



# The Cartier Chronicle

*The One to watch! One last time.*



## AGM SPECIAL EDITION

*And you thought that you'd seen the last of The Cartier!*

*Despite being on the brink of Administration and eventual closure, I have been lured back to bring you all the reports from your Council officers as well as the accounts of Ringwood & District Ex Tablers Club for the year ending March 2021. There's loads to read in advance of next Tuesday's meeting to be held via Zoom starting at 4.30pm. Zoom link details will follow shortly. (Ed).*

### **RINGWOOD & DISTRICT EX -TABLERS CLUB AGM : 16<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2021: CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

I must be the first Chairman who has presided over a full year of meetings of the Club without leaving his house! Not only that but I think it's the first time in a year when I've spent every night in my own bed, but that's another story!

Last year's AGM was cancelled the day before it was scheduled as our numbers were rapidly declining, quite understandably. What happened next didn't go like a blur at the time but seems a bit of a blur now. Questions were, how do we deal with this and how can we keep the Club together? What can we do? Then along came Zoom! Where would we have been without it.

When approached by Gordon to be Vice Chairman I thought it was too soon as I was relatively new to the Club but others assured me there would be a lot of support. From the first meeting I attended in 2016 I appreciated what a great Club it is and I have loved every minute of my time as a member. So to the challenge of keeping the spirit, soul and social cohesion together. I hope and believe we have achieved that entirely because of the strength of the membership and a fantastic team effort. So this report is a thank you to all of you who have achieved that.

First of all the Council. Immediate Past Chairman Gordon as Webmaster has continued to lead development of our website which is looking very good and undoubtedly an invaluable addition to the Club resources. Secretary Chris has kept us all entertained with witty minutes of Club and Council meetings. Treasurer Andrew has been as diligent as ever and kept us on the financial straight and narrow. Jeff has been a constant source of ideas for the remote entertainment and initiated some great evenings for us all. Ian has pursued potential new members and publicity with all his usual vigour and achieved much in both fields. Peter has produced no less than 18 editions of our magazine and led the Ashley Heath POD after David Hirst's unfortunate illness. David Hirst has looked after Welfare in a thoroughly conscientious and caring way and set up and run Ashley Heath POD. John and Richard Blackiston have worked the oracle to provide interesting meetings for us, a number from our own resources which was great. David Phelps as Meals secretary felt a bit redundant but he was always there with sound advice, launched our Club meeting raffle and is involved with National 41 Club's Buddies scheme. David and Ian also led the Froghammers on their annual away weekend. Lay member Steve worked tirelessly on the health and safety of bike rides, walks and home zooming. Vice Chairman Bob said he really had nothing to do as Ladies Night had been postponed but now of course he is very busy and, in any case has contributed greatly throughout the year. My thanks to you all.

Those not on council have also contributed hugely to our year. Keith Anderson our ever enthusiastic Club Film and Club Concert Impresario. Mike Callaghan who stepped in to cover welfare very kindly when David Hirst was unwell and also one of those volunteer heroes supporting the vaccine roll out. Mike also created the Club Xmas Card. Gerald Carter produced the Directory for us, an invaluable tool in any year. Richard Dyson sat in on our Council meetings and has kept us very well apprised of 41 Club Regional and National activities. Mike Edwards proved to be the constant gardener with the Dirty Dibber and now the gardeners' WhatsApp. Mike Fraser entertained and educated us with The Pedal. John Harper enabled us to be present as usual at the Remembrance Day wreath laying. John Kennedy has been an outstanding 'Prefect' of Poulner Pod which has held almost 50 meetings. Will Parke arranged for a couple of walks and didn't lose any of the participants. John Quint captained the Golf Society although there were fewer matches and, in the end, no formal trophy competitions this year. Arthur Robins could not have known that in taking over electronic distribution he would

have the biggest distribution workload in history and of course he entertained us throughout the year with his 'Smiles' for which we were all very grateful. Paul Thackray kept a watching brief on Treasurer Andrew. I hope I haven't omitted anyone and I must also thank every member who has taken part in the various meetings, socials, PODs and other activities we have undertaken almost entirely 'virtually' this year. Every one of you has helped us through this complicated year.

My thanks also to our other Clubs. The new Round Table has done amazingly well to grow as they have and my thanks to Phil Hoyle and James Marley for keeping me involved and aware during the year. To Caroline Gill and her social team of Barbara Kennedy, Jenny Stockdale and Lesley Sharp my thanks for linking with us so well and for creative contributions to our joint meetings, especially in a Zoom year when so much activity has been in our own homes with the desire to be inclusive of family partners whenever we could.

Finally, and not least, my thanks to Susie for her constant support and help throughout the year.

And so the winner of the Chairman's Choice Trophy is.....to be announced at the AGM!

Yours in continued friendship

Richard

### **Report from the Vice Chairman**

It's been a year like no other but given that the job of the VC is relatively straightforward, I haven't had the sort of frustrations and problems that colleagues on Council have faced. However, despite not being able to meet face-to-face at least Zoom has at least made it possible to continue.

The main tasks for the VC, apart from preparing for the next year, is to introduce guests, which has been at arms length and thus less than satisfactory, and organising the Ladies Night.

Ladies Night has been re-scheduled to take place on the 16 July and, on the current Road Map, which is due to remove all controls on the 21 June, at the earliest, is going ahead. The venue and band are ready and willing, and bookings are coming in. I hope I see many if not all of you there!

So in conclusion, can I thank everyone but especially Chairman Richard, for the help and advice that he has offered throughout the year. I wish my successor, whoever that might be, a great year in waiting and trust that we get back to some form of normality as soon as is sensible.

Bob Merrett

### **Report from the Secretary**

In fact, I don't really have a great deal to report other than to say what an experience and a privilege it has been to serve on Council this year with such a great bunch of guys, so ably led by Chairman Richard, who have steered the club through what must have been its most bizarre and challenging year in its history. There have been so many amazing contributions from so many people which have kept everyone engaged and entertained. Hopefully, I have kept the score with minutes which bear some vague resemblance to what actually transpired. I made a stab at trying to make them just a little humorous and, if in doing so, I have offended anyone, I would like to apologise .....I would like to, but you're all good sports, so I won't!!!

Chris Kean

### **Meals Secretary Report**

My job this year has been virtually redundant due to the Government lockdown. We did get a little excited in August when restrictions were eased but to no avail and I did keep in contact with Tara at the St Leonards Hotel over this period of time but unfortunately the restrictions put on them virtually prevented our Club from meeting. So, we have not met at the St Leonards Hotel since February 2020. We hope, when in late June the Government restrictions are lifted according to Boris's Road Map we might well be able to meet in July 2021.

I did set up the Monthly Raffle, which has worked well and provided some additional funds to our Club. Thank you to all who contributed. It will be down to the Club if we wish to continue this Raffle.

To sum up, I was not furloughed and did not claim redundancy.

Let's all hope we can meet again soon, sitting around the Table and enjoying good food and fellowship.

David Phelps

### Immediate Past Chairman's Report

Uhhmm, Uhhmm, CoVid-19, Uhhm, Uhhmm, Uhhmm.

And I could not finish without saying a big thank you to Chairman Richard for steering our Club through a difficult year. Despite everything the year threw at us, Richard has had a great year. Hope you were able to enjoy it.

Thank you. To paraphrase Mr Kipling, "Our Chairman did exceedingly good".

I wish the incoming Chairman and his Council a successful and enjoyable year.

Gordon Knott

### Explanatory notes for 2020/21 Income & Expenditure Account, Balance Sheet (which appear on the next page) and proposed Budget for 2021/22

All figures in **green** are income or pre-payments, whilst those in **brown or black** are expenses, **except** the net surplus/**deficit** at the bottom of each column.

The left hand column in brown is last year's (2019/20) actual - for comparison purposes **only**.

The left boxed columns in black, shows the narrative across **all** columns and the actual income and expenditure for this past year **ending March 2021 (NB Figs in green are income or pre-payments)**

The next column in brown is the **budgeted** income and expenditure for the current year.

#### Treasurer Comments

Speaker Meals, Speaker Fees, Meals account, Social Events, were all virtually zero due to the Pandemic with little or no activity in these areas.

Ladies Night & Pre-payment: Mirimar was booked for Feb this year with a £150.00 deposit. This has not been used, so the £150 paid to and held by the Hotel, has been reversed as a pre-payment.

Website & Pre-payment: The original payment was for 3 years so spread over last year, this year and next year.

Directory: Posting many directories due to lockdown resulted in a higher cost than usual.

#### 2021/22 Proposed Budget (boxed column on right)

Figures in **green** are income or pre-payments, whilst those in **brown** are expenses, **EXCEPT** the anticipated **deficit** at the very bottom of the Budget column,

A reduction in Subs is for **this year only** and I anticipate they will have to increase by at least the same amount for next year (2022/23) when hopefully, things are back to normal.

Speaker meals: Reduced slightly on last year's budget due to the pandemic but allowed for a probable increase in meal costs.

Speaker Fees: Reduced on last year's budget to take some account of the pandemic.

Assuming we are exactly on proposed budget, we will make a net loss of £584.00 for 2021/22.

By March 2022, The Club's net balance would be down to £1513.56 which I believe, is more than adequate for the Club.

#### Balance Sheet as at 3<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Current Net balance at the bank after cheques and donations are paid is £2097.56, an increase in our net balance from last year of £597.96 mainly due to the pandemic.

I propose Subscriptions are reduced by £5.00 for the coming year to £37.00 discounted to £30.00 if paid by 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

Andrew Green (Hon Treasurer)

**RINGWOOD & DISTRICT EX-TABLERS CLUB**  
**Income & Expenditure Account & Balance Sheet for year to 3/03/2021**

Actual 2019/20	Actual 2020/21	£	20120/21 Budget	£	Proposed Budget 2021/22
<b>1860.00</b>	<b>INCOME</b>		<b>2100.00</b>		
	<b>Total Subscriptions (Income)</b>	<b>2135.00</b>			<b>1800.00</b> 60 @ £30.00
	<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
884.50	Capitation	870.00	884.50	870.00	60 at £14.50
136.50	Speaker Meals - Club Meetings	0.00	120.00	100.00	
407.00	Speaker Fees - Club Meetings	174.50	350.00	300.00	
154.00	Meals Account	0.00	0.00		
238.92	Social Events	-8.00	150.00	150.00	
244.73	Ladies Night - Expense	150.00	300.00	300.00	
	Ladies Pre-Payment	150.00			
25.00	Greyfriars Affiliation Fee	25.00	27.00	27.00	
53.22	Chairman's Jewel	58.22	55.00	62.00	
190.00	Chairman's Honararium	190.00	190.00	190.00	
20.00	Secretary Expenses	0.00	20.00	10.00	
10.00	Treasurer Expenses	0.00	10.00	10.00	
20.00	Welfare Officer Expenses	0.00	20.00	10.00	
0.00	Newsletter Expenses	0.00	10.00	0.00	
0.00	Membership & Media Expenses	0.00	0.00	10.00	
172.80	Website	114.00	114.00	57.00	
114.00	Website Pre Payment	57.00	57.00	0.00	
44.59	Directory	69.36	50.00	75.00	
51.29	Welfare and Flowers	67.97	60.00	80.00	
22.00	Poppy Wreath	22.00	23.00	23.00	
85.65	Miscellaneous Exps	10.99	50.00	110.00	
945.87	Xmas Card Donations Received this Year	996.00			
30.00	Xmas Card Costs	15.00			
100.00	Xmas Card Payments for Current Year	1100.00			
815.87	Xmas Card Money, not yet paid out				
	Raffle income less prizes	119.00			
	Raffle money not yet paid out				
307.00	Round Table set up & help				
200.00	Raffle income for Round table				
2445.20	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	1537.04	2376.50	2384.00	
<b>-585.20</b>	<b>Net Surplus/(Deficit) for the year</b>	<b>597.96</b>	<b>-276.50</b>	<b>-584.00</b>	

<b>BALANCE SHEET</b>	at 3/3/21	at 7/3/20
Balance at Bank	2630.56	3477.22
Cheque Paid not onStatement	-800.00	-2151.62
Website Pre Payment	57.00	114.00
Ladies Night pre Payment	150.00	
Cash Float	60.00	60.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>2097.56</b>	<b>1499.60</b>
Balance at 7/3/20            b/fwd	<b>1499.60</b>	2084.80
Surplus/ <b>Deficit</b> 2020/21	597.96	<b>-585.20</b>
<b>New Balance</b>	<b>2097.56</b>	<b>1499.60</b>

**I Propose that Subscriptions for 2021/22 be £37.00 Discounted by £7.00 to £30.00 if paid by 30th June 2021**

**Bank Account:** I propose the following: - That we continue to bank with Natwest Ringwood and the account to be operated by any one of the following officers once it is praticable to change:  
 "Chairman, Secretary or Treasurer"

Signed

*Andrew G Green*

Andrew Green, Hon Treasurer

Date: 5th March 2021

I have examined the financial records of the Club and confirm that the above Income and Expenditure Account together with the Balance Sheet are in accordance therewith

Signed

*Paul Thackray*

Paul Thackray, Appointed Examiner    Date: 05/03/2021

### **Editor's Report**

Little did I know when I accepted the Editorship that I might be producing far more material than an Editor would normally distribute but hey, it's been fun and a privilege being your Editor again. I didn't expect to create 18 Cartier Chronicles but it has kept me busy during lockdown (which was a positive thing for me) and I hope it gave our readers something else to look at instead of the daily government briefings!

I have tried to ensure members of all Clubs have been kept in touch with events and even if you were not able to attend, you could read about what had happened. It was a pleasure to report on our new Round Table activities too.

Special thanks to the two Club Chairs, Caroline and Richard, for their regular and inventive Copy. I must not forget the regular contributions from other members, especially when we were hit by the first lockdown. That included photos, funny captions, Arthur's monthly smile, letters to the Editor and the monthly feature of non Ringwood Round Tablers' activities from their original clubs around the country. I must also add a thank you to my sub Editor (aka Ann) for her fine proof reading!

Two years ago saw the presentation for the first time of the Editor's Award. There are no explicit rules for this prize, it's down to the Editor to determine the winner based upon the quality and or quantity of contributions. But I am pleased to say that the winner of the Editor's Award 2020/21 is.....all will be revealed at the AGM!

Peter Lomax

### **Sports and Social Report**

There we were ready to go and along came lockdown - no gathering - some gathering and no gathering again. Improvisation came into its own and step forward Chairman Richard, Keith, Ian, Will, Gordon, Mike Edwards, Mike Fraser and of course Zoom.

We could not have BBQs, car treasure hunts, RECC sailing or firework night but we have had bike rides, classical concerts, film nights, quizzes, walks, Christmas and New Year celebrations and the Frogham weekend. Not forgetting the Dirty Dibber, The Pedal, Household Hints a virtual tour around London, What's Your Background and who can forget Would I Lie to You? Add to this some wonderful entertainment from Richard Blackiston and John Adams (see their report), Arthur's daily smile, some brilliant collaboration with Caroline and Tangent and lots of fun with the pods and it has been an extraordinary year.

I cannot take credit for any of the above, especially as so much relied on Richard and Caroline's input and technical skills. So, it is a big thank you to them and everyone involved and to all out there for your support. Let's look forward to something much closer to normality in the coming year.

Jeff Wickens

### **Membership and Media Report**

As for many Council positions the year of Covid has frustrated planned activities but also thrown up some new possibilities. In the field of Membership and Media it has been mainly frustration but insignificant compared to the work of our Meal Secretary, David!!!

Membership has been holding steady at around 60 paying members. The sad loss of our very own Jimmy Gordon...man of Ringwood and founder Tabler distressed us all. It was also sad to see Jim Stride leave the Club to head north after only just getting his feet under this table again. By way of some balance, we have seen the happy return of Jo Bonello from Somerset and Stephen Butterfield, who is paying his dues, but living in Axminster for the time being.

Tim Airey, our fresh new potential member has joined a couple of our Zoom meetings and hopefully when we start grouping in 6's he will have a chance to meet more of us in the flesh.

It has always concerned this incumbent that our details in external directories of clubs in the area are often out of date which can inhibit potential new members. This year I have updated our contact details in Viewpoint, Roundabout and at Greyfriars. Just like Harry and Meghan I sometimes find the Media troublesome but on the other hand quite enjoy mobilising it for no financial benefit!!

Our Chairman Richard and bride Susie, graced the Ringwood News after their epic 500 + 500 miles together to raise loads of cash for Dementia UK.

We obtained generous coverage of our Jimmy Gordon in New Forest papers, National Ex Tabler publications and with Fred Dinenage on ITV for last year's Burns Night, Jimmy's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday and fond memories after he passed away.

Thanks go to John Adams for his sterling and stirring work on the bagpipes during the year. I just hope, in the future, we do not have an Honorary member who likes the harp!! I cannot close without congratulating Phil Hoyle and the members of Ringwood and Verwood Round Table for the amazing array of valuable local activities they initiated and for their well-earned press and social media coverage They have brought back so many strong memories for all of us who have been through Round Table.

Ian Stockdale

### **Lay Member / Health and Safety Report**

Well, this should not take long! I felt very privileged having only just joined Ringwood to be invited to join Council in such an important post at the same time as there was a national pandemic when a calling for someone with experience of risk assessment was needed. Ringwood members soon proved to be very inventive in trying to forge social gatherings and at every turn Boris did his best to stop Ringwood members from fulfilling their ambition.

I started off with a vision of drafting risk assessments both exotic and far-ranging when I heard about the range of social events that would open up. Despite this I have supported organisers of walks and cycle rides to keep everyone safe and as far as I am aware I have fulfilled my brief 100%.

Anyway, there is a sense we are climbing out of this hole and I am looking forward to events later this summer and catching up face to face.

Thanks everyone for their fellowship through Zoom meetings and the invention of creating lively meetings through a screen.

Steve Mursell

### **Speakers Secretary's Report**

What a start we had planned! Speakers lined up with slide shows, videos to go with their talks at the club meetings at St Leonards.

Then March came and we were told to stay at home and like good old soldiers we are, we did what we were told. So, a rethink was needed. Those with more techno than us had set up zoom meetings and local pods which formed how our club will go forward. Nobody thought that a year later we would still be zooming and podding.

We had two great speakers who said they would try to give their talk via zoom, one being a forensic Police officer and the other a travelling Parson. Both were received well by the members.

The next few meetings were 'in house' with two members giving 5 minute talks on a subject of their choice.

Those members spoke on such diverse subjects as, "I was on Bargain Hunt", "I have written poetry", "I have Scuba dived", and many others for which we thank them all.

When John and I met up we came up and worked on our Talent Show Spectacular night. With Songs from Peter, drums and piano from Keith and Sue, Bob Monkhouse from John, Tommy Cooper from our illustrious Chairman Richard and singing guitarist Ian. All of which went down a storm and with our Vice Chairman calling in favours from Britain's Got Talent head judge Simon Cowell to award the winner Ian his Oscar.

All this led the way for John to come up with the idea of a live Santa in his grotto and Alf in his workshop both with their helpers Suzi as the fairy queen and Helen as Mrs Alf, with prezzies for everybody hand delivered by Santa and Alf, fresh snow, and jokes, ok some just a little silly, plus music! A big production was achieved and all of which was written produced and directed by John.

February came and with it the Club's Fellowship night and the award of Melvyn's Mug. The great debate....." Are Celebrities ruling the word?" For the motion was Colin Read and Derek Scott and against Richard Sheerin and Chris Treleaven with the judge, Ex Round Table's National Membership Officer, Steve James who Awarded (virtually) the Melvyn mug to the winning team of Richard Sheerin and Chris Treleaven.

We thank all those who took part in our games and talks and challenges throughout the year. With your support we had so much fun and laughter.

That's all Folks

Richard Blackiston (Alf ) and John Adams (Santa).

### **Welfare Report for 2020-21**

The death of Jimmy Gordon has been keenly felt by all members who valued Jimmy for his fantastic input to Round Table, 41 Club and the Ringwood community over many years. It was particularly satisfying that, with Jimmy reaching his centenary during the year, we were able to help him celebrate and enjoy it despite the lockdown. Everyone will have their own memories of him but I particularly enjoyed contact with him and chatting about his background and Round Table days, of which he had a phenomenal memory. My thanks go to those of you who were able to keep up a contact with Jimmy during the year, even if it had to be by phone or letter because of the lockdown. I believe that it would be good and appropriate if the club could name some event or trophy in his honour.

Thankfully none of our members have succumbed to the Corona Virus during the year. However Will Parke (and Julie) did contract it recently and Will spent a week in hospital - where he witnessed the fantastic and dedicated care provided by the medical staff. Julie was able to stay at home and, although both are still suffering from the after-effects, they are making progress.

Brian Pierson, who sadly lost his wife during this year, also contracted the virus and had to spend time in hospital.

He also is now home and suffering the after-effects - but making progress.

John Morgan has had several hospital visits and stays and is undergoing more chemotherapy prior to an operation. Despite that he is always a lively member of our pod zoom meetings. Hugh Edwards is continuing to make slow progress.

A few other members have continuing health problems but are managing them.

I myself underwent surgery last autumn and Vivien and I thank you all for your good wishes and support during that time. During my absence Mike Callaghan very kindly, and ably, took over the welfare role until I recovered; thank you for helping out Mike.

The welfare of the club as a whole has been affected by the two lockdowns and the inability to meet for meetings and social events. However this has been mitigated to a good extent by holding virtual meetings and events using 'Zoom'. Also, in particular, our Chairman's suggestion of setting-up local groups of members - pods - for Zoom get-togethers has worked well and has been enjoyed by those who have taken part.

David Hirst

### **AGM AGENDA**

1. Apologies
2. Guests
3. Notice of Meeting
4. Minutes of last AGM
5. Council Reports
6. Chairman's Report
7. Election of Chairman for 2021/22
8. Incoming Chairman's Remarks
9. Election of Officers for 2021/22
10. Any Other Business
11. Final Toast

### **Nominations for Officers 2021/22**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Nominee</b>	<b>Proposer</b>	<b>Seconder</b>	<b>Signature of Nominee</b>
Chairman	Bob Merrett	Richard Carter	Chris Kean	
Vice Chairman	John Adams	Bob Merrett	Chris Kean	
Secretary	Chris Kean	Bob Merrett	Richard Carter	
Treasurer	Steve Mursell	Bob Merrett	Chris Kean	
Social	Mike Edwards	Bob Merrett	Chris Kean	
Meals Secretary	David Phelps	Bob Merrett	Chris Kean	
Membership/ Media	Brian Kinch	Bob Merrett	Chris Kean	
Speakers Secretary	Richard Blackiston/ John Harper	Bob Merrett	Chris Kean	
Editor	Peter Lomax	Bob Merrett	Chris Kean	
Welfare	Mike Callaghan	Bob Merrett	Chris Kean	
Webmaster	Gordon Knott	Bob Merrett	Chris Kean	
Immediate Past Chairman	Richard Carter			

### **End of Year Report**

Summary of Ringwood Ex- Table's  
Theatre and Concert visits for 2020/21

Arthur Robins  
Theatre and Concert Co-ordinator

**We hope to see you next Tuesday at 4.30pm.  
Join us if you can.**