

NEWS@41CLUB.ORG



“JUST LIKE THE OLD DAYS”

How many times have I heard or read those words over the last 12 months? And when are they said? Inevitably when 41 Club members have been involved in the activities which they enjoyed so much in their Table days, but which they have not been tempted into since.

A little bit of fund raising, socialising with other clubs, having a joint meeting with Table, competing in sporting events or even attending a National Conference for the first time. Events which we took for granted but which for some strange reason many abandoned on their 40th birthday. They used to say ‘Life begins at 40’ but these days we can extend that much further. The kids have gone, we have more spare time, so why restrict ourselves?

The following item from Ray Jones, a member of Malvern Hills 41 Club and recently appointed National Councilor for Region 21 ably illustrates this point.

FUN RAISING IN THE MALVERN HILLS

The landlord of our meeting venue ran a beer festival this weekend (24th/25th July) and invited local organisations to set up stalls for charity. Malvern Hills 41 did a bookstall and Tombola with all proceeds going to the Ocean Youth Trust and Help for Heroes.



Just like the old Table days, especially with 30 real ales in the beer tent. Not bad for an organisation that "doesn't do charity fund raising" according to Malvern Hills Chairman, who is the guy in the photo with the money apron!!!

Ray Jones, Malvern Hills 41 Club



SAIL4HEROES

Read about the Sail4Heroes visit to the Isle of Wight on page 4. Pictured on the right is the skipper of the Stenfis chatting to a member of Cowes 41 Club

41 CLUB GARDEN

The improvement work on the 41 Club Garden at the National Memorial Arboretum has included the addition of a new sundial which is pictured on the left.




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CONTRIBUTIONS TO NEWS@41CLUB.ORG

Please send contributions to news@41club.org
 The copy date for the October issue is Sunday 26th September.

Editor: Ray Hill
 National Councilor Region 11

EDITORIAL



A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME

August continues the silly season for news, so it gives me an opportunity to discuss a topic raised in the recent edition of The Link magazine.

Dick Stanley has now taken over the reigns of National Conference Officer and he has suggested that perhaps the very name 'National Conference' is putting members off attending. He has asked the membership to suggest a new name for the event, so here are some of my thoughts:

'The 41 Club Rally' – trendy, lighter name than conference and takes up less space on the poster. However it does have connotations of a caravanning or motoring event where all the participants spend the whole weekend comparing their prize possessions, polishing them so that they shine like new and complaining when somebody else takes the prize.

'The 41 Club Gathering' – this one sounds too much like a gathering of the clans, with all participants in multi coloured dress, performing great feats of strength, and dancing around very sharp blades. I am afraid that my days of caber tossing are long gone, so this one is a non-starter.

'The 41 Club Party' – this one sounds much better, but perhaps it is a little too near the truth ... do we want all of our friends, relatives and colleagues to know that we are actually going away for 3 whole days of partying? Probably not, we must not let them know just how enjoyable it is, they must believe that we are doing it out of duty.

'The 41 Club Event' – to boring to even discuss.

'The 41 Club AGM' – definitely not.

I am not doing too well here ... so how about:

'A long weekend in Spring, usually by the seaside, spending lots of time with hundreds of ex-Tablers and their wives, re-kindling many old friendships, making many new friends, dancing, singing, partying, eating far too much, drinking and chatting into the early hours of the morning, a fancy dress party, having yet more to eat and drink and even more dancing and, oh yes, there is a bit of business in the middle which you do not have to go to if you find it boring.'

Now that really describes the weekend perfectly. A weekend that will bring back all those great memories of Table National Conferences we enjoyed in the past.

Gentlemen I commend this name to you, mainly because I want to see the name badge that National Officer Dick would be required to wear bearing his new title.

SOME THOUGHTS FOR SEPTEMBER

Before borrowing money from a friend, decide which you need more – a friend or money!

Death is hereditary.

There are three sides to any argument: your side, my side and the right side.

A consultant is someone who takes a subject you understand and makes it sound confusing.

When you're right, no one remembers. When you're wrong, no one forgets!

BRAINTEASER



The March Hare and the Mad Hatter were sipping tea when someone came from behind and placed their hands over the Hatter's eyes.

Guess Who? said the newcomer in a thin, flat voice.

I have no use for practical jokers, the Hatter answered, rather coldly.

Nor have I, said the stranger, their hands still covering the other's eyes.

At this point the Hatter took up the challenge with a series of questions:

Would you, by chance, be in a black suit this evening?

I would, but not by chance, by design.

Then I presume you're a member of all the posh clubs?

Sorry, no. Never been invited.

Surely you're better than average?

Indeed!

Not spotted, I hope?

Oh no.

Married?

No, quite happy!

Who is behind the Mad Hatter?



A REQUEST TO CLUB CONTACTS

Will all club contacts kindly check the entry for their club on the Club Administration System (CAS). By ensuring that your entry is up to date we can avoid many of the problems that sometimes occur. In particular please check that:

Your club officers are up to date.

Your total membership number is correct.

Your magazine requests match the total number.

All club contacts should have the necessary details to access the database, but if not or you would like help then please contact Sue Barnicoat at Marchesi House (0121 456 0303). She will be pleased to help you resolve any problems.

CLUB NEWS

CLUB WEBSITE OF THE MONTH



<http://www.gordanvalley41club.org.uk/index.php>

41 CLUB FORUM

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

GO ON GIVE IT A TRY!

THE FIRST PHOENIX ROUND TABLE GETS OFF THE GROUND

Colin Bentley of Mansfield 41 Club has reported that the first group of potential Round Tablers have met with the Mansfield Club. The photograph shows the 6 newcomers who attended their first meeting in July and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The Phoenix club will be “incubated” within the 41 club with a programme of events hopefully leading to the



launch of a new Round Table early next year. If any other club is interested in forming a new Round Table where their feeder club has closed contact Jim Smith, National Membership Officer, at membership@41club.org, or have a look at the project guidelines on the web site membership page.

NEWS FROM SOUTH WALES

Caerphilly 41 Club joined forces with Caerphilly Round Table and some ex Tredegar Round Table members for a visit to a local brewery and pub in Caerphilly during July. It was a great night out with the Old Tablers proving their staying power was still going strong with the last 3 members standing all ex Caerphilly Tablers Paul Williams (Chairman) Barry James (Secretary) and Gary Rees (Member).

We also had the pleasure of the company of his honour the Mayor of Caerphilly and a former Mayor who may be joining Round Table as a result of this night out.



Caerphilly 41 Club has just increased its membership from 1 to 13 and is now actively promoting 41 club with the local Round Table and recently helped them out on a Diabetes awareness day at a local carnival.

We have also just agreed to hold joint social meetings with Caerphilly Round Table on a regular basis and myself as chairman am actively promoting Round Table with 41 Club members and intend supporting RT with it's fund raising going forward.

Paul Williams, Chairman Caerphilly 41 Club.

Congratulations to Caerphilly on the amazing turn around in their membership. In 2009 they paid capitation for just 1 member, and this year this has risen to 13. They prove that 41 Clubs can be revived, even from a level that most of us would say is beyond saving. There are potential members out there, we only have to find them and provide a club that they want to join and participate in.

I raise my glass to Paul and his fellow members!

Editor

REGION 7 & 8 ANNUAL DINNER
 THE VILLAGE HOTEL, CHEADLE, CHESHIRE
 FRIDAY 3RD DECEMBER
 7:30PM, FOR AN 8PM START
 PRICE: £30 PER HEAD
 (INCLUDING FULL MEAL AND PORT WITH CHEESE.)

RSVP TO MIKE GARNER ON:
REGION7@41CLUB.ORG



This year we are celebrating the 65th anniversary of the official founding of 41 Club, but as the following extract from 'Continued Friendship' by Alan Wilkinson explains, the foundations go back a lot further.

THE FOUNDING FATHERS

The first group of retiring Round Tablers – or rejects, as they are sometimes known – got together in Liverpool as early as 1936. Liverpool Round Table, incidentally, was only eight years old when it delivered its offspring, having been inaugurated in November 1928. Under the chairmanship of one R.H. Roberts, these ex-Tablers met for lunch on the first Tuesday of every month, with three winter evening meetings, and opened their doors to any ex-Tabler – not just those who had previously been with Round Table Number 8. Wolverhampton Notables (*it was a pun – No Tables*) were formed in 1937 by a few over-forties. At this time they were not interested in any form of association, having already made up their minds that “no rule nor regulation that was ever conceived could dictate what companionship meant.”

Following these, on 13 April 1939, a London Old Tablers Society was formed – apparently without having any idea that the Liverpool club even existed. Born on the eve of World War II, this third was a direct result of John Shuter (Hon. Member, London Table No. 13) having reported in Table News and Views a discussion that had taken place on how Tablers might remain useful even when they were past it – or rather, after they had passed forty. London actually drew their first membership from a number of Tables on the fringes of the capital, namely Guildford, Kingston-on-Thames, Ealing, Wimbledon & Morden, Woking, Harrow, Dorking and Redhill & Reigate. Later it would recruit as far afield as Portsmouth & Southsea, Reading, Brighton & Hove, Hammersmith, Doncaster and Belfast. This extraordinary outreach spoke volumes for the potential of what was then little more than the germ of what 41 would later become. The Londoners clearly recognised the fact, and as early as June 1940 heard a suggestion from a visitor, who'd come all the way from Sunderland, that a “National Centre for Old Tablers” should be formed. With most people's minds on the war effort, however, the matter was shelved – for the time being. Leaving Wolverhampton out of the equation, the third club to be formed was St Annes on Sea in April 1941 – very much as a result of hearing about their neighbours down the coast in Liverpool – and the fourth was Wakefield, in 1943. St Annes would become Lytham St Annes in March 1947.

To be continued next month.

SAIL4HEROES VISIT THE ISLE OF WIGHT

The Sail4Heroes venture yacht Stenfis arrived in Cowes, Isle of Wight in mid-July and moored alongside the private jetty of the famous Royal Yacht Squadron. Cowes 41 Club President Philip Smith and Hon Sec Jeremy Thomas soon found the Sail4Heroes helpers and donned appropriate tee-shirts (picture). A successful fund raising bucket collection around the world famous sailing mecca ensued, followed by a meeting with the owner/skipper of Stenfis Chris Highnam (see page 1) to make the most of a short visit en route to Portsmouth.

This item is to show this offshore island still has a handful of active 41 Clubs happy to help others with a good cause.

Philip Smith, Cowes 41 Club, Isle of Wight



NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S BALL

You are invited to join John Kilshaw at his President's Ball for what will be a night to remember:

Six Course Banquet

3 Bands

Beatles Tribute

Silver Band

ABBA Tribute

Saturday 5th March 2011

Southport Theatre and Convention Centre

Cost £45

Contact Dave “Bacardi” Yardley
david@masterchef2000.plus.com

RTBI SEEKS NEW CEO

Following the departure of their CEO in mid August, RTBI are actively recruiting a replacement. All members of Round Table were notified by a letter from National President John Kilshaw and an update will be forthcoming in time for their October council meeting.

THE BACK PAGE




NATIONAL CONFERENCE

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BRAINTEASER SOLUTION

The March Hare and the Mad Hatter were sipping tea when someone came from behind and placed their hands over the Hatter's eyes.

Guess Who? said the newcomer in a thin, flat voice. **Thin and flat suggest a playing card – remember this is Wonderland**

I have no use for practical jokers, the Hatter answered, rather coldly.

Nor have I, said the stranger, their hands still covering the other's eyes. **So not a Joker**

At this point the Hatter took up the challenge with a series of questions:

Would you, by chance, be in a black suit this evening?

I would, but not by chance, by design. So not a red suit

Then I presume you're a member of all the posh clubs?

Sorry, no. Never been invited. Not clubs – must be spades

Surely you're better than average?

Indeed! So a high value card

Not spotted, I hope?

Oh no. Must be a picture card

Married?

No, quite happy! So not the King or Queen as they are married

Who is behind the Mad Hatter?

The Jack of Spades



CAPTION COMPETITION

What an idyllic scene!
President Malcolm relaxes at the end of his epic walk, you can imagine the strains of the Elgar Cello Concerto playing in the background.

Please submit your captions to news@41club.org.

The best will be printed next month.

