

MINUTES OF THE 34TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD IN THE HOTEL LAAJAVUORI, JYVÄSKYLÄ, FINLAND ON SATURDAY 24th APRIL 2010

- 1. Opening the Meeting. The Meeting opened at 09h05 with International President John Bellwood (Great Britain and Ireland) in the chair, supported by Vice-President Matti Hinttala (Finland). No quorum was present and the Meeting was therefore adjourned for 60 minutes to allow a quorum to be present. The lack of a quorum had been occasioned by the closure of Finnish air space until 22 April as a result of volcanic dust being blown from Iceland.
- **2. Reconvened Meeting.** The Meeting was reconvened at 10h05 and the President noted that a quorum, being 50% of the members of the International Council, was not present. The Meeting therefore proceeded with those present.
- 3. Roll Call. A roll call of all Member Associations took place -

AUSTRIA Christian Roessel, Andreas Dolp, Erwin Fleberger

BELGIUM No representation
CYPRUS Marios Michaelides
DENMARK No representation

FINLAND Martti Pentikäinen, Tom Hietanen, Reijo Jakovuori, Timo Nevala and

many more

FRANCE No representation GERMANY No representation

GREAT BRITAIN Gordon Macnab, Lawrence Bamber

INDIA No representation INDIAN OCEAN No representation ISRAEL No representation No representation New ZEALAND No representation

NORWAY Roar Brauti, Stig Morten Stømner, Leif Nordberg

ROMANIA Georghe Floroi, Ionel Moldovan

SOUTH AFRICA No representation

SWEDEN Per Wigart, Staffan Aronsohn, Fredrick Beckman, Per Olofsson, Lennart

Svensson

SWITZERLAND Werner Blessing ZAMBIA No representation

Peter Ornée (Netherlands) was also present. The names in **bold letters** indicate the International Councillors for the purpose of the Meeting. They were joined on the International Council by **John Bellwood** and **Matti Hinttala**.

The International President welcomed all delegates to the Annual General meeting and added Steve Ganado (Malta), Vice-President of Round Table International, RTI Past President Kaj Sartorisio (Finland), Finland RT President Petri Harju, a legion of Finland RT Past Presidents (who had successfully commandeered the beer trolley at an early stage in the proceedings), Mikko Kosonen (Finland) who had kindly agreed to draft the Minutes of the Meeting, and International Vice-President Matti Hinttala (Finland).

- **2. A period of silence** was observed in remembrance of those members who had passed away since the last Meeting.
- 3. Apologies for absence had been received from Daniëlle Gardin, President of Agora Club International, Gill Preston, President of Tangent Great Britain and Ireland, who wrote about the decision at their recent AGM which will encourage them to develop and strengthen their international links, Past International President Beat Berger (Switzerland), Immediate Past President Indian Ocean Daniel Kisnorbo, International Secretary Bob Parton, Krishna Kumar (India), George Petrescu (Romania), Jean-Louis Boileau (France), Gerard Pascal (Indian Ocean), Ajit Khullar (India), Past International President Michael Dalbo Pedersen, German IRO H-D Gesch on behalf of the whole



German delegation, Italian IRO Bruce Morgan, Denis Beck on behalf of the whole French delegation, National President of Switzerland Christoph Haenssler and International Treasurer David Illingworth.

- 4. A Welcome was extended to all AGM participants by Tom Hietanen, Vice-President of Finland.
- **5. RTI Vice-President** Steve Ganado (Malta) addressed the AGM bringing greetings from Round Table International and gave information about the 2010 RTI AGM in Dubai from 29 September to 3 October, to which all are welcome.
- **6. The Minutes of the 27th Half-Yearly Meeting** held in Sursee, Switzerland on 24 October 2009 were approved without amendment and duly signed by the President as a true record.

7. Matters arising from the Minutes -

- 1. The budget for 2010-2011 had been amended to correct the allocation of expenditure of €30880, to comply with the allocation in the annual accounts. The amended Budget, which now shows comparisons with the results and budgets of previous years, was approved.
- 2. The President gave a summary of the magnificent work concluded by 41 Club Italy following the earthquake in Onna in April 2009, starting with the presentation at the International AGM in Gloucester, a visit to the earthquake site in June, more presentations and appeals by 41 Club Italy, culminating in the collection of more than €100000 and the design and erection of a Young People's Hall in Onna, which was formally opened in January 2010. The Meeting gave 41 Club Italy hearty applause for their success, for which they should be justifiably proud.

8. Resolutions brought forward

- 1. The President outlined the purpose of Resolution 1, which endeavoured to create a new category of membership of 41 INTERNATIONAL whereby a single club would be allowed to become an affiliated Member. The number of clubs which might be taking advantage of this new category was believed to be few. The President explained that he discussed with Malta and Luxembourg the possibility of their joining 41 INTERNATIONAL but neither country had the intention of forming a National Association. They both agreed to nominate a 'Lead Club' which would provide the link between 41 INTERNATIONAL and the Clubs in their country. The Resolution was carried forward to the Half-Yearly Meeting in October 2010 for presentation, discussion and voting there.
 - 2. Resolution 2 ('Change of Rules for clarity') was carried forward to Brasov.
- 3. Resolution 4 regarding a new Rule relating to the Webmaster and Archivist, proposed by 41 Club Germany, was carried forward to Brasov.
 - 4. Resolution 5 regarding a change to Rule 12(b) was carried forward to Brasov.

9. Resolution 3

This Resolution which introduces a change of Rules to accommodate the separate post of Treasurer was outlined by the President and is now formally tabled. No amendments were proposed. The Resolution can be discussed in Brasov and proposed and voted at the AGM in Toulouse in 2011.

10. Reports by the Board

- 1. Vice-President Matti Hinttala (Finland) thanked the Associations which he had visited during the year, which included Denmark, Norway, Austria, Cyprus and Switzerland.
- 2. Immediate Past President Randolph Riedlinger (Italy) sent a written report. He had previously brought up to date the situation of those 41 Clubs which were outside the Member Associations. He had attended the charter of Club 41 Rabat in Morocco and of Club 41 Luxembourg 5. He had also visited 8 separate National AGMs plus the RTI AGM in the Netherlands, and wished much success to future International Presidents Matti Hinttala, Jean-Louis Boileau and Krishna Kumar.
- 3. Treasurer David Illingworth (Cyprus) sent a written report which stated that income for 2009/2010 should exceed the budgeted figure by approximately €1500 and expenditure



should equal the budgeted figure. All Associations have paid their fees. The budget for 2010/2011 has been revised to show expenditure re-allocated and has been circulated.

- 4. Secretary Bob Parton (Germany) sent a written report and regretted to be missing his last Meeting as a member of the International Board. He has had a very interesting year as Secretary. He thanked the International Council for 'three fantastic years' and wishes to be remembered as 'Bob Parton, Tabler'.
- 5. President John Bellwood (Great Britain and Ireland) has tried to represent all members of 41 Club at National AGMs throughout 41 INTERNATIONAL and thanks all for the warmth of their welcome and hospitality to himself and to Helen. He has attended the charters of Melita, Malta and Luxembourg Take 5. Club No.3 in Iceland is due to be chartered on 8 May and the President read part of an email from Ulver Oswald (Germany) which states that there will be the chance to visit the new volcano within the guest programme!

The President had been privileged to attend the opening of the Young People's Hall in Onna, Italy on 23 January and also applauded other Associations for their various projects including drug rehabilitation units in Cyprus, educational development in Africa by Germany, supporting Help for Heroes in Great Britain and the provision of emergency tenting by New Zealand.

The President had worked during the year with the Editor, the Webmaster and the Archivist but was disappointed that circumstances had forced Gunnar Stumpf (Germany) to resign as Webmaster. He thanked Bob Parton for his energy, application and enthusiasm, David Illingworth who had taken over the reins of Treasurer, Randolph Riedlinger for his support in many locations during the year and his many successes as Extension Officer, and Matti Hinttala for always agreeing with everything which the President suggested.

The President had received only this morning a message addressed to Peasant Bellwood in which Her Majesty the Queen said how much she had appreciated the regular conversations with the Peasant during his year, how pleased she was to have written so many messages from Buckingham Palace and wondered where Iceland was. Do I still own it, Her Majesty asked?

11. Reports of the Managers

- Gunnar Stumpf had been unable to take up fully his position as Webmaster following his appointment at the AGM in April 2009. Renato Bonfini (Italy), the past Webmaster, had generously kept up to date the 'old' website. Applications had been received to fill the position, which were being handled by Matti Hinttala who has been taking advice from the Webmaster of 41 Club Finland, Jarkko Aitolahti.
- 2. The Archivist, Beat Berger (Switzerland), continues to update the records of 41 INTERNATIONAL.
- 3. Editor Rajan Mittal (India) sent a written report in which he states that he was told that the job of Editor is the job of a 'sucker'. [Dictionary definition of a sucker: a gullible or easily deceived person]. Rajan has enjoyed the job thoroughly. There have been some hiccups in distribution particularly with Issue 9 April 2010 where those copies destined for the International AGM had become marooned in Dubai as a victim of the volcanic cloud over Finland. All are encouraged to keep sending contributions for inclusion in The Hinge, where the response to date has been tremendous. The assistance given by Jogi Mittal, the wife of Rajan, was especially appreciated.
- 12. Auditor. Past International President Tero Lindell (Finland) was re-appointed Auditor.
- **13. Nominations to host the Vice-Presidency in 2012-2013** had been received from Denmark and Switzerland. No presentation was made by Denmark as no representatives were present. Werner Blessing spoke on behalf of Switzerland.

Werner Blessing addressed the AGM with the suggestion that Switzerland was quite prepared to recommend that a vote be postponed until the Half-Yearly Meeting in Brasov. The President then asked the Council to decide whether the vote should be taken now or at the Half-Yearly Meeting. There was a majority in favour of taking the vote now, as is usual at an AGM. The overwhelming



majority of International Councillors decided that Switzerland will host the International Vice-Presidency in 2012-2013.

- **14. Secretary.** Denis Beck (France) was the sole nomination for the post of International Secretary and Denis Beck was therefore duly elected for a term of 3 years commencing immediately after this AGM.
- **15. Fees and Voting.** There was no proposal from France regarding fees and voting (as no delegates were present).
- **16. Proposal by Great Britain and Ireland.** Lawrence Bamber (Great Britain and Ireland) explained a proposal that 'all members of 41 INTERNATIONAL give due consideration to ways in which we together can provide aid to those countries stricken by natural disaster or other humanitarian crisis'.

Lawrence suggested that working together we might be able to provide aid and assistance over and above the levels which individual Member Associations might be able to countenance. It was agreed that Great Britain and Ireland would bring a resolution to the Half-Yearly Meeting in Brasov perhaps with details being circulated in advance to give the Associations the opportunity to consider the matter.

17. Future Meetings

- 1. Georghe Floroi (Romania) invited us all to the International Half-Yearly Meeting and Romanian AGM in Brasov, Romania on 16 October 2010 and gave a presentation of the location.
- 2. The 2011 International AGM will be held in Toulouse, France on 4 June 2010 in conjunction with the French AGM.
- 3. The dates for the 2011 International Half-Yearly Meeting in Italy were announced as 14 to 16 June. The location of the Meeting will be decided at the Italian AGM on 29 May 2010.
- 4. Fredrik Beckman (Sweden) invited us to their AGM, held in tandem with Round Table, Ladies Circle and Tangent/Agora on 15 May 2010 which will be preceded by the Great Viking Tour from 7 to 13 May.

18. Offers to Host

- 1. India has offered to host the International AGM in 2012, to be held in the second half of April in Chennai. The offer to host was eagerly accepted and approved by the International Council.
- 2. Offers to host the Half-Yearly Meeting in 2012 will be an item for the Half-Yearly Meeting in Brasov. Finland indicated that they were discussing the possibility of offering to host the Meeting in 2012.

19. News from the Associations

Austria: National AGM 18 to 20 June in Wiener Neustadt near Vienna. One new club will be chartered in Linz.

Cyprus: You are always welcome to Cyprus. Drug program is one of the service programs of 41 Cyprus. No new clubs but large inflow from Round Table.

Finland: 76 clubs. 1701 members. The country has been divided into 4 areas. Members of the Finnish Board have visited 13 different AGMs during 2009-2010.

Great Britain: 819 clubs. 18500 members. 14 clubs were chartered. RTBI has approx. 6000 members. AGM 16 April 2011 in Ipswich. Ocean Youth Trust is the President's charity. A resolution at the recent AGM in Scarborough to have 'selective membership' was unsuccessful.

India: a written report was received. They have had an extremely active year led by the Area Chairmen. 139 clubs. 1658 members. 'Fellowship' magazine issued. Many international visitors

expected at the 2010 AGM in the port city of Kochi from 24 to 26 September. Participated in the YAP programme and good co-ordination with Round Table.

Norway: There is only one volcano in Norway. 4 lost clubs and 3 new chartered. AGM in Hamar now on 9 October 2010 (moved from 29 May).

Romania: 8 clubs and 1 new club (Craiova nr.9) will be chartered after 2010 HYM. Warning given about a virus named WORK (Worm-Overload-Recreational-Killer). If you contract the virus, seek either of two antidotes: WINE (Work-Isolating-Neutralizer-Extract) or BEER (Bothersome-Employer-Elimination-Rebooter). Or both.

Sweden: About 500 members. Increase of 40% in one year. AGM 13 to 16 May 2010. New website. President is aged 46.

Switzerland: 650 members. AGM in Lucerne was used to advertise Round Table and Club 41. The idea is to continue this advertising campaign together with AGMs.

20. International Board 2010/11

The President announced the International Board for 2010-2011 as follows -

President Matti Hinttala (Finland)
Vice-President Jean-Louis Boileau (France)
Secretary Denis Beck (France)
Treasurer David Illingworth (Cyprus)

Immediate Past President John Bellwood (Great Britain and Ireland)

Vice-President Elect Krishna Kumar (India)

Vice-President in waiting Switzerland (the candidate to be nominated at the HYM in

Brasov)

The President conveyed his best wishes to all members of the Board.

21. Next Meeting. The next meeting will be the Half-Yearly Meeting to be held in Brasov, Romania on 16 October 2010.

22. Closing Remarks

The President informed the Meeting that the International Banner Exchange will take place at the start of the Gala Dinner; he thanked OT Suomi Finland for their excellent organisation of this weekend and for coping so well with all the difficulties, mentioning in particular Mikko (for taking the Minutes), Tom, Martti, Matti, Reijo, Jorma and Ari; he wished Matti every success in the year ahead and thanked all members of 41 INTERNATIONAL for being part of the year which was ending and their contribution to it.

23. Closing the Meeting

With a firm strike of the gavel (the hotel hammer) on the table at which the President had conducted the Meeting, John Bellwood declared the 34th Annual General Meeting of 41 INTERNATIONAL closed at 12h50.

MK/JB/MH June 2010