



KEEP SAFE

National Lockdown once again.

Your National Council and the Board are working on ways to support you as best we can. If your club isn't meeting by Zoom or similar and you would like to, then please please please let your Regional Councillor know and we will give you all the support and assistance we can.

New on-line evenings and speakers are being arranged. Your mental health is as important as your physical health so we are looking to provide ways to enhance this.

NATIONAL CAPITATION INVOICES

As I write this, the National Treasurer is about to issue National Capitation Invoices for 2021. But you don't have to wait – Clubs can print their own invoices in CAS2 now. These are based upon Club Membership as at 31st December 2020. We sent personal secure links to CAS2 to all Club Contacts in December. Please remember that you cannot access CAS2 via the national website – that is the old link to CAS1 which no longer works. Some members ask why we have a new CAS system – a simple answer is because Microsoft withdrew support from the operating system CAS1 was based on last January so despite the flaws of CAS1 our hands were tied. The simple adage – if it ain't broke don't fix it – except CAS1 was broke, and needed fixing! CAS2 is less expensive than CAS1 so should in time reduce costs to the membership; plus it is more secure; plus it is upgradeable as technology develops. So, necessity and cost saving are why we have CAS2. Others say why didn't we go for Tabler/41 World as most national associations are? The answer to this is cost and security; it would cost well over 50% more than CAS2, and that cost would be EVERY YEAR as a subscription – not one off. Queries have also been voiced over 41 World's GDPR compliance. We appreciate CAS2 is new and different so we are here to help you if you have problems.

COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT

An important reminder to ensure you have rights to use any images in your stories or articles. There is a company called PicRights which actively searches for the use of photos and images and makes its money from fining bodies without those rights. So check everything you have on-line please.

REMEMBER, REMEMBER....

1. You can find an excellent guide to running a Zoom Meeting at <http://tinyurl.com/41clublionszoom>
2. You can find the national speaker videos on our YouTube Channel at <http://tinyurl.com/41clubyoutube>
3. You can find the latest UK govt advice on Covid-19 including what you can and cannot do at <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>
& the latest Irish govt advice at <https://www.gov.ie/en/campaigns/c36c85-covid-19-coronavirus>

JANUARY 2021

NATIONAL PRESIDENT PETER WANTED BUDDYLINE TO TAKE HIS CUSTOMARY PLACE ON PAGE 1

The **41 Club Buddyline** was set up in December 2020 and now has 18 volunteer 'Buddies' ready and willing to answer calls on a daily rota seven days a week – and two additional volunteers have asked to become Buddies.

Every day between 10am and 10pm, there are 4-5 Buddies available to answer the Buddyline, each of whom are phoned in turn and if they are unable to answer for any reason, the call diverts onto another Buddy.

Although the service is not scheduled to operate on Bank Holidays, it was extended to cover the recent Christmas Day and Boxing Day as we realised that these can be particularly difficult for some.

Whilst any 41 Club member can phone the Buddyline for a chat about anything that is worrying them, it is worth reminding all 41 Clubs to support their own Club members as the 'first line' of support.

So - has one of your members not attended your Club virtual meeting for a while or may not have been in touch? Please take some time to contact them - just to chat and ensure they are OK.

At the end of the day, we are all buddies to each other, and all Clubs should ensure we are all living up to our Association's Toast – 'To Continued Friendship'.



THE 41 CLUB BUDDYLINE – Q&A

What is the 41 Club Buddyline?

The Buddyline is a service that any 41 Club member can phone for a chat about anything they want to. Members may be feeling fed up, lonely, isolated or just feeling a bit fed up for whatever reason.

What is the Buddyline telephone number?

The number is 03301 07 07 40

When is the service available?

The Buddyline is open from 10am until 10pm seven days a week except Bank Holidays. Outside of these hours, details of contact numbers of specialist befriending and support organisations can be heard.

Who answers the phone calls?

Buddies are your fellow 41 Club members who have volunteered to pick up the phone and be there for other members. All calls made to the Buddyline are anonymous and answered by a friendly and helpful 41 Club Buddy.

A Buddy will not judge, but will be respectful, patient, empathetic and understanding of every caller. Buddies will speak with any caller as a distant friend; may help provide contact numbers of Clubs within our Association or perhaps signpost a caller to a specialist support organisation.

Calls to the Buddyline are answered in rotation so callers are asked to please be patient whilst their call is answered.

Are calls to the Buddyline recorded?

No, nor are callers' numbers displayed nor callers' names recorded.

Peter McBride, National Councillor Region 24

**NATIONAL CONFERENCE IN AVIEMORE
CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19
SEE PAGE 2 FOR LATEST NEWS**



PRESIDENT'S REPORT



As this goes to print we, and Tangent, have just had to take the decision to cancel our joint National Conference which was scheduled to be in Aviemore in April. This is regrettably the second year running we have had to do this due to Covid-19 but your health is the most important thing and must always come first. We are looking into means of holding a virtual AGM and looking at means of voting in the elections which were held over from Cardiff. Please bear with us as this is a work in hand – when we have further information we shall share it; in the meantime please see Steve James's memo below.

The remainder of this report is my original one before it was overtaken by the news on Aviemore – it seems rather prescient as I began by saying that the start of the New Year is sadly not looking much better than the last one, as far as the Covid-19 situation is concerned.

Hopefully we will all get the vaccine soon, but don't worry stay in your nice warm home and listen to the connects events whilst drinking a nice glass of 41 club Gin. We have some great speakers lined up for you for the next three months and beyond.

I am still visiting clubs on Zoom. Last night I was on-line with Clitheroe and their twinned Danish club. They all looked a lot older because they were using the Rotary Zoom so I told them to use our 41 Club zoom next time so that they look like 41ers. We had a great night with lots of reminiscing about their past exchange visits that have been going on for over 40 years which is a great achievement. They also talked about their annual winter walking in the lakes which sounded a lot more civilised than the ones Ashby do. Clitheroe only take enough people to fill the available beds, while we book a cottage that should sleep 6 and then take 16!! I usually go in the airing cupboard at least it's warm in there if not comfortable.

We did book a cottage in Wales once that only slept 4. We had to walk across fields to get to it, and the next morning when we came out, the farmer couldn't believe his eyes! He said "my god how many of you are there?" we replied, "18" to which he said "my missus won't like that".

I can't wait till we can start doing these crazy things again. I have always found that Table and 41 club have been a great release valve for relieving the stress from business and life in general.

I have now completed my 1,000 miles walking for my charity Dementia UK. My "justgiving" site is on 41club.org website, so any donations no matter how small will be much appreciated.

There are a few of us that have finished now, and the rest are not too far behind.

I am raring to go on the next challenge with my own club to climb 41 peaks in England. We have done 6, but are not able to continue during lockdown which will put some pressure on us to do the rest in the next 14 months, but in true 41 spirit we will do it.

I would just like to say a big thank you to all the members that responded to my New Year's message, I was overwhelmed.

I am also getting lots of emails thanking myself and the Connects team for the great speaker events; last nights was no exception Richard McCann. We all learnt something from Richard if only not to prejudge a speaker. It was excellent how he demonstrated to us how electronic diversity and voting can work successfully during his speech. Brian Bell from Whickham 41 club did the vote of thanks. I discovered Brian from an email he sent to me after my new year message. It shows how we are like-minded people from all walks of life.

I know from the emails I get that I am reaching out to members that would probably have never gone to a National event. This gives me great satisfaction and relieves my frustration that I can't get out to meet people face to face. At the same time I do feel that the Connects has a future for us after lockdowns.

I am looking forward to seeing you all face to face but until we can let's all keep in touch with the digital world. In these lockdown times it's important that we all look after each other and check up on members that live alone.

Keep talking, stay safe.

YICF

Peter

AVIEMORE CONFERENCE CANCELLED

During the last few months the Aviemore team and both Tangent and 41 Club Boards have been closely monitoring the Covid 19 situation and various restrictions being placed around the country. Our priority has always been to ensure our members wellbeing and safety is not compromised and given the current situation being experienced in the U.K. coupled with the proposed vaccination timelines we have made the decision to cancel this year's conference.

Both Associations are working on alternative arrangements to hold virtual AGMs within the timescales set within our respective rules and details will be forthcoming to members via the respective secretaries.

In terms of payments relating to conference bookings whether it be deposits or full payment transferred from Cardiff 2020 these will automatically be transferred to next year's conference in Cardiff. Should you wish to have a refund instead of transferring payment please drop me a line at refund@41club.org.

For those that have booked accommodation via the hotel, the hotel is currently closed and the advice from the National events manager at Macdonald Group HQ is for delegates not to immediately cancel rooms because you may not receive a refund. The Macdonald Group believe that within a month the Government restrictions will not be lifted and accordingly "they" will have to cancel the event in any case which means that refunds currently in the form of vouchers (expiry date of 6 months) will be issued which can be used across the Group hotels. I will liaise with the hotel during this time to see if they will offer monetary refunds instead. The Group have informed me that they will liaise with me during the first week of March. Accordingly, I will email you all as soon as I receive confirmation of the formal cancellation. I realise that this is not satisfactory but I am afraid it is outside of our control.

I realise that the cancellation of the conference will be disappointing news to you but hopefully you will understand our reasons for doing so.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Please stay safe

Steve National Fellowship Officer

FELLOWSHIP HAS NO BOUNDS...

Sadly, my Father passed away at Easter. At 89 he had had a good life and his demise was nothing to do with Covid-19. Living in Oxfordshire, suddenly Martin and I found we had a house in Coventry to empty and sell. It can only be described as a very 'full' house and it was complicated further by him owning a mobility scooter, a stairlift and a workshop full of old tools and equipment. Of course, by then we were in Lockdown. Charity shops closed. Tips closed. Theoretically we cannot travel or enlist help..... What on earth do we do I asked?

Martin made some 'phone calls and 41Club came to the rescue. Once some social distancing was allowed, enter Past National President Terry Cooper. He came and loaded his car with as much as he could fit, with tools and equipment from the workshop. I thought it was positively dangerous – but it's amazing what you can get in a Volvo! How Lin managed the trip back home with a lathe on her lap we'll never know!

Then came Past National President Barry Durman. His stepdaughter was moving into her first house and was in need of all sorts of things. Terry then brought his van to Coventry and transported loads of stuff for Barry over to Birmingham. Barry also found 'a mate' whose hobby was selling on E-Bay.

Past National President Dave Campbell had once told Barry he was looking for a good solid stool to use in his workshop at home. Barry spotted the ideal one in my father's house. Barry Facetimed Dave so he could see it, and it was next on 'Terry Transport' to Barry's. Eventually, this most travelled stool found its way round the country to Kent and is now in Dave's workshop.

So, what next? Enter John Payne member of the OBE's 41 Club and Past National President of Round Table. It just so happens he's an Estate Agent in Coventry! Loads of contacts and advice, and with the use of a gentleman named appropriately 'Big Martin' cleared what was left in the house.

And guess what – despite many attempts by Martin at selling the Mobility Scooter to no avail – Terry took it home to Somerset and sold it in 24 hours. Amazing! Terry could sell ice to Eskimos!

The reason for telling this story is two-fold. Firstly, to publicly thank those involved, whose friendship and help, both Martin and I value immensely. But secondly, it is a brilliant way of demonstrating the strength and bonds we have in the 41 Club family especially amongst the Past Presidents, who in the times of dilemma and confusion rise above everything, roll up their sleeves and get stuck in! 41 Club's hinges certainly never rust.....



Maria Green Isis Tangent, Wife of Martin Green, National President 2013-2014

HELP WANTED – OLD ROUND TABLE FAMILY PINS ARE SOUGHT BY JILL HARRIS TO RAISE FUNDS FOR LADIES CIRCLE INTERNATIONAL CHARITY APPEAL

I decided to try and make something out of the time we have had in lockdown and decided to try and raise some funds for a Round Table Family charity, the Ladies Circle International Charity – Project Crimson which was set up by Ladies Circle India to help those living in rural India to get employment and help raise Hygiene awareness in these areas amongst the younger ladies.

It costs approximately €3,000 to build and set up a sanitary machine and I wanted to see with the help of all Round Table family clubs in our own Association if we could raise enough to build one in our name.

I am known for doing pin raffles and so I thought why not do another one but also sell of more vintage pins and if I get enough auction a jacket off as well. The one I did when Vaughan died raised in the end over £6,000 but we were able to get out and about then and I had help from all over the world but especially India where there Round Tablers and 41ers sold over £2,000 of tickets for me, so this is giving something back to their own country's charity.

So please look in your cupboards, I am sure many of you have pins from when you were in Round Table or now you are in 41 which are just collecting dust and could help this charity greatly. Any Round Table Family member pins are wanted of whatever age. I recently had a donation of a few pins where my name was put forward by a 41Club member to a family where the husband had unfortunately passed away and these raised £200.00 towards my goal.



So please look around even if you have 1 only please contact me at International@tangent-clubs.org. Let's make something of this current lockdown for others. I will be making up one jacket of 200 pins to raffle at £5.00 a ticket and anyone winning can then raffle it off or auction it for their own clubs charity so it's a "win win" situation and will be putting some onto a jacket/shirt to auction off as well.

PLEASE PLEASE check and see if you have anything. If you would like a raffle ticket please email me.

Jill Harris Tangent Executive Member 2020-2021, International@tangent-clubs.org

20 QUESTIONS FOR 2020

(ANSWERS ON THE LAST PAGE)

- 1) Whose statue was torn down and thrown into Bristol Harbour?
- 2) Where did Dominic Cummings drive to in order to test his eyesight?
- 3) Which footballer campaigned for free school vouchers to be extended in 2020?
- 4) Which anniversary did Coronation Street celebrate this year?
- 5) Who is the Tiger King whose life and dramas at his private zoo were documented in the Netflix series of the same name?
- 6) Who replaced Sandi Toksvig as a present on the Great British Bake Off?
- 7) Who said "I still need a bit of milk, full fat, which I've warmed in the 'mecrowavay'."
- 8) Who said "Tomorrow will be a good day."
- 9) Which castle was I'm A Celebrity filmed in?
- 10) Which island did Harry and Meghan first move to in January?
- 11) Which celebrity did Prince George, Princess Charlotte and Prince Louis ask questions to in a video released by Kensington Palace?
- 12) How did Joe Wicks raise £1.5million for Children in Need?
- 13) Which music festival has had to postpone its 50th anniversary celebrations to 2021?
- 14) What song, covered by Captain Sir Tom Moore and Michael Ball, reached No1 in April?
- 15) Radio 1 refused to play the original version of which popular Christmas song due to its controversial lyrics?
- 16) Tyson Fury beat Deontay Wilder in February. What is Fury's nickname?
- 17) How did Leeds Rhinos legend Kevin Sinfield raise more than £2million for former teammate Rob Burrow and the MND Association?
- 18) Name the James Bond film that's been delayed to 2021
- 19) Which film did Sean Connery win his one and only Oscar for?
- 20) Which speaking movie became the first non-English language film to win an Oscar for Best Picture?

BEHIND THE SCENES AT 41 CLUB CONNECTS

Just like everything that ever happens in Table or 41 Club, there was a conversation that started with “I’ve got an idea”! And like so many things in our great lives in this most fantastic of organisations, these ideas grow, people join the journey and help make wonderful things happen. Unlike many things that happen though, the lockdown meant that this particular idea wasn’t formed in a pub or restaurant after a great evening of fellowship. This one all started over a phonecall and then many phonecalls where people said that they were worried that members might not know what to do for meetings and that they themselves were going to get a bit bored of quizzes (although it must be said that these are a lifeline to so many in these times). From there and after some quick calls, the beginnings of a programme that members could join and enjoy hearing from people who were good company began. They were focussed on the outdoors, resilience, drinking, inspiration and a chance to just get together around a virtual Table.

The team at the start was small and we learnt an awful lot. We learned that some people like to cook their dinners or watch TV all while listening to speakers. We learned that people wanted to watch these events afterwards. We learned that we have contacts and can reach out to more people than we imagined. We also learned that there are an awful lot of 41 Club Members on Facebook and that we needed to have someone watching that while the main zoom events were on. We got more people on board, had a summer recess and then the team got a lot better. The team now consists of a perfectly formed group who can handle technology, make pictures and type words, who can turn recordings into videos after the event, who are able to run the events and turn on recording, focus on the right person, mute people when they are interrupting, to find great speakers and to arrange events, help us advertise the events, to handle member questions and enquiries and just so much more.

The events have so many elements and just like all things in our fabulous family, this team has fun together, works together and is always behind each other. It is an absolute joy to have this group working together and every single one of them is an inspiration.

The team are:

Peter Good – Mr President – our encourager and chair

Steve James – Mr Fellowship – helping bring it together

Don Mullane – Mr Communications – helping make sure as many people know about these events as possible

Mark House – Mr Web – helping bring the event to a screen near you

Peter McBride – Mr Organised – helping bring order to the events and schedule and supporting so much of the other areas

Roger Spensely – Mr Events – helping bring events to you all

Kelly Clarke - Mr Events – helping bring beer and more into your homes

Kevin Stewart – helping bring events to you and bringing Scotland together

Jim Conway – helping bring events and our number one FB event manager – making sure your voice is heard on Facebook

Marcus Jones – helping bring events to you all

At the outset of our post-summer programme, we all joined in and had a brainstorming session that would help us identify what events we could do. We all agreed a mix of famous faces, special interests and fun and interactive nights would be the best that we could offer. We also agreed to three events a month, but the response to the events has been such that we will now move these to four. The team then went away to bring these events together and the rest is history!

We speak daily on WhatsApp to make sure everything is in place, we meet every Wednesday to make sure we’re all prepared for the Thursday meeting, and then like most well oiled machines, we arrive on Thursdays, greet our guests and the show starts. Of course, we do say well oiled machine! Yet, there have been moments of fun along the way!! John Inverdale is of course a very busy man and we didn’t know that before his appearance in early December that he was doing some work with ITV. ITV had a breaking news item that meant that John’s slot was moved ... the turnout from the event was fantastic and we were rapidly reaching our limit 300 on zoom and the team were getting concerned that he would not be able to join as the limit was reached! The good news was that he managed to be joiner number 298 at 7.28 and we were soon on our way with a great evening.

The whole team are proud to be part of an initiative that has opened evenings for members so that there is something to look forward to. This work is alongside other initiatives, like the walking 500 miles, or the 41 Club Buddies (where you can always have someone to speak to) and so much that individual clubs are doing to help themselves or their communities. The hinges of friendship have most certainly been oiled for so many and 41 Club has much to be proud of in these interesting times.

A request for volunteers

One area that the 41 Club Connects programme has helped is that more clubs are holding more zoom meetings. This is brilliant news and means that long-held friendships can be held. We all know it isn’t the same, but it is most certainly better than time spent alone. To support these, 41 Club has a limited number of zoom licences for clubs to use for their meetings. Many clubs have taken these licences up and used them for meetings and we are delighted that even more are now asking to use them. The Honorary Webmaster handles these enquiries and shares the access and also supports meeting set up where it is required. The volume is increasing so, we’re looking to form a ‘Zoom Helpers Group’ where members who are tech savvy and have some time, can help your fellow members and clubs to come together. If you do have tech skills and time, please drop Webmaster@41club.org a line and he will be in touch.

Thanks for reading and see you at the next event

Mark House, The 41 Club Connects Team, National Cllr Region 18, Hon. Webmaster

FORTHCOMING VIRTUAL EVENTS

FOR FULL DETAILS TO JOIN OR TO ORDER SEE WWW.41CLUBCONNECTS.CO.UK



26th JANUARY 2021



BURNS NIGHT SUPPER



4th FEBRUARY 2021
CRICKET MATCH SPECIAL WITH



JONATHAN AGNEW & GEOFF MILLER

*(And yes we know its "T**t Match Special" but that term is trademarked so we can't use it...)*



11TH FEBRUARY 2021 @7pm

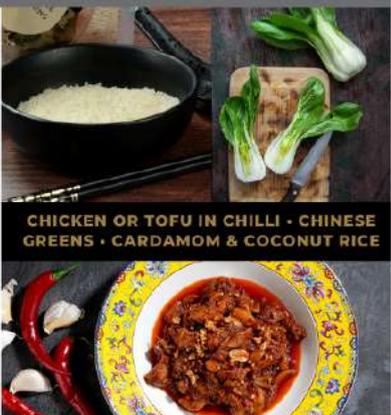




VALENTINES CHINESE NEW YEAR LIVE COOKALONG

RAISING FUNDS FOR Leukaemia Care
YOUR Blood Cancer Charity

Visit 41clubconnects.co.uk



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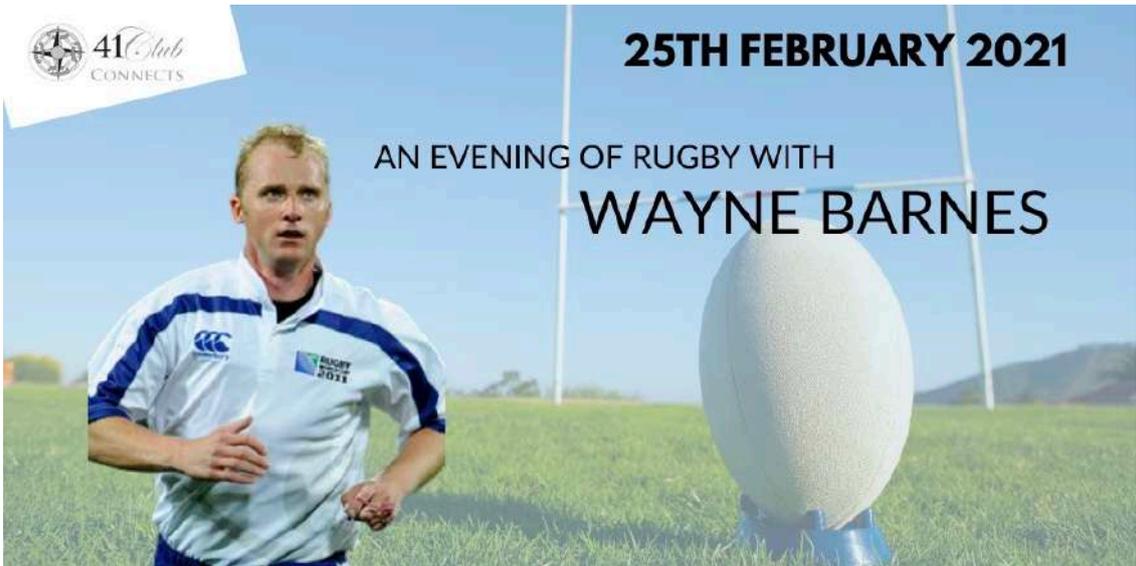
18TH FEBRUARY 2021

A VIRTUAL TOUR OF THE
NORTH YORKSHIRE MOORS RAILWAY



25TH FEBRUARY 2021

AN EVENING OF RUGBY WITH
WAYNE BARNES



JOKES – WITH APOLOGIES

I saw a young girl looking perplexed earlier, I said, "A problem shared is a problem halved." Unfortunately, her problem was understanding fractions so she hadn't a clue what I was on about...

The 5 symptoms of laziness:

1.

I was 3 hours late for work yesterday morning... Got stuck behind a Royal Mail van...

I've been sober for almost 100 days now... Not in a row, but still...

Success is like a fart... It only bothers people when it's not their own...

My subscription to the Scrabble Club expired... Now they're sending me threatening letters!

Jim Conway National Councillor Region 14

RESULTS OF THE 2019-2020 NATIONAL MEDIA COMPETITIONS WINNER OF THE DAVID SMITH TROPHY FOR BEST CLUB NEWSLETTER LYTHAM ST ANNES 41 CLUB

AFTER MUCH CONSIDERATION, THE AWARD FOR THE BEST CLUB NEWSLETTER HAS BEEN AWARDED TO DAVE CURRAN OF LYTHAM ST. ANNES 41 CLUB. THE NEWSLETTER HAS CONSISTENTLY CONTAINED HUMOROUS, HISTORICAL AND FACTUAL ARTICLES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, SOME OF WHICH HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED IN PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THIS NEWSLETTER AND THE NATIONAL MAGAZINE. GREAT WORK DAVE, KEEP UP THE GREAT WORK. HONOURABLE MENTIONS GO TO NORTHAMPTON NENE, GORDANO VALLEY & LEICESTER ST MARTINS 41 CLUBS FOR THEIR NEWSLETTERS. SPECIAL MENTION FOR MICHAEL MCQUADE, THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S TRANSPORT COORDINATOR, FOR HIS NEWSLETTER "PETER VISITS DIARY"

WINNER OF THE DAVID HEWITT TROPHY FOR BEST CLUB WEBSITE

SCARBOROUGH 41 CLUB

WWW.SCARBOROUGH41CLUB.CO.UK

AFTER MUCH CONSIDERATION, THE AWARD FOR THE BEST CLUB WEBSITE HAS BEEN AWARDED TO DAVID HENDERSON OF SCARBOROUGH 41 CLUB. CONGRATULATIONS (LLONGYFARCHIADAU) DAVID. THE WEBSITE IS CONTINUOUSLY MAINTAINED WITH ALL OF NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND PRESIDENTIAL COMMUNICATIONS LOADED UP AND MADE AVAILABLE TO THEIR MEMBERS. THE WEBSITE IS ALSO REGULARLY UPDATED WITH CLUB EVENTS AND ARTICLES FROM BOTH 41 CLUB AND ROUND TABLE HISTORY. SOME ARTICLES HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED IN PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THIS NEWSLETTER AND THE NATIONAL MAGAZINE. GREAT WORK DAVID, KEEP UP THE GREAT WORK. SPECIAL MENTION FOR WWW.41CLUBCONNECTS.CO.UK

NEW WINTER PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

Wynn Parry is launching a winter photography competition. Just supply a photograph of anything that you think can be interpreted as a winter photograph. The rules are quite simple:

Entrants must be members of 41 Club. i.e Registered in the CAS database and a member of an affiliated 41 Club.

Entrants can submit a maximum of 2 photographs.

Each photo must be accompanied with a caption.

Please send your entries to Wynn at region6@41club.org by the 31st January 2021.

The National Council will vote to decide who has provided the best photograph at the February National Council Meeting.

The best 10 will be published in next month's newsletter.

Tom Atkins, the NCLO has kindly offered a "Love to Shop" voucher to the value of £100 to the winner (*I suspect the 'to' is an important part of the description of that voucher!*).

ANSWERS TO THE DECEMBER NEWSLETTER PRIZE QUIZ

1. A Christmas Carol
2. House / Creature / Mouse
3. Alastair Cook / Quentin Crisp / Sir Isaac Newton / Humphrey Bogart / Kenny Everett
4. Irving Berlin
5. Only Fools and Horses
6. Christmas Lunches
7. Cambridge
8. The Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come
9. Michael Caine
10. O Come All Ye Faithful / We Three Kings of Orient are / Jingle Bells / Once in Royal David's City / Little Donkey

Unfortunately there were no entries by the closing date, so the malt whisky was not won.

JOB VACANCY REMINDER – HONORARY ARCHIVIST

Our Honorary Archivist, Hugh Milward, has decided to stand down as the National Honorary Archivist at the end of this year.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Bernard Elwen at Secretary@41club.org by 31st January 2021.

For further details please see the article on page 12 of the Winter Magazine, or go to www.41Club.org/pages/archivist or contact Bernard directly

Hugh Milward will be stepping down as Honorary Archivist at the end of the current 41 Club year.

Any member interested in succeeding Hugh in the role is invited to contact the Honorary Secretary, Bernard Elwen, for further information.



Introduction

As the Honorary Archivist for 41 Club, I have been asked to put a short article together on what my role actually does.

The job that the Honorary Archivist does for The National Association, roughly falls into three areas; maintaining the Archives of 41 Club, assisting Clubs and individual Members with enquiries about the past and maintaining our "Book of Remembrance" on our Website.

In addition, there is the job of maintaining our 41 Club Archive Room at Marchesi House, where items that cannot be scanned into electronic storage are kept and put on display.

Let's have a look at the electronic storage side of the role first.

Documentation

The preferred method for storage for all AGM, Board, National Council Agendas and Approved Minutes is SharePoint within the 41 Club email system. Here documentation from the early days to the present is kept. Hard copies before the advent of electronic documentation, has all been scanned along with Affiliation Lists, Charters (where issued) and other similar documents.

Other lists are kept of Association Award Holders, Honorary Life Members and Citations.

Magazines and Newsletters

These give a very good indication of what has gone on within the Association at any given time and as well as electronic copies being stored, a full set of hard copies of the Magazine are kept at our Archive Room at Marchesi House. The Magazines contain photographs which are very useful in identifying past members, Club Chairmen and Officers of the Association in any given year as we are an Association of Clubs, not members.

National Conference and National Events
Hard copy folders of information on past National Conferences and past National

Events such as the Classic Car Rally are kept at our Archive Room. As Archivist I am always on the lookout for items such as menu cards, table plans, flags, badges, programmes, brochures etc., for the many events (even more so now) that take place throughout the year.



Miscellaneous Items

I also look after other items which are usually stored in the Archive Room, such as past President's Scrapbooks and Photograph Albums, tapes, CD's, Past President's Banners, Jewels and Gifts (received or given) and any other item that may be of interest such as a framed signed copy of the first meeting of The Association.

Our 41 Club Candelabra, Hand of Friendship are all stored in the Archive Room and now that the Loving Cup has been located, it may well return to its original home!

There is even a collection of 41 Club ties!

Also held are copies of any books related to 41 Club as well as a full set of current "Platinum" Jewels in a display case.

There are a couple of card index boxes from the early days of 41 Club showing hand written cards when Clubs were first affiliated.

The photographs accompanying this article show the display cases in the Archive Room.

So what about helping individual Clubs and Members?

Enquiry Service to Members

Clubs usually contact me about their past when a special Charter is due, asking about their Affiliation Date and first Officers etc. I can usually find a funny story about the early days of their Club by searching past Magazines. This is also useful for the National President when giving a speech to have such information when visiting Clubs.

One of the sad things are requests on past Round Table documentation, but as they do not fall within my remit I am unable to help. My understanding is that Round Table does not have an Archivist which is a pity.

The third area is unfortunately all about Obituaries.

41 Club Book of Remembrance

As the Archivist, I receive all Obituary emails addressed to obits@41club.org following which I keep a record of all that I receive and place them along with Photographs, in chronological order on our Website under our Book of Remembrance. I also keep a list of Names and Clubs of those members who have passed away (including those who do not necessarily send in a full Obituary) and pass these on to the 41 Club Communications Officer for inclusion in the respective edition of our Magazine three times a year.

I always reply to the sender of any Obituary acknowledging receipt and offering condolences to the Club from the Association as well as from myself.

I hope you have enjoyed this little insight into the role of the 41 Club Honorary Archivist of which I have had the privilege and pleasure of holding for the past seven years.

DEMENTIA UK CHARITY WALK

"I CAN WALK 500 MILES, AND I CAN WALK 500 MORE"

TO RAISE £2,000 FOR THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S CHARITY, DEMENTIA UK

GET FIT! GET THIN! LOSE WEIGHT! STAY HEALTHY!

HELP US TO RAISE MONEY FOR PRESIDENT PETER'S CHARITY.

[PLEASE MAKE YOUR DEMENTIA UK DONATIONS AT HTTPS://UK.VIRGINMONEYGIVING.COM/PETERGOOD](https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/petergood)

Santa's Sleigh in the North East



At Guisborough 41 Club several of the members relive the prime of their Tabling lives and take the opportunity to dress up by running the local 'Santa round the streets', in a similar fashion to many other clubs. The original group that began the event as a 'Santa's Grotto' on the town's late night shopping event are all still intact in 41 Club and have seen the event adapt over the years. The biggest change being in September 2001 when we were invited to the Black & Decker apprentice training centre to build ourselves a new popup sleigh which initially was used in the grotto and for many years since then has been hauled round the streets of Guisborough, Redcar and Marske by the Sea covering most of the areas where our members live.

Over the years we have been assisted by the Sea cadets, St Johns, Rotary and other local groups to make a success of our event and raised thousands for local charities.

Christmas 2020 was an exception for all of us, with limited numbers, unable to book licenses and to be honest so many other much bigger things for us all to deal with we just could not manage to organise the event.

However, using our "adopt, adapt, improve" ethos we have been able to ensure a great Christmas treat for many children in the area by loaning our sleigh and our Santa on one occasion to local community groups in Redcar, Skelton, Boosebeck and Margrove Park to boost the spectacle and kids enjoyment at their town and village Christmas events.

We have forged some great connections, our kit was used to the maximum and more importantly all the children had a great time. The Moral of the story, old dogs don't need to learn new tricks, just adopt, adapt and improve their old ones!

Peter Milburn National Councillor Region 4

41CLUB CONNECTS - SPEAKERS CORNER

Since our last newsletter 41ClubConnects has delivered some amazing talks, prior to Christmas we had the wonderful John Inverdale, who enjoyed himself so much, he stayed on the call over his time sharing his love of horses and some very funny stories across the sporting world.



We had the fun with the Moon Glazer Ales Event, followed by the Christmas sing along with over 100 attendees with an amazing Welsh choir in support.

Followed by what can only be described as a poignant Christmas day hour with the President for those members who were potentially alone. A call from members stuck in Spain, Cyprus and Scotland and of course more locally which made it very special for everyone.



Then as we blasted into 2021 with the same social challenges as last year, the guest speaker was very relevant for what we are all dealing with presently with Covid19 lockdown. Richard McCann, International author, speaker and a guy whose life story leaves you in awe. Everyone listened intently to his every word and pause. The engagement from Richard reached another level with his warmth towards the members which came through. Resilience, optimism, despair along with that belief there would always be light at the end of the tunnel. Add in the dynamic use of technology and free downloads of his book – it was a true belter of a night.

Richards story is very compelling and honest. He went on to discuss the spirit of "I CAN, I WILL" approach to life and shared with all attendees amazing thought processes and self help that in these current covid19 times are very relevant. With many areas of his story moving, the highlight was the video of his son following in the amazing footsteps of his dad speaking to an audience of 3000 people at the tender age of six.

It is super evident that 41ClubConnects is reaching out to the UK membership and further afield, and that there is no doubt starting 2021 with a speaker who demonstrated such inspirational values that added value to many members on the call, it created a light at the end of the tunnel ahead.

Finally, the last word is for Richards mum "Wilma", not to be remembered just for the headlines that strewn across the news so many years ago, but in memory of the warmth shared by your son of the amazing family photos.

Not forgetting the toast of thanks which Richard mentions in his social media post after the event.

Now we look forward to the next events with the warm fellowship of 41Club.

Marcus Jones Chairman National President's PLC



HELPING TO RUN THE CHRISTMAS FLOAT IN 2020WITH SURPRISING RESULTS

Harpenden 41 Club have good links with Round Table and every year we liaise and help with the Christmas Float, usually taking over completely a number of the 18 or 19 nights they run it.

However, of course, the float has been operated very differently this year, due to COVID.

The Council announced that knocking on doors was not allowed, and for a while we wondered how we would be able to do anything.

Round Table were very ingenious and innovative, and a plan came together with 41 Chairman Graham Dicks, and committee member Paul Pepperrell involved.

First, RT developed a web page to take volunteer bookings. 41 Club did not have their normal designated nights, but could book in to help on any night. The system worked well and through Social Media RT could quickly call for more help when needed.

Second, they arranged online donations and cash-free collections, and advertised the routes widely, again through Social Media (Facebook, WhatsApp, Next Door etc). See www.harpendensanta.uk

Third, as the Float made it's way along, two guys (Elves!) were 10 minutes ahead pushing leaflets through letterboxes. This brought many, many folk, and kids, out just in time to see Santa, and the bucket collection was heavily supported.

The result after 6 nights was that £4120 was collected through bucket, cashless and online, and that was 21% higher than the same stage last year. This continued with over £1300 taken on one night, our highest night on record. After 13 of 19 nights, the total was over £10,000 NET, compared with £9,500 for the whole three weeks last year.

Now of course, with Tier 4, there can be no leafletting so we expect the remainder of the routes to be down, but nevertheless, it's a great achievement by Round Table, helped by many of our 41 Club members, in adverse times.

The charities this year were:-

- Luton & Dunstable Hospital Helipad Appeal
- Herts Young Homeless
- Round Table Children's Wish

And, as well as the money raised for these worthy charities, there has been the satisfaction of seeing the joy in Children's faces as they see Santa.....



Graham Wood Harpenden 41 Club

PAINTBALLING FOR CHRISTMAS



Xmas Paintball 2020 - Alyn & Deeside XRT 41 Club, Chester Round Table, Deeside Round Table, Prospective New Members

In between lockdowns and Santa Floats, Xmas Care Packs and Charity Xmas Tree Delivery we managed to get a little down time to play Soldiers! We are very lucky to have a fantastic Paintball and Airsoft Centre based in Kinnerton - located between Wrexham and Chester on the North Wales/Cheshire border, **Outpost Paintball & Airsoft** offers the opportunity to skirmish at a genuine Cold War military base. Real Concrete Bunkers, Towers and Gun emplacements, ammunition storage huts alongside custom built areas meant that all our schoolboy dreams could be reenacted!

<https://www.facebook.com/outpostpaintball>
<https://www.outpostpaintball.co.uk>



We had a mixed bunch of recruits with members from Alyn & Deeside XRT 41 Club, Chester Round Table, Deeside Round Table, Prospective New Members, friends and family - the youngest was 12 through to the more mature rear gunners in their 50's! So there was plenty of youth and exuberance tempered with maturity and treachery! Ha! Red and Blue Teams were set in place and a choice of Camouflage Overalls or Fancy Dress was given - i am delighted to say our Team consisted of a Father Xmas, Bright Yellow Picachu, Xmas Elf and a Mario Brother with opposing players choosing a Bright Purple Dinosaur, Superman, Star Wars Chewbacca and a Bright Blue Picachu!! After a safety briefing the first couple of games were a straight forward shoot 'em up and to alternate between attacking and defending a base - i suggested the Young uns (or expendables as i like to call them) move forward at pace and us more mature, less agile bring up the rear!

To be fair the Red Team did appear to move more quickly than i anticipated and i was shot in the head almost immediately!

In between Games we were given the opportunity to purchase more ammo, smoke bombs and stun grenades which added to the Comedy - despite our best efforts on the Blue Team, including yours truly holding off 7 attacking Red Team players from taking the Rocket Ship - until I got over ran and took several completely unnecessary and rather excessive shots to the softer areas of my person by the Purple Dinosaur.....

The Red Team were outstanding taking 5 Wins...However the Blue Team did take one consolation Victory defending the Hamburger Hill Fortress.....
During the lunch break of Baked Potato with Chilli or Hot Dog, excited recollections and embellished stories were swapped of our endeavours - the inevitable pot shots, flesh wounds and bruises were inspected, admired and laughed at...but the things that bonded us all was the silliness, humour, mischievousness and reassuring brotherhood (throughout all the ages) and its clear we never really stop having fun because we grow old, we grow old because we stop having fun.....

Rory Tompsett, National Councillor, Region 12

WHEN INSULTS HAD CLASS

These glorious insults are from an era “before” the English language got boiled down to 4-letter words....

"He had delusions of adequacy." Walter Kerr

"He has all the virtues I dislike and none of the vices I admire." Winston Churchill

"I have never killed a man, but I have read many obituaries with great pleasure." Clarence Darrow

*"He has never been known to use a word that might send a reader to the dictionary."
William Faulkner (about Ernest Hemingway)*

"Thank you for sending me a copy of your book; I'll waste no time reading it." Moses Hadas

"I didn't attend the funeral, but I sent a nice letter saying I approved of it." Mark Twain

"He has no enemies, but is intensely disliked by his friends." Oscar Wilde

*"I am enclosing two tickets to the first night of my new play; bring a friend, if you have one. "
George Bernard Shaw to Winston Churchill*

"Cannot possibly attend first night, will attend second... if there is one." Winston Churchill, in response

"I feel so miserable without you; it's almost like having you here." Stephen Bishop

"He is a self-made man and worships his creator." John Bright

"I've just learned about his illness. Let's hope it's nothing trivial." Irvin S. Cobb

"He is not only dull himself; he is the cause of dullness in others." Samuel Johnson

"He is simply a shiver looking for a spine to run up." Paul Keating

"In order to avoid being called a flirt, she always yielded easily." Charles, Count Talleyrand

"He loves nature in spite of what it did to him." Forrest Tucker

"Why do you sit there looking like an envelope without any address on it?" Mark Twain

"His mother should have thrown him away and kept the stork." Mae West

"Some cause happiness wherever they go; others, whenever they go." Oscar Wilde

"He uses statistics as a drunken man uses lamp-posts... for support rather than illumination. " Andrew Lang (1844-1912)

"He has Van Gogh's ear for music." Billy Wilder

"I've had a perfectly wonderful evening. But I'm afraid this wasn't it." Groucho Marx

Duncan Kennedy Assistant Regional Councillor, Region 13

THE LAST BRITISH DAMBUSTER, NOW THE LAST DAMBUSTER

In early December last year, I watched three TV programmes presented by Dan Snow on consecutive evenings about the Dambusters Raid on 16th/17th May 1943 during WW2. This reminded me, a Lincolnshire “yeller belly” from “Bomber County”, now living in the Isle of Man, of an extra special Severn Vale Dinner hosted by Malvern Hills 41 Club that I attended in Gloucester in 2015. The guest speaker was Squadron Leader George ‘Johnny’ Johnson, a bomb aimer on the raid, and a fellow Lincolnshire “yeller belly”. At the time of the dinner ‘Johnny’ was 93 and the “Last British Dambuster”.

I was born and brought up just outside Boston in south Lincolnshire and my mother, who will be 95 on Good Friday, is from Coningsby (before the RAF station was constructed!). RAF Coningsby is now home to the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight comprising an Avro Lancaster, a Supermarine Spitfire, and a Hawker Hurricane. As a child in the 50s and early 60s, I recall riding past the airfield regularly in my father’s car when we visited my maternal grandparents in Coningsby.

The Lincolnshire Aviation Heritage Centre is located on the old airfield at East Kirkby, one of 46 operational airfields in Lincolnshire during WW2, and just down the road from RAF Coningsby. Incidentally, East Kirkby is only four miles from Hameringham, the small Lincolnshire village where ‘Johnny’ Johnson was born! The Heritage Centre is a privately owned museum started by brothers Fred and Harold Panton in memory of their brother, Chris, who was killed on a bombing raid in WW2. Fred and Harold bought Avro Lancaster NX611 (“Just Jane”) in September 1983 and four years later, after completing a previously agreed total of 10 years as “gate guardian” at RAF Scampton, she was brought to East Kirkby, courtesy of the RAF. Restoration of the plane is being undertaken and, although there are plans to make her airworthy again, at the moment she will only taxi along the grass runway fast enough for the tail to lift. You can pay to have a ride when this happens, if you so wish! The Dambusters (617 Squadron) were based at RAF Scampton, about 30 miles from both Coningsby and East Kirkby, and I remember driving past during those 10 years and seeing the Lancaster at the main entrance to the base.

On Sunday, 7th September 2014, about 5,000 people including my brother and me attended an afternoon event at East Kirkby. We were all very lucky that it was a gloriously sunny afternoon when the only two airworthy Lancasters in the world (the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight plane and a privately owned plane from Canada, which had flown to the UK for a series of commemorative air displays around the country) flew over East Kirkby airfield while “Just Jane” was taxiing on the grass runway below, three Lancasters combining to provide a unique, never to be repeated memorable afternoon: Three Lancasters Meet at East Kirkby 2014 - YouTube. “Just Jane” was used for filming the parts of the TV programmes referred to above where you see Dan Snow scrambling around inside a Lancaster.

To commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Dambusters Raid, Dan Snow presented a simulcast from the Royal Albert Hall to cinemas nationwide on Thursday evening, 17th May 2018, and I bought a ticket to watch it, here in the Isle of Man. The first half of the evening saw families of crew members remember the raid’s legacy, while a large screen showed never before seen images of the Dambusters and unreleased memoirs from the film’s director, Michael Anderson. There was also an interview with ‘Johnny’ Johnson, who was not at the Royal Albert Hall, but at an event in Lincolnshire. An on-stage “bouncing bomb” experiment showed how Sir Barnes Wallis realised his invention, and one of his daughters shared her childhood memories of that time. This was followed by a screening of The Dambusters film in stunning 4K.

So, the Lincolnshire “yeller belly” from “Bomber County”, now living in the Isle of Man just had to make the long journey to Gloucester on 5th March 2015, where he had a very enjoyable evening, and managed to get his copy of “The Last British Dambuster” signed by the author, Squadron Leader George ‘Johnny’ Johnson DFM!

At the time of the dinner ‘Johnny’ was the “Last British Dambuster”, but now nearly six years later he is “The Last Dambuster”, who celebrated his 99th birthday on 25th November 2020. I hope he lives at least another year!



Robert Udy Isle of Man 41 Club, Isle of Man Prospect Ex-Tablers’ Club & White Knights 41 Club

WHISK(E)Y CORNER



Now be honest, if a friend of yours knew you liked the occasional whisky and offered you an Indian whisky, what would your first reaction be? Maybe similar to a friend of mine who when I offered him one, politely answered “Well OK - unless of course you have a proper whisky?”

It’s not surprising that the majority of people express surprise at hearing that India produces whisky – and some world class whisky at that – after all, you don’t see a lot of it in Supermarkets or advertised in any of the main media.

INTRODUCTION

It was the British Raj in the 19th Century who first introduced drinking Scotch whisky to India. In the late 1820s, Edward Dyer moved from England to set up the first brewery in India at Kasauli, and then a distillery there.

The initial distilleries however did not produce malt whisky – rather by blending a spirit distilled from fermented molasses - similar to what we know as rum. The majority of ‘domestic whisky’ for their internal market is still this.

INITIAL MALT WHISKIES

Around 1980s however, things started to change when the Amrut distillery pioneered whisky from malted grains and produced the first blended malt whisky in 1986. The first batch of whisky was ready within 18 months. Because India had no culture of consuming single malts at the time, the company did not consider bottling it as a single malt. Instead, the whisky was blended with alcohol distilled from sugarcane.

They continued their pioneering work and in 2004 produced the first single malt in India, from local barley. It was hugely popular but the production of alcohol from grain was hampered by shortage of extra grain, due to food shortages. Allowing grains to be used for alcohol manufacture was and still is an emotive subject in India, due to poverty and alcohol's ambivalent reputation.

Due to the cooler temperatures, Indian barley is almost exclusively grown in the north of the country, mainly near the borders with China, Nepal and Pakistan. For the southern distilleries, this means the barley has to be transported around 1,500 miles by road to the distilleries.

INDIA WHISKY MATURATION 3 TIMES FASTER THAN IN SCOTLAND

Indian weather conditions of extreme Summers and Winters are harsh compared to Scotland and such changes causes whisky-filled casks to expand and contract at a greater rate. The end result is that Indian whiskies have a faster evaporation, faster ageing and therefore a faster maturation process – where one year maturation in India is equivalent to 3 years maturation in Scotland! This results in the ‘Angel’s Share’ (that whisky that evaporates from the cask during maturation) is a massive 20% rather than the usual 2-3% from those casks maturing in Scottish warehouses!

Today, in only 16 years, the customer base has grown massively and around 15% of all whisky produced in India is malt whisky. The influence of India on global brands is increasing, with the Indian company United Spirits Limited acquiring many noted whisky brands and distilleries in Scotland, including Dalmore, Isle of Jura, and Whyte & Mackay.

NUMBER 3 IN THE WORLD!

In 2010, the whisky world’s recognition and respect for Indian whiskies rocketed when the whisky guru Jim Murray scored Amrut Fusion 97/100 points and awarded it the title of Third Finest Whisky in the World in his famous Whisky Bible 2010.

I hope this has intrigued you to try Indian malt whisky if you haven’t already – I recommend the following three whiskies, all of which have been imbibed in our WACWAC Whisky Club meetings (www.wacwac.co.uk):

AMRUT FUSION 50% ABV (~£54)

Amrut Fusion gets its name from the fact that it uses two barleys: Indian and Scottish - with the latter being peated for good measure. Voted the 3rd best Whisky in the world by Whisky-guru Jim Murray. He did so after tasting over 4000 whiskies from the world over.

Nose : Heavy, thickly oaked and complex: barley-sugar notes in soft smoke.

Taste : smoke on the nose turns into warming, full blown peat, vague sherry trifle note; oaky vanilla ; barley – fruitiness.

Finish : dry peat and oak; molasse sweetness ; spices



RAMPUR DOUBLE CASK SINGLE MALT WHISKY 45% (~£55)

Distilled in traditional copper pot stills, matured in first fill handpicked American Bourbon barrels & European Oak sherry casks and bottled at the foothills of the Himalayas in Uttar Pradesh.

Nose: Full-bodied aroma of tropical fruits, smooth sweet malty tones and oaky notes from double oak-wood barrels create an aurora of flavors.

Palate: Lustful elegance of sweet fruits; riding on rich sherry for a blissful nirvana.

Finish: Tantalisingly long, lingering and generous.

PAUL JOHN PEDRO XIMENEZ SELECT CASK 48% (~£69)

Water from the underground table of water in Goa, along with rain-fed water sources and water filtered through the Goan wetlands. Matured in American oak bourbon barrels and finished in hand-picked Pedro Ximenez sherry casks, the intensely sweet and dark Spanish dessert sherry.

Nose : Fig and apricot with a rare hint of banana, caramel, toffee

Taste : Sweet barley with creamy butterscotch, dry fruits and Christmas cake

Finish : Long and exquisite, with chocolate fudge, orange peel and exotic wine drenched nuts.



If you fancy trying some of these or other whiskies I can recommend a couple of excellent whisky websites:

The Whisky Exchange
Master of Malt

www.thewhiskyexchange.com
www.masterofmalt.com

You can buy miniature bottles if you don’t want to buy a full size - also you can find some helpful articles and links on my own Wallington & Carshalton 41 Club Whisky Appreciation Club’s (WACWAC) website www.wacwac.co.uk .

“You can’t buy happiness but you can buy whisky - and that’s pretty close”

Slainte!

Peter McBride Wallington & Carshalton 41 Club & National Councillor Region 24

**NEWS OF WHAT'S HAPPENING
IN ROUND TABLE
- A NEW (HOPEFULLY)
REGULAR FEATURE**

All the latest news from the
Greatest Young Men's Club in the world



THIS MONTH'S NEWS FROM LIAM BAUCKHAM, LONDON WEST END ROUND TABLE, NATIONAL MEDIA OFFICER IS CENTRED ON RT AREA 36.

NEWS FROM AREA 36

Area 36 is made up of 5 tables that saw numbers swell by almost a 3rd in the last year - going from 59 members to 79 members.

HAWK RT 311

HAWK's annual Carol Wagon raised a staggering £4,500 in December, which is not far of our usual total, despite not having as many helpers as normal. We were however able to cover more ground, which was great for the community. Unfortunately, we cannot hold our Winter Warmers lunch for pensioners in January so have decided instead to send a handwritten card and newsletter to each of the 150 attendees.



CHESTER ROUND TABLE 76

That's it, the float season is over and what a blast it's been! After 2 months and over 100 hours of planning, we were able to provide: 1 rugby club visit, 1 extra special Santa drop in for Boughton Heath Academy, 2 days of Santa tree deliveries and 9 float nights. We covered 13 districts of Chester including 7 new areas and received many happy faces as we did so! It is safe to say this year was a huge success. The hashtag '#SpaceWaveDonate' was created for our social media channels, which a lot of Tables across the region and beyond also picked up on. We deployed numerous ways of raising funds safely such as Text to Donate, QR Code, Paypal, card readers as well as buckets. We raised a record total of £7,320 - and we even identified four prospects.



HESWALL RT 557

This year's wagon season was a bit different as you can imagine, but not in a bad way!! Everyone in HRT agreed that whatever happens collection wise for Santa Wagon, the show should still go on and we could at least bring some cheer to the streets we visited.

By the end of it all we had raised an amazing £7,788 through collections and online donations, with not a single door disturbed.

We have also had 5 prospective new members off the back of the Santa Season, so we are looking forward to 2021.



ELLESMERE PORT RT 490

We only did ten runs in this year, down from the usual 16 but it didn't dampen our spirits nor that of the local community... even though things had to be done more than a little differently. We managed to raise an incredible £6,246. Our "socially distant drainpipe hoppers" were a huge success... if for no other reason, than to see collections from first-floor windows. We fully intended to induct a new member after our final Santa Wagon run, with the Area President offering to do the honours. However, in true Round Table style, we just focused on the drinking / making merry, and totally forgot until the next day!



DEESIDE RT 602

I am pleased to report that Deeside finished it's Santa sleigh season with £12,132.00 excluding any expenses, which is an awesome effort by all the Deeside members.

Whilst raising money is in our DNA, our redefined purpose of community is certainly another highlight of our Santa sleigh season. We supported Laura's Army, a family of three young children who recently lost their mother to cancer. We provided them with gifts and a real Christmas tree, delivered by the big man in red on his sleigh. We also visited a little hero called Aaron, who is suffering from a brain tumour - once again the big man in red delivered a sackful of Spiderman gifts and a new scooter.

We planted a real outdoor Christmas tree at Deeside Community Hospital, who were unable to have a Christmas tree inside this year due to Covid-19 and provided four cordless telephones, so that patients in hospital could speak to relatives on Christmas day. We also provided a Christmas day gift to 30 patients and bought nearly £300 worth of buffet food for 70 nurses and doctors who were working across the three day festive period.

Finally, our Santa Sleigh season ended with our school Christmas card competition. We received hundreds of entries and it was very difficult to decide a final winner of our £500 school fund. The winning Christmas card was printed and delivered to our external stakeholders who have been so supportive this year. The winning Christmas card also found it's way into the 50 Christmas day food and toy hampers that we delivered to the most vulnerable families in Deeside.



SANDBACH 41 CLUB LEND AN ELFING HAND

Well, it started like most things do recently, with a throw away comment during a Zoom meeting of Sandbach 41 Club. Initially it was about how we could assist Table with their Float – bearing in mind we were having this Zoom meeting in the Summer! Planning is what makes it successful or is that we easily forget what we are doing?

Anyway, one discussion led to another and then, in the usual style of 41 Club we were discussing the Old Folks Christmas Party – I think the link was Santa! Anyway, it turns out that due to Covid neither of these events are likely to take place, especially with a Table who at that time had only five members.



Our 41 Club Vice Chairman asked a question. Frankly, none of us can remember what it was, but out of it came two groups: one to help the Tablers with the Float and the Vice Chairman to explore the possibility of delivering a hamper to 100 of the Town’s Senior Citizens who would have been going to the Party.

Fast forward a few months, and we have just completed the first ever delivery of 100 food hampers to our Senior Citizens in a project that was managed by 41 Club with the complete engagement of both Round Table and Ladies Circle – the Round Table Family had been drawn back together by 41 Club.

The whole Family Group pulled together to raise funds and get the contents donated. A team from Ladies Circle stepped up and in a Covid secure environment assembled 100 hampers ready for delivery. Then Table, 41 Club and Circle delivered them in one evening across the Town to some very happy recipients!

In addition, 41 Club members discussed and debated the options for the Float settling for a drive-by option to ensure the community was brightened and heartened by the sight of the traditional Santa Float.



Initially with no towing vehicle, this was going to be awkward! One of the Tablers came up with a bright suggestion of asking two former Tablers who work for Bentley if they could help. The usual car dealers said they had no stock with a tow bar this year to assist. Would you adam and eve it? Bentley said “yes” and promptly advised a Bentayga and a driver would be provided!

Rushing around to make sure this could be done in a Covid secure way, preparing the float, creating rota’s and providing maps that divided the Town up, 41 Club were involved in every step. During the rounds, members provided driving and escort duties for the lead vehicle or acted as Elfs on the Float – Santa was well chuffed to have people his own age assisting! Ladies Circle were also there on each night even taking a whole afternoon and evening of routes around the Town themselves, with a little more assistance from Table and 41 Club.

The upshot? Well, it was not about collecting cash this year, it was about bringing some cheer to our local Community. The positive aspects were the huge amounts of compliments obtained via social media

thanking Table for their hard work to assist Santa. We know we are not unique in what we are doing but we wanted to illustrate the close bond of friendship across the Round Table Family and how 41 Club can often lead, then sit back.

Two great events that have drawn the Round Table Family closer together; provided a positive message of fellowship across our community; and created the skeleton for both Table and Circle to explore the opportunities of new members knowing that 41 Club are there to help when called upon.

Paul Molley Sandbach 41 Club



CAMBERLEY 41 CLUB'S DIGITAL SANTA

The Camberley 41 Club Santa Float could not venture out last Covid Christmas. So, what could we do instead to raise money for our local Charities? Easy, we went digital. Members searched their lofts and garages and their Partner's drawers (so to speak) and found items they were prepared to disown, that would be worthy of re-sale or auction. A catalogue was prepared, and items were digitally offered for sale (proceeds to charity) on eBay, and local digital marketplaces. A good example was the autographed Cliff Richard Sweater that auctioned for £150. Some members made personal donations, well the Government does say if you don't need your annual fuel allowance, give it to charity.

Now we normally raise about £8,000 with the Santa float, on the streets and at Shopping Centres, but our Digital Santa raised a total of £1,880.15, all of which is being donated to our chosen charity, which is **The Besom*** (www.besom.com). Camberley 41 Club is thrilled and delighted to achieve this result first time out. It was relatively easy and perfectly safe. Perhaps it is a blueprint for the future, either at Christmas or throughout the year. The side benefit being we might clear our houses of junk and save our kids the bother.

It would have been easy to "have a year off": But not us! As a result, a very worthy Local Charity, **The Besom*** run entirely by volunteers, is better able to help meet the varying needs of Local residents through giving out tailored packs of essentials including food and household basics. Well Done to everyone involved!

Mike Mautus Camberley 41 Club



FEEDBACK FROM MEMBERS

REGARDING THE WINNING ENTRY IN THE NATIONAL PHOTO COMPETITION

Great photo of the Male Sparrow Hawk. I know it's not meant to glorify the murderous nature that it possesses. However this hawk is now protected and like the Coronavirus is totally out of control. I live in Shipston on Stour and receive phone calls desperately asking what can be done about the ones taking all their garden birds. My garden has three regularly visiting us. It is a big garden that they have Decimated.

- Taking details from their behaviour and eating habits from reputable web sites.
- Each bird catches and eats/snack off up to five birds a day. That's about 150 birds a month
- They live ten to fifteen years. That's 150 X 12 X 10+ ???
- Birds. When nesting their, three to five chicks, it's seventeen birds a day to the nest.
- They breed in their second year, whose young breed in their second year. Etc etc etc etc
- Thirty years ago after a decline due to pest poisons There were said to be 3,000 breeding pairs in the UK. Five years ago there were said to be 500,000 pairs. How many now?

They are not to be blamed as they have evolved over millions of years feeding on the vast flocks of finches, that still flew in our childhood days. The British Trust for Ornithology. Sees no problem. They will not accept that dead birds don't breed or that these hawks have any effect on bird populations.

If I sat in my garden With a gun and shot two pairs of song thrushes, a pair of mistle thrushes, a pair of green woodpeckers and their two fledglings thirteen collard doves. Seven blackbirds. Two wood pigeons plus half a flock of goldfinches and nearly every tit and house sparrows. And if everyone did the same. Then who would say. "Carry on. It won't have any effect in the big scheme of things."

The birds named above are these I have actually seen being caught. Sadly, many bury their heads in the sand and are stubbornly doing nothing. I am sad to think that I am one of the last generation to be able to see a full range of garden birds.

Has anyone in 41club any suggestions?

Phil Randall, Stratford on Avon 41 Club.

A SMALL SELECTION REGARDING 41 CONNECTS

Thank you for what you and all the others involved are doing to keep communication, interest and fellowship going within 41 Club. Its playing a vital role for the Association and is very much appreciated. - *Geoff Morgan*

Well after a working life of encountering "motivational speakers" at professional body meetings etc. I was not expecting to get much from last night. However it was fascinating, just as a life story. - *Peter Smith*

Keep up the good work in a challenging and uncertain world. We greatly appreciate all you are doing for our Club. - *Sam Weller*

WE DON'T ALWAYS GET EVERYTHING RIGHT THOUGH!

REGARDING MY COMMENTS ABOUT THE SPITFIRE MUSEUM TOUR BEING POSTPONED...

I feel that your comment above the virus being Chinese is inappropriate. Trumpian stereotyping of this type is racist and xenophobic and I am not happy that an organisation I belong to should use such terms, even in jest – it is not funny! - *Mark Allison*

The Chinese??? Really, are you using DT in referring to the Chinese virus? Will others now call this new variant the English disease and us as plague island? Come on. - *Jan Black*

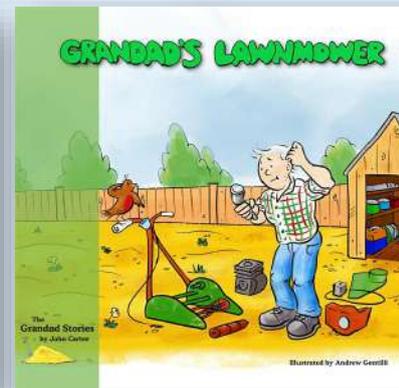
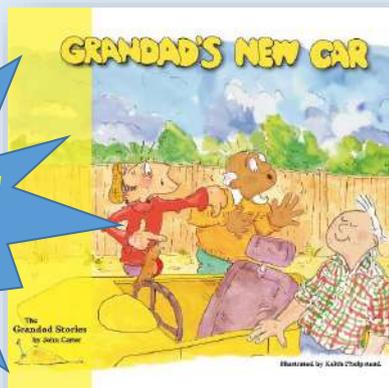
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THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

MEMBERSHIP: SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Do you have a hobby or interest? Something which others may also enjoy? Through the 41 Club Special Interest Groups you get in touch with other like-minded men with whom you can participate, discuss and enjoy your pastime, whilst increasing your opportunities for fellowship and friendship. You'll never know till you join one. We already have several Special Interest Groups starting up with a diverse range of subjects including: Walking, Running, Motorcycling, Classic Cars, Role Playing Games, Caravanning & Camping, Cruising, Model Railway Enthusiasts, Cooking for the next newsletter we aim to have contact details for all those which are established, in the meantime, if you have an idea for a group or would like to know if there is one for your particular interest then please contact membership@41club.org and we will point you in the right direction.

Glen National Membership Officer

CALLING CLUB CONTACTS

Would you please add the month and year of birth of your members in CAS2 (we don't need the day, in order to preserve their security). We would like to gather accurate data on the ages of our members for future planning purposes. This information will better enable us to plan for the future and will ideally derive benefits to the members too. Thank you for your assistance and co-operation.

Don National Comms & I.T. Officer

Scouts & SCOUTING

I would like to run an article on 41ers and the Scout Movement in a future Magazine. If you are, or were, involved in Scouting and would like to contribute submissions for the article please contact me at comms@41Club.org

Don National Comms & I.T. Officer (AND Scout Leader 5th Beckenham South, Greater London South East)

JOKES – WITH APOLOGIES carried on from page 7

"You went to lunch 3 hours ago!" said my boss. "Where the hell have you been?"

"Sorry," I replied, "I got stuck behind a lady trying to choose a sandwich."

I considered joining Alcoholics Anonymous for a while... Until I discovered their meaning of 'Sponsor' differs radically from mine...

I've created a shoe made out of Lego, so when you step on Lego it doesn't hurt... You just get taller.

I was offered sex today with a 21 year old woman. In exchange I had to advertise some kind of bathroom cleaner. Of course I declined because I am a man of high morals with strong will power... Just as strong as Ajax, the super strong bathroom cleaner, now available in scented lemon

A job interview is all about confidence... So I swaggered in a day late...

I've kept my New Year's resolution of going to work with my bicycle every day... It's a pain in the butt to get it in the boot though...

Jim Conway National Councillor Region 14

ASHBY 41 CLUB FOODBANK APPEAL



One of Ashby 41 Club's Christmas tradition is to meet in December at a local restaurant to enjoy a meal and a beer in fellowship. An essential part of the evening is the auction of pre-wrapped mystery gifts, with the proceeds going to charity. As that couldn't happen this year former-Chairman Andrew Johnson suggested an alternative. After hearing an article on 5 Live about the rapid rise in requests for help from the UK food banks, he contacted his neighbour, a food bank volunteer of many years, who confirmed that the demand in his local area had risen dramatically. And so, an idea took seed.

In lieu of their Christmas night out, Andrew invited club members to donate goods from the Food Bank wish list instead. He put out the call and the members responded in traditional 41 Club fashion.

Andrew was delighted to deliver 170.7kg of food, toiletries, washing up liquid and festive treats. Which equated to 7 people being supported for 3 days. And while it may not have been the case, we like to think that was 7 people we supported on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and Boxing Day.

Hugh Milward Ashby-de-la-Zouch 41 Club, Honorary Archivist

20 ANSWERS FOR 2020

- 1) Whose statue was torn down and thrown into Bristol Harbour? **Edward Colston**
- 2) Where did Dominic Cummings drive to in order to test his eyesight? **Barnard Castle**
- 3) Which footballer campaigned for free school vouchers to be extended in 2020? **Marcus Rashford**
- 4) Which anniversary did Coronation Street celebrate this year? **60th**
- 5) Who is the Tiger King whose life and dramas at his private zoo were documented in the Netflix series of the same name? **Joe Exotic**
- 6) Who replaced Sandi Toksvig as a present on the Great British Bake Off? **Matt Lucas**
- 7) Who said "I still need a bit of milk, full fat, which I've warmed in the 'mecrowavay'." **Nigella Lawson**
- 8) Who said "Tomorrow will be a good day." **(Colonel) Capt. Sir Tom Moore**
- 9) Which castle was I'm A Celebrity filmed in? **Gwrych Castle**
- 10) Which island did Harry and Meghan first move to in January? **Vancouver Island**
- 11) Which celebrity did Prince George, Princess Charlotte and Prince Louis ask questions to in a video released by Kensington Palace? **David Attenborough**
- 12) How did Joe Wicks raise £1.5million for Children in Need? **24 hour workout**
- 13) Which music festival has had to postpone its 50th anniversary celebrations to 2021? **Glastonbury**
- 14) What song, covered by Captain Sir Tom Moore and Michael Ball, reached No1 in April? **You'll never walk alone**
- 15) Radio 1 refused to play the original version of which popular Christmas song due to its controversial lyrics? **Fairytale of New York**
- 16) Tyson Fury beat Deontay Wilder in February. What is Fury's nickname? **The Gypsy King**
- 17) How did Leeds Rhinos legend Kevin Sinfield raise more than £2million for former teammate Rob Burrow and the MND Association? **Running 7 Marathons in 7 days**
- 18) Name the James Bond film that's been delayed to 2021? **No Time to Die**
- 19) Which film did Sean Connery win his one and only Oscar for? **The Untouchables**
- 20) Which speaking movie became the first non-English language film to win an Oscar for Best Picture? **Parasite**