

NEWS@41CLUB.ORG



41 Club
CONTINUED FRIENDSHIP

THE YEAR AHEAD

It is a great privilege being National President and believe me when I say that it is a 'job and a half!' My feet have hardly touched the ground since Scarborough and if you check out my diary there is a lot more to come!!

I am here to serve the Association – and that means you. If you want to involve me in anything, simply check my diary on the website and if I am free – invite me. It would be good to fit in additional visits when I am in your area.

My theme for the year is '**Reach out**'. Everything that I shall be doing this year will be shaped by that theme and informed by the revised objects of the Association that were *unanimously* agreed at our AGM. If you have missed them – check them out on my page on the website. Our objects encourage us to be *active!*

I'm certainly going to be active when I walk the Association's 100 mile Millennium Way in aid of my chosen charity – the Ocean Youth Trust, later this month. I'm going to try and keep a 'blog' during the walk so check out what's happening on the website link. You will be welcome if you want to come and join me.

The Ocean Youth Trust does some impressive work among young people – many of whom are disadvantaged. The challenge this year is for *every club* to give a minimum of £10 per month – or £100 during the average year – in support of the charity. If we can do this, we shall raise well over £80,000 which will go a very long way to help OYT do much needed follow up work among the young people who have sailed with them. Check out OYT's regional websites or keep an eye on our own website. And don't forget – we 41ers have a chance to sail with OYT this year.

A last word: it would be good if the money you give was 'new money' – money that does not come out of your own pockets – but money you raise by doing something – a garden party – a safari supper – a concert – anything where you can reach out and be active!

Have a good year. I look forward to meeting up with you at some point!

Malcolm

TIME TO LISTEN

Early last month I received two e-mails suggesting changes to the format of News@41Club.Org. The first suggested using only narrow columns and the second requested inserting larger gaps between the paragraphs. I have incorporated both of these suggestions. But these changes do have an effect - increasing the length of the newsletter. I do listen to your comments and that brings me to my request for help from the readership!

This edition was designed to return to the 6-page format, but every day new requests arrive to squeeze just one more item in, and hey presto, it is now a ten-page newsletter. Whilst the original idea was that this would be an electronic publication I am fully aware that many of you like to print a copy, either for your own use or for passing on to other members. The larger the newsletter, the greater the cost of printing! Also some members are on dial-up, therefore a publication that takes seconds to download on broadband can take a considerable time to download without it. On one side I am being pushed to publish everything topical, whilst at the same time others want a much shorter newsletter.

I will be covering solutions to many of the potential problems in the next issue, but in the meantime I would like to hear suggestions from as many of you as possible as to which way we should go and how we can improve your monthly newsletter. I am listening.

Ray

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Editor: Ray Hill
National Councillor Region 11

CONTRIBUTIONS TO NEWS@41CLUB.ORG

Please send contributions to news@41club.org or phone 01606 832807 and ask for Ray.

The copy date for the July issue is Sunday 20th June.

It is your contributions that will make this newsletter a success. So go ahead and send in that news item straight away.

EDITORIAL

ONE SIZE FITS NONE

“You can please some of the people all of the time, you can please all of the people some of the time, but you can’t please all of the people all of the time”.

These words are often attributed to Abraham Lincoln, but were in fact first used by the poet John Lydgate. Lincoln later changed the quotation for his own purpose by replacing ‘please’ with ‘fool’. One could say he had Adopted another’s words, Adapted them to what he wanted to say and so Improved his argument.

The last twelve months have shown that this is very much the case in 41 Club. Whatever is suggested never pleases all of our clubs! The membership debate, fund raising, international relations and even this newsletter have all had their share of criticism, some very constructive, but much very negative. It is becoming more and more obvious that one size fits none, there is no simple answer to ensuring the future of the organisation we are all so proud to be a member of.

As has been stated so many times in the past we are an association of clubs, not an association of members. It is becoming abundantly clear that each club is different to the next. Some enjoy fund raising, some like international contacts, some enjoy physical activity, some actively support a Round Table, whilst others want none of this and just want to meet as a private group for a meal once a month. That is fine; it is for the club to decide what it wants to do. We cannot be surprised however when active young men (yes 45 is still young these days) choose not to join a club that offers none of the features they are looking for in their next club. That is why so many hang on as ‘honorary members’ of Table as they believe that they have nothing in common with us, but by staying on they in turn are discouraging younger men to join Round Table, because the average age is too high. Many others join Rotary because they see it as far more active than 41 Club.

In my region there are several clubs that are now simply ‘dining clubs’ with decreasing membership and have had no new members for many years. But there are also several thriving clubs who have no difficulty in recruiting new members and not necessarily from their own Table. I know of several 41’ers who have moved into the region, who have investigated the local clubs and chosen to join the larger more active ones. Why did they choose that club? Was it because they were made to feel welcome there? Was it because the average age was younger in larger clubs? Was it because they saw more activity than just the monthly meeting? I have my opinions and you will have yours, but may I put the following ideas forward for discussion:

- Consider if your club is attractive to a Round Tabler approaching the retirement age. If you want new members then perhaps you need to change, but if you are happy with the way you are then just carry on.
- There are many thousands of ex-Tablers who have never joined 41 Club. You may know some of them yourself. Why not invite them along to a meeting; they may enjoy it. A member of my own club recently brought a colleague along who had left Round Table over 25 years ago and had never considered 41 Club. He asked to join that evening. Remember that there are many who were in other Tables, but do not have a 41 Club to join.



- An even more radical idea is to consider helping set up new 41 Clubs in your area. Not rival clubs but clubs that will attract the younger more active members. There have been examples of new clubs being set up; some fed by one Table, others from several Tables and even possibly covering the whole of an RT area. If you are happy with the way your own club operates and cannot attract new members, then this approach is worth considering.

We have enjoyed our years in table and we have chosen to continue that fellowship in 41 Club. Some of our members have a very defeatist attitude and are already reporting their own demise, but I think of the words of Mark Twain when I hear this. Others are keen to ensure that does not happen to their clubs, they are actively seeking new members and new ideas in order to re-invent themselves.

One size does definitely no fit all and we must all individually and collectively decide where our future lies.

I started with a quotation wrongly attributed to Abraham Lincoln, so I will finish with one which is definitely his and which I think we should all consider

“You have to do your own growing no matter how tall your grandfather was”.

BRAINTEASERS

A couple of brainteasers for you to solve this month. Answers in the July edition.

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

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



PUBLIC RELATIONS

We are delighted to tell you that we have appointed Avid PR as public relations consultants to 41Club. Avid are a young, dynamic, creative organisation who have experience of working with large networks. 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. If you are planning a big event or Community activity or just want help with local publicity they will be keen to help you.

Mira Taylor, one of the directors, and her colleague Jenny Trelfa saw us in action at the conference in Scarborough and afterwards said "We're really pleased to have been appointed by 41 Club and taking on the interesting and unique challenges which it poses. The Association does a lot of good work and we at Avid PR really feel that more should be made of this. We're looking forward to working together." Lets give them a big welcome and help them to promote 41 club. They already have their own 41 club e-mail address and can be contacted on avidpr@41club.org.

CLUB NEWS

SCARBOROUGH AWARDS

The following awards were made at the 2010 AGM. Congratulations to all recipients.

Club Service Award: Airdrie 41 Club, who have the distinction of receiving the first glass gavel awarded.

Tom Hodge Biplane Trophy: Karol Rzewuski, Founder Chairman of Gdansk 41 Club.

Jim Parkes International Trophy: Dave Campbell.

Press Award: Scarborough 41 Club.

Website Trophy: Shirley Late Nights.

Kelso Trophy for best speaker at the AGM: Phil Jones (Deeside & District)

Kiwi Club for best club attendance at the AGM: Shaftesbury and Gillingham 41 Club.

Team Golf: Shirley Late Nights



THE COCHRAN CUP

The National Golf Tournament now has a new trophy thanks to the generosity of Drew Cochran. His parting gesture at the National AGM was to present the trophy pictured here to be awarded annually. (You may notice the similarity between it and another lesser golfing trophy!).

The winners' names for the last two years have already been engraved and it will be competed for at the Longcliffe Golf Club on September 27th.

“GET ONE IN”

The great membership debate is now history and it's time to move on. My motto for the year is **“Get off your Backside”**. As I said to Malcolm when he launched his “Reach Out” campaign the two definitely link as to reach out you have to get up and do it. The Scarborough AGM, which incidentally was superb, (Ipswich bookings are open and going well so don't miss it!) gave us a strong indication that our work should be geared to properly supporting Round Table. Their membership is our future and we have launched two great initiatives that give everyone in 41 club an opportunity to contribute. See the membership page of the web site for full information on the **“Phoenix Round Table Club”** project and **“Get One In”**. This is your opportunity to contribute to the future of our great organisations and I would like to hear about all your successes.

Jim Smith National Membership Officer

CLUB FORUM

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

CHARTER WEEKEND OF CAP D'AGDE INTERNATIONAL 270 41 CLUB 1ST MAY 2010

The new Club is truly international, with four Brits, a Dane, three French and an Italian as members. They have a very varied programme, as can be seen on their website.

<http://www.41clubcapdagde.fr/index.html>

Most events are inexpensive, involve a kitty or whip-round, and are often outdoors.

The Charter ceremony was attended by about 40 people including the ladies. The dress code was Hawaiian shirts and gongs – ideal for the glorious weather. Enjoying ‘un Apéro’ with the ladies



The Gong Show!

Left to right Montpellier 41 President, International Webmaster Renato Bonfini, Past President 41 France Francois Yvrard, President of Agde 41 Club Claude Bel, myself and Chairman Andrew Robinson.

Eight of the nine members with their Charter and banners



Lunch in full flow!

This was a very relaxed weekend with people who are by now good friends. Andrew and Debbie Robinson home hosted me and over the weekend we enjoyed oysters, foie gras, champagne, guinea fowl, fine cheese and plenty of wine and beer.

With Francois Yvrard, Past National President 41 France, Chairman Andrew Robinson – enjoying Pastis and La Tielle Sétois – A pastry with Octopus, Tomato and Saffron unique to Francois' town of Sete. Then to Montpellier for the flight home to a cold and rainy Leeds/Bradford airport.



Andy Waite, International Officer

2010 MARATHON DES SABLES

Keith Robins (ex-Stafford & District RT and current Stafford 41 Club member) thought he'd have an Easter with a difference this year. Not for me a visit to a rather tasteful hotel in pleasant surroundings with nice food, good company, maybe an occasional walk and, possibly if we are all good, the odd glass or two of sherry to pass the evenings while we chat about old times. Oh no - too straightforward all that.

So having submitted my entry in December 2007 and having my place finally confirmed in September 2009, I jetted out from Gatwick on April 1st with approx. 270 other Brits on a charter flight courtesy of Monarch Airlines to Ouarzazate in mid-Morocco. The reason behind all this - to take part in the 2010 Marathon des Sables. Described as "The toughest Footrace on Earth" it involves covering 250kms of the Moroccan Sahara in 7 days.



As well as the run jog/walk/crawl across stony ground, sand dunes, etc and while dodging camels, the occasional scorpion and other creepies, you have to be self sufficient for the week in temperatures ranging well above 40C+. This means carrying your food, cooking bits, spare kit, sleeping bag, medicine and one or two other compulsory and essential items. The organisers provide a Bedouin-type tent (for eight which is erected / dismantled every day) and water but the water is strictly rationed throughout the event. Each day involves varying stage lengths with Stage 4 the most arduous at 82kms, i.e. a double marathon and where the majority of competitors do not finish until well into the night - some not even until late afternoon the day following. [I took 23 hours to compete the stage]

Why you might ask? Well, at 54 I'm still a keen a runner and this is an event I have known about and wanted to do for maybe 10 years. 2010 was the 25th anniversary race and despite the physical demands it places on the competitors it remains very difficult to enter (and at c£2,700 plus equipment quite expensive). I was on a near two-year waiting list before my entry was confirmed. I also set out to raise money for the three Hospices in the area where I live and work - Katharine House (Stafford) and Donna Louise Children's Trust and Douglas MacMillan (both Stoke-on-Trent). To date I have raised about £13,000 and hopefully when the article goes to press the amount will be higher.



So to the end. I was successful in completing the Marathon, finishing 632nd out of 923 finishers (of 1013 who started). My time of just under 54hrs compares with the winner's of under 20hrs!! The 'celebrity' of this year's event was James Cracknell (the Olympic Gold Medal winning rower) who finished in 12th place - the highest position ever by a British competitor. We also had the 3rd female finisher, also a best ever finish. And by the way, temperatures reached 50C+ on one day.



Then two nights back in Ouarzazate at the Berbere Palace Hotel for some sleep, proper food, exchange of stories and, I nearly forgot, a glass or two of sherry. What better recipe to relax after a decent walk?

Would I do it again? Not a chance! Such a wonderful and memorable experience and many new friends but I think I'll stick to the UK for my running.

For anyone interested in finding out more then go to <http://www.darbaroud.com>. Additionally, anyone who hasn't yet and would like to swell the fundraising coffers - all amounts small and large very welcome - please email me at mailto:keith_robins@hotmail.com and I will happily provide the JustGiving details.

I hope I haven't bored the pants off too many readers. With best wishes and thanks to everyone who has supported me and the Hospices.

Keith Robins, Stafford 41 Club

Keith Robins, Stafford 41 Club

“On behalf of Stafford 41 Club, I would like to congratulate Keith on a fantastic achievement and also for raising a terrific sum for local Hospices.”

Paul Ritson, Chairman Stafford 41 Club

Gentlemen, to those amongst us who say 'We do not do fund raising' I commend the above article.

I for one am very proud to say that I belong to an organisation that has such a dedicated member, and I hope that as many clubs as possible will contact Keith both to congratulate him and to contribute to his fundraising efforts.

Ray Hill, Editor



Remember that the charity chosen this year by our National President Malcolm is the Ocean Youth Trust, an organisation that is changing the lives of thousands of teenagers. Malcolm has asked each club to consider donating £10 a month and to think of new ways of raising funds, as a way of extending our role in community service. Have a safari supper and invite friends not in 41 club. Who knows what that might bring. Above all remember this is a very important but low key charity that is looking to 41 Club to make a difference. For more details see the 41 Club website at www.41club.org.

Alan Pattinson, National Councillor Region 9

NATIONAL CONFERENCE IPSWICH
APRIL 15TH – 17TH - 2011

Just under one year and the party starts at
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41 CLUB INTERNATIONAL – HALF YEAR MEETING (HYM), BRASOV ROMANIA

Due to the unprecedented effects of the volcanic activity in Iceland many overseas delegates failed to arrive at the International AGM in Finland. Therefore an even bigger welcome is being extended to all members to attend the HYM, to be held in Brasov on the 14th – 17th October. The full programme and costs are:

Thursday, October 14

H 16⁰⁰ – Registration ARO-PALACE Hotel BRASOV
H 20³⁰ – Dinner in the City (at own expense).

Friday, October 15

H 14⁰⁰ – Registration ARO-PALACE Hotel BRASOV
H 19³⁰ – Welcome Medieval Evening (incl. program, dinner and transfer)
“CETATE” Restaurant (Smart Casual)

Saturday, October 16

H 09⁰⁰ – HYM 41 INTERNATIONAL – ARO PALACE Hotel,
EUROPA Conference Hall no.1
H 09³⁰ – AGM 41 ROMANIA – ARO PALACE Hotel,
EUROPA Conference Hall no.2
H 09³⁰ – 13³⁰ – Program for non-official representatives
Visiting Dracula’s Castle in BRAN
H 13³⁰ – Buffet Lunch – ARO PALACE Restaurant
H 15⁰⁰ – IRO Meeting – ARO PALACE Hotel,
EUROPA Conference Hall no.2
H 15⁰⁰ – Visiting BRASOV town
H 20⁰⁰ – Gala Dinner (Black Tie) – ARO PALACE Hotel

Sunday, October 17

H 09⁰⁰ – Breakfast and farewell – ARO PALACE Hotel
Departure to airport

Prices:

Registration+transfer from/to Bucharest airport Otopeni & Baneasa–Brasov – 40 €
Friday – Sunday package (full program) – 150 €
Saturday – Sunday package – 110 €

Conference Hotel & Accommodation: ARO PALACE Hotel:

Single room – 70 €/night
Double room – 90 €/night

Information about the HYM/AGM registration & booking accommodation at: <http://www.club41.ro/International HYM 2010>

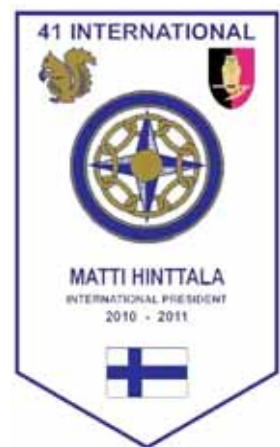
Payment Bank: ATE Bank Romania SA-Sucursala Braşov

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Note: Deadline of the registration and the accommodation booking is 2010, August 15.

Post-Tour: October 17-19 (three nights stay) through Braşov, Sighisoara and Sibiu areas (Transylvanian medieval architecture): 275 €/person. The cost of the trip is the subject that it may change in relation of the number of participants.

A FEW THOUGHTS FOR JUNE

Always forgive your enemies - Nothing annoys them more.
If Barbie is so popular, why do you have to buy her friends?
When everything is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.
I used to have an open mind but my brains kept falling out.

MAY COMPETITION RESULTS

Apparently not one person could spot which of the three options was the National Treasurer.

The eight letter word that can be made from the letters Marchesi is Chimeras. I was inundated with one entry, so the winner is Vaughan Harris with 109 words. (Well done Jill!)



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>.

41 CLUB INTERNATIONAL AGM

I am delighted to tell you that the weekend organised by OT Suomi Finland as hosts of the 34th Annual General Meeting of 41 INTERNATIONAL was a resounding success and we saw Matti Hinttala (Finland) duly installed as our new International President.

Our heartfelt thanks go to the members of 41 Club Finland and the ladies who all contributed to a most memorable occasion. Their application, flexibility, adaptation, organisation and ability to keep smiling and to keep cool with all the changes being made by the minute every hour of the day and of the night was unbelievable.

41 Club members and Round Tablers from Finland were there in vast numbers and we were joined by Round Table International Vice-President Steve Ganado (Malta). Congratulations and thanks go to the International Visitors / Councillors who exhibited every determination in true Round Table / 41 International spirit to be there –

Andreas Dolp, Erwin Fleberger, Christian and Irene Roessel (Austria), Marios Michaelides (Cyprus), Herbert Kaiser (Germany), Lawrence Bamber, Helen Bellwood, Gordon and Elaine Macnab, Gill Young (Great Britain), Gunther Werth (Italy), Peter and Anneke Ornee (Netherlands), Roar Brauti, Leif Nordberg, Stig Morten Stomner (Norway), Georghe Floroi, Ionel and Nicoleta Moldovan (Romania), Staffan Aronsohn, Fredrick Beckman, Per Olofsson, Lennart Svensson, Per Wighart (Sweden), Werner Blessing (Switzerland).

More information will follow in due course from Matti, the Conference Organisers and myself.

Again, congratulations and my sincere thanks to all who were in Jyväskylä.

John Bellwood

Immediate Past President 41 INTERNATIONAL

SMALL ADS COLUMN?

Dear Editor

I like very much your email newsletter – well done!!!

Do you intend running a small ads column in future issues?

I have holiday accommodation I would like to share with members.

Hope to hear that you will continue such a column.

John Clutton, Kenilworth 41 Club

An interesting point John. The newsletter does provide an excellent medium for small ads, but if we were to offer free advertisements then it could quickly become just a mass of adverts, and that is not what was envisaged. Alternatively we would have to charge an insertion fee as in the Links magazine, with all the consequent administration.

What is the feeling of other members? **Editor**

SELECTIVE MEMBERSHIP ARTICLE

Dear Ian

What a load of old tosh!!!

Fact ~ Round Table is dying.

Fact ~ Despite many good efforts at local level (we are not all piss heads as you suggest) ~ It's been dying for years.

Fact ~ It is not going to rise like the proverbial phoenix, simply thru lack of mass and so many other social offerings.

For all kinds of socio / economic reasons, plus a modern day general lack of interest in this kind of "service" club, this is irreversible.

Eventually and inevitably 41 Club will go the same way. It's not the end of the world, times change, things move on. As a 41'er I voted to keep membership to ex Tablers only. That is what it is and that is how it should remain. I do not want to go to "41" meetings with a bunch of people that I do not relate to, no history with, no common purpose.

So let's continue to enjoy fellowship with those who understand what it means to be a Tabler and a 41'er while it lasts.

When it's gone, it's gone. No ceremony, no wake, just thanks for the good times ~ it's been fun.

Richard Collen, The Deepings

What a load of Old Tosh!!

Ditto.

Defeatist attitude is all I am reading in this scribe and sums up the 'could not care a damn' attitude and solves nothing. I do not care how you voted all I care about is the future of Round Table and all the family of Round Table.

Ian Mackenzie, Haverhill & District

41 CLUB JOINS THE SOCIAL NETWORK

Avid PR have created the official Facebook page for 41 Club and it is now up and running. For those who are on Facebook link to it, post a comment, upload a photograph and circulate it to your friends. Just go to your profile page and type 41 Club in the search bar and you will find it. For those not on Facebook (why not join?) here is the link to the page below so you can view it. We are looking at linking to our web site and also Round Table, Circle and Tangent.

www.facebook.com/?ref=home#!/pages/41-Club/124493567572514?ref=ts

We also have our own page now on Wikipedia. There is still some more information to go on it but we have a start.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/41_Club

Jim Smith, National Membership Officer

ITALIAN EARTHQUAKE APPEAL

I have seen no mention of the Italian Aquila Earthquake appeal to which this club made a contribution. No acknowledgement has to my knowledge been received and no mention is made of the results of the appeal. Perhaps I am wrong in this and have missed any such mention in the National 41 club News Letters let alone at the National Conference. If not it is most unfortunate to say the least that no acknowledgement or mention has been made by National to us and possibly other clubs. If this omission is representative of 41 Club National it is not surprising that many clubs are losing interest in the National organisation.

Michael G. Handcock , IPC Maidenhead 41 Club

I have apologised directly to Mr Handcock and completely understand his comments.

I (no one else) decided not to thank each Club individually, for several reasons, possibly the wrong ones in the light of Mr Handcock's comments. Clubs asking for a receipt or acknowledgement were sent one by Sue Barnicoat from Marchesi House. I didn't want to publish a list of clubs and amounts because to me it might have seemed like naming and shaming those Clubs that didn't contribute. Sue still has the list and we could still publish it. In fact 85 Clubs and individuals contributed over €6000. There are two pieces on the website (on the International page) which I accept not everyone bothers to look at.

The main thing in my view is that we responded magnificently and quickly. We then wanted to get on with Help for Heroes.

Incidentally Treasurer Mike Turner set up an account here and the money was transferred in 'batches' to minimise the bank fees. A few cheques were made out direct to Onna but it was more efficient to include them with all the others.

Andy Waite, International Officer

A REQUEST FROM FRANCE

My name is Hervé Bigot, a French member of 41 Club of Béthune (North of France). I am writing you because my 21 year old daughter is looking for a job for 5 months in the UK (from June to November). She is studying in the second year in a college of environment, food processing industry and agriculture to become an agronomist. As a course requirement in her second year, she has to go to a foreign country and to have a job. It is the way to discover a new culture, new people and improve her English level, which is already good! So, I would like to know if you would have some job or/and accommodation for her. She is looking for a job in agriculture, food processing or environment field, as a job in restaurants, hotels, bars, bakers... If you have any job or proposition for her, you can ask her to send you her CV. She has already worked in several summer camps where she took care of children. She also often made some babysittings. Moreover, she has had a work placement on a farm and in a food processing industry in sweets (nougats). I look forward to hearing you.

Herve Bigot, 41 Club of Béthune

If you can help then please contact Andy Waite who has the contact details at <mailto:international@41club.org>

FINDING NEW MEMBERS

Godalming 41 Club have found an effective way of improving the chances of bringing out going Tablers in to 41 Club.

2 years ago, we inducted one of Godalming 429's ex tablers into 41 Club and immediately voted him as Vice Chairman. He subsequently took over as Chairman and at the end of his year, repeated the process.

Our new Chairman has now carried this on and we are finding this continuity ensures a closer link between 41 Club and Table. This may not work for all clubs but is ensuring in our case a continuity which stalled considerably when Table changed the age rule.

Steve Day, Godalming 41 Club

If it's of any use to anyone, we appoint, annually, a Table Liaison Officer - often a current Tabler who is also in 41 Club. Social and other events for each club are thus actively promoted at each meeting to the other.

Also, each year's RT Chairman automatically becomes 41's Honorary Member for that year and is thus also involved.

We probably get around 80% of retiring Tablers joining 41 Club.

Alan Spencer, Woking 41

This is a debate we need to expand on and thanks for raising it Steve and Alan. 41 club Table liaison officer, honorary membership for the chairman of Round Table (hopefully replicated by honorary membership of Table for the 41 Club Chairman), getting the new guys involved from day 1 are all good initiatives. What about chucking out nights? Are they still happening and if not why not? Who else has any good ideas for maintaining the link with Tables and making the transition to 41 Club smooth.

National Council will be discussing all our membership initiatives, including the Round Table membership initiatives of "Get One In" and "Phoenix" (see my web page for details) in workshops at our next Council meeting in June. I would be delighted to hear of any other success stories we can put in the mix for those discussions.

Jim Smith, National Membership Officer

In Rossendale there had been no crossover for about 7 years, in part the 45 rule and in part no-one trying very hard on either side.

I joined 41 Club, was quickly VC and Chairman. I was still doing Table as well, and this helped renew the link. Since then we have converted 2 out of 4 leavers and are working on the other 2 and some other recent departees. One resists on the basis that he says he views 41 Club as too old, although as he has not been along I do not know how he gets that idea [and he is wrong] but having school age children etc does absorb time and he is still an Hon Tabler.

So we are working at it, getting together with other 41 Clubs is a good move as well, and we are looking at split meetings to appeal to all ages

Duncan Baldwin, IPC Rossendale 41 Club

TWO POINTS OF VIEW!

Dear Mr Editor

I have just finished reading the reports from the AGM by the Past President and Past National Membership & Extension Officer. These reports were in the recent 41 Club News letter Issue 7 – May 2010.

Having been in Round Table and 41 Club for nearly 40 years and been through the offices of Table and Area Chairman I have learnt to accept democracy.

I found the comments of the Past President churlish. Surely this topic of where we go as an organisation has been well discussed and debated, the members have spoken and voted.

The National President did not like the result **'so let us change the voting system!!!!'**

I felt dismayed at the National President's comments on page 8 but then I went on to read the Past National Membership & Extension Officer's views on page 9.

If anyone reading this has not read these reports, please read them for yourselves.

Does he really think that we as Ex- Tablers and 41 Club members have sat back during all these years and not tried to do something about membership to encourage 'like minded men' to join us. What an insult. How did over 30,000 Round Tablers get it so wrong, perhaps some in higher places think we went around saying 'you can't join us'

I think not.

Is the Past National Membership & Extension officer really trying to build a working relationship with the organisation that 'feeds' 41 Club? To all who have not read this article **please read it, now.**

The comment that Round Table "should get a grip of the organisation across the country, and stop all this getting p.... d (I won't use the word) meetings." A real bridge building sentence.

To quote from the end of the report **'you have to get off your backside and it will not fall into your lap'**

Well I am going to get off my backside. Firstly, I have written this and I really could go on and on. Secondly, now that I am 64 years of age, I am going to roam the streets/pubs/sports fields/social clubs/job centre/ with a 30 year old Tabler and look for young 'like minded men' to keep Round Table and 41 Club alive. Whilst I am about it I could see if I can drum up support for the 'Old Tea Dances'

Actually I will probably resign from 41 Club and remember the good times. Ostriches will not lead me even if they think I am a dinosaur.

We did a mountain of good in our time for people less fortunate than ourselves and had

a brilliant time doing it, some of us even had the odd drink.

I shall forget the remarks made by people, who cannot accept reality. What will 41 Club be in 10 years time with the introduction of non-tablers? A group of people with no foundation. I don't like the decline of Round Table and how it reflects on 41 Clubs but it's the way things are. It is the way of many organisations. My son-in-law once said to me 'you are of a generation of club/committee people'

I fear the National ideas for forcing re-generation of Table and 41 Club will be the death of the organisations, they will tear themselves apart. I would prefer not to be party to that.

I am now off to the pub on the strength of next year's affiliation money. Anyone require a few pin badges – just in case you come across a genuine like-minded person. I will keep one for old times sake.

Keith Gray Past Table 879 Chairman and Past Area 31 Chairman

Now Past it all, thanks National

As the editor of this newsletter I have always tried to remain as neutral as possible in all debates, however this letter, I believe, needs a response straight away to correct the misinformation that it contains.

The comments about last year's President are both insulting and incorrect. President Richard had said from the onset of his year that the voting system is in need of reform. Is it democratic that such a small number of voting delegates who attend the AGM decide the rules and future of all of our clubs? Richard had already put together a committee including non-council members, to review how voting can be improved in the future. This committee's remit is wide ranging and will consider all possible ways of giving more power to our membership. It has absolutely nothing to do with "The National President did not like the result" as suggested in this letter.

Secondly it perpetuates the myth that National is determined to see 'open membership' at all cost and that it will continue until 'we make the right decision'. Gentlemen we are not the European Parliament; that is their tactic. We accept the will of our members. Indeed, if Mr. Gray was at the AGM he will have seen that one member of the National Executive spoke vehemently against the motion and that several red cards were prominently displayed by Executive members in the count. Selective or open membership is just one method of increasing our numbers and has been debated at our AGMs on numerous occasions and indeed was the major debate at our very first Conference. Many members of the National Council and Executive saw last year's motion as a distraction from the real debate.

Ian Mackenzie spoke from the heart and for the good of our associations. He is at least positive and determined to ensure a future for the organisations that we have chosen to join. I personally cannot understand the totally defeatist attitude of this letter. Did Winston Churchill adopt this attitude when he became Prime Minister? All of Europe had fallen to the Nazi tyranny, so Britain would also fall! Will David Cameron bow to the inevitable because the whole world economy is in a mess? The answer is NO. We fight for what we believe in and your national Council will continue to actively support all measures that promote our two great clubs.

I am a few years younger than Mr. Gray but I will be receiving my bus pass next month. Yes I do go out on the streets shaking cans and helping to promote Round Table. Northwich 348 was on the verge of closing, but they have done something about it and numbers are steadily increasing. I have the honour of being their President this year, and they are great bunch of lads. Table is no longer as Mr. Gray would recognise it, but they are actively doing something about their membership crisis. The age rule change caused a major problem in 41 Club recruitment and we have to do something to correct that. Many of our clubs have to rebuild contacts with Table.

So if Mr. Gray wants to spend his £10 capitation at the pub then fine with me, but 41 Club will continue, and please let us be more positive.

Ray Hill, Editor

THE BACK PAGE



MEET THE PRESIDENT

President gets out and about in the centre of England



MESSAGE FROM NATIONAL PRESIDENT MALCOLM LOCKEY

Dear Fellow 41 Club Member,

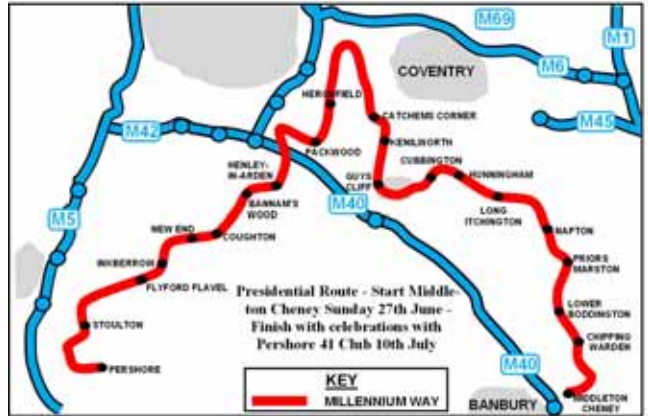
In my year of office I'd like to meet as many of you as I can. I'm walking in the heart of England. Walking the 100 miles of the MILLENNIUM WAY our 41 Club National long distance footpath. Please check out my itinerary on the opposite page (or on the web for the very latest updates <http://walking.41club.org/president.htm>).

Please take a little time out to join me on a leg of the walk, or perhaps you are more the social type then I'd really like to meet up with you at one of the events organised by your fellow 41'ers.- please give the contact person a phone or if it's a lunch time pub encounter just turn up and enjoy. I hope to see you.

Yours in fellowship

Malcolm

Follow Malcolm's progress on:
www.thebigpresidentialwalk.blogspot.com/



COME TO THE START AND GIVE PRESIDENT MALCOLM A GREAT SEND OFF

President Malcolm will be walking the full 100 miles of the MILLENNIUM WAY. Join him at the launch church service at All Saints Middleton Cheney on Sunday 27th June at 10.45am (Address by Malcolm). As many as possible 41 Club members are invited to give him support. After the service come and enjoy a light buffet lunch at the George and the Dragon organised by Banbury 41 Club (please contact Michael on 01295 810539 if you would like to partake of the lunch. After fellowship and convivial conversation President Malcolm returns to All Saints Church where at 2pm he will commence the walk. The first section, a little over 6 miles, is over gentle rolling countryside with open views and easy going. Anticipate arriving at The Griffin Pub at Chipping Warden at around 5pm.

**PRESIDENT MALCOLM LOCKEY
 MILLENNIUM WAY WALK
 SUNDAY 27TH JUNE TO SATURDAY 10TH JULY**

[CLICK HERE FOR THE FULL ITINERARY OF MALCOLM'S WALK](#)

AND FINALLY MUD, MUD, GLORIOUS GLASTO ?

I'm sure I can't be the only 41'er who likes his music? As a recent convert to festivals (V in 2008, Glastonbury in 2009), I will once again be packing up wellies, pot noodles and of course beer into my shopping trolley for this years festival at Worthy Farm.

If you are lucky enough to have tickets, do you fancy meeting up for a drink and a natter?

Drop me a line at region22@41club.org to discuss the finer details - especially if you are taking a caravan / camper :) I can't promise to wear the same shirt as last year, but you do get some bargains in the Oxfam tent!

Mark Fairchild, Region 22 National Councillor

