



The Cartier Chronicle

The One to watch!



"Walking is man's best medicine." Hippocrates

Susie walks every day and I have joined her most days from the start of lockdown. As National President Peter's walking initiative has been extended to a 500 + 500 challenge we decided to join it and started logging the miles on 22nd July with the target of 500 miles each. As at 31st July Susie had walked 58.8 miles and I had walked 56.3.

The objective is to raise money for President Peter's National Charity which is Dementia UK. If you would like to support us you can contribute to the fundraising as follows:

Google "VirginMoneyGiving Peter Good"

You will see 2 donation sites

Select the 500 + 500 site

In the message box when making a donation put "Carterwalk"



If you missed the last Zoom club meeting you won't be aware that we surprised Arthur with a little gift box of goodies as a thank you for keeping us going for 100 days with his 'smiles'. Caroline kindly knocked on his door right on cue during our meeting! Gordon composed a poem too which you can read here on page 5.

Life has changed a bit in a month – a haircut; shop visits with mask; family and friend visits. However, as we have seen, the wretched virus hasn't gone away so we are all being cautious. Thank you to all who completed our questionnaire about meetings and social get togethers.

Your feedback will be considered as we plan future events and after Council has considered your responses we will let you know the conclusions.

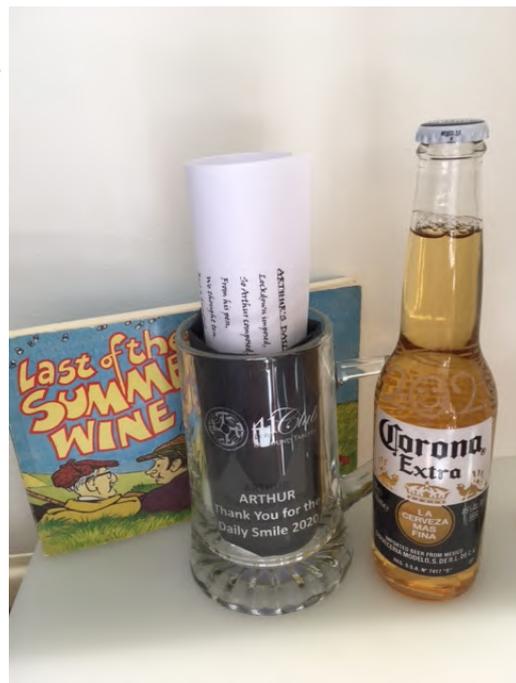
POD leaders have held a review and I will send out an update for you all very soon. The overall view was that the PODs have been a good way of keeping in touch and we will continue with them.



Stay well; stay positive and stay in touch.

(That's clever! Very topical. Ed)

Yours in Continued Fellowship,
Richard



Please put these dates in your **DIARY** now

Tuesday 4th August : Club council meeting on Zoom 4.30pm.

Tuesday 11th August : Tangent Zoom Speaker event : 4.30pm. Topic 'Juicing'.

Tuesday 18th August : Club Meeting : 4.30pm on Zoom. Speakers: Steve Mursell & Jeff Wickens. Humour expected!!

Sunday 23rd August : Frogham BBQ and AGM. All members invited. (Contact F.A.G secretary Ian for details)

Please note that film and concert nights will resume on 7th & 14th September respectively. More details will follow.



Caroline's Corner



So, the children have finished school, not that we noticed much difference, and we are well into holiday season now. We have had a few swims at Bournemouth which has been fairly busy but luckily not like the hot weekend end in June when chaos ensued! I suspect many of us are rethinking our holiday plans, we should have been in Colorado and New York but instead are heading up to Yorkshire for a week which will be a nice change if not quite the destination we originally had in mind. I hope you all are able to have a break of some sort over the summer. Don't stray too far from your laptops though as we still have an August meeting to look forward to – a talk on 'juicing' on Tuesday 11 August at 4.30. A zoom link

will be sent out.

For our last social meeting we had a real life live speaker – our first external speaker via zoom! Emma, gave a demonstration on arranging artificial flowers and did a great job especially considering the difficulties of speaking to an ipad! (although we are all getting used to that aren't we?) The backdrop of her shop was impressive as you can see here:



Recently, many of our ladies joined with 41 Club for a pre and post Rod Stewart concert zoom chat. Everyone enjoyed it and I am sure more will be planned.

Our fabulous social committee have a few ideas for later in the summer and I think September will be a good time to hold our somewhat belated first committee meeting where we can discuss how things are going and what might be possible for the Autumn programme and beyond. With that in mind, any thoughts and comments on what we have done so far, or what you might like to see in the future (Covid guidelines permitting) would be welcomed.

Enjoy the summer and stay well everyone

Yours in continued friendship

Caroline

Just in case you missed this last month.....

Last year we had a go at playing some favourite music but for one reason or another it did not quite work. Not to be defeated we thought we would have another go but this time based on the theme of Desert Island Discs.

- **So we are asking everyone to choose;-**
- **one disc** (OK, I know they chose 8 but that would clog up the works) - it could be music or poetry or a speech
- **one book** (you already get the works of Shakespeare and the Bible)
- **a luxury item** (it cannot be a lifeboat or a luxury caravan!!)

Please add a line why you have chosen each one.

We will collate the responses and see if there is anything in common. The aim is to work these up into an Ex Table social event – you could arrive suitably dressed for the desert island. We may also send out a resume of the responses (we won't say who they are from).

Please have a think about it and please send your responses to Will Parke

will.rosella@btinternet.com

Jeff W



Life in Round Table – David Hirst

I joined Whitley Bay Round Table, No. 207, in 1968. It had a big membership at the time and was a thriving club. It met at the Rex Hotel on the seafront, which provided a private bar and a three course meal served by an elderly waitress (at a cost of twelve and sixpence I recall). Dominoes and three-card brag were the main after-meeting interests and there was always a Sergeant-at-arms to add amusement with fines at the end of each meeting. Business meetings were fairly serious but speaker/fellowship ones less so, with plenty of jokes and repartee.

The club did the usual things and was strong on community support and fund raising. The highlight of every year was the two-evenings 'Live Show' in November - a free revue show for old-age pensioners staged in the large community hall. It consisted of a dozen or so amateur acts performed by Tabler's and Circler's (see picture opposite), with the addition of a decent songstress from the town. The opening was always a chorus line of Tabler's doing, for example, the can-can - as pictured below.



Needless to say there was an almighty party at someone's house after the final show (and on many other occasions!).

We also played carols and shook collecting tins in the town centre before Christmas, and organised food parcels in the run-up to Christmas.

In a couple of years during Table's heyday we ran a two-day 'Summer Spectacular' on the local playing fields. Other local organisations ran stalls and sideshows for their own benefit and Table provided the beer tent and main arena attractions. The best of these was a 'Chariot Racing' act from the Continent, which didn't go down too well with the local cricket Club when they inadvertently ran over the 'cricket square'. We had to provide overnight security patrols, and frightening the life out of interlopers with a large but fairly tame Alsatian was great fun.

The highlights of the Area year were the Cluster in a big local venue, and the Area Weekend – always at Peebles Hydro (a 200+ room hotel in the Scottish borders) where we took over the whole hotel for a Dinner Dance and final night Fancy Dress Ball. Many of us took our children as well and who were involved at the start of the fancy dress ball, but

but otherwise had free roam of the hotel and its indoor pool. The only downside was the need to be able to drive back to Tyneside on the Sunday afternoon!

We also always entered the Morpeth Regatta – a race of home-made rafts/boats down the River Wansbeck to raise money for Morpeth RT. The main object was to flour-bomb and upend rival rafts and avoid being soaked yourself.

We first attended a Round Table National Conference in 1976 when the main venue was a marquee on the pitch of Blackpool Football Club. We were gobsmacked by the whole event and attended several more over the following years – with a good supply of stickers of course (two examples pictured here from other Tables), but which



were banned after the later Brighton conference. That, if I recall correctly, was the year that Circle's National President rode along the promenade on an elephant! What memories!

We held dances at various times, with the best being the annual summer 'Barn Dance'. The former member of Table had a real barn which was only empty for a couple of weeks in the middle of the year. We then took it over and dressed it up with decorations, a stage, bar, barbecue and outside portable loos.

It was as well that it was a few miles outside the town because of the noise and for avoiding police cars on the way home! It was damned hard work running it but we made sure there was enough beer left over to reward the Sunday morning clearing-up work. Luckily it hardly ever rained that weekend!



(The girls did a better Can-Can than we did.)

Thank you David for such great memories.....and legs!

Ed

Ringwood & District Ex-Tablers Club

Ladies Night 12 February 2021

The Miramar, Bournemouth



The Ladies are getting ready
So get the date in your diaries.
It's going to be a great night



Letters to the Editor

This is a new feature for the Cartier Chronicle and I am grateful for all the letters that you have submitted. Needless to say, when you read some of them I have considered it necessary to omit the names of some of the authors. I am sure you understand. Please keep submitting your letters. Any claims for defamation should be addressed to my solicitors 'Snatcher and Grabbitt'.

I think it is just terrible the way they have treated Lance Armstrong, especially after what he achieved winning seven Tour de France races while competing on drugs. When I was on drugs, I couldn't even find my bike.

Dear Editor
I was assisting my granddaughter with her homework when she received a text from her Mum, which read: 'What do you want from life?'
This was an unexpected and profound question for an exam sitting teenager. We debated various answers—wealth, fulfilment, love, all three.
Five minutes later she received a second text blaming predictive text for correcting the word *Lidl*.

Lower Hangersley

I have never written to an Editor before but I really need your advice on what could be a crucial decision. I've suspected for some time that my wife has been cheating on me. The usual signs...phone rings but if I answer, the caller hangs up. My wife has been going out with the girls a lot recently although when I ask their names she always says, "just friends from my Pilates class, you don't know them". I always stay awake to look out for her taxi coming home but she always walks down the drive. Anyway, I have never approached the subject with her and I think deep down I just didn't want to know the truth. But last night she went out again and I decided to really check on her. I decided I was going to park my BMW R1150 GS motor cycle next to the garage and then hide behind it so that I could get a good view of the whole street when she came home. It was at that moment, crouching behind my bike, that I noticed that the valve covers on my engine seemed to be leaking a little oil. Is this something I can fix myself or should I take it back to the dealer?

I recently saw a headline, "Pupils to be taught about sex at seven". My reaction was "What, in the morning?"
When I was a child, the school day began with prayer. But you can't stop progress.
David Wimborne

If I tried balancing my drink on the side of the bath, would I end up with coq au vin?
Christopher Poulner

I recently had to call into my local Sainsbury supermarket to buy some French mustard. I wouldn't normally visit Sainsbury's but I was in a hurry. When I asked for some help finding it I was told apologetically that all they had was English and Dijon (to rhyme with pigeon). You don't get that sort of service in Waitrose. I've always said that Sainsbury's keeps the riff raff out of Waitrose. I was right.
Ashley Heath (not St Leonard's) resident

I read recently that confectionery manufacturers were discreetly shrinking the size of their chocolate bars. Is the same thing happening to men's underwear, or am I just getting older?
Arthur Ringwood

ALWAYS LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE OF LIFE

The Greeks never did get the hang of loading the dishwasher



Another smile for another month

I couldn't resist asking Arthur for a few more from his vast archive.

Scientists who were initially against genetic engineering have managed to cross a seagull with a sheep, which is a massive ewe tern.

I was walking past a pet shop. A sign on the shop front said: "Pedigree Netherlands cats for sale." I didn't believe they were from the Netherlands so I went into the shop and asked the assistant: "How Dutch is that moggie in the window?"

I used to work in a dentist's. It wasn't a permanent job - I was just filling in.

According to a new survey, random musical instruments are being put into sentences without people noticing.

To the person who stole my selfie stick. You need to take a long look at yourself.

And talking of Arthur, here is Gordon Knott's perfect offering

ARTHUR'S DAILY

Lockdown imposed,
So Arthur composed.
From his pen,
We thought ten.
But a hundred,
He numbered.
It became Arthur's Daily,
Which we received, so gaily.

He made us laugh,
Our golden calf.
But now at an end,
No more to send.
Hit for four,
Emailing no more.
The end of Arthur's Daily,
We had received, so gaily.

For sure without fail,
We will miss his email.
No breakfast read,
When cereal we feed.
For helping us through,
A big thank you.
To Arthur's Daily,
Received, so gaily.

Since Youngsters of Today have their Texting Codes (**LOL, OMG, TTYL**, etc.) the Oldies decided not to be outdone by these kids, and now have developed our own codes too :

ATD - At the Doctor's
BFF - Best Friend's Funeral
BTW - Bring the Wheelchair
BYOT - Bring your own teeth
FWIW - Forgot Where I Was
GGPBL - Gotta Go, Pacemaker Battery Low
GHA - Got Heartburn Again
TFT - Texting From Toilet.

**Accidentally
rubbed ketchup in
my eyes.....now I
have Heinzsight**

**NEXT CARTIER
CHRONICLE
COPY DATE
4TH SEPTEMBER**

I visited a monastery and as I walked past the kitchen I saw a man frying chips. I asked him "Are you the friar?" He replied "No, I'm the chip monk..."