



41 Club
CONTINUED FRIENDSHIP

**SEVENTY SIXTH
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
NOTICE & AGENDA**



**Mercure Cardiff Holland House
Hotel, 24-26 Newport Road, Cardiff,
CF24 0DD
SATURDAY 2nd APRIL 2022 @ 9.00 A.M.**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULE 18.2 THAT THE

**SEVENTY SIXTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF THE ASSOCIATION OF EX-ROUND TABLES' CLUBS**

Will be held on Saturday 2nd April 2022 at 9.00 a.m. in the Mercure Cardiff Holland House
Hotel, 24-26 Newport Road, CARDIFF, CF24 0DD.

AGENDA

1. Welcome by the National President.
2. Purposes and Objects of 41 Club.
3. Appointment of Tellers & Scrutineers.
4. Confirmation and adoption of the Minutes of the 75th Annual General Meeting held on 24th April 2021 by Video Conference
5. Confirmation and Adoption of the Minutes of the Special General Meeting held on 2nd October 2021 in Nottingham.
6. Matters Arising from those Minutes.
7. To receive the National Board Reports for 2021.
8. Election of Officers for 2022-2025.
9. Resolutions.
10. Independent Examiners Report on 2021 Accounts.
11. Adoption of National Treasurer's Report and Accounts for 2021.
12. Presentation and agreement of Budget for 2023.
13. Appointment of Independent Examiners.
14. Presentation of Trophies and Appreciations.
15. Installation of National President 2022-2023.
16. Installation of National Vice-President 2022-2023.
17. Installation of Officers 2022-2025.
18. Any other Business relevant to the AGM.
19. Date of 77th AGM – Saturday 1st April 2023 – Merton Hotel, Belvedere Hill, St Saviour, Jersey, JE4 9PG

Bernard Elwen – National Secretary 2020-24

2021 NATIONAL BOARD REPORTS

NATIONAL PRESIDENT – PETER GOOD

Two years ago, I took over as your National President and unfortunately, we went straight into COVID Lockdown.

I am not a person to just sit back and do nothing, so I was on the phone daily to my plc Chairman Marcus Jones, and one morning I said, “I have to have some way of connecting with membership or the association will die.” Marcus said, “That’s it Connects,” we get Mark House our IT expert to set it up, and Marcus used his contacts from work to get the speakers. Originally during the first lockdown the speakers were free of charge, as they were people returning favours to Marcus and were only too happy to help. This worked brilliantly with some big named celebrities and sporting personalities. The numbers of members participating increased which made Connects very successful.

The second Lockdown came again quickly, and by then speakers wanted to charge. This was understandable as they were unable to work, in the same way that I couldn’t visit clubs, so I said to pay for them from my honorarium. We continued to have an excellent line up of speakers and the attendance was great with over a thousand at some events. This was achieving my aim of keeping the members of the Association in touch with each other, which was great.

On the back of Connects we had other things starting up and I thought we should be looking to help any members with problems during Lockdown, so we set up the Buddies Line. Peter McBride took this on board and did a lot of research setting up the 24 buddies on a phone line manned 24/7. Peter also started the wellbeing group. Thank you for your help in this Peter.

We have lots of special interest groups for example Wine tasting. Whiskey experts, etc. the cookery nights with the ladies getting involved, walking group, and Murder Mystery on Zoom by Market Harborough to name but a few. Also, on Facebook there are various hobby groups, so there are many interesting things happening in the Association to bring us together more, and I hope these will continue in the future.

During the lockdown we had the zoom meetings where I probably met more members than in normal times. I would be on zoom every night seven days a week when possible and sometimes with three clubs in one night. All these things didn’t happen in the Association before the pandemic, so the digital world not only saved us but helped us move forward. They are available to all members, and the Connects meetings are all on recordings for members to use for meetings.

Lesley and I managed to attend the caravan rally organised by Martin Green. This was a very good event and enabled us to meet with old friends and make new ones. We were made to feel very welcome which was much appreciated.

We had the Big Weekend in Nottingham in October 21 during a lapse of restrictions. This was to celebrate 41 club being 75 years old and should have taken place the year before. A lot more things were planned that unfortunately had to be cancelled. We all had a great weekend with lots of fun and fellowship. My thanks go to my plc chaired by Marcus Jones, and everyone who helped, putting this event together.

Then a few more months of cancellations followed. Thankfully, I did have the honour to represent 41Club at the Cenotaph. This was a very humbling experience which I will never forget. My thanks go to Don Mullane and Dominic Price for getting us accommodation at the Reform Club which just made the weekend even more special.

There were just a few Christmas events, but most were cancelled, then it was the Burns nights. I attended Christchurch that had three other clubs attending, a great night of fellowship and fun and the best haggis I have ever had. Then I attended a local club, Swadlincote, with my driver for the night being Scottish having to address the haggis for them.

January over, things start to get going with Brentwood Ladies night followed by a drive through the night to Devon for NSSW in Okehampton. Definitely getting too old for this kind of thing. I was shattered! But, after a few hours' sleep I was ready to go. Having not booked in for any sports I planned on just walking round supporting everybody, but actually ended up taking part in 5 events. Had my name been Barry I would have won!! This was a great weekend. It was buzzing with loads of fun and fellowship Looking forward to Scotland where the next NSSW is taking place.

From February to the end of my term at the end of March, I am trying to cram two years visiting into two months, going up and down the country to visit clubs and chartering new Clubs. There are up to 24 new clubs now and still more to do, 4 clubs reaffiliated and 3 Phoenix clubs started up. The future of 41 club is now looking good for the on coming years. Our fellowship officer Glen Lyon has done a great job whilst having his own problems to contend with. My thanks go to Councillor Kevin Stewart for his hard work in Scotland starting 7 new clubs up there and keeping existing clubs going. I had some of my best times visiting the guys up there.

I would like to say a big thank you to all the Clubs that have supported my Charity Dementia UK with their generous donations.

I would also like to say it was great to hear about clubs getting out into their communities during the pandemic, helping with prescription deliveries, shopping etc and helping out at the food banks and vaccine centres. This is not just doing worthwhile things, it's raising the profile of the Round Table Family because when people ask who we are they don't know what 41 club is about, but when we explain that we are ex Round Table it's raising their profile also.

My thanks go out to all my Board members and Councillors for working so hard supporting me and the Association in these two different years. They have had to Adapt Adopt and Improve!

It's been a pleasure to serve alongside the Four Family Presidents. I feel we have a close relationship with Round Table again and we should make a big effort to help them keep growing.

Peter Good

president@41club.org

VICE PRESIDENT – JIM CONWAY

I am going to start my report by thanking the Board and the Councillors for being so supportive this year and for the kindness showed by those who have invited me to events, hosted me in their homes and provided me with a standard of fellowship that makes this the great club it is.

Lots of people have come up to me and asked, "What are you hoping to achieve this year?" and my response has been, "Nothing without you!" We all need to work closer with Round Table, Ladies Circle and Tangent. Board and Councillors need to be as one and a laser focus on membership should be number one on all of our lists.

One of the resolutions today is whether to allow clubs to invite those who have not been in Table to join 41 Club. Whatever the outcome, my challenge to you is to do three things. Create a **Programme** that newcomers to your club would want to be a part of; **Invite** people to your

club who qualify for membership; **Engage** with them when they turn up. The '**Programme, Invitation, Engagement**' philosophy will provide you with success, if all three elements are adhered to. 'Yours in Continued Friendship and Continued Tabling' is how I will be signing off my communications this year. The reason being is for many, Continued Friendship is not enough. Many of our newer members want to continue to do in 41 Club what they did in Table and that is why you will see the launch of new clubs with a younger outlook to satisfy this younger demographic.

Voicing a point of view and challenging the status quo is healthy. It is what makes our association strong. However, I have noticed some negativity begin to creep into our forums. Instead, why not pick up the phone, dial 07708 949339 and speak to me. I have been experimenting with dropping my phone number in the 41 Club Forum when I am on long trips to somewhere around the country. It is a press 1 for a question, press 2 for a rant, press 3 for a chat. If I don't know the answer to your question, I will find out; If you want a rant, I will listen and maybe we can find a way forward; If you want a chat, I am there for you. Especially if you are down in the dumps.

Each Region deserves a National Councillor. They are there to support you, communicate with you and represent you. Please get in contact with them and invite them along to your club. Some Regions do not have representation and that is a real shame, as it is a fabulous stepping stone into National to get a big picture view of how this organisation operates. If you are interested, get in touch and I will ensure Wynn Parry will phone you up for an initial chat to tell you about what the opportunities hold.

Vice President is one of those roles where you support, fill in for the President and champion forward planning. Peter and I have worked well together this year and our friendship has grown. The forward planning side has much to offer on the Membership side and whoever becomes our new Membership officer will have the busiest role in the association.

I have chosen the theme, 'All 4 One' this year, which is a multi-faceted strapline. We are all 41 Clubbers; 4 countries 1 association; 4 associations 1 family; All for one insofar as we leave nobody behind.

Connects will continue next year with more 'Meet The Board Events,' as I am determined to give you all more of an opportunity to understand the work we do, challenge us where you think we have gone wrong and support us with your ideas. With regards to social Connects nights, we can only put these on if the support is going to be there. Recently, we have put on some cracking events and numbers have been poor. I would be interested to know whether you think we should proceed with these, as the world is beginning to open up.

Knowing that you have the support of an amazing woman, is the reason why I took this role on. Vicky gets it, as she was President of Ladies Circle in 2011-12. She will be an amazing First Lady and I am so proud to have her by my side.

Yours in Continued Friendship and Continued Tabling.

Jim Conway

vicepresident@41club.org

IMMEDIATE PAST NATIONAL PRESIDENT – ANDREW MACKERETH

This will be my final report as I retire from the National Board at the end of this AGM. I have had a wonderful experience during my time, commencing as a National Councillor, before becoming the Llandudno Conference Chairman in 2013. The role of Fellowship Officer followed on. Finally representing 41 Club as the National President.

Covid has played a major part in all of our lives, events had to be cancelled and this resulted in my Presidential year being cut short by 3 weeks. A very small price to pay, when you consider the wider picture and how many lives have changed dramatically due to this virus.

Thank you to everybody who has supported me in my career with 41 Club, the Board, National Councillors, 41 Club members, my own clubs Lancaster, Dragons and Area 13 41 Clubs. I couldn't have done this job without the support of my wife Millie, who travelled with me to many events. This has left us both with many happy memories of fun, friendship and fellowship which is 41 Club.

During my year as President, I had a joint Presidents' Charity with Sue Hill, the President of Tangent. Together we raised the magnificent sum of £55,000 which will purchase 6 water rescue craft for the RNLI these were presented finally in early March this year at their headquarters at Poole. These will work from beaches throughout the UK with the RNLI Lifeguards. Thank you to all our members who generously donated to this amazing charity.

Recently both Millie and I have volunteered to help in the RNLI shop in Morecambe.

During the year I have attended National Council meetings, Board meetings both virtually and in person and have served on the administration committee.

41 Club will always be important to me, I hope that it will thrive and introduce more members to experience what 41 Club has to offer.

Andrew Mackereth
pastpresident@41club.org

NATIONAL SECRETARY – BERNARD ELWEN

This is now my second year as Secretary, and it has been somewhat easier than the first as we return to some kind of normality and back to face-to-face meetings and events. We started this year with a Virtual AGM, which went well despite a few last-minute hiccups with participants being unable to log on. This was followed up with a survey sent out to all clubs, via *41 Club Connects*, asking them for their experience with this and any ideas to improve things for the future. This provided us with useful feedback, and some constructive suggestions for the future. One of the resolutions this year is a proposal to incorporate online voting and participation with physical "in the room" proceedings.

National Council meetings this year all happened face-to-face, although the one we had in July in Cobham had to be conducted under strict social distancing rules, which meant that we were not able to accommodate any observers in the room. The meeting in November as part of the Big Weekend in Nottingham was easier to organise, with several guests taking part in the meeting. The next meeting was in Okehampton, as part of National Sports and Social weekend.

Part of the day-to-day job of Secretary is to reply to queries from club members, and there have been a steady trickle of messages coming through on various matters. There seem to have been several from clubs who have informed me that they have come to the end of the road, due to ageing and dwindling membership. The Covid situation seems to have accelerated this trend.

Several clubs seem to be unaware that we no longer send out capitation invoices in January to all clubs. Instead., they can log into CAS and download their latest invoice for payment. The process for logging in is very simple. Go to the 41 Club website home page, go to the top-right-hand corner, and click on where it says CAS. A dialogue box will appear. Enter your e-mail address, and within a few seconds, a message will appear in your inbox, with a link to get you into the CAS database. It's very simple and works for me every time. If you have any problems, please let me know and I will investigate it for you (or pass the message on to someone who can fix it).

I continue to keep in touch with the staff at Marchesi House, and with my counterpart in Round Table who manages them. They have had their ups and downs but seem to be in good spirits at the moment and always happy to talk to me. Our agreement with Round Table for the services provided by Marchesi House comes to an end at the end of this year, so watch this space for any further developments.

On a very different note, I very much enjoyed being part of the party who represented 41 Club at the Cenotaph last year. This is mentioned in Peter Good's report above.

I would like to acknowledge my Administration Committee, made up of John Kilshaw, Andrew Mackereth, Roger Spensley and David Smith. Their encouragement, ideas and advice have been invaluable, as we consider a raft of new ideas, rule changes and innovations to take our organisation forward.

Bernard Elwen

secretary@41club.org

NATIONAL TREASURER – KEVIN LOVETT

2021 Accounts

A bit like Summer following Spring, 2021 followed 2020 in much the same vein. It was another year of Lockdowns which meant that Clubs and the National Council couldn't meet for the first half of the year. So, whilst income from Capitation has still to catch up, expenses, particularly those of a variable nature were for the second year running significantly reduced.

The notable exceptions were the two new areas of expenditure namely Zoom and 41 Club Connects. The latter an extremely successful series of events which were held by the Connects Team and the feedback from members was that it helped us all whilst we were in "lock down". The numbers of viewers reduced during the later months as members were once again able to go out and meet up. Connects should still be a valuable tool for the future and I await the decision on where it goes next.

Notes to the accounts.

Administration Marchesi House - the contract is £30K per year and ends at the end of 2022. 2021 has an extra month as previously we had been invoiced in arrears but now we are completely up to-date.

Magazine Printing – Only 2 magazines were produced during the year. The main cost of the Magazine is the postage and the postage is based on weight. When we send out the magazine with other material e.g., the bandana, the postage increases. The bandanas which cost £12K are included in the Membership Projects budget.

Aviemore Conference was cancelled and the small set up costs are shown under Cost of Conference.

CAS 2 will have been fully paid for by the end of 2022 and there is currently no expectation that it should cost the Association any further, save for on-going maintenance.

The year was again filled with uncertainty and caution and from an accounting point of view a small surplus was achieved, leaving the Association with Reserves approaching £260K.

My thanks again to all the Treasurers who have had a difficult task in collecting the “subs.” Your Capitation Invoice is now available on CAS 2 and will be available each year from the 1st of January, so there is no need to wait for a reminder.

2023 Budget – Fair, Flexible and Future Focused

The Finance Committee have been working very hard, looking at all aspects of our cost base against a stark realisation that over the next few years our membership will fall.

On the Income side we have kept 2023 Capitation at £14.50 per member, which it has been since 2016. We are also anticipating more normality with a return from Sales Commission and Other Income the latter mainly coming from Fred Olsen cruises. We will also be asking the membership to remove the rule whereby the treasurer can only raise capitation by a meagre amount, in order to give the Treasurer more flexibility in the future.

Our budget is not like a business budget. Capitation and therefore Income in the main is based upon the membership numbers. The figures in the budget for expenditure are the maximum we hope to spend in any one area, and we would normally expect the outturn to be lower than the budget figure.

With the above in mind, several areas have been identified where cost savings could potentially be made.

- Marchesi House
- The Magazine
- Council meetings
- IT

Talks have already commenced with RTBI about any renewal in 2023 of our current contract some of which we no longer require or are barely using.

With postage costs continually rising some of the membership may now wish to receive the magazine on – line only which could lead to substantial savings.

It would not be fair for the burden to rest just with the membership and therefore it is our intention that at least one of the National Council Meetings each year will be held at a more modest venue and probably more centrally.

This is just a beginning; we have already commenced an insurance review and in other areas we are looking at achieving savings by working a little bit smarter.

The Association is currently holding more money in Reserves than it needs. We are currently using these Reserves in a modest way to combat inflationary rises and to maintain Capitation

at its current level. With more normal times (hopefully) just around the corner, the finance committee will look at our Reserves Policy during the course of this year and revert back to National Council at a later date with a view as to how much should be held in the future.

Already we are seeing motions being brought to this AGM as to how to spend these reserves and I welcome members views later in the year when our review is undertaken.

Kevin Lovett

treasurer@41club.org

NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP OFFICER – GLEN LYON

It has been my absolute honour and privilege to serve you for these past 3 years as your Membership & Round Table Liaison Officer.

Whilst these have been 'challenging' times we have been able to continue to build on the good foundations laid pre covid and during my term in office, together we have opened / reopened more than 25 41 Clubs across the country.

We have several 41 Clubs who are actively involved in the 'phoenixing' of Round Tables where their feeder table closed many years ago, by reaching out to Table aged family, friends and colleagues and supporting them to restart that Round Table.

We have created 'Special Interest Groups' where our club's members can find additional avenues for fellowship and friendship with other likeminded men by sharing their passions across a plethora of interests with even more to come, we should soon be able to host forums ranging from Biking to Wine Appreciation along with Camping & Caravanning, Classic Cars, Cooking, Cruising, International meetings, RPG (Role Playing Gaming) Railways, Walking, and Whisky appreciation.

RTBI now send a 'birthday Card' from 41 Club Membership, countersigned by the National President of RTBI to all 'aging-out' Tablers inviting them to make contact with their local 41 Club.

Sadly, the global pandemic has accelerated the closure of several of our senior clubs, especially those who haven't had a feeder Table for many years and with reduced and ageing membership, they have decided to close. We need to be mindful of the members of these clubs upon whose efforts our association has been able to continue and perhaps reassess how we can keep these club members a part of the Round Table Family, especially at this exciting period where we are heading towards the centenary of Round Table.

As my valedictory message to you I would like to leave you ALL with a challenge to:

Reach out to just one (more if you can) Round Table aged man about what being a member of Round Table meant to you and suggest they consider contacting RTBI by calling 0121 456 4567 or Texting "Join" and their postcode to 60066 or by going to roundtable.co.uk

Glen Lyon

membership@41club.org

NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS & IT OFFICER – DONAL MULLANE

I'll begin by reminding you who is who on the Comms & I.T. Committee

This now comprises: -

- myself, Don Mullane, National Comms & I.T. Officer
- Mark House (Hon. Webmaster)
- Wynn Parry (N.C. Region 6, Yorkshire)
- Steve Tasker (N.C. Region 11, Cheshire & North West Midlands)
- Aidan Coyne (N.C. Region 3, Ireland)
- Colin McKenzie (N.C. Region 1, Scotland North)
- Nigel Baxendale (co-opted reporter - we are looking to co-opt other reporters, to provide written content for members.

There are two distinct but inter-related elements to the committee.

Communications – which comprises.

- Electronic communications
 - the contents of the National Website
 - the Facebook forums (Regional, National, Special Interest)
 - the 41 Club Connects Programme which is run by a separate Committee
 - monthly newsletters
 - ad hoc national correspondence
- Printed communications
 - the National Magazine

Information Technology – which comprises.

- CAS2
 - Member's data
 - GDPR
 - Access Requirements
 - CAS2 Email
- Office 365
 - Outlook email
 - Access requirements
- Websites
 - 41Club.org
 - 41ClubConnects.co.uk
- Booking Systems

It's a mammoth undertaking and is achieved by a team effort as follows: -

Mark House is awesome as Honorary webmaster. He is responsible for the websites and has the support of Steve Tasker as his Web Ass, or Number 2. Both work in the field of technology and contribute massive time and resources to the Association free of charge. Thanks guys.

This includes, in Mark's case, pioneering a marvellous events booking system.

In Steve's case, he manages the relationship with Carl Smalley, of Re-Innovate I.T., our I.T. Consultant who is behind the migration to CAS2. Mark and Steve estimate that Carl has contributed far in excess of the amount charged in respect of CAS2, and Steve is working with Carl on ironing out the hiccups still evident in the email system. We appreciate it can be

frustrating, but we are getting there. We are presently agreeing a new maintenance contract with Carl for CAS2.

Wynn Parry specialises on the Comms side in producing content for the monthly newsletters and the National Magazine. That means getting the National Council to present articles to him – he isn't tasked with writing them! If you want your Regions and Clubs to appear in the magazine or newsletter do give him contributions to achieve this.

Nigel Baxter responded to an appeal for regular contributors to the magazine. You will see a growing number of features from Nigel across our websites, newsletters and magazines – and we are looking to find more “Nigels” out there too.

Aidan Coyne has a background in I.T. but we are looking for him to especially bring Ireland into focus in our materials which have a strong GB focus.

Colin McKenzie has a background in I.T. and a particular interest in video – so we are looking to utilise those skills going forwards.

So, what are we looking to do as a team?

We are looking to; -

- service our existing membership to provide them with value for money from their membership of 41 Club – to retain existing members.
- attract new members by providing a range of activities and special interests.
- highlighting the activities of clubs already doing this, to inspire clubs which don't; and
- supporting Round Table, as we need RTBI to grow to secure 41 Club's future.

To achieve this, we are all acting and inter-acting as cogs in a wheel to move 41 Club forward.

Specifics

We have redesigned the monthly newsletter to bring it in line with the Magazine – thank you Mark House for the design work on this.

We have provided the National Councillors with training in CAS2.

We are looking into ways to reduce our spend in some areas where we think it is unnecessary (Office365 for example, and our domain names) to direct it to other areas which are more member focused (the 41 Club Connects Programme for example).

We are putting a huge focus on Welfare as we believe this is important to members – both in retaining existing members and encouraging new ones.

We pulled the planned Summer 2021 issue of the Magazine because it would simply have been produced too late for the features in it. Sorry for those who are disappointed by this, but it really reflects the increase in the monthly newsletter to 30 or so pages. The Magazine going forwards will essentially be a compendium of the best of the monthly newsletters because we can get the information out to you more speedily this way. We retain our commitment to producing a printed magazine for our members too HOWEVER we would encourage members who don't want to receive a printed copy of the magazine to opt for an electronic (“soft”) copy instead as the money saved from this could be better spent elsewhere for the benefit of members.

Conclusion

The Comms & I.T. Committee worked hard to give members value and support, despite the trying circumstances of the pandemic. As the pandemic, hopefully, eases we hope to provide still further support to make membership of 41 Club better than ever by continuing to adopt, adapt and improve.

Don Mullane

comms@41club.org

NATIONAL COUNCILLOR'S LIAISON OFFICER – PETER McBRIDE

I took over the NCLO role shortly after the 2021 AGM following the previous incumbent stepping down. I was honoured to have been voted in by the other National Councillors to take on the role on a caretaker basis until April 2022, in addition to my existing role of Region 24 National Councillor. As they say, if you want something done, give it to a busy man!

The NCLO is all about overseeing, supporting, and engaging with the National Councillors of the 25 Regions across GB&I to ensure they are undertaking their roles fully. In addition, the NCLO is the voice of Councillors on the Board.

Just as it has been for every 41 Club, it has been a difficult year for Councillors who have not been able to visit their Clubs as much as they would have liked primarily due to lockdowns and the understandable cautiousness of Clubs in attending in-person meetings. Clubs in Scotland, Wales and Ireland have also been under additional restrictions.

As a Councillor myself, I understand the challenges of engaging with Clubs who have been cautious to meet, but throughout the pandemic Councillors have remained a close, supportive and committed group of like-minded guys, who care deeply and have Association at the heart of all they do.

Over the last year in addition to liaising with the Clubs within their Regions, Councillors have enthusiastically participated and contributed to a wide range of working groups and committees from Membership, Fellowship, Finance, Comms & IT and Admin – the results of their contributions can be seen right across the various Committee reports in this document.

The NCLO was previously a three-year role voted on at the AGM by the Clubs within the Association, but I was supportive of and oversaw the change to have the role chosen from within the Councillors themselves on an annual basis rather than from nominations from other Clubs every three years. My view was that if you want someone to represent you on the Board, that person needs to come from Councillors themselves.

It would be untrue to say there haven't been challenges and frustrations within the Council in managing the Association during such a difficult period, but everyone is on the same team, speaks from the heart and I have been impressed with the passion and commitment of your National Councillors. I would like to thank them for their belief in me and for their support, fellowship and great humour.

I wish my successor all the best for the coming year. 😊

Peter McBride

councillorliaison@41club.org

NATIONAL FELLOWSHIP OFFICER – STEVE JAMES

This is my last AGM report since being elected as your National Fellowship Officer in Belfast in 2018. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time in the role especially making new acquaintances as I visited clubs and attended events. In my first AGM I set myself three main objectives during my tenure, namely:

1. To increase our member benefits

2. To introduce further National/Regional events and to encourage more people to attend the events
3. Ensure that National Conference remains the pinnacle weekend for every 41 Club and Tangent member.

It is pleasing to report that our members benefits/affinity deals have grown year on year and it was a proud moment when the first National members handbook was introduced and distributed to all members in 2019. My thanks go to Mark House, Peter Milburn, Don Mullane and Wynn Parry who worked so hard to make this a reality. In terms of the national events 4 new events have been added to the calendar namely the walking weekend, motorcycle weekend, National Golf final weekend and the cycling weekend although last year's cycling weekend had to be postponed due to a low number of attendees. The events are commented on further in my report. As well as the events we also established more Special Interest groups for our members such as the successful wine club hosted by Kevin Chard and Don Mullane, the walking group established by Andy and Gail Ventress, rugby fans, football fans to name just a few.

In relation to my third objective, who could have forecast when setting these goals that two years later we would be faced with the Covid-19 pandemic and instead of overseeing conferences I would spend my time negotiating with the various venues regarding cancellation terms and writing to members regarding refunds and carry over of monies. Although on a positive note I was able to work with Tangent to introduce the resolution of both Associations being jointly financially liable for conference.

A golden nugget to come out of last year was the 41 connects programme which was truly a team effort to put these fantastic events with the programme of speakers appealing to many "different tastes" and I would like to personally thank Kelly Clarke, Jim Conway, Mark House, Marcus Jones, Peter McBride, Don Mullane, Roger Spensley, and Kevin Stewart for being part of the remarkable team making these events possible.

All National events offer excellent value for money and fantastic fellowship, and I would encourage all members to attend these great events, they do not happen on their own accord, and I am indebted to all the organisers who put in an endless amount of time to ensure all attendees have a great time and the best experience. My thanks go out to everyone who volunteers.

My final report is split down into my areas of responsibility.

2022 National Conference – Cardiff

Arrangements are well underway for this year's conference and AGM. We have a great programme of events and entertainment lined up. The conference welcome party on Thursday is Welsh themed where guests will experience Welsh produce plus Welsh themed entertainers. I'm sure everyone will have a great "welcome from the hillside" and by the end of the night will feel the "spirit in the room." The President's Banquet offers guests to a sumptuous 5 course meal plus tea/coffee showcasing the very best that Welsh produce has to offer. Our final night Roald Dahl themed party will bring many "Willy Wonka's, Fantastic Mr and Mrs Foxes and Matilda's together under one roof. Throughout the three days guests will also have exclusive use of our conference bar "Callaghans" which will stay open into the early hours on each morning.

2023 National Conference – Jersey

Good progress is being made by the conference team with the budget being signed off in the last conference meeting on 18th January. The team are currently working on providing the necessary information to the webmaster in order for the booking site to be populated. The main conference hotel will be the Merton in St Helier with the Friday and Saturday functions being held at the Royal Jersey Agricultural and Horticultural society.

2024 National Conference – Liverpool

The formal Liverpool site visit occurred on Friday 17th December 2021 and me and the Tangent Vice President are happy with the proposed venues and accommodation. We have also reviewed the provisional budget and whilst some venues are unable to provide exact costings for meals this far in advance, we are satisfied that the conference Treasurer has made satisfactory guestimates. The Liverpool conference team have formally presented to Tangent Executive and will be presenting to National Council at the February meeting.

2025 National Conference

The 2021 Aviemore team have approached myself and the Tangent Vice President with a view to hosting the 2025 conference in Aviemore and at the time of writing my report Heather and I are currently reviewing the proposed budget and costings.

Booking system

Thanks to Mark House our honorary webmaster we were able to launch our new events webpage <https://41clubevents.co.uk> and booking site for all National events in 2021. The booking site has made it easier for members to book and pay for events using a credit card with instant confirmation of their order once payment has been received. For organisers instant notifications are made when bookings and refunds can be made at the touch of the button which given the experiences of the 2020 conference cancellation is a considerable benefit.

Conference survey

Prior to Christmas and with the help of Mark House the Honorary webmaster we decided to survey our members regarding the price of conference packages as a result of some of the comments that had been posted on the 41 Club members forum Facebook page following the launch of bookings for this year's National Conference. The survey was open to 41 Club and Tangent members and a total of 266 responses were received, 98% from 41 club members and 2% from Tangent members.

To summarise responses, 73% of respondents stated that they had attended a previous conference with 61% having attended both RTBI and 41 Club/Tangent conferences, 6% only attending a 41 Club/Tangent conference and 33% only having attended an RTBI conference.

58% respondents felt that 41 Club/Tangent conference is value for money 58% although it should be noted that a high number of comments were received regarding the price of conference, although when asked what would "respondents be prepared to pay for a full conference package" the answers ranged from £0 to £1,000 per couple.

The table below represents respondent's views on the cost of conference.

	Much too expensive	Too expensive	Just right	Too cheap	Much too cheap
Thursday	11%	29%	58%	1%	0%

Friday	16%	30%	53%	1%	0%
Saturday	15%	27%	57%	1%	0%

Respondents were asked what they would forego if we were to reduce future conference packages, and the results are as follows:

- Conference goodie bags 85%
- Transport to venues if the walking distance is under 15 mins 59%
- Limit entertainment to 1 band only 46%
- Wine on table 45%
- Drinks reception 39%
- Lower priced meal 19%

Respondents were also asked if they would support the ability of having an entertainment only package on the Saturday night party with 62% stating that they would.

I believe that there is a case for changing the format of some of the functions and how the budget is comprised in order to ensure that conference becomes affordable and accessible for all and as a result have made a number of recommendations to the National Council meeting in February.

Conference Manual

In order to help my successor and future conference teams, Tangent colleagues and myself have reviewed the 2012 conference manual and updated the document.

International AGM and Conference 2023

Preparations for GB&I to host the International AGM and conference when former GB&I President Barry Durman takes over as International President are well underway. The event will take place over the weekend of 11th to 14th May 2023 at the Crowne Plaza hotel in Stratford upon Avon with the Thursday and Saturday night functions being held at the hotel and the British Motor Museum hosting the Friday event. I am lucky to have a very experienced team of volunteers and to date we have held two face to face meetings. The team comprises of the following people:

International VP:	Barry Durman
Conference Convenor and Thurs/Sat function:	Steve James
AGM Convenor and Pre-Tours:	Andy Ventress
Transport & assisting pre-Tours:	Keith Jolly
Asst AGM Convenor/Conference Champion:	Dave Campbell
Treasurer:	David Leach
Secretary:	Martin Green
Registration:	Kevin Lovett
Fri Eve Function:	Terry and Lin Cooper
Tangent Rep:	Jill Harris

Marketing and Comms:	Don Mullane
Asst Marketing and Comms:	Jim Smith
Airport Shuttle:	Graham Smith/Karen Durie

Members of National Fellowship Committee have been co-opted onto committee to assist in various roles and members of Shirley Late Knights and Coleshill will provide support to various roles e.g., Registration etc.

Members Benefits

Members benefits continue to grow and in 2021, select car leasing (a major UK leasing company) were added to our directory of benefits as were “Travel Counsellors” a company who specialise in tailor made holidays either at home or abroad. There are 22 members benefits in total including Wider Wallet which provides 41 Club members with privileged access to a tempting package of discounts from a range of big-name supermarkets, high-street stores, DIY, motoring, entertainment and family finance.

Classic rally

A very successful rally organised by John and Ann Alford took place on 2-4th July where 34 cars descended on Shorne in Kent. The route took motorists through the winding Kent countryside with stops at the Friars in Aylesford, St James church in Cooling where Charles Dickens based “great Expectations” and to John and Ann’s house where tea and scones were served. Guests were entertained on the Saturday by a Henry V111 character actor who had the “crowd in stitches” with some of his comments.

This year’s rally “the three counties tour” is being organised by Market Harborough 41 Club over the weekend of 29th to 31st July 2022. It is pleasing to report that at the time of writing my report places are fully subscribed and the team are now compiling a reserve list for anyone who wishes to book.

Cruise

This year’s cruise is an 11-night cruise cruising the dramatic coastline of Iceland and the Faroes and will depart from Liverpool on 5th September. Bookings are going extremely well with 29, 41 Club and Tangent members already booked in. If anyone is interested booking, please ring 01473 742424 quoting GRP0210 and cruise code S2224.

Motorcycle weekend

The 2021 weekend was postponed, and this year’s event organised by Tim Gilbert and Chris Barney will occur in King’s Lynn over the weekend of 15-17th July 2022.

Caravan and Camping Rally

A very successful rally was held over the weekend of 10-12th September at Hardwicke Parks Oxfordshire with 56 people attending on the Friday and 62 on the Saturday. The Friday started with a drinks reception and nibbles followed by a takeaway meal from the club house. On Saturday attendees were treated to a 2-course meal prepared by Martin and Maria Green, Terry and Lin Copper and Richard and Anne Dyson. Richard was given the nickname of the “chicken chopper” and I’m sure he will explain to anyone who asks him. The evening entertainment was from Mr Muddle who decided to try and chop the arm off the

President. It was great to see so many “rally virgins” and I sincerely hope that they continue attending and bring more people along to future rallies.

The 2022 rally organised by Richard and Anne Dyson will be held at Shamba holiday park in Ringwood over the weekend of 23rd to 26th September.

The 2023 rally organised by Mark Hinchliffe will be held at Trewince Farm holiday Park, St Issey Padstow over the last weekend of September.

Cycling weekend

Unfortunately, last year’s cycling weekend had to be cancelled due to lack of numbers and at the time of writing this report a date for 2022 has not been set.

Walking weekend

The inaugural event took place on 24-26th September 2021 where 43, 41 Club and Tangent members travelled from all parts of the GB&I to descend on the tiny village of Lamphey in South Pembrokeshire. A number of people arrived on the Thursday and visited Tenby for an evening stroll and meal and on Friday a tour was arranged to St Davids the UK’s smallest city with a short walk around the North Pembrokeshire coast path. Saturday was the main day for walking along the South Pembrokeshire coast path where walkers could opt to do a 4-, 8- or 13-mile walk. On Sunday a shorter 5-mile walk occurred through Bosherton lily ponds and along the coast path to St Govan’ chapel.

This year’s event organised by Wynn Parry will take place in Shipley, Yorkshire over the weekend of 1st to 3rd July with the base for the weekend being the historic Oakwood Hall hotel in Bingley. Similar to the inaugural walking weekend a number of walks have been mapped out to suit all levels of ability ranging from 4 to 12 miles.

NSSW

One of the events dearest to my heart is the National Social and Sporting weekend having instigated the event. This event epitomises sporting weekends from our Round Table days and offers an excellent weekend of fun and fellowship with the odd competitive event thrown in. It is a must event for all those 41ers who enjoyed Table NSW but note our additional “S” depicts the key word socialising so participating in activities is not mandatory. This year’s event returns to Okehampton where it all began with 81 41ers will compete to become the 2022 NSSW champion and 2022 NSSW golf champion. In 2023 NSSW will be held “north of the border” in Scotland – Stranraer to be precise on the weekend of 13th- 15th October 2023 under the leadership of Kevin Stewart and Colin McKenzie.

National Golfing event

We decided to change the format of the previous national Golf finals and turn it into a 2-day event with an overnight stay. Last year the event was held on 3rd to 4th October at Breadsall Priory, Derby with 36 golfers representing nine 41 Clubs entering the competition. The winning team trophy went to St Neots 41 Club with the overall winner being Richard Thomas also from St Neots.

This year’s event will take place at Staverton Park hotel and Golf Club, Northamptonshire on 2nd - 3rd October 2022. My thanks to fellow Board member Peter McBride who agreed to run last years and this year’s event.

RTBI member Initiative

As part of the forward planning ideas discussed in the National Council meeting in Cobham, the Fellowship committee are introducing a “Bingo” style event for a Tabler aged between 40-45 to attend the AGM and Saturday night fancy dress party with 1 night’s hotel stay. I am hoping that this initiative will be in place for this year’s AGM.

National Council meetings

I am responsible for arranging the National Council weekends and I would encourage every member to attend if we are meeting in your Region. They represent an ideal opportunity to ask any questions or concerns that you may have. Due to Covid we only met on 2 occasions during 2021, Cobham in Surrey and Nottingham at the Big weekend. The 2022 meetings are being held as follows:

- Saturday 9th July commencing 11am – Location to be confirmed
- Saturday 1st October commencing 11am - Ramada Encore Leicester
- The February 2023 venue has yet to be decided

I would like to take this opportunity to wish my successor all the very best for the future.

Steve James

fellowship@41club.org

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OFFICER – ANDREW VENTRESS

At the start of 2021 I was full of optimism as I had planned a full year of visits as IRO to other countries. These visits were to Finland, Italy, Germany, Austria, South Africa, Malta & Belgium as well as the International AGM in Verona, Italy and the HYM in Brasov, Romania.

Unfortunately, another wave of COVID 19 came and travel became very difficult due to government restrictions in GB&I & other countries. I was therefore unable to travel to the meetings arranged up to and including September. In October & November the International HYM due to be in Brasov was rearranged to Verona, Italy and I was able to attend. We flew out to Verona on Thursday arriving late afternoon, after the taxi journey to our hotel I managed to leave our passports in the taxi. Fortunately I noticed as soon as we were in the hotel and the receptionist was able to contact the taxi company and our passports were returned later that evening. The welcome party on Thursday evening was at the castle and we were able to begin to enjoy the weekend and meet the others from GB&I as well as many friends from other associations. On Friday International President, Lucca Colombo gave a large group of the guests a guided tour around Verona. This finished in time to allow us to have an enjoyable lunch and then prepare for the evening’s activities. The evening started by seeing a private adapted performance of Romeo and Juliet given by street performers in a theatre and they were helped by members of the audience including a starring role for myself. I thought I had no acting ability and still do!!! After the performance and a short walk, we had a meal in the City Hall. The meeting on Saturday was held in the City Hall, unfortunately there was no business other than agreeing the accounts and budget. This did leave time for a YAP report and presentations by all countries present in person or on Zoom. There were also presentations given by the upcoming HYM in Odense Denmark (2022) and Paphos, Cyprus (2023) and AGM in Bergen, Norway (2022) and Stratford Upon Avon, GB&I (2023). South Africa made a bid for the HYM in 2024 and this was agreed. The evening saw us return the City Hall for the banner exchange and Gala Dinner.

I also attended the national AGMs in Belgium and Malta and extended our greetings to these associations. Each weekend we were offered fantastic hospitality from our hosts including a House Party, Welcome Party and Gala Dinners.

Throughout the year I have attend any International Forums and AGM that have been on Zoom.

Once again it was decided to postpone all YAP tours, therefore disappointing young people from GB&I as well as those from abroad due to have a tour here. Our YAP convenor Bruce was able to attend the YAP convenors meeting in November and we now hope to be able to host our inaugural tour in May 2023.

Fortunately, due to modern technology (ZOOM) I have kept in contact with many IROs, past IROs and The International Board on Friday, early evenings, when we have met for an aperitif and chat. Many thanks to Martyn Hartyl from Italy for setting up these meetings.

Andy Ventress

International@41club.org

HONORARY SOLICITOR – DAVID SMITH

Another year has elapsed serving on this very hard-working Council. I have been pleased to offer advice and I hope guidance to the Council and Board and their individual members. There have been fewer enquiries from Clubs and their members regarding the Covid regulations which to my mind means either the regulations are getting easier to comprehend or we are learning to live with the disease.

Last year's virtual AGM held via Zoom was I believe a great success and has led to a desire by many members for future general meetings to be held both person to person and online. I know the Administration Committee are investigating ways of doing so but it occurs to me that me that if successful there would be no future need for our Constitution to allow proxy voting. How would our membership regard such a change?

Finally, may I thank members for appointing me to this position - it truly is a great honour.

David Smith

solicitor@41club.org

HONORARY WEBMASTER – MARK HOUSE

It has been another year in movement of access to more digital services for our members.

The website has been maintained with updates and various small changes and now contains over 6GB of attachments, which really is a lot. The Associations thanks go to Simon Thomas from Toucan who host the site as they generously extended the amount of space we have for hosting which has meant we've seen no increase in costs despite the increase.

The technical changes that were previously implemented have remained operational, and I have made changes to the site within 5 days of any request.

41Clubconnects continues to operate, although with more people going out, the connects events have slowed a touch and the speaker and event ideas directories have been used less.

What has been used more are the surveys. These are created and handled via the site and have been of good use to the various committees. Should you wish to understand more about how these can work, just drop me a line.

As well as the connects site, you may all have seen the 41clubevents.co.uk site which now supports a wide variety of different events:

- National Conference
- NSSW
- Walking Weekend
- National Caravan Rally
- National Golf Finals

To make sure that the right details and booking details are captured, each event is a unique website and these are maintained for each event and readied for the next. The hope is that these sites have made is a simpler to book in for the events and if you have feedback about the sites, booking processes or anything else, please do drop me a line.

Looking to the future, the Comms and IT committee are reviewing options around how we might best help you and clubs keep in touch and for us to share information about the Association. We're working through that detail, and if you have any ideas, suggestions or feedback about what you'd like to see, please do drop me a line.

Beyond the websites, there are some other areas that I'm delighted to have supported:

Domain Names

I am delighted to say that all of the domain names are all in one place – thanks go to those who have helped me to do this and it means that all of our domains are easier to manage

Newsletter

Of course, Wynn and Don are the leaders in this and provide excellent updates to members each month, but I am pleased to be able to provide a template and some design outlines to align the design with the magazine.

Zoom accounts

These are all still in place and despite not getting together quite so much, the zoom accounts are still available for use by any club – please do get in touch if you wish to use them

I get a great deal of contacts from members about a variety of topics, but if you have ideas or thoughts about what you would like to see on a screen, please just contact me and we can see if we can do it.

Mark House

webmaster@41club.org

APPENDIX A – ELECTION OF ASSOCIATION OFFICERS 2022-2025

Notes:

The C.V. of the Candidates standing for election is detailed on the following pages alongside their election address for the information of Voting Delegates.

The Candidates for Vice President and Fellowship Officer are uncontested and therefore will not be required to speak. The Candidates for Membership Officer will speak for three minutes each, to assist the Voting Delegates in making their choice.

NOMINATION FOR NATIONAL OFFICE – NATIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT OR PRESIDENT ELECT (ONE CANDIDATE)

Candidate: Stephen James

Llantwit Major 41 Club

Cambria 41 Club

(Who is not required to speak & is Vice President ‘Elect’)

FROM	TO	ROLE
1998	1998	Programme Officer – Pontypridd 972
1999	2000	CSLO – Pontypridd 972
2000	2001	Vice Chairman – Pontypridd 972
2001	2002	Chairman – Pontypridd 972
2006	2007	Vice Chairman – Pontypridd and Rhondda 972
2007	2008	Chairman – Pontypridd and Rhondda 972
2009	2011	Area Executive – Area 4 Cambria
2011	2012	Vice Chairman – Area 4 Cambria
2012	2013	Chairman – Area 4 Cambria
2012	2014	National Programme Committee RTBI
2015	2018	National Councillor – Region 13
2018	2022	National Fellowship Officer

I am absolutely thrilled and honoured to be elected the Vice President for our great association. I could not ask for a better place to be handed the VP chain on “home soil” in Cardiff.

The last 2 years have been a difficult time for all member associations, as the restrictions ease there will be members who will be reluctant to meet physically and we must do all we can to make them still feel part of 41 Club.

As an NHS HR professional, I am acutely aware of recruitment and retention challenges and these are no different in 41 Club. As President I would want to ensure:

- We lay the foundations to increase our membership base,

- We make 41 Club attractive for retiring Tablers.
- A smooth transition for retiring Tablers,
- We assist Round Table to grow.

Having a varied programme is key to attracting new members. Over the last 4 years our National offerings have increased significantly. I would like to assist in developing cluster events where they do not exist and continue proactively establishing the very successful “area” clubs that have been affiliated. It is often financially difficult for clubs to put on events and that is why I have put a resolution to the AGM to allow clubs to apply for a grant to help stage such events.

In terms of retention, we must not forget our current members, engagement is the key, I will want to hear the views of our members, so that they stay committed to remain in 41 Club and not disaffiliate. I will achieve this by not only visiting clubs, but by undertaking surveys and establishing Q&A sessions with the President and/or Board.

I look forward to meeting and engaging with as many of you as possible.

NOMINATION FOR NATIONAL OFFICE – NATIONAL FELLOWSHIP OFFICER (ONE CANDIDATE)

Candidate: Kelly Clarke

North Walsham 41 Club

Founders Area Past Area Chairmen 41 Club

(Who is not required to speak & is Fellowship Officer ‘Elect’)

FROM	TO	ROLE
1995	2007	North Walsham and District 331 – all posts
2000	2001	RT331 Chairman
2001	2003	Founders Area 6 Sports Officer
2003	2005	Founders Area – Area Chairman
2005	2007	RT Area 6 National Councillor
2008	2009	RT 331 President
2009	2010	RT 784 President
2009	2010	North Walsham 41 Club Chairman
2011	2012	RT 784 President
2015	2016	North Walsham 41 Club Chairman
2014	2015	NSW Round Table 41 Club Liaison Officer
2017	2022	41 Club Region 17 National Councillor

Having joined Round Table in 1995, I quickly progressed through all the Officers' roles. I went onto the Founders Area Executive Committee, performing the Area Chairman's role for 2 years, then became National Councillor for the area for another two years. After Table, I migrated to 41 Club, twice becoming Chairman of my own Club and taking on my present role of National Councillor for Region 17.

I quickly realised in those early Table days that a varied event programme is the key to a successful club and to membership. The fellowship gained from a fun night followed by the chatter with friends can quickly spread and bring new members along. It's my firm belief that it's still true today and the key to creating a club that people want to be involved in.

I have been on the Fellowship Committee since becoming a Regional Councillor, plus the Connects team since it's induction. Working alongside Steve James the current Fellowship Officer and the other Committee Members, we have seen the list of events grow. This is something that I would like to look at in more depth, to see if we can produce even more fun events, for everyone to enjoy at a cost we can all afford (I'll take on board the results of the recent Conference Survey).

I had the pleasure of organising two very successful 41 Club National Sporting Weekends at the Potters Resort in 2019 and 2020 and was part of the Table team which organised Norwich National Sporting weekend in 2015 and am currently part of the International 2023 Conference team.

Helping to organise events does not deter me and I look forward to the challenge.

NOMINATION FOR NATIONAL OFFICE – NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP OFFICER (TWO CANDIDATES)

Candidate: Peter McBride

Wallington and Carshalton 41 Club

(Who will speak first)

FROM	TO	ROLE
1987		Joined Wallington and Carshalton Round Table 166
1988	1993	Various Round Table Convenor roles including Sports, Secretary, Social and Programme, Community, International and Communications
1992	1993	Chairman – Wallington and Carshalton 166
1999	2001	President – Wallington and Carshalton 166
1991	1993	Communications Officer – Area 18 SE London and Surrey
2011	2012	President – Area 18 SE London and Surrey
1994		Joined Wallington and Carshalton 41 Club
2002	2004	Chairman – Wallington and Carshalton 41 Club

2014	2016	Chairman – Wallington and Carshalton 41 Club
2017	2022	Region 24 National Councillor
2021	2022	National Councillor Liaison Officer

I owe the Round Table Family much since joining 35 years ago and like you, it has given me lifelong friendships and personal support - and I'd like to give something back. It was this feeling that encouraged me to establish the National Buddyline in 2020 to support our members.

My role over 4 years as National Councillor of one of the largest 41 Club Regions as well as being NCLO overseeing the other National Councillors for the past year, has given me a realistic 'feel' for our Association (that and setting up the National Whisky Appreciation Group 😊).

We are at a critical point however, regarding membership of Round Table and 41 Club – the next three years may be the most important in the history of our Associations.

The first step in solving any problem is recognising there is one.

- New members are joining Round Table *but not enough to grow their net membership*
- The majority of retiring Tablers do consider 41 Club to be their first Club of choice and continue to enjoy the fellowship of the Round Table Family *but many do not*

As your National Membership Officer, I promise to:

1. Engage tirelessly with the RTBI Board to actively support them in their initiatives to increase membership
2. Ensure every 41 Club National Councillor engages with their local RTBI Regional Councillors to actively support Round Tables and help rebuild bridges with local 41 Clubs
3. Identify and engage with past-Tablers who have not joined 41 Club for whatever reason, understand why and help them to either join an existing Club or start up a new one
4. Encourage and enable all 41 Clubs to share their creative ideas, activities and best practices for other Clubs to learn from to improve the richness of all meetings

Candidate: David Chard

Reading Valley Veterans 41 Club Isis 41 Club

(Who will speak second)

FROM	TO	ROLE
1984	1993	Member of Reading Valley Round Table 830
1985	1986	Reading Valley RT Secretary
1987	1988	Reading Valley RT Vice Chairman

1988	1989	Reading Valley RT Chairman
1989	1990	Area 25 Thames Valley Vice Chairman
1990	1991	Area 25 Thames Valley Chairman and National Councillor
1991	1992	RT National Councillor
1995	1996	President of Reading Valley RT 830
1993		Joined Reading Valley Veterans
1993	1995	PLC Chairman
2001	2003	Reading Valley Veterans 41 Club Chairman
2004	2005	RT Area 25 President
2018	Current	41 Club Region 20 National Councillor
2020	Current	Isis 41 Club Member
2021	Current	Isis 41 Club Vice Chairman
2021	Current	2023 International Conference Committee

I am proud and privileged to have been a member of Round Table and 41 Club for over 35 years now. I have held many posts at both local and National level.

41Club as we all know is made up of individual clubs. The clubs themselves are created in their own individual styles this being formed by the members. This is the fabric of our organisation, membership is the lifeblood, the beating heart of 41 Club.

In the visits I have made as National Councillor of Thames Valley for the past 3 years it has become clear that each club has a different personality reflecting the make-up of the members. I believe this is a real positive and the role of the Membership Officer is to understand those differences, taking the positives and sharing them throughout the organisation.

There is no hiding the fact that we currently have a reducing membership. By sharing those positive messages throughout the organisation there is a great opportunity for growth in both 41 Club and Round Table

My Key aims now and in the future are to:

- Work closely with Clubs and understand what the National Association can do to support their membership objectives
- To communicate with all clubs and members as we are all key stakeholders, sharing the many good membership ideas
- To liaise with Round Table, to develop a close and honest dialogue about how we secure growth and a bright future for both our Associations.

Gentlemen, members should enjoy going to meetings, look forward to the fellowship, the banter, the Speakers and activities –we will grow if we are vibrant and welcoming.

Please help me make both our Associations the 'Clubs of Choice' for like-minded men of all ages.

APPENDIX B – RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION 1:

An Endowment to be purchased at a cost of £28,427.92 to provide maintenance in perpetuity for the 41 Club Garden located at the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire. Prior to the endowment being accepted by the National Memorial Arboretum some minor works require to be undertaken at a cost of around £1,500. The total cost to be charged against Cash Reserves in the current year (2022) will be within £30,000.

This is proposed by Lichfield 41 Club and seconded by Ashby-de-la Zouch 41 Club

Rationale:

Following a National Appeal by Lichfield 41 the 41 Club Garden at the National Memorial Arboretum (NMA) in Staffordshire was established almost 20 years ago. In the years that followed Lichfield 41 undertook maintenance of the Garden but as the Arboretum grew in stature and following the operation being taken over by the British Legion this became more difficult with only authorised contractors now permitted on site. National Council assumed responsibility for the upkeep several years ago but recently maintenance has been by crisis with an emphasis on Remembrance Sunday and no consideration given to the appearance of the Garden throughout the year. Following discussion with management at the NMA the most cost-effective solution is to purchase a maintenance in perpetuity Endowment.

National Council Support this Resolution

RESOLUTION 2:

41 Club members may invite like-minded men who are not past members of Round Table and are aged 45 and over to be regular guests at club meetings. After a period deemed suitable by each Club, such guests may be invited to join that Club and such invitations may later be ratified by a majority vote of full members of said club. Such new members would enjoy full membership rights in the local club and also in the National Association.

Should this change be adopted it is noted that:

- Association Rule 2.1 will require a change to the definition of “Full Members” to include “Invited Members who are not past members of Round Table and are aged 45 or over”
- Rule 4.1 and “Model rules for an affiliated Club (April 2010)” will require supporting amends.
- Acknowledging 41 Club International rules, Members who have not been Round Tablers may not stand for the position of International Relationships Officer, nor vote for the Association at any meeting of 41 Club International

This is proposed by Wokingham 41 Club and Seconded by Reading Valley Veterans 41 Club (both Region 20).

Rationale:

With a declining membership and fewer than 3,000 members currently (January 2022), Round Table can no longer sustain 41 Clubs as their sole source of recruitment. As a direct consequence of the decline in Round Table membership, 41 Club membership has, for many years, been in similar decline.

41 Club membership in 2020 was 14,270, down from 16,250 in 2015. Despite several new clubs opening, 30 Clubs closed or disaffiliated in 2020. Anecdotally, capitation will no longer fund the current fixed overheads of the National Association within 5 years.

This motion argues that a majority of 41 Clubs want to continue to contribute to society and to each other, rather than accept inglorious decline and that the founding principles of continuing fellowship, fun and social contribution remain as valid now as they did 77 years ago.

In the face of continued membership decline, despite valiant effort, we have failed to sufficiently adopt, adapt and improve our own rules to recognise the irreversible societal changes that have contributed to the waning of Round Tables. More positively, those same societal changes create great opportunity for 41 Clubs. By tapping into perhaps the fastest growing segment of our population as a target for new invited members – that of pre and post retirement men – we find enthusiastic ground for recruitment and growth. By inviting new members from that community, we give ourselves a fighting chance to continue making an important contribution and to provide a valuable moral compass to society.

In considering this motion, we ask members to be mindful of these closing points:

- Many (a majority of?) 41 Club members were originally “invited” to join their Tables.
- Many of our 41 Clubs have been “inviting” capitation-paying non-Tablers for years, perhaps most commonly in areas where Tables have already closed.
- This motion does not require any club to change its principles or behaviours. It does however legitimise clubs who choose so to do.
- 41 Clubs who choose to grow membership through invitation will facilitate the survival of the wider Association and enable more robust support for Round Table.
- A Club that does not intend to invite new members may still vote for the motion to encourage those clubs who choose so to do.

National Council Support this Resolution

RESOLUTION 3:

Amend Rules 6.5 and 18.4, replacing the date of 1st February with 10th January in each case.

Rationale:

This change of submission dates will allow National Board and National Council more opportunity to consider resolutions submitted by clubs and reach a decision as to whether they are supported, prior to the Order Paper being circulated to clubs within the set timescales. It will also allow more time for publication of candidates’ election manifestos in the 41 Club magazine

National Council propose & therefore support this Resolution

RESOLUTION 4:

National Council seeks the approval of the 41 Club membership to register as an unincorporated charitable association

Rationale:

Our association was set up primarily as a fellowship organisation, to provide a means for former members of Round Table to continue their friendships after Round Table, in accordance with Purposes and Objects. 41 Club is increasingly being involved in fundraising and community activities, and National Council considers that there is benefit from our Association being formally recognised by the Charity Commission.

National Council propose & therefore support this Resolution

RESOLUTION 5:

National Council propose that all income received from our Members' affinity deals such as Fred Olsen etc should be put in a separate budget line to be used to support local or National fellowship events.

Rationale:

Organisers of events such as charters, dinners, National events etc can apply to receive a grant of up to £200 which can be used for matters relating to entertainment for the event e.g., speaker, band, DJ etc.

All applications should be sent to the National Fellowship Officer who will determine the merits or otherwise of awarding a grant and the amount given based on the income available in the affinity budget.

National Council propose & therefore support this Resolution

RESOLUTION 6:

That the Association has a Mascot to represent them at major events.

This is proposed by Clevedon & District 41 Club (Region 21) and seconded by Isis Area 41 Club (Region 20).

Rationale:

We believe that a prestigious and inclusive organisation such as 41 Club should enhance its profile by the provision of an Association Mascot. This mascot should be present at all major events staged by the Association, and it should be within the remit of the retiring Immediate Past National President to ensure the health, safety and welfare of such an important feature be maintained. Full details of the proposed mascot and how this will operate will be detailed to the membership at the AGM.

National Council have no opinion on this Resolution

RESOLUTION 7:

Amend Rule 20.9 to remove the phrase “without exceeding an increase of 4% (£0.50) to each Member per annum”

Rationale:

In these uncertain times to allow the National Treasurer to adjust Capitation in-line with the recommendations of the Finance Committee and with National Council approval to maintain the Reserve’s Policy of the Association and to keep within each Annual Budget.

National Council propose & therefore support this Resolution

RESOLUTION 8:

Amend Rule 9.3.1 to include: Any former National Councillor may seek re-election for a further term of three years, after a minimum of three years has elapsed since the end of the previous term as Councillor.

Rationale:

National Council propose to add this rule, so that any member of 41 Club can seek election as a National Councillor after there has been a break of at least three years on National Council. This will enable the Association to draw upon those with experience on National Council, whilst still giving the opportunity for members to seek election for the first time.

National Council propose & therefore support this Resolution

RESOLUTION 9:

National Council seeks the approval of the membership to allow online voting and participation at Annual General Meetings, in parallel with physical attendance. Amend all Rules and Standing Orders where necessary to allow for this to happen. This to take effect from Annual General Meeting in 2023.

Rationale:

The coronavirus pandemic has demonstrated that many clubs and club members are far more comfortable with taking part in online meetings and events than they were previously. The 2021 Annual General Meeting was conducted entirely online, as an emergency measure due to the pandemic, and there have been several requests for online voting and participation to continue on a permanent basis. If this resolution is approved, the online participation and voting instructions would be issued 35 days in advance of the meeting, to accompany the Order Paper.

National Council propose & therefore support this Resolution

APPENDIX C – REPORT OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS ON 2021 ACCOUNTS

The report from independent examiners Duncan and Toplis was not available at the date this order paper was circulated to all clubs by the bulk e-mail system. It will be circulated as a separate message to all club officers when it is available, and it will also be available in printed form at the AGM on Saturday 2nd April.

APPENDIX D – ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

APPENDIX E – 2021 CASHFLOW STATEMENT

APPENDIX F – 2023 BUDGET

Please refer to the accompanying document *Accounts and Budget for 2022 AGM*