



# THE HINGE

**The magazine for 4I INTERNATIONAL**  
**International Association of Former Members of Round Table**

**October 2007**

**4th Edition**

**Come and join us in Meran/Merano Italy**  
**for the AGM 4I INTERNATIONAL**  
***The Italian Job* from 24 -27 April 2008**



**There are hundreds of Service clubs with all sorts of different names but there is only only one..... 4I**

**Tablers come to us and continue the fun in 4I**



# Contents

2. Editorial
3. Message from Dieter Straka
4. Letters to the Editor
5. How I became a Tabler
6. AGM Graz Reviewed
7. Sweden are back!
8. Graz Motor Bike Pre-Tour
9. Graz Motor Bike Pre-Tour
10. Getting to know Randolph
11. Malvern Hills go to Perth
12. AGM Graz Reviewed 2
13. AGM Graz Reviewed 2
14. AGM Graz Reviewed 2
15. New Zealand Reports
16. FYvard new French President
17. AGM GB Remembered
18. 2nd Euroskimeeting Italy
19. 2nd Euroskimeeting Italy
20. The YAP's Page
21. Calpe and District 41ers
22. Know your Neighbour
23. Calendar 2007 - 09

The spellings used in This Hinge have been adopted purely for their familiarity and convenience

Partonoku, Medium,(for some)

6		9		7			8
	3				5	2	6
	5			4	2		3
	6	2	5		4		
8		1				3	7
			7		1	4	2
3			2	5			1
	7	4	3				9
9				6		8	2

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.



The Editor takes his seat in the House of Commons disappointed after hearing he had lost his mandate and must leave *The Hinge*

This is just about likely to be my last Edition of Editing *The Hinge*. 41 INTERNATIONAL need someone to replace me since I have been moved across to 41 Secretary/Treasurer. I have had a lot of fun preparing the magazine and I can tell you now I am going to miss it. At least I shall have more time to get out on my Ducati Please be kind to my follower send him all of the information that you can, it will make his job easier. I hope you have all had some enjoyment and pleasure out of my efforts and if this is so then the job was worthwhile. I shall not be far away and am obviously willing to help my successor. *Why dont you stand for the job?*

Bob Parton in Karlsruhe, Germany

## Eric Stroud

It is with regret that Johannesburg 41 Club South Africa announces the death of Eric Stroud on 9 May 2007 after a long illness.

Eric was the Johannesburg 41 Club Chairman in 1977/8 and 1980/1.

He was the South African 41 Club National President in 1989/90

Eric served on 41 Club International Executive Council for many years as International Liason Officer and was the first ever recipient of the International Merit Award presented to him in 1995. He was present and honoured at his last international AGM in Durban South Africa in 2005. Eric will be remembered as a passionate 41er and was a man who remained positive to the end.

Eric is survived by his wife Sue, two children and four grandchildren. Our thoughts extend to his family at this time.

Philip Bragg  
Chairman

41 Club Johannesburg, South Africa



Dieter Straka  
41INTERNATIONAL  
President  
Club 41 Graz,Austria



Randolph Riedlinger  
41INTERNATIONAL  
Vice-President  
Club 41 Merano, Italy



Uwe Kerstan  
41INTERNATIONAL  
Past-President  
OTD Celle,Germany



Bob Parton  
41INTERNATIONAL  
Secretary and Treasurer  
Club 41



Beat Berger  
41INTERNATIONAL  
Archivist  
Club 41



Michael Dalbo Pedersen  
41INTERNATIONAL  
Extension Officer  
Club 41



Renato Bonfini  
41INTERNATIONAL  
The Webmaster  
Club 41



John Bellwood  
41INTERNATIONAL  
Vice-President Elect  
Royal Forest of Dean  
GB





## Message from Dieter Straka 4I Intl.President

Dear friends,

greetings to all who are lucky enough to read this third edition of our new international magazine. Please spread the news that every member can subscribe to it at an incredible low price of 5 Euros an issue posted to your home adress.

I want to inform you and your club members about my houghts about our organisation and some details about what I want to achieve with your support and the work of our board.

*REMEMBER THE ROOTS* is the logo I have chosen to stress not only the urgent need to help Round Table in our countries and cities but also to be aware again where we came from and what the values and the spirit of Round Table still are. We have to support them with their projects, with finding new members and where possible even with chartering new clubs. They will come back into our ranks later.

Together with Round Table International I am trying to get better public recognition. We have a long-standing problem with public relations. Who knows 4I? Very often not even Tablers do. It is time to think about a name for our organisation which better shows where we come from and who we are, what we stay for. We are members of the best club of all, we believe in one idea - but we use up to four different brand names for that one superb product. After many thoughts and discussions I believe that Round Table Plus could and should



be the name we all could agree to and which would tell exactly what our organisation is all about. We will discuss this idea at our workshop in Livingstone and then we will know what our member associations want to do about it.

The other topic of the workshop will be "affiliation". We will try to find ways to integrate into our international family the growing number of clubs around the world, who have no chance to become associations, to share the fellowship and to participate in the successful exchanges like

YAP and FAMEX you all run. Last but not least I ask all our members and clubs to support the charity I have chosen for this year. It is to support disabled children in Bosnia to get proper education. We are also



Dieter Straka explains to New Zealanders Peter Butchart, Bill Wade, Andrew Farr and Bill Hammond how to drink Vodka, obviously oblivious to the fact that Derek "Wee Willy Winky" Johns, far right, was already in his pyjamas trying to get off to bed!

trying to use this project to start Round Table in Bosnia. This project fits well into the awareness campaign of Round Table International to bring education to underprivileged children.

Yours in international friendship  
Dieter

## Letter from Sam Sampath

**Data:** Wed, 09 May 2007

French Guests to India - FAMEX

Dear 41ers,

Sub: French Guests to India – FAMEX Report

I am glad to inform you that the first FAMEX programme started off with 2 couples visiting India from 14th April to 28th April '07. I thank all those who put in their time and money for making it a success.

I am glad to note that I have a some enquiries for FAMEX from Italy, France, Belgium and S. Africa. I trust the FAMEX will be a great success. Enclosed please find the details of their visit (AVAILABLE on DEMAND) Kind regards,  
Sam Sampath,

41 Intl. Famex Convenor.

## Letter from Derek Johns

### New Zealand

Hi all,

Sorry that correspondence has been slow overtMorning (least it is here) Bob

Just received "The Hinge" in the mail this morning, fantastic job, just a pity that you only managed to print one page up the right way!!!!

Guess you are on the Motor Bike tour and having a blast, have been looking on google earth and topography looks great for bikers.

We are in the process of appointing Consuls to vote for us at Graz etc., have asked Michael Dalbo Pederson and Peter Poech.

Michael has accepted but as yet have not heard from Peter, is he on the Motorbike tour with you?

If he is please ask him to check his e-mail or get in touch with me, I can still let John Bellwood know till Friday afternoon.

Good luck with the elections and have a great AGM.

YI41

Cheers Derek

## Letter from Johan Öberg

### Sweden rejoins Club 41

Dieter.

Thank you for your kind words. I'm very pleased about the outcome of our AGM and the return in to C41 International. This has been one of my primary goals as National President. I was re-elected as National President for 1 year, but this will be my last. I will resign at the AGM in Malmö (down in the south of Sweden) 2008.

My I also take this opportunity to congratulate you, for beeing our new President for 41 International. You deserve it.

I'm sorry to inform you that I have no possibility to participate next weekend in Norway. I'm sure the Norwegians have great plans for the weekend, but they have to drink the beer without me at the table.

I'm sure we will meet soon, somewhere out at the 41 International arena.

FYI - We have a new IRO, Mr Daniel Riesterer.

[daniel@riesterer.se](mailto:daniel@riesterer.se)

YiOT

Johan Öberg

National President

Old Tablers Sweden

Mr PH Driver

Wombwell Barnsley S.Yorks S73 8DJ

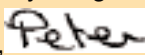
Mr Bob Parton Editor 'The Hinge'  
76229 KARLSRUHE 24th June, 2007.

Dear Bob,

May I congratulate you an your successful appointment of 'Secretary of 41 Club International.' As you may know the boxing match clinched the dual — pity someone nicked the bell ! I hope the nicking of this bell & your robe didn't spoil your enjoyment of the Weekend. Houdini, I am led to believe returned them to your safe keeping in time. I will have a word with the culprit and make sure they don't do anything like that again. I have just read your magazine 'The Hinge' and thought it was great !

You are an inspiration to 41 Club. As I would like to subscribe to 'The Hinge,' could you please let me know the cost, and also who I am to send the money to. Hope to see you again.

Best regards,



10 Euros received you are on the List Ed.



Hallo Bob

This picture has been taken in Newcastle. There are some Union Jacks (No. 1 and 2) missing. Have you been there before...?

YIF

Stefan ( Stefan Harder Switzerland)

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

An International Organisation operating in many countries of the World are looking for candidates to announce themselves free willingly for the open post as

## Editor of The Hinge. (Salary class "N")

With Bob Parton moving across to Secretary and Treasurer of the 41 Organisation he will not be able to give the necessary time to produce the magazine as we have learnt to enjoy.

Please send your application direct to Bob Parton, your Mandate would be to produce The Hinge for the next AGM in April 2008 and the following issues. Candidates should be Male and capable of writing in the english language. Bob Parton will be willing to offer any assistance to the successful candidate Applications please to:-

[bobparton@ropa-stahl.com](mailto:bobparton@ropa-stahl.com)

# HOW I BECAME A ROUND TABLER

The War was over and, after a delay, I returned home from over four years' service in the British Army in India. Once back in Sussex, during my lengthy demob leave, I set out to find myself a job. On being accepted into the Scientific Civil Service, I was sent to the North East Home Office Forensic Science Laboratory in Wakefield, Yorkshire. I took up my post there on 31 December 1946.

The Laboratory was a small unit, consisting of half-a-dozen scientists together with a few administrative staff including a police Liaison officer Sergeant (shortly to become Inspector) George Towell. Its function was to supply independent scientific evidence, both for the prosecution and the defence, in respect of crimes investigated by the police authorities in the counties of Northumberland, Durham and Yorkshire.

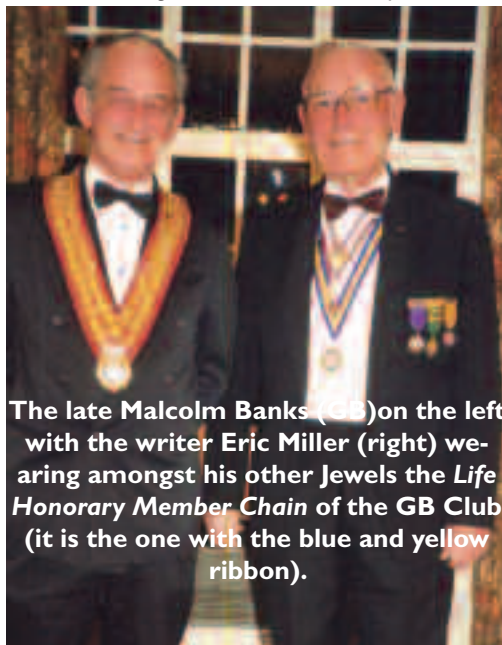
That winter was the coldest for many years and it was tough settling in as a single man, a Southerner, living in digs, in a "foreign" country. So it was great to be asked by George, about three months after I had arrived, whether I would like to go with him to a meeting of his club Round Table. "Round Table - what's that?" I enquired, to which he replied "Come along and find out for yourself."

So I went - and met about 30 local men, of similar age to myself, of many different trades and professions - who became an immediate circle of friends. I liked what I saw and from thereon went regularly to meetings with George. And, it seems, they approved

of me for, early in May, I received a written invitation to become a Round Tabler.

I was inducted into Wakefield Round Table No 47 on 6 May 1947 and immediately took on my full share of the Table's activities - and they were many. I married the following September and our first child arrived in November the following year, during which time as a family we continued actively in Table.

On my part it was a most fortuitous choice of Table for there I met most of the founders of The Association of Ex-Tablers' Clubs - all of them over 40 but still active Round Tablers for, during the War, the age-limit had been suspended.



**The late Malcolm Banks (GB) on the left with the writer Eric Miller (right) wearing amongst his other Jewels the Life Honorary Member Chain of the GB Club (it is the one with the blue and yellow ribbon).**

(It was re-imposed on 1st April 1948). They included Freddy Firth, butcher (who provided the "chicken" actually rabbit -

for the Inaugural Supper), Frank Roberts (who became the longest serving officer of the Association) and, above all, Eric Wainwright, a local pharmacist, who did all the preparatory work in starting the Association and, for that reason, can justifiably be considered its Founder. (George Towell later left the Police, qualified as a solicitor and became President of the Association in 1982-83).

In 1951 I moved back South, to another Ministry Job in Surrey, where I was able to transfer to Surbiton Round Table 108 and, again, into a ready-made circle of friends, a move repeated in 1954 when I came to Harpenden and into the newly formed Round Table 455.

A year later I was "chucked out" of Round Table but, after a few years "in the wilderness" but not out of touch as my wife was still in Ladies Circle (they had no age limit for members in those days) I was involved in the formation of the Harpenden 41 Club.

The saying "Once a Tabler, always a Tabler" is true. It is sixty years since I became a member of this wonderful movement that has meant so much to me in my life and whose ideals I have always tried to uphold. It was with great sorrow, therefore, to learn that in May 2007, the month in which I celebrated my sixtieth year as a Tabler, Wakefield Round Table 47 held its last meeting before closing.

Eric J. Miller

Life Honorary Member and  
Past President Club 41 GB

## Confucius Say

If you think talk is cheap try, hiring a lawyer.

5 out of 4 people have problems with fractions.

Remember the 7 deadly sins, and have a great week.

Multitasking: screwing up several things at once.

a penny saved is a government oversight.

a job is nice but it interferes with my life.

We do precision guesswork.



## **AGM inG r a z - reviewed**

**Hundreds came, we thank them all  
that still for pretty Graz they fall  
and with their manifold traditions  
provided for very special visions.**

**All those interesting nations  
have specific expectations,  
which we intended to satisfy,  
the truth is we could only try...**

**We fed our guests the local food  
because it's said to be quite good  
and also our wine and beer  
are not only famous here.**

**We showed them west, east, south and north  
nature, culture and so forth,  
on mount Grossglockner we offered snow  
'cause it's an impressive show.**

**Heinz Bubik got some on a bike,  
that hot iron real men like.**

**A castle with huge birds of prey  
was conquered on a sunny day  
with lots of food and wine to follow,  
those quantities were hard to swallow.**

**The Iron Mountain was the hype,  
an amusement of rare type,  
we Styrians are all Ironmen  
with some soft spots, now and then.**

**As to the Thal golf tournament  
to which about one hundred went:  
Kurt Herzog managed it so well  
with this success his breast should swell!**

**The Pretour boss gave explanations  
of all the small and big locations.**

**The driver was the President,  
whose passion is a bus to rent  
he people to the culture leads,  
of which a little someone needs.**

**Volker led through the gala night,  
the people witnessed with delight  
his charm and versatility  
presented with great nobility.**

**The Gösserbräu on Friday night  
provided for seats and food a fight,  
some French who occupied a table  
found out their seats were never stable,  
and angrily they left the place  
for food and drink in Graz to race.**

**The Heimatsaal I think was better,  
the food was also a lot fatter.**

**The Saturday night gala ball  
took place in the so-called Kammersaal,  
alas too many people came  
and couldn't be seated – what a shame!**

**The club band wanted four hours to play  
but to their really great dismay  
the group before them sang too long:  
something does have to go wrong...**

**Heribert, the President  
worked extra hard for this event  
he sometimes was at his nerves' end  
because he rarely to bed went.**

**His international presidency  
has made Dieter Straka often fancy  
travelling from here to there  
founding new clubs everywhere.**

**Let's hope the guests were satisfied,  
in a jolly mood all day and night  
but should they think they can do better  
they are free to prove the latter.**

**We surely gave y o u all we could  
and if you think Graz was quite good  
and did survive the whole with pleasure  
enjoy our city in your leisure!**

Lydia Schaumann (A)

**More information about the Graz AGM  
<http://www.Club4Iagm.com>**

# **CALLING ALL PAST PRESIDENTS to JOIN YOUR INTERNATIONAL FRIENDS AT THE 2008 PAST PRESIDENTS' MEETING**



*Whilst every precaution is taken to ensure accuracy this  
Picture may not be a true replication of Atholl Palace Hotel*

**TO BE HELD AT**

**THE ATHOLL PALACE HOTEL, PITLOCHRY**

**IN THE HIGHLANDS OF SCOTLAND**

**FROM 5TH TO 8TH OCTOBER 2008**

**DETAILED PROGRAMME AND BOOKING FORM WILL BE ISSUED IN DECEMBER 2007**

**contact : Gordon Macnab, Old Shire Barn, Bears Hay Farm, Brookhay Lane, Lichfield WS13 8RG, UK.**

**email : [gordonandelaine@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:gordonandelaine@tiscali.co.uk)**

## **SWEDEN ARE BACK**

After much hard work and counselling from Johan Öberg the Swedish President, he has been able to convince directly his members to rejoin the 41 INTERNATIONAL associations of 41ers. This good news reached us during the middle of our 41 INTERNATIONAL AGM in Graz and was relayed by telephone direct to International President Dieter Straka. The news was met with an overwhelming applause.

The Swedish association were holding their AGM on the same day as the international AGM and took a vote during their meeting.

We hope that this will encourage more activity within the clubs and we should all do our utmost to bring the Swedish members closer to us with renewed activity with International/ Euro meetings and exchanges.

This move brings the total of countries in our Association up to 20 and will be a big encouragement to Michael Dalbo Pedersen to keep up his splendid work as Honorary Extension Officer with the expansion of our club.

**More Information try <http://www.rts.org>**

# AGM 2007 PR

It was in summer 2005 as Dieter Straka reported from the great bike-pretour in South Africa and asked me: „You are a biker, are we able to organize a biketour at our AGM in 2007 ?“ - „YES, why not ??“

In the same night I drove 25 different routes across Austria. On next morning the concept was ready done! During the next meeting I discussed with our clubbikers the testtour and we fixed it for July 06. Together with Kurt, Barbara, Armin and Manula we checked the 4-day

and visited the famous cathedral four month before the visit of the pontifex.

After lunch, filling the bikes and finding the lost money

bag in the trouser leg, we passed the romantic Gesäuse and had a coffeebreak in Admont, where Armin joined our group.

14 Bikes reached our target Bad Mitterndorf on early evening. Dinner and one or more good gla-

ses of beer made us tired and nobody missed the nightlife of Bad Mitterndorf.

**Tuesday, 15. May**  
**190 km** rain, 13° - 22° C.

A lot of dark clouds told us, that the rain, which should have passed during the last night, has delay. Just 3 km's after leaving Bad Mitterndorf it started raining. In Altaussee, at the tollstation to the "LOSER PANORAMA-ROAD", which goes up to 1.600m we saw only fog and clouds, so I asked the group: „I think it's rainy, foggy and cold on toppoint, do you want to go up ? „ - „Is it a

arrived 10 minutes earlier in Zell am See as the comfortable group. Margit, the owner of Parkhotel Eder



Heinz Bubik

programm in 3 days. Kurt was searching for Cigarrs in Zell am See and found a Round Table 28 event. On this feast we won a „Großglockern-biketour“ with the Zeller Tablers. In a short discussion we changed the biketour into a Kaiserschmarrn-lunch during our planed tour in 2007. In Oktober 2006 Bob Parton was the first „foreign“, which registrated. That showed us –we had the right concept.

## **Sunday, 13. May**

During a nice, warm spring evening all participants arrived. Bob+Gisela, the strong finish delegation Matti, Pauli, Petri, Veli-Matti, Timo and from Austria Peter, Karl-Heinz, Ernst, Franz and Werner – he would like to join us by bike, but because his Eva got sick, he drove the luggage car. We celebrated a nice welcome-party together with the participants of the bus-pretour.

## **Monday, 14. May 295 km**

sunny, up to +30° C.

The morning kissed us with nice sunshine, only some of the finish delegation saw a little bit of fog (?). We left Graz by car to get the rented moto bikes in Gleisdorf. The first kilometers has been used to get familiar with the bikes and during our first break in Birkfeld Karl-Heinz asked me: „We have lunch in Mariazell, but should'nt we better look for a hotel there ?“. Our speed increased slowly and we enjoyed the lovely valleys and hills of Eaststyria. We reached Mariazell exact in time,

beautiful road ?“ asked me the finish delegation, „YES, by sunshine“ – „does'nt matter, let's go !“ – so we drove up the winding road and it was foggy and cold !

Back down, we visited the Grundlsee and during a stop at the beach Timo asked: „Heinz, the finish delegation want's to swim !“ – and I believed him. As we arrived in Hallstatt, we had lost our luggage car for technical reasons and it was still raining. We decided to have a longer lunch in the 400 years old restaurant instead of a citywalk. After the break – it still was raining – we drove through the well known „Salzburger Schnürlregen“. In Bischofshofen the group splitted for the last 50 kilometers. One part decided to take the comfortable road through Salzbachtal and the hardcoregroup decided to go over two 2000m high passroads, bypassing Mühlbach, Dienten and the Hochkönig. Veli Matti, our motorbike newbie with just 500 km experience, joined the hardcore group and we



in Zell am See was informed by phone to switch on the sauna and the finish delegation celebrated there in their



country-typical Style. We just saw them coming out of sauna to order drinks. Our rainsuits, gloves, helmets and shoes dried meanwhile in the heating-room. Thanks to Margit for this service !



# E-TOUR BIKE

A fabulous fish dinner with some glasses of wine

finished this very wet day ! Now we know how the fish

hes feel !  
On later evening Markus and Ernst from

to upgrade their bike-equipment. He informed us, that

on Großglockner is new snow and the road is closed ! „Maybe they open in 2 or 3 hours“. So we decided to make an extra tour to Tirol. We traversed Pass Thurn to Kitzbühel and St. Johann. After 2 hours we stopped in Saalfelden to call Markus again: „Everything is ok, the road is open now, also for motorbikes !“. We had a short break, where Gisela and Werner served us softdrinks and snacks. On our way to the tollstation of the Großglockner Hochalpenstraße the sky became more and more darkblue. At the station we met Markus and Ernst. We got exact instructions to be very carefully in curves and in the tunnels because of snow and slippery roads ! On

the way up to the Edelweißspitze (2.571m) the temperature fell down to 4° C. Never before I have seen such white snow and a darkblue sky on Großglockner. Markus and Ernst served a delightful Kaiserschmarrn for us ! After this wonderful lunchbreak we drove to Hochtorn and Franz Josefs Höhe to visit the marmots.

Bypassing Heiligenblut, we reached Hotel Platzer in Gmünd where our friends from Club 41 Spittal awaited us, late afternoon. During dinner we had some very interesting speeches in english, finish and carinthian language. Bob, the minnesinger, entertained Mrs. Platzer and some of us during the last drink at the hotelbar.

**Thursday, 17. May 305 km** cloudy, 10° - 21° C. After

wineland.



The whole day dark clouds followed us, but during the last four days the speed of our group increased so good, that the rain never

caught us. At 6 pm. we arrived in Gleisdorf again where our tour ended at the Honda dealer, where we had to return the motorbikes.

Back to Graz by car and – as usually at AGM's - only a few minutes to change clothes and make ready for the AGM Get-Together party. The organizing team tried to present the big variety of landscapes in Austria. Not planned was to show you all the varieties of weather. I am very happy that totally 14.000 km's were driven without any accident and that you never lost the smile in your faces !

Round Table Zell am See joined our party.



**Wednesday, 16. May 285 km** Blue sky, 4° – 20° C. On early morning, the weather again did not look as in our dreams, but there was no rain

and some blue spots on the sky. After breakfast we filled up the bikes at the station from Markus, who is also a BMW dealer in Kaprun. Some used the moment

breakfast we visited the Ferdinand Porsche museum in Gmünd. Our first destination on this day was the national park Nockalm (Nocky Mountains). A very lovely area with two pass roads over 2000m height. Lunchbreak was in Gurk, where we had the chance to visit the dome. One of our friends from Round Table in Graz was Bishop here. The further route passed the Klippitzthörl and across Weinebene we came back to the Weststyrian

Therefore many thanks to all participants.

Heinz W. Bubik

<http://www.club41agm.com>

## President Dieter Straka Reports from AGM in Brasov, Romania

The meeting was well visited with friends from Germany, Netherlands, Italy including Randolph, France, Great Britain, Denmark and Austria.

I was invited to address the delegates and informed them about the liability problem and our actions to solve it, about FAMEX, RT+ and the working group defining our future development. I urged them to support RT also by finding new members for them.

I handed over to Mihai Ponova a donation for Campulung's orphanage with another € 1000,- from 41 Club Graz.

## Simon Cusens brings us closer to Round Table International

he organised its first Reunion for RTI Past Presidents in Cyprus. We had 9 of the surviving 13 there and had a super time together. It was great that Bob Parton visited us and I hope he had a super time with us.

There are two Past RTI Presidents whom we were unable to trace so far and I am hoping that Club 41 might put out a request to your dutch and South African members to help us locate these two guys:

**Mark Warren**, RTI President 1997-98 and 1998-99 (formerly a member of ARTSA)

**Cees Verweijl**, RTI President 1992-93 (formerly a member of RT The Nether-

lands)

We appreciate any help you can get us to locate these two men.

I attach a picture of the line up of Past RTI Presidents who met in Cyprus for the first time since RTI was chartered in 1948.....that's 49 years ago! This was the first time we all came together. A very fitting present to RT on its 80th Anniversary! (1927-2007). RTI had been disbanded in 1961, being absorbed in WoCo till 1991. In 1991, RTI came back out in its own right and has been its own entity outside the WoCo ever since.

In 2005, at the Woco in Costa Rica, Woco was almost closed but after much discussion, it transformed into a Service Foundation and parted with its 'Federation of Service Clubs' idea of the past 60 years. Membership of WoCo is now on voluntary basis and 25 RTI countries have joined since 2005. RTI itself has not joined but encourages any of its member countries to join if they wish.

WoCo is currently busy with getting itself a US registered Charity status and works closely with Active 20/30 of the USA serving needy projects in the Americas, Africa and Asia.

RTI concentrates on promoting and extending RT throughout the world, having added a 4th Aim & Object during my Presidency, which is to commit to working closer with Club 41 International and LC International on a closer basis.

## Big Greeting for the 41 INTERNATIONAL President Dieter in South Africa

The AGM was held at Maselspoort resort near Bloemfontein

I was also invited to attend the board meeting prior to the AGM. I reported about the HYM and its decisions, the plans to change the name of 41 International, the liability problem and the working group of former international presidents. I also informed them about Namibia's intention to form a national association apart from South Africa. This was finally accepted and a decision taken to support and promote this development. SA proposes to put The Hinge on the international website instead of printing it, so this will probably turn up as a proposal next year. The meeting was also attended by Uwe Kerstan, Gerard Pascal and the European YAPs.

## Bob Parton speaks at the Round Table International World Meeting in Pafos, Cyprus

Bob Parton representing Dieter Straka spoke for over 5 minutes to encourage Tablers world wide to move over to 41 Club upon reaching the magical age of 40. He also appealed to the Eastern Countries to help us in reaching and extending our contacts in their countries to 41ers.

This appeal was successful, particularly in Dubai whereby the ARTAG President was particularly helpful and encouraging in helping our cause in Dubai. He is the RT ARTAG President Richard Miles, he showed great interest and offered his assistance to make contact to the Dubai 41ers who are evidently very active. The 41er President is Kevin Draper. Richard Miles himself has only 3 years before he moves over to 41.

Contact was also made to Tomas Pukas from Lithuania who will assist with contact to the 14ers in Lithuania if required. The same applies to Engilbert Imsland from Iceland both of these are National RT Board Members in their own countries.

The next RTI World Meeting will be held in Colombo Sri Lanka on 22nd August 2008, WOCO will hold their next Meeting in Las Vegas details will follow



First ever meeting of RTI Past Presidents in Pafos



# Malvern Hills (GB) go to Perth 41 Club (The only one in Australia)

## Perth 41 Club

Starting with the Club's 20th Anniversary Charter Dinner in July 2004, the Club has pursued a very active Social Programme to which further reference is made below. The Anniversary Charter Dinner was held at one of Perth's top restaurants on the Swan River - the Matilda Boy Restaurant. Our Chairman Mike Lines, with his VIP contacts, was successful in persuading Sir William Heseltine, GCB plus a few more gongs, to be our Guest Speaker; he was accompanied by his wife Lady Audrey. Sir William, who is Australian, was at one time, during a distinguished career, HM the Queen's personal Private Secretary, and he gave a very interesting and informative talk, largely focused on one of his great grandfather's life in mid 19th century Western Australia. It was an evening of nostalgia and recollection of past memories that were brought to life by the presence of all previous Chairmen of the Club - an achievement in itself - since the Club's formation in 1983. Readers of previous articles from this Club will know we have a monthly dinner/business meeting at a central venue in Perth. These are supplemented by numerous other activities of which

the following is a short selection of the more memorable occasions: Casserole, quiz/pizza, fish and chips / social evenings at members' homes; annual min/ yolf tournament, bush walks, annual cycle Tide along pari of the scenic Swan River; with a welcome stop at an appropriate hostelry en route for lunch; return visits to the Matilda Boy Restaurant where we have enjoyed their Sunday buffet breakfasts, visit to local winery that hosts an annual Dixieland Traditional Jazz concert; visits to the Channel Nine TV Studios, to the largest grain exporting terminal in the Southern hemisphere and the Swan Brewery where we were able to sample some of the Brewery's beverages; a Talk/Power-Point presentation at one of our Ladies Night dinners on the construction of a railway from Perth to suburbs and towns to the south.

Before I close this dispatch there is no doubt that the highlight of the year since the Anniversary Dinner was the extremely successful get-together with eight members of the UK Malvern Hills 41 Club and their partners at the beginning of April. Twenty-eight members and partners of the two clubs met at another very

popular restaurant, again close to the River Swan, where we all enjoyed a pleasant, talkative lunch in perfect weather. As may be expected the post-prandial fellowship that evolved, including an exchange of Club banners, carried on well into the afternoon and it was with considerable reluctance when we parted to go our separate ways. As Ray Jones of the Malvern Hills Club said in a recent email "... it was an excellent way to continue fellowship with like-minded members of our world wide club". With Ray's sentiments to the fore, I cannot think of a better way to end this letter apart from saying that a warm welcome awaits other members from, not only the UK, but elsewhere in the world who may be coming to Perth on holiday or to settle. Alan Fitt - Hon. Social Secretary email: [kfitt@big](mailto:kfitt@big)

.Alan Fitt - Hon. Social Secretary email: [kfitt@bigpond.net.au](mailto:kfitt@bigpond.net.au)

More Information.  
[www.41club.org.nz](http://www.41club.org.nz)





# 41 INTERNATIONAL AGM

Laugh - I laughed until I cried! It all started when I decided to go to the International AGM in Graz Austria; Firstly the smiles then the laughs and finally the crying through belly laughing. It's said that laughter is good for you, increases life expectancy, if that's true (and I hope it is) I will live until 2050 (editor: that's only ten to nine). The first job was to get to Graz from Cyprus, simple you may think, well you may be right, just jump on an 'hairypplane' and that's that! Well yes if you are a rich fellow but for me a 'poor retired pensioner' - it is a different matter. When I enquired as to the cost of travelling from Cyprus to Austria I was quoted over 700 euros, too much I thought, some lateral thinking needed! So would you believe by travelling to Scotland then to England then to Austria and return by the same route I could do it for 350 euros so, no argument there. Being originally a Yorkshire man who had lived most of his life in Aberdeen (the most thrifty (mean) city in the world), I welcomed the offer with open arms and a big smile. By the way it is said (but not true you understand) "that a Yorkshire man is a Scot with generosity beaten out of him"

The smile was nearly taken off my face when I realised that the luggage allowance on the England to Austria leg was only 15 kilos (Ryanair) however very careful reading of their (Ryanair) website produced interesting facts; you could carry 10 kilos as hand luggage and they did not weigh the passengers. That was all I needed, so now I had 25 kilos

allowance, anything over that I would wear!

Staying with Kevin Agar (GB&I, 41er from Haverhill) gave me plenty of laughs as we recalled days when we had both been National Councillors and Kevin National Editor. Possibly there was a little alcohol taken but I cannot remember.

With a smile on my face I approached check in at London Stansted the next day, full of confidence and yes my luggage for the hold was less than 15 kilos, so bigger smile, on to security with hand luggage on my back (backpack), to be asked by security was it under 10 kilos? 'Yes', says I with a big smile, 'please place it on the scale' says the stern man, 'oh' says I, doing as I was told, well it was over 10 kilos. I remembered at this stage, that I am wearing full Scottish Highland gear. (Because the kilt, jacket sporran etc is quite heavy) So I says 'I'll have to take something out' perhaps I could have put it better? However it did the trick and was let through to the next stage, where they made me take off jacket, Kilt belt, Sporran, so clutching my Kilt at the waist I waddled through the metal detector, well of course it went off. Next stage was to be frisked by a smiling gentleman (some of the security ladies looked on in envy) who seemed very determined to check if a 'Scotsman' had anything worn under the kilt? 'Of course there is nothing worn under the kilt, it is all in good working order,' is my standard reply. Unfortunately it was not quite true on this occasion as I was wearing 3 pairs of knickers (men's) to reduce my

hold and hand luggage. Well as you can imagine by now all the security staff and most of the passengers behind me were in stitches of laughter.

When I was finally released I had to re-dress to see Nora & Graham Clamp (veteran 41 Internationalists also having a wee smile.)

They too were on their way to Graz, with very little luggage it appeared.

So we (now there are 3) finally arrived safely on the ground in a very hot and sunny Austria to be met by a very sunny and smiling Volker Zimmermann, who was to be our Tour Leader for the week,

Our Tour Leader Herr Volker Zimmermann.

Fifteen of us had signed up for the Magical Mystery Bus Tour, most of us remembered the 1960's and all the words of every one of the Beatles songs. In our happy party there were of course Austrians, Naturally Germans, Romantic Romanians, Crazy Italian (who thinks in German), lots of English, a wee confused Yorkshire come Scot from Cyprus, a



# GM in G r a z - reviewed 2

happy bunch.

We had a programme for the week starting on Monday that would take us to the North, East, West and South of Styria one of the nine States of Austria which is a land locked country the size of Scotland. So an excited group got onto the bus and started a journey of discovery not only of

Austria but also their fellow passengers, Fellowship was to turn into Friendship. By Friday our group was possibly the most knowledgeable people in the whole of Europe on the subject of

Styria, we visited every castle, every brewery and eventually sampled their products, every winery after at least seven or was it eight wines some of us were a little intoxicated. Plus a hand made chocolate factory, (that's the chocolates not the factory) that produced every conceivable taste (about 150) including would you believe curry and whisky (oh YES), many of us tasted so many samples in ten minutes, frankly we felt slightly nauseous (sick

to you). I now hate chocolate. Saw every bird of prey. (Including the feathered variety)



Oh and a floating Mill, (I am still trying to work out why you would want to float a mill?) However, our hosts were proud of the fact that it was the only



floating mill - see above. Not forgetting the unforgettable a visit to an iron ore quarry in the largest Taxi in the world, which looked like a very big dumper truck to me.



This is the quarry, not the taxi. We also sampled pumpkin seed oil, which could be best described as looking like diesel oil. We even ate omelettes made in the black substance, delicious. So, what has happened to the



smiles and laughs well they were there at every moment of the day for those of us who were able to keep awake, at every meal and how these Austrians love to eat, including things we had never eaten before. At so many Mayoral receptions, I think we met every Mayor in the State of Styria and delightful they were. On every conceivable form of transport such as this lift!

If you look carefully at the next photo you should be able to see smiles, as they were all instructed to say 'SEX' as the shutter opened. I can only count 12 so where are the missing ones? By the way that's yet another castle in the background. ( picture next page)

Did I mention we went to a village full of very old houses but no people, these are quite amazing with more houses than people, see one of the houses below with our Tour Leader explaining why no one lives



here. We also went to see some white horses; apparently



they are quite famous and are called Lipizzaner.

Past International President Michael, taking photographs of people instead of white horses, oh, the little ones (foals) are



black, why?

I suppose I should report on the reason we were officially supposed to be there? Ok, I will but briefly, The Annual General Meeting took place on Saturday 19 May 2007. Is that enough? If not I can report that there was a lot of good humour, good reports and a

good election. Which gave you a new Secretary/Treasurer Bob

Parton from O.T Germany. Sadly I have to inform you of very bad behaviour by the Cypriot delegates, can I really tell you what they did? Of course I can, they switched the

drinking water that was for the speakers for 'Zivania' (a clear liquid of firewater drunk by crazy Cypriots). Needless to say that it produced the desired effect, speechless

speakers!

In the middle of the AGM we all disappeared to meet the Mayor of Graz (the only Mayor we had not met) unfortunately he had heard about 4 lers and sent a substitute, who gave a very nice speech. Then gave us all lunch, by now there seem to be 300 of us. That evening

was to be the social highlight of the week the Gala Dinner, we all turned out in our black ties, as instructed, drank a 'little' wine, schnapps, whisky and maybe some beer but that was the ladies, the 4 lers did not appear to imbibe, not that I noticed. There was lots of talking and of course eating of magnificent Austrian food. I thought that there was not room for dancing in the room we were in and really wondered if there would be dancing? Then as if by magic, I learnt a new Austrian custom, they dance on the stage with the band, well not exactly with the band, they

dance with female partners, the beautiful ladies. Very late we left reluctantly.

In an old tradition in Austria appears to be to say goodbye in a Brewery! So on Sunday morning we arrived and started drinking beer at 10:00 a.m. The provable p..s up in a Brewery. Then followed lots of tears, kisses and hugs between the men, not me I kept to the lovely ladies. Many promises made to meet again in Merano, Italy in April 2008.

This is how I felt when it was all



over, from a contented David Illingworth in Sunny Cyprus

More information:-

[Http://www.club4lagm.com](http://www.club4lagm.com)



## New Zealand TOUR OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT – 2007

While no groups have left New Zealand on 4I Club planned tours this past year, we have had much enjoyment from welcoming back to New Zealand, 4I'ers from places such as Northern Ireland, England, South Africa and even Latvia – all of whom came here as a follow up to our visits to their respective countries. To me, this is the reward for our making an effort to visit them in their homes.

However, much planning has been going on and as a result of this, a group of 17 are leaving Auckland in mid August for a two week visit to Perth and Western Australia, and we will be making contact with the 4I Club over there.

Planning has also been going along for a 4I Club visit to Europe next year. Initially we had a group of 21 people who had expressed interest in the trip and had paid their deposits.

However, when we put out a proposed itinerary, numbers fell to just 11 – those who withdrew all had valid reasons, but we kept hearing the word “Bland” being used in regards to the itinerary. With this in mind, we have re-visited this trip, and have sent out a new itinerary, taking in places in East-

ern Europe such as Romania, which we had been told were difficult to get into, and Croatia. I have kept in touch with one of our drivers from the 2005 trip to Scandinavia, and he has offered to help us make this trip happen. We have also put the dates of travel back to around July/August of 2008. All 4I Club members throughout New Zealand have recently been advised of this change of plans, and if anyone is interested in joining us for this trip, there are still some places available, and I would welcome their enquiry. An overseas 4I Club member has recently passed away in Johannesburg, South Africa. Eric Stroud was a 4I'er who gave his all to things 4I, and he will be remembered by those who visited South Africa in 1992 as the architect of that trip. He did so much to make the link between our two Associations as strong as it is today. We have spoken to his widow Sue and expressed our condolences at Eric's passing.

Those of you who have travelled to the U.K. with 4I Club groups, since the first one in 1980, will well know the name John Eddy – our coach driver, from Tally Ho Coaches for 3½ of those trips. It is with much sadness

that I must tell you of John's passing away on April 30th of this year. John almost became an honorary Kiwi within our groups, and I can assure you that the success of those trips was due in a large part to John's personal input. I have sent a message of condolence to his wife Lynn.

Early last year I notified the then incoming National President, Les Mockford, that I would not be seeking re-election after the 2008 A.G.M. in Oamaru, and this is still my intention.

Therefore, for the last time I offer myself for re-election as your Tours Officer. The 4I Club website is still growing in content, and it is available for all Clubs to use. In fact I wrote to each Club asking for snippets of local information such as meeting dates, times and places, that could be posted, but sadly not one Club has come forward with any such information.

Do have a look at the site [www.4Iclub.org.nz](http://www.4Iclub.org.nz) and learn something more about your 4I Club.

Peter Butchart -

TOURS OFFICER – June 2007

## New Zealand Young Ambassador Program Annual Report May 2007.

After last years rather troubled tour and an uncertain future for the YAP Tours it was somewhat of a relief to have this year's one run quite smoothly.

We had 3 YAP's from India and 1 from Germany who all seemed to get on well together and looked out for one another. I have been delighted at the reports that have come in from the Club contacts after the YAP's had stayed with them, thank you once again, it certainly makes all the difference to me to hear how you have entertained and enjoyed their company. There was one small problem in that somehow this year they had a perception that all activities were paid for. In the guidelines for the Young Ambassador Program there is a sen-

tence that says, “Very little spending money is needed”. I shall be writing to Ulver Oswald the International YAP Convenor and asking him to add that “here in New Zealand we have a large number of adventure activities all of which cost \$100+ to do and we with a small number of 4I'er's are unable to pay for these. We will do our best to continue to have them partake in many lower cost activities but if they wish to do the high cost ones it is at their expense”. I took note that they all enjoyed bikes, canoes, rowboats, our wonderful scenery, open spaces and other simple things. I would ask that when you're Club Contact changes could you please tell me so I send e-mails to the correct people.

Please start thinking about the YAP Tour in March 2008 and will you be prepared to host these young people again.

I am hopeful that we may be able to start the 2008 Tour in Auckland and so cover the whole country which will probably mean less time in some places.

May I ask the AGM that we once again continue with the YAP Tours and that we invite 4 more to tour in 2008?

Thank you all for your support and help throughout the year and I am prepared to continue in this role if you will have me, mind you I would be happy for someone to take over and I'm looking!!!

Derek Johns

<http://www.4Iclub.org.nz>

**6<sup>th</sup> Euro 3 Meeting  
7<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> September 2007  
Hosted by OT Deutsch-  
land Club N° 167, Jever**

In March 2002 representatives of Ex-Tablers' Clubs from Regions/Districts N° 3 in Denmark, France, Germany and The British Isles, met at Remich in Luxembourg to discuss setting up an annual weekend meeting between their clubs. The result was "Euro 3" which met for the first time in October 2002 at Blois in the Loire valley. It was a great success and was followed by further meetings in Germany, Denmark and South Wales, returning to France - Saumur - in September 2006. Every "Euro3", with local colour, has realised the dreams of the originators.

This autumn we returned to Jever in Germany - with four of the team from Remich :



from left: Carsten Fink, Henrik Sørensen, Ian Faull and Franck Venables

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> September - on arriving at Bremen Airport we were greeted by the Space Shuttle - destination Space Lab. Although tempted, we lowered our eyes and saw the happy smiling faces of Jever club's welcoming committee holding out glasses of sparkling wine.

More Old Tablers had come by land and sea to be welcomed very warmly (and not just by the weather) at the Café

Schloss in Jever by Thomas Wolff and his team.

Hand shakes, hugs and kisses were in abundance as we greeted old friends and caught up with news from the past year. Some of us were to be home hosted in Jever and others in Wilhemshaven.

That evening was house parties' time and we all left the café with our hosts to prepare for the festivities. Fish was the order of the day at most of the venues with the local Jever beer to help lubricate the vocal chords. The advantage of a September meeting was that it was possible to spend time in our hosts' gardens sipping aperitifs.

Saturday morning started at Schloss Jever with a welcome to everyone from a local councillor, himself an Old Tabler, and the Jever club president, followed by a welcoming drink. The men settled down for their "meeting" and the women were taken on a sight seeing tour of Jever, learning a little of its history and its importance to the area. The men joined their partners at the brewery ("surprise, surprise") and after a very interesting tour and tasting session we were whisked off in a bendy bus for lunch at Förrien - Minsen. Then on a short distance to the seaside, where the original plan had included "beach games", but this had to be cancelled due to the windy, showery weather.

Back to our hosts for a warm drink and to prepare for the

"Gala". We all met up again at Wilhemshaven dock where we boarded a boat for a trip around the inner harbour, and to eat a superb dinner and drink yet more Jever beer. Safely back and moored to the dock, the music commenced as did the dancing although the pole dancing by a member of Mumbles OT took some beating. Perhaps the Schnapps had something to do with it! The evening came to an end all too soon and we were transported back to our beds.

Sunday morning, and back to the Café Schloss for an enormous brunch and, sadly, time to say farewell until next year. This will be in Denmark in October 2008. Some sceptics said "Euro3" would not last; not only has it



Carsten Fink & Thomas Wolff

done so, but it has expanded! Along with Denmark, Germany, France and GB&I, Belgium Zone 3 joined us and they plan to bring a larger party next time. A weekend full of fun and fellowship, reminiscent of RT at its best !!

Thank you Thomas. Until next year in Denmark.

Yours in Friendship

**Franck Venables**

# Great Britain AGM Remembered

Newcastle National Conference was a fantastic event held in glorious Spring sunshine in "the" northern party city. Jurys City Centre hotel buzzed from Thursday through to Sunday morning, with the laughter and fellowship of our Association having a great time. The turn out was better than the last few years and I'm pleased that our decision to move away from an accommodation based package, to save cost, has worked. So much so that we have continued the idea for Torbay 2008 and will look to do the same for 2009.

The Newcastle Conference Committee under the leadership of Conference Chairman Malcolm Lockey did a truly splendid job. They were a pleasure to work with and I will miss the regular trips up to Newcastle to share in their fun committee meetings and the fellowship afterwards. My sincere thanks to them all.

The venues were great and to be able to hear "Happy Cats" sing and play traditional Geordie folk songs on the Thursday evening was a real privilege. The Presidential Banquet and Ball at the spectacular Civic Centre on the Friday was everything a traditional 41 Club night should be. Complete with string quartet, brass band and a great group we danced the night away. After a lively AGM we took a short bus ride to the Lancastrian Suite for the Final Night Party in a typical northern party venue with a bar almost as long as the room. The fancy dress competition was so much fun that although we were tempted to drop it for 2008, I have been persuaded, by popular demand, to retain it in on an optional basis. On Sunday morning after a late start it was time to leave, but not before

most people booked for Torbay to get the 2008 Conference off to a great start.

Torbay is always a popular venue for 41 Club and Tangent so I anticipate that we will do very well for numbers. We have listened to your comments about cost and have made Torbay a two day Conference, with a third night as an option. Accommodation costs in Torbay offer some of the best value in the UK and with the two day package costing only £99 (if you book before the end of August!) we have offered you a great deal. So book now using the Torbay Booking Form you will find elsewhere in "Links" and join us for the best party of the year. See you in Torbay.

Terry Cooper GB

<http://www.41club.org>



## 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](mailto:bobparton@ropa-stahl.com)

Half-Yearly Meeting, Mauritius 12 ~ 14th September 2008



# 2nd Euroskimeeting

From the 22nd to 25th March 2007 was the venue for the 2. Euro ski meeting from Club 41. Hosts were of course our Italian friends, who were able to bring all of the European Ski-Aces To Val Gardena.

It was 1 year ago at the first Euro ski meeting in Mauterndorf in Austria that Maurizio Vettori and Gianni Pozzi with grand show

presented their Ski Weekend for Val Gardena. Their Target was to get as many 41er Guests as possible into Val Gardena. But apart from the Italians the 2 well known Swiss guys ( the one

writes his name with ph and the other with f) with Jürgen and Jutta from Germany these were the only that were able to come from the original first group.

Austria were represented only by Thomas and Hanne Eidherr from Linz. It was great that a large group of French people were present led by their National President Gérard Delsaux, Last but not least it was noted that Chris and Sylvia Verlende from Antwerp were there to represent the emerging Ski Nation of Belgium! Altogether 70 Guests found there way to Grödnertal

Our Italian friends went to great

ends to show us why Italy is so Italian.... After the much promising show last year in Austria it was followed by many months of uncertainty as to when and /or Where the event would take place ( please do not forget that Val Gardena is a combination of many Villages. But by the end of the year a light appeared at the end of the tunnel ( *Galleria* for the Italians) we had the choice of ordering a Sistemazione Standard for



250 Euros or a Sistemazione Extra for 400 Euros, no other information was made available. After many Emails back and for, mainly from us, we were able to decipher that the cheaper price referred to a 3 Star Hotel and the dearer for a 4 Star. Just before departing for the Ski Holiday we were informed exactly which Hotel we had been given.

On Thursday evening we were promised an evening meal, one of the Italians said it was at the *Hotel Hartmann* the other tipped on the *Hotel Diamant* and at the end we landed in the *Restaurant Bugon* eating a first-class meal lots of wine and washing it all down with

many *Grappa's*.



Dont ask me  
But my mon

“Vous êtes in Italy”.

On Friday morning completely against the pattern which had been prevalent and despite heads still enjoying (or suffering) from Grappa we all met punctually at 9 00 am for the start of the Skiing. Maurizio and Gianni had organised and led a superb Ski tour around the Sella Group (Sella Ronda) . Who has never been to Val Gardena has really missed a Skiing experience.

Friday evening they had planned a trip up to Alpine Hut a high point 2000m above the sea. Because the Italians had forgotten to tell the French National President where he could find the Bus the whole evening started 30 minutes late.



# in Val Gardena, Italy.

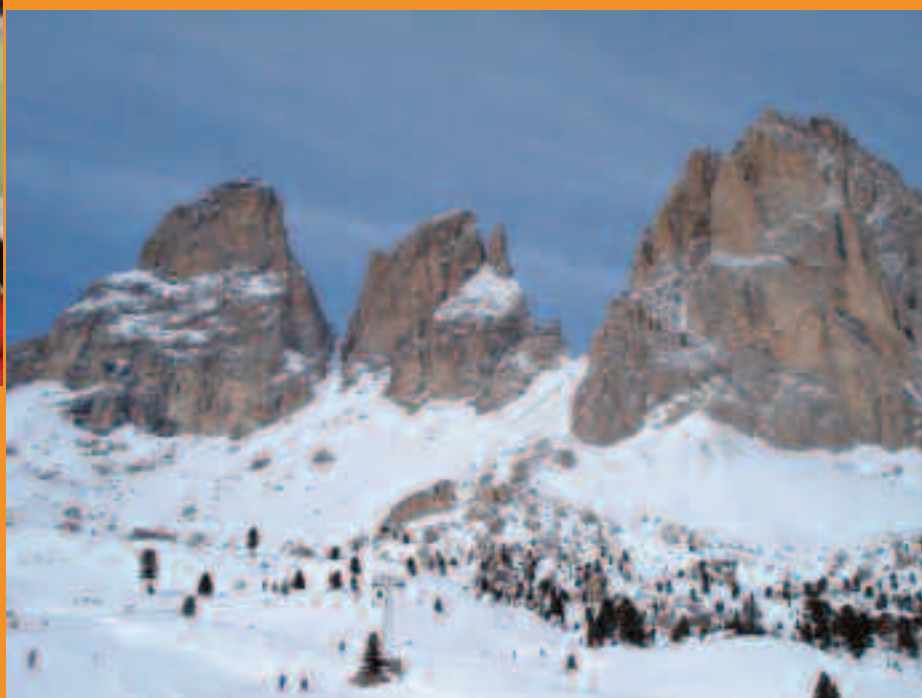
But what's that who has never had the Hut. Obviously nobody new



which one is the Hot Dog.  
they is on "ph"

anything about this walk, certainly not Randolph Riedlinger, International Vice – President, he certainly would not have worn his dance shoes had he been informed. On Saturday was designated solely for the big Race and as Race day got nearer so were the hopes of the contestants increasing. Last year in fact the

Material race, and then the Older was using very much newer equipment that the other younger Swiss guy (The one with the f) We can only to write about Saturday evening referring to the Evening Meal, the Menu card had taken on a Dortmunder Dimension, no it did not give just bread rolls. But we were served for the second time with Venison Maurizio Vettori and his team



to wait for a Bus? After travelling high into the mountains we were all glad to get through the Pass and step out of the Bus, but those who thought that was it were in for a big surprise.

The surprise came as we were all told to get off the Bus, we must



walk the rest through a snow field climbing many hundred meters to

Italians were not impressed by the Mickey Mouse course, being too easy and short. We were all prepared for the Race over the at least the Gran Risa if not in fact the Saslong including the Camel-back. But we are in Italy and the most unbelievable happened Bode Miller, Didier Cuche and Co. (Ski Aces from Switzerland) would have been mesmerized, then the winner past the post in just 29 seconds,, From a Swiss point of view they had a good day out, the older of the two, (the one with the ph) finished 2<sup>nd</sup> and the other younger in position 5. It was a typical

deserve a very big thank you for their efforts in preparing a superb Ski weekend. We have really enjoyed it.

Next year we shall all be back, where the Swiss will organise a weekend in Engelberg, this will run between 27 – 30<sup>th</sup> March 2008. On this day we shall also Charter a further Club 41 in Switzerland in Sarnen. We hope we can attract a lot of 41'ers down into Engelberg.

Stefan Harder (f)\*

IRO Club41 Suisse

\* the other Stephan ( Ph ) is

Stephan Betschen Past President Suisse [www.club41suisse.ch](http://www.club41suisse.ch)



# THE YAP's PAGE

There are travelogues and travelogues and I do not claim mine is going to be very different but I can guarantee that it will be very interesting. This journey was undertaken by 9 young people, me being one of them. YAPS is an organization in which children of Round Table members get an opportunity to go on a student exchange program. I struck lucky this year and learnt so much about European cultural. Even before the journey could start the excitement did.



Our first destination was Vienna in Austria. This place is famous for the architectural wonder of the churches and castles, Stift Melk church and Aggstein castle being two of the many that we saw. Three days in Vienna were not enough but we did not have much choice but to move on. We took a bus to Gmunden, a small town in Austria. That's where we split, a group of two stayed with each family. Catholic culture is predominant in the form of numerous churches. Another church worth mentioning was Traungssal. A castle named Cloistre was mesmerizing. Our host family took us to a ceramic industry where we saw decorative plates and mantle pieces being made. Next was a visit to Salzburg, where we saw the hangar 7 which was built for hosting the private airplane collection of the billionaire Mateschitz, consisting of a growing number of small, not so small and some large historic and contemporary planes, helicopters and several vehicles such as Red Bull racing cars. On our way back to Gmunden we saw the "House of Mozart" " the glass house where the movie sound of music was shot. That night we had a casual dinner at one of the host place where the

host cooked delicious Indian dinner. The effort they made in cooking an Indian meal was worth it. Than we left for Passau, Germany after a 3 day stay in Gmunden. We reached a point where the three rivers meet Inns, Ilz and Danube. The next day we visited a Brauerei, where beer is made as Germany is very famous for beer. The next city we visited was Memmingen, Germany. There we saw the castle Neuschwanstein also called Fairy tale castle which, we were told was going to be included in the seven wonders of the world. (it wasnt chosen ed.) That day we also went for water skiing, it was really tough but we endured it. On 22nd May we visited the Mercedes Benz museum located at Stuttgart. The following day we left for Friedrichshafen, Germany. The Zeppelin Museum was the highlight of our sightseeing tour. The Zeppelin Museum in

[Friedrichshafen](#) at the [Lake Konstance](#) (Bodensee) chron-

icles the history of the [Zeppelin](#) airships in the city where they were born. The museum, housed inside the former Hafenbahnhof (Harbor Train Station), opened in 1996. The next day, we went sailing on Lake Konstanz where we successfully tried our hand at the speedboats. We were all a little homesick by this time but provided succor to each other, till we met this wonderful family who had adopted three Indian children besides having three of their own. They showed us around town, visiting a chocolate factory and then a cemetery where we paid our respect to three lakh people who had lost their lives in the Second World War. We went to Chambery and then to Stralpes aero where we not only took an air ride in the stunt planes but were given the controls also for some time. What an exhilarating experience it was! . After that went to city of Annecy and went sailing on lake of Annecy. It is the second largest lake in France, after lac du Bourget. It is known as "Europe's cleanest lake" because of strict environmental regulations introduced in the 1960s. It was also called as

the lake of changing colours. Then we left for Switzerland where we had five days. We had a day trip to the Bern which is the capital city of Switzerland, where we shopped. In Lausanne we went by boat to the castle of Chillon. It is built on a rocky island along the antique road to Italy. The castle is a princely residence to the lakeside but an impregnable fortress to the mountains. From there we took a train to the peaks of Switzerland, Dent Blanc, where we had a great time playing with snow. The next day we also walked up the hills to the glaciers Rocha De Naye. The following day we left for Aarau. From there we went to Zurich for a day just for shopping and to see the night life. We then left for Paris from where we had to take a flight back to



India. Fortunately, we had fourteen hours in Paris so we took a train from the airport to the city centre and from there we walked to the glass pyramid and then to the Eiffel tower. It almost took us eight hours. We were very tired by the end of the walk, we went to the airport and took a flight back to India. By the end of this month long holiday, all of us had really become close to each other. Not only did we learn about new places and new cultures but also caring and sharing in a completely new environment. It was the most memorable trip of my life and that is the reason I want to share it with my friends who were not as fortunate as I was. Jugnu Uberoi

## Randolph Riedlinger reports from the Cyprus AGM

My journey to Cyprus was an happy one having been at least before on at least three occasions twice to Half Yearly meetings. So I knew what to expect from the Cypriot 41's, lots of friendship and kind hospitality. I was asked to attend their AGM and Gala evening by our International President who was unable to attend, being in New Zealand at the beginning of July. Much to my surprise the AGM started on time (in Cyprus time is flexible) and I was able to meet many members of Cyprus 41 Clubs as there appeared to be nearly 50% of the total membership attending. I of course was invited to speak by National President Christoforos Nicolaides and I made a brave attempt to speak in the first language of the

members there, which was Greek. Unfortunately Greek is not one of the six languages I speak, so what to do? As I was being home hosted with my friend David Illingworth the Scottish Cypriot, I asked him to assist. With the help of his neighbour and the local Bank Manager part of my speech was translated into Greek and then into phonetic English/German. Well on the night, it appeared to be well received and hopefully understood, as I received a standing applause, which may of course been the 41ers being polite! I was delighted to meet the National President of Round Table Cyprus and the President of European & Mediterranean Round Table who were also attending. When it came to the business part of the AGM I was given the opportunity to leave as it was to be conducted in Greek, which is double Dutch to me. I understand from the new National President Marios Kathidjiotis that they had a very good meeting without my assistance.

The Gala evening was to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Cyprus 41 Club. What a splendid evening with nearly all the past Presidents present a marvellous presentation was made of the history of the association. The dinner and wine were superb and all those attending looked fantastic, the beautiful ladies and the handsome men! The evening rounded off with dancing in the Cypriot and European style what great fun we had finally leaving in the early hours of the next day. So my thanks go to all my friends in Cyprus for a happy and interesting visit to their beautiful and sunny island.

Randolph Riedlinger

International Vice President

### You know you are 40 when:

**T**URNING FORTY may not be much fun — but it sure is funny.

When did your *real* body get switched with this flabby, middle-aged one? Who tinkered with your metabolism behind your back? Where's the rock star you were going to be? And where did your motorcycle go? How did you end up with a minivan?

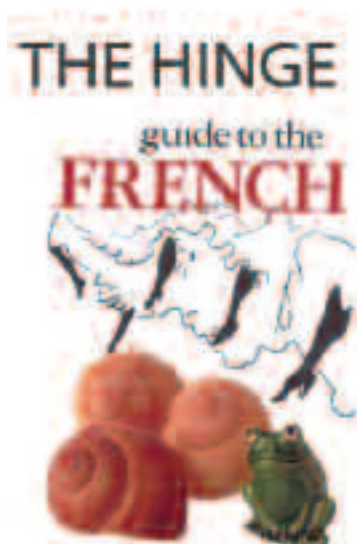
We can remember when our parents turned forty; they seemed ancient, if not middle-aged. (Ancient, middle-aged — it was all the same to us then.)

Forty used to be the age of grown-ups. Now it seems more like the beginning of pretending not to be a grown-up, though it can be hard to believe this as you negotiate with a six year-old about how many bites of pasta he has to eat before dessert.

Forty is also the age of stuff. For those of us who once wanted to backpack across Europe, this can be hard to accept, but nonetheless, forty-year-olds need dozens of shoes, state-of-the-art exercise equipment, the latest skin-care products, and most of all, closet space. They also need somebody to talk about how to turn forty!

One more thing: enjoy forty because once you turn fifty, you will wish you could do it all over again.





## The Family

The French are very attached to the family - blood is definitely thicker than (mineral) water. They take pride in their children, partly because for many years France suffered a

declining birth-rate - indeed, their defeat in the Second World War has been attributed (by them) to the simple fact that the Germans bred more successfully than they did in the first couple of decades of the 20th century. There are still tax incentives available in France to encourage and reward having a large family.

The elderly are given respect, the young are given affection. There is interdependence in French families, where grandparents, aunts and uncles may well live very near the immediate family. All generations are included in family plans, holidays, discussions, meals and celebrations. Children are encouraged to air their thoughts at a tender age, so that they are often good

conversationalists by the time they are seven or eight years old. One of the delights of French life is the spectacle of an entire family of three or four generations all enjoying themselves at the same restaurant, or at a party. And one of the most severe sanctions which can be imposed on a child by a parent is to be banned from such a function. One French family, whose son committed some mild breach of family etiquette, ceremoniously removed his place-setting at the table for dinner that evening, frighteningly reminiscent of poor Dreyfus being marched round the parade ground, having the buttons torn from his uniform and his sword snapped in half. But the son uncomplainingly did as he was told and ate alone in the kitchen.

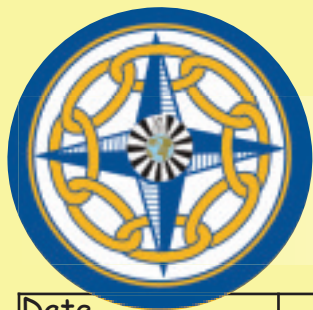


The collapse of empire in 1918, followed by Occupation and total war, meant that in 1945 Austria went back to the drawing board. The Marshall Plan, and the achievement of neutral independence after the State Treaty of 1955 released a flood of resources for Reconstruction and modernisation. The Austrians had the talent, were given the money, and modern Austria is the result. The way in which they did it reflects the

Austrian genius for mixing the old with the new, as also for aesthetical technology. The latter is, of course,

expected to function smoothly and usually does; but it is also required to conform 'to the ever important national requirement of *Gemütlichkeit*. State-of-the-art computers are tastefully arranged in restored palaces as though the original architect had envisaged them there; passengers emerge from an ultra modern *U-Bahn*, through a whimsical Secessionist pavilion. The marriage of tradition with modernity is a remarkably happy one; the spotless and noiseless, metro glides under the ancient inner city of Vienna, sharing its subterranean secrets with Romanesque remains and medieval cellars; trams (relegated to the scrap heap of history by other, less prudent nations) negotiate the streets of Vienna and Graz at an average speed of ten miles an hour, but this is lightning-like progress compared with the daily snarl-ups in London, Paris or Rome. Austrians are as ambivalent about modernity as they are about everything else, and especially enjoy the verbal demolition of what they

take to be megalomania on the part of architects. Happily for the critics, there has always been a steady supply of projects which combine massive outlay with spectacular uselessness. For hare-brained schemes and stupidities,' wrote one commentator, 'there is always plenty of money in Austria. What prestige is there in a project that is merely sensible?' Meanwhile, the infrastructure is kept going by a continuous flow of investment in public works. The only drawback is that almost every institution, museum, autobahn, etc., appears to be in a more or less permanent state of Umbau (rebuilding). Conversations with minor officials, booking clerks and hall porters always seem to be conducted in competition with a pneumatic drill. Notices mushroom bearing legends such as "Closed on account of building works. We hope you will understand", or "Transferred to number 14, such and such street, due to renovation works"; or more ominously, "Closed for the time being".



# 41 INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR

Date	Association	Event	Location
------	-------------	-------	----------

## October 2007

5 - 7	Belgium	AGM	Auberge
12 - 14	Austria	HYM	Amstetten
19 - 21	Switzerland	AGM	Zug

## March 2008

14 - 16th	Finland	AGM	Seinäjoki
29th	Switzerland	Intl.Ski Meeting	Engelberg

## April 2008

5	Denmark	AGM	Kerteminde
12	GB&I	AGM	Torbay, Devon
26	Italy	AGM	Merano, Italy
26	41 INTERNATIONAL	AGM	Merano, Italy

## May 2008

31	Germany	AGM	Dresden
----	---------	-----	---------

## June 2008

1	New Zealand	AGM	Oamaru
6 - 8th	Sweden	AGM	Malmö
6 - 8th	France	AGM	Dijon
6 - 8th	Norway	AGM	Asker
20 - 22nd	Austria	AGM	Leoben

## August 2008

16	Zambia	AGM	?
22	RTI World Meeting	AGM	Colombo, Sri Lanka

## September 2008

12 - 14	41 INTERNATIONAL	HYM	Mauritius, Indian Ocean
20	Romania	AGM	Craiova
26.27.28	India	AGM	Madras/ Chennai

## October 08

2 - 5	All Associations	Past Presidents Meeting	Pitlochry, Scotland
12 - 14	Belgium	AGM	?
25	Switzerland	AGM	Biel

## April 2009

18	Great Britain	AGM	?
23.24.25.26	41 INTERNATIONAL	AGM	Royal Forest of Dean, GB

## May 2009

14.15.16	Germany	AGM	Stade
----------	---------	-----	-------

## June 2009

19 - 21st	Austria	AGM	Steyr
-----------	---------	-----	-------

## September 2010

19	Romania	AGM	Campulung
----	---------	-----	-----------



# Welcome to the 4I INTERNATIONAL AGM in Meran/Merano Italy 2008



## Follow Me

To Meran/Merano 24th - 27th April 2008



## 4I INTERNATIONAL

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

Full Members-

Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany,  
Great Britain, India, Indian Ocean, Israel, Italy, Netherlands,

New Zealand, Norway, Romania. South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Zambia

4I Club contacts in Czech Republic, Latvia, Estonia, Iceland, Luxembourg, Monaco, Malta, Gibraltar, Poland, Portugal,  
Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Nepal, Australia

**The Editor and Club 4I INTERNATIONAL take no liability for any article published in this magazine**

<http://www.club4international.org> -----<http://www.thehinge.de>-----[bobparton@thehinge.de](mailto:bobparton@thehinge.de) ....

**Bob Parton on <http://www.skype.com> free of charge !! World Wide**