

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULE 18.2 THAT THE

## **SIXTY FIFTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Will be held on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2010 at 9.30 a.m.

at

The Spa Theatre, Scarborough Spa Complex, Scarborough, YO11 2HD

### **AGENDA**

1. Welcome by the National President
2. Apologies for absence
3. Confirmation and Adoption of the Minutes of the 64<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2009 in Southport
4. Matters arising from those Minutes
5. To receive the National Council's Report for 2009-2010 (Appendix A)
6. Election of Officers 2010-2011 (see Appendix D for biographical details and statements)
7. Adoption of National Treasurer's Report and Accounts to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009 (Appendix B)
8. Presentation of the Budget (Appendix C)
9. Agreement of the budgeted honoraria for National Officers and the re-imbursment rates to National Councillors for hotel costs and fuel costs properly incurred on the Association's Business (Appendix C)
10. Determination of Capitation Fee for 2011 (Appendix C)
11. Appointment of Independent Examiners
12. Receive Resolutions (all Resolutions are detailed in Appendix E)
13. Presentation of Trophies and Appreciations
14. Installation of National President 2010 – 2011
15. Installation of National Vice-President 2010 – 2011
16. Installation of Officers 2010 – 2011
17. Any other Business relevant to the AGM
18. Time, date and place of the 66<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting  
9.00 a.m. – Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2011  
Ipswich Regent Theatre and Corn Exchange  
IP4 1HE

1<sup>st</sup> March 2010

**Vaughan Harris**  
**National Secretary**

## **APPENDIX A 2010 NATIONAL COUNCIL REPORT**

### **NATIONAL PRESIDENT – RICHARD MATTHEWS**

The launch pad for my year was a superb National Conference at Southport in April. Chairing the first Executive meeting on Sunday morning after an exhausting final night party I was impressed by the commitment and enthusiasm of the new team who clearly set out without any hesitation what they wanted to achieve in the year ahead. Fortunately these linked closely with the five personal objectives I had set myself. From the outset the members of the Executive have all been fantastic and by the time they meet for the next National Conference at Scarborough they will have achieved some really tremendous results.

My prime objective has been to carry on our efforts to address the three main threats to our Association. Principal of these is the lack of a sense of purpose shown by most clubs; no doubt the result of the loss of so many feeder Round Tables and combined with our ageing membership caused by the age rule change in RTBI.

The proposal from Cheshunt concerning recommendations for selective membership enabled us to get Clubs talking about the future. The issue that provokes a clear polarisation of views across the Association is accepting non Ex -Round Tablers into membership. The 66% response we had to the survey in May arranged by Jim Smith was quite exceptional. The follow-up debate I called for in November seems to have been a success in that it got clubs discussing membership and their future, something few clubs appear to have done ever.

With over 800 clubs there is never going to be a one fix solution to the problems 41 Clubs face. To date the prevailing view appears to be one for allowing flexibility. Clubs would like to set their own local rule about whom they elect into membership.

From a strategic perspective selective membership is not the solution to the long term survival of the Association. We need to continue the debate at club level to establish whether the Association's Aims are what the membership agrees they should be. These Aims were written when the Association was formed 65 years ago and they are the guidelines for how the National Council manages its affairs. It is the pursuit of these Aims that should set the membership strategy of the Association. Clubs should discuss the membership strategy which suits them but, accept that many clubs do not share the same view. For many 41Clubs, having dinner once a month is enough. Against this for many 41Clubs, Round Table values and commitment to serve the community and to develop friendship do not stop at 40 or even 45. Whatever happens to the proposition the debate has to go on. Jim Smith has been outstanding in his efforts as our Membership Officer and I hope members will show their appreciation in Scarborough.

In this period, communications have had to become, more frequent and more effective in leading the debate. I am so pleased with the work of our Communications Team led by David Smith. Not just for the progress that LINKS has made, but also for delivery of a new monthly newsletter by email to every club. The editor of this publication is Ray Hill who deserves our sincere thanks for a considerable effort on our behalf. We have rationalised the delivery of LINKS by ending the bulk mailing in the hope that we can get magazines direct into members' homes. The National Council however remain bemused why so many large clubs only post a handful of their member details on CAS so that only these members ever see LINKS. WHY?

We started the year with a new Brand; a new and modern image. Something to catch the eye of those elusive Round Tablers. We have made considerable progress during the year securing supplies and new items and there is more to come. Martin Green your Sales Officer has been tireless in his efforts on your behalf. We hope you approve of the new jewels that are now available through the website and the new membership Platinum Benefits package.

Your response to my appeal for HELP FOR HEROES has been truly phenomenal and touched me greatly. Originally I asked clubs to donate £50 per club in order to meet a target of £41,000.00. Combined with Tangent's efforts we hoped to raise £80,000.00. As we entered 2010 the 41 Club total alone exceeded £62,000.00 from about 400 donations, 98% from 41 Clubs.

The response has been amazing. Which is all the more remarkable having been told by so many 41 Clubs "We don't raise money". Well you do! This charity has been the catalyst to awaken even the most hardened and crusty 41 Club members to put not only their hand in their pockets, but also to get many friends and in some cases the public to give so generously. Supporting our communities is still a key Aim of 41 Club. I hope that clubs will reflect on what has happened this year to become more charitably minded even to perhaps have a small event each year not only for the President's Charity but also to support the traditional Round Table causes of RTCW and Anthony Nolan. A £100 from every Club makes a substantial contribution.

Finally, I asked members to think about rewarding our own heroes, those who have given generously of their time to keep our clubs going. I am pleased to say that many Service Award presentations have taken place; the most notably to Don Skitmore at Dedham for nearly half a century serving members as Club Secretary. There must be many, many more cases. We just need you to think of the candidates.

It has been my privilege to be President. As I write this nearly three months before April and Scarborough, I want to thank all the members of the Exec and Council for their immense support not only to me but also to you - the members. I have had some remarkable experiences and even when my jokes have bombed you have all been so kind. Round Table has been a way of life for so many of us and we do have a unique bond. I have enjoyed meeting and working with the other Association Presidents and being the representative of this Association on visiting European countries and attending the 41 International meetings. Our Association is a key component of the international friendship.

In signing off I want to say I am so grateful for having had this opportunity and may I wish my successor Malcolm Lockey all the best for his year that will I am sure be full of great fellowship, provocative debate and fun. To those who will be leaving the National Council in Scarborough, thank you on behalf of this great Association for your commitment. To those who continue in Office, enjoy the opportunity.

Finally I must thank Barbara for her constant and tireless support, together with that from my clubs Bournemouth and Shaftesbury & Gillingham.

**Richard Matthews**

## **NATIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT – MALCOLM LOCKEY**

The Forward Planning Committee has considered a number of issues during the course of the year, in particular – the drafting of a brief yet accurate statement as to what the Association of Ex Round Tablers' clubs is all about and which best reflects the rich mix that we are whilst still recognising, first and foremost, that we are a fellowship organisation that is founded on the aims and values of Round Table,

Nationally, as we get involved with more and more organisations, either to provide charitable support or to arrange benefits for our members, it has become clear that we need to be able to articulate clearly and succinctly who we are, what we do and how we came into being. To support any such statement, it was felt that an attempt should be made to review and revise the statement of 'objects' as defined in the Constitution and Rules of the Association. These have been revised several times since the formation of the Association in 1945. An initial draft of proposed revisions has been considered and agreed by National Council and we shall be bringing these before the AGM in Scarborough.

An increasing number of clubs are getting involved with community service projects and it has been a tradition for many years that each National President nominates a charitable organisation that will receive support from the Association. Over recent years we have raised well over half a million pounds through Presidential appeals. In addition, this year, we have provided financial aid to help with restoration work and the rebuilding of a Youth and Community centre after the Italian earthquake. More recently, the Red Cross have asked for our help after the shocking Haiti earthquake disaster. Nearer to home and involving our own members, two very real and tragic welfare needs have come to my notice this year that would have benefited from financial and practical advice and support from our Association, had we given any thought to ways in which we might help members at times of crisis in their lives. The people involved in these tragedies quite literally had nowhere else to turn other than their local 41 Club. With an increasingly ageing membership, we are likely to come across more such incidents.

With this in mind, Forward Planning Committee has been giving consideration to the possibility of recommending the introduction of a new National Executive role – that of National Community Service and Welfare Officer who's role and responsibility would be to [i] co-ordinate Presidential charity appeals, [ii] act as the interface between the Association, 41 Club International and aid agencies at times of national and international crises, [iii] act as the interface between the Association and any charitable organisation that we might support over a longer period [iv] provide guidance, support and information to clubs already involved or wishing to be involved in community service [v] to create and oversee welfare support for our own membership at times of personal crisis. [vi] celebrate and promote examples of community service initiatives that are taking place across the Association [vii] investigate and monitor the legal, insurance and Health and Safety implications of community service initiatives and provide advice and information to clubs and the Association in relation to this matter.

National Council has carefully considered the implications of this role and in the first instance a member of Council will undertake the role in addition to their existing responsibilities, in order to fully assess the remit and whether it would be necessary to create a new Executive post. The outcome of this initiative will be reported to the AGM in 2011.

Other matters that have been considered by Forward Planning Committee have included – the raising of our public profile through better use of the press. An appeal has gone out to the membership to see if anyone might like to serve as ‘press and PR officer’ but as yet without response! Specialist advice on this issue was given to National Council at its February meeting and this is to be further explored. It was also felt that our Association might benefit by having a Patron and steps are currently being taken to identify and attract a suitable person to serve in this capacity.

Finally, I am grateful for the privilege of serving as National Vice-President during the course of this year. I have enjoyed visiting clubs and meeting members locally, nationally and internationally - even as far away as Hong Kong! The common factor in all of my visits has been the great sense of ‘belonging’ to a very ‘worthwhile’ organisation. This sense of ‘belonging’ to a worthy and growing worldwide Association, is something that we need to get across to those who have yet to join us! I very much look forward to serving you as your National President in the forthcoming year and to playing my part in helping to secure our future

**Malcolm Lockey**

### **IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT - DREW COCHRAN**

As I write my last AGM report I look back and reflect on being very fortunate in my Round Table (RT) life, enjoying the opportunity and privilege to be a member of seven different clubs in my twenty years service before entering 41 Club. I was a member when RT was at its height in the mid seventies with approx 34,000 members and a growing 41 Club. If this was the situation today then we would not have to worry about our future. But we all know that this is not the case, with RT numbers down to approx 6,000 and forecast to shrink further. We have an ageing membership in 41 Club with numbers on the decline with less than 20% of retiring RT members joining our Association.

The majority of current retiring RTs do not see their 41 Club in its present form as meeting their needs or aspirations and are voting with their feet. Some 41 Clubs have tried to accommodate an active group within their ranks and we have seen new clubs being affiliated with an active programme to meet their needs.

I have had the exceptional opportunity as your National President to visit 41 Clubs the length and breadth of the country and have always been warmly greeted by the members. Over the year I was able to build up a picture of our clubs and a perspective of 41 Club Nationally. With this unique experience I can split the members of a club into three fairly equal categories and this can be reflected at national level.

Group 1 : age 65 + , many founder members, enjoy meeting their pals once a month for dinner, have little or no interest in community service, have no contact with RT, could be a member of Rotary, not interested in change.

Group 2 : age 55 – 65, enjoy meeting their pals once a month, many are members of Rotary, would not be averse to change but would not want to upset the “old boys “in group 1

Group 3 : 45 – 55, did not share any of the RT experiences with group 1, have not had long service in RT, want a community service aspect and active programme in 41 Club.

If we want this great Association to continue and prosper then we have to take decisions at the AGM on what steps to take now in order to secure our long term survival. These decisions cannot wait until we are in terminal decline.

Yes, we have to be more attractive to retiring RTs and that means a more active programme and participation in the community. We need purpose and identity.

Yes, we have got to go out and find the RTs who have retired but not joined 41 Club for whatever reason.

Yes, we have to give those clubs with no feeder RT the opportunity to recruit like minded men from outside.

I do not believe that "one size fits all" and we do have to give our clubs the flexibility to make the decisions on their future within the ethos and guidelines of 41 Club.

I started my presidential year by declaring "War on Apathy" and while we have by no means won that war we have won a few battles on the way. I also said that I wanted to raise the profile of 41 Club and that we are doing with your great efforts in helping the Air Ambulance Associations and the tremendous support for Help for Heroes. This increased public profile is helping to attract major sponsors which will in turn give added benefits to members.

Gentlemen, I have been very honoured to be your National President and again thank you all for the kindness and friendship shown to me and my wife Moira on our travels both nationally and internationally.

Signing Off

**Drew Cochran**

## **NATIONAL SECRETARY - VAUGHAN HARRIS**

It has been another enjoyable yet very busy year keeping up to date with the administration of the Association.

The Club Administration is reliant on Clubs to keep their own information up to date. I would urge all Clubs to check the details that are held on the system (CAS), to ensure that it contains the current information. I would ask all Clubs to add email details where they are known, as we now include the Club Chairman and the Club Contact for all National mailings to try and improve communications with the Clubs. By using email we are saving on postage which is an ever increasing cost to the Association. We also ask you to add the Club AGM details, to ensure that changes to officers are recorded.

I would also ask you to update your Club's magazine requirements, as from June 2009 we have been trying to avoid bulk mailings of the magazine, to ensure that all the members in your club receive their own copy of Links. Club Contacts and Club Chairman will have been receiving by e-mail a copy of an electronic Newsletter, which I hope has been forwarded to all members.

If you are not confident in updating details yourself, then if the information is passed on to myself or Sue Barnicoat at Marchesi House, we are more than willing to help and I can also provide you with a guide to updating the Club's details on CAS yourself.

I would also like to thank the staff at Marchesi House, in particular Sue Barnicoat, all of whom have given the Association and myself in particular a very high level of support throughout the year which is much appreciated. I would also like to thank David Hewitt for all the hard work he puts into maintaining the Association's website, Paul Cammiss for his legal advice throughout the year and David Addison for providing me with any historical information whenever I have needed it. All of their efforts are not often seen or appreciated.

My very last thank you must be to my wife Jill, who has given me much valued support and help throughout the past three years.

This is my final year as National Secretary. It has been an honour and a privilege to serve the Association over the last three years and I would like to take this opportunity to wish my successor all the best and hope he has as much enjoyment as I have from being National Secretary.

**Vaughan Harris**

## **NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER – DAVID SMITH**

Once again, three issues of the Association's magazine *LINKS* have been circulated in the year, all in our re-branded format, the last two directly to members. For some time the National Council has been concerned that copies of the magazine were not always getting through to members. In many instances, clubs requested their supply of the magazine should be sent in bulk to their secretaries or club contacts, with the result that they were often distributed out of time or not at all, and many were cursorily read and left at club meeting venues. Provided clubs keep their members' addresses up to date on the Club Administration System (CAS), each member will receive his copy at home to be read at leisure by the member and perhaps his family. This is important to ensure that everyone will have the opportunity to participate in the offers and benefits to members which we shall be promoting through future issues of the magazine. If the members of your club are not receiving their copies, perhaps you should initially check your club's details on CAS.

Inevitably, the content of this year's magazine has been dominated by the Membership Debate and I must apologise if this has not suited all members. Nevertheless I do think it important that members should be given every chance to comment on such an important subject which will govern the direction this Association will follow in coming years. It is a topic which not surprisingly has polarised opinion and I hope it is agreed that all sides have had a fair opportunity to put across their points of view.

Two years ago when taking this office I made a plea for clubs to send me copy telling the membership of their activities over and above the usual black tie dinners, and I have been delighted by the response. The magazine has included articles on community service projects (such as The Millennium Way and Faringdon's First Response vehicle), fund raising activities (eg, Shirley Late Knight's Coast to Coast cycle ride) and out of the ordinary ventures (Bishop Stortford's day trip to Oporto comes to mind), all of which I believe brighten up our magazine and make it more relevant to our members

With a period of three or four months between issues, immediacy clearly can be lost, and prompted by separate but coincidentally contemporaneous suggestions from two clubs, Lichfield and Woking, we decided to launch the monthly National newsletter News@41Club in November. Enthusiastically taken on and produced by Ray Hill, Councillor for Region 11, the newsletter is emailed to club contacts who are asked to forward it to their members having access to email and provide a hard copy for those who do not. The standard is very high, the content is up to date and the comments I have heard are all favourable.

The role of the National Communications Officer includes responsibility for the Association's website. The Honorary Webmaster David Hewitt has administered the site for many years and skilfully oversaw the re-branding changes to its format at the beginning of the year. It continues to be the best and most cost and time effective method of delivering immediate information to members. As part of our strategy to promote communication between members, we wish more would take advantage of and join the Forum which is available through the website.

Once again, we are running Press Award and Website Trophy competitions and the winners will be announced at the AGM.

May I thank the members of my Committee whose hard work and support have been invaluable – Honorary Webmaster David Hewitt mentioned above, Honorary Archivist David Addison who ensures that all obituaries appear in the magazine and on the website, and who provides a second to none proof reading service, and Councillors Hugh Milward (Region 10) and Ray Hill, also mentioned above. Thanks must also go to Reg Hewitt of the Exeter Club for his regular 'Grumpy ex-Tabler's' column, to Sue Barnicoat our Administrator at Marchesi House, to Gary and Lee, the printers of the magazine, and to Alan and Steve, its distributors.

Above all, may I thank all contributors to the magazine and website – please keep your letters, articles and photos coming!

**David Smith**

## **MEMBERSHIP AND EXTENSION OFFICER – JIM SMITH**

At the time of last year's report on Membership to the AGM (produced January 08) membership figures stood at 19,406 from c. 850 clubs. The membership figures as I write this (January 09) including pending disaffiliations for the February Council meeting stand at 18,691 members and 813 clubs. Included in this figure are 5 new or re-affiliated clubs during this year to date. There are a further 3 new clubs going through the process of affiliation. The major reason for the significant fall is clubs who have closed through lack of numbers and age of members. What is also concerning though are the 5 clubs who have disaffiliated who no longer see any benefit in belonging to the Association although they are continuing as unaffiliated clubs, 4 clubs disaffiliated through non-payment of capitation and 2 clubs closed as the current membership rules precluded them from recruiting non ex-Round Tablers as members. Whilst long term accurate statistics are not readily available it appears that this is the biggest single year fall in membership.

We are all fully aware of the situation with regards to Round Table although I do have to congratulate the current Executive of Table who are making significant efforts to stay the tide. Some of the membership initiatives and the work being undertaken is some of the best I have ever seen in my time associated with the Round Table family. The clear message to us though is that we are not seen as attractive enough to people leaving Round Table which is why many don't join but do join clubs such as Rotary or Lions. Why is this? Initial research gives a strong indication that in general our clubs aren't active enough. That doesn't mean we should all be white water rafting or partying all night but it does mean that we should be seen in our communities and have a profile which would encourage the younger element to join us. There are exceptions, of course, but in the main they tend to be the successful 41 clubs who do have a profile. It is not surprising that the 5 new clubs this year and those from last year are made up of younger ex-Tablers who want to continue their community activities and, where they have one, properly support their local Round Tables.

During the past few months my committee and I have been working on a number of initiatives designed to support the Round Table family. We are working on a Sons and Daughters campaign and on a new style feeder Table club project. These initiatives are not new but they are refocused. They also show to Round Table that we are keen to support them in their work to re-build Table and Circle. Through Regional Councillors we aim to target ex-Tablers in local areas who have not joined a club to form new clubs and we are likely to have more cluster clubs not directly associated to one Round Table but supporting a cluster in an Area. Examples are 1741 club in North London, Vigo Village and North Kent in Kent and ABC in the West Midlands.

The year though has been dominated by the "Membership debate". A survey responded to by 66% of clubs, a very high response rate, gave us some valuable information but it was started as a result of a proposal approved at Southport *"This meeting instructs the Membership Committee of the National Executive to formulate and put forward proposals to change the Association's membership rules to allow constituent clubs to recruit like-minded men who would, in their opinion, benefit the Round Table family by their membership of their club and thus, the Association, as full voting members; the proposals to change the Association's membership rules are to be formally presented by the National Executive and placed before the clubs at the Association's AGM in 2010 for immediate implementation"* We are an Association of Clubs and not, like Round Table, an Association of members who belong to clubs. The opinion of clubs is therefore vital. What has come from the survey is an understanding that clubs are happy to go their own way with as little interference as possible from the National Council. In many instances they have made their own rules on membership. A large number have brought in non ex-Round Tablers as full members, a number have brought in rules which determine full membership after a period of time, say 3 years, as an Associate or Honorary member. Many clubs are determined to operate on a last one out switch off the lights policy and will close in the short to medium term. Here lies the problem. Whatever we put in front of the membership at the AGM won't change the Association as clubs will continue to do what they think is right for them. Would it be wrong for a relatively small number of club members voting at the AGM to try to maintain unworkable rules or would we be better off working on how we can take our place in the Communities in which we live, develop a profile and as a result become attractive to ex-Round Tablers? We can have that place, if we want to, we can retain our club as a purely fellowship club, if we want to, we can encourage successive club chairmen to adopt, adapt, improve if we want to. Your vote on the proposal contained in this paper **(See Page 22 and Appendix F)** is important but maybe the most important thing we can do is look at the way forward for clubs. As Membership Officer my role is to support the clubs in doing that where they want to, create a vehicle to encourage new clubs where appropriate and above all help us to become attractive to our original source of membership and in doing so provide proper support to Round Table and the Round Table family.

Whilst this has been a busy year I have thoroughly enjoyed the challenge. I would like to thank the Executive and my Committee for their support.

**Jim Smith**

## **SALES & MARKETING OFFICER - MARTIN GREEN**

At last years AGM in Southport, we launched the new 'Platinum Branding' for the Association. This has been well received by most, and I am encouraged when I see the new logo in use on many publications, including our Links Magazine, and at many events. Our Platinum Branding is very important to us, and we must live up to the concept of 'Platinum' in everything we do. Where there are successful brands in the world – Audi, Nike etc – the whole culture of the organisation reflects from the brand. They have got it right – we must do the same to succeed and make our mark.

At the same time in Southport we launched the new 41 Club sales offer. This has moved on from strength to strength this year. I hope you will see we have turned the previous continual losses into profit. The new sales website has exceeded our expectation – who says 41'ers don't use the internet!

At the time of writing we are about to go 'live' with our new jewel offer. All of the jewels have been re-designed in the new Platinum Branding, and by using our external sales company we have been able to make cost savings that we can pass on to you – our customers. I hope you will see the entire National Council at this AGM wearing the new style jewels.

I must record my thanks to Richard DuBois of Masterpart and Huw Jones the brains behind all the designs, both of them have been invaluable to make all of this come together.

I would also like to mention the sterling work that Lichfield 41 Club are doing at the 41 Club Garden at the National Memorial Arboretum. Our garden is about to have a major overhaul and will also reflect the new Platinum Branding. This year – and hopefully as a permanent feature - we celebrated Remembrance Sunday in the garden with a short service and the laying of an Association Poppy Wreath.

We have always been conscious of the need to give our members some tangible benefits for being a member of 41 Club. In the latest magazine we launched Platinum Privileges – a series of discount benefits for our members. This is in early stages and it will develop in due course.

Two years ago when I was elected to this job – I promised to 'sort out' sales. In reality in the two years I have been in the role, we have re-branded, produced a complete new sales offer, and started to get into place some membership benefits. Some of this has not been easy – especially as 41 Club is sometimes reluctant to change. However it has been done, and I can now move from this job satisfied that I have achieved my objectives and can pass on the role to someone who can now capitalise on its success.

If I have bulldozed through you to achieve all of this – I apologise. To those who have supported – in particular President Richard who has picked up a lot of grief on my behalf – I thank you.

**Martin Green**

## **CONFERENCE OFFICER – TERRY COOPER**

Bookings for Scarborough have been excellent again this year with many members, I'm delighted to say, still opting to come for the Thursday evening to make it a long weekend by the seaside. We have decided that Ipswich 2011 will continue with the two day format but will offer the popular "optional" Welcome Party on Thursday evening as an additional event on the Booking Form.

The Scarborough Conference Committee has been superb considering very few of them had ever attended a Conference before Southport. Scarborough has given their all for this event and I'm sure now that Conference is in full swing you will be having a great time.

On behalf of Stephen Slade and the Scarborough Conference Committee we sincerely hope that you enjoy your visit to Scarborough and will come back again soon. I'm sure you would want to join with me to say, well done and a big thank you to the Scarborough Team for all of their efforts.

Whilst on this subject I would like to say thank you to my own National Conference Committee for their help and support throughout this year.

Moving on to Ipswich and the new experience we have planned for you in 2011. Ipswich is an estuary Conference location but with a difference, as it boasts a new Marina and the area around the Marina is more like the Mediterranean than Suffolk. The venue for the Friday and Saturday night is the new multimillion pound purpose built Trinity Park Conference and Events Centre, where the facilities are stunning.

After nine years on Council and the last five as your Conference Officer it's time for me to hand over the baton to someone new. When I first became a Councillor I had my sights set firmly on the Conference Officers role. It was a great decision, as I've enjoyed every minute and I feel satisfied that I've been able to instigate and lead a revival in the attendance at our Conferences. I've not done this alone of course but with some brilliant committees, both at National and local level. I wish my successor "as much fun as I've had" as he will be taking on, in my view, the best role on the National Executive!

I will close with one last thought, if you have had a good time at the Scarborough National Conference, then book for Ipswich before you leave. Go back to your Club and tell them how good it was to attend our National Conference and ask them to come with you to Ipswich in 2011.

I look forward to seeing you there.

**Terry Cooper**

## **INTERNATIONAL OFFICER – ANDY WAITE**

Our year started with a disaster – the earthquake in L'Aquila, Italy. Thanks to the generosity of our membership €7000 was raised to assist with the building of a primary school. All work is being supervised by appropriately qualified 41ers.

Since the Southport AGM I have been on the following overseas visits:

Gloucester (International AGM)  
Liverpool (Euro Region 8 meeting)  
Soro (Danish AGM)  
Kristiansand (Norwegian AGM)  
Lille (French AGM)  
Alkmaar, Holland (Round Table International AGM)  
Gdansk (just for a visit)  
Suceava (Romanian AGM)  
Slatina, Romania (Charter of a new Club)  
Liege (Belgian AGM)  
Switzerland (International HYM)  
Algarve (Iberian Cluster)  
These two in a 2,300 mile road trip)  
Rabat, Morocco (Charter of a new Club)  
President Richard attended the Swedish AGM.  
Lawrence Bamber represented the Association at the South African and Indian AGMs.

New Clubs have been chartered in Malta, Morocco, Estonia & Finland. There is interest in forming 41 Clubs in Sri Lanka, the Falkland Islands and possibly the Philippines.

Our Association has a new Club in France – Cap d'Agde International. There are two French, two Brits, a Dutchman and an Italian among the members.

The International AGM in Cheltenham was a big success thanks particularly to Dick and Mo Stanley and Dave and Cari Green.

At Cheltenham it was decided that India will host the Vice-Presidency in 2011-12.

A very healthy turnout from GB&I attended the International Half Yearly Meeting in Sursee, Switzerland in October. All Associations were represented apart from Norway, Sweden and Zambia. Constructive meetings were held on the YAP and Famex programmes, The IROs had a meeting and it was agreed to disband the Strategic Working Group.

In February a small group – President Richard, Vice-President Malcolm, myself and Dave Campbell met with key members of the French National Board in Canterbury – a repeat of last year's highly successful meeting in Paris.

I write this ahead of the last AGM in the cycle – Finland – in Jyvaskyla, next weekend. I know there will be a big turnout from GB&I for the climax of John Bellwood's year as International President.

I'd like to thank my Committee Lawrence Bamber, Brian Southgate and Dave Campbell for all their help and support.

Thank you for allowing me to be your International Officer. Martin Young said it was the best job in the movement, and I couldn't agree more. Please get in touch if the Committee and I can help in any way to help you and your Club get more out of International 41ing.

**Andy Waite**

## **TREASURER'S REPORT – MIKE TURNER**

I have pleasure in providing my third annual report. As can be seen from the attached accounts, 2009 has been a successful financial year once again.

The surplus has been achieved from a slightly improved income arising from better sales, a profit from the Southport Conference and from controlling the general expenditure.

It should be noted that the surplus from the Southport Conference amounted to £973.08. However in the accounts this surplus has been offset by costs arising from finalising the accounts from previous conferences, resulting in an accounting deficit of (£29.36).

It is particularly gratifying to see that the National Councillors' expenses have been kept within budget. It is noticeable that there are more claims being received from the Councillors for travelling expenses when visiting Clubs within their Region.

The National Council agreed to pay for the refurbishment of the 41 Club site at the National Memorial Arboretum which is being organised by Lichfield 41 Club. This work has not yet been carried out, so the accounts include a provision for the cost to avoid any liability in the current year. However it has been brought to the National Council's attention, that due, in particular, to meeting the local Trustees requirements, a further £3,000.00 will be necessary from this year's budget to meet our commitments.

Last year's budget included a provision for the publication of a fourth issue of the Links magazine, provided that there was a significant contribution to the additional production cost from increased advertising revenue. The advertising revenue did not materialise, so the fourth issue did not happen resulting in a substantial saving on printing costs. Conversely, postage costs have risen resulting in only a nominal saving. This overall position will continue through the current year and should assist in the continuing revival of our reserves.

I am more content now that our reserves will reach a satisfactory level, such that it will enable the Association to move forward with confidence.

In presenting the budget for 2011, I have one aim in mind; not to increase the capitation fee. I believe that we need to maintain a realistic budget so as not to restrict the work of the National Association. It has been necessary, therefore, to make changes to the individual cost heads, to meet the anticipated expenditure without increasing the capitation. I propose that capitation be retained at £10.00 for 2011.

I do not propose to make any alterations to allowances and mileage rates paid to the National Council in carrying out their duties.

**Michael Turner**

# APPENDIX B: ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2009

## THE ASSOCIATION OF EX- ROUND TABLERS' CLUBS

### INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION OF EX-ROUND TABLERS' CLUBS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009

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I report on the accounts of the Association for the year ended 31 December 2009 which are set out on pages 15 to 16.

#### ***Respective responsibilities of the Members and Examiner***

The members consider that an audit is not required for this year and that an independent examination is needed as per the Association's rules.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts; and
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### ***Basis of independent examiner's statement***

My examination was carried out in accordance with the request of the members in accordance with the Association's rules. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Association and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosure in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as members concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

#### ***Independent examiner's statement***

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the members have not met the requirements to ensure that:
  - proper accounting records are kept; and
  - accounts are prepared which agree with the accounting records
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*Duncan & Toplis*

**N Cudmore FCA  
DUNCAN & TOPLIS  
Chartered Accountants  
15 Chequergate  
LOUTH  
Lincolnshire  
LN11 0LJ**

10<sup>th</sup> February 2010

**THE ASSOCIATION OF EX-ROUND TABLERS' CLUBS**  
**INCOME / EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT - YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009**

		£	2009 £	£	2008 £
<b>INCOME</b>					
Capitation fees	Current	160,872.37		150,779.34	
	Arrears	<u>13,279.00</u>		<u>10,615.00</u>	
Capitation		174,151.37		161,394.34	
Bank interest, less tax		537.67		4,954.73	
Conference (deficit)/surplus		(29.36)		(280.52)	
Sales deficit		<u>3,349.49</u>		<u>(2,807.59)</u>	
			178,009.17		163,260.96
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
General secretariat		24,840.00		23,681.40	
Postage and stationery		5003.42		3,719.16	
Meeting expenses		0.00		153.20	
IT Systems		7729.87		8,086.56	
Cost of annual general meeting		1215.70		1,411.63	
President expenses - home		9709.15		8,960.38	
President expenses - international		4667.10		4,285.85	
International Officer expenses		2853.92		2,300.00	
41 International expenses		3279.80		3,217.04	
Conference Officer expenses		1616.32		1,146.80	
Cost of conference		5329.34		5,254.18	
LINKS Magazine	Printing and packaging	19386.00		22,598.97	
	Postage	17705.71		19,528.18	
	Database	0.00		551.60	
	Advertising revenue	(284.13)		(190.00)	
	Communication committee	268.00		0.00	
Council expenses		29864.04		33,056.61	
Insurance		8933.01		8,046.25	
Gifts, jewels, presentations		1167.07		787.80	
Honoraria to officers		1661.25		1,580.00	
Accountancy fees		1612.00		1,843.00	
Depreciation		877.00		249.00	
Amortisation of mosaic profile		0.00		310.00	
Sundries		382.00		450.41	
Marketing and development		5127.00		5011.04	
Provision for refurbishment of National Memorial Arboretum		5500.00		0.00	
			<u>158,444.07</u>		<u>156,039.06</u>
General Fund surplus			<u><u>£19,565.10</u></u>		<u><u>£7,221.90</u></u>

**THE ASSOCIATION OF EX- ROUND TABLES' CLUBS**  
**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2009**

	£	2009 £	£	2008 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>				
Cost	3,926.13		2,839.33	
Deduct depreciation	<u>1,325.00</u>		<u>249.00</u>	
		2,601.13		2,590.33
<b>Current Assets</b>				
Newcastle conference loan	0.00		5,755.84	
Torbay conference loan	0.00		3,000.00	
Stock at the lower of cost and net realisable value	11,569.38		3,422.50	
Debtors and prepayments	5,011.45		6,409.88	
Loans to conference committees	5,500.00		2,500.00	
Cash at bank	<u>121,126.97</u>		<u>112,430.42</u>	
		143,207.80		133,518.64
<b>Current Liabilities</b>				
Creditors and accruals		16,054.93		26,580.98
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>129,754.00</u>		<u>109,527.99</u>
<b>FINANCED BY</b>				
<b>General Fund:</b>				
Balance 1 January	107,365.99		100,144.09	
Surplus for year	<u>19,565.10</u>		<u>7,221.90</u>	
Balance 31 December		<u>126,931.09</u>		<u>107,365.99</u>
<b>Special Reserve: Air Ambulance badges</b>				
Balance 1 <sup>st</sup> January	2,162.00			
Sales	1,360.91		2,913.00	
Deduct purchased	0.00		(1,551.00)	
Stock movement	<u>(800.00)</u>		<u>800.00</u>	
Balance 31 December		<u>2,722.91</u>		<u>2,162.00</u>
<b>Special Reserve: Help for Hero's</b>				
Income	1,092.63		0.00	
Paid over	<u>(992.63)</u>		<u>0.00</u>	
Balance 31 December		<u>100.00</u>		<u>0.00</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		<u>129,754.00</u>		<u>109,527.99</u>

**APPENDIX C.**  
**BUDGET 2009 -2011**

	Budget 2009 £	Actual 2009 £	Variance £	Budget 2010 £	Budget 2011 £
<b>INCOME</b>					
Capitation fees					
current	171000	160872	10128	185000	180000
Arrears	900	13279	-12379	900	3000
	<u>171900</u>	<u>174151</u>	<u>-2251</u>	<u>185900</u>	<u>183000</u>
Bank interest, less tax	2500	538	1962	1000	1000
Conference surplus		-29	29		
Regalia - sales commission	2000	2323	-323	2000	7000
Sales profit	750	1026	-276	1000	1000
	<u>177150</u>	<u>178009</u>	<u>-859</u>	<u>189900</u>	<u>192000</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
General secretariat	26250	24840	1410	27500	30000
Postage & stationery	7500	5003	2497	5000	6500
Meeting expenses	2000	0	2000	2500	2500
IT Systems	9300	7730	1570	7500	10000
Cost of AGM	2650	1216	1434	2750	2750
President expenses – home	8750	9709	-959	18000	18000
President expenses - international	4500	4667	-167	5000	6000
International Officer expenses	2500	2854	-354	4000	5000
41 International expenses	3000	3280	-280	3700	3700
Conference Officer expenses	1250	1616	-386	1250	1500
Cost of conference	5750	5329	421	6000	6000
LINKS Magazine					
Printing & packaging	30000	19386	10614	30000	22000
Postage	20000	17706	2294	20000	20000
Database	350	0	350	350	350
Advertising revenue	-4000	-284	-3716	-4000	-250
Communication committee	500	268	232	500	500
Council expenses	32500	29684	2636	35000	35000
Insurance	11000	8933	2067	9500	9000
Gifts, jewels, presentations	1500	1167	333	1500	1500
Honoraria to officers	2000	1661	339	2000	2000
Accountancy fees	1000	1612	-612	1100	1500
Depreciation	0	877	-877	0	1000
Sundries	1500	382	1118	1500	1000
Marketing / Development	6000	5128	872	6000	6000
National Memorial Arboretum	0	5500	-5500	0	0
	<u>175800</u>	<u>158444</u>	<u>17356</u>	<u>186650</u>	<u>191550</u>
General Fund surplus (deficit)	<u>1350</u>	<u>19565</u>	<u>18215</u>	<u>3250</u>	<u>450</u>
Proposed capitation fee	£9.00			£10.00	£10.00
Based upon membership of					
Current	19000			18500	18000
Arrears	100			100	300
Mileage rate (excluding first 30 miles	HMC&E			HMC&E	HMC&E
Council weekend allowance (up to but not exceeding)	£110.00			£110.00	£110.00

## **APPENDIX D – ELECTION OF ASSOCIATION OFFICERS – 2010-2011**

The following Officer nominations were received by the National Secretary by the 1st February 2010

<b>Office</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Nominating Club</b>
Vice-President (who shall be President-Elect)	Vaughan Harris	East Grinstead
National Secretary	Martin Green	Abingdon & District
National Treasurer	Mike Turner	Norwood
National Communications Officer	David Smith	Long Eaton
National Membership & Extension Officer	Jim Smith	Bishop's Stortford
National Sales & Marketing Officer	Steve Bolter Hugh Milward	Somerton & District Ashby-de-la-Zouch
National Conference Officer	Dick Stanley	Hereford
Association's International Officer	Andy Waite	White Knights

The C.V.'s of Candidates standing for election for National Sales and Marketing Officer are detailed on the following pages for the information of Voting Delegates.

Each Candidate will give a presentation lasting not more than three minutes, to assist the Delegates in making their choice.

The CV of Vaughan Harris (Vice-President Elect) has been included for the information of delegates.

**NOMINATIONS FOR NATIONAL OFFICERS – Vice-President**

**Candidate: VAUGHAN HARRIS**

**EAST GRINSTEAD 41 CLUB**

	<b>DATE(S)</b>	<b>ROLE</b>
<b>RTBI</b>	1987	Joined East Grinstead Round Table
	1989-2003	All major posts except Treasurer- East Grinstead R.T.
	1991-1992	Chairman East Grinstead Round Table
	1993-1994	Area 2 Secretary
	1995-1996	Area 2 Chairman
	1995-1996	National Councillor Region 2
	2002-2003	Member Coulsdon & Purley Round Table
	2003-2007	Honorary Member East Grinstead Round Table
	2004-2005	President East Grinstead Round Table
	2006-2007	Honorary Member Coulsdon & Purley Round Table
<b>RTBI National</b>	1990	Deputy AGM Convenor Brighton Conference
	1995	Secretary Eastbourne Conference
	1995	AGM Convenor Eastbourne Conference
	1996-1997	National Sports and Social Officer
	1997-1999	National Secretary
	2000-2001	National President
<b>41 Club</b>	2003	Joined East Grinstead 41 Club
	2004	Joined Costa Blanca 41 Club
	2004-present	Secretary East Grinstead 41 Club
	2005	Joined Coulsdon & Purley 41 Club
	2006	Founder member Calpe 41 Club
<b>41 National</b>	2005-2007	National Councillor Region 10
	2007-2010	National Secretary

**NOMINATIONS FOR NATIONAL OFFICERS – Sales and Marketing**Candidate: **STEVE BOLTER****SOMERTON & DISTRICT 41 CLUB**

	<b>DATE(S)</b>	<b>ROLE</b>
<b>RTBI</b>	1992	Joined Somerton & District Round Table
	1993-1997	Sales Officer Area 37
	1998-1999	Area Chairman Area 37
	1998-1999	Chairman Somerton & District Round Table
	2000-2002	National Councillor Area 37
	2001-2004	Chairman Sedgemoor & Somerton Round Table
<b>RTBI National</b>	2000-2001	Conference Committee
	2001-2002	Plymouth Conference Sponsorship Officer
<b>41 Club</b>	2000	Joined Somerton & District 41 Club
	2005-2007	Chairman Somerton & District 41 Club
<b>41 National</b>	2006-2010	National Councillor Region 23

**Statement by: Steve Bolter**

I am asking you to vote for me to become the next Sales and Marketing Officer for 41 Club.

Most of my working life has been spent in sales and marketing, in retail and field sales. “So what?” I hear you say. I think my work experience is relevant because I have always had to focus on meeting customer aspirations and being cost conscious at the same time.

Martin has done a fantastic job over the last 2 years, bringing in new branding and merchandising for the Club. Sales are now more profitable and that can only be a positive.

I would like to build on Martin’s good work and bring something different to the post, unique to my skills. Having established a new brand image for 41 Club I feel that we should now focus on delivering the brand segmentation to our members. My proposal would be to equip our National Councillors with the tools to deliver the brand and sell the merchandise when visiting your Clubs and to have a higher sales profile at Charter nights as well as at National events. The standard of merchandise has improved hugely and I believe we should concentrate on maximising income from that merchandise.

Having gone through an extensive change process with our merchandising it would not be my intention to bring in further radical changes but, rather, to allow time for the changes to bed in and for all of us to be part of the Platinum Club branding.

We are in the early days of our partnership with the merchandise suppliers. However, I do think in due course that we should review the sales items to establish “failing” lines and ensure that what we continue to offer is relevant, of good quality and value for money for our members.

In conclusion, I am standing for election as I believe I can take sales and marketing forward for 41 Club but not by making change for change’s sake. I would, therefore, ask for your vote.

**Steve Bolter**

## NOMINATIONS FOR NATIONAL OFFICERS – Sales and Marketing

Candidate: **HUGH MILWARD**

**Ashby-de-la-Zouch 41 CLUB**

	<b>DATE(S)</b>	<b>ROLE</b>
<b>RTBI</b>	1981	Joined Ashby-de-la-Zouch Round Table
	1987-1988	Chairman Ashby-de-la-Zouch Round Table
	1990-1991	Area Treasurer Area 14
	2000-2001	President Ashby-de-la-Zouch Round Table
	2006-2007	President Ashby-de-la-Zouch Round Table
<b>41 Club</b>	1991	Joined Ashby-de-la-Zouch 41 Club
	2000-2001	Chairman Ashby-de-la-Zouch 41 Club
	2006-2007	Chairman Ashby-de-la-Zouch 41 Club
<b>41 National</b>	2008-2010	National Councillor Region 10

**Statement by: Hugh Milward**

Dear fellow 41ers,

As a National Association, we now have a more updated image via our new branding, new sales items on-line and a shortly to be introduced members Platinum Privilege scheme.

As a National Councillor I have been involved in the introduction of these changes and have been at the sharp end in promoting these new sales items out of my shiny new sales box.

Why do members purchase these new items when displayed? For me, I believe that they do so because of an over whelming strong urge to belong to the best fellowship organisation in the world, and that a badged item just has to be purchased.

If elected, my priority is to maintain that sense of belonging, by ensuring that our sales items reflect what members want. I would therefore instigate a review as to what is selling well and what is not at the end of the year.

In addition, I am excited by the opportunities that the privilege scheme will bring to our membership to enhance that sense of belonging and I wish to measure its success.

But what skills and qualities can this 41er who is seeking your vote, bring to this post?

Enthusiasm and commitment are a given, along with a love of fun and fellowship at Club, Regional, National and International events, but perhaps I can also bring my experience to bear following my early retirement after 34 years working in a major Sector Skills Council, where I concluded my working career as the Customer Strategy Programme Manager in the Communication and Marketing Department.

I trust that this resume setting out my vision for the post and the time and experience I can now bring to the role will enable you to seriously consider giving me your vote.

**Hugh Milward**

## APPENDIX E- RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED BY CONSTITUENT CLUBS OR NATIONAL COUNCIL

### RESOLUTION 1

National Council Proposes :-

To approve the proposed amendment of Rule 12 (b) of the Rules of 41 International by replacing the word "confirm" by the word "consider", so that Rule 12 (b) now reads :-

***“No changes of the rules shall take place unless all Associations have had the opportunity to consider any changes at their respective (next) AGM’s”.***

Explanation :-

i) The rationale behind this is that there is always an Association that has not had the chance to vote on a rule change due to the sheer number of AGMs – nineteen in total. Typically we start with Finland in March and finish with Switzerland in late October. The previous arrangement meant that effecting changes to the international rules was very slow and difficult, if not impossible.

ii) This Resolution was passed at the 41 International AGM in April 2009, and under Rule 15.1 this needs to be ratified at our Annual General Meeting.

iii) A simple Majority is required.

### RESOLUTION 2

National Council Proposes :-

***“To amend the Constitution and Rules of the Association to allow Constituent Clubs to recruit like-minded men who would, in their opinion, benefit the Round Table Family by their membership of their Clubs and thus, the Association, as full voting members.”***

To enable this the following rules will be changed with immediate effect :-

Rule 2.1(b) definition of full members is amended to read :-

***“ “full members” means like minded men who have agreed to adopt the values of Round Table and the purposes of the Association as defined by these rules and who have reached the age of forty years.”***

Rule 4.1 relating to Affiliation and Membership is amended to Rule 4.1(a):-

***“4.1(a) Clubs shall only be affiliated where membership is confined to full and associate members, for whom annual capitation fees shall be payable to the Association.”***

Rule 4.1(b) is added as a new rule under Affiliation and Membership

***“4.1(b) Clubs shall have the right to offer membership to any man subject to rule 2.1 and the club’s own membership rules.”***

Rule 6.1 relating to National Officers is amended by adding “**and have been a full member of Round Table**” after “constituent clubs” and before “and shall” :-

“6.1 The Officers shall be the National President, National Vice-President (who shall be the National President Elect), Immediate Past National President, National Secretary, National Treasurer, National Editor, National Membership & Extension Officer, National Sales Officer, National Conference Officer and the Association's International Officer who shall be full members of constituent clubs **and have been a full member of Round Table** and shall hold office until they resign, or until the next ensuing Annual General Meeting, whichever first happens. All Officers shall take office immediately following the Annual General Meeting at which they are elected.”

Rule 9.2 relating to National Councillors is amended by adding “**and have been a full member of Round Table**” to the end of the sentence :-

“9.2 To be eligible for election a candidate shall be a full member of a constituent club within the Region he seeks to represent **and have been a full member of Round Table.**”

For explanations see **Appendix F** headed “Comment on the resolution relating to Membership Rules”.

### **RESOLUTION 3**

National Council proposes:-

“To amend the Purposes and Objects of the Association”

To enable this the following Rules will be changed with immediate effect :-

OMIT existing Rules 3.1 (b), 3.1 (c) and 3.1 (d)

ADD new Rule 3.1 (b) to read :-

**“ to promote amongst the constituent clubs and those eligible for membership, the following objects:**

**(i) to continue to promote opportunities for fellowship amongst former members of Round Table**

**(ii) to encourage active involvement in the community**

**(iii) to use our experience in support of the Round Table Family**

**(iv) to encourage international relationships”**

ADD new Rule 3.1 (c) to read :-

**“ these objects to be promoted through regular meetings and other activities.”**

**NOTE:-** The National President, on behalf of the National Council, will apply to withdraw Resolution 3, if Resolution 2 is carried.

## **RESOLUTION 4**

National Council proposes:-

“To amend the Purposes and Objects of the Association”

To enable this the following Rules will be changed with immediate effect :-

OMIT existing Rules 3.1 (b), 3.1 (c) and 3.1 (d)

ADD new Rule 3.1 (b) to read :-

***“ to promote amongst the constituent clubs and those eligible for membership, the following objects:***

***(i) to continue to promote opportunities for fellowship amongst like minded men***

***(ii) to encourage active involvement in the community***

***(iii) to use our experience in support of the Round Table Family***

***(iv) to encourage international relationships”***

ADD new Rule 3.1 (c) to read :-

***“ these objects to be promoted through regular meetings and other activities.”***

**NOTE:-** The National President, on behalf of the National Council, will apply to withdraw Resolution 4, if Resolution 2 is not carried.

## **APPENDIX F- NOTES ON RESOLUTION NO 2.**

**Comment on the resolution relating to Membership rules from the National Membership Committee to be read in conjunction with the resolution detailed on Page 22.**

### **Changes to the Rules on membership**

#### **Rule 2.1**

like minded men who have agreed to adopt the values of Round Table and the purposes of the Association as defined by these rules *replaces* members or ex members of Round Table.

This change allows clubs to induct to full membership selected men who they believe will adopt the ethos of Round Table and add value to their club regardless of whether they have been or are Round Tablers.

#### **NOTE**

The rule related to Associate members remains in place.

This is to allow the continuation of associate membership for men who were never members of Round Table who were brought in as members prior to 1996. It also allows clubs to offer membership to ex members of Round Table under the age of 40 where the feeder Table has closed.

### **Rule 4.1 is amended to Rule 4.1(a) due to the addition of Rule 4.1(b)**

#### **Rule 4.1(b)**

This is a new rule to allow clubs to make their own rules on membership. If they wish to retain the rule that only ex-Round Table members can be members of their club they can do so by creating a rule for their own club. If a club wishes to allow non ex-Round Tablers either in general or at an agreed percentage they can do. If clubs wish to create a rule to allow non ex-Round Tablers but limit this to spouses of other members of the Round Table family, Ladies Circle or Tangent, they can do. Any club wishing to make changes should formally agree a rule change in accordance with standard practice at a club General Meeting.

#### **Rule 6.1 and 9.2**

Following comments from a number of clubs the rule has been amended to allow only ex-Round Tablers to hold the offices of a Regional Councillor or member of the National Executive.

### **Background to the changes**

Members will be aware that the clubs passed the motion proposed by Cheshunt at the 2009 AGM which said: *"This meeting instructs the Membership Committee of the National Executive to formulate and put forward proposals to change the Association's membership rules to allow constituent clubs to recruit like-minded men who would, in their opinion, benefit the Round Table family by their membership of their club and thus, the Association, as full voting members; the proposals to change the Association's membership rules are to be formally presented by the National Executive and placed before the clubs at the Association's AGM in 2010 for immediate implementation"* As a result of that proposal the National Council is placing this resolution before the members at the 2010 AGM.

Since the 2009 AGM you will be aware that the National Council, through the Membership Committee, have conducted a club wide survey and encouraged substantial debate in clubs throughout the year. What has been encouraging has been the number of clubs engaging in the debate which quite clearly is fundamental to our Association. There has been much comment on both the members forum and in correspondence received by members of the National Executive on the results. Some members believed that the statistics were being portrayed incorrectly in the percentages shown and we are showing below the actual statistics.

Current Total number of clubs      813  
Number of clubs responding      535    (66%)

### **The key question and the statistics:**

The survey question asked:

- What option would your club prefer on membership?
- a) Strictly retain the current rule on only ex-tablers as members.
  - b) Agree to the introduction of a select number of like minded men.
  - c) Have fully open membership for like minded men with no restrictions.

Number of clubs responding a)    175  
Number of clubs responding b)    282  
Number of clubs responding c)    78

There is a clear majority of clubs **who responded** that wanted change (67%) but what of those clubs who didn't respond? Some will argue that they didn't respond because they didn't want change and therefore it is appropriate to add the numbers of non respondents to the clubs voting for no change. Most will suggest that they fall into the category of "we don't really care, just leave us alone to get on with what we do".

Further indications came from the debates held in November and December and the responses we received from those. Admittedly the number of responses we received in writing was low but we did hear from 78 clubs who voted in the following way:

31 clubs opposed to change  
47 clubs welcoming change

To add to the discussion about clubs not responding to the survey we have heard specifically from 18 clubs who responded to the debate but not the survey. 5 of those voted to retain the existing rules and 13 voted to change. It would be unsafe to assume therefore that all the non-responders are opposed to change.

An argument has been put forward that the only clubs that want change are small clubs who want to retain their existence. That is wrong. Of the 360 clubs who voted yes to change only 19 have less than 10 members whereas 135 have more than 22 (the average club size). Of those voting No to change 14 have less than 10 members and 93 have more than 22.

## **Final comment from the Membership Officer**

Unlike Round Table, or even Rotary, we are an Association of clubs and not of members. We don't have a register of members and as such we can't control who joins our clubs from the centre. The clubs make that decision themselves. What has become clear as the issue has been debated this year is that there are many clubs who have already invited non ex-members of Round Table to join them. In my view we shouldn't have a rule that we can't police. Is a change of rule going to change the face of the organisation? No it isn't. It is most unlikely that even if the proposal is voted in at the AGM we will be inundated by new people clamouring to join us. The reason for that? In the main it is because we aren't attractive enough or sufficiently well known in our Communities to attract new membership. We have difficulty even recruiting members from our source the Round Table. There are a significant number of clubs who have feeder tables who haven't recruited a member for over 7 years and Round Table also tell us we are not attractive to most of their members. We now need to let the clubs decide what they want to do.

## NOTES

### Proxy Voting

The membership is reminded that proxy voting can be used at this AGM. The Proxy Delegate voting rules are as follows:

***Every constituent club shall be entitled to send one delegate, appointed from its full members, to a General Meeting. Each constituent club shall have one vote on any resolution at a General Meeting (subject to Rule 4.6). Such vote shall be given either by the voting delegate appointed by the constituent Club from its own membership and attending the meeting or by a proxy voting delegate. Any constituent Club may appoint a proxy voting delegate from another constituent Club to attend the General Meeting and vote on its behalf providing that the name of the proxy delegate shall have been registered with the National Secretary not less than 72 hours before the Meeting. A proxy voter may also vote for his own club but may not be a proxy voter for more than one club. Members of more than one club may carry a single vote for each of clubs of which they are members.***

To summarise:

- Any Club can appoint someone from another Club to vote at the AGM on their behalf
- That person must be a member of a fully paid up constituent Club
- The Proxy Voter can vote for his own club or clubs as well
- The Proxy Voter can have two or more votes. i.e. for his own Clubs and for the Club he represents as a proxy voter.
- The National Secretary must be informed by the Club appointing that person the name and details of the Proxy Voter **IN WRITING** to arrive **THREE** days before the AGM. Information may be sent to the National Secretary by: e-mail ([secretary@41club.org](mailto:secretary@41club.org)) Fax: 0870 7874196 or Post: Ambrook, Camden Road, Lingfield, Surrey RH7 6AF.

For Data Protection reasons we are unable to publish the names of delegates who are attending the Conference in order that Clubs can find a Proxy Voter. We are however publishing the names of all Clubs who have more than one person attending Conference on our website ([www.41club.org](http://www.41club.org)). Clubs wishing to find a Proxy Voter are responsible for contacting that Club themselves either through the Website email system or by using the Directory.

### Voting Delegates

Each Voting Delegate must bring to the AGM a Voting Delegate Authority Form signed by either the Club Chairman or Secretary, authorising the delegate to vote on the Club's behalf. This form will be required at Registration in order to obtain a Voting Pack. This does **NOT** apply to Proxy Voting Delegates.

### Amendments to Resolutions

Any amendments to a Resolution seeking to amend the Association's Constitution, Rules or Standing Orders must be received **IN WRITING** by the National Secretary no less than **SEVEN** days before the AGM. Any amendment must be proposed and seconded by a constituent Club.

### Speaking at the AGM

Delegates may speak at the AGM on any subject; however this may only be for a maximum of **FIVE** minutes. A traffic light system will be operated to time speeches and after five minutes the sound system will be cut off. Anyone speaking should announce his Name and Club Name before speaking.

Delegates are reminded that the AGM is recorded for the purposes of recording the minutes.

### Meeting Rules

A full copy of the Association Rules and Standing Orders can be found in the 2009-2010 Directory or from the National Secretary – Vaughan Harris.

