

The Cartier Chronicle

The One to watch!



BUMPER LOCKDOWN EDITION!!

Well, here we go again. Unlike non-essential shops, Ringwood Ex-Tablers will not be closed so if you have ideas as to how we can best enjoy our new stay at home requirements please get in touch. Council meets on Tuesday 10th November on Zoom and will consider all contributions!

A number of events are already in the diary for November. Our Joint meeting on 2nd November was well attended and another is planned for Monday 23rd November. Our Club meeting with talent on show is on Tuesday 17th November. Keith has a great film, the Kenneth Branagh 'Murder on the Orient Express' lined up for us on Monday 9th November and he has a seasonal offering of Tchaikovsky's 'Nutcracker' on Monday 30th November. Zoom details will be sent out ahead of each of these dates.

Is there room for more? Of course, if more is wanted we will put it on.

The annual Remembrance Day arrangements have been severely curtailed this year but a wreath will be laid at the War Memorial on your behalf on Sunday 8th November.

Stay well and keep smiling.

"The robbed that smiles, steals something from the thief". Shakespeare.

Yours in Continued Fellowship

Richard



DIARY

NOVEMBER

Monday 9th November : Club Film 'Murder on the Orient Express' : 7.15pm Zoom . Details from Keith Anderson if you haven't yet recorded this film.

Tuesday 17th : Club meeting on Zoom 4.30pm. Talent Show. See page 2 for details.

Monday 23rd : Joint club event on Zoom. Details tba.

Monthly Raffle

The winner of the October raffle was Graham Hoyle.

A £10 Waitrose / John Lewis voucher is 'winging ' its way to him.

It is not too late to enter for the November draw.

Now just £5 to cover the remaining 5 virtual meetings. Send to our Treasurer Andrew.



Richard and Susie's 500+500 walk

Susie and I set out on our march on 22nd July after seeing in the summer National Magazine the invitation to join those who had started in May. Our target was 500 miles each and to raise some funds for the National President's charity, Dementia UK.

We enjoyed it even though we became a bit obsessed to walk every day!

Susie completed the 500 miles in 79 days and I took a day longer! We then added the extra 20 miles to get the whole distance from our home to Aviemore, location of the hoped for National AGM next year.



The walk was promoted to both Clubs, to our family, friends and neighbours, the latter using our local Nextdoor social website. That produced one of the highlights when a man unknown to us saw Susie out walking, said he had seen the promotion and had put £10 in his pocket in case he saw either of us. Ian succeeded in getting a piece in the local Ringwood paper as well. (see below)

Thanks mainly to all of you in our two Clubs, we have raised over £1,000 including the gift aid added to the donations. Had we held any expectations this amount would have substantially exceeded them and we thank you all for your support and donations to a very good cause.

In completing the challenge we felt a sense of achievement in this strange year. We are very grateful for the gift from both Clubs of two roses which will be a great memento of the walking.

Ringwood and Fordingbridge NEWS

CHAIRMAN of Ringwood & District Ex-Tablers Richard Carter and his wife Susie are engaged in a challenge to raise funds for Dementia UK. The Charity is the National Club Chairman's choice for this year.

Richard says, 'Susie walks almost every day and I started to do the same during lockdown; what better way to help keep fit in our 70s and raise money for a good cause'.

Living in the New Forest they have found plenty of varied local walking and both aim to complete their 500 miles before the end of October.

If you wish to support the fundraising please 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".

Dementia is an umbrella term used to describe a range of progressive conditions affecting the brain. Over 850,000 people are living with dementia in the UK today and this figure is estimated to rise to over 1,000,000 by 2021. Dementia UK provide the specialist and compassionate support for affected families through their Admiral Nurse Service.



Jeff Wickens writes.....

I am sure you will all agree that Richard and Susie's sterling effort to complete the 500 + 500 walk for Dementia UK should be not go unrecognised by Ex Table and Tangent. For all sorts of reasons in these strange times, things did not go quite to plan. The idea was to present them with a rambling rose but as these are not available at the moment we managed to find two bush roses – Super Trouper and Warm Wishes which we thought were appropriate. These have now been delivered with a message of congratulations.





I first heard about Round Table in “El Chippo” in Arenal, Majorca, in 1972. We were on a 5 day Autumn break and on arrival at the hotel, met two bankers from the Northern Bank Development Corporation in Belfast. After a last night on sangria we all went for a late meal where they invited me to a Fellowship Meeting at Holywood RT, a few days after our return. The Speaker that night was the Consultant in maxillofacial surgery, who had removed my wisdom teeth 10 years earlier.

He showed colour slides of the bullet wound to the face of John Taylor MP, and the facial reconstruction as he was carrying it out. With the effects of the heat and smoke in the room, and of course the colour photographs, the ‘natural break’ revealed a number sitting on the stairs feeling unwell and blood on the floor of the Gents where a prospective member had passed out. Fortunately one of the Tablers was a GP. I was the only new member recruited that night!

Holywood is a large village on the shores of Belfast Lough and 3 miles from where we lived, and the local Round Table had a great history of fund raising for charity. It had provided the first “quick response vehicle”, a Morris Minor Van and defibrillator, in NI, three years earlier. A couple of years after I joined, the Heart Consultant returned to give a further talk on the subject and reminded Tablers that he had forecast 5 heart attacks in the Table over a 5 year period. It turned out the chap I was sitting beside had had 3 occasions to use the “quick response” defibrillator and subsequently had one of the first transplants in NI. He lived for another 20 years.

Every Christmas we helped the elderly and needy in the area. Yes, about our age now! First through sponsored coal deliveries and then by collecting food outside local supermarkets and making up Christmas hampers. I remember just how much these, and our visits, meant to the old folk each year who may have seen but a few people in between.

We also provided personal alarms for people living alone in a Warden supervised community, which at the time was a great innovation.

One of our Tablers was a master at a local Grammar School and for many years we were able to use the school coach to bring very excited children from the local Dr Barnardo’s to the school swimming pool each week.

Fund raising was always fun, and as well as the usual Barn Dances, Beetle Drives, Safari Suppers, Fairs with model aeroplane displays, we organised Race Nights. The first one in 1975 raised £2500, but 4 years later only managed £1200. We suspected we were being ripped off by a few people but could not prove it. Incidentally around that time I visited 2 Tables which were also going to run Race Nights. Greenwich RT, a fairly large outgoing Table, thought they could raise £1000, and a few weeks later I visited Lucan, a small village outside Dublin with just 12 Tablers, and they were setting a target of £5000. And they say size matters!

Area 11 was great for social functions and events, with annual family weekend rallies being one of the highlights of the year. On one such occasion a complete train from Dublin to Waterford was booked, with rally registration completed on the train. There was always a Formal Night and a Fancy Dress night with a competition. That year the theme was ‘shipwrecked’. Holywood came second but the worthy winner was City of Derry Table who went as ‘space ship wrecked’, dressed up in foil ‘space suits’ with their Chairman, who had lost his arm in an accident, carrying his artificial one covered in foil.

Area competitions included Jokers Wild nights for best stand up comedian, (adult female entertainment sometimes occurred afterwards, when the RT night had officially been closed). This was of course the Seventies and also happened occasionally after Holywood’s Christmas Dinner but 30 miles from Holywood!

An annual rowing boat race was held in a bay in Belfast Lough. This was officially known as the Punt and Rowlocks Race but was normally called something else.

There was no risk assessment and life jackets were unavailable for what was really dodgems on water. Holywood RT enjoyed visiting and hosting other Tables and when repaying a great visit to Carlisle we wanted to provide our guests with Northern Irish hospitality.

After the meeting a group came home for a ‘night cap’ where someone produced poteen. The Chairman of Carlisle was 6ft 4ins and built like a tank. That night he failed to live up to his name of ‘The Mighty Quinn’.



On another visit, we went to Stewarton near Glasgow. Pat and I were hosted by a great couple who were providing one of the main courses for a safari supper. Our host, Sylvia had prepared a whole salmon which was cooling in the kitchen as we arrived. Unfortunately the neighbour's cat got through the window and demolished the lot. Not to be out-done she managed to obtain another salmon and get it ready in time for the other guests to arrive.

One memorable Area visit was to a Burns Night Supper in Girvan. On this occasion we stayed in the hotel which was the venue for the function. Although we were there by invitation, our hosts were not particularly welcoming. The Burns 'ritual' was very well done, but the after dinner speaker was a member of the SNP and his talk was very political. At the 'natural break', the Chairman of Belfast RT filled a prophylactic with water in the Gents, put it on a salver and all 16 Area 11 Tablers solemnly filed into the function and addressed the 'Irish Haggis'. This went down like a lead balloon with the Scots. During my year as chairman, Pat and I attended 20 of the 22 Table Ladies Nights throughout the Area, often being hosted because of the distance. Hollywood's was the last one on the circuit and it was



traditional for the Chairman to throw a party in his home after the Dance, with guests leaving before breakfast. That year a couple of Chairmen raided Pat's wardrobe and appeared dressed in her clothes. She was not amused!



International Year of the Child occurred during my year and we held a Charity Concert with Clubsound, a big Irish Showband in the 1970's and 80's. The proceeds were presented to the NSPCC and we received widespread publicity for it on the radio and in the press. Further funds were raised that year to provide a Billiards Table for the local Salvation Army Eventide Home. Happy but hazy memories include the Golden Jubilee Regional dinner in 1977, (the year the Louis Marchesi Lifeboat was launched). In addition to wine on the table someone had managed to get Bushmills Distillery to provide a bottle of Black Bush between every 4 and a

great night was had by all. The 1978 National Conference in Glasgow was not for the faint hearted. Hollywood went stag and after 4 days and three nights I can see why we had to leave Table at 40! 6000 attended that year in the Kelvin Hall, only beaten by 10,000 the following year in the NEC Birmingham.

In the mid 90's with numbers down to 10 Tablers for a while, Hollywood RT embarked on a plan to take 60 terminally ill children and their carers to see Santa in Lapland. After raising terrific sponsorship, they still needed to find over £10000 to pay the much discounted residual cost of the flight to British Midland. They managed to raise this with some help from the Hollywood RT 'family' and even managed to repeat the event the following year. This shows what a small group with drive and vision can achieve. Unfortunately like many Tables Hollywood closed in the mid 2000's.

When we were moving to England in 1998 I selected a Surveyor and Solicitor from a panel of 6 given to me by NatWest Ringwood - John Humphreys and Ian Fretten, both Christchurch 41 Club, but I was encouraged to join Ringwood after I looked at Alastair Hardie's bungalow which was up for sale. He was Membership Officer and subsequently invited me along and the rest as they say is history.

Tabling has been a large part of my adult life and many of the people I have met along the way are still friends to this day.

Another great article from our 'imported' Tablers. Thank you Derrick. Next month another treat.....Mr Gordon Knott will recall his past with Wokingham RT. I may have to press the editing button more than usual !! Ed.

PUMPKIN PAGE



The Editor and Chris Kean had the difficult task of choosing the best carved pumpkin from photos submitted by the enormous number of entries from our members. We have both lost sleep worrying over the mental wellbeing of those 'carvers' who haven't made the 'cut' and who will be deeply saddened not to receive the prestigious trophy. Ignore that. Just realised that we don't have a trophy.

Anyway, Chris and I debated over the winning entry and I have ignored his advice because in my opinion his entry was the best. Modesty overcame Chris! I hope you agree. If not, write to our Chairman, not me.

Thank you and well done to Will, Ian, Richard, Steve, Mike and Chris.

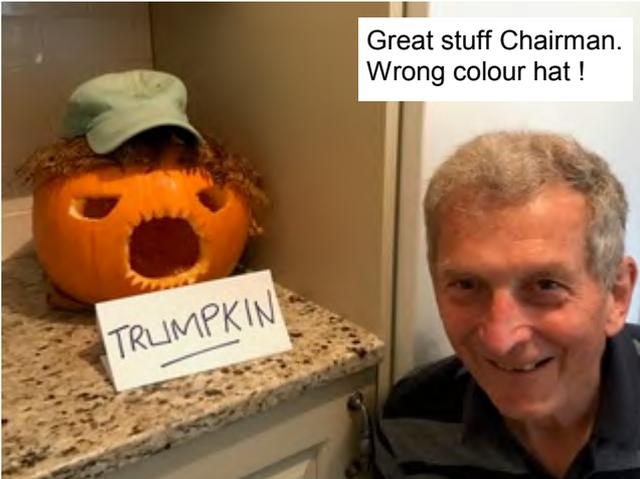


Left:
Will Parke's
entry.
Is that what
they call
Cubism
style?

A Franco
Caribbean
pirate
trained in
the Police
Force?



Ian is the one
on the right



Great stuff Chairman.
Wrong colour hat !

Another excellent
Trumpkin from Steve.

Love the hairpiece
(the pumpkin, not
yours Steve!)



Mike Fraser's 'dark' offering. Scary, but good!!



And the winner is.... Chris Kean's
great carvings.

**A DATE FOR
YOUR DIARY.**

**WHEN DID YOU
LAST USE YOUR
DIARY?!!**



2020 VISION

CAR TREASURE HUNT

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 29TH 10.30AM.

A motorized and memorable insight into our lovely forest and seaside with remarkable prizes

*****POSTPONED*****

*Can't think why!!
Hoping to rearrange when
restrictions allow*

Never in a thousand years did I ever believe I'd walk into a bank wearing a mask and ask for money.

Holidaying in 2020.



FINAL REMINDER !!

OUR CLUB CHRISTMAS CARD.....a message from our Chairman

We will be producing our Christmas Card as usual this year. This is not only a seasonal greeting between us, it also enables us to raise some money for local charities. As we are unable to make the normal personal contacts this year please excuse this means of checking that you do wish to be included and asking for your contribution.

The cost remains at the same standard price of £15 for a couple and £7.50 for a single entry, and you are of course welcome to send more if you wish to do so.

Many thanks to Mike Callaghan who will produce the card for us. Please send photographic entries for the front cover to him for consideration. He will begin production immediately after the November 17th Club meeting and he will use last year's entries as the base for this year. Therefore, please let me know by then if you do not wish to be included or if you wish to make any amendment to your entry.

Would you please send your money to Andrew Green as follows:

Preferred method of payment is by Bank Transfer to the Club account

Sort code **54-30-45** Account No. **14033003** & Reference it with **XC2020**. Alternatively, please send a Cheque to Andrew.

Christmas Dinner 2020 with the family 🍷



Another year has passed and we're all a little older.
 Last summer felt hotter and winter seems much colder.
 There was a time not long ago when life was quite a blast
 Now I fully understand about 'living in the past'.
 We used to go to weddings, football games and lunches,
 Now we go to funeral homes and after-funeral brunches.
 We used to go out dining and couldn't get our fill.
 Now we ask for doggie bags, come home and take a pill.
 We used to often travel to places far and near.
 Now we get sore arses from riding in the car.
 We used to go to nightclubs and drink a little booze.
 Now we stay home at night and watch the evening news.
 That my friend is how life is and now my tale is told.
 So, enjoy each day and live it up...before you're too damned old!!

A GUIDE TO PUTTING YOUR CLOCKS BACK



SMARTPHONE
 Leave it alone,
 it does its magic



SUNDIAL
 Move one house
 to the left



OVEN
 You'll need a
 Masters in
 Electronic
 Engineering
 or a hammer



CAR RADIO
 Not worth it,
 wait six months

They said a mask and gloves were enough to go to the supermarket. They lied. Everybody else had clothes on.

The buttons on my jeans have started social distancing from each other.

Another Smile for Another Month

My granddad fought them on the beaches.

A lovely man but a terrible deck chair attendant

Most people have heard of the famous philosopher KARL MARX.

Far fewer have heard of his sister ONYA the inventor of the starting pistol.

I wanted to be a millionaire like my dad

He always wanted to be a millionaire too

Crustacean



Bustacean



Kings Crustacean



The 7,000

If I was a gambling man, which I am not,
 Would I bet for or against them?
 Them? They speed through the gloomy, cold vacuum
 Beyond Mars, in countless numbers, in all shapes and sizes.

The chemically pure relics from which the planets were formed,
 The building blocks of everything, the building blocks of Life.

Brilliant ancient mathematicians and astronomers
 Observed, mapped and symbolised the night skies,
 And measured time and the seasons, to establish the calendar,

Named after stars and constellations, near and far,
 that they saw,
 But with the naked eye they could not see what we can now see,
 With computer controlled optical, infra red and radio telescopes.

The asteroids are up there, we can see their fragments
 As meteorites burning up, in any clear night sky.

We can watch and record, we can predict what they will do.

We know most are stable, and will carry on in their orbit for millennia.

But some are not, they wander out of orbit, they stray towards us.

We can see evidence on the Moon, and here, of their presence.

Not just millions of years ago, but now, Siberia in 1908, Namibia in 2008.

So will the building blocks of life also create the rubble of death?

How many are unstable? How many have strayed?
 How many are large enough to significantly change our planet?

If they have strayed how many could one day impact here?

There are 7,000.

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Mike Fraser's poem which he read at our recent club meeting.



Letters to the Editor

Thank you to those of you who obviously have time on their hands and have sent me some letters this month. Keep them coming!!

Dear Sir,
Every time I buy something or speak with a Customer Service Department, within a few days I receive a "How did we do?" questionnaire. After a night of passion, I decided to send my Lover a "How did I do?" questionnaire. The response caught me by surprise. The names I was called were hurtful. However, "idiot, stupid" I thought harsh but, maybe the question below was wrong.

"How likely, are you to recommend me to a friend?"

Your opinion whether I incorrectly used the comma would be much appreciated.

Kindest Regards

Without identifying the writer of this letter let me just say that Angela ought to be very, very worried. Ed

Dear Sir,
Car Treasure Hunt in the flesh,
Sunday 29th November. Marvellous idea.

Just wondering, is this like "dogging" but we keep moving car parks.

Yours faithfully

Excited

PS. Concerned there will be social distancing.

But I don't have a dog. Can I still come? Ed.

Dear Editor
Grounds for divorce??

This week my wife Jenny sent me an email explaining that George, our PC man had called to say he was installing Voice Activated controls on our computers to save us time and pain.

To activate I had to turn on the PC next morning and when logged in start talking for voice recognition. This I did and after 20 minutes of one way chat with my ACER Jenny stuck her head in my office, laughing helplessly and saying it was joke.

As you can imagine, this has caused heightened mental anguish. In response I have already hidden her Pinot, burned all her clothes and sold her car. Do you think I have done enough??

Unhappy of LH

I am more worried that your wife is sending you emails or perhaps you are self isolating? Ed.

Sir

A recent study found that the average golfer walks about 900 miles a year.

Another study found golfers drink, on average, 22 gallons of alcohol a year, which means, on average, golfers get about 41 miles to the gallon.

It makes me proud. I almost feel like a hybrid.

P. Nonoir

NOT EVERYTHING IS CANCELLED

Sunshine is not cancelled
Spring is not cancelled
Love is not cancelled
Relationships are not cancelled
Reading is not cancelled
Naps are not cancelled
Devotion is not cancelled
Music is not cancelled
Dancing is not cancelled
Imagination is not cancelled
Kindness is not cancelled
Conversations are not cancelled
HOPE is not cancelled



Stay safe
and

Stay POSITIVE!



**COPY DATECARTIER CHRONICLE
WEDNESDAY 4TH DECEMBER**

