

NEWS@41CLUB.ORG



GETTING THE MESSAGE ACROSS

The six months trial of this electronic newsletter will be coming to an end in April, and its future will be decided at the AGM in Scarborough. Improved communication has been one of President Richard's major objectives for the year and I hope that we have been able to provide you with a relevant and timely source of information. But it is not only at national level that communication is important, the need cascades right down throughout the organisation.

Let us consider how communication can be improved. Firstly what do we already have and then what should we be aiming at in the future?

The oldest method of communicating with the membership is the club magazine, now 50 years old it has undergone many metamorphoses in that period. The name, size, frequency and editorial content have changed with the times. A hard copy magazine is a tangible asset that can be preserved for future reference and can be used as both a promotional tool and an announcement to the rest of the world. The introduction of direct mailing should ensure that every member who wants a copy receives one in the relaxed atmosphere of his own home.

More recently we have added a presence on the Internet. Initially with the Club website, which is available for the world to view. The site contains a vast amount of current and historic information for reference. It can be used by those seeking information about our Clubs and those curious about what we do. In addition there is the Club Forum, which is aimed at improving communications between clubs and between members. In October last year the membership stood at only 28 members and has now risen to 80, but well short of the numbers that we hope will join. Remember it is free and safe, you will not be inundated with spam and you can decide whether or not you want all the messages, digests of the messages or no emailed messages at all.

News@41Club.Org is our attempt to bring current information to all members, but it is reliant on the efficient distribution by club contacts. We cannot post out copies to those that do not have Internet access, the costs and time involved are just too high.

We are also investigating taking the use of the Internet further. Wikipedia is available to all and is the starting point for many people searching for information. We will be adding an informative entry for 41 Club and link it to the entries for other members of the Round Table family.

Social networking sites are the future for many people, but up to now have been greatly ignored by our Association. Many 41 Club members are individual members of the various social websites, and one or two clubs also have sites, but many more Tablers are members of these sites and many Tables too. They use them as a major method of distributing news and information. We need to approach these resources with caution as they can become the source of annoyance, but set up correctly and managed by those who understand them, we could have a major communications highway added at no cost to the Clubs.

All of this is at National level. So what can individual clubs do to improve their communications? Firstly you should ensure that at least one member of your club (preferably the club contact) provides a valid email address on the Club Administration System (CAS). This ensures that all communications at national, regional and local level can be immediately transmitted to your club at no cost. Also questions can be raised and answered in a very timely manner.

Individual club newsletters are another way of ensuring that your members are kept up to date. These can either be paper or distributed electronically.

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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 April issue is Sunday 21st March.

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

EDITORIAL



THE DECLINE OF THE BUGGY WHIP

In 1960 the world of marketing was turned upside down by the publication, in The Harvard Business Review, of “Marketing Myopia” by Theodore Levitt. In this he described how in 1910, at the beginning of the motor age, the buggy whip manufacturers in America could not envisage how the rise of the motorcar would decimate their industry. The carriage makers were adaptable and indeed many went on to become major motor manufacturers, but the buggy whip manufacturers saw their market as simply providing whips. Needless to say the future was not bright for them and they soon went out of business. Perhaps if they had seen their role as providing the means to start a vehicle and not just a way of starting horses, they would have moved into producing starter handles or even starter motors for vehicles. Their short sightedness was ultimately to lead to their demise.



When Round Table was formed in 1927 there were still many horse drawn vehicles on the roads, and probably still a need for buggy whips. But Round Table was founded upon the principals of “Adopt, Adapt, Improve” and as the needs of young men have changed so the organisation has changed. Many of us would not recognise the structure of Round Table meetings today, “It was not like this in my day” I may hear you say.

The changes in 41 Club have been much slower, and in many cases non-existent, over our 65-year history. The trial of this electronic newsletter has (I hope) been one major step forward in communications this year, but even here many of our members will not be reading this article as either their club refuses to give an email address or their club contact refuses to forward the document to other members.

We need a vision for the future! We must not be myopic otherwise we will become the next generation of buggy whip manufacturers.

It is for every club to decide where its future lies. Some have adopted the basic RTBI fundamentals and are content that their clubs will die out in the future. Others have adapted their ways to ensure a future for their clubs and some have improved their clubs to be more attractive to potential new members. We have to ask ourselves why, if we are so keen to remain solidly to ex-Tabler membership, 82% of those leaving Table choose not to join 41 Club. Do they see 41 Club as an organisation rooted to the past, indeed are they all actually invited to join an ex-Tablers Club?

The AGM presents us with our one chance each year to review our position and, if necessary, make changes to our rules. It is important that as many club representatives debate our vision for the future as possible, that as many points of view are put forward and that we do not approach any debate with a closed mind.



Finally the National Sales Officer has asked me to point out that there will be a large range of the new Platinum Club regalia available for purchase at the AGM, but that this year they will not be selling buggy whips, not even with the old logo on them.

This newsletter is dedicated to the memory of Gromit, a very loyal friend who passed away on the 19th February.

The March edition of the Newsletter will be ‘The Conference Special’, with news and views of the forthcoming National Conference and AGM, and some memories of Southport last year.

Getting The Message Across – Continued from Page 1

Club websites can be a very good method of both keeping your members up to date and advertising yourself to the rest of the world. However they do need reviewing regularly and updating as necessary. I have found many 41 Club websites set up full of good intentions, but never completed or even worse, not updated for several years. Reading announcements that are years out of date does not encourage people to use the site, or for those seeking a new club to join you. Here are a few links to what I consider to be good club web sites (I will not mention the bad ones!):

<http://www.isis41club.org/> A very comprehensive site, well maintained.

<http://www.lots41.org.uk/> A simpler site but very well presented.

If you do consider creating a club website it does not have to be as complicated as these two, but remember it must be completed and it must be kept current.



Clubs may consider setting up their own networking groups. You could use the group facilities provided by services such as Yahoo or Google. These offer the option to make the group completely private ensuring that only your members can see them if that is desirable. Or you could join social networking groups such as Facebook or Twitter. You may find that many more of your friends are already members of these groups than you realise.

Use the local press to advertise your existence to your community. Many people have no idea what 41 Club is, so if you have some good news, then share it with them. See the item regarding Rugby Webb Ellis 41 Club on page 3, we do not all have to hide our lights under a bushel.

This brings me to my final point, Public Relations. Our Association has not attracted any member to volunteer their time and experience to act as a Public Relations Officer. Perhaps there are no PR professionals within our ranks. We need a professional to ensure that our message is put across in the most efficient way possible, at all levels. We need to attract those many thousands of ex-Tablers who have not joined us in the past and those that will be leaving Table in the future. We have to convey the message to them that we are not just a group of old men who meet once a month and do little else. Or are we?

Please let me know your opinions for the next News@41Club.Org, which will be appearing at the beginning of April, just before the Conference and AGM.

Editor

CLUB NEWS

WARNING : CLUB INSURANCE

Please note that the Association's insurance policy provides cover for certain property (e.g. club regalia) and for third party liability only. It does not cover loss or injury to our members. Therefore if you are organising any social or fund raising events you must ensure that you are covered either by event or personal insurance. Association cover is generally limited to Great Britain with certain exceptions. For a synopsis of the policy wording and further information, see

<http://www.41club.org/pages/insurancecover.htm>

RUGBY WEBB ELLIS 41 CLUB

The Help For Heroes appeal was boosted by £525 in early February with a donation from Rugby Web Ellis 41 Club. The attached article was published in the Rugby Advertiser, with acknowledgements.



The national president of the 41 Club was presented with a cheque for Help for Heroes raised by members of the Rugby Webb Ellis branch. Pictured are David Cooper, Stuart Boulton, Hugo Della, Alastair Railton, Steve Balf, national president Richard Matthews and David Low.

Heroic effort to help soldiers' charity

THE national president of the 41 Club of Great Britain and Ireland visited the Rugby branch to receive a cheque for £525 to support his Help for Heroes appeal last week.

Stuart Boulton, chairman of the Rugby Webb Ellis 41 Club presented the cheque to Richard Matthews, national 41 Club president, last Tuesday. The money was raised at a 41 Club dinner dance held at Donchurch Park Hotel on November 28 last year with the generous help and support of many local businesses.

Richard Matthews said: "The response to my appeal on behalf of Help for Heroes has been absolutely heart warming."

"My hope was for £50 from each club within the British Isles. Rugby Webb Ellis 41 Club has responded superbly with a donation of £525."

41 CLUB CAP D'ADGE INTERNATIONAL

At the recent National Council meeting approval was given for a new club to be affiliated with Region 26. Based in France this club has a truly international membership.



END
JANUARY
£67,371

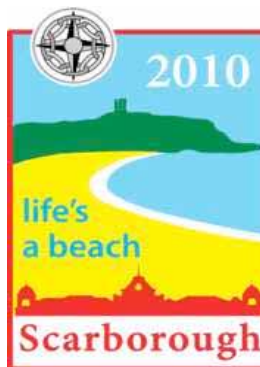
NOW
£73,450

NATIONAL GOLF FINAL

MONDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER 2010



LONGCLIFFE GOLF CLUB,
LOUGHBOROUGH



ONLY 6 WEEKS TO
GO!

WWW.41CLUBCONFERENCE.CO.UK/

See you there!

DON'T FORGET OUR MASTERMIND!

Put a note in your diary for Friday 12th March - BBC2 at 8.00pm, when our own Brian Southgate (National Councillor for Region 20) sits in the famous black chair.



GOLF

SCOTTISH REGIONS SPRING MEETING
WEDNESDAY 28 APRIL 2010
STIRLING GOLF CLUB

Located in the centre of Scotland and beside the motorway Stirling Golf Club is readily accessed from all locations. Stirling 41 Club is hosting the event.

It will be a singles competition and we encourage individuals to enter from their Clubs and renew friendship and fellowship they experienced in their Round Table days. An entry form is available on the website:

<http://41club-region1.co.uk/Region1SpringMeeting2010.aspx>

The cost including lunch and snacks will be £40.

CLUB FORUM

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

SALES AND REGALIA

A COMPLETE GUIDE TO THE NEW JEWEL RIBBONS



41 CLUB SALES ITEMS PRICE LIST

Ties	£15.00
Bow Ties	£12.50
Pin Badges	£2.50
Cufflinks	£8.75
Keyring	£4.75
Pen Set	£9.75
Hip Flask	£12.00
Car Sticker	£0.60
Blazer Badge	£4.50
Car License Holder	£3.49
Past Chairman's Jewel *	£25.00
Past President's Jewel *	£25.00
Service Award *	£25.00

* Special order only

Other items available items from www.41clubsales.co.uk

- Baseball Caps
- ID Lanyards
- Rugby Shirts
- Polo Shirts
- Hi-Vis Jackets

COUNCILLORS WITH SALES CASES

Region	Name
2	Allan Thomson
6	Andrew Bellamy
10	Hugh Milward
11	Ray Hill
13	Duncan Kennedy
15	Barry Durman
17	Mark Ramsay
20	Brian Southgate
21	Dick Stanley
22	Mark Fairchild
23	Steve Bolter
25	Dave Campbell

Richard Matthews and Martin Green also carry sales cases.

PIN BADGES ARE AVAILABLE FOR THE FOLLOWING CLUB OFFICERS:

- Chairman
- Secretary
- President
- Past Chairman
- Treasurer



COMING SOON

Shortly to be added to the range of 41 Club clothing is the rugby shirt.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE – 1960 STYLE

The National Conference and AGM is returning to Scarborough this year (for the fifth time), and by coincidence it was held there exactly 50 years ago in 1960. Then the Conference was based at The Grand Hotel, whereas this year's events will be held in the Spa Complex and the main hotel being the Crown Spa.

Below is a copy of the booking form for the 1960 event. It is interesting to see that the form included a large space for adding your children, illustrating how the average age of 41 Club members was much younger then. Activities not only included golf but also tennis and a church service. The world has changed a great deal since then, especially the cost of attending the event. Attendance for the full conference, including accommodation, was less than £20 per couple, children could share their parents' room, and of course there was no option of paying by credit card.

In 1959 there were 116 affiliated clubs, and 39 still had to pay their subscriptions, so some things never change.

The in-coming National President in 1960 was Frank Wright, the second from Bournemouth to aspire to that role and by another coincidence the out-going President at Scarborough this year will be the fourth from the same club.

I shall be accompanied by my wife guests children.
 I shall be unaccompanied.
 I shall be arriving Thursday.
 (STRIKE OUT WHICH DOES NOT APPLY)

Children's Names and Ages

.....

.....

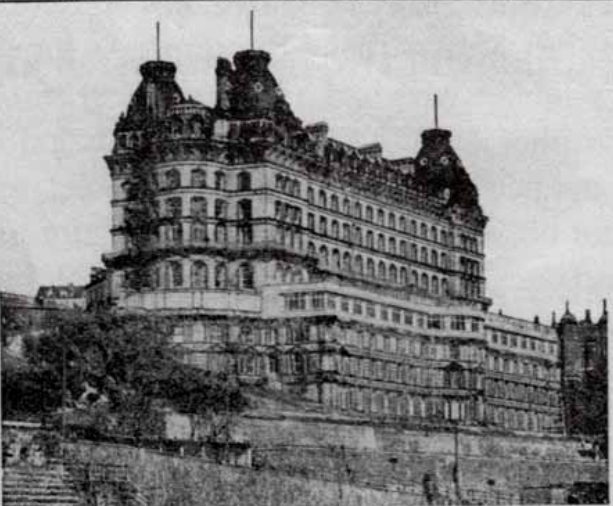
Guests' Names

.....

Please state the number of persons who propose to attend or participate in the following:—

Golf Church Service Tennis

Golfers are requested to complete Competition Form on registering at Conference Office.



THE CONFERENCE HEADQUARTERS — THE GRAND HOTEL
 Wright & Co., Ltd., 15 North Street, Scarborough.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EX-TABLERS' CLUBS
 SIXTEENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
 SCARBOROUGH — 22nd, 23rd, 24th APRIL, 1960

REGISTRATION FORM

To: E. P. Evans (Conference Secretary & Registration Officer),
 8 Pavilion Square, Scarborough.

Please reserve the following accommodation in my name:—

	per person	£	s.	d.
..... Double Room with Sea View	@	15	6	
..... Double Room with Sea View & private bath	@	19	12	0
..... Single Room with Sea View	@	8	15	6
..... Single Room with Sea View & private bath	@	12	19	0
..... Double Room with Land View	@	10	8	0
..... Double Room with Land View & private bath	@	6	19	0
..... Single Room with Land View	@	10	8	0
..... Single Room with Land View & private bath	@	6	19	0
..... Beds for children under 3 years in parents' room	@	10	1	0
..... Beds for children under 10 years in parents' room	@	5	4	0

The above terms are inclusive of all meals from Friday Tea to Sunday Breakfast, the Conference Luncheon & Banquet & Ball. They include 10% Hotel Gratuities but exclude early morning tea and similar extras.

NON-RESIDENTIAL

	per person	£	s.	d.
..... Tickets for whole Conference	@	17	13	6
..... Tickets for Friday	@	7	12	6
..... Tickets for Saturday	@	15	1	0

OPTIONAL EXTRA

..... Tickets for Coach Excursion	@	10	0	0
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I enclose cheque for £..... crossed and made payable to "Ex-Tablers' Conference, 1960."

NAME (Block Letters)

ADDRESS

CLUB

7

SCARBOROUGH AGM 2010

The Agenda for the 2010 AGM on 17th April is currently being printed and will be sent out to clubs by the 13th March. In that agenda you will find all the details of the AGM plus the resolutions, including the final resolution on membership.

Keep an eye out for it and we hope to see you in Scarborough to listen to and participate in the debate.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

From David Banner of Jedburgh who rang the National President with the news that they had raised £1,000 for H4H from their sales of Christmas trees:

“It had been like old times and the guys had all gone for a meal after the sale and really enjoyed the fellowship”.



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>.

MEMBERSHIP DEBATE

Gordano Valley held our monthly meeting on 27 January 2010. 18 out of our 45 members attended the business meeting. A further 6 joined the dinner / speaker meeting that followed.

At the business meeting we agreed to donate £535 to the President's charity Help for Heroes. A similar amount is also being donated by Gordano Valley Tangent. Both cheques will be presented to our National Councillor (Dick Stanley) at our Ladies Night on 13 March 2010.

Prior to the meeting details of the membership debate were circulated to our members. At the meeting the votes cast were as follows

For : No change – 1 vote

For: Amend rules to include male partners of Circle and Tangent over the age of 40 who may not have been in Round Table – 12 votes

For: Open membership – 5 votes.

In the President's letter of 7 October 2009 to Shepperton 41 Club he states "First point I want to make, the results of the nationwide survey tell us that 2/3rds of our clubs want the option to have selective membership". The charts in the winter edition of Links show that only 539 club (66%) responded of which 52% elected restricted membership and 15% open membership. So I make this that those in favour of extending the membership criteria is 361 clubs out of 820 clubs (i.e.44%) – 307 for restrictive (37.4%) and 54 clubs (6.6%) for open membership. The President's comment applies only to those clubs who responded - not total membership.

David Johnson

**Treasurer, DOT Com Officer, Club Contact
 Gordano Valley 41 Club**

Absolutely.

I have already and repeatedly advised several at National level of the mistaken manoeuvring of these statistics, supported by statisticians' opinion, which could even - at worst - lay our Club open to comments re misrepresentation. Yet this misleading interpretation continues to be used, for whatever reasons.

Maybe, following the News@ editor's reply earlier, we (including apparently the President too) all need to write directly to News@ rather than here (*the 41 Club Forum*)? But well done with your H4H donation - a splendid effort!

Alan Spencer, Woking 41 Club

FROM ACCRINGTON 41 CLUB

The membership debate.....

At our most recent monthly meeting we devoted the entire meeting to the debate.

We took into account the views of others expressed in The Forum, The Links Magazine, the Presidential Letter and the results of the survey.

- We do not have a feeder Table
- We have 27 members – all ex Round Tablers

- We have an ex-Round Tabler awaiting induction
- Our youngest member is 48, our eldest 84
- Our age spread is: 40's – 1; 50's – 5; 60's – 10; 70's – 9; 80's - 2

The summary of our opinions:

- We want to stay as we are
- We do not want to become an "open or selective member club"
- We want to belong to an Ex-Round Tablers' Association
- We do not want to belong to a "Round Tablers' and any other like minded individuals' Association"
- We recognise that inevitably our Club will reduce in numbers and will "die off"

And, a summary of other views expressed by members:

- With a reducing national membership there could well be a corresponding increase in national Capitation fees to fund the National Association
- We have done our bit and are proud of that, if a member wants to continue to "do his bit" he can join other service organisations (we have members of Rotary and other service organisations etc.)
- We do not have any "career 41 clubbers"
- If National and its "career 41 Clubbers" want to continue in their present style, they have a vested interest in increasing member numbers – to keep capitation fees coming in at a non-reducing or even increasing rate. It follows that if membership does not grow then there will be an exponential rise in our capitation fees to enable National to prosper
- We deplore the massaging or misuse of the data gathered in the survey and being promoted by some as good evidence for change etc.
- If there is a problem with declining member numbers in both Round Table and 41 Club, then why not join the two – it may not be the solution that National wants but it may postpone the inevitable demise of one or both!
- A conjoining of the two will satisfy those 41 clubbers who have not been able to "let go" and move on.

Derek Wilkinson, Accrington 41 Club

Greetings from Mallorca 41.

As requested Mallorca 41 have debated the issues surrounding the draft Rule changes to be debated at this years AGM. Here follows our considered position.

Initially we reviewed the draft rule changes. Of course on the surface they appear quite simple and benign in terms of impact on our members, but implicit in rule change 2.1 is the adoption of the aims and objects of Round Table.

This brings us to our first point. Why, if RTBI is in what appears to be terminal decline, are we adopting the aims and objects of RTBI rather than the aims and objects of 41 Club? Perhaps to propose a change in the aims and objects is a step to far for some ex-Tablers but we are of the considered view that the wording of the RTBI aims and objects is seriously outdated (would we seriously admit to 'developing the acquaintance of young men')? We would support the adoption of Vice President Malcolm's stated purpose as published in Links.

This brings us to the issue of what is the purpose of 41 in Mallorca? We had to admit that we were not really very

active and had probably quite a low profile, albeit we enjoy healthy attendance. We do not have a RT feeder table and so have no opportunity to support them on CS. However we have decided we will now raise our profile through some 'appropriate' CS endeavours and we are in the throws of nominating a CS Convener OR Committee. We hope to increase our profile in the community through this, which of course may mean we attract new members from people already resident here.

Our current membership is made up of visiting 41'ers and residents with an age profile that means our youngest member is 59! We support opening membership but will do so on a selective basis. What is important to Mallorca is getting the right type of men to join us who quite genuinely will adopt our purpose and who will attend our meeting regularly. For this reason we are setting up a 'sounding out' team who will vet as best we can all likely candidates for membership. Ideally we are looking for members who spend all OR most of their time here and who can meet a minimum attendance criteria. Of course visiting members will always be welcome.

Whilst we agree with the aspiration to have at least 50% of our members ex-Tablers, we do question for how long that rule will survive, particular given the real reason for opening membership is that we are seeing the decline in the natural 41 feeder route of RTBI. Maybe we are hopeful of seeing a rejuvenation of RTBI, OR are we playing politics with the die hard ex-Tablers!

With regards to draft rule change 4.1 on affiliation; we agree with this rule and Mallorca will remain fully affiliated to the National movement.

We send you our best wishes from all in Mallorca 41 and good luck at the AGM.

Richard Pollett, Chairman, Mallorca 41 Club

We have discussed the various proposals concerning accepting membership from people who otherwise would not qualify and have decided that we, as a 'comfortable' 41, that is, who runs without too much regard for the rules, would be prepared to accept any person who we felt might be an asset to the Club. The question which caused the greatest discussion was 'if they are so worthy, why were they not in Round Table in the first place?'. I think you will agree that this is a very valid point!

Iain Parsons, Border 41 Club Contact

THE NEWSLETTER

Belatedly replying to the post below (Christmas and the New Year got a bit in the way!)

Whilst not everyone might agree with all points in either or both Shepperton's views and the President's reply, I would suggest that both do very fully present the most recent thinking from both sides of this issue. Yet in the January newsletter, Shepperton's letter was abridged to show far less than was written below, and the reply from the President, no less, was not shown at all. There is little point referring newsletter readers to this forum, which it is known so relatively few will see. Could I strongly suggest that these two viewpoints are now shown in full in the February newsletter (where there is no space restriction whatsoever), and maybe also in the next issue of Links? If there is to be a balanced presentation, all members deserve to see these latest and detailed points of view in full, especially those of the President himself, surely?

Alan Spencer, Woking 41 Club

Alan

An interesting point of view, but can I make the following points:

1) I originally attempted to include both the full letter and reply on the letters page, but they are so long that they virtually filled the two pages, leaving little space for other letters. Rather than not publishing the letter at all I opted to print the first section and then provide a link to the full correspondence.

2) You say that 'There is little point referring newsletter readers to this Forum, which it is known so relatively few will see.' I would totally disagree with this. Every member with an Internet connection has the opportunity to join the forum, they simply have to ask. If they really are keen to read the full correspondence then they only have to join. Indeed several new members did join shortly after receiving the newsletter.

3) I have also received correspondence to the effect that I should not publish any letters from the forum, but only print those sent directly to the newsletter.

Incidentally the February newsletter is already finished and being proof read, ready for publication next Monday

Ray Hill, Newsletter Editor

None of which is any reason for deliberately choosing to withhold landmark opinion, especially from the President, from the main body of members - the very opposite to the newsletter's original intention.

I thought communication was one of the President's main concerns.

The way is now there but, apparently, not the will.

If that's now the policy, c'est la vie.

Alan Spencer, Woking 41 Club

I was surprised to read that Ray has received correspondence to the effect that he should ignore items posted on forum when producing copy for the monthly bulletin.

I hope that this is not adopted. There are only 81 members of forum and there must be significantly more who only read the bulletin when it is sent to them by their club in printed form.

And although it is true that most members are perfectly capable of accessing the Forum the fact is that they don't and News@ was devised to help hurdle that level of apathy.

Mac Cummings, Lichfield 41 Club

Notes from the Editor

There has been some confusion recently over whether or not we would publish letters from the club forum in this newsletter. We had concerns over the legality of using items from the forum, as we did not own the copyright of that material. After consulting the Honorary Solicitor we have made the necessary changes to the web forum front page, and all items posted on the forum can now be published either here or in the Links magazine. I hope that this removes any confusion that may have arisen.

I was surprised to see reference to 'National and its "career 41 Clubbers"' in the letter from the Accrington Club. I prefer to think about them as "carer 41 Clubbers" – those who care about the future of their Association. Career by definition infers that it is a full time job and remuneration is expected. Many carers on the other hand give their time voluntarily, often at their own expense and whilst holding down another job. What a difference on small 'e' can make. What is your opinion?

THE BACK PAGE

DAVID BELL MBE, NATIONAL PRESIDENT 1969-70

I have selected David Bell as the first in a series of articles on previous National Presidents. David was from the Edinburgh Club and was a truly remarkable person. The following is extracted from the Association's Diamond Jubilee book.

Turned down by the RAF in World war II – he was in a reserved occupation – he joined instead the T.A. and from there went on to serve as a sapper in the Royal Engineers. In North Africa, serving with the Desert Rats, he was severely injured when a mine blew up in his face, destroying his eyesight and taking off both of his hands. Despite these injuries he learned to type and play the trombone – the only instrument not requiring the use of the player's fingers. There followed a successful business career, an appearance in "This Is Your Life", membership of Edinburgh Round Table and, in due course, of Edinburgh & District 41 Club. In 1973 he was awarded the MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours for Services to the Disabled – although David preferred 'Handicapped'. The Hinge reported his MBE with a headline "Mrs. Bell's Efforts"! He was clearly a remarkable man. According to one source, you could greet

David at Conference having not seen him for a year, and as soon as you opened your mouth he'd address you by name. Even more impressive was his knack of recognizing a person by their approaching footsteps. As President (1969-70) he had a hand bell which he used to ring to ensure that he got people's attention; there are even notes in the Minute-books of his bringing Council Meetings to order by ringing on the 'Bell of Forty-One.'



ROUND TABLE NEWS

Round Table have launched their excellent new website. Take a look at www.roundtable.co.uk. RTBI have also recently launched a new membership initiative involving a series of post cards for mail drop. If you have a feeder Table why not see if they are taking advantage and if they are maybe an offer to help with the mail drop would be a good idea. You never know there might be the opportunity for a friendly beer en-route.

AND FINALLY

HAS YOUR CLUB CONSIDERED A PROXY VOTE AT THE AGM ?

If no member of your club is attending the National AGM, you can still have a vote on all of the motions. There is a link on the first page of the Club Website (<http://www.41club.org>) to a list of clubs of currently registered attendees. Every attendee can carry the proxy vote for one other club. Therefore if you approach one these clubs a proxy can be arranged for you. The National Secretary must receive notification of a proxy vote at least 72 hours before the start of the AGM.

ANNUAL PRESS AWARD AND WEBSITE TROPHY



If your club would like to be considered for the Annual Press Award the time is running out to submit your entries. All you have to do is send a copy of at least two editions of your magazine, issued since the 1st April 2009, to David Smith the National Communications Officer. They can be sent either as hard copy or by email and must be with David by the 31st March. David can be contacted at comms@41club.org.

For those clubs with their own website, entries for the Website Trophy are still being accepted by the Honorary Webmaster David Hewitt: webmaster@41club.org. Remember that David will be monitoring websites to ensure that they are being kept up to date!

The winners of this year's awards will be announced at the AGM in Scarborough.

Last year's winners were:
Press Award – John Warne, Ringwood and District 41 Club
Website Trophy – Chris Shorter, Guilford XRT

HELP FOR HEROES

Have any clubs have sent cheques directly to H4H but not informed President Richard of their donation? If so could they please let Richard know ASAP in order that a correct total amount can be announced.

For those still to send donations please make the cheques payable to 'Help For Heroes' and post them to Richard Matthews, whose address can be located here:

<http://www.41club.org/pages/president.htm>

Your generosity gentlemen, has been outstanding.

