate 41 Club. They have abandoned any idea of forming a new 41 Club in the Area.



If the photographs had been forwarded, as per my request, I could have shown Cait Allen Planking.

**Donald Watson**  
[region1@41club.org](mailto:region1@41club.org)

## **REGION 2 – KEN DONALD**

[region2@41club.org](mailto:region2@41club.org)

## **REGION 3 – PHILLIP ELLIS**

### **1. Clubs identified for further visits/follow up (please state reasons)**

Waterford, Enniskillen and Belfast-2. Waterford because they are at the bottom of Ireland and they are low in numbers and have not had a visit in a while. Belfast as they have not been in contact and I am afraid they may fall by the wayside. Enniskillen because they were slow in paying their capitation and not really a good excuse.



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**2. Clubs you are aware of that might give notice of disaffiliation (please state reasons and any intervention by you to date)**

The main clubs who have indicated that they are considering disaffiliation is Cookstown mainly because they have this debate within the club yes or no. I have been told that the current leadership in the club will not open up or welcome contact from National. After speaking to Tony Henderson (former Region 3 Councillor) this has been a long running saga.

**3. Notable Community Service Initiatives by Clubs.**

Newtownards have paid £300 for a young person from their area to spend a week with the Ocean Youth Trust.

**4. How many of this year's Round Table Retirees have joined or are joining 41 Club?**

None as yet.

**5. Any other relevant information you wish to report**

Report on Clubs that I have visited since my last report.

My first official duty after Ipswich was to attend the Region3 AGM, held on the 1<sup>st</sup> May 2011 in Armagh. The event was poorly attended and I take responsibility for this, as I set the date and it being a "bank holiday" I am giving the excuses for the attendance. With both Nick Phealan (Regional Chairman) and Bob Kelly (Regional Secretary) both in hospital Laytown & Bettystown membership stood up to the plate and chaired the AGM with great expertise.

One of the main problems was that we had no club to take on the roles within the region so an interim regional executive was proposed and took on the challenge ahead. I thank Tony Henderson (L,Derry), John Carberry (Bangor) and Fraser Menzies (Holywood) for taking on these positions respectively. Tony, Fraser and I agreed to meet up within two weeks to discuss the area rally and if we could run one this year. We did and thanks to Tony and Fraser we decided to explore if this could be done. The next meeting is in early June and on the agenda is the rally. A quick survey by phone, of support from the Irish club to attend a rally was to be obtained by Fraser.

I would also like to report on the visits that I have done to clubs in my region. First I visited Londonderry 41/RoundTable Joint AGM. This was a very good night and I learnt a lot of what is going on in Roundtable as the area 11 chairman was there as well. My own concern was that only 50% of Londonderry 41 was in attendance and Roundtable was in such a decline. One of the overriding reasons for this is the cost of being a member and what you get for this (its not value for money). It's too expensive for young tablers to travel to England for meetings and courses. It is difficult to recruit new members and with the decline it's getting harder. To contrast this the evening went very well and the evidence that both the 41 club and table worked very close together was a model that worked well for them.

I also attended Banbridge 41 for a horse tossing event. It was then explained that it was only the horse shoes that would be tossed and not the whole horse. Anyway rain stopped play and Chairman John ushered us all in for a quiz. After an intensely contested quiz the team that I captained won. I then was encouraged to collect the trophy; I did and then stated "if they want their trophy back, then they would need to visit Bangor41 to retrieve it". Hopefully this will get visitation back on the agenda in Ireland.



I see Ireland not as a lost cause in terms of turning the decline around. With Roundtable standing at 106ish in the whole country and still split into 3 areas, the chance of growth is limited. 41 Club is sitting at 278 members and 16 clubs. I have visited more than half of these clubs over the year and will get round the rest over this year. What I have recognised is that the clubs have become comfortable in their own club, wanting visits from other clubs and to know what other clubs are doing but reluctant to make that first move. Well hopefully with my approach we can change this and get this great region back on tracks.

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2011 see's the Joint AGM Dublin & District Roundtable, 41 clubs. This formal event was a good evening and proves that Table and 41 is not dead in Dublin. It was a very good evening with around 16, 41 members there and 4 Round tablers. Round Table ran the evening and it got very high spirited at times but RT Chairman Stephen kept the group together. RT Treasurer Nigel Roger (Trigger) reported on the year's events and money raised by what I could see was only 4 Round Tablers and a few 41ers. In total they raised 5710 euro and 2000 euro raised at a BBQ for St Vincent's Hospital centre for colorectal Crohn's disease. This is a tremendous effort from such a small table helped by Dublin & district 41 club. The current difficulties in recruitment and the continuation of RT in Dublin was hotly debated by everyone and some of the 41ers were shocked to hear that table has got to this junction after so many years, but the question was asked where is it going to go from here. The Table let the room and had a quick meeting between them; at the return it was agreed by all the members of RT present that Dublin 203 is go into suspension or as they put it "a ghost club" for one year. During that time some of the 41ers and me (Phillip Ellis) have agreed that we will do whatever we can to get some new lifeblood into Dublin 203. Nigel Roger (Trigger) has agreed that he will hold the chain of office as point of contact for the year and Stewart will go over to the workshops next weekend.

We at 41/Table cannot let this happen the ramifications of Dublin Table closing are too great. The collapse of RT in Dublin will mean that the collapse of Table in the republic of Ireland leaving neither of Irelands capital cities with a table. If our organization is to be reborn, saved or rebuilt then let's all get together now draw a line in the sand and start by saving Dublin.

As of today's date 63% of region 3 Ireland has got their email address on the CAS system. The other 37% is made up of 15% who don't have nor want an email address and 22% either don't want to give it or the administrator has not put it up on the CAS system as yet.

**Phillip Ellis**  
[region3@41club.org](mailto:region3@41club.org)

## **REGION 4 – COLIN STEEN**

### **1. Clubs identified for further visits/follow up (please state reasons)**

The "danger zone" exercise identified the following Clubs:

Consett	spoke to contact who tells me that the Club is in good shape. Apparently, a few years ago, the incoming Chairman decided that the Club was to be run along Table lines, with speakers, officers, fund raising, etc and is well supported by its members. Have asked to be invited along.
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East Durham	Contact needed
Gosforth	<p>my own Club. We decided to abandon the 10 monthly meetings which were poorly attended in favour of four quarterly meetings that would, hopefully, be better supported. The summer meeting was attended by the same four members who attended the monthly meetings!</p> <p>I have suggested two initiatives. Firstly, to stop losing Tablers going off into the Rotary wilderness, I have called a meeting with Gosforth Round Table to suggest that they set up their own, new, Gosforth 41 Club. Secondly, to give a raison d'être to the few of us who still want to get together for a regular meal, that the old guard accompany me on visits in the Region so that we become a Geordie version of the White Knights. I still expect that our Christmas meal will, as in previous years, be well attended.</p>
Newcastle Hadrian	Contact needed
Newcastle upon Tyne	<p>Visited the Club on 21st May. They are in good fettle; they have a full set of Officers, including a gagmaster, a directory with an interesting programme. They are well down in numbers – I need to canvass Gosforth about the possibility of joining in with them as an alternative to the above – but in no immediate danger. They do need some better gags.</p>
Party Tyne	My other Club. We're a Cluster Club and we're fine.
Ryton and District	<p>sadly, on contacting them about their outstanding capitation, I was told that they <b>had disaffiliated over a year ago</b>. A lost cause, though I assured them that they would be welcomed back were they to reconsider.</p>
Sedgefield	Contact needed
Stanley	Visit planned for 4 <sup>th</sup> August
Stockton	<p>Was going to visit the Club last week but, when I rang on the day for more instructions I was told that they had not actually arranged anything and that there would be no meeting. I have asked to be invited along to the next meeting that is to actually take pace!</p>
Sunderland	<p>Spoke to Ossie Brown in May. They have only 3 members, they meet occasionally for a meal, they have no feeder Table, they are near the end!</p>
Wensleydale	Contact needed

**2. Clubs you are aware of that might give notice of disaffiliation (please state reasons and any intervention by you to date)**

None anticipated, but several Clubs are in decline due to lack of new members and attrition of the existing ones.

**3. Notable Community Service Initiatives by Clubs.**



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Several of the more active Clubs do engage in fund raising with regular annual events. As with all other 41 Club activities in the region, however, it is done without any liaison with any other Clubs.

#### 4. How many of this year's Round Table Retirees have joined or are joining 41 Club?

I assume that we are referring to the list attached to the spreadsheet sent out after Ipswich.

Gosforth	see above
Guisborough	Contact needed
Hartlepool	strong contact with feeder Table
Hexham	told me they were aware
Houghton	strong contact with feeder Table
Sedgefield	Contact needed
Stokesley	strong contact with feeder Table
Wensleydale	Contact needed

As a general point, however, is it not a touch late in May 2011 to start thinking about contacting Tablers who left in March? I would have thought we should be looking at this at the start of each year.

#### 5. Any other relevant information you wish to report

##### I have visited the following Clubs:

Ponteland	a strong Club
Saltburn	a strong Club – it was their AGM/handover meeting and Redcar were also there on a Club visit. They were handing back Saltburn's Table Chairman's chains of office which had mysteriously found their way into Redcar's hands and, despite a ransom request, were being handed back. I did suggest that this would be a suitable story for the newsletter. The new Chairman is full of beans and is talking about suggesting to a local sports club that they could be the basis for a new Table!
Hartlepool	a strong Club – they have agreed to run the Cluster in March next year. I have asked that they let me accompany them on the promotion visits that they intend making to all Clubs in Region 4 later in the year. Strong contacts with their Table. Again, suggested that their trip on the James Cook ( OYT ) Could be used in the newsletter.
Stokesley & Yarm	a strong Club – it was their AGM/handover night and was fairly well attended, including the lads leaving Table. They had a "parmo night" at their new local - not a misprint, a local delicacy involving chicken, cheese and béchamel Sauce. They are doing a 120 mile, 2 day, bicycle challenge with Table from Whitby going west. Something else for the newsletter.

##### There were 5 Clubs in my Region with outstanding Capitation:

Hexham	my email has been acknowledged
Houghton	Ron Young told me it was being dealt with
Redcar	no response to my email, so far.



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shape, do they talk to their Table, do they do fund raising, do they have a programme of events, how do they see National, how can I help. Given that before each visit I have little or no knowledge of any of these matters, is it not somewhat incongruous to have to split my time between fact finding and selling trinkets?

### **And, lastly, communication.**

Unless the contact is also this year's Chairman, there is absolutely no point in contacting the contact person, by email, by post or even by phone. It may be early days but, so far, experience tells me that the only sure method is to telephone the Club's Chairman.

I have several email acknowledgements from club contacts where they have promised to forward on my request for a visit, etc, and I have yet to hear from the Chairman.

I still need to determine what my role is and would welcome input from other Councillors. Of course the Clubs in my Region know about National, though few send delegates to conference.

But they see themselves as existing outside, or in spite of, their affiliation with National which, in any event, is of passing interest only. A visit by a National Councillor is a once in a lifetime occurrence, a novelty which seems to have no relevance to most Clubs.

Obviously, I can't force Clubs to wake up and smell the coffee, to recognise that they are part of a larger organisation, to take an interest, where applicable, in their feeder Table and what happens to leavers, in organising fund raising events. Or, even where these elements are present in individual Clubs, in sharing what they are doing with their neighbours and thereby enhance the few opportunities for continued fellowship.

What we need is a forum for the Councillors to discuss how they meet these challenges, and a forum for the Clubs within a Region to let them know what everyone else is doing and to share experiences and encourage other Clubs to follow suit.

**Colin Steen**

[region4@41club.org](mailto:region4@41club.org)

## **REGION 5 – RICHARD PATTINSON**

**Richard Pattinson**

[region5@41club.org](mailto:region5@41club.org)

## **REGION 6 – ANDY WAITE**

I learned of my appointment on my return from the International AGM in Toulouse on June 6<sup>th</sup>.

### **1. Clubs identified for further visits/follow up (please state reasons)**

The Club Grading spreadsheet is a great idea. It could perhaps be enhanced with columns for:

High proportion of members with no email address

High proportion preferring post, or no preference specified.



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International activity

This has helped to identify Clubs that need a priority visit:  
The three Hull Clubs, B41s, Harrogate, Pudsey, Selby, Spen Valley and City of York.  
None of these have been visited for at least 10 years as far as I am aware.

**2. Clubs you are aware of that might give notice of disaffiliation (please state reasons and any intervention by you to date)**

Ilkley Olicana were discussing disaffiliation. I attended their meeting on 15 June. They have promised to shelve discussion till 2013 due to their hosting the 2012 White Rose Dinner. There are one or two only of the 'what do we get from National' brigade and the Chairman called their bluff. The new Chairman is aware of a 'pool' of fairly recent ex-Tablers and is trying to get them on board to help strengthen an aging Club.

**3. Notable Community Service Initiatives by Clubs.**

York Ebor's magnificent bike ride.

**4. How many of this year's Round Table Retirees have joined or are joining 41 Club?**

I am beginning the process of finding this out. 18 of the 44 Clubs in Region 6 have lost their feeder Table.

**5. Any other relevant information you wish to report**

I was delighted to present the Charter to the newly re-formed Bramhope 41 Club on June 14<sup>th</sup>. They disaffiliated 6 years ago and now have a good mix of the 'old guard' and 'new' 41ers who didn't join after the age rule change. Their RT is comparatively strong with 12 members, many of whom were present.

I presented President Vaughan's gift and banner at the Cyprus AGM and have spent a week in Poland, including a visit to Gdansk 41 Club.

Bookings are flooding in for the 50<sup>th</sup> White Rose Dinner on October 21<sup>st</sup> in Wakefield. Convenient accommodation is available at the Premier Inn Central, formerly Holmfield House, venue of the first Conference in 1945.

**Andy Waite**

[region6@41club.org](mailto:region6@41club.org)

**REGION 7 – MIKE GARNER**

**1. Clubs identified for further visits/follow up (please state reasons)**

Since the AGM I have concentrated on the clubs in Region 7 who I know have been struggling for a number of years

These are Atherton, Manchester and Stockport, North Manchester, Prestwich and Whitefield, South Manchester and Wilmslow and District.

In all cases apart from P&W ( who don't get members from their feeder Table they go to Prestwich Salford and Whitefield) these clubs have no feederTable...and in reality have not had for many years.

The average age in these clubs is significant and they all operate as dining clubs.



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I am afraid that there is very little to be done apart from South Manchester where I have identified three members who are looking to transfer to another local club where more is going on...I have planned to keep in touch and I am visiting at their next meeting

**2. Clubs you are aware of that might give notice of disaffiliation (please state reasons and any intervention by you to date)**

Ringway and Altrincham gave notice of their wish to disaffiliate and I have attended their AGM and two further meetings. Some of the members wanted to allow women (!!!) to join and hence they would have to disaffiliate. I am pleased to report that my efforts seem to have worked and they plan to stay in the fold for the foreseeable future.

**3. Notable Community Service Initiatives by Clubs.**

Macclesfield "Peter Panners" one of the prospective new 41 Clubs in the region are jointly responsible for the Macclesfield Beer Festival in conjunction with CAMRA. This year they have raised an impressive £35,000 for local charities.

**4. How many of this year's Round Table Retirees have joined or are joining 41 Club?**

Never having received the retiring tables list for this part of the world...I have initiated my own detective work. To date all the retirees have either joined or are attending either an existing or one of the three proposed new 41 Clubs in the region

**5. Any other relevant information you wish to report**

Documentation has been submitted to National for the formation of a new club in Wilmslow. This is to be started by six current honorary Tablers who do not wish to join the existing club...which is down to four "older members who dine".

They have contacted, with my help, 12 Tablers who have left over the last eight years, all of which are now proposing to meet with the new 41 Club.

At the time of writing two more sets of papers are being completed and officers decided upon for consideration for affiliation at the next council meeting.

**Mike Garner**  
[region7@41club.org](mailto:region7@41club.org)

**REGION 8 – DAVID YARDLEY**

After receiving the list of Tabler's retiring last April I am very happy to report that all but 2 have joined or were already members of 41 the 2 who have not joined us are for two different reason's 1 has no 41 club so has decided to join rotary like most of his fellow members of Prescott Roundtable.....

The other guy has no interest in joining 41 Club...

I have looked at Club details Prescott for instance is closed that happened back in 2004 so why are the details of chairman, secretary, club contact, still on show surely this should be deleted ? Am I allowed to delete this?

Another table closed in Lancs and Manx in April Horwich, Westhoughton and District leaving no feeder for the 41 club there.

None feeder 41 Clubs in Region 8  
Southport



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Aigburth  
Formby  
Widnes  
St.Helens  
Wigan

I have tried contacting all clubs in region 8 of course not all contact details are correct, so this is making contact even more difficult good job I have contacts in most clubs so I have to go down this route to make contact.....

I have several visits booked during the summer I have finally made contact with Bootle Crosby and District my predecessor could not contact this club in any form well I am visiting them at the next meeting I hope I get the monies owed to National That will make Mike smile.

Most clubs in Region 8 support Table in Charity Fund raising I see this a good opportunity for both organisations to come together and a better future for that 41 club to gain new members.....

I have to say here that the secretary of each 41 club has to be on the ball and work along with Table secretary and invite those retiring this is what I have been doing for the last 14 years as Hesketh's Secretary gentlemen it works well.....

In a recent email I read Liverpool No1 were thinking of closing due to lack of younger guys taking on officers roles ok all is well for the time being I am to visit them in August as they only meet 4 times in the year and guess what it's darn Golf i hate golf, I can not play any sport and its a golf day but I have booked in for the sandwiches and the evening meal that's dedication don't you think? Watch This Space !!!!!!!

Numbers below 12 yes there are a few in my region but they all seem happy to continue in friendship,fellowship and continue to be paid members of The National Association I say well done guys you have my full support and when I visit them these clubs there could be a car full as I always need a driver who drive my car to all meetings....

As I new guy on the block I have on several times questioned if I can do this job I love 41 club The visits meetings etc but I HATE ALL THIS DARN COMPUTER WORK !!!! I am No Good using the computer so please forgive me I am doing my BEST..... See you all in Brighton.....

**David Yardley**  
[region8@41club.org](mailto:region8@41club.org)

## **REGION 9 - ALAN PATTINSON - CARTAKER**

[region9@41club.org](mailto:region9@41club.org)



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## **REGION 10 – PETER GOOD**

- 1. Clubs identified for further visits/follow up (please state reasons)**
- 2. Clubs you are aware of that might give notice of disaffiliation (please state reasons and any intervention by you to date)**

I was asked to visit Beeston 41 by a clever little Irishman “Bosco” to their AGM. On the day I was due to go, he rang me to say “you be saying a few words tonight” ; I said of course, great; he said see you later. On arrival at the venue, a few of Beeston Round Table were there who I knew so I asked if they always support their 41 AGMs; no we have come because Bosco told us that you were coming, During the meal I gathered at their previous meeting they talked of disbanding from 41 club and just having a dinner club.

So when I got up to speak I told them how things were changing in 41 and that they would have to change to attract the tabler’s to join them, one old boy shouts out “why do we have to change” my reply was “if you don’t you will just die”; but I could sense that I was getting through to the rest.

They inducted the new Chairman who had only left Table the year before and was the first to join for a few years. I am sure that they will not have any problems getting the Tabler’s to join now as when he read out his programme for the year, the first meeting was 4 x 4 driving on the Landrover’s test site. Someone shouted out so we are not going to be a dinner club then !

- 3. Notable Community Service Initiatives by Clubs.**
- 4. How many of this year’s Round Table Retirees have joined or are joining 41 Club?**
- 5. Any other relevant information you wish to report**

Derby Merlins AGM.

No problems there inducted two out of Table and four more that had slipped the net in years gone by, another great program for the year ahead.

I am in touch with other clubs regarding subs. 9 clubs.

I am in touch with Rotherham and Swadlincote regarding Golf.

The Leicestershire Cluster meeting is sorted now for Oct 14 2011 which will be a great night.

A few weeks ago we went to the 41 International AGM in Toulouse France a fantastic weekend as all the internationals always are.

I have been very busy work wise so yet to complete my risk assessment but will get done before Brighton.

**Peter Good**  
[region10@41club.org](mailto:region10@41club.org)



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## **REGION 11 - RAY HILL - CARETAKER**

The third annual Regional Golf tournament took place early in June. President Vaughan was a welcome guest and he joined 23 other 41ers for what I am assured was a very enjoyable round despite the torrential downpour in the middle of the morning. This year the winners were Newport ex-Tablers and they are the third different club to win the event in 3 years. The day engenders a great deal of 'Table' camaraderie and becomes more popular every year.

On the evening Vaughan and I visited Frodsham 41 Club. Formed only two years ago when the old Eddisbury club decided to hand over the reigns to them they are a very low age 41 club. This was actually the first time they had sat down to a formal meal in a private room, but they obviously enjoy their 41 clubbing. Both Vaughan and I were very encouraged by what we saw and by the very frank conversation we had with them. This type of club is very much the future of 41 Club.

Completing the club analysis sheets to the best of my ability was very revealing. Most clubs get a 0 or 1 with a few 2s, but one rated 6, and this is Biddulph, a club which has already informed us that they are disaffiliating. The method does seem to point to clubs that are likely to close.

There are a few clubs in region 11 that are struggling for new members but I feel that there are no more in imminent threat of closure.

### **Ray Hill**

[region11@41club.org](mailto:region11@41club.org)

## **REGION 12 – LAWRENCE BAMBER**

### **1. Clubs identified for further visits/follow up (please state reasons)**

Chester as they scored 6 on the risk register  
Llangollen, as they have just become electronic!

### **2. Clubs you are aware of that might give notice of disaffiliation (please state reasons and any intervention by you to date)**

Chester as they emailed saying they wish to disaffiliate ( April 2011) I have written, asking them to reconsider, which they are now doing. However, see above re Risk Rating!!

### **3. Notable Community Service Initiatives by Clubs.**

Rhyl gave over £ 1000 to North Wales Air Ambulance; as I reported last meeting approx. £14k has been raised within Region 12 over the last 5 years.

### **4. How many of this year's Round Table Retirees have joined or are joining 41 Club?**

Following a ring round of those retirees only 2 have joined 41 Club.  
Some have been given Honorary years; and most want to start new , younger, active Clubs that still do fundraising once they eventually leave RT in the next 2/3 years.



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I have offered assistance to : Bebington; Heswall ( currently disaffiliated); Colwyn Bay; Denbigh and Caernarfon in this regard.

**5. Any other relevant information you wish to report**

Represented 41 Club GB&I and 41 International at the AGMs of Sweden and Norway as part of the Midnight Sun Tour of those countries.

Will be attending RTI in Bremerhavn at the end of August, and 41 Club International HYM in Italy during October.

Club visits included : Stockholm; Sunsvall; Lycksele ( Sweden) and Mo I Rana (my twin Club); Bodo and Tromso in Norway.

Also have visited Holyhead and Rhyl in Region 12 GB&I

**Lawrence Bamber**

[Region12@41club.org](mailto:Region12@41club.org)

**REGION 13 – DUNCAN KENNEDY**

**1. Clubs identified for further visits/follow up (please state reasons)**

There are a few Clubs that I feel needed to be visited and by the time the Council meeting comes along I will have been to some, set up one more and look to conclude the list in September/October.

Abergavenny – TBA

Blackwood – consistently failed to put members details on CAS or to provide them to me. I attended a meeting and persuaded all present to give me their details which have now been put on CAS. There are still some outstanding but I am pressing for the outstanding information. Although small in number (and some members having had a run in with some high profile former members of Table) they are on the lookout for new members and are quite active.

Bridgend – visiting them in September. They are having a problem access funds following the death of their Treasurer.

Llantrisant – have historically failed to respond to my approaches but they now have a new Club contact who is quite proactive. Not particularly large but have inducted new members and are looking to have a meeting with 6 past Tablers who have never joined 41 Club in the hope they can be persuaded to join.

Maesteg – TBA

Pontypridd – TBA

Porthcawl – TBA

Risca – no feeder Table and no real prospect of recruiting new members. However, the membership is relatively young and they enjoy meetings with speakers and visiting other Clubs.

**2. Clubs you are aware of that might give notice of disaffiliation (please state reasons and any intervention by you to date)**

There are none at the moment

**3. Notable Community Service Initiatives by Clubs.**

I am not aware of any Club in my region who has any notable CS initiatives. Some will pick a cause they favour and do some low key fund raising. Others assist Table with their fundraising.



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#### 4. How many of this year's Round Table Retirees have joined or are joining 41 Club?

So far I have been advised of 2.

#### 5. Any other relevant information you wish to report

Most of the Clubs have responded well to me since the AGM and there are now only 3 Clubs whose full membership does not appear on CAS. These are Blackwood, Swansea and Tenby. I am getting information through from them in drips and drabs but at least it is happening enabling me to update CAS periodically. I am hoping this has been done by the time I get to Brighton!

I have been on to the Clubs owing capitation and I have promises that they will be chased. If they still do not arrive I will just have to visit them to pick one up.

I have been to Penarth's charter where the guest speaker was our own Jim Smith. I am also going to Llantwit Major's charter on 1<sup>st</sup> July. Vaughan will be speaking at that one.

**Duncan Kennedy**

[region13@41club.org](mailto:region13@41club.org)

### REGION 14 – TERRY WELLS

#### 1. Club Visits.

**Rugeley Quarante et Un.** Following ten years of non-existence, this club was re-chartered in April this year. There is no feed Table, and the average member age is a trifle on the high side. Bruce Partlett has done deeds of valour in reviving the club and is still courting and encouraging ex-members to renew their membership. However, the life of the Club is inevitably finite. I have contacted both **Cannock and Penkridge**, and suggested that close liaisons with Rugeley are essential, and that all three clubs exchange information regarding meetings and events, and link together on a regular basis. This should give strong support to Rugeley, and enable a gentle absorption to be effected when the life of the Rugeley club reaches its inevitable end.

#### 2. Membership Initiatives

Willenhall has ceased to exist and will, presumably be disaffiliated at Brighton. The club was down to five active members, three have re-located to other clubs, the other two have "retired".

I was given a list of ten names of tablers who had retired under the age rule. One was from Willenhall, a Table which evidently ceased to exist some eight years ago. Of the others, one had already joined 41, two were currently Table Presidents but thought it unlikely that they would join 41, one could not spare the time for 41, one is interested, and wants me to "keep in touch", of the remaining four, I have not been able to contact by phone, but am waiting for a reply to e-mails. My thoughts on the membership issue are summarised in the following paragraphs.

I flatly refuse to complete the so called Club Grading/Contact Return. ***This is the ultimate in an unnecessary box ticking exercise.*** The membership issue will not be resolved by identification of clubs "at risk" followed by councillors tear-arsing round the



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regions dishing out the “rahrah” treatment. This is little more than re-enforcing failure.  
***For goodness sake let's put the effort where we are likely to get results.***

***The answer surely lies in recruiting and retaining from the eighty percent of retiring tablers who currently, do not join 41, and recovering previous members who have left 41. I suggest that the reasons for not joining and for leaving are twofold, a). 41 lacks purpose and direction, and b), our recruiting policy lacks power.***

At Ipswich, the incoming Round Table National President made it clear that retiring tablers wanted more from 41 than “Continued Friendship”, in other words, the opportunity to carry on doing a bit of tabling.

The Purposes and Objects (surely this should be “Objectives”), of 41 are somewhat nebulous. **We do not have a positive mission statement supported by clearly defined action plan.** (Principles of War – Clarification of Objective). Incidentally what happened to the Community Involvement Initiative? Have the Exec given up because the rank and file rejected the proposal to appoint yet another executive to lead the project?

As for recruitment, the only current plan seems to be to approach ex tablers following retirement from table and try to sell them the idea of joining 41. A bit like offering a dinner guest soup after he has eaten the cheese and biscuits. It has very limited success, as is evidenced by the fact that only twenty percent of retiring tablers make the move (or for the benefit of the mathematically challenged, eighty per cent do not).

***At age forty, should we not be contacting tablers, offering them honorary membership of 41? Should we not be e-mailing them with the monthly newsletter? Should not 41 chairmen and national councillors be encouraging them to participate in 41 activities? Forget the poaching argument. There isn't one. Such activity would serve to encourage more interaction between Table and 41. At age 45, the transition to 41 should be seamless.***

***As for those who have already left Table, we do not give up. Put them on the monthly newsletter mailing list. See that they receive a 41 club activity programme, invite them to attend functions, hold old boys sporting evenings, councillors have a chat with them every six months or so. Stay constantly in touch. Some will come back. My guess is many will.***

***Einstein said (paraphrased), that the height of insanity is carrying on doing what you are doing and expecting a different result.***

**It is time to change!!!**

Please Exec, start thinking outside the boxes, accept that solutions require more than box ticking and “rahrah”. Give us a positive pro-active raison d'être, supported by a hard hitting achievement plan.

I rest my case.

### 3. CAS

#### **Arrears of Capitation:**

Aldridge, Bridgnorth, Shrewsbury, now paid.  
Hagley promised action 25<sup>th</sup> June  
Brierley Hill 2, Oldbury, Stourport still to respond.



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**Updates:**

Haven't sorted, will sort.

**4. Clubs at Risk**

See 2 above

**5 Other Matters:**

a). 41 Membership Report still shows Hagley as having a feeder Table. Evidently Kidderminster & Hagley 165 Round Table no longer exists.

**b). Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July:**

Re-dedication of 41 Club Garden, at the National Memorial Arboretum, Alrewas, near Lichfield. Service commences at 11.00am and will be conducted by Past National President Reverend Malcolm Lockey.

c). Incidentally, several national councillors retired at the AGM. Was any significant feed-back gleaned as a result of their exit interviews?

**Terry Wells**

[region14@41club.org](mailto:region14@41club.org)

**REGION 15 – BARRY DURMAN – CARETAKER**

**1. Clubs identified for further visits/follow up (please state reasons)**

Wellingborough because they refuse to put more than half their members on CAS. Coleshill similar. Towcester because I have not visited for two years. All other clubs with low numbers or otherwise at risk have been visited in the last year.

I have completed the matrix provided by Malcolm AND have set every member with an email address to email preference. This took a few hours but will be worthwhile to know the emails are getting through direct to members. Previously I emailed 404 of my 960 members – I will report to the meeting how many I emailed at the second attempt.

Only 11 officers in my 34 clubs have no email and 4 of them are from one club!

**2. Clubs you are aware of that might give notice of disaffiliation (please state reasons and any intervention by you to date)**

None, but you never know!

**3. Notable Community Service Initiatives by Clubs.**

Shirley Late Knights(my own club)      Solihull Carnival Committee - £14k raised with RT/Ladies Circle/Tangent



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I really cannot think of another major event but I know lots who support their Table with the Christmas float / fireworks etc. One small 41 club with about 7 members even do the sleigh themselves since their Table folded

**4. How many of this year's Round Table Retirees have joined or are joining 41 Club?**

No action on this list as I write but I have good intentions

**5. Any other relevant information you wish to report**

Since the AGM I have visited Alcester for their raucous AGM, Shirley Late Knights my own club, the RT National Conference, Bromsgrove to see and drive some Rolls Royces, Heart of England for a curry, been to the 41 Club International AGM in Toulouse, Sweden to visit our twin club in Saffle with 80 other international guests, Moseley for a Brazilian(yes honest)

Rachel and I also went on the pre-AGM tour to Bordeaux/Toulouse. 5 days of staying in fantastic hotels, eating out in top class restaurants, drinking copious amounts of red wine and visiting vineyards/chateaux etc It was great and all for £500 each. To be recommended. Oh yes the French 41 Clubs know how to hold an AGM and Final Night Party. Quite a WOW factor.

**Barry Durman**

[region15@41club.org](mailto:region15@41club.org)

## **REGION 16 – NIGEL DAVIES**

**1. Clubs identified for further visits/follow up (please state reasons)**

Corby - not visited so far. Small club and need to see how the land lies. Hopefully visit in July.

Rushden - visit arranged for 30/6/2011. further report at July Council

Cambridge - notable anniversary in Sept.

**2. Clubs you are aware of that might give notice of disaffiliation (please state reasons and any intervention by you to date)**

NONE

**3. Notable Community Service Initiatives by Clubs.**

None that I have been advised of.

**4. How many of this year's Round Table Retirees have joined or are joining 41 Club**

NONE to date

**5. Any other relevant information you wish to report**

So far this year I have attempted to speak to all of the Clubs within my region. The response has been terrible. I know it's the quiet season but you would think a phone message or e-mail would evoke some reply. It doesn't. I am concerned that the excellent newsletter is not getting to members. Most of my Clubs have not updated the details of their members on CAS, addresses and e-mail addresses remain absent. I'll continue my efforts to make 41 Club inclusive of ALL members but I do this with little confidence.

The Eastern Region Charity Golf Day remains on track for a splendid day on 19th July. About 75/80 '41'ers' taking part. I know it's on the Presidential diary as an event he will attend and we'd like Vaughan to see what 'life after Table' is like in the East.



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**Nigel Davies**  
[region16@41club.org](mailto:region16@41club.org)

## **REGION 17 – SEAN McCORMICK**

**Sean McCormick**  
[Region17@41club.org](mailto:Region17@41club.org)

## **REGION 18 – JON SAGE**

### **1. Clubs identified for further visits/follow up (please state reasons)**

1<sup>st</sup> Club to visit is Dengie I will be visiting them on July 14<sup>th</sup> I promised them a visit if they paid both 2010/2011 – 2011/2012 Subs.

I also need to visit Southend to discuss the Martin Young Cluster Meeting as Southend think it is there right to hold it each year and it should be put out to tender around region 18

Epping also need a visit as there is no longer a round table to feed them.

### **2. Clubs you are aware of that might give notice of disaffiliation (please state reasons and any intervention by you to date)**

At this moment in time I don't know of any in my region. But I need to investigate in more detail

### **3. Notable Community Service Initiatives by Clubs.**

Need to investigate in more detail

### **4. How many of this year's Round Table Retirees have joined or are joining 41 Club?**

Need to investigate in more detail

### **5. Any other relevant information you wish to report**

On June 9<sup>th</sup> I went to visit Hornchurch 41 Club in place of Jim Smith this was my first visit as a National Councillor (even though not fully inducted until Brighton) I turned out to be a very good night with 27 members present. They had a speaker as they try to arrange a speaker for all the nights were nothing else is happening. They run a good club with quite close links to Table after a few years with out muck contact but getting much better now.

My second visit was to Chemsford 41 Club on 13<sup>th</sup> June they also had a speaker interesting talk. They also had a good turn out along with Jim Smith and myself. Chemsford has 2 Round Tables with 1 41 Club they get along very well with one of the Tables and not very well with the other I will see what I can do about this.



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I have sorted out Leigh-on-Sea 41 Club (this being my own club) it had twenty nine members for the magazine after speaking to Mark Banks the Secretary the true number is twenty.

I managed to speak to David Thurgood of Dengie Hundred 41 Club who my various predecessors have been chasing for the 2 years unpaid subs. He told me that he is the wrong person to speak too, he gave me the name Tim Watt after a few call back and forth he finally agreed they did owe us that amount and they finally sent me a cheque for the out standing £280.00 I sent this to Sue at Marchesi House

I have contacted Castle Point John Ryan he said he will put a cheque in the post on Monday 27th June for £100.00 out standing Subs.

I have had no luck in contacting anyone from Epping 41 Club as yet to get there out standing subs but I am on there case.....more news to follow!!!!

As I have not been doing this for very long I need to investigate other clubs in more detail to see what I can do to help them.

Sorry it is not very much information but just getting my fingers on the pulse.....

**Jon Sage**

[region18@41club.org](mailto:region18@41club.org)

## **REGION 19 – ROBERT BROWNING**

I have been less active than I would have liked during the last six months through my indisposition. However I have carried out many admin duties within my region and hope my efforts will bear fruit.

### **1. Clubs identified for further visits/follow up (please state reasons)**

I have not been active in entertaining visits until I have fully recovered, and visited my first Beaconsfield, a thriving club, on 16<sup>th</sup> June. Their Table has 6 members all of whom are South Africans anxious to attract some 'English' members again.

### **2. Clubs you are aware of that might give notice of disaffiliation (please state reasons and any intervention by you to date)**

Staines have indicated possible disaffiliation and had a meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> may to discuss it. Jim Smith is also on the case but no minutes of that meeting or any other information has been forthcoming, despite reminders. They have not as yet disaffiliated.

Other clubs at risk are

Aylesbury, Bushey & Oxhey, Sawbridgeworth and Watford.

Bushey & Oxhey inform me they only pay capitation for active members.

Watford updated their details on 28<sup>th</sup> May much to my surprise.

None reply to me e-mails but I know the contact for Bushey & Oxhey has a very ill wife.

### **3. Notable Community Service Initiatives by Clubs.**

I know of none.



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**4. How many of this year's Round Table Retirees have joined or are joining 41 Club?**

I have e-mailed all the clubs with retiring Tablers in their patch, and hope that most have followed up the contacts I have given them. At least 50% have said they had and one retiring Tabler told me he was definitely joining. I also e-mailed all the retiring Tablers to encourage them to join most of whom replied. Reasonably successful.

**5. Any other relevant information you wish to report**

May I say I am disappointed how many clubs do not even reply to e-mails, and when they do, forget to name their club leaving me to find which club on the officer lists. I think it is discourteous to say the least.

**Robert Browning**

[region19@41club.org](mailto:region19@41club.org)

**REGION 20 – FRANK VENABLES**

**Apology**

This report is thinner than I would wish. In the two months since Ipswich, I have had very little time to devote to 41 Club affairs. Wife's operations with eight-week recovery, and school governor's responsibilities with new headteacher and Ofsted visit due in July. These are now behind me, and I expect to flesh out this report by the time we meet in Brighton.

**1. Clubs identified for further visits/follow up (please state reasons)**

The following clubs have 'Risk Ratings' of 3 or more on the 'Jim Scale' and are my prime candidates for further enquiries:

Newbury; Buckingham; Goring; Sandhurst & Yateley; Reading (No. 11) and Wycombe. However, I have just found that the basic information for Wycombe was in error and its rating should be more like 1 than 3. I have eliminated it from my current enquiries.

This raises the question of perhaps reviewing the rating procedure and the data fed into it.

**2. Clubs you are aware of that might give notice of disaffiliation (please state reasons and any intervention by you to date)**

None at present, but, from last year's enquiries, I am aware of several that are pessimistic about long-term prospects.

**3. Notable Community Service Initiatives by Clubs.**

None notified since April

**4. How many of this year's Round Table Retirees have joined or are joining 41 Club?**

Of fifteen notified to me, I have made contact with ten; the other five have been out of contact, but I hope to be in touch later.

Six have joined or are attending pending membership.

Two are taking another year in Round Table.

One wants a break, but did not rule out joining later.

One [ONLY] said that 41 Club is not for him.

**5. Any other relevant information you wish to report**



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The 'Risk Ratings' for my 32 clubs, as reported, were:

"4": 1 club; "3": 5 Clubs; "2": 12 clubs; "1": 6 clubs; "0": 8 clubs

Since then it has become evident that Wycombe should be moved from "3" to "1"

It will be interesting to compare these figures with those from the other regions.

**Frank Venables**

[region20@41club.org](mailto:region20@41club.org)

## **REGION 21 – RAY JONES**

### **1. Clubs identified for further visits/follow up (please state reasons)**

I have visited 6 clubs since the last Council meeting and they are all functioning well. I do not propose to revisit these clubs for a while.

Next club visit is scheduled for June 29<sup>th</sup> to Norton Radstock.

I intend to make early visits to Trowbridge, Worcester and Calne as these are all clubs with low membership and do not involve themselves in any Regional event.

I have also been in contact with a Tewkesbury Ex-Tabler and requested a meeting with them shortly as I believe there is the possibility of a new club being formed.

### **2. Clubs you are aware of that might give notice of disaffiliation (please state reasons and any intervention by you to date)**

None of which I am aware. Worcester club does give some cause for concern with few members and little contact with Table.

### **3. Notable Community Service Initiatives by Clubs.**

In addition to my last full report, I know that Gordano Valley is supporting a local Youth Centre with a donation of £600. Also they negotiated with the hotel where their Ladies Night was held, to donate to charity 10% of the bar takings.

### **4. How many of this year's Round Table Retirees have joined or are joining 41 Club?**

Brooks.....Bristol asked to contact him.

Baddley.....Chippenham have contacted and he may attend a meeting

Allen )

Carey )....South Cotswold Club have e-mailed all three retirees inviting them to join Western )

Burgess and Clasby.....Hereford have no contact with Table. I will pursue.

Griffin....Cricklade and Highworth have contacted and he is attending next 41 meeting.

Lowe.....Already become a member of Stonehouse 41 Club

Otter.....I hear of plans for a possible new club in Tewkesbury and I am in contact with an influential ex-Tabler. This retiring Tabler is one of a number of ex-Tablers who may form the nucleus of a new club.

Evesham.....5 members retired from Evesham Table including the past Table Area Chairman. Evesham is seeking to re-affiliate and hopefully will be approved at the July Council meeting.



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## 5. Any other relevant information you wish to report

I was invited to address a business meeting of Gordano Valley at which 22 of their 48 members were present to discuss the resolutions passed at our AGM.

As a result I was asked to pass on to National Council the following points.

1. Whilst they were not too concerned with the £2 increase in capitation they expressed concern over the increases in the Budget and strongly requested that Council keep a very tight rein on future expenses.
2. They felt that the contract with the PR agency is a waste of money and should be rescinded at the first opportunity.
3. They were very concerned at the cost of "Links" compared with the Newsletter and suggested that Council should explore the possibility of members who preferred hard copies should perhaps contribute to the cost.

I was also able to suggest that as they are a well-run successful club without a feeder Table that they might like to consider the Phoenix initiative. I think they may well discuss this at a future meeting.

**Ray Jones**

[Region21@41club.org](mailto:Region21@41club.org)

## REGION 22 – MARK FAIRCHILD

### 1. Clubs identified for further visits/follow up (please state reasons)

Barnstaple – not visited yet

City of Truro 45 club – not visited yet

Honiton – not visited since re-affiliation, need to present charter

Isles of Scilly – Table recently closed, 2 years since last visit

South Molton – no emails on CAS, 3 years since last visit

Torquay – about to be disaffiliated for non-payment of 2010 capitation, new Chairman keen to resolve

Truro, City of – 2011 capitation outstanding, 2 years since last visit.

New Launceston club – first visit, to discuss charter

Wadebridge – not visited yet

### 2. Clubs you are aware of that might give notice of disaffiliation (please state reasons and any intervention by you to date)

Torquay – no response to contact from current listed Officers, which have remained the same for a couple of years. There is a significant under declaration of numbers on CAS. Contact made with new Chairman in last week via missed calls, clash of leave so far prevented talking in person but will resolve prior to NC meeting.

### 3. Notable Community Service Initiatives by Clubs.

Kingsbridge 41 Club will be supporting the Christchurch Earthquake appeal, which will be covered in IRO's report.

A regional appeal has been made on behalf of the Pinnacle Cancer Trust, which specifically covers Devon and Cornwall. It was started consultants and health care professionals representing the 5 primary care trusts. Bill Gater, a former Area 19 (Devon) Round Table President has become a Trustee to help in memory of his wife who lost her fight against breast cancer a few years ago. Their son's future father-in-law is currently cycling from Lands End to John O'Groats, and is collecting money for the Trust.



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#### 4. How many of this year's Round Table Retirees have joined or are joining 41 Club?

Of the 22 retiring Tablers in Area 19 & 31, half have either already joined or will be joining within the next year (one of these was elected Chairman of his 41 Club at their AGM !)

5 retirees have no affiliated 41 Club to join, although 3 of these are from Bideford Table, who are working towards re-affiliating Bideford 41 club.

1 is joining the proposed Launceston Active club (name yet to be confirmed), with another 2 who are in a similar position ie the existing 41 club is a lot older and the only viable solution appears to be a new club.

1 will not be joining 41 club yet as meeting night clashes with other activities.

That leaves 2 still to confirm, who would be joining one of the Truro clubs I have identified in (1) above.

#### 5. Any other relevant information you wish to report

Club visits since the AGM have included :

- a. Saltash – a joint meeting with their Round Table, which is struggling for members. They are going to try having a presence at the Regatta after hearing about Okehampton Tables success in attracting new members at their town show.
- b. Camborne – again a joint meeting with Round Table, for a Clay Pigeon night. Preliminary discussions about a joint 90<sup>th</sup> Charter night (Table 50, 41 Club 40) in 2012/13 depending on actual charter dates.
- c. Ottery St Mary – Clay Pigeon shoot again, their annual match against Rotary, who they share many of their members with.
- d. Tiverton – Another Clay Pigeon shoot, must be the season. Aim not improving much but my shoulder is toughening up !

I also attended the Area 19 (Devon) AGM, where a 41 Club Liaison Officer was appointed in his absence. Although still in his 30's, he has been in Table since his 18<sup>th</sup> Birthday so everyone thinks he is a lot older than he is. Will be working with him to try and progress the new active clubs.

**Mark Fairchild**

[region22@41club.org](mailto:region22@41club.org)

## REGION 23 – DAVID BROWN

### 1. Clubs identified for further visits/follow up (please state reasons)

All 46 Clubs contacted more than once since taking up appointment as National Councillor but have had response from only 50% (23) Clubs.

Of Clubs in Region, Bridgwater (score 4), Hythe (score 7), Portsmouth & Southsea (score 6) and Wells (score 4) are all Clubs possibly at risk and need to be followed up, however as none have responded it makes it difficult to plan a visit. Just to turn up on the off chance that they might be meeting in their planned meeting night in their 'usual' meeting place is taking a gamble especially when the Club might be 75 miles away!

Further mailing to go out to all Clubs which haven't responded which might help to make picture clearer?

Of those replying so far, a programme of visits is slowly being drawn up.



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**2. Clubs you are aware of that might give notice of disaffiliation (please state reasons and any intervention by you to date)**

Only Wellington known about, and essentially due to concerns over Capitation/value for money/what's in it for us/cost of magazine and general National costs.

I have been invited to a meeting where disaffiliation is to be discussed but unable to make it as I will be out of the Country. Have written to Club and spoken to various members requesting them to think positive and not to disaffiliate. My letter has been sent to all members by their Secretary. I have asked a past Regional Councillor (for Region 23) Richard Mathews if he (or someone else from National) can stand in for me and talk to them at their meeting. Richard is actively pursuing this.

**3. Notable Community Service Initiatives by Clubs.**

None that I am aware of, but early days!

**4. How many of this year's Round Table Retirees have joined or are joining 41 Club?**

All Clubs in Region 23, where advised that members from Table will be retiring, (13 Clubs, 21 retirees) have been contacted and good response received with only 4 Clubs failing to come back. Ryde and Isle of Wight are Tables with no Affiliated 41 Clubs, so Cowes and Shanklin have been asked by me to check out the retirees from those Clubs. Names and details provided by National not always found to be totally accurate and a number of cases have emerged where retiring members are Chairman of Table in their last year and are consequently staying on in Table for a further year under the rules.

Romsey are an interesting Club whereby they have asked all three retiring members to join their 41 Club, but thought unlikely that they will take up the offer as they have had no new members from Table for 9 years. They have put this down to the big age gap in their Club to Table and reluctance for 'Young' Tablers to join an 'Old Man's Club' They otherwise have a good and active relationship with their Table and will continue to try to gain new members.

Bridport noted a similar problem of the 'age gap' essentially brought about by the 45 Age Rule.

Taunton went through a very poor time due to the same reason but has now overcome this and the three retiring members have all indicated that they will be joining 41 Club.

I can't give accurate figures on how many retiring Tablers having actually taken up membership of their respective 41 Clubs but clear that Clubs have been positive in making the invitation and further feedback will hopefully be provided in due course.

**5. Any other relevant information you wish to report**

Without being a 'pain', it is difficult to get responses from Clubs in my Region, and being a new Councillor I cannot gauge if this is an apathy that most Councillors experience.

It is also clear that the Region is one of the largest with 46 Clubs spreading from Minehead in the west to Portsmouth in the east (a distance of 146 miles) Warminster in the north and Jersey/Guernsey/Alderney in the south (a nice plane flight / ferry journey and holiday in the offering here!). Consequently it's going to take some time to make my visits and get my face known (other than by email)... but the journey has started!

Richard Mathews has suggested and offered that it might be helpful if we were to set up a 'Regional Team' to assist and give support. I would value this and now look to see how it might be achieved. Certainly help with the eastern end of the Region would be well received with my base being firmly in the west!

With regard to Capitation it appears that Region 23 is fairly good at getting their dues paid with only six Clubs currently not paying. However as the Region has the highest



membership, the outstanding monies are also the largest! Three of the Clubs not paying also appear to be Clubs at risk. A reminder to all Clubs not paying will now be sent out.

**David Brown**  
[region23@41club.org](mailto:region23@41club.org)

## REGION 24 – MANNY MARTINS

### 1. Clubs identified for further visits/follow up (please state reasons)

Chichester – High Risk for a club with a Table

Horsham – High Risk for a club with a Table

Walton & Weybridge High Risk no Table

### 2. Clubs you are aware of that might give notice of disaffiliation (please state reasons and any intervention by you to date)

None

### 3. Notable Community Service Initiatives by Clubs.

#### REGION 24 Community Service Initiatives

No.	Club	Dates	Fundraising Events	Amounts Raised	Charity Supported	Amount Donated
1	Burgess Hill	19 April 2011	St Georges Night	£204.39	Children's Wish	£204
2	Camberley	Christmas 2010	Christmas Float Collection	£3800	Step by Step Disability Initiative Camberley Care Chase Children's Hospice Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice The Fountain Centre The Merry Go Round Toy Library The Mayor of Surrey Heath's Charity Appeal	£750 £750 £750 £750 £250 £250 £150 £150
3	Caterham	November 2010	Bonfire night supporting RT			
4	Eastbourne	Summer 2010	Charity Golf Day (stewarding) supporting RT  Assisting RT in	£7,000  £500 to		



		May 2010	Conference Managing	41		
5	Farnham	November	Bonfire Night Supporting RT			
6	Kingston		Transfer of Charity Funding on Closure of RT		Diving for Disabled Japan Appeal Otakar Kraus Music Trust Beating Bowel Cancer	£3,500 £ 600 £2,000 £1,000
7	Sutton	25 Feb 2011	Charity Raffle at Reunion Dinner	£480	St Raphael's Hospice Barnardo's	£430 £50
8	Wallington & Carshalton	June & Nov annually	Music in the Park & RT Fireworks	Various amounts donated from each	Ocean Trust	£1000
9	Wimbledon Womblers	June 2011	National Councillor Night	£43	Children's Wish	£43
10	Woking	November October	Fireworks night supporting RT Gourmet Dinner	£25,000 £200	National President's Annual Charity	£200

#### 4. How many of this year's Round Table Retirees have joined or are joining 41 Club?

##### Round Table Transferees - 2011 -2012

No	Name	Table/ 41Club	Joined 41 Y/N	Why Not	Approach by 41 Club	Ideas
1	Mark Bennett	Burgess Hill	Y		No	Was President of 41 whilst in Table
2	Gordon Smibert	Burgess Hill	N	Honorary in Table	No	
3	Clive Harper	Caterham	N	Honorary Year Will look for another year after that.  'Know the Tablers not the 41ers and it's my thing'.	No	
4	Ashley Pugh	Eastbourne	Y 10 in last year		Yes	Both Table and 41 Club very strong
5	David	Epsom	N	Honorary	Yes	



	Jarrold			In a club of 2 members		
6	Nik Lenson	Epsom	N	Other interests	Yes	
7	Andrew Blagden	Godalming	N	Honorary Knows other Tablers in their 50's	Yes	Will join next year
8	Stephen Rail	Godalming	N	Believed Honorary	Yes	Left message on mobile twice and home once. Sent E-mail
9	Neil Wallsgrave	Godalming	N	Very busy at work	Yes	Will join sometime
10	Graham Smith	Haslemere	Next year	Honorary	Yes	
11	Tony Lee	Hastings	N	Honorary	No	
12	Angus Wakeford	Hastings	N	Chairman in Table this year	No	
13	Stephen Parker	Horley	N	Honorary	Yes	
14	David Leach	Kingston	Yes		Yes	Use for new contacts
15	Adrian Marshall	Lewes	Yes	Honorary	Yes	
16	David Bass	Redhill	No	Honorary All his mates are in Table. They will join en mass.	Yes	Rung Office twice, Home once. Finally on day three got him on his mobile.
17	David Charitos	Redhill	No	Honorary As above	Yes	Never at work. Home number invalid. Left two messages at office E-mail sent.
18	Nicholas Deakin	Redhill	Will do		Yes	
19	Simon Hocken	Redhill	Y		Y	
20	Adrian Rothera	Redhill	N	Honorary Wants more energetic sports - Rock climbing, cycling, motors	Yes	
21	Michael Watson	Redhill				Both telephone numbers incorrect not working. E-mail sent
22	Ian Sadler	Wallington	N		Y	Only number given is mobile. Rung mobile twice and left messages. Sent E-mail.
23	Ian St. John	Wallington	Y		Y	



Notes:

1. Only 5 out of 21 Round Tablers will/have joined 41 Club. This is better than last year's tranche where I believe (but at present cannot verify) that only 3 out of 28 joined.
2. On a positive note 2 of last year's tranche (2009 n- 2010) have joined this year. 5 others might have but the Club returns just gave me numbers and not names (though I asked for them).
3. Last year's list caused me a lot of trouble because of the number of incorrect phone numbers. This year's though containing errors or old phone numbers was better.
4. Tracking could be easier if we adopted the old table capitation methodology of names with capitation. This is a proposal.
5. Without exception the single largest factor in Ex Tablers not joining 41 Club is Honorary Years. This process is almost meaningless; bestowing honorary membership is seen as the 'standard practice' on reaching 45. It has no value. It used to be granted to those Ex Tablers who had left many years previously and had contributed significantly to the Club and Association as a whole. It was an honour – it is now just an extension to Table membership – an abuse of the process.
6. About a third of the Ex Tablers cited the 45 age rule as being the major reason that Round Table and 41 Club had drifted apart – the age gap was too great.
7. Few Tables hold regular joint meetings with their respective 41 Club and vice versa.
8. Tablers did not know what their respective 41 Clubs did.
9. See Table above – I thought you got an extra year if you were Chairman in your last year NOT that you got an extra year to be Chairman. This is obviously the 46 year age rule.
10. This is really a joint effort with Round Table Nationally. They need to put processes in place to tyre lever Ex Tablers out of Round Table.
11. Some Ex Tablers cited older Ex Tablers still in Table who did not want to leave Table (and Table keeping hold of them) because they enjoyed the experience. These guys will never join 41 – they will complete Tabling in their 60s and fade away.
12. I discussed joint membership – quite plainly some said it was too expensive and their first loyalty was to Table.
13. Some 41 Clubs did not have a recruitment process for Ex Tablers or prospective Ex Tablers.
14. This exercise took 3 days intensive, ringing, holding conversations, leaving messages, awaiting call back, sending e-mails, updating tables. I missed some of the timings but will update from my next telephone bill if applicable. I believe that I am making between 200 – 300 phone calls on behalf of the Association per quarter. Up until now I had not logged all calls and e-mails – I will now keep a full record.



No	Name	Telephone		E-mail
		Landline (mins)	Mobile (mins)	
1	Mark Bennett	9.03		
2	Gordon Smibert			
3	Clive Harper	0.27		
4	Ashley Pugh	1.12, 1.08	7.37	
5	David Jarrold	6.29		
6	Nik Lenson	7.30		
7	Andrew Blagden	3.20	0.43, 5.56	
8	Stephen Rail	1.50	1.05, 4.60	Yes
9	Neil Wallsgrove	5.41		
10	Graham Smith			
11	Tony Lee	11.23		
12	Angus Wakeford	0		
13	Stephen Parker	5.63		
14	David Leach	0		
15	Adrian Marshall	0.55, 6.35		
16	David Bass	1.05	4.50	Yes
17	David Charitos			Yes
18	Nicholas Deakin	3.52		
19	Simon Hocken	1.15, 3.18		
20	Adrian Rothera	0.42, 4.39		
21	Michael Watson			Yes
22	Ian Sadler		1.02	Yes
23	Ian St. John			

## 5. Any other relevant information you wish to report

### (National Councillor – Region 24) Visits

Since the National AGM in April I have carried out the following visits.

#### Tuesday 19 April 2011

Burgess Hill St Georges Dinner

What a meeting. Burgess Hill 41 has this wonderful Annual Event organised by 41er Chris Simms. It was hosted at the Oak Barn which is owned by another 41er Chris Collins. It was a delight to see so many DJs supporting an assortment of 41ers and Round Table bodies, all 86 of them. One of the Round Tablers was the Area 2 Chairman Daniel Ori (more details later in the report). This fine body of men included many friends and acquaintances from the past, Burgess Hill being where I was inducted into Round Table. The meeting was managed (and very well) by Burgess Hill 41 Club President Martin Booth who I had not seen in 25 years (ah memory lane). Skulking in the background minus medals and insignia was – yes – ordinary 41er Vaughan Harris (I always come to this – it's a great evening). And indeed it was!

A superb meal was followed by the old style – take no prisoners – non PC speaker Adger Brown. Faultless Delivery, stomach busting funny and Table and 41 Club fellowship. Chris Simms then led the congregation in a number of old favourite songs including Jerusalem. I can report that both Table and 41 Club are doing extremely well



in Burgess Hill. Oh as an aside I managed to collect £204.39 for Children's Wish from this very generous gathering of like minded men

### **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2011**

Anglo French Day

Now, I will tell the truth, personally International is not my thing. I can take it or leave it! BUT President Vaughan said it was in my patch (or close to it). And David Campbell was the new National IRO and ex nearest National Councillor, who organised the event. So I capitulated and dragged my feet to Dover. At the Ferry Terminal there was a slow dribble of 41ers and a smattering of Round Tablers, eventually there was ten of us. We head for the Ferry.

It is not often one is privileged to see the preview of a brand new comedy, but, there it played out in front of me. Andy Waite that excellent International Figurehead had forgotten to bring his passport – an evil necessity. So like Del boy he boarded the coach to Passport Control. The desk was manned by a most efficient Parisian with two mates equally garbed in Black uniform and sporting two Heckler and Koch HK121 machine guns and all accessories in black. Without a break in stride Andy approached this daunting trio and Oi.....went the French gabber with much gesturing from Andy. A shake of the head from Immigration Officer, more fluent French gabber from Andy, a smile on the Officers face, he clasps his hands to his stomach – belly laughing, his side kicks are on the ground with mirth. With tears running down their faces they wave Andy through. And we did not vote him in as National IRO – madness!

A pleasant cruise across to France in a private lounge with all mod cons. Banter and drinks. Arrive France and 70 yes 70 French get on board. Absolutely fantastic. What a welcome – I won't have to wash my face for a month. Banner and badge exchanges, pleasant chats, common ground, sharing experiences, fellowship. I am a devout International!!!! Thanks David Campbell for a great day.

Philip Douce (novice) Area 25 Councillor and I are organising next year's event so make sure you are coming. Oh Andy? On the return leg the Immigration Officers took one look at him and let him through (what did he say to them??)

### **Monday 9 May**

Sutton 41 Club

I tramped off to Sutton (and Cheam) 41 Club with David Moss (Hamble Valley Stick Club) as shotgun and met up with Captain Jack Maunders and Peter Holland from Kingston, my body guard. We had refreshing drinks in the front garden of the most magnificent Prince of Wales public house in the area. As the Sutton 41ers drifted in they observed our drinking and saw David's Chairman's Stick ([www.hvsc41club.co.uk](http://www.hvsc41club.co.uk)). We were well received by the Club and Colin Shea the Chairman on his first night was resplendent in Sports Jacket and no Tie. Club contact Eugene Regan and Treasurer Paul Whitehead looked after us royally. After dinner David Moss told the history of Hamble Valley including why the members were presented with walking sticks and not pewter tankards on leaving Round Table. He also spoke about Hamble Valley's strict Dress Code. Only leaving Table each 41er was also given a Pin Stripe Suit – to be worn to Club Meeting only. There was much admiration for this – so much so that Captain Jack Maunders



attending Hamble Valley Stick Club's AGM in a PIN Stripe Suit. Boy was he lonely! The meal was superb, it really should have been served on individual platters the plates were too small.

I gave my rebel rousing address to the Nation and was awarded with a standing ovation. Well they were standing anyway and putting their coats on. Many questions followed and I think we will see more investment in Table over the coming year. There followed a business meeting which showed that the club was alive and active. They promised to discuss Children's Wish at the following meeting and send the funds on. We all made our ways home in a fitful bonhomie; fellowship was the order of the day.

### **Tuesday 17 May 2011**

Oxted

After much finger tapping on the SAT NAV it finally deposited me at the Crown, Old Oxted. It was a meeting that I had been looking forward to for some time. On entering the resplendent establishment I was confronted with an overcrowded clientele base, well I doubled the numbers. Looking to the Menu Board my stomach started growling with anticipation. Still, time to identify the 41ers. I had arrived early as requested at 7.30. At 9.00 O'clock I was worried and lonely. I rang the Club Contact – no reply, I rang a few members still no reply, they were obviously at a great get together minus me. I phoned the President (who lived locally to pick up my Sales Box – goodies galore). Mrs President kindly informed me that Pres Vaughan was at an Executive Meeting in Birmingham picking up my Box! I drove home to Tolworth a hungry and lonely man.

### **Thursday 26 May 2011**

Oxted

So I rang around and found out that the meeting was definitely on – BUT – the Club Contact who had given me the wrong date was on leave and the member I had rung was not attending cos he had a Board Meeting to go to (obviously a surfer). So off I tripped again. Same Pub, same time, no 41ers – er??? Finally a slow appearance in ones. I was greeted by Keith Chapman who looked after me all night. He apologised for the Chairman who was at a rehearsal for his son's forthcoming wedding, Keith was in charge of the evening but had not been informed that I was coming. Never mind, with me we were nine strong. The meal was Tapas. Brilliant, talk flowed backwards and forwards re the past, the future and the next meeting. Henry Moore (no not Patrick Moore) was also solicitous. A great evening in superb company. While I am here I thought – I'll pick up my Sales Box. Out came the trusty 1910 mobile phone in the shape of a brick with a full size handset and I phoned Pressy. Mrs Pressy answered. Is it an emergency she asked, No Said I why, cos we are in Spain on holiday she replied? Off home again minus trusty old Sales Box.

### **Monday 1 June 2011**

Crowborough

Memories are the music of my mind. That is the song is it not? I had transferred to Crowborough after moving from Burgess Hill some 24 years ago and was privileged to be a member of both the Round Table and 41 Club. An evening out with wives at the Phish Restaurant Uckfield (yes I spelt it right). With partners – problem! So I drove from



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Tolworth to Fareham to Uckfield (and back later that night). On arriving at this elegant (real class) establishment I was surprised to meet (but I should have known) National Treasurer Mike Turner as the Speaker just about to start his party piece – Gin through the ages – history and practice. Mike is a Gin Connoisseur. Whilst we gathered around the bar area and rekindled old friendships Mike told us the history of Gin and at each milestone offered us a glass of Blossom, Blackwood's, Saffron, Hendricks, Greenalls, Plymouth, Bombay Sapphire ( if I have some of the names wrong I apologise I was seeing double by then and receiving in quadraphonic). I felt my way gin – gerly to the dining table and was asked by Chairman Paul Tobin to say Grace (through) cotton wool lips. I had ordered Posh Fish and Chips which came in a basket wrapped in the Sunday Times Business Section. It was really good to meet old mates Roger and Dawn, the two Johns, David, Chris, Paul, Richard and Shelia and of course Mike Turner himself. Great meal, more Gin, conversation flowed. Thanks John Jarvis for the arranging, Paul Toben for the hosting and Mike Turner for the Gin – I never did make it home.

### **Monday 6 June 2011**

Aldershot

It must be a conspiracy, I had arranged to visit Aldershot with the Club Contact John Hollis but he would not be there. Were they expecting me – I am still not sure but I arrived at the Tweseldown Pub in Church Cookham in a good mood. I had seen the menu and pre booked my meal – an organised club – thanks Ray Brookes the dinner convenor. We congregated at the bar where Chairman David Leslie was most courteous and informative about the history of the club and how over their many years together they were all firm friends. We had dinner in the dining area adjacent to the bar where many eyes cast our way as the evening proceeded. Chairman David twisted my arm and I partook of a glass of a very nice Merlot. It was nectar to my lips. The Soup was superb – just like my poor old mum used to make so I looked for her in the kitchens but she was not there. Kebabs whoa – and we got down to business. The future programme was discussed, Treasurer Keith Bryant relieved me of my meal money and I gave an update on the Round Table family. This triggered a discussion/debate on Round Table and its cost today, and lack of suitable candidates as well as open membership. Very lively and I survived with a whole skin (just). It was coming on for 9.30 and 41ers were looking at their watches – Cocoa time said one. Do they serve it here I asked, No was the reply but my wife makes me a mean one for 10.00 p.m. With much hand shaking and back slapping I left another great group of 41ers to drive home full of bonhomie and diet coke.

### **Tuesday 14 June 2011**

Wimbledon Womblers

I made up my travelling lunch box, topped up my thermos flask, strapped the bottle to my leg and set off on my long 3 mile journey to Wimbledon. I had been forewarned of the behaviour of these city 41ers so took my black belt qualified body guard from Kingston – Captain Jack Maunders. There is a big advantage to their meeting venue – the Antoinette Hotel - free car parking for customers – in a central location this is worth a small fortune. We were warmly received and before you could say Jack Maunders – drinks were placed in our hands and we were reliving the last forty years of Table and FortyOne Club. I met President Keith Blake, Chairman (for the evening) Chris Stephens,



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Club Contact Roger Carr and a host of others. I was especially delighted to see Steve Whittaker. The meal was a delight and the business meeting started in earnest. There was so much going on it was hard to take it all in but the French weekend being organised by Keith Blake was comprehensive and astonishing well organised with over 30 visitors arriving from across the waters.

When given the opportunity to speak I was most pleased to announce that Steve Whittaker (who I have been gently persuading over the past eight months) had agreed to be my first formal deputy National Councillor appointment. I spoke of the future for the Round Table family and stated that within the next two years Steve and I would be forming a new or phoenix Round Table. Steve's remit (or region) will be Wimbledon, Ewell and Worcester Park, Sutton, Cheam and Banstead. I collected £53.30 for Childrens Wish – thank you. After the meeting we spent a fair time at the bar enjoying the camaraderie of many years of shared experiences. What a great evening – thanks for the warm reception and interest and enthusiasm to start a new Round Table.

### **Monday 20 June 2011**

East Grinstead

The Club Contact – Vaughan Harris is normally quick to respond to requests. So when I informed him I was coming earlier in the month he did not mention it was an external visit with partners. On informing my entourage Captain Jack dropped out (lack of partner problems) but Kingston 41 Club Chairman Andrew Klaymatis was up for it. So off we set to the dark native lands of West Sussex.

On finding the British Wildlife centre I was pleased to see a welcoming committee. If it had not been for the rain and umbrellas I might have been able to distinguish this fine bunch from a bus queue. I was warmly greeted by one and all and we gathered in the reception and restaurant area. The guide was David Mills. The British Wildlife Centre was started in 1997 by David Mills. Before then, David had a successful herd of pedigree Jersey dairy cows on the site of what is now the wildlife centre. Since 1971 the rich milk and cream of the Venn herd of Jerseys was supplied to many local homes and businesses. In 1994 David ceased farming in order to realise a second dream of setting up a centre to educate people about our native wildlife.

David informed us that this centre was not a zoo because there were no big, foreign animals it was all British Animals, this was followed by a large round of applause. British animals he said were small and in most case nocturnal so were hard to see (like Ex Tablers/new 41ers I thought). So off we went on a guided tour. It was a fantastic trip encompassing Red Squirrel and Deer, venomous snakes, Badgers and a host more. There were over 40 native wild animals from tiny harvest mice to magnificent Red Deer and the bull of the herd had antlers in excess of ten feet across – what a boy. I discovered the technique to get the animals to get closer and get great snaps – wait until Mrs President leaves then they all come flocking. It was as ever a great night. Thank you East Grinstead for a well planned and enjoyable evening. Oh Andrew my Chairman - he never turned up.

### **Tuesday 21 June 2011**

Streatham



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I have been conversing with Streatham for almost a year. Derek Fitzgibbon the Club Contact has been very good in maintaining contact with me. He arranged for a 100% turnout from his Club all four of them. I set out early on this long 15 mile journey and arrived three quarters of an hour late after getting lost three times. Luckily my number two – Captain Jack Maunders had arrived in time to entertain them. Derek introduced me to his members Mike Wakely, Len Wardley and Dave Ellis. They greeted Jack Like a long lost brother (he was their contemporary 30 years ago). Oh I forgot to tell you Streatham meets midday – so there we were at the Toby Carvery, South Croydon in the early afternoon. We spent a pleasant couple of hours reminiscing Area 18 Table, the demise of Streatham and other local Tables and the slow disappearance of Ex Tablers. It was a good time remembering Tablers from the Past and drinking a rather potent Red Wine. The Carvery was excellent and good value I recommend it. We had a discussion on Table and 41 Club and time flew by. It was time to go home and we all parted with a good meal inside us full of goodwill and happy memories. Thank you Streatham – I really want to come back for more.

#### Future Visits

Date	Club	Contact	Venue
27 June Monday Cancelled moved to Monday 26 September	Camberley	Ron Jenkins	Camberley Heath Golf Club
6 <sup>th</sup> July Wednesday	Cranleigh	Colin Wood	Punchbowl Inn, Okewood Hill, Dorking
20 July Wednesday	Chichester	Malcolm Danks	?
23 August Tuesday Cancelled until New Year but will visit on 27 September	Farnham	David Harden	Mercure Bush Hotel, Farnham
04 October Wednesday	Woking		Gourmet Dinner
21 October 2010	Hamble Valley Ex Tablers Reunion	Manny Martins	TBD

#### Additionally

1. I have been working on the new replacement 41 Club Brochure as a member of the Membership Committee.



2. I have tried to form a Working Party with Ladies Circle, Tangent and Round Table in RT Area 2 to work on membership issues across the RT family of four Associations. My top two issues (Clubs) are in this Area. Table are willing, Tangent will only join in if there is an expense account and Ladies Circle are too busy to talk to me.
3. I am trying to organise a Golf Day in Region 24.
4. I am trying to arrange two Regional Dinners.
5. I have chased National Capitation.
6. I have chased Bouncing e-mails.
7. I have chased Table Transfers.
8. I have chased Community Service Initiatives.
9. Worked on Risk Register and produced countless tables of information including:-
  - Three year Round Table Transfers
  - This years Round Table Transfer
  - Clubs in Risk Order
10. Anything else I forgot?????
11. I am happy to announce my first Deputy National Councillor Steve Whittaker as mentioned earlier in my report.

**Manny Martins**

[region24@41club.org](mailto:region24@41club.org)

## **REGION 25 – PHILIP DOUCE**

**Philip Douce**

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