



THE HINGE

The magazine for 4I INTERNATIONAL

International Association of Former Members of Round Table

May 2007

3rd Edition

**"ONCE ONLY IN A LIFE TIME"
YOU CANNOT AFFORD TO MISS
THIS HYM MEETING IN
LIVINGSTONE ZAMBIA**

**COME AND JOIN US
24 - 26 AUGUST 2007**

Due to the enormous
demand for THE HINGE
it is recommended not to
leave your copy lying
around



Continuing the fun in 4I



Über die Victoria-Fälle stürzt der Sambesi in eine 100 Meter tiefe Schlucht

MAY THE HINGES OF FRIENDSHIP NEVER RUST

Contents

2. Editorial
3. Foreword Uwe Kerstan / Dieter Straka
4. Letters to the Editor
5. John Bellwood hands over
6. Southend-on-Sea
7. What's in a name?
8. WOCO Pre Tour Namibia
9. WOCO Conference SA
10. South Luangwa, Zambia Pre-Tour
11. Maselspoort Games SA
12. Children's Appeal for Romania
13. Iberian Cluster Meeting
14. Merano Chestnut Festival
15. Merano Chestnut Festival
16. The YAP's Page
17. New Zealand Report
18. School Project Appeal Kenya
19. School Project Appeal Kenya
20. Scuba Dancing / YAP Tours 2007
21. Gdańsk Charter
22. Know your Neighbour
23. Calendar 2007 - 08



Bob Parton (D) Editor waiting his turn to speak at the local Ladies Circle Meeting

We have decided not to publish the Minutes or the Balance Sheets of the Southend-on-Sea HYM in this magazine. If you wish to read them, they can be found on the International Homepage. Please go into the World Wide Webwork at

<http://www.club41.org>
If you cannot get into the Net please contact John Bellwood for copies.

In October The Hinge, we reported the news about the terrible seaplane crash in Hamburg Harbour last year. We were delighted to have received a thank you letter from Jürgen Zwiebel who survived the crash on the 2nd of July 2006. (see report The Hinge October-2nd Edition) He was the only survivor, a Round Tabler from RT 84 St. Pauli.

The other 5 passengers were killed including Aaron the 12 year old son of Jürgen. It will be a long healing process but he is fighting with all his will. Over 100000€ has been collected for his family through the German RT/OT Club 41 Active Help organisation to date. We have the letter and if anybody would like a copy we can forward it to you through the

Email network.

It is with deepest regret that we report the tragic news that Georg Joas, Past National President of 41 Club Germany, is no longer with us. He died, much too soon at 57, peacefully in his sleep on Sunday 25 March having lost his fight against the terrible illness that beset him. He will be deeply missed by us all. The International response has been very moving. Special thoughts go out to Monika and his family at this time.

Bob Parton in May 2007 Editor



Fred Astaire was great, but do not forget that Ginger Rogers did everything he did, backwards and in high heels!

Partonoku, Medium, (for some)

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Fill the grid with the digits 1 – 9. Each row, column and 3 x 3 box must contain the digits 1 through to 9 once only.



Was this the start of the fall of the Iron Curtain ?
“Place of Solidarity” at the entrance to the shipyards where Lech Walesa started his campaign in Gdańsk, Poland.
See Page 21, report on Charter Gdańsk,

Foreword from Uwe Kerstan 41 Intl.President

Dear Friends,

It is only a few days that separate us until the 41 INTERNATIONAL AGM 2007 in Graz where I hope to meet many of you. Looking back one finds it difficult to believe that a year can pass so fast, but of course the time elapses particularly fast due to the variety of events in our Calendar.

During the last few months I have visited a variety of countries; for me, it has certainly been the most impressive year in my own life with a wealth of wonderful meetings with friends, and once again, I would like to thank quite cordially everyone for everything, who has welcomed, taken care of or accompanied me.

My year of office is now almost completed but please do not think it only consisted of pleasure trips. There were also many working meetings and AGMs to attend. To this end I would like to thank all participants at these meetings for their support and work which they have all put into our movement. A big "thank you" in which my special gratitude goes to the other members of my committee who stood beside me and always assisted with good advice and help.

The new version of our rules which will hopefully be approved in Graz in the form suggested by the committee has been deci-

sive for me during the last 12 months.

We want to be able to make future Presidents' work more flexible and easier by customization of the membership subscriptions with the aims, making it better to tackle new



tasks and to intensify the previous efforts. Endeavours, for example, in starting new member organisations, can only be realized successfully if they can be visited and provided with information on the spot and to do this we have to accept costs for such journeys.

We simply do not have the money available with our present small budget, for this important development work.

On this financial point, all of us should, in any case, consider whether we are correct, with

all of our aims and targets that we have, in asking our International committee to work on such a small budget.

Reputation and success of an organisation surely do not depend solely upon financial strengths, but we do have to be attractive to attract new members and this representative work is not available free of charge.

Our target must be to offer state-of-the-art situation and be attractive to all Tablers leaving Round Table, offering an acceptable club into which they would be proud to enter.

We certainly must not forget the competition that we have from Rotary and Lions, both of whom intensively solicit a Round Tabler because they know what they will get for an active person.

Please do not misunderstand me: it is not that future committees should want to live in any luxury but exclusively; more about (financial) scope of action to tackle any new tasks. A positive exterior effect can be obtained or strengthened only in such a way. I therefore appeal now to open up these possibilities for my successors to all member organisations. I look forward to seeing you in Graz! Sincerely yours

Yours in 41

Uwe Kerstan

President, 41 INTERNATIONAL

Incoming 41 INTERNATIONAL

President Dieter Straka talks to us

Dear friends,

Time is passing quickly and I'll soon have the honour of serving you and our organisation as International President during this short period of eleven months between the AGMs 2007 and 2008.

My intention is to encourage all of our members to put more effort into supporting our sources, into Round Table. There is a deep truth in the words "RT is our past and our future". It is the past of our members but the future of our organisation.

We should work for this solid basis we need for our future. We should make 41 or OT a logical consequence for every



Tabler leaving RT.

We'll have to prove that age is the only division between us.

This is a challenge for our club life and our activities.

This raises of course the question of community service, too. It is not necessary to start a discussion about our objects but to strengthen the spirit of Round Table.

In this spirit of Round Table I want to inform you about my presidential service project for

which I will ask your support. During the visit to the AGM of Club 41 Romania I visited an orphanage for disabled and handicapped children. This project has already been supported by some Ex-Tablers from GB+I, Club 41 Denmark and Club 41 Austria. The orphanage needs almost everything from clothes, diapers, construction, toys to equipment for ther-

apies, etc... Most of it could be bought right there, if.....they had the money for it. The Romanian Past President lives right there and his wife is working for that very institution. (see Page 12 Appeal-Letter) Thus every control is guaranteed. So I'll ask our Treasurer to provide for a trunk into which you are kindly asked to deposit donations – maybe together with the yearly fees.

There are many talks about the name of our organisation and some member associations. Sometimes it is pretty hard to explain what the name 41 really means. For some, every name with "old" or "senior" sounds rather discriminating. I've heard "RT Plus" which seems to be a possible solution. If this is an important question for many, we could make it a topic at our Half-Yearly Meeting.

Yours in friendship

Dieter Straka

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Pictures from Finland 2007



Ken Boden (GB) repairs the boat



HaDe Gesch (D) fights with the Fish



John "Scott of the Antarctic" Bellwood returns from the Pole



"Thank God they did not insure this with me", Ken Boden tells John Bellwood (GB)



John Bellwood (GB) asking what he should do with the Sausage



Ken Boden (GB) and Fredi Krenn (A) bringing home the beer

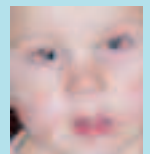
The Hinge-
Reading the Hinge is stronger than
going on a drinking binge!
The Hinge, Bob Parton's dearest child,
Ought to be despatched "world wide"
To all those 41er friends
Spread over many foreign lands,
Waiting for a hint out there
Where fun and friendship members
share
Of the unique 41ers tribe
Do not hesitate, come on, SUBSCRIBE

Lydia Schaumann
(A)



And now a grovelling note to the Editor.....

Hallo lieber Bob,
Are the pictures where I am to be seen
dancing closely with the naked girl
anywhere on the Internet or could you
send them to me through the Email so
that I can prepare my Wife accordingly
Na ja, we are all still jung...
See you soon, beste Grüße,
YIT
Mathias Kühl (name changed by the Edi-
tor after receiving a relatively large
amount of money from the sender for the
German Round Table National Service
Project)
Kaasa, Wahrheit, Kühl GmbH
Mastersrstraße 999
33333 Bertelsman
Telefon (05771) 58000
Telefax (05771) 58001



Hallo Bob
*Excuse me that it has taken so long to
write to you. I do not open my Lap-Top
too often nowadays.*
*Firstly many congratulations for your
engagement to 41 Club, for publishing
"The Hinge". I downloaded the first edi-
tion immediately. First Class work, I
wish you a lot of success as Editor.*
Wolfgang Roesel&,
Past President 41 INTERNATIONAL
Founding Member SET

Dear Bob,

Many congratulations
on the production of
The Hinge magazine.
It is first class. I read
it from cover to
cover, which is not
something that hap-
pens very often.
I particularly liked
the "Guide to the English" which was
hilarious because it was so true!
I also appreciated the inclusion of the
partonoku game which bears a strik-
ing resemblance to another game to
which I am totally addicted.
You might be interested to know



that I taught this game to your maga-
zine "Proof-reader" who now curses
me because he says he wastes so
much time every day completing
these puzzles.
In fact he told me that when he
was proof-reading (checking for
mistakes) this edition, he was
tempted to fill in the answers
and send it back to you fully
completed! (he, having doubted that
I could divide 24 by 8, I would have liked to
have seen the result.Ed.)

Keep up the good work. Don't
worry about getting old. It beats the
alternative.
Best wishes,
June Boden, GB&I

Hallo Bob,
**Congratulations on your presentation of "The Hinge". I will inform all of our
Swiss members and present it on our Homepage.**
Stefan Harder, IRO & Past President Club 41 Switzerland

I read the Hinge and found quite exciting to see it gives a really thorough and colourful account of what is going on in 4I International and the Associations.

Surely Barry Kriel (Past-President 4I South Africa) sent to you the picture of him handing over the South African banner in our Clubhouse (the RNSYC) in Ostend. He stayed a couple of days at my place which gave us the opportunity to exchange views about the further development of our respective Associations, and we had an informal Club meeting – with a lot of Belgium's best... - during his stay. That is when the picture was taken. We can indeed learn a lot within International and the opportunities of friendship it offers. Jean-Luc's "Diversity reinforces Friendship" is an illustration of what 4I International stands for, the meeting in Southend being another one, just like Dortmund was and the oncoming meetings will be. There can't be a better tool to promote Friendship within 4I and 4I International than The Hinge you developed. My Congratulations for a magnificent job ! Y I 4I



Pieter Carbon (B)

I have read the new look Hinge and it looks great. Are you sure this is free? My only concern is the back page and the little piddle. Great work and good fun as well.
Ian Mackenzie, Nat. President GB&I

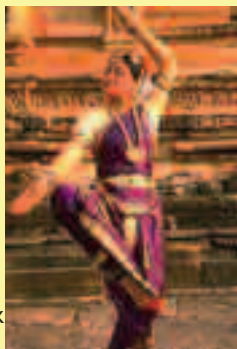
Hello!

I am Shruti Swaika from Kolkata, India. I am the daughter of Mr. Rajeev Swaika. I had gone for the Yap (Young Ambassadors Programme) to North Europe in the summer of 2006. I would really like to thank the 4I Club Association for making it possible. I recently read my report which was published in your magazine called 'The Hinge', the magazine for 4I International, July 2006, 1st edition. I would really like to keep a copy of this magazine as a memory of the trip of my lifetime! Unfortunately, I have no idea where I can get it from. I would be very grateful to you if you could send me a copy of your magazine.. I am sorry for the inconvenience it may cause, but I

would be highly obliged to you if you could send the same.

Shruti Swaika
 c/o Rajeev Swaika
 6, Moore Avenue
 Tollygunge
 Kolkata - 700040
 India

(Copy sent with thank you letter. Ed.)



John Bellwood
Club 4I INTERNATIONAL
Secretary and Treasurer
stands down on 19th May 2007

Thank you John for all your efforts. Even Her Majesty the Queen was so impressed she sent us one of her car badges! Pity she did not send the car as well!!



John Bellwood (GB) Club 4I International
Secretary and Treasurer enjoying a more relaxing moment
with the Queen at Buck House

Statesman, Entrepreneur, Honourable Gentleman, Tabler, Proof Reader and true supporter of that forgotten art, the sport of Cricket, the only man ever to have persuaded Her Majesty the Queen Elizabeth 2 to attend a Club 4I INTERNATIONAL Meeting, (at least she sent a picture of herself) has decided to stand down. John has served us well over the last 3 years and he is going to be missed for his over-generous devotion to his post and service to our Club. He has, during his term of office, cleared any outstanding problems and leaves for his follower a well-organised secretariat. We wish him all of the best for the future and especially in his run-up to International President in 2 years' time.

Round Table Israel celebrates 30 years

My dear friend Bob,

As you already know, Round Table Israel is 30 years this year, and I would love to invite you to our country.

RT Israel will celebrate this at our AGM in Nazareth 5-8 July 2007. During the AGM we will charter the new Druze Table.

This spectacular area with the historical highlights is well known around the world.

If you have the possibility for a pre tour, we have set up our "best of Israel tour". The tour will go to Jerusalem, Caesarea Antiquities, Tishbi Winery in Binyamina, Zichron Yaakov, Dead Sea, Massada, Sea of Galilee, Jordan River and more.

Please look at <http://www.rtisrael.org/> for further information, registration and booking. You can also send me questions at danhay@hay-brotfeld.co.il.

See you soon.....

YIIT

Dan Hay

National President RT Israel

To the glory of Martin Young
from Southend-on-Sea

Southend-on-Sea is the best end,
far better than the East and the West End
the end why we did end up here
was by no means for amusement sheer.
we intended to commemorate
a very special 41er mate,
our Martin Young, who did foresee
this meeting in Southend-on-Sea
and his spectacular idea
brought members from 17 countries here.

Fate had dear Martin pass away
to our deeply felt dismay,
his spirit though was guiding us
and thoroughly supporting thus
this unforgettable event,
which so much to us all meant.

Martin Young, that great Southender,
gave us the strength not to surrender
and head for the Houses of Parliament:
on Saturday evening there we went,
being guests of David Amess, MP,
who happens to be from Southend-on-Sea!

his glorious speech of the finest kind
revealed a most witty English mind,
Uwe Kerstan, the president, promptly replied
with the former hinges of friendship tied
and between noble old England and Germany
that night reigned perfect harmony.

The atmosphere was more than merry,
we started off with excellent sherry
in that distinguished political frame
we felt like VIPs in the Hall of Fame
the most prestigious dinner hall
made us for the opulent menu fall.

Then between the meat and sweet
we were shown both Houses en suite
by a guard who had great humour
and reported every rumour
about all those celebrities
such as Mr Amess and other MPs.

When that evening was all over
none of us was really sober,
we were all drunk from so much glory
and do hope you enjoyed this story.
There is another thing to mention
and this requires a short extension:

The conference was a success,
it went all smooth, without great stress,
the Get Together was dead funny
With a richly garmented singing bunny,
everbody cheered and laughed
41ers are pretty daft!

Lydia Schaumann (A)



Lydia Schaumann, (A) deep in thought. Watch out, lads, she has got you in mind as she is working on her next Poem.

Who said that!

Saving is a very fine thing. Especially when your parents have done it for you.

A celebrity is a person who works hard all his life to become well known, then wears dark glasses to avoid being recognised.

I love flying - I have been to almost as many places as my luggage.

It is true hard work never killed anyone, but I figure why take the chance?

If only women came with pull-down menus and on-line help.

The difference between tax avoiding and evasion is ten years.

God made Adam before Eve because he did not want any advice on the matter.

It said, insert disk #3, but only two would fit.



We are not sure if John Hudson (ZA) and Bob Parton (D) will ever get Bob's Ducati back on the road again, let alone in time for the Graz Tour

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Following his election as the 2nd 41 INTERNATIONAL President, Daniel Ponchon, together with Yvres Gosselin, the Archivist of the French Association, produced the first 41 INTERNATIONAL magazine in June 1976. Written in French and English and entitled 'Flash d'Information', it consisted of two A4 pages of messages from the officers of the organisation.

The following year, this time together with Claude Leroux of France, the Secretary of 41 INTERNATIONAL, Daniel produced the second issue, also of two pages and now containing more general information. Then followed a gap until 1981 when Peter Poech of the Austrian Association undertook not only to edit but also to print the magazine. However, due to "a possibly ambiguous interpretation of the semantics of change to Flash" at that time, in 1983 Peter changed the name of the fifth issue of the A4 publication to 'Courier'. Thus it continued under his editorship for the next 18 issues, being produced once a year usually in February.

Under Peter's editorship the 'Courier' increased in size, No. 22 reaching 48 pages on the 25th Anniversary of 41 International in 2000. Its contents were in English, French and German until 1997 when, in line with the decision of the 41 International Council that all records should be in English, that year and onwards it was published mainly in that language, with occasional items in French or German.

Peter retired from the posts of Editor and Publisher in 2001, having been assisted from 1988 in its production by Otto Adelhofer, also of the Austrian Association. Wolfgang Rosel of the German Association took over the following year. Apart from a slight change in size, Issue No. 24 of March 2002 ran to 28 pages. The following year saw a further change in that Dieter Straka of the Austrian Association assumed the editorship, with the 'Courier' resuming its former size and presentation and still mainly – but not

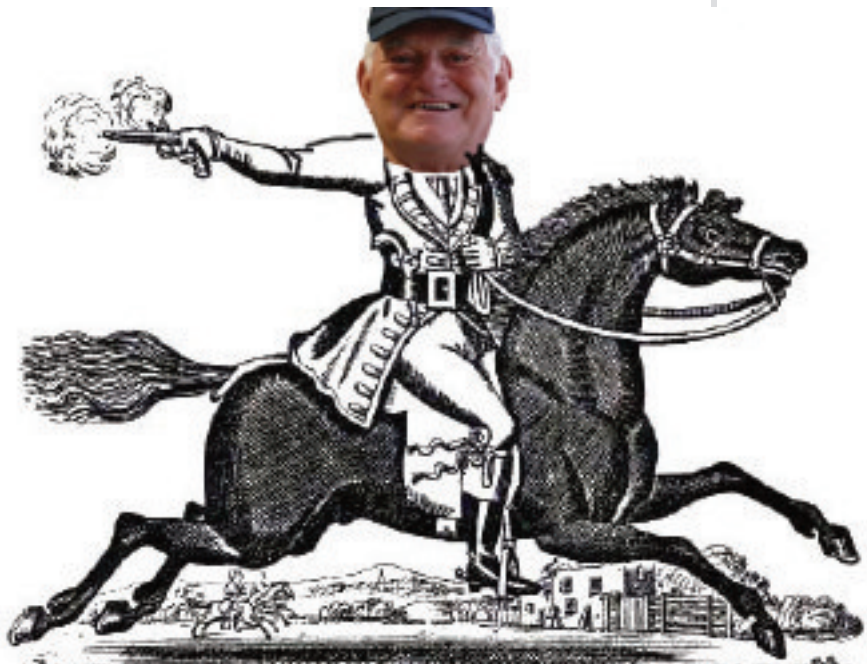
entirely – in English; indeed, in No. 26, published in December 2003, the President's message appeared in four languages! With the hope that the magazine would reach a wider readership, Dieter proposed to produce it twice a year and, from 2004, on a CD that could be sent to each Association for distribution. On this basis he produced No. 27 in September 2004 but the experiment was not a success. No further issues of the 'Courier' have appeared.

At this point I shall revert to 1949 when the four-years-old British Association introduced its own magazine.

Edited and produced by the Wakefield 41 Club, one of the Association's four Founder Clubs, the A5-sized magazine consisted of eight pages and was entitled 'Quarterly Bulletin of Ex-Tablers' Clubs'. Six years later, after the Sheffield 41 Club had taken over, it was re-named 'The Hinge', from the Association's motto

changed the title to 'FortyOne'. This change was not accepted without protest but, nevertheless, it was endorsed at the following Annual General Meeting of the Association and continued in use for another 12 years. In 2001 with No. 136 the title changed again, this time to '41 Club' and, with the 154th issue in the Summer of 2006, to just 'Links'.

With the title 'Hinge' no longer in use, 41 International took the opportunity to revive it at the same time as reviving the international magazine. From July 2006 under the editorship of Bob Parton of the German Association, the First Issue of 41 International's magazine now named 'The Hinge' appeared, in full colour, still A4, still mainly in English but, for the First Issue, only online. (<http://www.thehinge.de>) It was quickly followed by the Second Issue, in October 2006, this time in the normal printed form.
ERIC J MILLER



Bob "Dick Turpin" Parton rushing off with "The Hinge" name for Club 41 Magazine leaving only a "LINKS" behind him for the rest

"May the Hinges of Friendship never Rust". Thus it continued (from 1981 as just 'Hinge') for a further 84 issues over 35 years, with two, later four, issues a year.

In 1989, with Issue No. 98, the Association Editor unilaterally

Past President, Past Archivist and Life Honorary Member
The Association of Ex-Tablers' Clubs
(Great Britain) November 2006

2006 WOCO -Pre Tour to Namibia

“Don’t mess with me”! Who does not know these words from some bad film? If the Rhinoceros could talk then he would have said it as he sat there at the Entrance to our Lodge in the little round village with the other wild animals. Stood in front of



these giants it became hard to accept that they are only vegetarian.

It was everything one expected from Namibia and good Hosts: the 6-German-US American Pre-Tour group were in the hands for 5 days and 4 nights of the Tablers from RT 36 Walvis Bay who had organised a programme that seemed could not be beaten...



As I walk around in my Trekking-Trousers with a sad look at the many holes in the trouser leg then I must

keep asking myself, if I should tell the story about the shot blast from the rifle and the Lions or about the ride with the 4 wheel motor-bike through the desert of Namibia’s in a sandstorm. This of course had a higher truth factor to it.

Nobody bothered to tell me that my leg was so close to the exhaust, although

during the trip I did smell burning clothing (which I could not locate). At least it was not burning flesh...

In any case it is fantastic what you can do on a 4 Wheel Bike in the desert, with sand flying everywhere... Still today months later I find sand in my Clothes; the Namibia will not let you go once you have seen it.

The 4 wheel trip was the

quickest event we enjoyed, starting 25 minutes after having our Passports stamped.

We soon adapted ourselves to the local situation with the sand, the storm and the drinks.

At the coast we orientated ourselves to the other two important factors, eating above all lots of meat was taken in the Club-house from RT 36 always in combination with drinking.

This of course is very important: the danger of dehydration is high in this desert.. The next day out at sea we saw a hundred thousand Flamingos, no kidding, a thousand seals, honestly, a couple of dozen Pelicans and also a few Dolphins and even a Whale was pleased with our visit. He at least started spurting water? all over us. We had found enough water after all and the sand was an invitation to tour further with the 4 Wheelers sometimes riding steeply over a dune followed by the big sharp drops down the other side travelling further through the desert past an Aeroplane wreck (no not the “English Patient”) and then under full power along a dried out river bed in the

twilight... It was like being on another planet in real-life Science Fiction straight into “Star Wars”. Then we were



beamed back into the Camp that the Tablers had set up for us to enjoy yet more food and drink, to spend the rest of the evening looking up at the fabulous star-filled sky.

The next day was spent animal spotting and in the evening we stayed at a small Beach Hotel owned by a Club 41 friend before setting off , again on our 4 Wheelers on an Interesting and historical Desert tour before we had to return to the Airport to get to the WOCO Conference.

Stefan Buegler,
IRO RTD Hamburg
Germany

WOCO 2006 Conference South Africa

Yes, one does not need to talk too much about Round Table and South Africa. We read at least reports 3-4 times in the year from Tables which had made RT tours through this wonderful country.

From Rikus Badenhorst, the National President, we learned that every week on average one International RT group visits South Africa. These visitors are predominantly from Germany.

So we were not surprised to hear that over 600 registrations for this WOCO meeting had already been made.

From the 12-17th September Adrian Lucas as Convenor had organised with his team in the Limpopo Area "near" to the Kruger park in Polokwane this massive RT Event.

Revived after having spent a week at the coast with other Tablers from Germany we were more than warmly received in Polokwane, this is the home town of our Past 41 President John Hudson. The long shuttle from Johannesburg Airport to Polokwane with 15 nations in the Bus soon gave grounds for one toast after the other. Don't forget one must drink a lot in South Africa (the dehydration problem).

Arriving at the Bolivia Lodge we already noticed that it must be renamed WOCO City; here were approx. 300 of the registered Tablers already booked

in. Unfortunately under the name „Lodge“ was not much more to shout about: the Chalets were mostly very small, the pool could not in reality be used and Deckchairs or Sunbeds could not be seen within a 1 km radius of the place. But we as Early Bird bookings at the Lodge were able to enjoy the night exposure to sonic sounds out of the WOCO bar toning in somewhere near to 120db!!

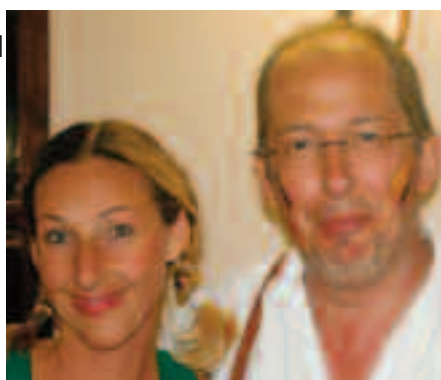
The late bookers had in a sense more luck at the Meropa Casino Hotel, but that with an approximately 1 hour bus transfer ride this turned into a horror trip. Coming back from a day's tour, rushing through the bathroom, and then the transfer bus to WOCO City even the best Hotel could not pacify this RT Triathlon this time with a difference! The „Daily Tours“

offered, stretched from Sightseeing to dropping 30 meters (OK for us Brits 91 feet 5 1/2 inches) down a Cliff on a rope, 4 Wheel Motor Bikes, pleasure flights to a trip to the "Kruger National Park" 200 km (124 Miles) distance away turned this trip out into a very exhausting excursion.

Like at every WOCO it is the "Nations Night" that is the Highlight and surpassed

here by a really splendid Welcome Ceremony and an intoxicating evening.

The Costumes and National Dress of the various nations in the Twilight African Sun painted a superb picture. Though as 3 Helicopters approached the platform in formation, one expected to see Marlon Brando climb down from one of the Helicopters and light a cigar. But it was the complete WOCO board together with their ladies who climbed out and made their way to the Tribune. I was not pleased with



Maya & Wilfried Foerster (D) photographed eating their Crocodile lunch, that has got to be better than the other way round

the clouds of dust as the helicopters climbed out of the Stadium as were many others including the 1991 RT International President Waldo Thöle. It was he who at WOCO in Karnten brought RT International back to life after 30 years in the wilderness.

Some addresses with many jokes and gags followed directly. Approx. 100 bongo drums were deposited on the seats

and benches and so the approaching Nations Night party became correctly stimulated by the bongo band. Dried worms from Zimbabwe or a little inconspicuous Chilli fruit from Malawi, herrings from Sweden, vodka from Finland, smelly cheese and ham from Germany and many other strange and exquisite things were offered. Unfortunately, the liquid specialities predominated the offer so that it was almost impossible to drink through all of the specialities even in small quantities (the dehydration problem).

What Home parties! A rugby game and of course the gala dress Evening rounded off the programme as usual and one said goodbye to many acquaintances and friends but naturally not without collecting the polo shirt on Sunday that the Tablers of Cyprus brought for us— coupled of course with a registration for WOCO 2007.

In Cyprus the Hotel problem should not exist, because here the Tablers will be installed in a big 3 Hotel Complex, and the Hotels are next door to each other directly on the beach in Pafos. I dread to think of the noise level! To be happy in International Tabling

Wilfried Foerster,
OT Weiden Germany

SOUTH LUANGWA, Zambia

The concentration of wildlife along the Luangwa River and its ox-bow lagoons is among the most immense in Africa. The Luangwa is one of the most intact river systems, and serves as the lifeblood of the entire 9050 square-kilometre Park. With an assortment of wildlife, birdlife and vegetation, the Luangwa is

renowned for the now world famous Walking Safaris, an unbeatable way to experience and interact with nature first hand. The changing seasons add to the Park's richness, from dry bush veld in winter to lush green vegetation during summer months. The Luangwa boasts about 60 different animal species and 400 varied bird species.



The guides will ensure you have every opportunity to see all that the valley has to offer of its wildlife, birds and varying vegetation and habitats. You will follow the loop roads graded in the park, past dambos bursting with hippos, crowned cranes, grazing antelope and scurrying baboons. Further out on the plains you're bound to see the large elephant herds, reaching up to 70 in number. Buffalo are abundant and spread throughout the valley. The hippopotamus is one animal you won't miss. As you cross over the bridge into the park there are usually between 30 and 70 hippos lounging in the river below and most of the dambos and lagoons will reveal many. There is esti-

mated to be at least 50 hippos per kilometre of the Luangwa River! Zebra can be seen running in small herds of about a dozen.



The difference between Zambia's zebras and those in the south and east of Africa are in the stripes.

Thornicroft's Giraffe, unique to Luangwa Valley, should be easily spotted. The park has 14 different antelope species, most of which are easily seen on game and night drives. Watch out for the elusive bushbuck, preferring to inhabit densely covered areas. The common duiker is not that common near the Luangwa river but inhabits the back country of the Luangwa Valley. The largest of the antelope is the eland, usually near the Nsefu sector of the park. The most numerous antelope is the impala. These gregarious animals can be seen in herds all over the park. Not to be confused with the Puku, of similar size but a much fluffier buck with a rich orange coat and also prolific. Perhaps the most beautiful is the Kudu, with its majestic spiral horns and delicate face. Although fairly common, they're not always easy to find due to their retiring habits and preference for dense bush.

Reedbuck, roan, sable, hartebeest, grysbok, klipspringer and oribi are all here but not prolific in the central tourist area of the Park. They tend to stay deeper in the remote parts towards the Muchinga escarpment. Of the primates, baboons and vervet monkeys are prolific. More scarce is Maloney's monkey. Present, but unlikely to be seen except on night drives, is the night ape, and the nocturnal bushbaby. Hyenas are fairly common throughout the valley and their plaintive, eerie cry, so characteristic of the African bush can be heard on most nights. South Luangwa has a good

population of leopard but they are not that easy to spot and tend to retreat when they hear vehicles. Many of the Lodge's game trackers are skilled in finding leopards on night drives, however, and often visitors are rewarded with a full view of a kill. Lions are as plentiful in the Luangwa as anywhere else in Africa, but when a kill is made away from the central tourist area, the pride may stay away for several days and may not be seen by visitors on a short stay. Very often they roam in prides of up to thirty. Of the other carnivores present but not often seen is the caracal, wild dog, serval and side-striped jackal.

The Luangwa river also has an extraordinarily high number of crocodiles. It is not uncommon to see several basking on the riverbanks or even floating down the river tearing at a dead animal. Night drives are fascinating in the Luangwa. Not only for the chance of seeing a leopard but for the many interesting animals that only come to life at night. Genets, civets, servals, hyenas, and bushbabies as well as owls, nightjars, the foraging hippos, honey badgers and lion. Birdwatching is superb in the Valley. Near the end of the dry season, when the river and oxbow lagoons begin to recede, hundreds of large waterbirds can be seen wading through the shallows. The red faced yellow billed storks move along with their beaks open underwater, disturbing the muddy liquid with their feet until the fish flop into their mouths. The pelicans tend to operate in lines abreast, driving the fish before them into shallows before scooping them up into their beak pouches. The striking 1.6m saddle bill stork makes quick darting movements into the water. Then there's the marabou stork, great white egrets, black headed herons, open billed storks and the stately goliath heron that can stand in the same position for hours before pouncing. Of the most beautiful are the elegant crowned cranes, with their golden

tufts congregating in large flocks



at the salt pans.

HOW TO GET THERE...AND YOUR TOUR PACKAGE

For \$1200-00 per person for 4 nights, you have all road transfers, air tickets to and from South Luangwa's Mfuwe International Airport, all accommodation at the Kafunta River Lodge in spacious log cabins made of natural material and overlooking the winding Luangwa River, all meals and 2



game viewing activities in every 24 hours period, each activity lasting 3-4 hours duration. Not included are game park entry fees of \$25-00 per person per day, airport departure taxes of \$5-00 at Lusaka and Mfuwe and bar expenses which will be added at cost. You will be collected from your hotel in Lusaka at least 90 minutes before scheduled flight time. Your flight time from Lusaka to South Luangwa is ONE HOUR.

HYM2007 Convenors will ensure all travel details are available closer to the tour. Pre-booking is necessary as these tours are very popular and often oversubscribed in June-November period. See HYM2007 registration form for bookings.

www.41clubs Zambia.com
Your Tour is set for Monday 20 to Friday 24 August 2007 inclusive.
Deadline for bookings is 31 May 2007.

⚡ Why not tag this onto the Zambia AGM Trip ⚡



Convenor's Message

Warm 41'er greetings from the Free State. The opportunity to host the 2007 AGM, where our very own Dave O is being inducted as National President is indeed a great privilege. In the light of ensuring that not only do visiting 41'ers have a fantastic time in Bloemfontein, but also to show how proud we are of our very own taking the chair, we have endeavoured in organising a FARTSA of note.

All 41'ers and their partners are challenged to pack their sporting gear, (from a tennis racket to a six pack) and make their way to Bloemfontein from the 7th until the 9th September 2007. More especially to the Maselspoort Resort & Conference Centre (Incidentally the owner is also a 41'er), located on the banks of the Modder River east of the city.

The **41'er MASELSPOORT GAMES** will kick off officially the Friday evening at the football themed **Welcome Party** followed by everyone being sent off to the "**Sin Bin**" (Hardcore Hut). On the Saturday while the lameys have to do what they have to do, for the rest an assortment of activities has been arranged. The more energetic can play tennis, go canoeing, do game viewing, quad biking, laze around the swimming pool or relegate themselves to the Sin Bin for further cooling off or do whatever the mood takes you, provided that it has to do with rekindling friendship and fellowship.

An exciting day for the ladies is also being planned on and away from the resort. Details will be revealed in due course, but expect to be spoilt, pampered and to have a great time.

The highlight of the day, obviously being the **President's Banquet** the Saturday evening. This is to be an evening not to be forgotten, video coverage will ensure that it would not be soon forgotten. This to be followed by the **Victory Bash** (After Party) that will be hosted in the Sin Bin until the wee hours of the morning.

On Sunday a **Farewell Breakfast** has been arranged outdoors on the banks of the tranquil Modder River, where we can say our goodbyes, exchange contact details and prepare to once again join the rat race.

An assortment of accommodation options is available in the **FARTSA Village**, exclusively booked for players and supporters participating in the **41'er MASELSPOORT GAMES** at amazingly affordable prices. Bookings can be made directly; details are on the Registration Forms or for more information contact either I or the Match Secretary (Registrations). **Look for AGM on www.41ers.co.za**

Be warned, you have now officially been challenged, round up your team, and make your way to Bloemfontein and **LET THE GAMES BEGIN!!!!**

41'er Greetings

Arnie van Rooyen
41er Club Bloemfontein, South Africa

Vice-President Club 4I International Dieter Straka Appeals for help.

Dear friends,

When I came home I took a look at the last Hinge and felt compelled to write something about Romania. Here it is:

Fed up with staying at home?.....

Bob Parton asked in the last edition of our new magazine "The Hinge". So Lydia and I for the 7th time this year packed our 4I-cases and went to Brasov to enjoy a weekend of fun and work with our Romanian friends at their AGM.

The weather was good – meaning good sun, good clouds and good rain – and so was the mood. Romanian hospi-

tality is an experience in



itself and is not to be missed during the lifetime of a true 4Ier.

So we met quite a lot of them from several European associations like Italy, France, England (Bob Parton), The Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, Denmark and

Austria.

The AGM and the weekend were organized and celebrated together with RT. The Vice President of 4I International on behalf of President Uwe Kerstan – who that weekend joined our Indian friends at their AGM – made it a point to stress how important this "together" is and how well the Romanians do it.

This visit also gave us another opportunity to take a look at the other side of the coin: lack of funds in many fields, but especially when it comes to the needs of children, of orphans and, on top of it, when those are in many ways disabled too.

Whoever wants to help those – Mihail Ponoa, the

Romanian Past President, is the man to send funds to. His wife is working for such a facility caring for almost 70 disabled orphans aged between 3 months and 18 years. To help them would certainly give us a good feeling.

Yours in friendship – and in the spirit of RT

Dieter Straka

Dear fellow Tablers in case your reply will be positive, you can forward the money to Dieter Straka Children's Fund Romania. This account is used only for this help. The details are as follows:

Dieter Straka
Children's Fund Romania
IBAN: AT401700000
481014816
BIC: BFKKAT2K



The "other" Queen with her family from São Tomé say "Thank you" and "Goodbye" to John Bellwood

Club 41 Iberian Cluster Meeting in Marbella (Spain)

Those, who are in the know, confirmed Tablers or Oldies are informed that Round Table does not exist in Spain (yet). I do not know who made me go to this empire of the beautiful and rich in Marbella, this meeting on the Iberian peninsula and you therefore want to ask yourself the question, to a club 41? Even if the assumption should appear, that in certain circles, the 41ers "chains" could be made to rust.

However, I can calm everyone. Everything was lawful, and the chains will certainly never rust here. Now, one after the other. Last year at the GB & I AGM in England I met Gareth and

Donnette George as well as Mervyn and had met Linda Shelly. Gareth and Mervyn had been English members of Round Table. Gareth was even National President of RTBI. They moved to Spain to enjoy their retirement where, together with their partners they have already spent many years in Spain.

So that we do not get the false impression, we are speaking here about a former investment banker and one businessman. This would mean they would be quite typical employees in Switzerland but we, in Switzerland, must wait for our pension still for some years..The "most glaring" example of it is Thomas Petersen, a Dane. Thomas is only even seven years older than me, but he and his Mrs Lene enjoy already for 4 years the life in the sun; but if our Minister of Pensions Mr Couchepin succeeds with his will, then I as an Investment Banker must wait another 20 years for my Pension. Where did I go wrong?

In Spain many former Tablers from England and other North European countries live preferably on the coast of Spain in Majorca or Gibraltar. You can enjoy here like Gareth and Mervyn your retirement. Because they, however, did not want to do without the Table life, they founded local 41 clubs. There, on the Iberian Peninsula, are seven of such clubs which officially belong to the Region 20 of the Club 41



Rita Harder (CH) Ken & June Boden (GB) enjoying a dance in Marbella Spain. Gareth George (past RTBI Nat. President) trying to work out why Ken is waving his arms about. June seems to be telling Rita to keep her husband in order and tell him not to "knock off" any of the Regalia

Great Britain today.

The so-called Iberian then started its life as the "Cluster meeting" some years ago.

From the concept it is comparable with one normal association, they have the national AGM with an exception. Although they debate about statutes, finances still and decide who become members of the executive board, because the official meeting only lasts for around one half hour! Even though this year the meeting lasted for 45 minutes!

(Probably lost to much time trying to explain that Appenzeller Joke), (I did not know they had any? Ed.)

The "short" explanations of the National President, Ian McKenzie, as well as the discussions about the advantages and disadvantages of Welsh sheep paying again and again were reason for the delays.

For a foreigner like me this topic

was a little hard to understand; but an Englishman would not understand an Appenzeller joke straight off either. What is not natural for former Tablers also was a pleasure for me, that the meeting did not start until 1130 hours but started then exactly on the minute ...

The whole meeting took place in the wonderful hotel "Melia Marbella Dinamar". The weather was very pleasant so that one even still could swim in the pool and in the sea. Altogether, 120 guests took part, a stately number led by the national president Ian McKenzie and the GB IRO, Ken Boden, from Old England. Their presence underlined the meaning which the Iberian clubs have in the native land. I was the only representative of the rest "of the world".

Although it was a meeting organized by Englishmen, I could not hold myself back in making laudatory remarks about the meal. Of course it was typically English, Lamb with Mint sauce, but it had been prepared by Spaniards but we were able to drink



The lads enjoying 5 O'clock Tea in Marbella Spain. Somebody said they can't be 41ers drinking tea, can they! No names mentioned, eh! Ken. Mind you, we like the 41er logos on the back rests of the seats!

many fine Spanish wines.

I can say I would not have missed this visit and can recommend it because it was a wonderful get together. Next year it takes place in Nerja of 2nd — 4th November.

Stefan Harder
Past President/IRO Club of 41 Suisse

27th Annual Merano Chestnut Festival

The Annual Chestnut Festival held in Merano (Italian Tyrol) each year is probably one of the best kept secrets in the GB International 41 Club Diary. Having found out and attended, how do I now describe the best week-end ever? I joined RT in 1975 and the Chestnut Festival surpassed every good, excellent or brilliant experience to date. It was absolutely superb. The event, hosted by the 19 members of Merano 41 Club, attracted visitors from Italy (Merano sees itself as Tyrolean not Italian and whilst they speak German they are not really German or Italian), Switzerland, Austria, Germany and Sweden. The festivities started with the first beer at 4.00 pm on Friday afternoon in the bar of the Marlingerhof Hotel in Marling (a suburb of Merano) and finished for most at noon on Sunday after the white sausage and beer. As we were not flying home until Monday, our weekend continued until late on Sunday night.

It all started when Alan Culver (41 Club's most travelled member for 3 years running) shared the secret with Dave Smith Area Councillor Region 6 and he then sent an email to every 41 Club in his Region. The flyer said little but it showed a picture of 10 members of Merano 41 Club enjoying themselves so I thought the only way to find out about the event was to go (could not talk to Alan Culver, he was off in South Africa or Provence or some other far off place meeting other 41 Clubs). Two other members of Leicester St Martins 41 Club said that they were interested and one even booked his flights and registered into the event, but sadly he had to cancel in favour of receiving a kidney transplant!

Three days before the event I was talking with my butcher (as you do) and in response to his comment, "You lucky bas**rd! off for a *king good weekend while I am stuck here listening to the radio" I said, "why not come then?"

Richard has been a good friend to 41 Club and might have been 'One of Us' had he been introduced to RT. Anyway a couple of phone calls

to Italy and Richard and Janet joined Rosemary and me on the journey into the unknown.

A cheap flight from Stansted and a two hour drive in a hire car from Verona – Brescia airport found Richard, Janet, Rosemary and me registering at the Marlingerhof. (Alan and Rosemary Culver took the scenic route and missed the first two hours of drinking time). At the airport I met up with the other UK contingent, Andy Waite, Area Councillor for Yorkshire. The three of us were the only British 41ers at the event outnumbered 25 to 1 by our continental cousins.

After dumping our bags in our rooms and not knowing anybody and not speaking any language other than a rough Leicester dialect, we went down to the bar. We were greeted like the Prodigal Son, language changed to English to include us and beer was forced into our hands, too many introductions to remember names but fortunately we all wore name badges which helped initially until the vision became blurred! Christof from Switzerland and Robert from Austria wanted to know how I claimed to be English when I had an Irish name. I explained my parentage and we agreed that I really was one quarter Irish, they concluded that the quarter was my mouth and my beer drinking capabilities! And so the fun continued. We met Rudi from Germany, he had a bad leg and had to drink standing up! Dinner that evening was a gastronomic feast: Aperitif - Carpaccio von der Carne salada auf Rucola Starter – Risotto mit Radicchio und Lagrein dunkel Main – Tagliata vom Rind an Mischgemüse und Kartoffelgratin Desert – Halbgefrorenes und Mousse von der Schokolade For those members who can read Italian and German you will notice



Duccio Arrighi Nat. Treasurer Italy, Andy Waite (GB), Randolph Riedlinger Club 41 International VP elect, Alan Culver (GB), Luigi Lamberti Past President Italy, Mick McQuade (GB) Nuccio Stecca, President Italy 41, Paolo Bonagura, Vice President Italy 41 Club and Merano Chairman, Beppo Mayr

that the menu was written humorously in a mixture of both languages, irrespective of which, it

the hotel for a morning walk (except Rudi, remember, he has a bad

joyed a leisurely breakfast and watched Rudi take up the challenge of hoovering his way along the breakfast bar, he failed! At 10.30 am we all assembled outside



Duccio Arrighi Nat. Treasurer (I) will do anything to get his picture in The Hinge....but he is really enjoying this!

was a real feast, absolutely superb. We were encouraged to drink as much local beer and wine as we liked, both of which were excellent and included in our package. Alan, Rosemary and Andy had arrived just in time for dinner and as we took our places there was no seating plan or formal organisation but we automatically split up and sat on 'International' tables. Conversation was multi language but there was always friends ready to translate. Some of the jokes lost a little (or a lot) in the translation but laughter is laughter and is always infectious.

I don't remember when Rosemary and I fell into our beds but Saturday started all too soon. We en-

leg!). Our trek leader, sorry walk guide, was Beppo, Chairman of Merano 41 Club. He turned up sporting a very nice pair of leather britches and Tyrolean walking jacket and sensible footwear. The rest of us wore our hangovers with pride.

We started off up the 1 in 6 to the village of Marling in the foothills of the surrounding mountains then we traversed the hillside for about, well it depends on who you ask, I say about 1 1/2 miles, Richard said 5 miles and Andy couldn't say anything, he was sucking air like it was his last! The walk was gentle, it followed an irrigation aqueduct and we came to Haidenhof, a farm

27th Annual Merano Chestnut Festival

house with a barn converted to a restaurant. "Beer and Wine are on the house" shouted Randolph Vice-President (elect) 41 Club INTERNATIONAL and Merano 41 Club superb organiser, so naturally we imbibed.

Lunch was taken at Haidenhof in absolutely superb surroundings. An ideal venue for a Table Charter night! We were treated to traditional Tyrolean home produced food. The aperitif was dried sausage and spek (a dried ham similar to Parma ham) and home made black bread made

with Juniper and liquorish (if I had the recipe I could make a fortune), tastes to make your mouth water. Rudi did well, he set the pace for eating! Aperitifs were followed by soup similar to Scotch Broth and then onto the 'Plate of the Slaughtered Pig', various cuts of pork served with home produced sauerkraut and home made sausage. Rudi had moved up a gear, he is an Olympic muncher, a direct challenge to Mark Judd (RT Area Chairman 2003/4) who could eat for England! Pudding was pancakes drowned in home made redcurrant preserves; just watching the number of eggs and the amount of butter going into the mix was enough to bring on a cardiac arrest! Meanwhile the beer and wine flowed!

But a Chestnut Festival would not be complete without Chestnuts. They were roasted over an open fire and the old boy who roasted them was obviously an expert. He had a knack of testing the Chestnuts for quality by biting them, the good ones he kept the others he threw away. It meant that you had to look a bit harder at what you ate to avoid the bits with the teeth marks! Roast Chestnuts are best eaten with a little butter and then they are sweet and succulent. Most 41 Clubs hold events and

are pleased if any of their members come. How delighted we are when our Area Councillor attends

at the HQ of the 18th Regiment of Italian Alpine Soldiers where more food was served, cold meats,

Brunch at 10 am saw the start of the wind-down. Tyrolean white sausage and spam were served with the black bread and beer. Though the white sausage was not to my taste (because there was no taste in it) (you have got to be joking! Ed.) a great cauldron full were consumed with Rudi holding his end up well! Delegates began to depart around noon, Peter had a five hour drive across the mountains to his home in Switzerland, he had his snow tyres on because it had already started snowing. Alfred was going to Innsbruck before travelling home to Northern Germany and the Swedish delegation had their plane to catch in Verona.

Alan and Rosemary Culver,

Richard and Janet Harvey, Rosemary and I had planned an extra night so we stayed on. Randolph and his wife Rosie and Paolo and his wife Gitti took us to see the local botanical gardens where we spent a very pleasant afternoon in the autumn sunshine. In the evening the ten of us went to a typical Tyrolean restaurant to enjoy another excellent evening with good food, good wine and even better friendship and fellowship. Our hosts delivered us back to the hotel and we came home next day remembering the fabulous weekend revelling in the warmth of international fellowship that binds our movement together.

We have made numerous new friends and we look forward to renewing our fellowship next year and at the 2008 AGM of Club 41 International to be held in Merano in April 2008.

Farewell Merano but not goodbye, we will see you again next year. With gratitude for introducing me to Club 41 International

May the Hinges of Friendship Never Rust
Mick McQuade
Secretary
Leicester St Martins 41 Club



The Grapes (and Apples) ripen on the hillsides

and we are honoured if someone from the National Executive arrives. When you have the pick of national events to attend why would the top four national officers want to attend Merano Chestnut Festival? You might like to work it out for yourselves but as a hint I have to say that it was absolutely the best weekend that I have ever enjoyed since joining Table in 1975!

Lunch at Haidenhof lasted a little over 4½ hours then, when we could neither eat, nor drink, nor laugh any more, we took our leave and slowly ambled back down the mountainside to arrive at our hotel in time to shower and change for the highlight of the weekend, Saturday Night Dinner. In all fairness, I have to say that Saturday Night was not the highlight of the weekend. The 4½ hours of excessive drinking and eating Tyrolean lunch plus a walk in the fresh clean air of the mountains took some of the bounce out of most people. We were taken to the Officers' Mess

sausage, cheeses, olives, spek and salad followed by chestnut pasta and onto pork fillet, potatoes and



Franz Hoffmann Past Nat. President of Germany could not wait for the glasses to arrive

green beans followed by chocolate pudding not to mention the endless quantities of beer and wine that left me bloated. Conversation was active but quieter and more relaxed than either the previous day or lunch earlier.

Mr. President,
dear friends,
To deliver the YAP-report
is very easy for me, because
I can refer to my report I
made in Dortmund in
Spring and which is
printed in "The Hinge" last
edition. The only differ-
ence is, that in Dortmund I
spoke about the future.
Now I can report about
past.:

I am very happy, that all
seven tours had been suc-
cessfully finished. We had
53 participants and eleven
41er-nations had been in-
volved. Many thanks to all,
who helped and worked in
the YAP.

Now I have just started the
preparations for YAP 2007:

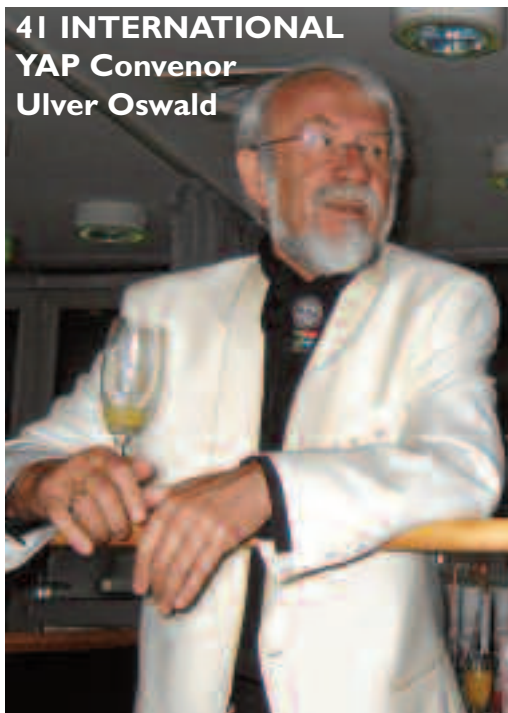
First step : I have to collect
my new crew of national
convenors for 2007.

It is always good to rely on
an experienced staff - but it
is also good to get new im-

pulses by new men.

Second Step : With these
national convenors I will
discuss the times, capacities
and fees for the new tours. I

**41 INTERNATIONAL
YAP Convenor
Ulver Oswald**



hope that we can offer - at
least - the same tours as we
did in 2006.

It is already fixed that from
India will come one tour in
April and a second tour in
early June. And Europe will
send two groups to India in

summer.

There was a suggestion
from India and Belgium:
Normally the tour fees had
been paid cash on arrival by
each YAP to the hosting or-
ganization. To avoid that
money get lost or even
may be stolen, in 2007 I
will collect all tour fees on
one account and distribute
it later directly to the na-
tional convenors of the
hosting nation. That means,
we will have more security
but a small loss for bank
taxes and a little more work
for me, but we will try and
see, how this will work.

Finally I like to encourage
all nations who are not yet
in, to join the programme. It
is the very great and suc-
cessful achievement 41 has
produced internationally.

Yours Ulver

41 Int. YAP Convenor

Keeping in touch with Round Table?

get yourself up-to-date with a copy of the RTI International News Flash



ROUND *TABLE*
INTERNATIONAL 2006 - 2007



Fast Track *NEWS FLASH*



MARCH 2007

Copy available from Bob Parton at bobparton@ropa-stahl.com

Greetings from down under

I've been thinking (a rather dangerous thing for me to do) about the last 6 months and the fun and friendships we have shared all because of belonging to this, our Wonderful International Family, 41 Club.

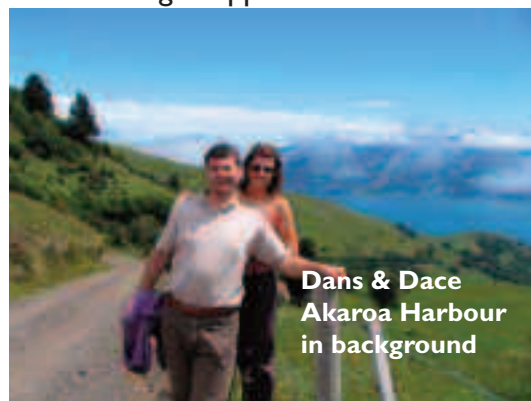
Because of our travels and meeting new friends along the way, all connected in some way or another to 41 Club we have had guests from 4 different countries in less than 6 months, brilliant!

It has been a pleasure to be able to start to repay some of the amazing hospitality we have received while on tours and to show these travellers many of the different parts of our region that we particularly love.

Firstly we had Marcus and Carla Hildebrandt from Wiesbaden in August; they only had 4 days here in New Zealand and wanted to see

Island. I must admit we didn't have a lot of time to stop but they are going to come back. Then we had an English couple who we met and exchanged cards with after a 41 Club Medieval Meal in the Olde Hansa in the old part of Tallinn, Estonia. He had spoken to Round Table meetings in the course of his work so there were now 2 ways they connected with 41 Club. We corresponded and helped them with their tour around New

Having dropped them off at the



Dans & Dace
Akaroa Harbour
in background

Airport we went back into Christchurch and picked up 2 Swedish girls, one of which was the sister of our host Patrik Nilsson at Stockholm in 2005. The girls had been backpacking around New Zealand for 6 weeks and were quite happy to stay with us and be looked after for a few days before going off on their next big adventure in Australia.

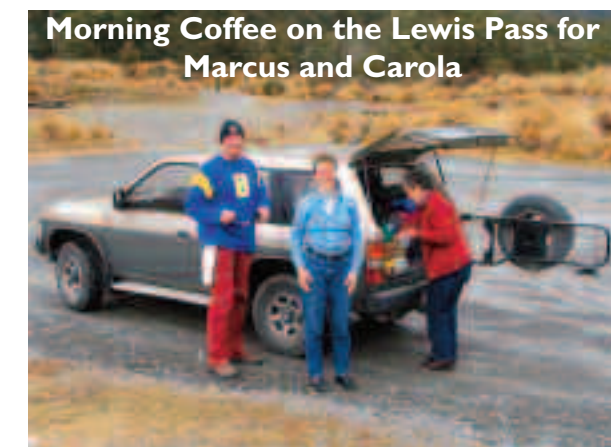
Great people all of them and they are all very welcome to return. Now as the YAP convenor I am organising the Tour (3rd to 31st March). We have 3 coming from India and one from Germany who we hope to show most of New



Hanna and Emelie try Flying...
it must be much easier in New Zealand because you are hanging upside down already

Zealand and at the end of which they came to stay.

In the middle of this month Dans and Dace Ciscakovs from Riga, Latvia arrived for 4 days at the end of their 3 week tour from Auckland down to Christchurch and we were able to show them even more back-country roads. Dace was heard to say that had Dans been driving



Morning Coffee on the Lewis Pass for Marcus and Carola

our Tour Leader, Peter Butchart, as well. We live near Christchurch and Peter and Margaret live near Nelson so we had a rather nice round trip to the top of the South

they would not have been there. However we all survived and they really enjoyed the scenery, especially when the fog lifted and we came into sunshine!!!



Cheers
Derek Johns

Zealand to along the way. A busy life but what experiences, thank you all and particularly 41 CLUB.



THIS SIDE UP



New Zealand Report



THIS SIDE UP



DoMa diamond in Kenya

Some weeks ago, the German Old Tablers held their council meeting in conjunction with Round Table Deutschland in the beautiful hanseatic city of Hamburg. We had a traditional northern evening to start up the weekend and I was still whistling this sailor's song the next morning when, unexpectedly, I heard African beats out of one of the Round Table meeting rooms. I decided to look in and found Stefan Buegler, National IRO and chairman of the WOCO foundation, putting some finishing touches on a presentation. I wanted to have a look and what I saw made me interview him on the spot over this subject..... Bob Parton in a discussion with Stefan Buegler.

Bob: I have just seen your presentation on a school village that you support in Kenya. How did you get involved?

Stefan: I visited Kenya in April 2005 for the AGM and subsequently visited a Tabler, who is a great friend of mine, in Kisumu. The city is located at the north-eastern tip of the Victoria Lake and despite being the third biggest city in Kenya, the rural diaspora is not giving the people much income to spend. However, Tabling is quite strong with the clubs # 18 and #28 which do their best in serving their community. They showed me their projects, i.e., the District Hospital and the Disciples of Mercy School Village (DoM). The hospital filled me with despair, seeing and smelling what you usually see on TV with respect to rural hospitals in a bad state. The school village DoM

however filled me with hope and impressed me very much.

Bob: What exactly did impress you about DoM?

Stefan: A very good question. The hospital gave the impression of Kenya's immediate problems: disorganisation and neglect, without much structure in place to have the hope that things develop. DoM was totally different. You enter the premises and you feel a vibrant atmosphere, which sets the perfect example of how Kenya could develop if you only

get the few mandatory things right. Jennie and her daughter, Natalie, who are born Australians, are running DoM with love and affection on one hand and with determination, organisation and skill on the other hand.

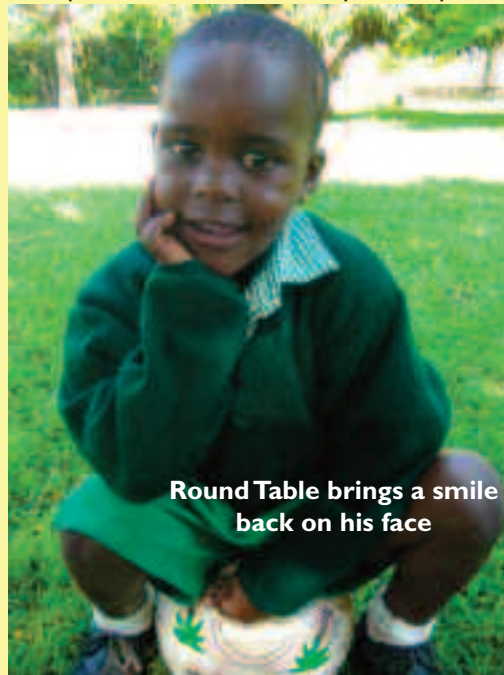
Bob: Is this so uncommon?

Stefan: Wherever you go and you find people who want to help communities, they always say: but only with western management! And unfortunately, they seem to be right. If you look at government schools with up to 1400 kids and 8 teachers, class sizes of 120 children in a 20 square meter classroom in a dark and dingy mud hut. And you hear about teachers sexually abusing their school children. What can you

expect from those pupils that finally finish school, if at all?

Bob: Not much I am afraid. And DoM is different?

Stefan: Very much so! You enter the school yard and you



Round Table brings a smile back on his face

feel the decay and neglect that follows you in Kenya wherever you go, is way past you. The buildings and the premises in general are in shape and tidy. Some walls are pleasantly illustrated, a small playground sits within the well-cut lawn. A very pleasant and vibrant atmosphere, which is highly stimulated through the kids' laughter and play during the breaks. During the lessons, it is of course study time and the results are great: DoM is proud to be the best school in the whole region. There is even a feeding programme in place that enables the kids to have at least one meal a day. By the way, the seven cows, which are the heart of the farming programme, were donated by German Tablers and spouses.

Bob: This sounds like a school with high fees for the privileged!

Stefan: Yes, it does and it is and it is not. The fee of 120 Euros per annum is a lot in Kenya. But this fee is taking care of two more children whose parents can't afford the fees. So DoM tries to have a representative group of kids from their community. Interestingly, this includes disabled children as well.

Bob: Why is this so interesting?

Stefan: Disabled children and twins are still considered to be a curse. Parents hide them. But through educational efforts and the word spread through the affiliated mission, about 150 kids appeared in the community, some even ten years and older, that nobody knew about. Now disabled children are a regular part of the school in the special needs centre that was funded through German Tablers and our dear friends from Active 20-30 USA/Canada.

Bob: This sounds like a great cause. What did you donate besides the cows and the special needs centre?

Stefan: First of all, we managed to sponsor a medical onsite clinic. With the given medical situation in the country, it was the first building we wanted to sponsor. Wilfried Forster, an Old Tabler from Weiden, Germany, encouraged me at the time and got me going through some fund raising action involv-

ing the raffling of Jacket Pins. Tablers and Tables joined forces and a few months later we had 9.000 € to build the clinic. But apart from just being a clinic for the children and the community, Natalie – who is personally surveying all the projects within the school – developed this into a centre for palliative care, which is taking care of HIV education and AIDS patients. Taking a life expectation of about 37 years of age into account, this is a very pressing problem. The programme is partly funded by the government now and is self-sufficient with three doctors through the contribution of patients.

Bob: Did you visit DoM's medical clinic?

Stefan: Yes, I did. Actually I had the privilege to open it in April 2006. This was a very emotional moment for me to realize that all our efforts resulted in this solid building which is catering for the community. When you are raising the funds, you always know what for, but if you are there yourself and see it with your own eyes, it is a totally different story. And you start to feel what it means to the children, their parents, to the whole community. I have to admit that quite a few tears were rolling down my cheeks. It certainly was a moment when I felt life in a wonderful way.

Bob: I can really feel the emotion myself. What else did you do?

Stefan: Besides the cows, the medical clinic and the special needs centre, we built a library and a PC-Room. The latter was equipped by RT 28 Kisumu with PC's. The kids use them during

the day, the adults come in for the evening school to improve their education. Further, we were able to install the first rain catchment project to ensure good water supply. Currently, we are building an Administration Block – which is financed - and the Dining Room and Kitchen, for which we still need to raise about 8.000 €.

Bob: This doesn't sound like so much!?

Stefan: Yes and no. If you think about what you are getting for the money it is relatively little. If you have to raise it and continuously ask clubs and Tablers for donations, it is not as easy as it seems. It certainly is the best project that I have ever come



Stefan Buegler in the middle of them all

across. The whole setting with RT 28 Kisumu, the management of DoM, their ideas and spirit and what they achieve for their community, everything is perfect. DoM sets the example and shows people that things can and have to be different and they succeed in changing people's attitudes. Nobody really listens to somebody telling you to do this in a different way.

After all, life is convenient. But if

you set the example in flesh and stone, people no longer look



away but start thinking. Take the nursery school children – they went out fund raising! Four to six year olds raised money for some steel pipes, which parents welded into playground toys. They realized that they had to do something if they wanted change. If more kids like this

grow up, they will have a great impact on their country. What a thought and what a result! And so relatively little was necessary to start it. A thought pursued with passion and of course the funds to make them real. This also convinced Round Table International to grant DoM the "best project of the year award" in 2006!

Bob: This sounds like a truly

earned award. Do you have plans for the future?

Stefan: The project certainly deserves it and everybody who has taken a share in the success. DoM has a five year plan for expansion.

DoM started only in 2001 so there is need for building up until the secondary school is fully operational. Especially the expansion of the special needs centre and the creation of a vocational training centre are among the targets for the year to come. Approximately 300.000 € are needed to put everything in place. It is a long way to go, but if we do not start, we will not make it. DoM, the children, their parents, the whole community and myself are very grateful to everyone who joined forces with us to make things come true, that especially the Kenyans never dreamt to be possible. I invite everybody – especially in the 4I Club - to become part of this and support this truly wonderful project and thank you, Bob, for the opportunity of this interview.

Bob: Thank you ,Stefan. I hope that the feedback from the 4I Club will be as good as the project deserves it.

If you would like to donate to help, please use the Account numbers shown below.

SCUBA DANCING by Nicola Slade

My first novel, **Scuba Dancing**, a romantic comedy, is published by Transita Ltd, a publisher targeting women in middle life and older, and featuring their lives and loves. After forty years of getting short stories published in magazines like *My Weekly* and *Family Circle*, along with assorted articles and children's stories, it's wonderful to be a real published novelist at last. As to writing for older women, that's great too, it's not that easy to put yourself into the mind of a young heroine when you have grandchildren of your own. Having an older heroine, however, doesn't make for a dull book - far from it, **Scuba Dancing** is fast, funny, rude, sad and occasionally barking mad!

Although **Scuba Dancing** is a romantic comedy it's fundamentally a book about loneliness. When I tell people *that* and mention that one of the

characters is a dotty old lady who likes to scamper naked about the countryside, positioning unwary men, they



Nicola Slade (GB)

tend to be startled. If I then mention that the book contains four deaths, one of them in rather suspicious circumstances, and that the ending, although ultimately a happy one, has had people writing to me to tell me how much they cried - I get even odder glances! Out of mischief, that's the point when I tell them there's an Angel in the book...

One of the most perceptive reviews came from an Australian reader. She said: *This is a lovely book. I found the charac-*

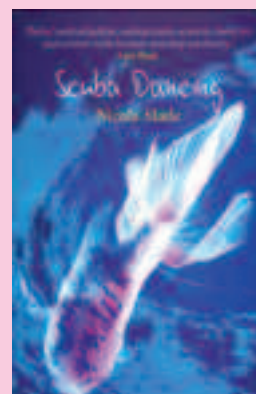
ters delightful and loved the way they found strength through their interaction and friendship with each other... And I thought, that's it! That's what other people have tried to tell me and that's what I tried to put into the book. The characters in **Scuba Dancing** range from mid-thirties to well over eighty but I've had lovely comments from readers of all ages and from men as well as women, though it's mostly a woman's book.

So what makes **Scuba Dancing** a perfect present for your mum, your wife, your aunt, your friend, yourself? and why should you buy it for birthday, Mother's Day, holiday, Christmas or *just for fun*? Because it's a book that makes women laugh and cry. Women who are struggling as carers have told me they found strength and sisterhood in my story, as well as laugh-aloud moments of release. A district nurse told me the book should be on prescription to her patients and their carers and another woman said she was reading the last chapters slowly as she couldn't bear to say goodbye to the characters.

Scuba Dancing is a book that women love. Young women who suddenly recognise that life doesn't stop after a certain age, that instincts and desires are not switched off overnight. Women in middle life who are caught in the sandwich between youth and age, their children and their ageing parents and it's for the older woman who looks in the mirror and is startled not to see a nineteen-year old looking back at her.

Nicola is the wife of Morley Slade 41 Club of Ex-Tablers Eastleigh & Chandlers Ford in GB.

<http://www.nicolaslade.com>
'Scuba Dancing' by Nicola Slade, published by Transita Ltd
ISBN1-905175-01-9



The "YAP" Young Ambassador Tour Programme for 2007

YAP Tour to...	Duration	Start	End	Seats	Tour Fee	Hosting Nation	Invited Nation
New Zealand	29 days	3rd March	31st March	4 Seats	525,00 €	New Zealand	India 3; Europe 1
Europe (South)	31 days	10th May	10th June	12 Seats	575,00 €	Austria 10-16. May	India
						Germany 17 - 26 May	
						France 27 May - 4 June	
						Switzerland 5 - 10 June	
Europe (North)	31 days	25th May	25th June	12 Seats	575,00 €	Denmark 25 - 31 May	India
						Germany 1st - 9th June	
						Belgium 10 - 17th June	
						France 18 - 25th June	
Europe	22 days	23rd. June	15th July	8 Seats	425,00 €	Germany 23 - 30th June	South Africa
						Belgium 1 - 7th July	Indian Ocean
						France 8.-15th July	New Zealand
India (North)	30 days	7th July	5th August	12 Seats	625,00 €	India	Europe
						Delhi Calcutta	
India (South)	30 days	21st July	19th August	12 Seats	625,00 €	India	Europe
						Mumbay Chennai	
Indian Ocean	23 days	14th July	5th August	6 Seats	525,00 €	Mauritius, La Réunion	- Seychelles
South Africa	16 days	24th. August	12th September	6 - 8 Seats	525,00 €	South Africa	Europe
						Joburg-KwaZulu-	Bloemfontein-Joburg

The First 41 CLUB Charter in POLAND

Great Charter of Gdańsk 41 Club 6 - 8 October 2006

This is a story that began for me in 2002 at WOCO Mauritius. I had the pleasure of meeting Karol Rzewuski, then President of RT Poland. We had a huge amount of fun and have been friends ever since, attending every subsequent WOCO together. After re-

Charter was presented by our International Vice-President Dieter Straka from Austria. Over 50 41ers and Tablers were present in total; meanwhile the ladies attended a Nigel Kennedy concert.

THE WEEKEND

With registrations completed we set off for a typical meal in a central restaurant. We must have looked hungry as we were given enormous portions which few present got even close to finishing.



Seen in Gdansk, Veronika also wanted to join in the Charter. Who can turn a lady down? Andy Waite(GB) helping out

peated suggestions that Gdansk was more than ready for a 41 Club Tad Wolanski took up the challenge in April 2005 and the project was under way. In April this year four Yorkshire boys came to Gdansk for a wonderful weekend of fun and fellowship, during which the affiliation forms were filled out which culminated in the birth of Gdansk 41 Club in Region 20 of 41 Club Great Britain on April 6th.

The Charter date was set for 6-8 October. This was unfortunate as it clashed with the Iberian Cluster, the Belgian AGM and the Past Presidents' weekend. Nonetheless 36 overseas 41ers attended, several with partners, and the

On Saturday morning we had a tour of the beautiful old town and the birthplace



Karol Rzewuski (Poland) makes a deal with David Weaver (GB) who appears to be trying to squeeze another 500 Zlotis out of him,.....please

of the Solidarity movement. Lunch was taken at a restaurant in the Old Town which specialises in Piroggi,

which is a kind of ravioli with different fillings.

After a little free time we assembled for the Charter ceremony which was held in a nightclub – an unusual venue but one which worked well.

I had the honour of presenting the Chairman's jewel, which was a gift from the White Knights 41 Club, and Ray Teal presented the Vice-Chairman's jewel – his personal gift to Gdansk.



Eve was unwilling to take "her" Chain of Office off. Mind you, the rest of her clothes fell off fairly quickly. Sorry, Andy, you cannot win them all

After the Farewell Brunch the next morning we began to head homeward. We owe all the Polish guys so much for an unforgettable experience, but especially Tad and Karol for all their hard work arranging all the pins, banners, gifts, transport, meals, hotels and entertainment.

Nastrovje!

Andy Waite
National Councillor for Region 14 and International Committee Member
Wakefield and White Knights 41 Clubs
International Committee Member 41 Club Great Britain

Nigel
Cayne

brought greetings and a banner from GB President Ian. A meal and a cabaret show completed the evening.

Know your 41 Neighbour!

ing has the added advantage of revealing that neither party is holding a weapon.

The Italians are enthusiastic and call one another *cara* and *bella* (darling and beautiful) at the drop of a hat. Yet before crossing someone's threshold they will ask "*Permesso?*" (May I have permission?). *Ciao* is an informal greeting used both on meeting and on departure. *Buongiorno* (Good day) is used for most of the day until a certain point in the late afternoon, when people will greet each other with *Buonasera* (Good evening), as if the afternoon did not exist. They are much more rigid about the difference between evening and night, and "What did you do last night?" will be regarded as a nosy or even impertinent question, but "What did you do yesterday evening?" will not raise any eyebrows at all.

The Italians have three possible forms of addressing one another: the *tu*, *voi* and *lei* forms. The *tu* form is used in the family, by young people

with one another, by adults who know each other well, and by colleagues. Formal conversation traditionally requires the use of surnames, and informal the use of first names, but in recent years a mixing of forms has come into use. So the travel agent or mechanic might refer to her or himself as Maria Cristina or Sergio, but still call their customers Dottore Rossi or Signora Ferrari, and the *lei* form would be used in conversation.

Strangers are addressed as *signor* and *signora*. *Signora* is generally used even if the woman is technically *signorina* (an unmarried one). Professional titles are much more widely used than in Britain and America. *Dottore* is not used just for medical doctors, but for any form of graduate; *professore* is the term for all teachers, not just at university; not only composers, but craftsmen and even judo teachers, are called *maestro*; *ingegnere* is very highly prized, reflecting the high status that engineering

graduates enjoy. Professional or honorary titles are also often used for famous people, so Giovanni Agnelli used to be referred to as *l'avvocato* (the Lawyer) and Silvio Berlusconi is *il cavaliere* (the Knight). Nobody minds if the professional titles are not used in exactly the right way, as long as they flatter the recipient.

Grazie and *prego* are the mainstay of Italian manners, but it is not considered rude to ask for a coffee in a bar by saying in a loud voice, "A coffee"; one is buying a service and being over-polite could be considered as false politeness and therefore rude.

Italians are incapable of saying sorry in the usual sense; if they are not sorry, they feel they don't need to say anything, and if they are sorry, they can say it in the confessional.

Italians are courteous people, and well-mannered. Greetings are important and, since the Italians are very physical, hand-shaking and kissing are the norm. They convey genuine warmth and pleasure at seeing people again, even if they have seen them the day before or even that morning. Kissing is on both cheeks and there are no taboos about men greeting each other this way. Hand-shak-

THE HINGE guide to the SWISS



Swiss Army Life

The Swiss army is not only famous for its knives, but also for the fact that every Swiss male from 20 to 20 is a member.

Far from being a land of pacifists, Switzerland is aggressively neutral with a potential army of over half a million. All these troops go about their daily jobs - banking, farming and so on - while in their wardrobes at home hang their uniforms and, more amazing still, in the

attic cupboard lie their guns and ammunition. It is not unusual to see men out of uniform on bicycles or the tram with a submachine gun slung over their shoulder. They are just on the way to keep their trigger fingers trained with a bit of compulsory shooting practice. The Swiss have finally acknowledged the contradiction of the situation whereby they have a huge army yet have not had a decent war for over 500 years. Thus the army is being streamlined to 400,000 men and cuts are being made. For example, carrier pigeons and the 'bicycle brigade' have recently been dispensed with.

It has been argued that the reason for the dearth of wars is Switzerland's impressive defence capability. But the truth is that no power-crazed dictator is going to attack the country where he has stashed away his secret millions.

The Bells! The Bells!

Switzerland is approximately 48% Catholic and 44% Protestant. The

remainder includes off-beat and occasionally suicidal sects. The church holds greater sway in Switzerland than in many modern western societies. This is witnessed by bell-ringing which the tourists find so charming but which many prematurely deaf Swiss living within earshot find rather less appealing. Bells start clanging at all times of the day and night - to tell the farmers it is time for lunch, to tell the farmers it is time to work again; on Saturdays to remind the faithful that tomorrow is Sunday and on Sundays to tell them 'today's the day'.

Sundays, like the other six days of the week, are taken very seriously. Having flogged themselves nearly to death working through the week, the Swiss are rewarded with a genuine day of rest on Sunday. Hanging out washing, digging the garden, cleaning the car are all forbidden on Sundays. Commercial vehicles are banned and, on sunny Sundays, private motorists have a chance to see how long a queue they can make on the normally quiet Swiss roads.

The Swiss Catholic and Protestant churches are mainly financed through income taxes. Tax declarations ask for one's religious persuasion and a levy of approximately 6% per Catholic and 5% per Protestant is added to tax bills. Thus everyone is happy: Swiss atheists can benefit in the here and now by avoiding church taxes, while those paying can look on it as a form of after-life insurance.

Switzerland's Protestants, and thus a large proportion of Swiss society, have been strongly influenced by reformers like Calvin and Zwingli who advocated a simple life, and extolled the virtues of family, modesty and hard work.

Buying goods on credit is still frowned upon. Saving is an essential feature of Swiss life - saving time, saving the environment and, most important of all, saving money, but not just any money: saving Swiss francs. Swiss savings per head rank second only to the Japanese. Saving up before buying is the ideal way to buy, provided one does not die of boredom first.



41 INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR

Date	Association	Event	Location
May 2007			
11 - 13	Germany	AGM	Esslingen
17 - 20	→ 41 INTERNATIONAL	AGM	Graz, Austria
18 - 20	Sweden	AGM	Stockholm
25 - 27	Norway	AGM	Geiranger
June 2007			
31.5 - 3.6	France	AGM	La Rochelle
1 - 4.	New Zealand	AGM	Napier
8 - 10	Italy	AGM	Milano
July 2007			
5 - 7	Cyprus	AGM	Pafos
August 2007			
24 - 26	→ 41 INTERNATIONAL	HYM	Livingstone, Zambia
September 2007			
1	RT International	Round Table World Meeting	Cyprus
7 - 9	→ South Africa	AGM	Bloemfontein
20- 23	Romania	AGM	Brasov
28 - 30	India	AGM	Hyderabad
October 2007			
5 - 7	Belgium	AGM	Auberge
19 - 21	Switzerland	AGM	Zug

**You know you are 40
when:**

**You expect your
breakfast cereal to cure
you, not entertain you.**

**You have started to
suspect that kids today
have it a lot easier than
they did when you were
a kid**



← Randolph Riedlinger (I)
on the Lookout

Getting near →



Bingo →



April 2008

12	GB&I	AGM	Torbay, Devon
26	→ 41 INTERNATIONAL	AGM	Meran, Italy

May 2008

31	Germany	AGM	Dresden
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September 2008

12 - 14	→ 41 INTERNATIONAL	HYM	Mauritius, Indian Ocean
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October 08

2 - 5	All Associations	Past Presidents Meeting	Pitlochry, Scotland
25	Switzerland	AGM	Biel

AGM, Merano, Italy 24 - 27th April 2008

Fed up with Marbella then.....

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in **LIVINGSTONE,**
ZAMBIA

24th- 26th August 2007



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<http://www.4Iclubszambia.com/pretours.php>
in the South Luangwa National park



4I INTERNATIONAL

International Association of Former Members of Round Table
Objects;

- (a) to encompass all Associations consisting of clubs of Ex-Tablers.
- (b) to maintain at international level the contacts between those clubs.
- (c) to maintain at the same international level the bonds of friendship which unite all Ex-Tablers.

Registered Address

Marchesi House
4 Embassy Drive
Edgbaston
Birmingham B15 1TOP
Great Britain

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Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Nepal, Australia

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