

# 41 Club

No. 153 Spring 2006

*Magazine of The Association of Ex-Tablers' Clubs*

*'May the hinges of friendship never rust'*



*Miss United Kingdom Amy Guy meets National President Mike*

**AGM SATURDAY 29TH APRIL 2006 CHANGE OF VENUE AND TIME**

YOU ARE ADVISED THAT THE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
WILL NOW TAKE PLACE IN THE  
HARBOUR SUITE, JURY'S HOTEL, PRINCE STREET, BRISTOL, BS1 4QE.  
THE MEETING WILL NOW COMMENCE AT 9.00.am.

For further information, please visit our web site:

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

From time to time, Articles are published that may include references to one or more professional or commercial organizations. Neither the Editor nor the Association in general accepts any responsibility for the content of such Articles and recommends that readers always seek advice or obtain alternative quotations for any goods or services that may be referred to.



## Editorial

With the last issue of this years magazine now safely in the members hands can I thank every one for all there support over the year, it has certainly been challenging with the new role of National Communications Officer threatening to over shadow the Editorship of the magazine.

A lot has been learnt over the last twelve months and I can only say that we are entering a new and exciting stage of the magazines development which will become apparent over the next few months.

The close working of both the magazine and Web site has proved a great asset allowing us to provide up to date information as each event takes place, I would ask that the members look deeper at their own individual clubs and ask them to make more use of both the Magazine and the Web site as a tool of communications between themselves and other clubs, this is an area I feel we should develop and hope to bring the content of the magazine back to more club level with news from you as members and not just the Regional Councillors.

We would welcome more news items, Pictures of events, adverts of up coming functions etc, all of which can easily be sent by email and placed both in the magazine and on the web site, I feel sure many of us have old friends and from past tabling times we may well wish to catch up with, again this is an area were both the web site with the CAS system could help.

In conclusion it's on to Bristol and a new year ahead, please keep those articles and pictures coming in, as I say this is the best job on National, as I get to hear the good and the bad news first, once again thanks for all your support.

Yours in Friendship

**Kevin Ager**

National Communications Officer

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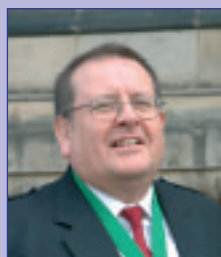
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## Presidents Report

As I write this report we are only six weeks away from the AGM in Bristol and what a party that promises to be; we are assured of some real fun and fellowship as well as a very lively AGM on the Saturday. Numbers for Conference have been dropping over the last few years as the older generation stop coming and we have yet to attract the younger generation at the same rate; I still find it very hard to understand why we only seem to get 10% of our clubs voting at the AGM which is where the future of our Association is determined, I know there is interest from the many visits I have made during the year; so why not attend this year and have input into your future.



It has been an incredibly busy year with an abnormal number of issues to deal with as we move the Association forward. Your National Council have debated a new plan for the Association which deals with how we administer the Association and the proposal to create 41 Club Areas matched with the RTBI Areas so that we can make working together more practical at Club level; which is where it has to happen if we are to survive. I personally do not believe that the current structure we have is adequate for our future and should be reorganised to be more effective both from a management and cost point of view; our National Councillors cannot hope to administer 60 to 70 clubs and foster the need to work with local RTBI Areas with the current mismatch that exists; it will be the task of the Forward Planning Committee next year to make sure we have a better alternative placed before the 2007 AGM.

There is good news with the Re-Chartering of Clubs and Re-affiliations as well and I was pleased to be in attendance when Monmouth Round Table No 717 was re-chartered this January along with Monmouth 41 Club; both RTBI President Gary Smith and I are confident that this has now given impetus for the other clubs who are in the same process; with RTBI numbers expected to see an increase in the region of 1500 this current Table year which is something that we have not seen for many years.

With almost a 50% changeover in Council this year; it has not been an easy time as new Councillors and officers gather the experience needed to fulfil the roles they have put themselves forward for and I have reminded all candidates again for this coming year of the huge commitment and expense they are taking on, on behalf of the membership.

Since my last report, I have attended on behalf of the Association a large number of functions and meetings which have been both enjoyable and informative for me and I hope for the membership as well. I hope I have not missed anybody out when I list them here now;

Brentwood, White Rose Dinner- Barnsley, Region 3 Euro Weekend – Mumbles, Cannock Charter Dinner, Iberian Cluster Region 20 – Gibraltar, Jersey 41 Club, Irish Rally Weekend, Bromley Founders Night, Gordano Valley, Abingdon, Isle of Man President's Dinner, Region 8 – Balliol College, Oxford, Remembrance Day – Whitehall, Red Rose Dinner – Clitheroe, Wrekin, Rayleigh & Wickford, Past Area Chairman's Dinner – Lincoln College Oxford, Haverhill, Bristol 41 Club, Exeter Round Table and 41 Club, Nuneaton, Region 9 – Southend, Abergavenny/Newport Cluster, Monmouth RT 717 and 41 Club Re-charter dinner, Glossop Burns Night, Aldershot Cluster Dinner, Barry Round Table Founders Night as well as attending both Isis and Tredegar for the occasional club night when I could make it.



The visits still to come: Harpenden for Past President and Life Honorary Member Eric Miller's 90th Birthday Celebration, Rainford's Charter Dinner, Newton Abbot Ladies Night, Norwood 600th Meeting, Cheshunt 41 Club, Region 18 Dinner – Malvern, Cwmbran Bar Olympics, Region 13 Cluster Dinner – Wrexham, Dorset Knobs – Blandford, RTBI National Council and President's Ball, Region 7 – Smethwick, Hornchurch 41 Club, Region 4 – Northallerton, Scottish Cluster Weekend – Crieff, Hertfordshire Cluster Dinner, Newport Cluster Night, Region 6 Derbyshire Cluster, Region 15 Cluster – Old Trafford, Witney Round Table's 50th Charter Dinner, Camberley 41, Turriff 41 Club Charter Dinner cruising into the AGM at Bristol.

I would like to thank all of those who have donated monies so far for my charity RTCW (Round Table Children's Wish) and at the time of going to print the list of donations is attached to this report and I am also pleased to be able to advise you that Derek Redmond, the Olympic Gold Medal Athlete will be at the Bristol AGM to collect a cheque for the total raised during the year. My thanks also to those of you who have supported RTCW Lottery as well; it really does make a difference.

I would also like to take this opportunity and thank both of my clubs Isis and Tredegar for all of the support and encouragement they have given me during my time in office and apologise to all of my drivers who have now got used to me falling asleep on the way home.

**If I have learnt something during my time in office it is this:**

We have an Association that is worth working for and with the huge age range it now covers; it has to adapt to the needs of the next generation if we are to survive whilst maintaining a balance for the older age group. Gentlemen, it can be done, we just have to recognise that our future is still Round Table and we must continue to get closer to them, working to rebuild the links that are paramount for our future; we can no longer just sit back and do nothing.

Continued page 4

Cont. page 3

I am proud to have been part of the re-building of 'The Round Table Family' through the **Joint Liaison Group** which was set up four years ago; it has been the basis of dealing with inter-club issues and communication at National level; we just now need to have a framework that does the same at club level; so remember if you have something you are about to organise for your club, why not invite the **Table, Circle and Tangent Clubs** too and if you don't have a Table at the moment, invite the **RTBI Area Chairman** and work with him to restart it.

This year, the foundations have been laid, with the **Regional Torch Events** doing their part in bringing together all four organisations; now it is your turn. Please do not allow your club to miss out on the renaissance now under way.

And finally, I wish my successor, **Ian Mackenzie** and **Gloria** all the best for next year; a big thank you to all of those who have entertained and hosted me whilst I have been on my travels and a special thank you to the membership for allowing me the honour to serve as your President during this very special year.

In Continued Friendship

*Mike Fitchett*

National President Diamond Jubilee Year 2005/06

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### *Vice-President Report*

Where has time gone, within the next few weeks our **National Conference** will have been and gone and once again we look to the start of the new 41 Club year. I do not intend to report to you as to my plans for the year ahead as Mike still has a few weeks to serve and all our thoughts should continue with his year as your **National President**.

I have been described as the man with two heads (or was it with no hair) and it would be wrong of me not to mention our **Diamond Jubilee year**. It has been an honour and a privilege to be involved with the planning of the **Friendship Torch Events**, and all the members from all the clubs who have attended these special events should be very proud that they have taken part in our celebrations of sixty wonderful years.

Everywhere I visit the conversation always goes back to some event that had taken place in the past and the fun and fellowship that was had by all. We are still the same fun and fellowship association that was started some sixty years ago, and long may this continue.

Over the last few months I have been asking club members for any views and opinions for the way ahead for our association. Nearly all the responses have been linked to **Round Table** and in particular the closing of Tables and the demise in membership. So many people see this as our main trouble spot, and also the perception of **41 Club** as "a dinner club" comes a very close second.

The fact remains that without **Round Table** we have no future and that message is something I have been dwelling on over the past months. Only a small percentage of Tablers join **41 Club**. Why?.

What a challenge, what a battle we have on our hands. To do nothing will not solve anything. Oh it is fun in 41!.

Once again I wish to express my thanks to all the clubs who have made me welcome over the last few months. Too many to mention. We should all of us be proud of our association and concentrate our minds and actions to building our association for the next sixty years. See you next year.

Yours in Friendship.

*Ian Mackenzie*

National Vice-President

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*Vice President Ian trying the seat of power*

## Sales and Marketing Manager



Having given the marketing Mosaic and its creators, Experian, mention several times in recent months I thought it time to give you some detailed information.

Over the last 20 years Experian has established itself as the world's leading supplier of consumer segmentation. Their objective is to provide decision makers with the tools and services they need to successfully implement micro marketing strategies within their business. This new Mosaic for the United Kingdom takes its

place amongst a global network of Mosaic segmentation that classifies a billion people worldwide, and makes Mosaic the classification of choice for over 10,000 organisations.

Mosaic UK is the latest version of Experian's Mosaic classification that covers the whole of the United Kingdom. It classifies all consumers in the United Kingdom into 61 types aggregated into 11 groups.

The classification has been devised under the direction of Professor Richard WEBBER, the world's leading authority on consumer segmentation, and originator of the two most widely used commercial segmentations.

It has taken two years to devise and build, and employed a development team of over 30 staff. The result is a classification that paints a rich picture of UK consumers in terms of their socio-demographics, lifestyles, culture and behavior to provide you with the most accurate and comprehensive view of UK consumers at the start of the 21st century.

Any business seeking to identify its potential customers will be using a tool such as this. By commissioning our own Mosaic, we make it very easy for any potential business partner of 41 Club to compare our members with their target customers using a common base.

The results were pleasantly surprising and show, amongst other things, that we have 44.19% of our membership in the top bracket, known as 'Symbols of Success', whereas the percentage of the population as a whole in that group is only 9.68%. I have placed a copy of a page from the report from Experian on the 41 Club website ([www.41club.org](http://www.41club.org)). A brief glance at the bar charts will show you that nearly 13% of our members are Corporate Chieftains (GB 1.1%), 10% are Golden Empty Nesters (GB 1.35%), 10% are Greenbelt Guardians (GB 1.7%) and so on.

If you have ever tried to explain what 41 Club is to an outsider, you will see how valuable this Mosaic will be. It not only explains who 41ers are, it also tells anyone in the business world what we are and how we live.

I am sure that in the near future we will begin to reap the benefits of commissioning this work.

*Keith Howard*

National Sales & Marketing Officer

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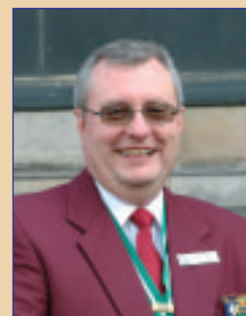
### MOSIC PROFILING

*For more information and an example of 41 clubs Profile visit The 41 Club website at [www.41club.org](http://www.41club.org)*

## Secretary

### *Doesn't time fly?*

It seems only a short while ago I breathed a sigh of relief as I left the Pier Theatre in Bournemouth having completed my first AGM as National Secretary. And before I know it – it's just a short time 'till the next one!



What a year! Vice Presidency, Diamond Jubilee, Torch Events, Special General Meetings, Restructuring Documents, Council Meetings, Four Club Meetings, to name but a few. However despite all the hubbub of being your National Secretary, I continue to soldier on with the very able assistance of Sue at Marchesi House and our Webmaster Dave Hewitt. Perhaps next year I might get it right!

I do hope you will join us at the AGM in Bristol. Even if you do not attend the whole Conference, Bristol for many of you is not too far away. After all, it is your Association – come and have your say! We also have a number of Councillor Vacancies this year. If you want to make a difference – and you live in the right Region – just shout for a form!

My usual reminder has to be said. The Club Administration System still suffers from Clubs not updating us with new or changed information. If you have been charged too much Capitation – this is probably because you have not updated your membership numbers! If you don't update us with new Officer names and addresses – we can't keep you informed! If you can't manage to update it on line yourself – help is just a call away – just ring Sue Hart at Marchesi House – she would love to hear from you!



### *Where did those white socks come from?*

Finally, I would like to place on record my thanks to Vice President Ian Mackenzie, for phoning my mobile phone the other day, just I was about to pay my London Congestion Charge! You can imagine the rest of the story - I have now paid the fine!

*Martin Green*

National Secretary

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### Views Membership And Extension Officer



**What on earth is going on out there?** We seem to be in the middle of a period of spring madness with a very small vociferous number of clubs wanting to disaffiliate from the association on the grounds of capitation costs. I would like to pick up on some of the issues in this edition of the magazine, but I am aware that much of what follows may already have been communicated to some of you from your **National Councillor**.

Firstly, if **any club** feels the need to debate the issues of **affiliation to the National organisation** it would be very helpful and also a great courtesy if that club were to contact their councillor and the national Executive so that all points of view can be Aired openly and in a spirit of good fellowship. I might add at this point that if any club disaffiliates during a club year in which they have not **paid their capitation**, then that capitation is still owing, whatever the outcome of the matter. Without payment that club and its members would be seen as **technical debtors to the Association** – a situation which most good and **honest 41'ers** would never like to see.

A lot is made of the increase of **capitation to £7.50** – even at this amount it is the price of a couple of pints and undercuts almost **all other Associations** by a large amount. For this princely sum what do we get in return? We can use the name of 41 club and its **Rondel 31** and jewels - keeping us in touch with our younger days in Table. It keeps us in touch with all our exTabler friends, both UK and internationally, of old through the magazine, newsletter, database, directory and other communications. It gives us access to the Conference and the **AGM** where we can influence policy, and it also gives us a third party liability insurance for any of our public work. You get a **National Executive** and **National Councillor** and it is up to you all in the clubs to use and abuse us as you need. It ensures that Fellowship lives on in what we say, what we do and what we feel.

I think it is a **bargain** and it is a great pity that a very few clubs have decided to look at disaffiliation purely on the ground of cost. It is also a pity that the clubs that **I have written** to have declined my **invitation** to attend and discuss the issues – the shutters seem to be down – but I hope not for ever. I cannot think of anything worse than being individual dining clubs – that is akin to the Dinosaurs thinking everything was alright as the meteorite hit!

**On a brighter note**, we have the possibility of **three new clubs** coming into existence now, or in the very near future. Our President has been involved in the setting up of a new **41 club in Monmouth**. There is also a group of Tablers/Ex Tablers from **Bridlington 42** who have started the process of establishing a new 41 club in **Bridlington**. **Calpe** and **District** are a new 41 club as well, with a thriving membership in Spain. I am glad to say that these new clubs give us all hope for the near future and as we draw **40 – 45 year old Tablers** into 41 club as joint members we should have the next generation of committed and active members ready and waiting. I look forward to any comments to you may have in response to this report. **Lets talk and not rush into any hasty decisions.**

*Roger Evans*

Membership and Extension Officer

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### Treasurer

Since the capitation requests went out at the **beginning of the year** I have received a number of requests for information as to why there has been a substantial increase in capitation over that for the previous year; **£5 to £7.50**, a **50 % increase** or only **£2.50** (and what can you get for £2.50) depending on your view point. Set out on our web site is a pie chart showing the make up of the **2006 revised budget** that I will be presenting at the AGM, or something very close there to and in addition graphs showing the history of the reserves and the capitation rate please take the time to look at this information.

**National Council** considers that reserves should be equal to **one year's expenditure** and unless there is a change in the manner in which the Association is organized the capitation rate should at least keep pace with inflation. That is an explanation of where the money goes and why the **rate of capitation** is set at its present level; the other question is what does one get for one's money. Apart from continued friendship and the ability to make new friends almost instantly when moving to a new area, both of which in my view are beyond price, there is the **magazine**, now published three times a year, information readily available on the web site for those who have grasped the new technology, up to **£10 million public liability insurance** for every member of an affiliated 41 club when acting as a member of such, regalia insurance for every club for claims up to **£500** and loss of cash cover for claims up to **£250** in both cases subject of course to an excess; I hope that most members will agree that this represents good value.

*Arnold Allen*

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## Tangent speaks to 41 Club

When I started my year as **Tangent National President** I thought all I had to do was swan around in best my Designer suit and the biggest hat that I could find, well of course I have done that but to my surprise I have had one or two other experiences I did not expect. Like sitting on the prettiest Blue motorbike with my fellow Exec members in the **Isle of Man**, luckily for me the bike did not move. As you can see from the photo I was swept off my feet by my very own **Riff Raff Club**. (The husbands of the Exec compete with their own Tee Shirt) The club was founded when the husbands accompanied us to one of the Regional Lunches and I had to apologise for the noise they were making (41'ers talking while I am trying to make a speech 'cheek')

Over the year **Tangent** holds 7 **regional Lunches** in all parts of the country. The **National Exec** asks a local **Tangent** to arrange these lunches. On the day before each of the lunches we hold an executive meeting, and a social function in the evening. At each of the lunches we have a Top Line speaker and I can address my fellow **Tangent members**. This gives us a great opportunity to go all over the country and meet our members in person. We only have 6 members on the **Executive** which works really well for **Tangent**.

This year **Tangent Exec** have attended two, **41 Club council weekends** and I would like to take this opportunity to thank **President Mike** and his **National Exec** for making us so welcome. This gave us the chance to get to know our opposite numbers and I feel this has brought **41 Club and Tangent** closer together.

On behalf of The **National Association** I would like to wish **41 Club** good luck for **Conference in Bristol**, I know you have 3 candidates standing for the office of **Vice President** and several candidates standing for other positions, which is great news. I hope you all get out in time for lunch, for your Pasty and Pint with all your resolutions!!! I am very pleased to report that we too have 3 candidates standing for **Vice President** and 2 standing for **Secretary Elect**. I think it is great that we have a joint conference weekend because we can all have our own **AGM**, but still join together for the grand **President's Ball**, and we can forget how old we really are and let our hair down for the **Fancy Dress Party**. It is difficult to explain to non **41'ers** or **Tangent friends** what fun we have. So be grateful that we belong to our Associations, come to **Bristol**, have your say at conference because this is the time and the place to air your points of view. Then on Saturday night with a great big whoopee - Let off Steam'.



Steve Leonard and the "Riff Raff Club"

*Judy Holdaway*

President – Tangent

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## Region 11 South East

As the last three months of my tenure as your **National Councillor** begin I am very conscious of all the fun and fellowship we have shared over the last three years.

It has been and continues to be, an honour to work on your behalf, giving something back to the club that gives us so much. You can see on pages 19 / 20 reports, how three of the clubs in the region are flourishing and enjoying the fun and fellowship of our joint hobby. I would really welcome more reports from clubs – don't keep all the good news to yourselves let's share it.

I plan to visit the clubs at **Ashford, Canterbury, Deal, Romney and Rye and Chichester** in the next few weeks, reports and hopefully picture to follow in the magazine and on the web site.

PLEASE UP-DATE YOUR CLUB RECORDS ON THE C A S, IF YOU DO NOT KNOW HOW, RING ME, SOME OF YOUR DETAILS ARE WELL PAST THEIR SELL BY DATE.

Keep having fun.

*Peter Warr*

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## Regional Reports

### Region 7 West Midlands

My three years as your councilor have almost come to an end. Since **April 2003** I have endeavoured to visit as many clubs as possible and represent the views of many of the Clubs at the **National Executive Council** meetings.

I have recently escorted **President Mike Fitchett** on his visits to our region to meetings at **Cannock** and **Wrekin** where we were excellently hosted and my thanks go to both Chairmen and their Clubs for their great hospitality and fellowship.

Vice President **Ian Mackenzie** and I visited **Newport Ex Tablers** where **Chairman Keith Durnall** hosted their fellowship night with **Newport 41** and **Eccleshall 41 Clubs** plus **Newport Round Table**.

I have made other visits to **Shirley Late Nights 41** who's Chairman **Tim Brown** welcomed over forty members to their annual reunion night and I look forward to another reunion evening at **Stourport 41** in March to be Chaired by **Glen Collins**.

I have visited **5 Torch of Friendship Events** and look forward to visiting three more including delivering the **Torch** from **Region 7** to **Region 4** at **Northallerton** on **10th March** where the speaker will be former leader of the **Conservative party William Hague**. Maybe I can pick up a few tips on after dinner speaking.

Our Own Torch event is to be held on **March 6th** at the **Clarendon Suite, Hagley Road, Birmingham** and tickets are still available. We have **41 Club President Mike** and **RTBI President Gary** both speaking plus the 'Return of the Nurse,' remember the **Diamond Jubilee Dinner?**

**President Mike** kindly invited me to join him with other council members to the **Remembrance Sunday** service at **Whitehall**, I thank him for giving me chance to attend and experience this moving occasion.

*Peter Owen*

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*L/R; Peter Owen,  
Ian Mackenzie, Keith Durnall*



### Region 5 North West

As the end of my extended term of office draws to a close, I have reflected on what we are about, the people I have met through our great organisation, and where we are going. These thoughts are necessarily my own, but one that must be shared with you all is the question of my successor, for he has not been found yet. We should all be delighted if someone could put his nose over the parapet, giving me time to explain the role if necessary and make a few introductions if need be. It is far from onerous and I would not have missed the opportunity for anything.



It has not always been easy (or cheap!) to support mainland events from the Isle of Man, but when I visit **Old Trafford Cricket Ground** on **31st March** for the **Region 15 Dinner** it will be my **3rd Torch of Friendship** event. Coming up soon will be the **Northallerton** dinner where the speaker is to be **William Hague MP**, one-time leader of the **Conservative party** (some say he may be again), and apparently a tremendous speaker. But we already have plenty of those ourselves - the awesome presence of the **Reverend Malcolm**, or the wit of **Phil Jones** (from **Manchester Grammar School!**). And all our local chaps, plus the **Round Tablers** it has been my privilege to re-make acquaintances with during recent years, and hopefully these relationships will continue. Not quite sure that we firmed up on the location for the **2006 Red Rose Dinner**, so I would be pleased to hear from an interested club so that I can hand over the files fully up to date. I could not choose a favourite moment but the **Rushen 41 Club/Round Table 1072** trip to Ireland took some beating - here's a picture in **Joey's bar** at **Ballymoney**, where **Joey Dunlop's** racing bikes are still parked ..... on the **CEILING**, honest! Darn good stuff that **Guinness**.

Been nice meeting you all, and long may that continue. See you all in **Bristol**.

*Steve Leonard*  
( Retired at last )





### Region 2 Ireland



Since the **Omagh** and the presentation of the **Torch of Friendship** all **41 Club** activities have been fairly routine and leading up to Christmas / New Year most were occupied by the usual merry making and seeing in 2006.

**BUT** now we are back in action, the first item on the agenda was our Cluster meeting held on the 8th January.

This meeting was arranged to examine the proposals prepared by the **Forward Planning Group** for the future of 41. The meeting was well attended, with representatives from most of the **Irish Clubs**, with **Past President Jim McCollum**, **Past National Councillors John Carberry** and **Nicky Phelan** also in attendance. Before the commencement of business a minutes silence was held in remembrance of our **Past President Malcolm Banks**, who will be sadly missed by all members of 41 and Round Table.

**Tony Henderson**, **National Concillor** gave a power point presentation on the proposals and also gave further information on the membership of Round Table, mentioned their 3 year plan, and the objective of recruiting **1800 new members**. The debate which followed was clear and constructive and most agreed that some change was necessary. Costs, communication, and organisation were the main themes of the discussion, and a positive proposal was agreed – this to be communicated to **National Council** on **OPTIMA**.

We in **41 Ireland** have a different operation to most other Regions, in that we have a mini **National Executive** established from the beginning of **Region 2**.

We have a **Regional Chairman**, **Secretary**, and **Treasurer** and as well as **Capitation fees**, a levy of £1 per person. Every year we hold a **Rally**, an **AGM** and usually two cluster meetings. The **Officers** of the Region change on a yearly basis and it is usual for the Club organising the Rally to take over the **Regional Chair** for the year. **41 Clubs** in Ireland find this type of organisation very valuable and it creates a good communication media for all.

For all those who know something about Irish song writers, some might know about the famous **Percy French** who wrote such songs as, 'Come Back Paddy Reilly' and 'The Mountains of Mourne'. This year **Region 2** are holding their Rally in Newcastle in the beautiful County of Down where the 'mountains of Mourne sweep down to the sea'.

The setting is beautiful, the **Slieve Donard Hotel** sits in its own grounds, the golf courses are magnificent, and the hospitality truly Irish. For all those who want that something different, come to the 2006 Rally from **October 20 to 22**.



**Londonderry 41** are working in close harmony with **Round Table 87** who are organising a **Table European Convention** in the City of Londonderry / Derry. This event has never been hosted in Ireland before, and the response has been overwhelming with over **150 delegates** booked representing 9 European countries. The Convention will be held during March commencing on the 30th and it's a good event to show off our historic City.

How do 41'ers get through their day, or should I say after retiring? Some say they were never busier, others take a different view. **National Councillor Tony Henderson** went back to University and after 3 years of hard work successfully obtained his **BA degree**. **Yes, you too can do it !!**

#### Some Irish Humour:

**One man to another, "What is sex like at 69?"**

**The other man thought for a moment and replied,**

**"It's good and different but it's better at 71."**

**"How to you mean 71" asks the first man.**

**"That's the house next door," replied the second man !!!!!**

**Tony Henderson**

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### Region 17 Wessex

2005 was a year of mixed fortunes, having **Chaired the Bournemouth Conference** to success early on, the loss of my dear old mum in late October was a real blow.

My own club is having a great year and membership has grown by 8 with the arrival of 6 retiring **Tablers** and 2 transferees. Our **Round Table** celebrated its **40th Charter** in November. An event to enjoy? Sorry, the organisation was poor, the chairmanship appalling and the behaviour, particularly of the visitors, was very upsetting. Maybe it is the behaviour of the existing **Tablers** that puts off the impressionable youngsters from joining **Round Table**. I wonder if others have had the same experience?

Next, the **Exeter Round Table Xmas Party** who hosted the **Torch of Friendship**. A very good evening and thanks to **Ken Todd** or should I say **Ten Kodd** as most people had their names reversed by the end of the night. The breathalyser followed on the way home thankfully my driver **Mike Ford** was zero on the scale.

2006 has made a good start. I visited **Taunton** and enjoyed great hospitality. They responded to my remark that it would be their **40th Charter** in 2006/7 by instantly forming a committee to arrange a celebration

On February 6th **Aldershot** are hosting a fellowship evening with "The Torch". I hope they get the support. This is a club that threatened to disaffiliate, but after a mob of the exec visited they agreed to do a dinner instead.

**Dorset Knobs** returns to its home in March and I hope to get a good response after poor support from Dorset when I moved the **Region Dinner** to **Winchester** last year.

Finally this is my last report before **Bristol** where I shall retire as a **National Councillor**. The last 5 years have been tremendous fun "as our man in Wessex". The highlights have always been the visits to Clubs. I have experienced much friendship and fellowship so thank you to all those clubs I have visited.

**Richard Matthews**

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## 41 Regional Reports

### Region 13 North & Mid Wales



It is not the first time that the **National Council** has met in Wales but perhaps the first time in **North Wales** and the meeting was held on the **3rd & 4th of February 2006**. We had a busy schedule of meetings with full and rank discussions on the future of the Association.

An evening of Welsh entertainment (in English) was provided on the Friday evening by the humorist and singer **Trebor Evans** accompanied by **Colin Jones** whilst on the Saturday evening dancing was to the music of **Solid Gold**. It was an excellent weekend of hard work coupled with friendship and fellowship with members of the **Tangent National Executive** their partners and local clubs joined us.

During the past few months I attended the **Irish Rally** in **Ballybofey**, which was, as always, well supported and very enjoyable. **Alan** and **Mary Lacey** of **Holyhead 41 Club** joined **Lena** and myself at the Rally and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The Rally held annually in October is well worth a visit and travelling across the Irish Sea is convenient from **Holyhead** by fast ferry.

Following the **Tsunami** disaster and the initial fund raising by all, **Holyhead 41 Club** joined other service clubs on the **Anglesey** to form a special committee to raise funds to build a kindergarten on the island of **Pulau Weh**. This island situated off the **Sumatran** coast and similar in size to **Anglesey** was devastated by the floods and desperately in need of assistance. An **Anglesey** born man, **Ian Figgins** who married a **Pulau Weh** lady approached the committee seeking assistance with the project and the fund raising gathered strength and we raised **£15,000**. **Ian** travelled to **Pulau Weh** to manage the project and supplied photographs and reports on a regular basis. The **Kindergarten** is now complete thanks to the joint efforts of all the service clubs in **Anglesey** including **Llangefni 41** and **Holyhead 41 Clubs**.

**Region 13's** Annual **St David's Day** and Cluster Meeting takes place on the **1st March** and the **National President**, **Mike Fitchett**, and **Vice President**, **Ian Mackenzie** will be in attendance when the **Torch of Friendship** will be passed to this Region by **Bruce Poole**, **National Councillor Region 18** (Mid-West Region). The **Torch of Friendship** will be passed by this **Region** to **Region 17** (**Wessex**) at their Cluster Meeting on **3rd March 2006**.

I am now approaching the end of my six-year term as **National Councillor** for **Region 13** and wish to thank all those Clubs that have extended the hand of friendship and fellowship. Members of **Holyhead 41 Club** have travelled with me to numerous functions and meetings including **National Council** meetings all over the country and have readily supported me.

My grateful thanks go to all.

*Hugh Evans*

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### Region 18 Mid West



Serious attention was being paid on a January evening in the depths of the **Somerset** countryside where the **2005 Regional Skittle Final** was taking place.

Last years winners **Keynsham** (spelt **Keyn....**) **41 Club** were playing **Norton/Radstock 41 Club** almost a local derby.

And this is what they were closely watching :



**Keynsham** seen on the left were the eventual winners by 14 pins. Many congratulations on their consecutive victory.



An enjoyable visit was made to **Henleaze 41 Club** to attend their **Burns Night** where **Ann** and I were made most welcome. **Weston-super-Mare 41 Club** jointly celebrated with **Weston-super-Mare Round Table** their **Presidents Night** with some 25 Past Presidents attending. Plans are well advance by **Malvern Hills 41 Club** for the **Regional Torch** evening on the 24th February. Several other **Torch Events** have been organised by **Stroud 41 Club** and **Stonehouse 41 Club**.

Plans are well in hand for the **Regional Golf Competition** in May and the **Regional Quiz** which is scheduled to take place on the 28th September 2006. Finally all clubs are now squaring up to match their skittling skills in this years **Regional Skittle Competition**.

Club Visits are still taking place whenever possible.

*Bruce Poole*

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### Region 16 East Anglia



Is it really time to sit and write another article for the mag – where does the time go?

I have visited several clubs since my last report but still have not got used to standing up and singing for my supper!! I am sure that they could well be feeling short changed if they were expecting some sort of an **orator**!! With a bit of luck and practice I hope to get better, my thanks to everyone for their forbearance!

Christmas has come and gone and the New Year started. I wish everyone a happy one! **Haverhill** celebrated in style and was able to boast one past, a current and future **National President** all under one roof and wearing silly hats!

This heralds in what will be a busy time for us here in **Region 16** with the advent of yet another **National President** to train, transport and ignore!! Ian has already got lots of things planned and more will be coming out in the future. Perhaps this should be called “**Slapheads Journal**” I will be more than happy to take suggestions!!

I have attended both ordinary meetings and charter nights. I have been to **Norwich** to a meeting where molten metal was poured along with the beer and the wine. I am starting to get around and had not quite realised how big it actually is. From **Woodbridge** to **Cambridge** to **Norfolk** and all points in between it is amazing how different clubs are – in both their outlook and make up but regardless of differences we all share that same common bond forged from years of Tabling (and falling over!!!)

I am now going to shamelessly suggest that clubs look to steal **Norwich Wensum** and **Yares forcaster night event** – terrific fun and a great idea, get clubs together to an event and try and forecast the year ahead- sporting, political, financial and even the weather! To that extent on the night they managed to get **BBC's** Look East weather girl along, great fun- especially as she didn't know it was going to be all men. The beauty is that you have to come back to the next years event to get the results and see if you won!!!



It is surprising some of the venues that we hold our meetings in, I attended **Cambridge's** meeting held in one of the university colleges, not the sort of place you often get to see.



I am now starting to organise the National Council meeting for June. I can tell you that it will be a good weekend and will be in **Cambridge**, not quite the centre of the universe but there are many professors that will tell you it is (sorry **Oxford** but it is). There is an open invitation to **Cambridge** as we will be combining the weekend with a grand joint 41/ **Tangent** charity ball on **Friday 16th June**. More details nearer the time but it will be spectacular; I will happily take bookings now.



There is a worry over some clubs slipping by the wayside in that it's hard to make contact and no one in the club wants to take responsibility for organising the basics – it's common in a lot of clubs up and down the country in some ways is a function of age. It is I feel, in those clubs that we have to make an effort to include them and find ways to help. If anyone is struggling and needs assistance please ask – most problems can be sorted out fairly easily.

Almost the end of this missive but please, please, please remember to get your **capitations** in, some clubs up and down the country still have not paid last year's and it really does hinder our Association's ability to run. I would also recommend coming to **Bristol** to the **AGM** and have your say in the running of our association and using your vote, if you can't please contact me and I can arrange a proxy vote for you.

In summing up all I have to say is the friendship is there and I for one feel better for it.

*David Roach*

National Concillor Region 16  
E mail; [region16@41club.org](mailto:region16@41club.org)



### National conference officer



Hi everyone, here we are in 2006 already and less than two months away from our **National Conference in Bristol**. Sadly bookings for this Conference have been coming in slower than usual and with so little time to go we have had to make the decision that an event venue which will now hold 700 (600 when we booked it) will be too large and probably now not financially viable for us. However the **good news** is that we have found a large central Bristol hotel, overlooking the waterfront, with excellent Banqueting facilities that can accommodate all of our needs. Therefore we have decided to switch all of the events to this new venue and we are looking into moving our accommodation to the same hotel as well. This will give everyone the additional benefit of everything being under one roof. Despite this downsizing there is **still space** for you and your Club to book to come and **“Let Off Steam”** in Bristol this spring but please **do not delay** your booking as you may soon be too late! If you hurry you may still be able to book for extra nights at the same price.

The Bristol Conference Committee team have worked very hard for the last four years to give you a first class experience of fun and fellowship in their historic City of **Bristol**. Whilst disappointed that bookings have not arrived in the numbers hoped for, they and I believe that the new facilities will enable everyone attending to experience a conference to remember for all of the right reasons.

The Conference programme is superb. Starting at mid-day on Thursday with a traditional **International Lunch**. After a stroll along the waterfront in the spring sunshine, dress is very casual for the **West Country Welcome** that evening when the main entertainment will be by **Fred Wedlock** (The Oldest Swinger in Town ) a West Country Legend.

On Friday you can play golf, take one of the local Conference Tours to **Cheltenham** or **Regency Bath**, sample the delights of Bristol and perhaps under your own steam take the water ferry close to the hotel for a trip around the harbour, even hopping off at the **SS Great Britain** and **Matthew** for a closer inspection. You must save some energy for the Brunel Banquet and Ball on Friday night, which will be complete with the now traditional brass band and the final **“Torch Event”** of this our Diamond Jubilee Year.

On Saturday we have the **Association’s AGM** followed by a **Pasty and Pint Lunch**, whilst our partners attend the **Tangent National Luncheon and AGM**. Then it’s time to get ready for the **Final Night Party** with the theme of **“Hot Air”** which will give you plenty of scope for those great fancy dress outfits we all like to see. This will be a brilliant evening with a **Show Band** to help you dance the night away.

After breakfast on Sunday morning book for **Newcastle** and their **“Party Tyne”** next year. Then why not see some more of Bristol before you leave this interesting city or have lunch in the Cotswolds on your way home.

Remember Conference will be happening at the same time as the **Brunel 200 Festival**. A celebration of the bi centenary of the birth of our second **“Greatest Briton”**, **Isambard Kingdom Brunel**, in the very city where you can see examples of his finest work. The City and County of Bristol will be making a real effort this spring and summer to give all of its visitors an extra special experience

All you need to do to enjoy this unique event is to book in with the **Bristol Conference Booking Officer, Peter Lingard**, by emailing [lingardp@aol.com](mailto:lingardp@aol.com) or by posting Peter your Booking Form published in a previous copy of this magazine.

Don’t delay please do it today. We look forward to seeing you in **Bristol** between the **27th and 30th of April 2006**.

A new initiative is being introduced at Conference this year, which came from Graham South of Thetford 41 Club, to help single attendee’s to identify their counterparts from the very first evening. So if you are thinking of attending Conference and do not have a partner, please remember, we will make every effort to make you feel at home.

With regard to 2008, this is where we need your help. As yet, for various reasons and not for the want of trying, we do not have a firm venue for Conference in 2008.

So can we ask please, if your Club fancies a try at running a National Conference for our Association. If so can you please contact me for a chat, either by telephoning me on 01275 341464 or by email on [conference@41club.org](mailto:conference@41club.org). Remember if you have any ideas on Conference you wish to share with us, the **Conference Committee** of **Drew Cochran, Richard Matthews, Malcolm Lockey** or myself, would be delighted to hear from you.

See you in Bristol, yours in continued friendship,

*Terry Cooper*

Tel; 01275 341464

E mail; [Conference@41club.org](mailto:Conference@41club.org)

*Don’t Miss Out Book Today!*

## Region 10 London



Hi All, since the last magazine I have been out and about around the Region and also further afield, attending the **Iberian Cluster in Gibraltar**.

A very successful **Region 20 Torch Event** was held at the **Bromley Founders** night to which our President and Vice President attended.

I have been to **Caterham's 20th Charter**, **Westerham's Charter Dinner Dance**, **Brentford's joint meeting with Ealing**, **Wallington and Carshalton dinner evening**, as well as several meetings of **East Grinstead** and **Coulsdon and Purley 41 Clubs**.

I have several visits planned for the next few months and would welcome invites from other Clubs within the region.

**Wimbledon** had a very successful December meeting with their partners and honorary lady members enjoying traditional christmas fare during a fun evening.



### Events coming up include :-

**Southgate 41 Club** are celebrating their 500th meeting on Monday 20th March, organising a dinner at **Hadley Wood Golf Club**, their current **President Des Woodall** is the only survivor of the first meeting of the Club in 1965 and will be an important attendee. For further details contact Bob Fosler on [robert@fosler.freemove.co.uk](mailto:robert@fosler.freemove.co.uk)

**Norwood 41 Club** are celebrating their 600th meeting on Saturday 18th February at the **Croydon Park Hotel**, expected to attend are our National President and Vice President, the deputy mayor and their ladies. For more details contact **Steve Lederman** on 0208 680 2640.

**Wimbledon RT** are hosting the "62 Weekend" a social weekend for all the European no 62 clubs and will also include India and South Africa on the 9th - 11th June, with **Wimbledon 41 Club** organising the brunch on the final day and participating in the other events during the weekend. For further details contact [Roger-carr@tiscali.c.ouk](mailto:Roger-carr@tiscali.c.ouk)

Keep looking at the **Region 10** web page on the National web site for updates on events within the region.

If you want your own Clubs events advertising, please let me know and I will add it to the page.

*Vaughn Harris*

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## Region 4 North East

### 'Land of the Prince Bishops'



The big news is that the **Cluster Dinner** in March is full to capacity [240 places] and there is a waiting list. I guess that tickets could change hands at a premium if the touts get involved! Well done **Northallerton**. It promises to be a memorable evening!

The **Regional Forum** in December was well attended and another worthwhile meeting for all of us who were there. The Optima proposals for the restructuring of our Association were considered in detail and I am pleased to say are being discussed at club level. I am already receiving detailed responses which will be most helpful when it comes to discussion at National level. Keep them coming. It is your Association and you must have a say in its future.

This is likely to be my last report as your **National Councillor**. All good things come to an end and my time is up. It's been a great 6 years and a very real privilege to serve you. I think **Region 4** is one of the best in the country. Our Cluster Dinners can't be matched in terms of support, fun and fellowship. We introduced the idea of a **Regional Forum** to the rest of the country: We are usually the first Region where each and every club pays their capitation more or less on time and we manage to present each **National President** with a very sizeable donation to their nominated charity when they visit us. In 2007 we will welcome members from all over the world to the annual conference where they will be assured of a great **Geordie** welcome!

The scope for fellowship across **Region 4** is enormous and anyone who wants to enjoy a rich and varied week only has to pick up the phone and ask a neighbouring club if they can visit. I have dined in castles and football clubs, played bowls and quoits, danced to Oompah bands, listened to a fantastic variety of speakers, shared some wonderful meals [as my waistline shows!!] had the chance to go on holidays, learned to speak proper at **Ashington 41 club** where I was made an honorary member! I've met some great people and made some lifelong friends, been to some great National Conferences and had the privilege of leading services in **Birmingham Cathedral** at great moments in the life of both **Round Table** and our own Association.

With all of that on offer to each and every one of us [OK, perhaps not leading worship in the cathedral – but everything else is] I expect a queue of candidates to take over from me as **National Councillor** in April. Give me a call to find out more. I'm not joking – it really is a privilege to be **National Councillor** for a Region like ours.



*"The Boys Together"*

Many thanks for your friendship and your support, for the warmth of your welcome and for your generous hospitality. I look forward to seeing you again in the future at local and national events. Now I know what it's like going out and about visiting other clubs I'm not going to stop now!

*Malcolm Lockey*

Tel: 01890 882833 [region4@41club.org](mailto:region4@41club.org)

# 41 Regional Reports

## Region 1 Scotland West



May I take the late opportunity of wishing all Club members in **Region 1** A Guid, Prosperous and Happy 2006.

Sadly 2005 ended with the tragic death in a motoring accident of Norman Purdy, a Founder Member and Past President of the City of **Glasgow 41 Club**. We have all lost a good friend and a great stalwart of the Community. Norman will be sadly missed. Our condolences go to his wife Anne and the family.

We had a very pleasant and enjoyable evening at the Chairman and Past National Councillor, **David Campbell's 'At Home'** in early December for the City of **Glasgow 41 Club**.

In November 1 had great pleasure in presenting our new Club in the region, **Dumfries and District 41 Club** with their Charter at appropriately a wine tasting night. The 24 members are all very enthusiastic and under the stewardship of the President, **Hamish MacDonald**, will form a valuable part of **Region 1** clubs.

The attached photographs are the presentation of the Charter on 11th November and their inaugural Charter meeting. **Dumfries & District** are currently investigating the twinning with **Beauvais 41 Club** in France. We wish them every success.

Once again **Airdrie 41 Club's** Charity Ball on 25th November raised £1500 for a local charity – **Craighalbert Centre for Disabled Children** in Cumbernauld. Well done to Chairman, **Myles Williamson**, and the eight members – just shows what can be achieved.

**Bridge of Weir & Kilmacolm 41 Club** hosted a very successful Ladies Night in the Old Ranfurly Golf Club. Under the Chairmanship of Dennis Taylor members and their guests were entertained by Santa bearing gifts and the participation of all in a variety of games. Members took part in the formalities of a 41 club meeting for the benefit of the guests present including the Messenger at Arms with the fines as memories of Round Table days!



I was delighted to call on Chairman, **Peter Nicoll** and the members of **Milngavie & Bearsden 41 Club** at the **Strathblane Country Club** in January. The guest speaker was **Pamela Tulloch** from the **Mitchell Library**, Glasgow, who kept everyone's attention during the presentation. More than I probably did with my deliberations on the present and future of the Association.



At the end of January I am looking forward to my visit to one of our Northern Clubs in the Region – **Inverness 41 Club**. A further mention of this visit will be in the next magazine edition.

As you are aware I have contacted all Club contacts in **Region 1** with basic information with regard to the proposed **Optima Strategy** for the future of 41 Club which has already led to a number of lively responses from various clubs in the region. Your comments have been gratefully received by me for further discussion at the National Council meeting in **Llangollen** at the beginning of February.

May I remind Club members of our **Scottish Cluster** and **Torch Handover Ceremony** – 17th to 19th March at the **Crieff Hydro**, **Perthshire**. **Scottish Regions 1 and 19** jointly welcome you in association with the organising Club, **Crieff 41 Club** under the organisation of **Robin Walker** – Telephone No. 01764 654279. Please let us have your registration forms as soon as possible.

Finally if you have any interesting future events planned, stories to tell about recent meetings or wish to say something about the Association, please let me know and I will ensure your Club features in the next magazine issue – after all, the magazine is for you – the membership

*David Wharton*

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Email: [region1@41club.org](mailto:region1@41club.org)



Dear Editor,

### OPEN MEMBERSHIP – THE LAST WORD?

I was interested to read the letter from **Past President Alan Reynolds** in the last issue of the magazine. Alan argues very forcefully that any Club who has admitted non-ex Tablers should be expelled, however I feel he is rather exaggerating when he speaks of ‘an open wound on an illness which we all knew was festering’.

I wonder if **Alan** is seriously arguing that the open membership debate was prompted by Clubs with non-ex members, or indeed that the **AGM** discussion was influenced by Clubs with non-ex members? I was there and can assure him that this was most certainly not the case. However the Council and Executive put forward proposals responding to the lack of interest in our Association by retiring Tablers, the inescapable fact that the **RTBI** age extension has created a void whereby very few members of Table perceive we have much to offer them and consequently drift off in other directions and also noting that our numbers continue to decline and have not increased despite the number of retiring Tablers being in the order of 600/700 in recent years.

In such circumstances I believe the Executive and Council were more than **justified** in considering the position and instigating a membership debate, which was carefully considered and widely discussed before being put to the **Bournemouth AGM**. As Alan may be aware over 50% of the Clubs voted in favour of being allowed this additional autonomy albeit the motion failed to reach the necessary two-thirds majority.

I hope that in the traditional spirit of **41 Club friendship and fellowship** Alan will not be arguing for some form of **McCarthy** like witch hunt by his suggestion that any Clubs with non ex members should surrender their voting rights (and presumably be excluded), such action would I fear ensure our demise in an even shorter time. Perhaps upon reflection Alan may appreciate that the Membership Committee do have a **duty** and **obligation** to put forward initiatives for proper consideration.

Finally I muse that **Louis Marchesi** created **Round Table** two generations ago noting the need for a new fellowship and community service organisation for young men. Two generations later ‘young’ men of Table age show much less enthusiasm for joining and even varying the admission to ‘middle aged men’ has made no significant difference. However there is clearly a new ‘older generation’ taking early retirement and looking around in their communities for **Clubs or Associations** which offer the opportunity for social meetings etc. but without the weekly commitment of Rotary or hands on involvement of **The Lions Clubs**. Perhaps if **Louis Marchesi** were alive to day he would identify this need and be inspired to form a new form of Club for this particular group of people - it might even be called ‘**41 Club**’.

*Les Edwards*

Immediate Past President.

Tel; 01462 421124 E mail: [pastpresident@41club.org](mailto:pastpresident@41club.org)



### Presidents Travels

President Mike and wife Diane recently hosted the re-charter of **Monmouth Round Table** and **Monmouth 41 club** along with members of **Chepstow Offa's Dyke 41 Club**, the evening went smoothly and it was a great honor to have re chartered two fine clubs back into the associations.

Mike is joined by **Chairman Douglas Elliott** of **Offa's Dyke 41 Club**, the founder member of **Chepstow** re-charter Table 280 in 1963 and the latest 41 club member from **Chepstow**.



National President **Mike Fitchett** who recently attended **Region 4** cluster meeting held at **Northallerton** accompanied by **Northallerton's** Honary Member the **Rt Hon William Hague MP** who was guest speaker on the night.



**The Scottish Golf Championship** Is to be held this year on the excellent links of **Prestwick St Nicholas**. The date has been set for the **Wednesday 20th September 2006**. The cost is a steal at **£45.00**, this includes green fees, bacon roll and coffee on arrival, meal and prizes. Tee times are from **9am till 1.30pm**. This is the **40th year** of this prestigious event and **Ayr and District 41 Club** will be pulling out all the stops to make it a memorable one, anyone interested please contact me on the below details.

*Drew Cochran* National Councillor Region 19

Tel 01620 894689 Email; [region19@41club.org](mailto:region19@41club.org)

# 41 Regional Reports

## Region 15 Manchester & Merseyside



Region 15 were quick off the mark and held the first Torch Event (after the Diamond Jubilee Lunch in Birmingham) at the Daresbury DeVere Hotel, near Warrington, on 16th July, 2005. The Torch was conveyed up the M6 by Representatives of Region 7, West Midlands. Representatives of all four Associations were in attendance, including our own National President, Mike Fitchett. Traditional Lancashire (in Cheshire?) entertainment for the lunch time event was provided by Rob Mason who regaled us with local jokes and songs! Also present at the event was the Mayor and Mayoress of Halton Borough.

John Clegg (past Region 15 National Councillor) and I then had the pleasure of delivering the Torch to Norwich for the Region 16, East Anglia event in Norwich on 17th September. The Torch is due to make its return appearance to Region 15 on 31st March, 2006 at Old Trafford Cricket Club.

Our Region 15 2006 Diamond Jubilee Dinner will take place in the Members' Suite at Lancashire Country Cricket Club, Old Trafford, Manchester on Friday, 31st March. The dress code will be black tie and regalia and we shall be receiving the Torch from Region 6, North Midlands, who hope to have the Ashes with them as well as the Torch?! The event will commence with a drinks reception at 7.30 p.m. followed by a sumptuous four-course dinner at 8.00 p.m. The ticket price is only £29.00, with accommodation available at the Old Trafford Lodge at £49.00 per room (£54.00 facing the pitch!) for the night of the 31st.

Our Guest Speaker for the evening is Dr Kevin Jones, a medical colleague and friend of 41 Club who is without doubt one of the most entertaining after-dinner speakers on the circuit. His stories from the world of medicine and transplantation have taken him far and wide and every year he entertains thousands of people all over the country, to make sure of securing a place for your Club please send a cheque for £10.00 per member - made payable to myself, Lawrence Bamber, at 5 Lindisfarne Drive, Poynton, Stockport, Cheshire, SK121E.

### Liverpool 70th Charter

It has now been established (beyond reasonable doubt) that the first meeting of Liverpool 41 Club took place on Tuesday, 4th February, 1936 which, as fate would have it, is the date of the next (194th) National Council Meeting in Llangollen!

As our Diamond Jubilee Region 15 Dinner is already scheduled for 31st March, 2006, it is proposed to have the 2007 Region 15 Dinner in Liverpool on Friday, 9th February, 2007 as part of Liverpool 41 Club's 70th Year Celebrations.

### Club Visits

I - together with members of Poynton 41 Club - am keen to visit the Clubs in Region 15 for some fun and fellowship! Please get in touch with me - on 01625 876469 - to invite us/me to your forthcoming event/meeting, especially any Charter Dinners. To date we have been to Ringway 41 Club for a Quiz Nite and are due to visit with City of Manchester/Stockport for a Games Evening in November (15th).

### Diary Dates: 2006

31st March, 2006 - Region 15 Diamond Jubilee Dinner and Torch of Friendship Event

*Lawrence Bamber*

Tel: 01625 876469

E mail; [region15@41club.org](mailto:region15@41club.org)

## Region 6 North Midlands



I have been fortunate to receive generous hospitality and fellowship from Scunthorpe and District, Ripley and Stamford at their regular monthly meetings, and Sandiacre and Stapleford at its Christmas meeting, and am glad to report that banter and good humour remain alive and well in Region 6. The Long Eaton Club held its annual Christmas Dinner which Vice President Ian Mackenzie kindly attended and ably responded to the Toast to the Association.

Last autumn the Derby Derwent Club held a sponsored walk in the Peak District which raised £663 for the Stroke Association and in particular the Dysphasia Project. Member's were blessed with fine weather and a decent pub for half time refreshments.

Arrangements for The Derbyshire Cluster and Torch Ceremony on 24 March are well in hand by the organising club, Belper and District. All Clubs in Derbyshire and the Region have been circulated for what promises to be a memorable evening.

My diary for the spring and early summer is beginning to fill – please get in touch if you'd like me to visit your club.

*David Smith*

Tel: 0115 973 5624

E mail: [region6@41club.org](mailto:region6@41club.org)

## 'THE STORY SO FAR'

In 1998 the **White Knights 41 Club** was formed, consisting of Past National Membership Officer **David Weaver** of **Rothwell** and **Wakefield 41 Clubs**, **Keith Brown** of **Penistone 41 Club** and myself. of **Wakefield 41 club**. **Ray Teal** of **Rothwell** and **Mansfield 41 Clubs** was our Founder President.



Just four of us! Our immediate objective was to run the **1999 White Rose Dinner**. This is one of the most prestigious regional dinners in our movement, which many readers will know has run virtually every year since 1961. Primarily for **Yorkshire 41ers**, it attracts visitors from all our Regions; the 2005 Dinner had 215 attendees including President **Mike**, Vice-President **Ian** and a host of visitors from outside our Region, including several members of the National Council. Normally a host Club would volunteer to run the event the following year (nowadays they volunteer two years ahead). The **1999 White Rose Dinner** had no host Club in place and was in danger of not taking place. So the **White Knights** were formed and the Dinner was a big success.

Since then we have helped the organising committees of each subsequent **White Rose Dinner** to a greater or lesser extent. The **White Knights** seldom have formal meetings; instead we like to visit other regional Dinners; in recent years we have attended cluster dinners in **Regions 4, 6, 15, 8, and 5**. We have also been spotted occasionally at Conference, no real problem as the white dinner jackets and red ties make us somewhat conspicuous.

The key point I would like to get across is that a 41 Club need not be large to be successful; nor does it need to have a conventional programme of speaker meetings, factory visits or whatever. It's really easy to form a new 41 Club and have a great deal of fun and fellowship in a way that you are comfortable with. I am proud to be a member of both the oldest and the newest 41 Clubs in our Region.

At the end of March we go on our first Club international trip to **Gdansk, in Poland**, to try to help the Polish guys set up the first 41 Club in Poland. That, hopefully, may be the subject of another article.

In continued friendship.

*Andy Waite*

Wakefield and White Knights 41 Club  
Tel; 01942 260007  
E mail: [region14@41club.org](mailto:region14@41club.org)



## Region 12 West of England



Gentlemen, Please find attached is a picture of the **Area 12 Torch of Friendship** event held at 'Old Timers', Exeter on Monday 19th December 2005. This black-tie event was part of the annual Exeter Table/41 Club Christmas Dinner. Guest of honour was **Mike Fitchett**, **National President** of the Association of ex-Tablers' Clubs, who informed, entertained and reminded everyone that height is no barrier to high office. The Torch was delivered with due solemnity at the beginning of the evening by **41er Ken Todd** and **Tabler Andy Merrick** and departed at the end of the evening to riotous applause, bawdy barracking and hysterical laughter. I am pleased to report that no eyebrows were singed, no fire alarms went off and the flame

of friendship still burns bright in Exeter. The Torch goes now to **Area 9, Essex & Hertfordshire**, where National Councillor **Nigel Cayne** will be heard to say "Ave ee got a loit, boiy?"

Yours in continued friendship,

*Ken Todd*

Tel; 01392 680984  
Email; [region12@41club.org](mailto:region12@41club.org)





## 41 Regional Reports



### Region 14 Yorkshire

The White Rose Dinner was a great success with 215 attendees and of course the Torch of Friendship. There is a full report on the **Region 14** web page at [www.41club.org](http://www.41club.org).

I spoke at Wetherby Wharfedale's Charter Dinner in October who are unique in that they start each meeting with their own version of RT Aims and Objects devised by one of their members Bob Ellis.

Autumn/Winter is a very busy time for me but I managed to get to the following:

Ossett & Horbury, Region 8 Dinner at Balliol College, Oxford, Red Rose Dinner at Whalley, near Clitheroe,

Wakefield Xmas meeting Rothwell Burns Night and a Central Tablers' Meeting in Maastricht.

I will be going to Poland in late March to encourage the formation of a new 41 Club in Gdansk.

I would be delighted to attend club meetings and events wherever possible - not just speaker meetings but less formal gatherings too. Obviously with 55 Clubs in the Region this is a tall order so please keep sending the invitations or, better still, copies of your programmes for the year. Some Clubs have already done this - **thank you!**

Best wishes to all. Don't hesitate to get in touch using the details below.

Yours in continued friendship.

*Andy Waite*

Tel: 01942 260007 Email [region14@41club.org](mailto:region14@41club.org)



### Past National President Eric Miller Celebrates 90 years

National President Mike Fitchett attended a Harpenden 41 Club hosted a 90th Birthday Celebration Luncheon on Saturday Feb 11th for Eric Miller, National Honorary Life Member, Past National President, Harpenden Honorary Life President, Past Chairman, & Archivist. Over 60 guests attended the event including, Past National Presidents Frank Bull, Arthur Kennedy, & Robert Oulsnam; Hans Manger from 41 Club Germany, and Frank Grant a founder member of Harpenden 41. A further 20 Past Chairmen & Paul Griffiths the current Chairman of Harpenden also attended.

Mike Fitchett presented Eric with a cut glass trophy on behalf of the Association, which Eric immediately noted, "glad to see you got the emblem the right way up!" Paul Griffiths, on behalf of Harpenden 41, presented Eric with an engraved silver salver, which will become the "Eric Miller President's Plate", a trophy to be awarded annually within Harpenden. Eric will decide what the award criteria will be.

Past National President Frank Bull made a personal and emotional presentation to Eric, in Joan's absence, of a pendant carved from Whitby Jet, and bearing the 41 Club emblem on one side & the Tangent emblem on the reverse.

Sadly, and to the regret of all who attended, Eric's wife Joan was unable to attend, as she had suffered a minor stroke the previous day! As a result, after being with Joan at the hospital all the previous day/evening, and assured there was no immediate life threatening situation, Eric bravely attended the Luncheon, accompanied by son Trevor & daughter-in-law Tina, before rushing back to the hospital to see Joan & tell her all about the Luncheon.

A big thank you to all who attended, & who helped make this a very special day for Eric and for the Association.

*Ross Kennedy*

Immediate Past Chairman Harpenden 41 Club



### LONDONDERRY 41 CLUB

Probably the best known international rugby team in the world, the All Blacks, visited the North West of Ireland recently? not, as it happens, to play rugby but to honour the memory of **Dave Gallagher** who captained their 1906 tour of Great Britain and Ireland, winning 35 out of 36 games. **Dave Gallagher** was born in **Ramelton, County Donegal**, in 1878 and, at the age of 5, immigrated to New Zealand with his family. He fought in the first world war, and was killed during a raid at **Passchendale** in 1917, so died before his 40th birthday. The All Blacks team visited **Ramelton** in 2005 and unveiled a plaque in his memory.

These facts were given in a talk to members of **Londonderry 41 Club** by Chairman **Tony Henderson** in December. He also revealed some interesting information about two other people of renown linked with **Ramelton**. One was **Sir William Stewart** who came to **Ramelton** from **Scotland** in the 1600s, establishing a town and trading port there. This venture was so successful, trading with Scotland and the Caribbean, that it continued to prosper for over 300 years. The other notable person was, like **Gallagher**, **Ramelton-born**, though over two centuries earlier, in 1658. He was **Francis Mackemie** who, at the age of 22, became a **Presbyterian Minister** in the local Church. Two years later, however, he immigrated to America, and there founded the **Presbyterian Church**; fought for religious liberty; had a number of laws incorporated in the American Constitution; and became the biggest landowner in the Southern States. Unfortunately, he died before his **50th birthday**, but achieved much in a relatively short life. The American and Irish postal services created a commemorative stamp in 1992 to recognise his work. Thus, three remarkable people, with widely different talents, came from one small **Donegal** town.

*Sam Mitchell*



### ASHFORD 41 CLUB

Our last meeting took place on the 17th. November at the **Ashford Bowl**, for the annual 10 pin bowling competition. A vigorous tussle took place with all the usual "hot shot" contenders and **Peter Gammon** emerged as the victor. He has been hiding his light under a bushel. A fine dinner took place at the **Flying Horse, Boughton Aluph** after the competition. Our thanks go to **Perry Lucas** for organising the event.

On the 10th. December, our **Annual Christmas Dinner** took place at the house, of **St. Augustine's Priory, Bilsington**. This proved a successful evening with welcoming drinks in a country house atmosphere, then an excellent dinner, washed down with specially selected wines from **Chateau van Cleeff**, fine speeches, party games for the chosen few and finished off with carols around the piano. It was an excellent evening very well organised. This type of event takes a lot of arranging and hard work, so our sincere thanks go to **Ian Howard** and Vice-Chairman **Laurens van Cleeff**.

Our next meeting is on the 19th. January at the **Elwick Club**, 7.30 for 8.00 and Chairman **Bill Sheret**, has arranged a speaker. He is former retired general manager of **News International**, **Brian Horwite**. Brian was in charge during the time that the **Sun** overtook the **Mirror** in circulation, he rebuilt the **Times** circulation and saw the change from **Fleet Street** to **Wapping** riots. A fascinating look at the newspaper industry. We will also have another guest in **Area 11 Councillor Peter Warr** and look forward to hearing from him. So we should have a lively evening and remember your guests are very welcome.



### WESTERHAM 41 CLUB

**Westerham 41 Club** recently celebrated their **25th Charter anniversary** by holding a dinner / dance at **Botley Hill farmhouse**, Near **Warlingham, Surrey**. 120 people attended the event, among the guests were founder **Westerham President, Ken Arthur**, and Past **RTBI National President, Vaughan Harris**.

Later this year it will be **Westerham's** turn to host the **Round Table Eurometing** (**Westerham** being twinned with **Round Tables** in **Germany, Sweden, France and Holland**). Unfortunately, **Westerham Round Table** closed in 2004 but the Past **Tablers** have pledged to uphold the tradition and organise a meeting in September. An Auction and raffle at the **41 Clubs Charter Night** raised sufficient funds to finance this **Eurometing** and in addition a cheque for **£750** was sent to the **41 Club National President's** chosen charity, **Round Table Children's Wish**.



# *Around the Clubs with 41*

## CHICHESTER 41 CLUB

Dear Peter National Councillor Region 11

So now you know it just isn't true what they say about **Chichester**, that we haven't even heard of National. You can tell them from me that a good **15%** have - and that's an extra **12%** due entirely to your visit.

Seriously, we were rather pleased that you were able to join us on an evening that offered good food, interest, and fun - as 41 events should be. I'm glad you found us on form, and enjoyed the buzz.

I have to say don't expect our attendance en masse at **Bristol** - indeed I regret the reality is likely to be much less. I suppose we are all slowing down a bit, and while we may have the time, we don't necessarily have the energy to rush round the UK like we used to. And that poses a dilemma for 41C: how to keep folk involved when they don't even turn up? Well, here come some more of my smartass suggestions:

- it may not be as difficult as it seems - the trick is communication! I'm sure National could do more to encourage Clubs to visit their nearby neighbours - facilitating the bridge building that forges wider friendships, but ones that can easily be maintained.
- what about voting from home for those that want to be involved with National; issues but who can't make the National meeting?

The new accommodation arrangements that keep the costs down are very welcome, but long overdue and will have discouraged people from attending, and when this happens year on year it eventually becomes too late to begin attending. So if **Mohammad** won't come to the mountain, let's move the mountain to **Mohammad** - keep folk informed (a little info. and far more often) and get introduce more that can be done "**at home**" - discussing National issues, National polling, and competitions that don't require travelling, and most important: voting. Why not postal or other means of televoting eg via the website? The current proxy system is in a word unfair, and outmoded. Currently, those that can't travel are actually discriminated against; as for those who could travel, unless they feel appreciated and valued they won't bother to attend There - I've said me bit! I hope you can carry these messages to the seat of power.

We'd be delighted to see you any time you have the time and energy to make the trek, and meanwhile keep drip feeding us with info. by email, post or phone. If National were to realise that each new communication is like a heartbeat, they'd see how vital it is.

Thanks again for joining us - do come again.

*Malcolm*



## CHESHUNT 41 CLUB

At Cheshunts recent club meeting on the 21st February a cheque for £1000.00 pounds was presented to National President Mike Fitchett in aid of his chosen charity Round Tables Childrens Wish, the donation from Region 9 was raised at the regional dinner held on the 9th January at the Cliffs Pavilion Theatre, Southend, where over 200 people attended an excellent evening, pictured with the National President Mike are Ted Wilkenson Chairman of Cheshunt 41 Club, Nigel Cayne Region 9 National Councillor, and Paul Finch Honourary President of Southend Round Table 106 and representing Southend 41 Club who organised the evening.



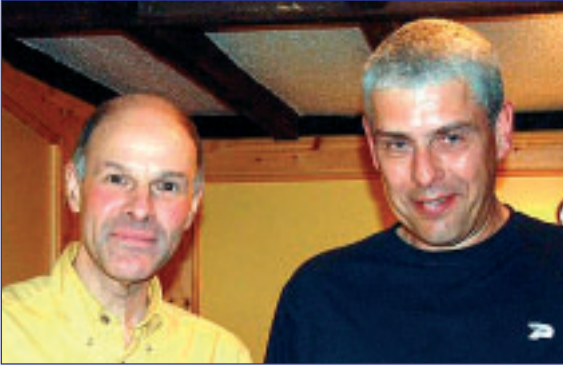
*Nigel Cayne*



### NEWTOWN & LLANDRINDOD WELLS 41 CLUB

Members of Newtown and Llandrindod Wells 41 Club who took part in a Games Evening at the New Inn Llanbadarn Fynydd on Wednesday 15th February.

Newtown Won by a Short Whisker and an enjoyable evening was had by all.



Mike Dinwoody Chairman of Llandrindod Wells hands over a new sports trophy to Newtown Secretary Adrian Leonard, who stood in as chairman as the club have lost two chairmen within the last month. John Williams has left for Jersey and David Woodhouse has gone to Dunfermline.

*Don Griffiths*



### WESTERHAM 41 CLUB

Dear Mike,

I am sorry that you were not able to attend our recent **25th Charter Dinner / Dance** which was held on 3rd December. The evening was attended by 120 members / past members and guests (including our founder president, **Ken Arthur 1980 / 81**).

Since the sad demise of **Westerham Round table**, it was feared that it would be impossible to continue with the 5 country annual twinning meetings between UK, France, Sweden, Germany and Holland.

Having made many international table friends through these meetings, our 41 club has pledged to take over the hosting of the September 2006 meeting which we will be hosting in **Westerham**.

Subsequently we also used the charter evening as a platform to raise funds for next years Eurometing by means of an auction, raffle etc. I am pleased to report that we exceeded our expectations and in one single event have enough money to finance the whole 2006 Eurometing.

As an added bonus on the evening, I also promoted your chosen charity "**Round table Children's wish**" and am pleased to report that a cheque for £750 has been sent off to RTCW.

Kind regards

*Dave Campbell*

Past Chairman RT Area 26  
On behalf of Westerham 41 Club

Dear David,

Can you please pass on my congratulations to your club members for the obvious success of your evening and my sincere thanks for the donation to RTCW; this has now pushed the total over £6000.



### SHEPPERTON 41 CLUB



## 41 Regional Reports

### Region 8 South Midlands

Since my last report we have had our **Region 8 Torch Event** at our Annual dinner in **Balliol College, Oxford**. I am pleased that numbers are increasing and this year 133 people attended including 13 Tables. All who attended seemed to enjoy themselves and the increased numbers added to the enjoyment of the event. For those of you who have not attended the candlelit dinner at **Balliol** the photograph give some idea of the event. I hope to see even more at this year's dinner in November.



The New Year started well with a visit to **Kenilworth 41** club who had a joint quiz night with **Leamington 41** Club which was eventually won by Leamington after a most involved knock out system which had rules that only the quiz master seemed to understand. I had always believed that Kenilworth was a fairly wealthy club and felt certain that I would be inundated with requests for the 41 Club book "**Continued Friendship**". As it turned out only one book was purchased and then only after Chairman Alan Clark held a committee meeting with his Treasurer and Secretary to discuss the purchase of a club book. The photograph shows the tight fisted "**gentlemen**" having their meeting.

My own club **Stratford** had a talk and demonstration given by **Stewart Band**, one of our own members, on the subject of developing black and white prints. After Stewart developed a print before us, **David Brittain** gave the vote of thanks for the demonstration which was summarized as a demonstration of his big equipment with a 40 year old one, using his dodger on his enlarger, a test strip and exposure, and finishing off with a blow job and a hair dryer. No doubt all of you black and white photographers fully understand this.

Also in January I had a pleasant meeting with **Lapworth 41** Club and the chance to meet up with Chairman **Chris Bootes** who I was in Table with in **Morpeth 444** in **Northumberland**. After a bit of ribbing about the "**huge increase in capitation**" they agreed that the capitation was a small amount of money but what had probably upset some members was the latest increase when expressed as a percentage and they suggested that small regular increases would be better. They even offered to have a whip round for me when I told them I could not claim expenses for visiting them.



On 4th, 5th and 6th May, **Region 8** is hosting the third **Euro 8 meeting**, in **Stratford**, and we have a number of events organized including a gala dinner on Saturday evening. I will be sending full details to the club contacts in the region to invite you all to enjoy International fellowship but please put these dates in your diary now. I have some additional meetings fixed up, including scuba diving in a swimming pool with **Southam 41** Club! As usual could I ask you to invite me along to one of your meetings so that I can report back your views on 41 Club, tell you what is happening in 41 Club Nationally and to enjoy your company.



*John Livingstone* Tel: 01789 204565 Email: [region8@41club.org](mailto:region8@41club.org)

### Region 9 Essex & Hertfordshire

Since the **Dudley National Councillors** meeting on 30th September, I have deliberately cut down the number of visits I have made to Clubs to account for the unpredictable Winter weather conditions but, I have still enjoyed the reassuringly typical hospitality and fellowship at meetings with **Basildon**, **Stanford & Corringham** at **The Bell** in **Horndon-on-the-Hill**; **Brentwood** for their very successful 41st Charter night and the Region's first Torch of Friendship event on 6th October, **Welwyn** at **The White Hart** to witness yet another cheque presented to **Andy Nation** for his **Thames Swim** by **Farringdon** and District 41 Club, **Wickford** for the Cluster meeting, **Rayleigh** and **Colneside Retreads** for their AGM.



Probably the highlights though were; **Cheshunt's Trafalgar Night** organised by **Ted Wilkinson** where members and their wives dressed in period garb and even as a full naval gunship were treated to a banquet reflecting Nelson's final meal for his Captains on the eve of Trafalgar including a baron of beef; **Southend's Ladies Night** on 19th November; a trip to the West Country deputising for **Ian MacKenzie** taking the Torch of Friendship to Exeter for their **Torch Event** on 14th December and **Hoddesdon's Burns Night** on Thursday 26th January at **George IV Great Amwell** where **Keith Gowing** past Chairman of Cheshunt gave his inimitable, definitive Address to the Haggis (which for a Sassenach "ain't half bad") and we were serenaded (if that's the right description) by a piper from **Epping Forest Pipe Band**.

But, the "**piece de resistance**" has to be **Region 9's** second Torch Event, the regional dinner at the **Cliffs Pavilion, Westcliff-on-sea**. A record 214 guests from clubs and tables across Essex & Hertfordshire and including National Presidents and Vice-presidents of both organisations, **International Officer Ken Boden**, The National Councillors Representative **Peter Owen**, Area 33 Chairman **Paul Marsh**, 3 past Presidents **Les Edwards**, **John Bellwood** and **Paul Cammiss** and umpteen Club Chairman and dignitaries all of whom were superbly entertained by guest speaker **John Spence**, Chairman of **Chelmsford**, and **Ron Guille & Keith Gowing** who performed a skit entitled "**Nelson v HSE**" about how the battle of Trafalgar may have been affected by modern politically correct policies (**Keith** showing he can also take off the legendary Nelson himself). As a direct result £1000 was donated to **Mike Fitchett's** chosen charity, **Round Table Children's' Wish**, on 21st February at Cheshunt's otherwise normal February meeting, and still to come, our **Region's THIRD** Torch Event the **North Hertfordshire Cluster** hosted by **Welwyn** at **Tewinbury Farm** on Monday 20th March!

*Nigel Cayne* Tel: 01922 554488 Email: [region9@41club.org](mailto:region9@41club.org)

## News Flash

### *National AGM Bristol 27-30 April 2006*

- Thursday April 27 International Lunch: fun with the overseas guys and gals  
West Country Welcome Party: Bristle Banger's Mash + Fred Wedlock.  
Oooh-arr!
- Friday April 28 41 Club golf at the renowned Bristol and Clifton Golf Club  
Brunel Banquet and Ball. Dance the night away with the Abba Girls
- Saturday April 29 Annual General Meeting. It's your club's association.  
Come and let off more steam!

Lunchtime Pasty and Pint - while the girls are at Tangent's Luncheon and AGM

Party the Night Away At The Hot Air Final Night Dance

Dress up and strut with Mixed Feelings, voted UK's Best Showband by Harpers & Queen

**STOP PRESS:** All the events and accommodation are now conveniently under one roof in our new 4-star conference hotel: Jurys on the historic harbor side in the heart of Bristol. With six weeks to go, a number of packages are still available; so are bookings for most stand-alone events. More conference details are in the brochure and registration form.

**BOOK NOW:** Go to [www.41club.org](http://www.41club.org), click on Conference 2006 and print the registration form. Complete and send to Peter Lingard, Registration Officer, 41 Club 2006 Conference, 17 Brake Close, Bradley Stoke, Bristol, BS32 8BA, United Kingdom.  
E-mail: [lingardp@aol.com](mailto:lingardp@aol.com)



### *Travellers of 2005 Re-united*

In February 2005 a party of thirty two 41ers from all over **Great Britain** and Ireland and a couple from **Germany** made the long journey to the southern hemisphere to tour and enjoy the hospitality of 41ers in New Zealand.

In February this year the wanderlust returned and most of the original party met up in Birmingham to celebrate the first anniversary of their trip. Inevitably some were away on their travels once again and could not attend but by far the majority of the tour party enjoyed a memorable reunion weekend. At two excellent evening functions the friendship continued while reminiscing and looking at photographs that brought back some wonderful memories of the fun and fellowship enjoyed by all during four weeks travelling together on a bus on the other side of the world.

*Gordon Macnab*





## 41 Regional Reports

### International Officer

Hi there and a Happy New Year to you all. I know it is a bit late but I forgot to say it in my last article.

Since the **41 International HYM in Cyprus** (or those of you concerned for my wellbeing I can report that I can now sit down after the donkey ride) and the **Iberian Cluster in Gibraltar** I have made two visits to Europe. I attended the **Swiss 41 AGM in St. Gallen** and then went on to **Merano, Italy**, for their "Chestnut Festival". Both events were excellent with many overseas visitors including a goodly number from GB&I.



I sat through the entire **Swiss AGM** which was conducted in **German**. This in itself should have been OK except that it was in Swiss-German and in the local dialect. A point of interest was the introduction of a proposed programme to support **Round Table Switzerland** called "Fit 4 Future". The gist of it was to make more contact with Table, hold joint meetings, encourage new members etc. A **41/RT chairmen's conference** will take place in March. I wish them every success.

The welcome party was held in a local "Keller" with loud but great music, no yodelling! A novel idea for the buffet had us all filling through the kitchen to collect the food much of which was being cooked/prepared in front of us and very tasty it was too! Never mind the health and safety rules.

Six of us, **John Hudson 41 International President**, **Randolph Reidlinger International V/P 2007/2008**, the **Culvers** and **June** and I then drove to **Merano**. On the way we stopped in **Innsbruck** where we had dinner at the home of an **Austrian 41er** who also gave us a conducted tour of the town. This was International fellowship at its best. In **Merano**, which, although it is in **Italy** is entirely **German** speaking (very confusing) we all attended a meeting of the local **41 Club**. This was followed by a quick dash to **Venice** at the invitation of **41 Club Venice** to join them for a special dinner in our "honour". Back in **Merano** we went on walks in the hills, had more fellowship but few chestnuts. I do not know why!

Looking ahead, I plan to go to the **AGMs of 41 Club Finland and Denmark**, both in March. I will miss the **Euroski meeting in Obertauern, Austria**, due to a clash of dates with Denmark. I know what you are thinking, an old chap like me should have given up skiing years ago. May is very busy with the **Charter of 41 Club Calpe in Spain**, the **German AGM** and **41 International AGM in Dortmund** (when rule changes and fees will be discussed but nothing can be agreed without prior ratification at our AGM in Newcastle) followed by the **Italian AGM**. The list seems endless, please get in touch for more details of the above events and many more. You will not be disappointed.

Nearer to home, do not forget that **Southend on Sea 41 Club** are organising the **HYM of 41 International** coupled with the **GB&I National Council** meeting in October. The bulk of the planning for this event was put together by **Martin Young** and **Gill** has organised the pre-tour.

Try and come to the **AGM and Conference in Bristol** it promises to be a great weekend. An **International Lunch** will take place on Thursday 27th April and many of you will remember that in the past, both in 41 and Table, these lunches have been the highlight of the Conference.

I have attended many meetings in the UK and would be pleased to make more visits at **NO COST** to your club. I just need an invite.

Lastly, if any clubs or individual members require specific information about Associations / Clubs abroad with a view to twinning, visiting, hosting etc give me a call.



I would like to thank **Andy Waite** and **Vaughan Harris** for their support during the year. I cannot believe that by the time you read this I will have been in the job for almost a year. But you know what they say about time when you are having fun!

**Ken Boden**

International Officer

Tel: 01268 710588 Email [international@41club.org](mailto:international@41club.org)

*To check your international Calender go to: [www.41club.org](http://www.41club.org) for all the latest dates, Happy travels*

### Danish National AGM

*You are cordially invited to attend the Danish National AGM in the town of Elsinore a little north of Copenhagen. It will be from March 31st. until April 2nd.*

*2006 Details can be found at [www.41club.org](http://www.41club.org)*

### PERTH 41 CLUB – THE AUSTRALIAN ONE!

We have a tradition in our Club that at the beginning of a new year the Chairman entertains members and their spouses to a brunch type get-together. Accordingly, we gathered at **Chairman Mike and Elaine Lines'** home on Sunday 15th January when, as the saying goes, a good time was had by all. In **Australia**, at this time of the year many people take holidays – it is after all summertime; nevertheless, we had a very good turnout.

Generally the Chairman's "**At Home**" is the first social occasion of the year, but this year, on the previous Sunday, we met up with a visiting member from the U.K. vis. **Robin Thornham**, his Wife **Margaret** and their young daughter **Caroline**. **Robin** is a member, and currently Chairman of a **Humberside 41 Club** and he and his family visit relatives out here regularly at this time of the year; on previous visits he has been able to join us at some of our regular meetings etc. However, as Robin's stay on this occasion was somewhat limited, we slotted in a special Sunday lunch at one of the Club's favourite riverside restaurants; it was well supported by our members and their wives and provided a very enjoyable opportunity to renew friendships with Robin and family.

Since the Club's last article appeared in the Autumn 2005 edition of "**41 Club**" we have continued to meet regularly either for our monthly dinner/ business meetings or for a variety of social activities that usually encompass the interests of the ladies.

We had a very enjoyable Annual **Christmas Dinner**; this time it was held at a **Technical College** campus that specialises in turning out chefs and cooks, waitresses and waiters etc and as part of their training the College invites paying customers who are waited on like **Royalty**; it is a very pleasant restaurant – easily three star - and the food is very good. The price is also very reasonable particularly as all drinks, pre-dinner and at the table are included. As I'm sure you will appreciate, this particular aspect appeals very much to members.

As a number of our members are retired, we also include a few mid-week trips e.g. a tour of inspection of the **State Emergency Services headquarters**, a visit to the the **Western Australian Cricket Association's headquarters (WACA short)** for a tour of the Museum and ground facilities generally. This is where England will be playing the **third Ashes Test Match** starting on 14th December 2006. In this regard, we would like to think that some of you sporting types reading this article are about now planning your Ashes tour itinerary; so if you are heading to **Perth** please give us a call – email address below. We can then snap into hospitality mode and plan some suitable social activity – after all, we do wholeheartedly subscribe to the Association's Motto "**May the hinges of friendship never rust**".

Finally my I mention that the revised arrangements in the U.K. for the dispatch of the magazine direct to members seems to be working well as the last article from this Club published in the Autumn edition resulted in my receiving four e-mails from U.K. members on various aspects.

One that came as a complete surprise and a real pleasure was from **Jon Lake**, now of **Farnborough, Hants, 41 Club**. When Jon read the article in **41 Club**, he enquired, correctly, if I was the **Alan Fitt** who was **Town Clerk of Livingstone, Zambia** and a member of **Livingstone Round Table** back in the sixty's as was **Jon**. Since that chance contact, we have started an exchange e-mails that are producing other interesting coincidences.

Well that's all for now.

*Alan Fitt*

Hon. Social Secretary

E-mail [kfitt@bigpond.net.au](mailto:kfitt@bigpond.net.au)

**PS. Another contact:** As a result of a 'phone call from **Robin Foster** of **Southend -on-Sea 41 Club** who with his Wife **Sue** are touring **Australia**, a group from our Club met them for lunch etc on Sunday 29 January. Another member from the U.K. who read our article.



# News From Down Under

## 41 CLUB NEW ZEALAND

Hi there 41er's.

**41 Club International, what an amazing organization:** - Contacts everywhere, friendships, hospitality and chances to meet and learn how other people live, work and play.

Last year Tina and I travelled on the first **2005 NZ Tour of Scandinavia** and the **Baltic**, a fabulous trip and we can't speak highly enough of the hosts and the programs they had arranged for us, they all had gone to huge lengths to make our tour such a success. We flew to **Frankfurt** and had 3 days around Weisbaden then on to Copenhagen where we picked up our coach that was to take us **5630 km's** through **Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Russia (St Petersburg), Estonia** and **Latvia**. **Denmark is flat!!!** We had the impression that Scandinavia was all mountains and fjords (Norway is like that), just goes to show how little we knew. Sweden and Finland seem to be more lakes than land, **Russia** is different (will take quite a few more years before the attitudes of officialdom change) and Estonia and Latvia are both booming and once more flat. So much to see, learn, different foods, many strange and potent drinks, wonderful people who couldn't do enough for us and took us into their hearts, lives and cultures, while travelling with 24 like minded 41er's, what more could you ask for? We have travelled on the 2001 Tour to the UK and Ireland and also on the 2004 Tour of **Victoria, Australia** and feel very privileged to be part of this wonderful global 41 Club family.



I do hope that we have the opportunity to repay some of that hospitality when hopefully there is a **Scandinavian Tour** coming here; I have heard a whisper from **Denmark** and also Germany that they are starting to plan tours here for 2007.

Since we have been home we have worked on the YAP Tour and they are here now, started in **Wellington** on Friday 3rd February 2006, have been to **Palmerston North, Wanganui, Blenheim, Nelson** and have arrived here in **Amberley** this afternoon, rather tired from the long bus trip but having enjoyed themselves all the way. They will stay here and around the Christchurch area till Tuesday then we will deliver them to Timaru and from there they go on down through the South Island finishing in **Queenstown** on the 5th March. It's rather nice to be able to host these bright young people and to give them a sample of the friendships and hospitality that Round table and 41 Club have given us

If you want to know more on the rules etc of the YAP tours go to: - [www.41Club.org.nz](http://www.41Club.org.nz) Password: marchesi

and have a look around.

I have had so many e-mails from **International members**, they are great communicators and I hope to try to keep up the standard. Recently I received an e-mail from **41 Club Perth** (how many of you knew there was one there), they are the only 41 Club in Australia (the associate club is Apex) and are asking if they can join our **New Zealand 41 Club** organisation. That seems to be about all for now.

Cheers

*Derek Johns*

## A NEW 41 CLUB HITS SPAIN'S COSTA BLANCA

It's nearly 20 years since the **Costa Blanca** club was chartered, and they continue to thrive, based in the resort of **Javea**.

The number of past tablers living in or visiting this beautiful part of Spain is hard to determine, but the potential certainly exists to bring 41 to other areas. Currently, as well as the club based in **Javea**, there are others in **Majorca**, on the **Costa del Sol**, and nearby **Nerja**, in **Gibraltar** and in **Portugal**. Annually these clubs meet in "Cluster" – this year hosted by the club in **Gibraltar**. And they have amongst them members of the newly formed **Calpe** and **District club**. **Calpe** is one of the principle towns of the northern Costa Blanca in Valencia region, and around 15 miles south of **Javea**.

The first meeting was held in May this year and already a dozen members have signed up, with nearly as many others expressing interest. We meet for lunch on the third Thursday of each month in one of **Calpe's** renowned fine restaurants – but of course we pay the very attractive **Spanish prices (under £10 including wine!)** – and we welcome resident, semi-resident and visiting 41 clubbers.

Our Charter presentation ceremony is planned as part of a weekend of activities in early **May 2006 (5th, 6th and 7th)** and of course we have negotiated excellent prices with the key hotel and other venue. In fact just **120.50 (£85)** for a two night package in the best hotel in town, including the main events. Attendees just have to get here and with budget airlines flying to **Alicante** and **Valencia** from every conceivable UK airport that could hardly be easier!

*Andrew Johnson*

Chairman

[johnson@figleaf.org](mailto:johnson@figleaf.org)

Details and registration forms for Charter weekend can be obtained from **Ian Ritchie**, who should also be contacted by ex tablers wishing to attend one of our meetings or to join.



## MALCOLM BANKS - PAST NATIONAL PRESIDENT.

The very sad death of Malcolm has already been reported on in the Magazine. North Dublin 41 Club wish to record the passing of a remarkable man who had given a great deal of his time to both Round Table and then 41 Club, locally in North Dublin, in Ireland, in the U.K., and elsewhere in the World. Space would not permit us to list the very many positions which Malcolm took on in both organizations, which culminated in his election as 41 Club National President in 1999, an achievement of which we were extremely proud. He was a popular and successful holder of the post. Malcolm Banks was the driving force of our Club, and will of course be greatly missed for his guidance, humour, and friendship. He fought his last battle with great courage and fortitude.



Our deepest sympathies extend to Dorothy, Christine, Neil and Emma and the wider family.

**MIKE BROWN**  
**HON. SEC.**  
**NORTH DUBLIN 41 CLUB.**

## A Tribute To Malcolm Banks

I have had the privilege of knowing and being a friend of Malcolm Banks for 38 years. A roller-coaster period of many escapades and great memories, loads of laughter - and a few tears.

I am honoured to be asked to say some words here this morning. Actually, in typical Malcolm fashion, asked is not quite accurate - he told his son Neil that I was to do it.!

Before he mellowed and before one got to know him, Malcolm came across as a tough somewhat acerbic man. When one did get to know him, you also got to know this impression was true. But underneath a slightly gruff exterior was a soft, warm, generous character with a great sense of humour.

Malcolm Banks was a man of high standards and he expected those with whom he came into contact to be the same. For example, it took him a long time before he could accept that, in Ireland, when a function was stated to be starting at 8pm, we really meant about 8.30 for 9 or 10.

But we eventually civilized him.

Malcolm was a very International man. He was a Scot and very proud of his Scottish heritage. He was actually born in Wales of a Scottish father and an English mother. His Dad, Monty, being in the British Army, served abroad and apart from Scotland, Malcolm was educated in Egypt, Cyprus and Germany. He has, however, spent more than half of his life in Ireland.

When he left school Malcolm worked for the BBC and, based in Ludlow, was often seen window shopping at Boots where he set his eye on a pretty young thing called Dorothy who worked there and you all know how that story turned out. Malcolm then worked for the British Atomic Energy Authority (Homer Simpson) before taking up a position in the computer section of Aer Lingus in Dublin in 1967. Cara Computers was subsequently formed as a separate company by Aer Lingus and he worked with them before setting up, with his friend Billy Guy, his own company, Business Management Systems. With the Toshiba Agency they were very successful and with a great deal of hard work made the Company what is today. Malcolm retired four years ago on his 60th birthday, a legend in the industry.

Outside of business Mal had a range of interest. He had a strong Christian faith and regularly attended and served this beautiful church in a number of capacities, in particular, looking after the grounds and lawns.

He had a catholic (small c) interest in sport. He followed soccer and particularly his beloved Dundee FC - I must be very careful not to say Dundee United! He was a qualified referee and officiated both in England and here in Dublin. There are no doubt many local league players who remember that he took no nonsense on the pitch.

Malcolm also loved cricket. He played for Civil Service when he first came to live in Dublin and latterly was one of the stalwarts of the Howth Taverners. He loved international and intercounty matches in Clontarf - partly due to the ready availability of Beamish in the drink tents!

He had a strong interest in rugby and we often attended Ireland and Scotland games together and Mal was a regular supporter of Clontarf Rugby Club. For a number of years he produced a crossword for the Club's annual programme.

Which brings me to another of his great loves - crosswords, Malcolm set crosswords for many publications over the years and daily tackled the Telegraph puzzle, often submitting the answers to the paper and winning prizes on a number of occasions.

He loved travel and was a sun worshipper, But above most other things, Malcolm was an organisations man and had an incredible talent for commitment and for getting things done. He acted on the committee of the Office Equipment Council, the local Church, Round Table, 41 Club and I can let you into a secret, the Masonic Order.

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As a mason Malcolm was open about his membership and contributed greatly to his own Lodge and to the Dublin Metropolitan Board, helping to demystify the Organisation and make it more open to the public at large. He regularly helped to Order in fund raising activities for charity, for example the Maureen Lipman show which he organized three years ago.

His organisational skills were recognised by the committee in charge of the World Transplant Games. Having just retired Malcolm was a soft touch to come on board with the group planning the Games in Dublin in 2003. He became Vice Chairman and then Chairman shortly before the Games were due to take place owing to the sudden death of the then Chairman. Anyone who knew Malcolm will not be surprised that he took this in his stride and the Games were a resounding success.

And then there was Round Table. Shortly after Dorothy and Malcolm became neighbours of ours in Maywood, I joined a Young Mens Service Organisation called Round Table Britain and Ireland, specifically North Dublin R.T. Malcolm came to one of our charity dos, liked what he saw and I was proud to propose him as a member. He joined the same night as our good friend Harry Skelton and quickly took various offices, including secretary and subsequently acted as Table Chairman. He then moved on to represent the Irish Area in a number of capacities including the Area Chairman.

WoCo is the World Council of Young Men's Services Clubs and a World Rally was to be held in Dublin in 1972. Malcolm was of course on the organising committee, but the Rally was cancelled following Bloody Sunday and the burning of the British Embassy. However in 1984 Ireland did host the gathering when two thousand overseas visitors came and again Mal was very heavily involved as number two to Dominic Smyth.

A rule of Round Table was that one was supposed to retire when reaching the age of 40 (subsequently raised to 45). To maintain social contacts made as a RT member, an association of ex members, known as the 41 Club, exists. Mal became heavily involved here and was a founder member of North Dublin 41 Club, it's treasurer since inception and at one time also Chairman. Again, like Round Table, there is a National Organisation covering as 41 Clubs in Ireland and Britain. Malcolm acted as Irish representative on the National Council and was its very successful National Rally Convenor for a number of years, touring all over to many functions with Dorothy.

In 1999 he received the highest honour when he was elected National President, the first (and so far only) person from the Republic of Ireland to fill this post. To say he was a popular President is a huge understatement. With his jokes, his speaking capability, his chairmanship skills and his ability to cut through red tape, Malcolm's year will be long remembered fondly by the whole organisation. It is a testament to his popularity that so many have travelled from the UK to be here today. He would want me to say that he was not happy with some of the current direction of the Organisation.

Dorothy and Malcolm's final 41 trip was to New Zealand earlier this year, when at the end of the holiday, on the way home in Singapore, he was hospitalized and the illness that claimed him last week became known. He fought this illness bravely, as he has done with Diabetes which he had for as long as I knew him (and which gave us a few scares over the years). He bore the last few months with good humour. For example, last Monday week he said to Noelene and myself that he thought he was dying, but he wasn't sure as he had never died before.

## And then the Memories -

The Fishing trips, Driving over Roundabouts, Hot Suppers at Carrickmines Golf Club, the Jokes, Table Quizzes, New Years Day at Maywood, Charades, the Pheasant Nights - everyone here will have their own personal favourite memories to recall today and down the years.

And so to conclude - all of us here today have been touched and enriched in our lives by this extraordinary man. Whether as a husband, father, grandfather, relation, neighbour, colleague or friend, and among his many great qualities, Malcolm's constancy as a friend was paramount.

As we bid farewell, remember with fondness, not grieving too much at the loss, but thankful that we had the opportunity to enjoy good times with a great character. Remember, pray for and support his family, not just now but in times to come. I should be raising a pint or a gin and tonic to say Cheers Malcolm, but I simply say Thanks.

Slán, Go Neirigh an Bothar Laith, Malcolm mo Chroi.

*Mike Brown*

North Dublin 41 Club

MARTIN NICHOLLS 1934 – 2005

## *A Tribute To Martin Nicholls*

It is my sad duty to report the death of Martin ('Nick') at the age of 70 on 18th August 2005, after a brave fight against cancer. He leaves behind a widow, Sally, who contributed so much to his success by her unstinting support and loyalty, children Martin (Marty) and Rosemary (Rosie), and grandchildren Adam and Jack. Our deepest sympathies go to them.

Nick was larger than life and a man of many parts. Born on 15th September 1934 in North London (and a lifetime Spurs supporter), he moved with his parents and brother to Cobham in 1940. He was educated at Royal Grammar School Guildford, and married Sally in 1957 in Cobham. He served his National Service as a Sub Lieutenant in the Royal Navy, after which he began his career in accountancy, initially with Shell Oil in Aden, and back in the UK from 1963. He started his own business in 1977.

Nick took a very active part in the local community, including Round Table, Rotary, Freemasonry, golf, toastmastering and public speaking and many aspects of local society in Cobham and Hinchley Wood, where he, Sally and their family lived over the years.

He joined the fledgling Kingston Hundrede Round Table 745 (now part of Royal Kingston RT 108) in 1963, becoming chairman in 1967. In those days, Kingston Hundrede were a lively lot, and they quickly got involved in Area 18 activities, carving a reputation as visitors (and borrowers of regalia!) of note. Nick therefore became involved very early in Area matters, and subsequently rose to the giddy heights of Area Chairman in 1972. He soon became a member of the National Executive of RTBI serving for three years 1970-1973, supporting fully Area 18's National President, Dick Chapman (Caterham RT), in 1973/74. He himself stood for the job of National Vice President, but unfortunately lost against the great Ray Gabriel. He served for many years on the National Executive, as well as WOCO, and eventually (after becoming a professional toastmaster) was appointed as toastmaster to RTBI from 1976 to 1991. His strong dark brown voice was heard to great effect at many National Conferences and events over the years, when he became great friends with many National Presidents and members. On leaving Kingston Hundrede in 1975 he became a member of Kingston Ex-Tablers Club, becoming Chairman in 1986/87. He was appointed Honorary Member, and also President of Kingston Hundrede RT, subsequently becoming a life Honorary Member. He was also an Honorary Member of Belgium RT in 1974, and Esher RT in 1980.

Nick joined Esher Rotary in 1973, and as was his wont, played a very active part in the Club, holding several offices and becoming President in 1981, and again in 2002. He was honoured to receive the Paul Harris Fellowship, the highest honour a Rotarian can receive.

He became a Freemason in 1974 when he was Initiated into Coveham Lodge, serving in various offices and becoming Master in 1999. He was a Founder Secretary of Table Fellowship Lodge (the only Round Table Lodge in Surrey) in 1981, and served that office for many years both before and after he became Master in 1988. He was very proud to have been in office every year from 1981 until the year of his death.

During the above period, and following on from his interest in amateur dramatics, Nick used his tremendous public speaking and toastmastering skills by becoming a professional Toastmaster. He became President of the National Association of Toastmasters twice, after being Treasurer and then Secretary for many years, and finally was given the honour of being life Vice President – the only non-founder to be so honoured. Nick sponsored a company to train toastmasters and took an active part in arranging its courses and examinations. He also wrote a book on After-Dinner speaking. As mentioned above, he became the toastmaster to RTBI, and attended in that capacity for many years, as well as in Rotary and Freemasonry and at public events at which Royalty were present. He became an excellent public speaker, as well as speaking, proposing and replying to toasts on many occasions at the various organisations in which he was a member. The members of Table Fellowship Lodge will never forget his many entertaining verbal jousts with the late David Atherton over the years. He won and held the honorary appointment as Town Crier to the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames from 1984 until the year of his death, and was always resplendent in the traditional uniform.

As a member of Surbiton Golf Club, Nick became a very keen golfer, (and supported his son Marty, who is a fine golfer), and became captain in 1990. He supported Marty in various competitions throughout the UK and abroad, acting as his driver where possible, and vicariously enjoyed his successes, basking in the reflected glory.

During all the above, he played such a great part in the local community, including becoming a Commissioner of Taxes, and helped the local Scout and Guide group raise money for and build a new HQ, that it is difficult to do justice to him in a summary such as the above. His service and commitment to the community and the various organisations in which he was a member, are an example to us all. Nick's cremation on 25th August was attended by several hundred of his friends and colleagues from all the organisations mentioned above.

Nick was a supreme example of that old maxim that you get out of life what you put in to it, and we therefore celebrate a life lived to the full. There is no doubt that our dear friend Martin Nicholls enriched the life of all those who knew him.

*Jack Maunders*

Kingston Ex Tablers Club (with acknowledgement to Ken Thomas of Esher Rotary)



# Obituaries

## **ALCOCK, Tony**

It is with great shock and regret we have to announce the tragic death of Tony. He was returning from attending his local Spanish 41Club meeting on Monday 10th January, 2005 when he was involved in a fatal car accident. He would have been 65 in April. Tony joined Potters Bar RT in 1975 and transferred to Camberley in 1979 where he was given an honorary extra year in recognition of his effort and enthusiasm. Tony's work took him to all parts of the world with long secondments. With his wife Chris he worked in remote places such as Kenya and recently helped in the reconstruction in Baghdad. They bought a second home in Spain where they were staying when the accident happened. Whenever Tony was in the country he was fully committed to fun and help with his 41Club friends. The cremation was at Easthampstead Crematorium on 26th January, 2005. Tony will be greatly missed by all of his friends whose life he brightened. Our thoughts go to Chris, his widow and children, Russell, Marcus and Sian.

*Potters Bar 41Club.*

## **ALLEN, Bob**

Tettenhall 41Club announce with sadness the death of Bob Allen after a short illness. Bob was a founder member of Tettenhall Round Table, Chairman in 1961/2 and President in 1965/6. Bob was always a very active member of Table which he took seriously yet made the most of the fellowship. He joined Tettenhall 41Club at the appropriate time and became an active supporter in all activities and attended most meetings until he became ill in recent weeks. He will be sadly missed by his widow Mary and members of our Club.

*Mike Unwin – Tettenhall 41Club.*

## **ARMSTRONG, Fred**

Ulverston 41Club lost one of its valued members who always found time to attend 41Club meetings as well as Rotary and a round of Golf. A gentleman in every sense of the word and a man of strong virtues all through his life. He was a well-known and respected businessman in Ulverston and he was Past Chairman of Round Table and Past President of Ulverston 41Club. A quiet man with a good sense of humour, he was always there to give advice when asked. He passed quietly away minutes from his 80th birthday in December. A devoted family man, he leaves his sons, Chris and Anthony, their wives and grandson Kieran. We will all miss him.

*Paul Barton – Ulverston 41Club.*

## **BIRKS, Geoff**

Chairman Maidstone 41Club.

Died 25th January 2004. Geoff was inducted into Maidstone RT in 1985. Being a man of the community he served on the Parish Council and was a member of Rotary. "His Grumpy Old Men" shall remember him with great fondness. 41Club meetings won't be quite the same again.

*Richard Ratcliffe – Maidstone 41Club.*

## **BONNER, Colin (1938-2005)**

All in Woking 41Club and, indeed, so many others in the numerous local circles in which he moved, were shocked and dismayed at Colin's sudden and untimely death on November 27th 2005. Just weeks previously he had been at our November meeting, as large as life as ever. Colin has to have been the exemplary Tabler and 41er, in his enthusiasm, energy, devotion and, above all, in his sheer sociability. He was Chairman of Woking Table in 1977/78, held numerous other RT offices, and was always an active supporter of Area and National events. Additionally, he was a Founder Member of Woking District Rotary Club in 1976, becoming their President in 1984. As a Chartered Accountant with a highly respected Surrey practice, Colin also provided his skills to several deserving causes - such as being Treasurer of the Woking Talking Newspaper for the Blind.

Needless to say, his funeral on Thursday, December 8th was packed to overflowing with friends from several decades, with one Woking 41Club member even coming from the USA. Our hearts go out to his widow, Jean, and family surely knowing that Colin will most certainly never be forgotten.

*Alan Spencer – Woking 41Club.*

## **CHAMBERS, Neil**

Blackburn 41Club are sad to announce Neil's death from stomach cancer on 3rd February, 2006 aged 55 years. Neil, an active former member of Blackburn 83 RT and 41Club is sadly missed by all who knew him. Our deepest sympathies go to his widow, Janine and sons Jonathan and Christopher.

*David Mitchell – Chairman, Blackburn 41Club.*

## **CHANDLER, Douglas.**

It is with great sadness that the Coleraine 41Club announce the death, after a long illness, of our dear friend Douglas. Dougie was a highly respected and active member of RT and 41Club and held the role of President in both organisations. His contribution in over 40 years has been significant and even through his long illness, he rarely missed a meeting. Our condolences are with Dorothy and family at this time.

*Roddy Armstrong – President Coleraine 41Club.*

## **HACKING, George (1925-2005)**

George was Life Honorary Member for his services to the Club. 'Old Git' winner at this year's White Rose dinner where he handled all the finances. A tireless worker as treasurer of the Club and also Barnsley Talking Newspaper, Sea Cadets and many other organisations. A keen sportsman, George saw service in both the Merchant and Royal Navy. George died whilst driving his wife Milly to a Rotary Christmas dinner, a sudden end to such an active life. Our thoughts are with Milly, his three sons and eight grandchildren, we will all miss George.

*Peter Whitehead.*

## **LAMB, Richard**

Norton-Radstock 41Club were deeply saddened by the death of Dick, their oldest member at 79. To the end, he exuded that sense of fun that had been his hallmark during his time in Table and 41Club. That Dick was committed to others was exemplified by his generous nature and enthusiasm for many community causes embraced over the years by the two Clubs. Dick accepted office from Chairman to President and from Treasurer to Regalia Sales. Our thoughts are with his widow Pamela and family.

*Derek A. Rastrick – Norton-Radstock 41Club.*

## **NORTH, Ron**

Sadly, Ron who was without doubt the most stalwart member of Birkenhead 41Club, died on 20th October, 2005. Having bravely recovered from two major operations in 2004, he succumbed a third set-back this autumn. Ron's many hilarious anecdotes about his RT days however live on, as do our very many cherished memories of him. He was Area Secretary of RT in 1964/65 and President of Birkenhead Table the following year. He was twice President of Birkenhead 41Club, first in 1979/80 and then in the Club's Jubilee year 1998/99. Our sympathies go to his widow Peg.

*Pete Bradbury – Birkenhead 41Club.*

## **PURDY, Norman Allen (1931-2005)**

It is with a sense of shock and disbelief that we have to report the accidental death of Norman Purdy on 16th November. Norman was a founder member of Milngavie & Bearsden RT from 1961, until he moved south to Tring in 1970, setting up his electronics business. He soon joined Tring RT and later Tring 41Club becoming Chairman in 1981. In 1997, he and his family returned to Scotland and Norman joined Milngavie & Bearsden 41Club and such was his enthusiasm for the Association, he was also a founder member in 1999 and President in 2003/4 of The City of Glasgow 41Club. In Milngavie, Tring and Helensburgh, he was a dedicated member of his Church, using his many skills to carry out and oversee repairs to the fabric of the buildings. He will be greatly missed within the communities he served and we extend our sympathy to his widow Ann, Nicholas and daughter Jane-Ann.

*W Gordon Rutherford – Milngavie and Bearsden 41Club.*

## **RICHARDS, John**

Wood Green 41Club is deeply saddened to announce the tragic death of John, aged 67 at Grantham Hospital in Lincolnshire on 10th December, 2005. John was a past member of Wood Green RT and a past Chairman of Area 17 London North East. John joined Table in 1964 and was a great supporter of Table and 41Club. He will be sorely missed by all his friends in 41Club. Our deepest sympathy go to his widow Pam and his two sons and families.

*Alan Blake - Chairman Wood Green 41Club.*

## **SCOTT, David (1934 – 2005)**

Wallingford 41Club is saddened to report the loss of David who died on 22nd October, 2005 in Oxford after a 13 month battle against cancer. He had been diagnosed just after his 70th birthday in 2004 and put up a tremendous battle with great spirit but succumbed eventually after a short time in hospital. David had been a member of both Wallingford Table and then 41Club for over 35 years. He was an excellent Chairman of 41Club twice, firstly 1985/86 and then again 2000/01 and was Treasurer until a couple of years ago. David was a Chartered Surveyor by profession and was involved in the design and development of the premises that Frank Williams Formula 1 Team occupied when they moved to Didcot. He was interested in sports cars, having a Lotus and one of his great hobbies was flying his model aeroplanes from Wittenham Clumps. He will be missed in our club and our deepest sympathies go to his widow Margaret and their children and grandchildren.

*Denis de Beger – Wallingford 41Club.*

## **SMITH, Graham**

Maidstone 41Club are deeply saddened to report the death of Graham at 67. He was Chairman 1986/87 and was very active and popular. He died in hospital after a short illness, his wife Alison and sons were with him and to whom we extend our sympathies. He will be sadly missed and will not be forgotten.

*Mike Springett – Chairman Maidstone 41Club.*

## **SMITH, Jack Boyd (1925-2005)**

Jack, a member of Manchester & Stockport 41Club died on 31st May, 2005. He was a wonderful man and had been in 41Club for 40years; Chairman 3 times and, in fact, was the Club. A man of absolute integrity, kind, generous and well-loved. During lean times, when membership was falling, Jack kept it afloat with his honest endeavours. Our deepest sympathies go to his widow, Kathleen and sons Roger and David.

*Jack Dodgson – Chairman, Manchester Stockport 41Club.*

## **TINKER, David (1942-2005)**

It is with great sadness that Rothwell 41Club announce the death at 63 of their Secretary, David, in St Gemma's Hospice, Leeds on 31st July, 2005. David had been ill for some time but had continued to be an active member of 41Club and an Honorary Member of Rothwell RT. David had been Chairman and President of RT and Treasurer, Secretary & Chairman of 41Club. He has given much of his time to serving those less fortunate than himself. His fellow Tablers and 41 Clubbers will remember his enthusiasm and wit. David was an accomplished guitarist and maker, he was an "artist in wood." The near perfection of his work will remind friends and fellow musicians of his passion and the dedication that he put into transforming wood & metal into "works of art." Our thoughts are with Kay and the family.

*David (Yorkie) Weaver, Chairman – Rothwell & District 41Club.*

## **WELLS, Peter**

Peter, one of the best known characters to come out of Wood Green RT, fought a life-long battle against the affliction of Brittle Bone disease to become a successful solicitor and leading community figure in North London. Peter was wheel-chair bound but didn't let that restrict him with a specially converted car that lifted his wheelchair in and out. Peter worked with the Disability Rights Commission and will be sorely missed. Peter, who died on 9th December at 59 leaves daughter Crystal and son Matthew.

*Alan Blake - Chairman Wood Green 41Club.*

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