



THE MILLENNIUM WALK

By the time you read this newsletter National President Malcolm will be well on his way along the Millennium Way, Malcolm is the first non-golfing President for a few years but he does enjoy walking. He is using the event for several purposes:

- To raise money for his chosen charity The Ocean Youth Trust.
- To publicise the Millennium Way, which was created by 41 Club members as part of the Y2K celebrations.
- To meet as many fellow 41ers along the way and to socialise with as many clubs as possible.

The walk starts in Oxfordshire, meanders through Warwickshire and finishes in Worcestershire. If all goes to plan Malcolm will be arriving in Pershore on 10th July. You are welcome to join Malcolm on any part of the route.

The full itinerary can be found here:

<http://walking.41club.org/president.htm>

Malcolm will be maintaining a blog of the walk, which can be located here:

<http://www.thebigpresidentialwalk.blogspot.com/>

Assuming of course he still has the time and energy after the exertions of the day!

Please come and support your national President and get some exercise in the wonderful heart of England.



For further details of the President's chosen charity and for details on how you could have a sailing adventure onboard one of their yachts please go to the following link:

<http://www.oyt.org.uk/41club.asp>

THE WEST CUMBRIA TRAGEDY

The National President and all members of the National Council of the Association of Ex-Round Tablers' Clubs extend their deepest sympathy to the people of West Cumbria at this most tragic time.

Our heartfelt condolences go to the families that have lost loved ones and we hold in our thoughts and prayers those who anxiously await news of friends or family members injured and in hospital.

We pledge our full support to 41 Clubs throughout the Region who may be in a position to offer care and assistance to their communities at this time.

For further information, advice or requests for practical assistance, please contact the National Secretary.

ROUND TABLE NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Many of you will know that organising a National Conference takes many years of planning, negotiating and arranging, with numerous meetings and sub-committees to ensure that everything goes smoothly. So what do you do when you wake up with less than 10 days to go to the start of the event to discover that your venue has been on fire and substantially damaged by the water used to control it? That was the scenario faced by the organisers of Harrogate 2010. Their worst nightmare had come true.

Well in true Round Table tradition they adopted a positive spirit, adapted their plans and improved on what seemed an impossible situation.

Congratulations to all involved in re-scheduling the accommodation and events, for the Conference went ahead and I am assured that everybody had a great time. It definitely goes to show that the true spirit of Round Table is alive and well.

With both the National and International 41 Club AGMs being affected by the volcanic dust problem and this problem at Harrogate let us hope that 2011 proves to be a little easier for all of the organisers.

BIRTHDAY HONOURS FOR H4H COUPLE

Two of our friends at Help For Heroes have been awarded O.B.E.s in the Queen's Birthday Honours list. Congratulations to Bryn and Emma Parry. Their story shows what can be achieved with vision and enthusiasm.



<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/10296858.stm>

CONTRIBUTIONS TO NEWS@41CLUB.ORG

Please send contributions to news@41club.org
The copy date for the August issue is Sunday 18th July.

Editor: Ray Hill
National Councillor Region 11

EDITORIAL

ALL CHANGE AT NEWS@41CLUB.ORG ?



Well I did ask! Apparently you would like a newsletter of no more than 4 pages but as long as 'War and Peace', set in one two and three columns, with no pictures but fully illustrated, with no long articles but plenty of links (which are absolutely no use to those who prefer paper copies) and above all a file size of no more than 10k!

Well perhaps I am being a little facetious but you can see the problem I am presented with. The newsletter is designed as a screen based, topical resource, but it is becoming apparent that many still like to print out hard copy, either for their own personal use or to distribute to others. For those with broadband the download will take only a few seconds, even the 'bumper' issues should have taken less than one minute to download, but apparently there are some recipients still on dial-up, and for them it takes considerably longer. I am also well aware that editions with lots of colour can be quite expensive to print. Indeed this has proved that distributing the Links magazine via the web really is a non-starter as downloading and printing a full colour 32 page magazine is just not sensible.

Without going into too much technical detail the Newsletter is produced in Word and then converted into PDF format using Acrobat. This is probably not the best solution but is at no cost to the Association as I already have this software. In its Word document format the newsletter is far too big to distribute, and the pdf produced by Word is not much smaller. The document is then converted into Postscript format (a file usually of over 200 megabytes, and then finally compressed into its final pdf format. Previous editions have varied in size from 229 Kb to 1090 Kb. This compression is amazing and is much smaller than most of the downloads I receive. A one page word document or a single photograph are usually well in excess of these sizes.

So what are we doing about it? Well you will see that this issue is back down to 6 pages, there are no long articles, there are fewer photos, the coloured index box has been removed, everything is now in two columns with gaps between the paragraphs (for ease of reading) and there are more links to the items referred to. I know that this will not please everybody but I have attempted to resolve as many requests as possible without removing the topicality.

In the future we are investigating publishing both the newsletter and magazine on a commercial site that will allow them to be viewed without downloading them. For those who cannot open the pdf files the necessary software can be downloaded, this is free and totally safe but the files are large, therefore we are looking at supplying the software on CD for those still on dialup.

My thanks go to all those who responded to last month's appeal for your views. I am listening and will continue to listen. I know that I cannot make everybody happy, but there is one problem I just cannot overcome, the 'Censors' who just refuse to distribute the newsletter to their clubs. Chatting to fellow members it never ceases to amaze me how many very active clubs just do not receive the newsletter. Once you have a distribution list set up it takes only a few minutes a month to pass on the newsletter to all those members on e-mail, and that is the vast majority of members in most clubs these days.

Your opinions would again be gratefully appreciated.

41 CLUB SUMMER SALES SPECIAL

This lovely summer weather will not last! So take advantage of the 41 Club Sales Summer Special.

A Golfing Umbrella and a Base Ball Cap all for £15.99 (list price 19.99) plus carriage and handling.

Only available for orders placed by 31st August 2010. Ring 01702 478425 without delay to take advantage of this fantastic offer!

"MIND THE GAP – BRING 'EM BACK"

A new initiative that you will read a great deal about in the coming months. The brain storming session at the National Council Meeting in Durham has produced a whole new series of actions and initiatives aimed at attracting new members.

In recent weeks there have been a few letters and messages asking why, as an organisation with restricted membership requirements, we require any PR activity. It is the tens of thousands of ex-Tablers that have never joined 41 Club and those approaching Table retirement age that we need to target, and all of our current membership plans are aimed at doing just that.

More on this initiative next month



A view of the Gateshead Millennium Bridge, taken by President Malcolm, on a river cruise after the June National Council.

ANSWERS TO JUNE BRAINTEASERS

The day before yesterday I was 45 and next year I will be 48. What date is my birthday?

Answer: December 31st

What mathematical symbol can be placed between 5 and 9, to get a number greater than 5 and smaller than 9?

Answer: a decimal point

SALES ORDERING TIP NO. 1

Here is a tip to cut down on cost when ordering items from www.41clubsales.com. Why not place a bulk order as a Club. Carriage charges vary according to the weight, size and value of the items ordered. Most small items carry a carriage charge of £2.95. This rises to £4.50 for others so combining orders will save you carriage costs.

THOUGHTS FOR JULY

I couldn't repair your brakes, so I made your horn louder.

Do you have trouble making up your mind? Well, yes or no?

If everything seems to be going well, you have obviously overlooked something.

Many people quit looking for work when they find a job.

CLUB NEWS

REGION 11 GOLF TOURNAMENT

Congratulations to Alsager 41 Club on winning the Region 11 Golf Tournament at their first attempt. Seven teams competed for this title, which was re-introduced last year. Some of you in Kent may recognise the trophy as it was kindly donated by the old Region 11 when the new regions were created. The runners-up were Newport Ex-Tablers and Northwich were a close third.

Crewe Golf Club is becoming the home for this event which was held on 8th June, and next year's competition is already booked. Thanks to Roger Scowcroft for such an efficiently organised day.



NEW PERSON ON 41 CLUB SALES HELP DESK TELEPHONE NUMBER

I am delighted to inform members that Diane Farrell is ready and able to take your 41 Club sales enquiries on **01702 478425**. Diane comes with over eighteen years experience in customer service, is a full time Mum with two young children of 11 and 9 and lives locally in Southend.

Diane admits that she knows nothing about 41 Club (food for thought!) but looks forward to learning more and helping members with their sales enquiries.

Please remember that the quickest and most secure way to place a sales order is on-line via www.41clubsales.com

Hugh Milward, National Sales & Marketing Officer



CLUB FORUM

<http://41forum.notlong.com>

PETERHEAD 41 AGM

As befits their status as, arguably, Scotland's premier 41 Club, the Peterhead members and wives held their AGM in the grand and grandiose surroundings of Belle Isle Castle near Enniskillen in Northern Ireland. Although they were understandably tempted to enjoy themselves with much feasting and drinking, it should be noted that much of the weekend was taken up considering and debating many of the weighty issues confronting 41 Club at this time. Time also had to be found to appoint their new Chairman and after much deliberation the honour was rightly bestowed on Jim (Stag) Finnie. The evening was concluded with a toast to 41 Club and the customary celebratory small sherry.

Gerry Smith Peterhead and District 41 Club



The honour has clearly gone to new Chairman Jim's head!

ALL IN THE CALL OF DUTY

At the time I am writing this newsletter International Officer Andy Waite is in hospital waiting to see if he requires another operation on his leg. Whilst attending the gala dinner at the RT 47 Eurometing in Mol, Belgium he slipped on some liquid on a marble floor. The result was a broken left leg and a broken right collarbone. In true Table style one of the guests just happened to be the local orthopedic surgeon who rushed Andy to hospital and operated immediately to plate the leg, which was broken in two places.

A few days later Andy was brought back to the UK by some of his traveling companions and was taken to his local hospital. As he is now immobile and lives alone it was arranged for him to stay in a care home for the time being, however complications have set in and he has returned to hospital.

Best wishes go to Andy from all on the National Council. If you would like to contact Andy then his email address is a.waite@hud.ac.uk. He will be delighted to hear from you.



41 CLUB ON FACEBOOK

Welcome to Tony Sweet, ex Southend Round Table who became the first person to join 41 Club as a result of finding our entry on Facebook. Many 41ers are now linking to this site, which is one of the first results of our relationship with Avid PR. If you are a member of Facebook then the link to 41 Club is: www.facebook.com/pages/41-Club/124493567572514 Or to join Facebook use www.facebook.com

ARE YOU LINKED IN?



For anyone who is a member of Linked In the business networking site, www.linkedin.com, it is now possible to show that you are a Member of 41 Club following the creation of a 41 Club group on Linked In. Just search for "Association of ex-Round Tablers" in the Groups section and you should find it. It's just a way of continuing to wear your badge with pride - in the virtual world.

Don Mullane, London Old Tablers' Society

PERSONALISED ADULT POLO SHIRTS

One 41 Club Sales item that is proving very popular is the Personalised Adult Polo Shirt.

The reason is that it can be ordered in a range of attractive colours as follows:



Each Shirt can be personalised with up to two lines of text within the price, for example your Name and Club.

An optional third line of text is available at extra cost.

The price is good value at **£19.99**, plus shipping and handling.

To order go to www.41clubsales.com

SALES ORDERING TIP NO. 2

In recent years the delivery of items ordered on-line has seen a massive growth, with delivery vans piled high with parcels tearing around door to door. Damage can occur despite careful packaging and bubble wrap use.



If in the unlikely case you receive an item ordered via www.41clubsales.com where the outer package is damaged you should mark the carrier receipt with "Damaged" before signing and accepting delivery. If you are unsure as to the condition of the goods you should mark the carrier receipt as "Unchecked" before signing to accept delivery.

If you receive an item that has been damaged, please contact sales@41clubsales.co.uk by e-mail immediately to arrange the return of the item for replacement. In most cases we will refund the cost of return.

Please note that all claims for damaged goods must be made within 24 hours of delivery.

REGION 20 GOLF DAY

15th June 2010, Temple Golf Club, Hurley, Nr Maidenhead

This event was hosted by Bourne End & Flackwell Heath 41 Club at the historic Temple Golf Club [‘Henry Cotton practised here’].

On a beautiful June day [yes there are a few] 24 Region 20 golfers, including a few Region 15 [ex 8] immigrants, played this demanding course.

The day finished with an excellent awards dinner, at which I presented the following prizes:

Team Prizes

- 1st Bourne End & Flackwell Heath A
- 2nd Bourne End & Flackwell Heath B
- 3rd Oxford C

Individual Prizes

- 1st Robin Stevens - Bourne End & Flackwell Heath B
- 2nd Rocky Rowe – Wantage
- 3rd Malcolm Hann - Bourne End & Flackwell Heath A

Nearest the Pin

Mike Chapman – Wantage

Longest Drive

John Kilpatrick – Abingdon A

Bourne End & Flackwell Heath were thanked heartily for organising such a brilliant day, even though they won it! However, they only escaped public lynching by agreeing to host next year's event.

Frank Venables, National Councillor Region 20 (Thames Valley)



We now have an entry on Wikipedia, the world's largest on-line encyclopedia. The entry will gradually be developed over the next few months and can be found here: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/41_Club

NEW NATIONAL COUNCILLORS

I am pleased to advise that the closing date for Nominations for National Councillors has now past and I can confirm the following appointments:

Region 10	Peter Good	Ashby-de-la Zouch
Region 14	Terry Wells	Cannock
Region 24	Manny Martins	Kingston

Martin Green, National Secretary

Children: You spend the first 2 years of their life teaching them to walk and talk. Then you spend the next 16 years telling them to sit down and shut-up.

Children seldom misquote you. In fact, they usually repeat word for word what you shouldn't have said.



POSTBOX

Send your letters to
news@41club.org

All members are invited to submit views on any topical subject. Please do not make them too long and definitely no personal attacks will be allowed.

Further debate on these topics can be found on the club forum at <http://41forum.notlong.com>.

THE NEW PR CONSULTANTS

NEWS@ confirms that PR Consultants have now been appointed.

I see that "they have been appointed to help us to improve our profile both internally within 41 Club and the rest of the Round Table family but also externally with publicity of some of our major events and activities"

With my Communications hat on I intend to give a brief report on this initiative in our website.

It will therefore help for me to understand the detail behind the wording of the brief

What are our key objectives?

Have we set clear basic measures and what are they?

How and when will progress against these measures be assessed and analysed.

Have specific review dates been set?

What is the duration of the contract?

Who is driving the project for 41?

What are the plans for interim feedback to Clubs?

How much is it costing?

Mac Cummings, Lichfield 41 Club

In response Mac I am chairing the group responsible for PR activities alongside David Smith (Communications officer), Hugh Milward (Sales & Marketing), Ray Hill (Regional Councillor & Newsletter editor) and Malcolm Lockey (President) who is ex-officio to the group.

The key objectives:

1. To improve 41 Club's public profile both as an independent association and linked to Round Table.
2. To show evidence of 41 Club's work in the community both nationally and locally
3. To improve 41 Club's image in the eyes of ex-Round Tablers who have never joined 41 Club and to existing Round Tablers to encourage them to join in the future.
4. To assist in the growth of Round Table and consequently 41 Club's own future membership.

Performance Measures have been set around a number of key areas such as National and Local media coverage, Social Media, Round Table Family links, establishing the potential and opportunities for generating advertising revenue through the web site and magazine and feedback from clubs.

Activity reports will be made to us monthly and full reports quarterly to tie in with Council meetings. A report will be made to each Council meeting and of course once signed off will be available on our web site for every member to read.

I do not believe it is appropriate to go into the cost.

We have gone into this with our eyes open and Avid are a great group with lots of enthusiasm. I've no doubt when Lichfield have finished the upgrading project on the 41 Club Garden at the National Memorial Arboretum they will be delighted to talk to you about publicity for that.

Jim Smith, National Membership Officer

Why is it not appropriate to go into the cost? Avid will be spending part of our capitations.

I've some experience in this field and know how very difficult it is, with the very best of intentions, to quantify the true effects of PR.

With that experience I happen to believe that 41 Club is simply not in the situation to need professional PR at this stage. I have previously said this, but that is now history.

But I don't understand why we should not know what is happening to how much of our money, and what time /cost/measures are planned and budgeted for?

I, for one, am genuinely interested.

Alan Spencer, Woking 41 Club

VOTING CHANGES - THE CONSPIRACY THEORY!

In the last issue Keith Gray's letter suggested that the idea of looking at the voting system was driven in some way by the failure of the "Selective Membership" issue to carry at AGM 2010.

No Keith definitely not so!

Those who know me and my Club Lichfield will know that we have been at odds with National on any number of issues over the last 5 years, so, before you think it, we are not in their pocket! If you look at Forum you will quickly see where we stood on the big debate last time out!!

No. It was Lichfield supported by Cannock who first made proposals about Voting processes three years ago. We were promised a review by the, then, President. It never happened. In the early Autumn of 2009 I asked National to honour the promise of a review and this was agreed by the President. I then made new detailed proposals.

A working party is now in place. I am part of that group. Suffice it to say that in my opinion there is an appetite for positive change if that is what our membership wants.

Good change is planned, is iterative and takes place over time. It needs a clear view at the outset of where you wish to be. Above all it comes from an open sharing of issues, of pros and cons and a free, calm debate.

I believe that we can change but don't expect it next week! The process might start soon, indeed has possibly already started, but it could take some time to deliver.

Keith, this time Richard is innocent (or relatively so!!). So please don't "take your bat" home. Don't spend your capitation at the pub. Stay with it. How can you possibly leave the movement that seems to have been such an important part of your life? You are still but a lad!

Stay. Work with us. Challenge, agree, disagree, suggest...but don't go!!!

Mac Cummings, Communications, Lichfield 41 Club

THE BACK PAGE



National Sporting Weekend 2010

The Lancaster Bomber

St Martins Campus, University of Cumbria in Lancaster

3 - 5 September 2010

FOR FULL DETAILS AND ON-LINE BOOKING CLICK HERE: WWW.NSW2010.CO.UK

Ipswich 2011 is "Full of Eastern Promise"



Alad Ian says
"The hotels are filling fast"
www.41clubconference.co.uk

SALES ORDERING TIP NO. 3

This is more of a clarification than a tip.

You will note that the new Name Bars come with two pins protruding from the back. This is because the new collarets and jewels (Chairman's gong etc) now coming on-line will be available in a one piece ribbon to drop over the head and will not have the fiddly hook at the back of the neck.

Therefore there is no provision to slip a name bar over the ribbon. The design of new name bars had to accommodate this as well as existing collarets.

If you place the name bar on the ribbon and carefully fold the pins around the back, plus a quick stitch to hold in place all should be secure.

This was considered a better option than having two types that would cause confusion.

AND FINALLY

Frank Venables followed up the request from Hervé Bigot in the June newsletter, via his club's IRO, and received the following reply: [Rough translation on the right]

Bonjour Franck

Je voudrais d'abord te remercier pour le message que tu as envoyé à Pierre qui montre l'intérêt que tu as porté au message que j'ai fait parvenir à un grand nombre de Club 41 anglais.

J'ai reçu un grand nombre de réponses . Même si les gens n'avaient pas de Job pour Justine ils m'ont proposé de la loger , ce qui est déjà très gentil de leur part .

Parmi toutes ces réponses il y avait 3 propositions d'emploi dont une est sur le point de se finaliser. Justine attend la confirmation de la date de début de son travail qui devrait être le 28 juin.

C'est un membre du club d'Andover qui lui propose cet emploi.

Donc à priori le problème est résolu. Si toute fois il y avait un souci de dernière minute je me permettrai de te le faire savoir.

Je tiens enfin à remercier l'ensemble des clubs 41 anglais pour leur réactivité et pour la gentillesse dont ils ont fait part.

Tout cela donne envie d'aller à la rencontre de nos voisins et d'essayer de créer des liens d'amitié

Encore Merci Hervé

Hello Frank

First of all, thank you for your email which was forwarded to me; it showed the interest in my message that was sent to many English 41 clubs.

I received many answers. If they had no job for Justine, they offered accommodation - very kind of them!

There were three offers of a job, of which one is being finalised. Justine is waiting for confirmation of her start date [should be June 28th].

A member of the Andover club offered this job.

Basically, then, the problem is solved. If, however, there should be a last-minute hitch, I will let you know.

Finally, I wish to thank all the English 41 clubs for their engagement and for the kindness which they have shown.

All this gives one the urge to meet our neighbours, and to try to forge links of friendship.

Thanks again Hervé

STOP PRESS: Andy Waite is now out of hospital and back home at last – He will be delighted to hear from you.