



THE HINGE



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The Magazine for
41 INTERNATIONAL
 International Association of
 Former Members of Round Table
 "May the Hinges of
 Friendship Never Rust"

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International President's Farewell

Dear 41ers, ex-Tablers, Old Tablers!

By the time this issue of The Hinge is published, my time as President of 41 International will have almost come to an end and thirteen months would have passed. Time flies - was it thirteen months or eleven months? During this short time, there is very little you can do to renew the organisation or make changes to the rules, membership fees or general practices. The only thing you can do is to plant a seed which will possibly then one day bear fruit. Does it need renewing? Maybe not, perhaps it renews by itself along with new faces in the forthcoming international boards and naturally also in the national boards.

One thing that I'd like to make better and more equitable amongst the members and member countries is the

international membership fees. I know I am putting a stick into an ant's nest, but anyway. At the moment there are countries in which the fee per member is approximately 15 cents and then again countries in which the same fee per member is close to five Euros. This cannot be correct as we all know that the countries paying the highest fees are not the richest in the world. I know that this cannot be changed in a year or two but if we keep it in mind, some changes might occur in the future. This is something that I'd like my successors to concentrate on at least a bit and I know some thought has already been given to this matter. Also the budget of the International board has for years been approximately the same and, as we all know, the general cost of travel, accommodation etc. is rising yearly.

Anyway, I think most of my predecessors agree with me when I say that once you've been the International President you know what you should have done and not before. Travelling from one AGM to another, from North to South and East to West and concentrating on the next event with speeches and other ceremonies, occupies most of the time.

During my trips I have also learned to value more and more the precious work of national IROs, having once been one of these too. In my mind the job of IRO/ILO should not only be an honorary position for the national past president but a real job for several years (2-4) and perhaps also for two people, one coming in and one already with good experience to guide the incoming IRO. I think Italy and Germany have a system somewhat like this and it seems to work well. So I would strongly recommend this to other countries as well and I am sure that this would help the International functions like disseminating information and co-operation between associations and countries in the future.

During my visits to each country, each association and each AGM I could not but wonder how much friendship there is in the 41 world. I hope you do not mind my not mentioning each country separately but allow me to convey to all of you that I love you all and would not have changed a second of my time as the International President.

As for my crew, the Board, I have to thank each and everyone for their support and for their input to work for 41International. Jean-Louis taking care of the countries I could not visit during my presidency (sorry for that), Denis writing everything down and giving me good tools to handle the meetings, David keeping me straight with the money and finally John with his vast expertise while supporting my doings. And I mustn't forget the managers - Jarkko the webmaster, Rajan as editor of The Hinge and Beat, the archivist.

When handing over to Jean-Louis, I know that 41 International and its member associations are in very good and active shape and I know that he'll take good care of them during his time.

So there's not much more to say but THANK YOU, THANK YOU and THANK YOU. And finally a thousand thanks to my wife Ansa for all the support and understanding.

Matti Hinttala
President, 41 INTERNATIONAL

Hallo Rajan

I do like the "hinges" on the sides of the new edition.

Bob Parton

Honorary Member, 41
INTERNATIONAL



Dear friend Rajan,

I have read and browsed through The Hinge Magazine with great pleasure. Its concept seems very accessible to me thanks to its wealth of pictures that speak through themselves about the great moments in our Clubs. It is not even necessary to speak advanced English to be able to comprehend its contents.

We were very happy to receive in time the set of The Hinge magazine for our event in Brasov, the HYM 41 International in October 2010.

The Hinge is a great tool for all the members of the Clubs to virtually take part in all the 41 events across the world. It is also a chance for Clubs everywhere to reflect their life and connect with the other members.

In conclusion, The Hinge binds us together in friendship and considering this, I wish you all success in the future in taking the project ahead!

Looking forward to the next issue,

Gheorghe Floroi
Romanian 41 Club-IRO

My dear friend Rajan,

I thank you very much for your efforts in promoting the Chestnut Festival through The Hinge, which we appreciate very much.

I hope you have fun in producing the new The Hinge and wish you much joy and good work with it.

Cheerio and yours in 41

Randolph Riedlinger
International President 2008/2009
President of Club 41 Meran-Merano, Italy

International Vice President welcomes 41ers to Toulouse

Dear Friends,

First of all, I am very glad to welcome you here in Toulouse for our Annual General Meeting.

Thank you for being here to share this important moment in the life of our Club. This moment is important, because it's always a great moment of conviviality, a great moment of reunion, but also the time for mobilisation and action. This year, 2011, coincides with the fiftieth Anniversary of the French 41 Club, created in Brest in 1961.

All the Old Tablers from France, called here together for their own AG, will be very honoured to meet you dear delegates and therefore they will certainly understand better the strength of our 41 INTERNATIONAL CLUB represented for the moment in twenty countries.

I hope that our Club will be able to go on to extend its influence wherever we can find men of quality, that is to say, true, sincere men, more interested in doing something than pretending to do it.

"Well done is always better than well said"

And for what: simply to reinforce these links of friendship and tolerance, these links of esteem, regard and respect, for more fellowship, for more solidarity.

I hope that, very soon, many of our friends, old Tablers all over the world, will see their Country accepted as a full member of our organization. I am thinking of countries like Monaco, Malta, Gibraltar and many others which are recognized by the United Nations but not yet by 41 INTERNATIONAL as full Members.

We must move on, we must advance, because even if we are on the right track, we will get run over if we just sit here. We must never forget that we are not the owners of our Club; we only have a temporary use of it. We have integrated it whereas our elders have created it. All of us will leave these positions of responsibility, and then we will have to be sure that we have improved our Club, that we have helped it to progress, and above all to be certain to have done our best to prevent it from declining.

We must do this job together. It's not a single man who can do these things; we must build, dear delegates and members of the Board, a well welded team which strives to remain united at all times.

As International President, I promise you that I'll do more than my best, with joy, because the most beautiful thing is the work we will be able to do, knowing that we will not take advantage for ourselves.

"Like one plants trees for the coming generations"

Yours in Friendship

Jean-Louis Boileau
Vice President, 41 INTERNATIONAL



About Jean-Louis

Jean-Louis Boileau lives in two cities - Bordeaux and Paris with his wife Pascale who has been with him for about 7 years. He has one daughter Elodie (33) and 3 sons, Greg (31), Maxime (30) & Nicolas (23), all from an earlier marriage. Elodie, his daughter, has 2 little daughters, Constance (5) and Berenice (3), so he says, "I'm also a grandfather!!!" Pascale too, has 2 sons, Abel (13) and Mathis (9) from her earlier marriage. Their children are often together with them.

Jean-Louis retired as a Bank Manger, while Pascale is a Human Resources Manager in a big Insurance Company in Paris. That is why they divide their time between Paris and Bordeaux.

Jean-Louis discovered Round Table when he was 32 in Club no. 45 of Libourne-Saint-Emilion. He was a Tabler till 1991 and although he lived in Bordeaux, he joined 41 Club no. 78 in 1992 in the same town of Libourne Saint-Emilion. Jean-Louis has been President of his Club, President of his Region and was National President in 2000-2001. And now, of course, he takes over as International President for 2011-12. A very good friend of his, Michel HUOT who belonged to the same Club, was International President in 1987-1988. Unfortunately he passed away too soon.

Jean-Louis's Team 2011-12

Immediate Past President : **Matti Hintala**

Vice President : **N S Krishna Kumar**

Incoming Vice President : **Werner Blessing**

For the rest of the team, there's no change. In the words of Jean-Louis: **"we don't change a winning team ..."**

Secretary : **Denis Beck**

Treasurer : **David Illingworth**

Webmaste : **Jarkko Allinkatu**

Archivist : **Beat Berger**

Editor : **Rajan Mittal**



Gheorghe Floroi Family, Staffan Aronsohn & Per Wigart



HYM 41 International - Councillors at work!!



Modern Dancing

HYM International & Romanian AGM, Brasov A Pictorial View



HYM 41 Banner



Bob Parton- Honorary Member 41 International



George Scripcaru, Mayor of Brasov addresses 41 International Board & Council



Italian 41 Club Delegation



OTS Members' banner exchange: Per Wigart & Gheorghe Floroi



International President Matti Hintalla & Finnish 41 National Board



AGM Romanian 41 Club



Romanian 41 Club - National Board - Hands Up



Golden Stomach's Friends

A Look at **Romanian 41ers**, Tablers & More

20th Anniversary of Round Table Romania (2010-October)



Duccio Arrigi, Gheorghe Floroi & George Petresacu



Past Presidents at Gala Dinner



Ionel Moldovan's Speech



Dancing at the Gala Dinner – Lucky Floroi!

Charter Meeting of 41 Club Craiova nr. 9 (2010 October)



Board - Incoming President's Speech



La la la la - mainile sus



Charter Meeting Participants



Gheorghe Floroi's Speech at the Gala Dinner

Ladies Circle no. 17 Sfantu Gheorghe (year 2011)



Charter Board Meeting



Carta - LC Sfantu Gheorghe no.17



Gheorghe Floroi 41 Club-IRO & Members of Ladies Circle no.17

Santa Claus visits the Quatalagor Children



Brasov 41 Members and children with Santa Claus



Santa Claus & Agora's members



Santa Claus with LC's children

From Parton to Germany

What a Way to Go!

Having moved across to Germany to take up my new life there in 1974, I encountered my first shock; they didn't speak in my native Birmingham accent and not only that, no English either. It was all Double-Dutch (or Deutsch) to me.

Secondly, they insisted that I drove on the wrong side of the bloody road, which by the way, was in fact quite dangerous to do, with too many cars coming at you, so I did not take any offense at this.

Then they would not empty my bloody dustbins, because after they were overflowing and I complained, no sorry, as a true English gentleman asked, "why not", they said "I had not got a stamp on them". (Everything in Germany has to have a stamp on it). "What," I said, "you've got to be mad. You mean they do not collect the rubbish if the stamp is missing, what about all the disease?" "Yes, that is correct," and "not only that, you have to buy a new set of stamps every year". So this I did and true as it goes, the rubbish was collected every week and everybody was happy.

Moving to Germany you must learn to master the following subjects 'Learn to live with Too-Muchness', 'Learn to shake hands and count backwards', 'Learn to eat twice as much', 'Just because it's German doesn't mean it always works'.

One American's view of the Germans is published in English by a publisher from Munich with a preface by Manfred Rommel (yes he is a relation, his son in fact) who is styled (rather than styling himself, we hope) in his translated title as the 'Lord Mayor of Stuttgart' in spite of the fact that his country became a republic in 1919. The author Bob Larson, who has been teaching and living in Germany for a very long time, is repeatedly referred to in Lord Mayor Rommel's preface as 'Dr. Larson', which in itself is part of the cultural difference he is writing about. Titles are very important in Germany.

In an "Effective Communication Course for Foreigners' Management in Deutschland" that I attended, one of the topics was "Let's stop all of this Handshaking". They included it as a sociological test item, you might say, just to get some feedback on how comfortable or uncomfortable the Ger-mans feel about one of their most characteristic conditioned reflexes. The handshake is a real die-hard in this country. Young people, who bring about the greatest changes in social mores, might someday do away with the formal "Sie" form of address entirely, but the handshake seems destined to be around forever in the Federal Repu-blic of Germany.

Only those course participants who had been to the UK and lived there for a time chose the topic because they had a basis for comparison. The others simply had never given any thought to it, since shaking hands every time they met relatives, friends, acquaintan-ces, and associates on

the job - and women shaking hands with other women - was as natural to them as round doorknobs are to British. Whenever the speech was given in one of our courses, the participants were a bit confused when saying goodbye to us at the end of the week, not knowing whether to stick the old paw out or not. They just didn't know how to handle it, if you'll pardon the pun.

Those speakers who did select the topic saw hygiene as the biggest reason to abolish all of the handshaking in their country. Others pointed out that it has become so over-worked in Germany that it is a physical cliché and has thus outlived its usefulness as a social custom, assuming that it ever had any to begin with.

My biggest objection to this custom dates back to a painful experience I had repeatedly when my German secretary's fiancé came to see her every day at unannoun-ced times. I didn't mind that part of it so much because he didn't stay very long. But as a polite young German, he always grabbed my hand upon his arrival and departure. He didn't shake it. He crushed it. It got so bad that I used to head for the back room when I heard him enter her office next to mine. I would hide there until he left. Hints to him and to her didn't do any good, so one day I took the matter into my own hands, as you will see in a moment. Recalling an old English technique from my schooldays, I put three big rings on my left hand before I went to the office. When Hardy (the nickname for Eber-hard) came by that day and gave me his hearty handshake, I held his hand as long as I could stand the pain and then suddenly slammed my bejewelled left fist as hard as I could into his knuckles. He not only quit coming to the office from that day forward, but also avoided me at receptions.

I prefer the Swabian thank you, which "Lord Mayor" Manfred Rommel defines as "a limp handshake".

I am reminded of a Hitler joke:

When the Lord saw what the terrorists were doing in Germany, he sent for Hitler from the depths of Hades. "I am giving you 24 hours to take care of those trouble-makers," He said to the Führer. "Take as many men as you need. If you do a good job, you can take a vacation up here for a week." The next day the Führer reported back with his arm in a cast. "Were they too much for you?" asked the Almighty. "That part was simple," Hitler replied. "I took care of it in five minutes." "What's with the cast?" "That came from all of the congratulatory handshaking afterwards."

It is a mystery to me how Germany could produce so many physicists, mathematics and engineering geniuses when the whole country counts backwards. I often won-dered how Albert Einstein could develop his special and general theories of relativity until I read them and disco-vered that most of the mathematical examples he used came from

a Dutchman, Henrik Antoon Lorentz, and a Frenchman, Armand Hyppolyte Louis Fizeau.

Counting backwards doesn't seem to be a handicap to the Germans (just listen to and watch how quickly the waitress or waiter totals up your bill), but it continues to confuse the hell out of me despite several decades of domicile in this country.

Especially telephone numbers. In typical German fashion, one answers the phone by giving your last name. It used to irritate my German wife during our courtship that I never answered with "Parton" whenever she called me on the phone. I explained to her that Brits, long the victims of aggressive sales tactics, usually don't do that. We don't like to identify ourselves to sales-men, perverts, housebreakers, and other junk callers.

I joined Round Table, or what the Germans call Round Table and I was told what I should do, and of course, what I should not do; everything was regimented, everything had its place. All talks and lectures had to be strictly formulated; light-hearted jokes were very much frowned upon. Obviously at functions it is not the accepted thing to play, whistle or wave your arms about to the "Dam-Busters" and/or "Rule Britannia" as you might well understand why.

Please do not misunderstand me. The Germans do enjoy jokes but, as they once told me, "We take our humour seriously"! However my favourite joke is to ask them what WW2 means and of course they always get it wrong; the correct meaning is "we won twice". Now as you can imagine, that really does not go down at all.

What creates the erroneous impression that the Germans are totally lacking in humour is not the quality of their jokes, but rather their reluctance to tease each other naturally and in public (not just in bitter, political satire in

their cabarets and carnival societies), to drop their dignity, let their hair down, and clown around the way we "Brits" do. As very serious people who want to be taken seriously, they are embarrassed when they see us horsing around or poking fun at each other, especially in public.

The German seeks thoroughness in any form of instruction, whereas we seem to seek out its entertainment value. ... Just watch an old English or American film on the third German TV programme and you will see what I mean. Before the film is shown, you will be given a mini-lecture on the history and significance of the movie or its stars and producer, and then told the storyline in sufficient detail to kill whatever suspense or interest it might have held for you.

Having reached the age of 40 - in those good old days we were thrown out of Round Table at 40, and incidentally 40 is still the throw-out-age in Germany - I had to move across to club 41 which is here called Old Tablers Germany (OTD). I became President of my Table OT46 Karlsruhe, joined the national executive as District President of District 9 in South Germany.

Here I was obviously too much of a menace so they promoted me sideways and upwards to National Vice-President of the German association. This was of course an honour to me as I was the first foreigner they had ever promoted to Vice-President which was of course President Elect. I became the first foreigner as a West Midlander to become National German President of OTD in 2005, Jawohl! And in my year as President, and this has been continued by every German President since, I sent a personal letter to every single Tabler, on his reaching his 40th Birthday, sending Club 41 good wishes and inviting him to join OTD. The success in the new member growth since then in OTD has been astonishing.

Bob Parton
Honorary Member, 41 INTERNATIONAL



Bob's Hometown Parton



You have been warned!

Parton is a village situated on the banks of the River Dee in Dumfries and Galloway, Scotland.

Prominent mathematical physicist James Clerk Maxwell lived at the nearby Glenlair House. He was famous for developing formulae governing electricity and magnetism as well as the Maxwell distribution in the kinetic theory of gases. Maxwell is buried under the family gravestone in the churchyard of Parton Kirk and a plate on the wall of the church commemorates him.

Parton railway station was part of the Portpatrick line, but closed in 1965.

Wild South Tour – Feb 12 To 27 2011

South Island, New Zealand

This was originally planned for Kiwis only, but their website message was picked up further abroad. Two eleven seater self drive minibuses were rented; our party of 22 comprised Tour Leaders Derek and Tina Johns, nine other New Zealanders, two Tasmanians and nine from GB & Ireland. We were royally home hosted wherever there was a Club on eight of the fifteen nights, and we experienced truly wonderful hospitality throughout.

The Christchurch Club turned up in force to welcome us all at a 'meet and greet' on the Friday evening prior to our departure, and again as we set off on Day 1 of the tour. The previous day Derek had taken me to look around Christchurch centre – little were we to know what would happen ten days later. Thankfully none of our group or their families was directly affected by this terrible tragedy.

I began writing intending to provide a day-by-day account but I quickly realised the resulting article would be far too big for publication. In attempting to describe this experience one runs out of superlatives – the scenery, the

hospitality, the fun and fellowship we all had were second to none. We did things regular tourists cannot easily do, such as a 4x4 safari through the Nevis Valley, and two boat trips in stunning Fjordland, one of them overnight, and another off Stewart Island where we caught enough blue cod for a terrific barbecue for us all.

Many thanks to all the Kiwi hosts and members and of course to Derek and Tina who worked tirelessly to make sure the whole trip was hitch free. It really was an unforgettable experience.

If you have the good fortune to visit New Zealand, let the Kiwi 41ers know. You will be delighted by their welcome.

The hinges of friendship are definitely not rusting in New Zealand!

Andy Waite
International Officer
Great Britain & Ireland



Crossing the Nevis Valley by 4x4



The Mirror Lakes



Milford Sound



Doubtful Sound



Pointing out Mount Cook in the distance



1912 Steam Engine - Allan Thompson steering



Presenting a banner to Trevor Oliver of Invercargill of the mainland



The group by the Tuatara in Invercargill



'Land's End' - most southerly point



Catching dinner off Stewart Island



Wild South Group - Setting off on the second day

Feb 22 2011 - Disaster in New Zealand - Christchurch Quakes

A report by Derek & Tina Johns just after the devastating earthquake

We arrived home late on Sunday (Feb 28) evening from our wonderful tour of the South with an English couple whose hotel in Christchurch was no longer available; we managed to get flights out for most of the rest that afternoon but were prepared to have them all here if necessary. Took Tim & Judy back to the airport yesterday and then had another couple from Wellington here to stay last night.

Our home is just as we left it, all our family are safe and well, all those who were with us on the tour have been able to contact their families and found them all unharmed although several in Christchurch have had their homes even more damaged than before

We are feeling almost guilty as we were on a boat at Stewart Island when this devastation hit poor old Christchurch, about as far south as we could be so never felt anything and first heard from our engineer son in Auckland when he called to tell us the news.

Since then communications have been rather difficult but most of us have been able to text friends and family.

Our relief from the lack of deaths back in September now shattered and turned to grief with 148 confirmed dead and 200+ missing, our hearts and prayers go out to those whose lives have been changed forever.

Dear old Christchurch and Lyttelton did not deserve to be hit so hard once more. So many of our heritage buildings that we thought were saved from the September quake by our high standards of earthquake designs/protectations are now in rubble and the shakes continue although we are not feeling them here in Amberley, 50kms from Christchurch.

We have been in touch with some of the Christchurch 41ers and offered beds, showers, toilets but most are ok and are scared to leave their possessions in ununlockable houses, as there now appears to be a bit of looting going on; my thoughts are - these lowlifes deserve to be shot.

Police and Armed forces are doing all they can and help in every way is flowing into the city. At this stage I can't tell you what needs there are but will keep in touch. Once again there is a great deal of support from government, people are looking after one another and your support is priceless, thank you all once more.

To arrive home here with all intact and all your messages of goodwill is unreal, I wish it were just a dream and I must admit there has been a tear in my eyes as I'm writing this.

Derek Johns
IRO, New Zealand



Barbadoes Cathedral: before



Barbadoes Cathedral: after



The Christchurch Quake

Friendship & Networking

Rajan Interacts with Niiraj Shah – Head - BNI India

I walked into the BNI (Business Network International) office a little late. The meeting had been fixed for 12 noon, yet Mumbai's notorious traffic stopped me in my tracks/wheels on a leisurely Monday morning. Leisurely Monday – you may well ask. For me any day is leisurely, lazy. But Niiraj Shah too didn't seem to be in too much of a hurry. I had promised Niiraj a working lunch. It did not work out. I took a rain cheque on that with Niiraj.

Even before I could shoot the first question, Niiraj had gone into the mode without offering me a glass of water. Eventually I got it, thanks to Twinkle Shah, Niiraj's woman Friday. With my throat taken care of by water (better stuff not being available in the office), I embarked on my one to one with Niiraj.

Rajan (clearing my throat): So, what do you see as the synergies between 41 and BNI?

Niiraj (all serious and what have you): BNI is a teaching/training organization – like Round Table. It teaches you how to meet people, do business, and make an impact. Rotary / Jaycees / Lions / Round Table are social service organisations. BNI is a similar net working organisation focused on business. There are similar set ups like Commerce Clubs / Trade associations, religious set ups like church and temple units, women's organisations like Inner Wheel, Ladies' Circle and Tangent.

The Mission of BNI is to help members increase their business through a structured, positive, and professional "word-of-mouth" programme that enables them to develop long-term meaningful relationships with quality business professionals. BNI only allows one person from each trade or profession to be part of a BNI Chapter.

Rajan: In what countries are you presently, where 41 Clubs are and where would you like to go with BNI?

Niiraj: We are in most of the countries that 41 is in. However, we are open to other cities in the country where we have a presence. And we are open to new countries too. Please check our website www.bni.com to know the presence of BNI.

Rajan: Well, check www.41international.org, the website of 41International too and see how we in BNI and 41 can work together for mutual benefit – to make it a win-win situation.

I walked out an hour later, thrilled with having done my first real interview in life.

Happy friendship and net working, I thought to myself.

Rajan
Editor, The Hinge

About Niiraj Shah:



Niiraj R Shah is the Co-National Director for Business Network International (BNI) in India, and BNI Director of Business Affairs for Australasia, Middle East & Africa. BNI is the world's largest business networking organisation. Founded in 1985, the organisation has over 5,000 chapters throughout every populated continent of the world. Last year alone BNI generated 6.5 million referrals resulting in US\$2.8 billion dollars worth of business for its members.

He is a contributing author to the Wall Street Journal Business Best Seller "Masters of Success" and also wrote: "The Quest of the Phoenix – a powerful new way to grieve" in 2002. He is a regular columnist and business networking expert for WEB18 and Business Gyan magazine. He is also a social media expert, particularly on how to use both online and offline effectively.

Through BNI, Niiraj is helping thousands of Indian entrepreneurs to grow their businesses through a structured system of referrals.

Should Club 41 International Try To Help Human Beings

Less Fortunate Than Ourselves?

That's a question we should all be asking ourselves before we come to the AGM in Toulouse. Great Britain and Ireland have put forward a resolution that 'member Associations seek ways in which together, we can provide humanitarian aid to those people who have been stricken by natural disaster'.

We briefly discussed it in Brasov and it was agreed to bring it to the AGM. A number of countries have already expressed support for the resolution in the belief that we in 41 Club can't turn our backs on fellow human beings who are suffering. If we agree to work together we can make a big difference to the plight of those who are suffering through no fault of their own.

There are many - even in Great Britain - who say that 41 Club does not do that kind of thing - that we are simply a fellowship organisation: we come together to have a good time. Speaking very personally as an individual 41 Club member, I could not 'eat, drink and be merry' and have a good time if I knew that some people - somewhere in the world - were suffering because of famine, or flood or earthquake or drought. I do not want to try and appease my conscience by saying - Rotary International or Lions International will look after them. I can't turn my back on those who desperately need help.

In Great Britain and Ireland there are many clubs who are getting involved in what we call 'community service' - trying to help people by raising money for charitable organisations or by actually doing some work to help other people. I know of one club in England where members rode bicycles the full length of Britain to raise £25,000 to help those suffering from cancer in their city. I know of another club where members are rebuilding a garden in a hospital so that patients can enjoy being outside in a place of peace and beauty. I know of another club that for the last 15 years or so has been raising money to help children in a school in southern India. Over the last 2 years, our National Presidential charity appeals have raised nearly half a million pounds for two very worthy national charities.

I have recently been reading about the early days of Round Table in a book which some of you will know - 'Round Table - the first 25 years' by John Creasy. In it, there is a chapter which describes the beginning of 41 Club in Britain. It tells of the ambition of our founders to create an organisation which provided opportunities for continuing fellowship for those who had been members of Round Table. But there was something else! There was also an ambition to work alongside Round Table to help build 'a better and kindlier world'. That is a very important aim and it is one that we have

largely forgotten.....to help build 'a better and kindlier world'.

The National Board of 41 Club Great Britain and Ireland feels that it is now time to look at how we might work with our international friends in 41 Club so that together, we might help build that 'better and kindlier world'.



In our discussions with friends in France and Germany and after considering opportunities that are open to us, we are going to suggest that we encourage member Associations and individual clubs within our Associations, to contribute to the 'Shelter Box' scheme [see shelterbox.org].

The advantages in doing this are that [i] Associations can contribute to the scheme as much or as little as they like, [ii] the management of the scheme is undertaken by the professionals who have been operating Shelter Box for some years, [iii] the decision as to when and where Shelter Boxes will be deployed is taken by the managers of the scheme and not us and finally, [iv] the scheme is well respected around the world and is often the first to be on the scene of a disaster before other relief organisations.

We hope that we shall have representatives of Shelter Box at the AGM in Toulouse so that they can show us what they do and help us to understand how we might get involved so that together, we can make a decision based on factual information.

I sincerely hope that there will be many of us who feel that we want to do what we can for our fellow human beings who are suffering through being caught up in some dreadful natural disaster somewhere in the world.

Finally let me end with a prayer. It is the prayer we say in our 41 Club meetings in Great Britain just before we have a meal. 'Lord, as we enjoy this food and fellowship, may we be ever mindful of those less fortunate' Amen.

For me - we not only have to pray for the suffering and those less fortunate - we also have to DO something!

Malcolm Lockey

National President, 41 Club Great Britain and Ireland

What is YAP?

So, what is the YAP? This is probably the first question asked by the 13 young people who left Europe last summer, for a month in India. On their return, their question was answered. The YAP (Young Ambassador Program) is FUN!

Established over 20 years ago, the project allows youngsters of 41 Club members in Europe, India and South Africa to visit countries completely different to their own under first-rate conditions and all for a very reasonable fee. The young Europeans have the choice of 3 trips: South Africa and Northern or Southern India.



On leaving behind their homeland for one of the three host countries, the participants in the YAP, aged between 18 & 25, are guaranteed a memorable experience full of encounters, surprises and discoveries. Together with a fellow countryman/woman, each participant is a guest of a member of the local 41 Club. The Young Ambassador's stay is meticulously planned, according to availability, in order to make the trip as interesting as possible. The YAP stays in a town for a few days and is welcomed by the local Round Table or 41 Club. The atmosphere is that of a festival and the YAP experiences the culture of the local area first hand before leaving for another town and more adventures.

This is the journey undertaken last summer by 13 young Europeans who had opted for the YAP in Northern India; 6 French, 3 Belgians, 3 Austrians and a German. From Delhi on 15th July to Calcutta on 15th August, the young explorers - travelling via Hyderabad - covered over 3,000 km and visited more than 10 different towns & villages. It was FUN!

What should one expect from this summer's trip? Exotica: elephant rides and snake charmers. Culture: museum visits and historical monuments including the indisputable Taj Mahal. Relaxation: luxury hotels with dream swimming pools and above all - one big party!!! And of course: laughter along the way and tears on leaving.

In short, the YAP is a unique opportunity not to be missed by any child of a 41 Club member, to whom, at very little expense, doors to new cultures and a taste of adventure are opened.

Don't forget that journeys make our youth!

Théo Dieupart

Son of Philippe Dieupart – 41 club Sallanches Mont-Blanc - France



Whisky Tasting & Tangent Beauties at HYM Sweden

I arrived on Friday afternoon at Stockholm Arlanda airport and Per Wigart, the President, asked me to take a taxi from the airport to Uppsala. I realised during the weekend that most delegates were flying and taxiing as that seems the way they travel in Sweden, because of the weather conditions and the huge distances between



towns. I stayed in the same hotel as the Board and a few others but most people were staying in the town. There were about 60 at the welcome do in the bar/hotel in Uppsala. This venue is owned by a 41er who also owns the hotel where I stayed. Apart from the OT boys who had been in Finland and Romania, I renewed acquaintances with Peter Dinehag and Hans whom I had met at the RTI AGM in Holland last year.

On Saturday morning, Per and the Board had a meeting from 09h00 to 11h00 and I then joined them for the HYM. There was plenty of beer at the Meeting during which Bertil Wahlström was awarded honorary membership. He was the first President of OT Sweden. I brought greetings from 41 INTERNATIONAL, read Matti's emails prior to the weekend and thanked them all for their hospitality. A Swedish whisky tasting followed

the HYM.

The Gala Dinner was attended by about 80 people with an equal number of boys and girls. Many of the Old Tablers are divorced and there were many unaccompanied Tangent members there. They are so young, lovely and lively! Easily, young enough to be my daughters.

I took a taxi to the airport on Sunday morning. When the flight arrived from London to take me back to the UK, Tom Jones the singer was the first to disembark. Perhaps I should have asked him if he knew the leading Finnish tenor, Mr Matti Hinttala.

The OT AGM is still planned for 4 June 2011 and they will probably send an Area representative to fly the flag at the International AGM. They have about 10 Areas, each with 35 to 60 members. They are a lively bunch as I am sure you know and they do like their incredibly expensive booze. I joined in to an extent but could not countenance drinking until 4 o'clock in the morning! Their AGM will again be OT, RT, LC and Tangent with about 1,000 there.

I am glad I went. I was the only visitor apart from a lad from near London who has some RT number tie-up with the 41Club in Stockholm. Thank you for allowing me to represent you and 41 INTERNATIONAL.

John Bellwood

Immediate Past President 41 INTERNATIONAL and Extension Officer

You know you are 40 when

- Watching a nature documentary sounds so much more enticing than a night on the town.
- At your check ups, the doctor has begun to ask if you're sexually active.
- Someone offers you a seat on the bus. And you don't refuse.
- You expect your breakfast cereal to cure you, not entertain you.
- You give away your Hush Puppies, realising that they now look grandparently instead of cool.

Bob



PROGRAMMA

Giovedì 13 Ottobre/ Thursday 13 October

- 14h00: "Riva degli Etruschi" – accoglienza e registrazione delle Delegazioni/check-in and registrations
- 20h00: "Riva degli Etruschi" – cena a base di pesce - Welcome Party/seafood dinner – Welcome Party

Venerdì 14 Ottobre/ Friday 14 October

- 09h30: "Riva degli Etruschi" - accoglienza e ritrovo per partire alla volta di una delle escursioni prenotate / meeting and departure for excursions booked
- 20h00: "Riva degli Etruschi" – Festival dei Club 41 italiani/Festival of Italian Club41

Sabato 15 Ottobre/ Saturday 15 October

- 09h30: lavori/works INTERNATIONAL HALF YEAR MEETING 2011
- 09h30: per i non addetti ai lavori/ for non-experts - "Riva degli Etruschi" ritrovo per partire alla volta di una delle escursioni prenotate/ meeting and departure for excursions booked
- 18h30: Mariva - Banner Change
- 20h00: serata di gala/Galà

Domenica 16 Ottobre/Sunday 16 October

- 11h00: farewell

PREZZI DELLA MANIFESTAZIONE

(a persona/price per person)

Programma intero dal venerdì alla domenica - Full programme from Friday to Sunday

La quota comprende:

due pernottamenti, cena del venerdì, pranzo e galà del sabato, farewell della domenica mattina
The price include: two nights, Friday dinner, lunch and galà on Saturday, Sunday morning farewell

a partire da / from Euro 240.00

Ogni pernottamento aggiuntivo in BB a notte/ Additional night in BB – a partire da Euro 70.00

Pernottamento in camera doppia a notte/ Additional night in HB - a partire da Euro 90.00

Ogni pranzo o cena aggiuntivi/ Additional lunch or dinner - a partire da Euro 30.00

Soggiorni in villetta/Residence – holiday stay in villas/Residence – prezzi a settimana/price per week

Prezzi, tipologia di sistemazione e descrizioni sulla scheda in allegato

Prices, descriptions and accomodation categories on the form attached

Escursioni / Excursions

Volterra – S. Gimignano

Siena - Monteriggioni

Firenze

Pisa – Lucca

Bolgheri – Populonia – Massa Marittima

Isola d'Elba

Roma (minimo due giorni)

Euro 50.00

Euro 50.00

Euro 50.00

Euro 50.00

Euro 50.00

Euro 50.00

Euro 190.00

COME RAGGIUNGERCI:

Auto:

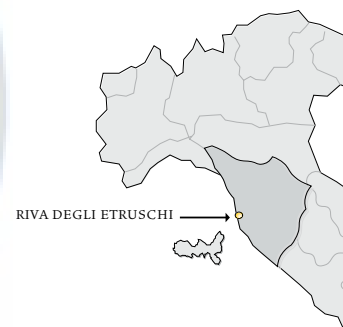
- Da Nord: A12 Genova-Roma Uscita Rosignano Marittimo - SS1 Aurelia direzione Roma, Uscita San Vincenzo Nord - seguire per Piombino;
- Da Sud: A12 Roma-Civitavecchia - SS1 Aurelia direzione Livorno, uscita Vincenzo sud, seguire per centro città e poi le indicazioni per Piombino.

Ferrovia:

Genova/Pisa - Roma, Stazione di San Vincenzo a 3km, Stazione di Campiglia Marittima a 10km (Intercity).

Aereo:

Aeroporto di Pisa a 80km.



RIVA DEGLI ETRUSCHI



Convenor: Duccio Arrighi - (ducc)

LOCATION: VIA DELLA PRINCIPESSA 12
TEL. +39 0565 701720 | FAX +39 0565 701721
www.lazziworld.com | sanz

HOW TO GET THERE:

By Car

- From the North: A12 Genoa-Rome, exit Rosignano Marittimo – SS1 Aurelia towards Rome, exit San Vincenzo North – follow for Piombino;
- From the South: A12 Rome-Civitavecchia – SS1 Aurelia towards Livorno, exit San Vincenzo South – follow for San Vincenzo City and then Piombino;

By train:

Genoa/Pisa-Rome,
Station of San Vincenzo at 3km,
Station of Campiglia Marittima at 10km
(Intercity stop);

By airplane:

Shuttle: Pick up from Airport Pisa at 80 km.

41 International



International Half Year Meeting 2011

COSTA ETRUSCA - ETRUSCAN COAST - COTE DES ETRUSQUES - TOSCANA - ITALY

14 . 15 . 16 OTTOBRE 2011



club 41
CASTIGLIONCELLO
COSTA ETRUSCA

CONVENOR
Duccio Arrighi
ducarrighi@tiscali.it

 *Riva degli Etruschi*
HOTEL WELLNESS RESORT
SAN VINCENZO (LI)

www.club41italia.org

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vincenzo@lazziworld.com

In memory of Kishore Shahani

Another good friend has gone to join the reception committee to receive us when we go up.

Kishore was a great friend and his biggest asset was his smile and that he was never flustered, irrespective of the situation. He was from Chennai Mylapore Round Table no 3, a 41er of Club No. 14, Past President of 41ers Club and a very distinguished member of the Lodge St. George, a Masonic institution, with membership only for tablers - past and present.



I had nick named him Swamyji, after seeing his great change to religion, conducting discourses and bhajans and yet enjoying tabling etc. He practiced Yoga and believed in Siddha Vaidya, Ayurveda and Naturopathy. He did a great job as the Chairman of the Round Table Foundation and I enjoyed serving with him. He had ample time for Fellowship and, as Master of Ceremonies, rattled of jokes and endeared people with his warm and captivating smile.

We are fortunate to have known and enjoyed the camaraderie of this man who left our midst after an illness that he fought so bravely - the one and only Kishore Shahani.

In 1989, he was in Kodaikanal for a summer holiday and, along with R.V.Rajan, we met to sort out an urgent problem. Gorur Sham Murthy had got the 41 International, at the AGM in UK, to agree to have an Indian as the 41 International President in 1991 and they wanted a name. Rajan and I agreed that Kishore was our best bet. Kishore, in all humility said that his job required him to travel extensively but may be, in 2 years this would get sorted out. In the meanwhile, he suggested we send my name, which could be changed to his later. So, my name was sent but with a clear understanding that if I presided, he would be my secretary.

We took over in Trieste and the first thing we did was to build a personal rapport with all countries including England. John Pendlebury adopted him as his godson and Geoff Bond, also from UK, was his best friend. Kishore covered southern Europe with Sunita and I did north.

We met in Switzerland for one of the best organised pre tour 41 AGMs. During these visits we pushed the idea of YAPS, which has become the cornerstone of the 41 movement in recent times. If I am called the father he was the mother of YAPS. The AGM in Madras in April 1992 was a great success, with 72 foreign delegates and 150 from India. Such was his popularity and effort to organise mass tours to augment resources.

Whenever I had a problem with any country, I just let him handle it. He was a great source of support for the 41 movement in India and the best way to remember him would be to ensure the success of the YAP programme and remember his Cheshire like smile to wipe away our troubles.

We will always remember him as a great 41er who gave unstinting support to the Club and its members.

He has contributed tremendously as a Chairman to the Round Table Foundation. His clear vision and spontaneous support has always been appreciated by the members. His ability to add value to concepts and innovations in the movement made many seniors seek him out.

He was a loving and caring husband to Sunita. He doted on his son Amit and daughter Divya. The light of his life were his grandchildren on their visits in Chennai or USA.

We will miss him.

Indu Chandhok

Past President, 41 INTERNATIONAL
With inputs from G.K. Ramanna
Past President, Assn. of 41 Clubs in India

WHAT A PITY KULULA DOESN'T FLY INTERNATIONALLY - WE SHOULD SUPPORT THEM IF ONLY FOR THEIR HUMOUR - SO TYPICALLY SOUTH AFRICAN.

Kulula is an Airline with head office situated in Johannesburg.

Kulula airline attendants make an effort to make the in-flight "safety lecture" and announcements a bit more entertaining. Here are some real examples that have been heard or reported:

- As the plane landed and was coming to a stop at Durban Airport, a lone voice came over the loudspeaker: "Whoa, big fella. WHOA!"
- "In the event of a sudden loss of cabin pressure, masks will descend from the ceiling. Stop screaming, grab the mask, and pull it over your face. If you have a small child travelling with you, secure your mask before assisting with theirs. If you are travelling with more than one small child, pick your favourite."
- "Your seats cushions can be used for flotation; and in the event of an emergency water landing, please paddle to shore and take them with our compliments."
- "As you exit the plane, make sure to gather all of your belongings. Anything left behind will be distributed evenly among the flight attendants. Please do not leave children or spouses."
- And from the pilot during his welcome message: "Kulula Airlines is pleased to announce that we have some of the best flight attendants in the industry. Unfortunately, none of them are on this flight!"
- On Kulula flight 255 just after a very hard landing in Cape Town, the flight attendant came on the intercom and said, "That was quite a bump and I know what y'all are thinking. I'm here to tell you it wasn't the airline's fault, it wasn't the pilot's fault, and it wasn't the flight attendant's fault. It was the asphalt."
- After a real crusher of a landing in Johannesburg, the attendant came on with, "Ladies and Gentlemen, please remain in your seats until Captain Crash and the Crew have brought the aircraft to a screeching halt against the gate. And, once the tire smoke has cleared and the warning bells are silenced, we will open the door and you can pick your way through the wreckage to the terminal."
- Part of a flight attendant's arrival announcement: "We'd like to thank you folks for flying with us today. And, the next time you get the insane urge to go blasting through the skies in a pressurized metal tube, we hope you'll think of Kulula Airways."

Indian Past Presidents' Retreat at Punnamada

In all my travels to 41 Clubs throughout the globe, I believe that there is nothing quite like the Past Presidents' Retreat of the Association of 41 Clubs of India. It happens every year, immediately after the AGM. We were invited to join last year after the 2009 AGM in Calcutta but decided to see the sights of Agra, Jaipur, Delhi, the Taj Mahal, ancient forts and palaces as it was my first visit to the amazing country of India.

No such folly was countenanced this year. We were privileged to again be invited to join the Past Presidents' Meet after the AGM in Cochin. Also joining the Past Presidents and their wives were Denis and Josiane Beck, Rémy and Françoise Senicourt (France), HaDe and Elke Gesch with Sebastian, Holger Peise, Engelbert and Monika Friedsam (Germany). Our Indian hosts welcomed us on two mini-buses from the Ramada Hotel in Cochin where the brunch had been held on the Sunday morning. The French and the Germans were classed as European and the British as – British!

Two suitcases became dislodged from the roof of the second mini-bus and landed on the road as we journeyed to Punnamada Resort near Alleppey in the Region of Kerala (God's Own Country), in the south west of India. Luckily the decrease in weight was noticed by the passengers and the delinquent baggage recovered. (It just so happens that the two suitcases were the largest and heaviest of them all – they sported the name 'Gesch' as HaDe and Elke continued their 41 Club adventure which had started in Johannesburg, to Polokwane, thence to Kruger and Mozambique, over to Cochin via Dubai and now on their way to Punnamada).



Monday morning after breakfast saw the navigation of part of the lake in two houseboats (we were a party of over thirty – actually some of us were over 70!) where Past International President Indu served 'elevenses' on one boat and Immediate Past President Pratheep was the willing host on the other. Pratheep was the cellar man for the Meet and consequently had most of the refreshments on his boat. Rémy and Françoise were however very popular on the other boat when they pulled from their apparel, as if from a conjuror's hat, some wine of St Emilion. It was most acceptable.

Many of us took to the pool in the afternoon and engaged in a game of water polo before cocktails prior to dinner in the evening. Why we put on our own cabaret that evening I do not know: perhaps it is the custom of the PP Meet. But the evening was true 41 Club entertainment and included a rendition of Doh Ray Me from Sound of Music (Austria?) by India, songs from France, Germany and India, 'There'll always be an England' from Great Britain, folk dancing from the French (he could not walk the next day – 'J'ai mal au genou' [I have a bad knee]) and the New Zealand Haka, the lead performer being supported by two wannabe front-row forwards. What a breeze, what talent, what amusement!

We all dispersed after lunch the next day, some heading for the railway station, the IPP driving home with a boot considerably emptier than when he arrived, some back to Cochin to stay a little longer and others heading for Cochin airport for the journey home now rather than later

The new President was also there, at the start of his year, and we wished Balbir all the very best for the year ahead. We Brits and Europeans were privileged to be allowed to join the Past Presidents and their wives for their special Meeting. Thank you for your kindness, for your humour and for your conviviality. With special thanks to Sameer, who kept us all under control-ish.

God bless.

John Bellwood

Immediate Past President of 41 INTERNATIONAL
mail@johnbellwood.com



Afternoon tea was taken on arrival (there was something rather British about this institution) but then our hosts prepared for dinner with their own version of Indian tea, to be found not in a tea bag but in a glass container. We were pleased to join them. The evening was memorable also for the most violent thunderstorm which topped up the vast lake (about 40 kms in length) by the side of which Punnamada Resort is located.

AGORA CLUB AND TANGENT

AN INTERNATIONAL STORY

Dear friends,

Thinking about this article and how to convey to you all the essence of what Agora Club International stands for today, takes me back to a moment in October 2010 that epitomizes it all for me: It was at the welcome desk of the Agora Club International Conference in Tallinn/Estonia where a group of ladies circled together and introduced themselves.

In this group was myself, Nikkie from Agora Club (AC) South Africa, Yifat from AC Israel, Elisabeth from Tangent Germany, Donata from AC Italy, Dora from AC Romania, Jutta from Tangent Germany, Nicole from AC Switzerland, Micheline from AC France and Veerle from AC Belgium. After introducing ourselves we looked at each other and all felt the same...it was a moment that sent shivers down our spines, because we all sensed the uniqueness of that moment.

This is what the Agora and Tangent merging is all about:



finding friends again from way back when we were in Circle – across borders – across countries – across clubs.

Indeed it was one of the biggest achievements of Agora Club International last year to welcome Tangent on board.

Our incoming ACI President is Elisabeth from Tangent Germany, proving without a doubt that this merger does work, and has proven to be a healthy development for the future.

Agora Club and Tangent together form a dynamic and energetic base where past circlers and friends will be able to keep on meeting and nourishing their international friendships.

For all of us, for all past circlers and friends: Open your arms for changes, but don't lose your identity.

Nikkie Grewar

President Agora Club International



ACI Board 2010-11, Bus Tour Tallinn
Nicole Rüeger ACI T, Nikkie Grewar ACI P,
Danielle Gardin ACI PP, Elisabeth Hiller ACI VP,
Veerle de Jonge ACI S



A Cold ACI Board!

TANGENT INDIA.....SMALL STEPS

On 2nd April, 2011 India took a giant step, in cricketing history at least. We won the World Cup. On the same day in the evening Tangent India also took 2 steps forward.



The National Association of Tangent clubs in India known as "Tangent India" was formed in 2006. We are still in our infancy and till March there were 6 clubs with approx 80 members. On Saturday 2nd April two new clubs were chartered simultaneously in Kolkata [Calcutta] strengthening our organization by more than 20 members. As National President and I happen to live here too, it was my proud privilege to hand over the Charter certificates in a dignified yet informal ceremony.

These two clubs have put into practice what Tangent stands for...."Continued Friendship"... a motto shared by Tangent Clubs all over the world. Not only was this Extension [and membership is the absolute need of the hour for us] but they reached out to old friends, Round Table wives with whom we had lost touch and to 41 wives whose husbands were our dear friends and now sadly no more. Most importantly they, specifically Club 9, have brought in young 41 wives, a group much needed for their energy and enthusiasm for life. Without younger members joining what can the future hold for any organisation?

Today with new clubs chartering and some others seriously planning to in the near future, Tangent India is active and progressing. I hope RT\41 wives especially Past Circlers will now see that Tangent India is for them. We value our old friends and we want our relationship to continue, to last for a lifetime. Tangent benefits everyone.

Though Tangent is not an international body as yet, we at Tangent India while extending and consolidating our own community here, are in the happy process of strengthening our ties with Tangent GB. Excellent progress has been made in the past one year by my predecessor and me through online communication with UK. Our NAGM details are featured on the International page in their Website...www.tangent-clubs.org.

Our Tangent India NAGM is to be held in New Delhi on 17th Sept, 2011. This will only be our 3rd AGM. I extend to all Tangent members my invitation to please come to India, attend our meeting, and support us in our steps forward. I shall look forward to welcoming many of you and promise you a great time!



Reeti Roy
President, Tangent India



Club No. 7 – All in Blue



White & Bright – Club No. 9



Double Charter Ceremony



Reeti Roy Exchanges Banners with Balbir Varma, President, 41Clubs India

CHESTNUT FESTIVAL 2010



Thursday
"Italian night"



Beside the little
lake of the Winery
Tiefenbrunner



Wine tasting in the
Winery Tiefenbrunner



Lunch in the Winery
Tiefenbrunner - the
English guests



The "Get Together"
on Friday Evening

The Chestnut Festival 2010 took place between 04 and 06 November. It was a magic weekend with most wonderful weather. In the beginning of November you can find in Meran-Merano in the Southern Alps of Italy, blue skies, temperatures around 18° and the possibility of walking in beautiful natural surroundings with a shirt and light pullover.

During my International Presidency 2008/2009, I made a large number of International friends and this made it possible for me to invite many of these new friends to the traditional Chestnut Festival, which my Club 41 Meran-Merano organises each year. Similarly, in 2010 we welcomed several 41 V.I.P.s such as International Secretary Denis Beck from France, International Treasurer David Illingworth from Cyprus/Scotland, International Archivist Beat Berger from Switzerland, Past International Secretary Bob Parton, Gill Young and Zan Kelso from Tangent G.B. & Ireland, Agorá Meran-Merano Rosie Riedlinger, Rosmarie Molling, Elisabeth Schweigl and several present and past National Presidents, Secretaries and I.R.O.s and many others.

Many wonderful international friends from Great Britain & Ireland, France, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Cyprus and of course Italy joined us.

This year was special as we celebrated the 20th Chestnut Festival, so this time the programme began with an "Italian Evening" on Thursday, when we served only Italian food and wine to our guests together with the Italian way of life, joy and fun and a lot of dancing. About two thirds of our guests took part in this evening.

On Friday, a double-decker bus took us 50 km south to the Winery Tiefenbrunner, located in the midst of magic wine fields and most wonderful surroundings. During the drive, we had already had the good fortune to admire the most brilliant autumn colours in the wine fields and forests with brown, yellow, gold, green changing colours combined with the magic blue sky. On arrival, Mr. Tiefenbrunner Senior showed us around the Castle with paintings and figures of old South Tyrolean myth and legends and the magic garden with a nice pond, a little waterfall and a lovely pair of swans. After this we were given lessons in good wine tasting followed by a great meal of snacks with Tyrolean sausages, smoked bacon, cheese, olives, different kinds of bread and liver pâté. After having had much fun and joy we left in the direction of Meran-Merano

in the afternoon to arrive punctually for the "Get Together" evening in the Marlinger Hof Hotel. This was a marvellous evening where the rest of the registered guests joined in and got the opportunity to know each other, if they didn't know them already and then it was a great hallo and joy to meet.

The next day, we went on a pleasant hike in the magic autumn weather to the tourist village of Schenna, leaving from Castle Rametz. An easy 1 hour walk brought us to the Mausoleum of the Austrian Duke Johann from where we had an impressive view of Meran-Merano and its surroundings with the magic mountains around and the big wine and apple fields which showed us the most beautiful autumn colours. A lot of pictures were taken. In the nearby Schennenerhof we enjoyed our lunch, cherished with good white and red wine. Most of our guests were still fit and so we walked the "Three Castle Trail" which brought us to the final destination the Castle Rametz, where the Chestnut Festival was organised in a big Winery Hall, where our guests could taste the most wonderful traditional Tyrolean food with wines from the Castle Winery which ended with chestnuts roasted on the fire. Very soon, we were all participating in a big singing competition where each Nation sang its best wine songs. You can imagine all the fun, resulting also from the massive wine consumption of 130 bottles for 125 guests. This caused a big financial hole for our Club Treasurer, but it didn't matter, because it was important to make our guests feel good and experience a magic friendship combined with much joy and fun.

On Sunday we took our guests on a 150 km bus drive in the nearby area of Verona, where the Club 41 Verona organised the Olive Oil Festival where we experienced the process of Olive Oil production and also good food combined with olive oil and good local wines. But this was another story and feast.

This year the Chestnut Festival will be organised between 04 and 06 November 2011 here in Meran-Merano

I welcome you all, dear friends from Europe and the world, if you would like to spend a nice weekend in friendship and fun.

Randolph Riedlinger

International President 2008/2009

President of Club 41 Meran-Merano, Italy

E-mail: randolph@riedlinger.eu



The French Delegation presenting the Int'l AGM in Toulouse



The magic hikers after the Saturday walk



The "Three Castle Walk" on Saturday afternoon



The Fire-roasted Chestnuts



The German and Austrian guests have fun



The Swiss, Austrian and Cypriots have fun too

Bangalore Naughty 40s takes 41ing to Sri Lanka

Charter of Colombo Cosmos Club # 1

On 18th September 2010, the 1st Colombo 41ers club – ‘Colombo Cosmos Club # 1’ was chartered. From India we had our President – Pradeep, Area Chairman – Gopal, IRO – Jugnu, Girish, Ajit (From Delhi), Ali and Nithya. Except for the last two, the rest were accompanied by their spouses. Sri Lanka was represented by their Round Table President (we keep pronouncing his name wrong, so I will not make a mistake here), and their new club members (14 of them with 9 representations), with their new Chairman and Secretary – Dilip and Duleep. We landed in Colombo on Friday night and checked in straight into Hotel Cinnamon Grand. Our energetic boys and girls didn't want to waste any time and hit the bar straight in the middle of the night and kept it open till 3 am.

Saturday morning was earmarked for shopping and Dilip (CCC #1) joining for lunch with some of us. Evening was the charter nite with our boys and girls in their traditional Indian attire and looking smart. The venue was the fabulous colonial hotel – the ‘Galle Face Hotel’ by the beach. The meeting started at 8.30 pm with Jugnu as the Master of Ceremonies and our President Pradeep opening the meeting and handling all the formalities before the 1st 41ers club in Colombo was officially formed. Short Speeches from all followed and then it was time to hit the bar by the beach with some sumptuous food and some music. We wound up around midnight, and later some of us (not me) marched to the Casino, supposedly to make some money. Though they claimed that they didn't lose any money, their frustration was such that they barged into the room of an intelligent man blissfully asleep and woke him up at 4 am to drown their sorrows in his room over some drinks till 5 am.

Sunday was a shopping day (once again!) and everyone did that to their hearts' content or till their wallets permitted. The new club of Colombo had organised a dinner for us at the Jack Tree (a Thai restaurant owned by one of the members). The food and hospitality was good and we wound up by 11 pm, but our guys wanted to go to some casinos to recover the previous day's losses and gamble till 3 am and straight away head to the airport. Jugnu made some 6 figure earnings and the rest came back wiser. Yours truly decided to stay back in the room and catch up on some sleep as I was already wiser. We left for the airport at 4 am to catch our return flight to India after a whirlwind trip of fun.

Ok, Guys, now we have our Naughty 40 Banner flying in Colombo thanks to the efforts of Girish and Gopal and also support from all the other participants of the trip. Good Show to all. Gopal will send the pictures of the trip after he recoups from this trip.

Proud to be a part of this wonderful group.

Nithyanand C.K.

41 Club No. 116, Bangalore, India



Holiday Disaster – Beat Berger's Sister Monique involved in a Major Accident

8 of us 41ers went without wives to Mozambique in September 2010 for a 2 week holiday together. The Group included our President Matti Hinttala, John Hudson and Beat Berger both past International Presidents, SA President Arthur van der Schyff, Bob Parton, German IRO H.D. Gesch, Austrian IRO Andreas Dolp, and Past WOCO Chairman Adrian Lucas.

We went out on a Boat to do some deep sea fishing, but unfortunately Monique (Beat Berger's sister) was thrown into the air landing on her spine as the boat "took off" as it glided over a massive wave. The whole boat including its two propellers was out of the water and was in fact an uncontrollable missile at that moment.

We had great difficulties getting her to a hospital because we were on a beach only reachable over a rough rubble 7 km long drive. Eventually we got her through to Maputo 250 km away into the nearest Hospital.

From there Beat had organised a special Jet to pick her up from Maputo to take her straight back home to Zürich in Switzerland, where she was immediately operated.

Bob Parton

Honorary Member, 41 INTERNATIONAL

Beat Berger adds:

Everything has an end ... and so has our trip to RSA. We landed safe and sound last Sunday (September 26) in ZHR. It was raining and 6°C.

Monique is well. Last Friday the surgeons removed all the splinters and fixed her T-12 between T-11 and T-13. They succeeded to take all the splinters out of the core-channel without further damaging her nerves. So all looks well! On Sunday she had a cat-scan to double-check her spine and vertebral column.

On Saturday she sat-up for the first time under the supervision of her doctor. On Monday Monique was already standing on both her feet. Still feeling a bit wobbly and not being able to walk more than 1, 2 steps with a walking-aid, but she stood!

On Monday she underwent a second surgery. They operated additional side-fixtures on her vertebral column. Apparently her T-12 was badly shattered and needed additional fixings to become and remain stable. If all goes well, she will be leaving the hospital next Monday and be transferred to the rehabilitation clinic in Montana. Apparently it will take 6 – 9 months until Monique will have recovered 100%.

But the main thing is:

- Monique is following doctor's orders to the point and
- She is optimistic and very confident that all will end with a happy-end!

At this point Esther and I would like to thank all of you very much for your understanding, support and help during the difficult time after the accident in Mozambique. Very special and big thanks to Orrie who took excellent care of us until we could rejoin you, to Vanessa because she let Orrie be with us for all the time, to Adrian and Hansa because they accompanied Monique to the main street, John H. & Adrian for booking the Hotel in Maputo, Arthur and Bob who gave us good contacts in Maputo and Nelspruit, etc., etc., etc.!!! I sincerely hope that I haven't forgotten someone or something. If so, please excuse and accept my apologies!

Believe me, under such circumstances one is in need of good friends and all of you deserved a medal for being such wonderful friends!!!

Thank You For Your Wonderful Friendship And For All You Did! Thank You All!!

Beat G. Berger

Archivist, 41 INTERNATIONAL





**41 Clubs
MARINA
Mèlange**
INTERNATIONAL AGM, 2012
April 20, 21 & 22 - Chennai
INDIA

Indian Summer... Unlimited Entertainment

The month of April 2012, as mercury rises and headlines disappear, curtains will part to launch the International AGM of 41 Clubs. The grand convention has been loaded with a host of exciting events and interesting tours to make your trip worthy of every moment. The thoughtfully planned programme deftly blends in all the essential elements that reflect India and her rich tradition in prime glory.

The venue of the AGM is in Mamallapuram, Chennai - a 7th Century port city of Ancient India. Its masterly sculpted shore is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and is one of the most acclaimed tourist destinations of the world.

Marina Mèlange has been packed with many buzzing events and special attractions. There's a unique 'Street Bazaar' where you will get the best of Indian artifacts and souvenirs. That includes traditional silk sarees & materials, exotic scabbells & munnabs, vintage-inspired artifacts, heirloom & silver jewellery, traditional footwear, legendary art pieces, spices and much more. Even the cuisine has been handpicked and cooked by expert chefs. Just to ensure, the litiges of friendship never rusts.

For more information,
Log onto www.41international.net
or shoot an email to
Ajit Nair - ajitnair@vni.com
or
office@41clubsofindia.com






Programme :
APRIL 20, 21 & 22, CHENNAI.
 All Events are at the AGM venue - Radisson Temple Bay Beach Resort,
 Mammallapuram.

20th April (Friday)

- Registration Desk Opens at 9 am
- Trip to Shore Temple (Mammallapuram) at additional cost
- Informal Night - 6.00 pm
 Village theme to cover Indian tradition and culture

21st April (Saturday)

- AGM starts 8.30 am
- Ladies Programme - 10.00 am
- Lunch - 1.00 pm
- Fellowship - 6.30 pm
- President's Banquet - 7.00 pm
 (Delegates to be seated)

22nd April (Sunday)

- Farewell Brunch - 8.00 am onwards

Cost - ₹ 8000 (Indian Rupee) or equivalent for a single person



Pre-AGM & Post-AGM Tours

The Pre-AGM tour has been designed to let you explore the historical Delhi, Agra and Jaipur belt, while the Post-AGM tour takes you on a leisure trip via Kerala, Goa or Sri Lanka. With a proper mix of rejuvenation and real-time adventure, the trips are a welcome break from the daily grind.

2 Pre tours

North India - The Golden Triangle - Delhi, Agra, Jaipur & Ranthambhor (Tiger Reserve)

South India - God's own country - Kerala - with its lush green lands known for its ancient & traditional Ayurveda.

3 Post tours

Option - 1 : Tamilnadu (Madurai / Periyar) & Kerala backwaters

Option - 2 : Sunny beaches of Goa

Option - 3 : Sri Lanka

More details on costs, accommodation etc., on the website www.41international.net



41er Uday Kamat – As Remembered by his Son

To everyone who knew my father and to a few of you who did not know him well – I wanted to pen down a few thoughts and share what he meant to us.

He had a few traits which I wanted to highlight to all as a remembrance:

I. LAUGHTER: we were not allowed to be serious at home for too long. Low grades by Nandita or me, exam fever or even a failed business bid: we were always taught to look ahead, and learn to laugh.

II. HARDWORK: every time I feel unmotivated, all I have to remember is my father who would routinely wake up at 4 AM to start the day early and stay on top of his game. He would spend time teaching himself, reading, thinking of how to serve clients better.

III. SIMPLICITY: not the one to be even remotely flashy, he enjoyed a simple lifestyle. He dressed simply, seldom bought branded accessories, and firmly believed in bootstrapping even when he could afford finer things. He believed in “simple living & high thinking” and often gave examples of people who conducted themselves similarly.

IV. FAMILY & FRIENDS: He absolutely loved his family, extended family, and friends. He would get hurt if anyone was down for whatever reason. My mother often remarks that we’ve “won a lottery when it comes to family, friends and a support system” and I believe my father’s attitude has had a lot to do with it. He used to think about family and social service a lot before he thought of serving himself.

V. POSITIVE THINKING: he taught us not to dwell on failure too much, but to think ahead and move on. Even when he kept reading scam after scam in the papers, he used to remark that it is important to “do good and move on”. I sincerely hope that I can live up to his ideals and sense of duty.

VI. BELIEF: Not too ritualistic, he did spend a fair amount of time reading and believing in the existence of a superior force.

I will always remember him for important events like his buying my first cricket bat, encouraging me to read by buying me a ton of books, never making a fuss if I did not do well, ever ask me my grades or how much I scored while batting as long as I enjoyed the game and gave it a good shot. Most importantly, I’ll always remember him for the last three words he told me before I left for my Masters, which is probably the best instruction, I’ve been handed: Make It Big

I request everyone to not grieve with heavy hearts, but have fond memories – as that is what he would have liked.

Kuldip, RT 26, Mumbai

Son of Uday Kamat

41 Club No. 3, Mumbai, India



Besides being an active Tabler and 41er with 41 Club No. 3, Mumbai, Uday Kamat was a wonderful human being. He left us, numb with shock and sorrow, without warning on 5th March, this year. Creative, spontaneous and witty, he’d have his friends & family in splits with his humour. But when one needed his help, he could be dead serious and always there to support us.

I fondly recall the wonderful time spent with him and Vandana on our many holidays together and at their home, where we have enjoyed the warmth of his and Vandana’s hospitality on innumerable occasions, including his 60th Birthday which a few of us were privileged to celebrate with him in June last year. Uday and Vandana have been loving parents and perfect role models for their son, Kuldip and daughter Nandita. Uday, we will always have fond memories of you.

Rajan Mittal

41 International Calendar - October 2010 – April 2012

June 2011			
3rd – 5th	41 International/France	AGM	Toulouse
4th	Sweden	AGM	Sundvall
5th	New Zealand	AGM	Nelson
9th – 12th	Iceland	AGM	Reykjavik
9th – 12th	Norway	AGM	
10th – 13th	International Biker Meeting		
17th – 19th	Austria	AGM	Innsbruck-Tirol
24th – 26th	Romania	Golden Stomachs Meeting	
September 2011			
16th – 18th	India	AGM	
30th Sep – 2nd Oct	Romania	AGM	
October 2011			
7th – 9th	Belgium	AGM	Waterloo
7th – 10th	South Africa	AGM	Bloemfontein (Registration form on pg 30)
14th – 16th	41 International	AGM	Toscana, Italy
November 2011			
4th – 6th	Italy	Chestnut Festival	Meran-Merano
April 2012			
16th	Denmark	AGM	Brædstrup
20th – 22nd	41 International	AGM	Chennai, India
28th	Great Britain	AGM	Jersey

Jokes

There are these three girls and they're out having a relaxing day fishing. Out of the blue, they catch a mermaid who begs to be set free in return for granting each of them a wish.

Now one of the girls just doesn't believe it, and says: "Ok, if you can really grant wishes, than double my I.Q."

The mermaid says: "Done."

Suddenly, the girl starts reciting Shakespeare flawlessly and analyzing it with extreme insight.

The second girl is so amazed she says to the mermaid: "Triple my I.Q." The mermaid says: "Done."

The girl starts to spout out all the mathematical solutions to problems that have been stumping all the scientists of varying fields: physics, chemistry, etc.

The last girl is so enthralled with the changes in her friends that she says to the mermaid: "Quintuple my I.Q."

The mermaid looks at her and says: "You know, I normally don't try to change people's minds when they make a wish, but I really wish you'd reconsider."

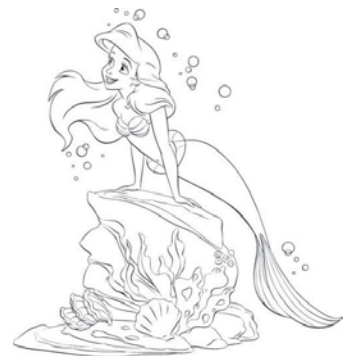
The girl says: "Nope, I want you to increase my I.Q. times five, and if you don't do it, I won't set you free."

"Please," says the mermaid "You don't know what you're asking...it'll change your entire view on the universe...won't you ask for something else...a million dollars, anything?" But no matter what the mermaid said, the girl insisted on having her I.Q. increased by five times its usual power.

So the mermaid sighed and said:

"Done."

And she became a man





41 Club South Africa
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE
PRESENTED BY 41 Club Bloemfontein
07 - 09 October 2011



SURNAME:		FIRST NAME:	
PORTFOLIO (Chairman, Vice, IRO, 41'er etc.):		COUNTRY:	
PARTNER'S NAME:		41 CLUB NAME:	

TELEPHONE NUMBERS:	41ER:	PARTNER:
CELL NUMBERS:		
E-MAIL ADDRESS:	DIETARY REQUIREMENTS:	

<u>REGISTRATION:</u>	COST (PER PERSON)	PERSON/S	TOTAL
FRIDAY, 07 OCTOBER			
WELCOME TRADITIONAL BRAAI	R 160.00		
SATURDAY, 08 OCTOBER			
AGM REGISTRATION, INCLUDING LUNCH	R 190.00		
LADIES TOUR INCLUDING LUNCH	R 250.00		
PRESIDENTS' BANQUET	R 295.00		
BRUNCH IF NOT STAYING AT EMOYA	R 120.00		
	TOTAL		

FULL WEEKEND: SINGLE REGISTRATION: R645.00 DOUBLE REGISTRATION: R1,350.00

THE DOUBLE REGISTRATION INCLUDES THE LADIES TOUR. IF NOT STAYING AT EMOYA BRUNCH WILL BE AN EXTRA COST!

ACCOMMODATION:

1. EMOYA WILDLIFE ESTATE, SPA AND CONFERENCE CENTRE			
www.emoya.co.za	MAIN HOTEL	SINGLE BB	R 850.00
	TEL. 051 436 8471	DOUBLE BB	R 950.00
	MAKUKUS	4 IN A ROOM BB	R 850.00
2. ANDANTE GUEST HOUSE			
www.andante.co.za	TEL. 051 436 1268	SINGLE	R 720.00
		DOUBLE	R 820.00
3. JUTA FALLS GUEST HOUSE			
www.jutafall.co.za	TEL. 084 451 2233	SINGLE	R 350.00
		DOUBLE	R 700.00
4. HALEVY HERITAGE HOTEL (IN TOWN BEHIND WATERFRONT)			
www.halevyheritage.com	TEL. 051 403 0600	SINGLE BB	R 850.00
		DOUBLE BB	R 950.00

DIRECT DEPOSIT PAYMENT DETAILS:

ACCOUNT NAME: BLOEMFONTEIN 41 ASSOCIATION
BRANCH CODE: 632 005
INTERNATIONAL SWIFT CODE: ABSA ZA JJ

BRANCH: ABSA PRELLER PLEIN
ACCOUNT NUMBER: 0090 4240 7807

CREDIT CARD AUTHORISATION:

CARD TYPE: _____ SURNAME & INITIALS: _____
 CVV: _____ ACCOUNT NUMBER: _____
 EXP DATE: _____ AMOUNT: _____

I HEREBY AUTHORISE THE ABOVE AMOUNT TO BE DEDUCTED FROM MY DEBIT/CREDIT CARD

SIGNATURE _____

PLEASE FAX YOUR DEPOSIT SLIP TO: JOHN ANDERSON AT 0866 102 877

SPONSORS






The Last Word



I have been lately introduced to a new concept – net working via an organization called BNI - Business Network International, for the uninitiated. Though there are quite a few from 41 India who are not only initiated, but into holding positions of import in BNI and are being quoted on its website (www.bni.com or www.bni-india.com) as I know, some of them being closer home in Mumbai.

Why I bring this up is, as lately, my chapter - BNI Crème, celebrated International Net Working Day and invited Round Table, 41 Clubs, Rotary, Lions, Jaycees and such other social and service organisations' office bearers to recognize them.

A wonderful way of working together between networking organisations, be it social and service networking outfits like Table, 41, Rotary and trade associations like Chambers of Commerce and community networks like religious ones attached to churches and temples and women's groups like Inner Wheel, Tangent, Ladies Circle to work towards cooperation and peace and business.

No longer is business a bad word in service organisations. 41 India even has a website encouraging 41ers to do business together. For the next issue of The Hinge, I would like to hear from 41ers all over the world, who are part of BNI or would like to be, as BNI exists in 50 plus countries all over the world. Elsewhere in this issue there is an interview that I did with Niiraj Shah, India head of BNI.

In this issue of The Hinge, you will find a write up by Derek Johns on the February 22 New Zealand earthquake that flattened Christchurch. Barely 17 days later on March 11, Japan was hit by a ferocious and devastating 9.1 intensity earthquake and tsunami resulting in what could now be the world's worst nuclear disaster.

Elsewhere in this issue Malcolm Lockey from Great Britain writes about trying to help human beings less fortunate than ourselves. The April 2010 issue of The Hinge carried a report on Club 41 support for the citizens of Aquila, Italy struck by a devastating earthquake in April 2009.

Could we look beyond just fellowship and move towards the kind of community service, we as Tablers once worked on, to some extent at least? Yes we do support each other at times such as these but we need to do much, much more.

We are going from strength to strength with The Hinge. This issue has 32 pages, all crammed up. Could easily have been more, says the wife, who is the real editor. Not bad at all, considering the work that one puts in. Thanks for all your contributions, the regulars and the first time contributors to The Hinge. I notice, though, that while contributions from most of Europe, New Zealand and India are regular, clubs in Africa, Indian Ocean and West Asia are conspicuous by their absence most of the time. I look forward to hearing from them for the next issue.

After this International AGM at Toulouse, France is the Half Yearly at Etruscan Coast, Toscana, Italy from October 14 to 16, 2011. The brochure in this issue gives details. Please start practicing your Italian from now onwards.

The next issue of The Hinge will be released at the HYM in Italy. The cut of date for receiving contributions is August 1, 2011.

Au revoir and Ciao for now.

Rajan Mittal



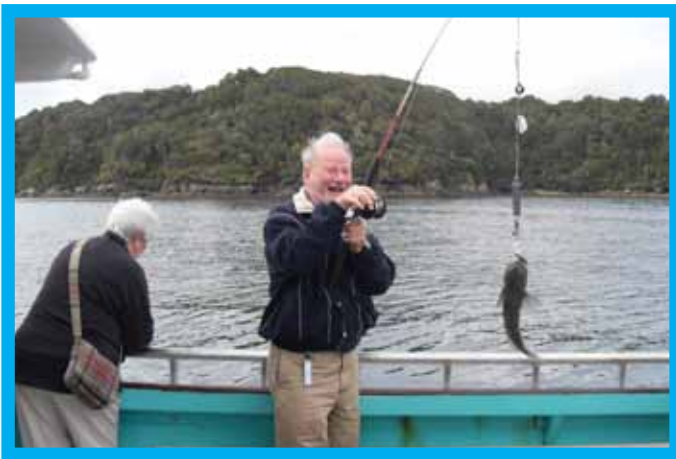
41 INTERNATIONAL

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Great Britain

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.



Wow! What a Catch



Birds of a feather?

Full Members

Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain,
India, Indian Ocean, Israel, Italy, New Zealand, Norway, Romania, South Africa,
Sweden, Switzerland, Zambia

41 Club Contacts in Australia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Gibraltar, Hungary,
Iceland, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Poland, Portugal,
Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Uganda, United Arab Emirates

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